



ST. PIUS X PARISH

203-255-6134

834 Brookside Drive Fairfield, CT 06824

WWW.ST-PIUS.ORG



First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

PARISH STAFF



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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

Office Hours	Monday-Thursday, 9AM-4PM Friday, 9AM-12PM
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: de Heem, Jan Davidsz. *Eucharist in Fruit Wreath*. 1648, Oil on Canvas. Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna Austria.



Pastor's Note

Today's Readings

1st Reading:
Jer 33:14-16

Res. Psalm:
Ps 25:4-5, 8-9,
10, 14

2nd Reading:
1 Thes 3:12–
4:2

Gospel:
Lk 21:25-28,
34-36

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The journey of Advent begins today. This is a season of preparation, of penance, and of joyful anticipation. In just twenty-five days, we will mark the great solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we look ahead, the Church reminds us of the necessity of also remaining rooted in the present moment so that our hearts and minds can be well-prepared to welcome our Lord.

Advent is a **preparation**. Just as a family expecting the birth of a child prepares space in the home for the baby, we too are called to make room in our hearts for Jesus. It is good for us to reflect on the things that might get in the way of our relationship with God and to be intentional about setting aside time for prayer. I urge you to make use of the Advent booklets available at the doors of the church, and to engage with the different Advent activities and resources we have access to here at St. Pius X. Additionally, I would like to encourage everyone to be deliberate about making time to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. On December 4, we have our next Eucharistic Revival night. Come and spend time with Jesus in Adoration. Our Adoration Chapel is open 24-hours a day, and even when the Blessed Sacrament is not exposed during the weekend hours, Jesus is still present in the tabernacle there. Stop in to visit and spend time with Him. Consider committing to an hour every week. As we give Jesus our time and our prayer, we prepare our hearts to receive Him.

Advent is a season of **penance**. Unlike Lent, when our penances are more directed to atoning for our sin, in Advent we are invited to a penance that helps us welcome the Lord. Just as an expecting mother might do without certain foods or drinks during her pregnancy, the sacrifice seems

small in comparison to the gift of life she carries. In the same way, we can enter into penitential practice with joy. Advent is a great time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As we confess our sins, we also open our hearts to God's gift of mercy. This means that Advent is also a season of **mercy**. Jesus comes to bring the mercy of God to the world. We who are the hands and feet of Christ are also called to share in this mercy. One easy way to be instruments of mercy is through our parish Advent Giving Tree. Take a tag, buy the corresponding gift, and return the gift and tag by December 8. Our Advent Giving Tree supports many local charitable organizations carrying out the works of mercy in our community.

Advent is a time of **joyful anticipation**. It is hard to miss the joy present all around us in this season. There is a coziness and nostalgia that is palpable in the decorations, the music, the food, and so much more that we experience in this time. Anticipation means that we know what is coming and with that knowledge, our eyes are fixed on what is to come. Join us for our Family Movie Night tonight (Dec. 1), and you will experience some of that joy and laughter as we watch *The Star*. But this joyful anticipation also requires a small warning. It would be easy to over-anticipate, that is, to begin celebrating Christmas now, rather than keeping in mind and in practice those things that allow us to enter into the mystery of God's work in Advent. Yes, we should look forward to Christmas, but we should try as much as possible to stay in the preparation spirit of Advent, too. If there is any tendency toward instant gratification in our hearts, any dislike of waiting, any impatience, Advent is a beautiful season for us to find the remedy and to enter into the joy of waiting.

Peace,

Fr. Sam

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 30

5:15PM.....+Anne and John Gleason.....Gleason Family

Sunday, December 1

7:30AM.....All Parishioners

9AM.....+Terry Clancy.....Fr. Sam Kachuba & the SPX Staff

11AM.....+Anthony Annuncio.....T. Annuncio

Monday, December 2

8:30AM.....+Robert Renehan

Tuesday, December 3

8:30AM.....+Steinborn Family

Wednesday, December 4

8:30AM.....+Lyn Klein.....Klein Family

Thursday, December 5

8:30AM.....+Terry Clancy.....Coyle Family

Friday, December 6

8:30AM.....+Gerry Flynn

Saturday, December 7

8:30AM.....+Lucy Patterson.....B. & P. Markham

5:15PM.....+Bernard McConaghy.....Vogt Family

Sunday, December 8

7:30AM.....+Anthony Piliero.....Maffei Family

9AM.....All Parishioners

11AM.....+Romeo, Margaret, & Robert Mentrasti.....K. Leon & A. Leon



Sanctuary Lights

Church for Blessings upon the Prayer Shawl
Ministry Team
Chapel for the intentions of Beth Mahon



