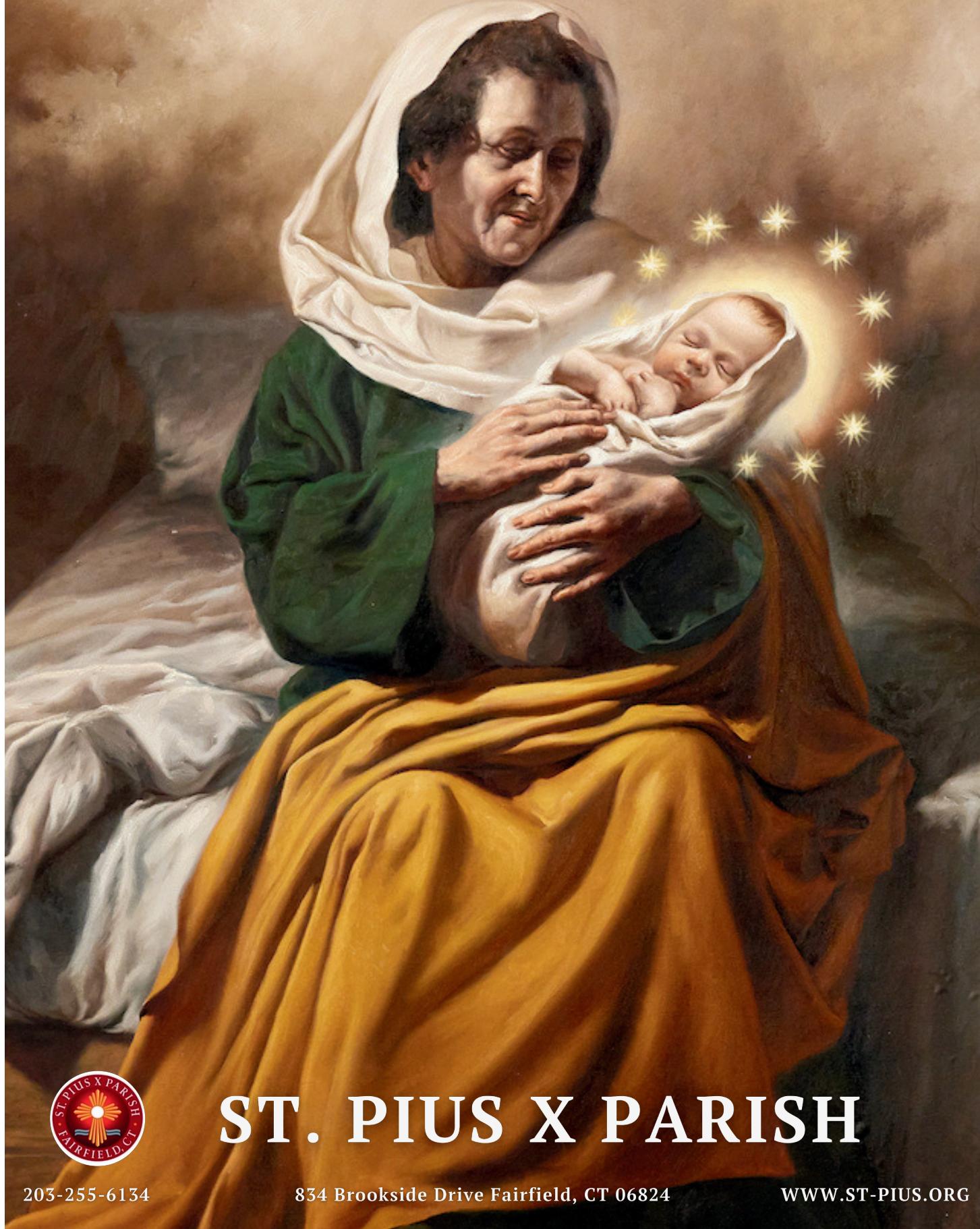


Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 8, 2024



ST. PIUS X PARISH

203-255-6134

834 Brookside Drive Fairfield, CT 06824

WWW.ST-PIUS.ORG

PARISH STAFF



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PAROCHIAL VICAR

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MASS TIMES

Daily	8:30AM, Monday-Saturday, Church
Monday	7PM, Extraordinary Form, Chapel
Saturday	5:15PM, Vigil Mass, Church
Sunday	7:30AM, 9AM, 11AM, Church
Holy Day	5:30PM, Vigil Mass, Church
	8:30AM & 5:30PM, Holy Day, Church

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Saturday, 4-5PM, Church
Wednesday, 7-8PM, Church

Baptism

Pre-baptismal classes are on the first Sunday of every month. Call the Parish Office to register for the class and to schedule your child's baptism.