Baptisms

We welcome the newly baptized into the Church:
Ruby Louise Maynard
Giuliana Lynn Marsillio

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory

Due to early publishing deadlines, the November 24 offertory printed in next week's bulletin.



St. Pius X Offertory Online Giving



Consider switching to online giving—it's the easiest and safest way to donate. Get started now: Scan the QR code or visit www.st-pius.org/giving/. Questions? Call the Parish Office at 203-255-6134.



We Stand With Christ Construction Loan



\$ 632,000 Current Loan Balance
\$ 101,308 From 172 Gifts as of June 2024
\$ 27,000 K of C Golf Outing Gift
\$ 45,000 K of C Raffle Contribution

To give to the Construction Loan, scan the QR code, drop a check in the offertory with Construction Loan in the memo.

SUN

1

Family Movie Night, 5PM, Community Room

DEC

WED

4

Eucharistic Revival Night, 7PM, Church

DEC

MON

9

Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation

DEC

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

Monday, December 9, Mass - 8:30AM, 5:30PM, Latin Mass 7PM (No Vigil Mass)

ADVENT

PRE-DAWN RORATE MASS

Saturday, December 7, 14, & 21, 6AM, Church

The Rorate Mass is an ancient Advent tradition of offering a pre-dawn Mass in honor of the Blessed Mother in candlelight. In the dimly lit setting, priests and faithful prepare to honor the Light of the world, who is soon to be born, and offer praise to God for the gift of Our Lady.

PRAYER

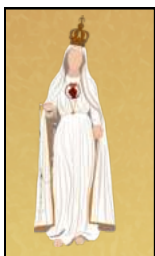


ADORATION

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, 8AM, 10AM, Wednesday, 10PM, Thursday, 10AM, Friday, 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.

MUSIC MINISTRY

SCHOLA CANTORUM

Practice, Sundays, 10AM, Choir Loft

Join the Choral Schola and help lead the liturgical music at the 11AM Sunday Mass as well as various Holy Days throughout the year. Contact Michael Lantowski at mikestro@ymail.com or call 203-255-6134.

YOUTH CHOIR

Practice Thursdays, 4:30-5:30PM, Church

All children in grades 2-8 are welcome. The Youth Choir will sing at the 9AM Mass on the last Sunday of each month. Email Cidalia Kettles at cidmezzo@gmail.com or Michael Lantowski mikestro@ymail.com.

EVENTS



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT, THE STAR

Sunday, December 1, Community Room, 5PM

Join us for a viewing of the beautiful and funny animated film, The Star. The story is centered on the birth of Jesus and told from the perspective of a lowly donkey named Bo. Pizza and snacks provided. RSVP to Emily Pritchard at emilyemcgrath@gmail.com



EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL NIGHT

Wednesday, December 4, 7PM, Church

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



WALKING WITH PURPOSE, CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Thursday, December 5, 9:30-11:30AM, Community Room

Walking With Purpose is hosting its annual Q&A with Fr. Sam and Christmas Brunch. All women of the parish are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Dawn Carpanzano at dawnmariec@sbcglobal.net by Monday, December 2.



ST. PIUS X ADVENT GIVING TREE

Saturday/Sunday, December 7/8, Gifts Collected in the Church

Help keep people warm, fed, and hopeful by grabbing a tag from the Giving Tree. No time to shop? Scan the QR code to donate, and we'll do the shopping for you! Returned gifts must be accompanied with the original gift tag, placed under the tree, offertory or collection boxes. Email Cathy and Doug Van Tornhout at stpiusxgivingtree@gmail.com with questions.



GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING

Sunday, December 8, 10AM, Community Room

Bring your friends and family to decorate a gingerbread house. The most creative design will win a prize! Unless the completed house is needed at your home, we will donate them to Operation Hope. You do not want to miss this event! RSVP is required and space is limited. Email catherinemacdonaldcake@gmail.com and scan the QR code to pay \$25 for materials.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES

Wednesday, December 11, 7PM, Church

All adults (18+) of the parish are invited to join us for our Adult Faith Formation Series! This is the second of a 5-part series led by our parish priests. For December's session, we will be discussing how to live liturgically – incorporating the beautiful feasts and seasons of the liturgical calendar into our daily lives. We hope you will join us!



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 22, 3PM, Church

Be sure to join us for our Annual Children's Christmas Pageant. If your child is interested in participating, scan the QR code to sign up. Email Patty O'Brien patty.marie.obrien@gmail.com & Darcy Ronan darcy.ronan@gmail.com with any questions.



YOUTH GROUP



FAIRFIELD LIFE TEEN + EDGE

LIFE TEEN - High School, Sunday, 6:30-8PM, School Portable

EDGE - Middle School, Wednesday, 6:30-8PM, School Gym

Life Teen + Edge, hosted at St. Pius X, is open to any middle and high school student. We provide a space for students to rest, make new friends, and be reminded of God's love for them through the gift of their Catholic faith. For more information, email Bill.Staley@SetonCollaborative.org or visit www.fairfieldlt.com.

FELLOWSHIP



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!



SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

December 8, 15 & 22, 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 SENIOR LUNCHEON

December 2, 12PM, Community Room

Let's Get Merry! Join us for our annual Christmas lunch celebration featuring a complimentary hot buffet catered by Sorrento's Importing along with a holiday raffle. Stay tuned for more info on this year's holiday music. Calling on all Baking Elves to bring some festive holiday treats! RSVP REQUIRED by November 25 to Peter Carey at aandp1964@aol.com or 203-673-2081. See you there!



TASTEBUDS

Wednesday, December 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.



MY ADVENT CALENDAR



KID STUFF AT ST. PIUS X

- Sunday, December 1, Community Room, 5PM, Family Movie Night, "The Star"
- Sunday, December 8, Community Room, After 9AM Mass, Coffee Hour & Gingerbread House Decorating
- Sunday, December 15, Community Room, After 9AM Mass, Kids' Service Project - Lunches for Merton Center
- Sunday, December 22, Church, 3PM, Christmas Pageant, Fellowship to Follow in Community Room

ADVENT IS HERE!

Today is the beginning of Advent, the time when we prepare for Christmas.



The word "advent" comes from the Latin word that means "coming". In Advent we are preparing for Jesus' coming. We look forward to Christmas, which is the celebration of His first coming and we also look forward to His second coming.



**WOULD I
BE READY
IF JESUS
CAME
TODAY?**

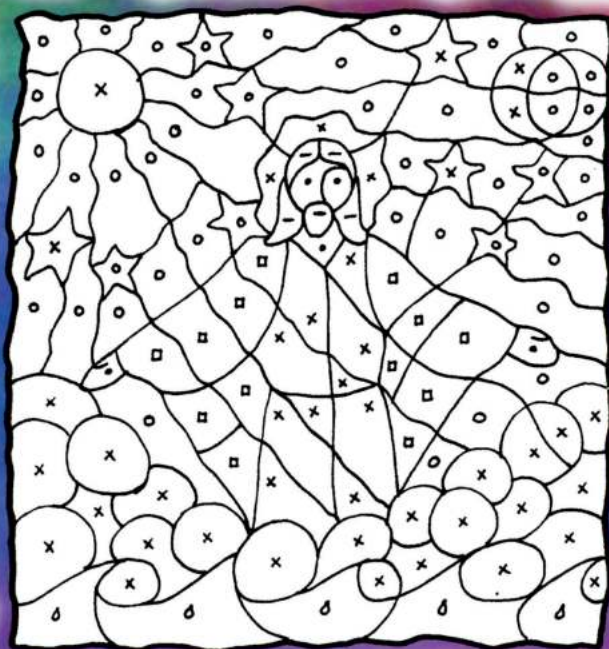
Did you know that the most important thing to have ready for Christmas is a clean soul?