Marriage

Registered parishioners should make arrangements one year in advance with the Parish Office. Visit www.st-pius.org for more information or call the Parish Office.

Communion for the Homebound

If you or a loved one would like to receive Communion at home, contact Deacon Don Ross at dnross@diobpt.org.

Anointing of the Sick

If you or someone you know is ill and would like to be anointed, call the Parish Office.

Becoming Catholic

The Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) is open to anyone who wants to learn more about our faith or complete their initiation as a Roman Catholic. Call the Parish Office for more information.

PARISH INFORMATION

Summer Office Hours	Monday-Thursday, 9AM-4PM Friday, closed - staff work remotely
Parish Phone	203-255-6134
Religious Education	203-259-4800
Parish Email	secretary@st-pius.org
Parish Address	834 Brookside Drive, Fairfield, CT 06824

Parish Corporation

Lay Members	Kathryn Vogt, Art Wolf
Parish Finance Council	Jeremy Joyce, Chair

Art Credit: Farrugia, Manuel. *Fresco of The Nativity of Mary*, 2021, Basilica of the Nativity of Mary, Senglea, Malta.



Pastor's Note

Today's Readings

1st Reading:

Is 35:4-7a

Res. Psalm:

146:6-7, 8-9,
9-10

2nd Reading:

Jas 2:1-5

Gospel:

Mk 7:31-37

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As a priest, baptisms are one of my favorite sacraments to celebrate. Mass is obviously the first, confession would be second place, but baptism is solidly in third. Third place out of seven is not all that impressive now that I think about it, but the seven sacraments are the only reason we priests exist!

encounter.) Mass is meant to have sacred music, Gregorian chant and the organ taking pride of place. We burn incense to worship the Lord, and those clouds of smoke are to symbolize our own prayers rising to the heavens and they give off the fragrance of sanctity. And ultimately, we taste our Eucharistic Lord, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity present in the Blessed Sacrament. The whole of ourselves is meant to be active in the Holy Sacrifice. All five senses, my mind, body, and soul, God deserves the fullness of our attention in this way.

God also deserves our best. That will change depending on the person, or even depending on the day, but offering God our best is the way in which we honor Him. The best of my attention, the best of my love, the best of my clothing ("Sunday best" is a phrase for a reason.) Who else is more worthy of my best? Why would I withhold parts of myself or my abilities from the God who gave them to me in the first place?

Perhaps we do not need God to restore our hearing and speech, but we need him to restore our fallen deficiencies to their intended and created fullness. Whatever splinter we have in our eye, blockage in our ears, stammer upon our tongue, may the good Lord bring his healing presence to us, so that we may be made whole. In order that our lives may be full in him, and of him. When we are at our best, we are most alive with the life he created us to enjoy. May we spend our days making ourselves a gift back to him, that we offer him the fullness of ourselves, our very best.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Brendan

The Gospel today shows Christ healing the deaf and mute man, restoring his ability to hear and speak. There is a particular blessing done during the ritual of baptism where the priest or deacon blesses the ears and mouth of the child so that they may receive His Word with their ears and profess the faith with their lips, to the glory and praise of God the Father. The gift of hearing and speech is perhaps something we take for granted when we realize those who are without them. With the gift that is my ability to speak, my tongue can praise God, recite prayers, read poetry, announce lovely things. I can also use this ability to curse, slander, gossip, and blaspheme. It's no different than any other abilities or appetites we have. They can be properly ordered and informed by their Creator, or we can abuse them to our own fallen wills and whims.

Within the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, actual participation of the people means involving the entirety of ourselves. When we cross the threshold of a Church, we are to bless ourselves with holy water. Before we take our pew, we genuflect before our Lord present in the tabernacle (it is our right knee that should touch the ground. Our right knee is for God, the left knee is for the pope or any king or queen we

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 7

8:30AM.....+Ruth Horgan.....C. Beacock
5:15PM.....+Helen Murphy.....K. & M. E. Lehman

Sunday, September 8

7:30AM.....All Parishioners
9AM.....+Gina & Pasquale Buoni.....Kochi Family
11AM.....+Christopher Conroy.....Kelty Family

Monday, September 9

8:30AM.....+Mary Margaret Niland.....T. Dawes
7PM.....+Lenore & Michael Opalak & Family.....D. Smith

Tuesday, September 10

8:30AM.....+Doris Keehan.....J. & A. Connaughton

Wednesday, September 11

8:30AM.....Luke E. Teitel.....C. Teitel

Thursday, September 12

8:30AM.....+Angela Carey.....P. Carey

Friday, September 13

8:30AM.....+Bill Shaughnessy.....B. Shaughnessy

Saturday, September 14

8:30AM.....+Jane Richards Colihan.....Carpanzano Family

5:15PM.....+Priscilla Ross.....L. Potanovich

Sunday, September 15

7:30AM.....All Parishioners

9AM.....+Eugene J. Lacovelle.....C. Teitel

11AM.....+Marissa Guido.....A. Guido



Sanctuary Lights will burn
in the church for our Blessed Mother
in the chapel for all those who died on September 11



In Memoriam

Pray for our parishioners who recently passed:
Carol Ann Villodas and Carol Drawbaugh

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Offertory

Due to the Holiday Weekend, the offertory will be printed in the September 15 Bulletin.

Second Collection

This week's Second Collection is for the Catholic University of America.



We Stand With Christ Construction Loan

\$ 750,000 Outstanding Loan

\$ 81,757 Donated

156 Number of Gifts



To give to the WSWC Construction Loan,
scan the QR code, drop a check in the
Sunday basket with Construction Loan in
the memo or visit www.osvhub.com/st-piusfairfield/giving/funds and choose gift.

CONSTRUCTION
LOAN



Baptisms

We welcome the newly baptized into the Church:

- Lucas Jay Tsirigotis
- Graysen Angela Pelegano



Banns of Marriage

- Matthew Keemon & Elizabeth Pehota

SUN
8
SEPT

Fr. Sam's Welcome Home Coffee, Community Room, After 9AM Mass
Assemble Lunches for Merton House, Community Room, After 9AM Mass

SAT
14
SEPT

SPX Block Party, Ministry Fair and Luxury Raffle Drawing, After 5:15PM Mass

SUN
15
SEPT

SPX Ministry Fair, Community Room, After All Masses

PRAYER



ADORATION

Monday, 9AM - Friday, 9PM, Chapel

Adore our Lord truly present in the Blessed Sacrament! Stop by and visit for a few minutes or consider signing up for an hour. We have the following hours open - Tuesday, 12AM, 10AM, 2PM Wednesday 3PM, Thursday, 12AM 2AM, 3AM, 10AM, Friday, 12PM, 5PM.

To sign up or to become a substitute visit www.st-pius.org/adoration/ or scan the QR code.



ROSARY AND CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Friday, 9AM, Church

Come pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy lead by Pat Heile. All are welcome to attend!

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

First Saturday, 9AM, Church

Join us for a devotion to Our Lady. We will pray the Rosary, Litany of Loreto, and follow with Benediction.



ST. PIUS X PRAYER LINE

We must never underestimate the power of prayer! Email your petitions and/or thanksgivings to Pat Heile, anytime, at stpiusxprayerln@aol.com. If you'd like to pray for others, let Pat know and she will add you to the Prayer Line Team.

EVENTS



ST. PIUS X BLOCK PARTY

Saturday, September 14, After the 5:15PM Mass

Pizza Truck | Ministry Fair | Games | DJ

Enjoy a night of fun with your family while you discover all the good things happening at your parish. At 8PM, the winning tickets will be pulled for the Luxury Raffle!



ST. PIUS X MINISTRY FAIR

Saturday/Sunday, September 14/15, After all Masses, Community Room

Explore all the formation, fellowship and service opportunities there are for you to get involved in at SPX.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION OPEN!