During Advent you can try extra hard to be good. It is also a very good idea to go to confession before Christmas so that your soul will be good and clean when Jesus comes!



Answer to the Second Coming Word Puzzle: THE LORD OUR JUSTICE

www.thekidsbulletin.com



Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

In today's Gospel reading Jesus talks about what is going to happen when He comes back at the end of the world

Use the code to colour in the picture!

- | | | |
|---------|--------|---------------|
| × white | ◊ blue | • skin colour |
| ◦ black | ◻ red | - dark brown |

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, PRAY FOR US!

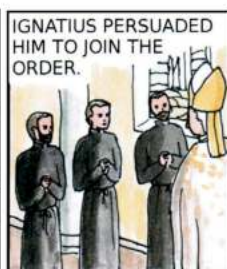
FEAST DAY, DECEMBER 3



FRANCIS WAS BORN IN XAVIER CASTLE IN SPAIN IN 1506. HE HAD A HAPPY CHILDHOOD.



AT AGE 18 FRANCIS WENT TO UNIVERSITY IN PARIS. THERE HE MET ST. IGNATIUS, WHO WAS STARTING THE JESUIT ORDER. (We need missionaries!)



IGNATIUS PERSUADED HIM TO JOIN THE ORDER.

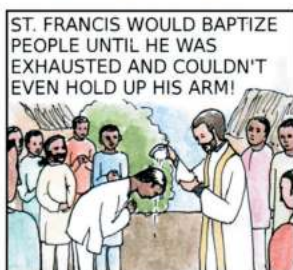


AFTER WORKING IN THE HOSPITALS, FRANCIS WAS SENT TO THE FAR EAST.



IN INDIA HE TAUGHT THE FAITH, ESPECIALLY TO THE CHILDREN.

God loved us so much...



ST. FRANCIS WOULD BAPTIZE PEOPLE UNTIL HE WAS EXHAUSTED AND COULDN'T EVEN HOLD UP HIS ARM!



HE ALSO WORKED IN JAPAN, BUT JUST AS HE WAS MAKING A TRIP TO CHINA HE FELL ILL. HE WAS TAKEN ONTO AN ISLAND AND DIED THERE AT AGE 46.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER ONLY WORKED AS A MISSIONARY FOR TEN YEARS, BUT HE BROUGHT THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE TO THE FAITH! HE IS THE PATRON SAINT OF MISSIONARIES. YOU CAN PRAY TO SAINT FRANCIS THAT GOD WILL HELP BRING MANY PEOPLE TO THE CHURCH WITH YOUR HELP TOO!

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com



Advent Giving Tree

GIVE WARMTH, GIVE COMFORT, GIVE HOPE!

GRAB A GIFT TAG,
PURCHASE THE LISTED ITEM,
RETURN THE GIFT TO THE COLLECTION BOXES WITH TAG ATTACHED

BY THE WEEKEND OF DEC 7/8

THE GREATEST NEED IS FOR WALMART GIFT CARDS.
PURCHASE WALMART CARDS IN 1 OF 3 WAYS:

- 1) VISIT YOUR LOCAL WALMART
- 2) BUY AT WALMART.COM, CARDS ARE MAILED FOR FREE
- 3) DONATE VIA THE QR CODE AND WE'LL PICK THEM UP FOR YOU



QUESTIONS? EMAIL CATHY OR DOUG VAN TORNHOUT AT STPIUSXGIVINGTREE@GMAIL.COM.

A wide-angle photograph of the Nashville skyline at night, with city lights reflecting on the river.

The logo for Catholic Heart Workcamp (CHWC), featuring the lowercase letters 'chwc' in a bold, red, sans-serif font, with a small heart icon and the words 'CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP' in a smaller font below it.

NASHVILLE

REGISTER BY JAN 5

A QR code for registration, located in the bottom right corner of the Nashville skyline image.

Our Seton Collaborative Youth Group will fly to Music City, USA for Catholic Heart Work Camp. Open to all high school students. Total trip cost \$ 1,250/person. Scholarship and fundraising opportunities are available. Visit <https://www.fairfieldlt.com/> for information and trip registration.