Registration Deadlines

Monday, September 23 - Grades 1-5 and Cohort 2 Confirmation Prep

For class offerings and start dates, visit www.st-pius.org/elementary-faith-formation/. Contact Shari Mellinger at sgarcia@st-pius.org or call the Parish Office at 203-255-6134 with questions.



EVENTS



MEN'S EXPERIENCE

Saturday, October 5, 8:30AM-6:30PM, Community Room

Open the door to incredible possibilities. Join your fellow parishioners for our first Men's Welcome Experience, an incredible day that will help you discover what's missing in your life and what to do about it.



Whether you have been at St. Pius X for years or you are just getting to know the community, we've saved a seat for you! Contact Paola Peña ppeña@st-pius.org with any questions.



EUCARISTIC REVIVAL NIGHT

Wednesday, October 9, 7PM, Church

Revival Nights are back !!! Everyone of every age is welcome! Bring your friends and family! Adoration, music and confession are from 7-8PM. Fellowship and service to follow in the Community Room at 8PM.

MINISTRIES

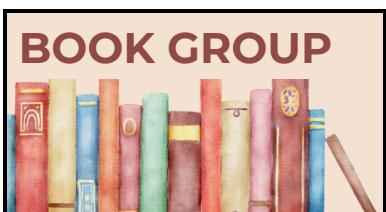
COMMUNITY, SERVICE AND FORMATION



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, 6:30AM, Community Room

Join the men of the parish for prayer, conversation, and fellowship! For more information, contact Mark Drexel at drexel2424@optonline.net. We look forward to welcoming you!



WELL-READ MOM BOOK GROUP, FALL KICK OFF

Saturday, September 28, 10AM, Munro Room 2

We will discuss this year's theme of Fatherhood and preview the year ahead. Well-Read Mom accompanies women in the reading of great books and spiritual classics to encourage personal growth, friendship, and meaningful conversations to explore what is good, beautiful, and true. The first book discussion is *Peace Like a River* by Lief Enger on October 26th. Email karenlannigan0915@gmail.com with any questions.



SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

September 15, After 9AM Mass, Community Room

Come to the Community Room after the 9AM Mass for coffee and treats. If you would like to help with hospitality, contact Genevieve Ritch at gfanelliritch@optonline.net or scan the QR code to contribute. All are welcome!



YOUNG AT HEART GAME DAY

Tuesday, 10AM-12PM, Community Room, Mahjong

Wednesday, 10AM-12PM, Community Room, Canasta

Bring a friend and meet us in the Community Room. Learn how to play or just stop by for fellowship and conversation. Questions? Contact Margaret at blk125@msn.com or call her at 908-399-2945.

MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY, SERVICE AND FORMATION



ST. PIUS X SANDWICH MAKING - MORE WAYS TO HELP!

Wednesday, September 18, 7-8PM, Community Room & Kitchen

Our Wednesday efforts continue as we make sandwiches for nOURish Bridgeport. If you're interested in helping, please email stpiussandwichmaking@gmail.com.

Saturday/Sunday, October 5/6

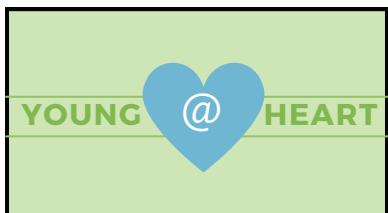
Calling all at-home sandwich makers! Join us in providing 200 lunches each month to the Merton House. Sandwiches made at home may be dropped off on Saturday, October 5 in the Community Kitchen fridge. The lunches will be assembled during the October 6 Coffee Hour after the 9AM Mass. If you'd like to donate sandwiches, apples, granola bars or water, email Cathy Coyle at spxoutreach@gmail.com.



OPERATION HOPE MEAL PREP

Last Monday of the Month, Community Kitchen

You're invited to help prepare and deliver a monthly meal for 50 of Operation Hope's clients. If you're interested in cooking, donating food or cash to this effort, scan the QR Code or contact Genevieve Ritch at gfanelliritch@optonline.net.



YOUNG AT HEART SENIOR LUNCHEON

Monday, September 9, 12PM, Community Room

Join us as we welcome real estate experts Alex Capozzoli and Dee Braeten of Keller Williams Realty. Alex and Dee will speak about the current real estate market and selling/buying a home. Topics include: what is the market like in Fairfield, what is equity and what can you do with it, and more. There will be plenty of time for Q&A so bring your questions. Lunch is \$7 for a sandwich, chips, soda, water, coffee, or tea, and dessert. RSVP to Peter Carey at aandp1964@aol.com or 203-673-2081. See you there!



TASTEBUDS

Wednesday, September 11, 5-7PM, Community Room & Kitchen

Come to our Tastebuds gathering! Along with cooking demonstrations, we will review recipes, and enjoy the meal we created together. Our dinners may be paired with complimenting wines and beverages. The cost is \$15. Email catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com to RSVP and scan the QR code to pay.



WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Do you desire to grow in your Catholic faith? Would you like to connect with other women in our parish community? We invite you to join Walking with Purpose, a weekly women's Catholic Bible study, this fall at St. Pius X. Our evening sessions start on Wednesday, October 2 and our morning sessions start on Thursday, October 3.

To learn more, join us for an Open House on Thursday, September 26 from 9:30-11:30AM in the Community Room. For questions or to RSVP, contact Dawn Carpanzano at dawnmariecarpanzano@sbcgloal.net or 203-984-3132. More information may also be found online at www.st-pius.org/womens-groups/ or www.walkingwithpurpose.com.

JOIN A SMALL GROUP THIS FALL

FOR A FULL LIST OF ALL OUR SMALL GROUPS AND TO
SIGN UP VISIT WWW.ST-PIUS.ORG/FALL-SMALL-GROUPS

TOGETHER IN HOLINESS

SMALL GROUPS FOR RECENTLY MARRIED COUPLES
OR COUPLES WITH CHILDREN IN THE HOME.

VARIOUS GROUP TIMES

LIFE GIVING WOUNDS SUPPORT GROUP

A GROUP FOR ADULT CHILDREN
OF DIVORCE OR SEPARATION

SATURDAYS AT 9AM

THE ART OF LIVING (WELL)

IF YOU WANT TO UNDERSTAND AND LIVE THE
GOOD LIFE, THIS IS THE SMALL GROUP FOR YOU.

MONDAYS AT 7PM

WALKING WITH PURPOSE

DO YOU DESIRE TO GROW IN YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH?
JOIN THIS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY.

WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30PM OR THURSDAYS AT 9:30AM

HOW TO THINK LIKE A THOMIST

WHILE THE WRITINGS OF ST. THOMAS MAY SEEM
DAUNTING AT FIRST, AQUINAS 101 SIMPLIFIES THE
LEARNING PROCESS THROUGH SHORT, ENGAGING
VIDEOS, MAKING IT ENJOYABLE AND ACCESSIBLE.

MONDAYS AT 6:30PM



TOGETHER IN HOLINESS FORMATION SERIES

St. JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION

DISCOVER GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR FAMILY

YEAR-ROUND MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT FOR SMALL COMMUNITIES OF SPOUSES

PRESENTED BY



7 SESSIONS | \$75 PER COUPLE
VIDEOS + DISCUSSION
PRAYER + FELLOWSHIP

HIGHLIGHTS

- A meal and time for fellowship
- Short, compelling videos
- Discussion facilitated by Host Couples
- A Bring it Home component that translates learning into living
- Available for Spanish-speaking couples through translated materials and captioned videos



For more information,
contact Paola Pena at
ppena@st-pius.org

TOGETHERINHOLINESS.ORG



**VIEW
TRAILER**

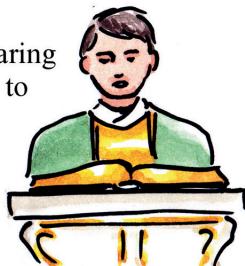
**INTERESTED?
START HERE!**

JESUS GIVES THE GIFT OF HEARING



Being able to hear is a wonderful gift from God. Imagine what it would be like if you couldn't hear anything! In today's Gospel reading, the people begged Jesus to heal a deaf man. What do you think it was like for that man when suddenly he could hear everything that was going on around him?

God has given us the gift of hearing to be able to talk with and listen to other people, and to appreciate the sounds of creation. We use this gift to hear God's Word at Mass and when we are being taught.



Think of all the things that we can do because we can hear: we can listen to and play music, we can sing and talk with people, we can hear birds and wind in the trees, and we can also be warned of things like barking dogs, or cars coming. Did you ever thank God for the gift of hearing? Thank Him today!



Happy Birthday Mary!
Answer to Our Lady's Birthday Word-Find:
Answer to front page: He has done all things well!

C H J E W S I N M P
H A P P M O T H E R
O W Y J A N N O S E
S A B O R N B L S P
E I I A Y R F Y I A
N T T C H D A A R
W I T H O U T Y H E
M N B I R T H D A Y
A G R M Y J E S U S
P U R E C H R I S T

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle.



On September 8th we celebrate Mary's BIRTHDAY. She was CHOSEN by God to be the MOTHER of JESUS before she was even BORN. To PREPARE Mary to receive His SON, God made her PURE and WITHOUT SIN right from the first moment of her life.

JOACHIM and ANN were HOLY JEWS who were WAITING for the MESSIAH to come. God chose them to be the FATHER and mother of MARY, who would become the mother of CHRIST.

ST. PETER CLAVER, PRAY FOR US!

FEAST DAY, SEPTEMBER 9

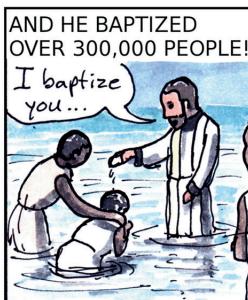
PETER CLAVER WAS BORN IN SPAIN IN 1580. WHILE HE WAS STUDYING TO BECOME A PRIEST HE FELT A STRONG DESIRE TO BECOME A MISSIONARY IN SOUTH AMERICA.

I'm sure they will need many priests in the 'New World'...

PETER WAS ORDAINED IN CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA, WHERE HE SAW HOW THE ARRIVING SLAVES WERE BEING TREATED.

FOR FORTY YEARS HE HELPED THE TERRIFIED AND SICK SLAVES WITH FOOD AND MEDICINE.

So Jesus died on a cross to save us...
HE TAUGHT THEM THE FAITH THROUGH INTERPRETERS,



AND HE BAPTIZED OVER 300,000 PEOPLE!
I baptize you...



FATHER PETER TOLD THE MASTERS TO TREAT THE SLAVES BETTER, AND DEFENDED THEIR RIGHTS AS CHRISTIANS.



They are Christian people. Give them their Sunday rest.
Thank you!

FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS OF HIS LIFE, SAINT PETER WAS SO SICK HE COULD NOT LEAVE HIS ROOM. EVERYONE FORGOT ABOUT HIM UNTIL HE DIED.

WHEN HE DIED, EVERYONE REALIZED HOW MANY PEOPLE ST. PETER HELPED AND BROUGHT TO THE FAITH. WE, TOO, SHOULD BE EAGER TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE BADLY TREATED OR IN NEED, EVEN IF NOBODY NOTICES WHAT WE ARE DOING. WHO COULD YOU HELP?



ST. PIUS X 2024 Luxury Raffle

ONLY ONE
WEEK LEFT TO
BUY TICKETS!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #16347



1st Prize: 2024 BMW X5 Midsize SUV

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. PIUS X CONSTRUCTION LOAN
& KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #16347 CHARITABLE OUTREACH

2nd Prize \$10,000 AMEX Gift Card

3rd Prize \$2,500 Grocery Card

4th Prize \$2,000 Mobile Gas Card

Drawing
Sat., September 14, 2024
at 8:00 pm

*Ticket holder need not be
present to win*



TO PURCHASE TICKETS

- Scan the QR Code
- Visit tinyurl.com/spxluxuryraffle
- Mail form with payment to St. Pius X Church
- Email psposato@optonline.net or call 203-613-5520



SCAN ME

Name _____ # of Tickets _____ Total \$ _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

_____ Email _____

Credit Card # _____ CVC # _____ Expires _____

MAIL CHECKS MADE OUT TO ST. PIUS X TO 834 BROOKSIDE DRIVE FAIRFIELD, CT 06824
PRIZES NOT REDEEMABLE FOR CASH & EXCLUDES ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. WINNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TAXES ON PRIZES