



# ST. PIUS X PARISH

203-255-6134

834 Brookside Drive Fairfield, CT 06824

[WWW.ST-PIUS.ORG](http://WWW.ST-PIUS.ORG)



**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 8, 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](http://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](mailto: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: Tiepolo, Giovanni Battista. *The Immaculate Conception*. 1767 - 1769, Oil on Canvas. Public Domain.





## Pastor's Note

### Today's Readings

**1st Reading:**  
Bar 5:1-9

**Res. Psalm:**  
Ps 126:1-2,  
2-3, 4-5, 6.

**2nd Reading:**  
Phil 1:4-6,  
8-11

**Gospel:**  
Lk 3:1-6

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

John the Baptist begins his preaching mission shortly before Jesus begins His public ministry. In this way, John's words and baptism prepare the way for people to receive the full message of the Gospel – in fact, the Gospel next Sunday will show us in greater detail how even John himself knew the limits of his role as the forerunner of the Messiah. Of course, we are reading this Gospel in a season that focuses our preparation on the birth of

Jesus, and less on His public ministry. If our reading of Scripture were to line up in a chronological sense with the liturgical season, we would be reading from the first chapter of Luke's Gospel. Of course, the liturgical observations we celebrate allow us to experience two concepts of time.

First, we have what the Greeks called *chronos*. This refers to quantitative or exact time. King Herod, for example, famously asked the Magi the time of the star's rising, wanting to know the day and the hour. We live in *chronos*. The other famous Greek way of accounting for time is called *kairos*. This refers to qualitative time, the "right" or opportune time for action. We might describe our experience of *kairos* in words that evoke feeling, emotion, or a more abstract sense of things. As we read Scripture, we should always be alert to the fact that there is a chronological element – events and places that took place on a particular day in history – and a *kairological* element – the eternal God who is outside of and beyond time and space calling humanity to look beyond measurable time and see an eternal purpose and goal.

The account of John the Baptist appearing on the scene took place some thirty years after the birth of Jesus. That is the

*chronos* of the thing. We read it today on the second Sunday of Advent, which shows us that John's historical fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah has a resonance for us today that indicates something not bound by time. That is the *kairos* of the thing. The words "prepare the way of the Lord" are not limited to literally making a path. Isaiah and John the Baptist are not proposing a highway management plan. The preparation called for here is that reminder to look to something beyond, something perhaps less tangible, but no less real. In fact, this is precisely the course of action recommended by Advent. In this time, we will both prepare in practical ways for the celebration of Christmas – shopping, decorating, organizing – and prepare in spiritual, invisible ways to receive Jesus – prayer, fasting, almsgiving, contemplation. Advent invites us out of *chronos* and into a mystery, into *kairos* so that we can encounter God, not according to our particular schedules but according to His perfect time.

Tomorrow, December 9, we celebrate the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This great mystery, that Mary was conceived without original sin, is a powerful illustration of the difference between *chronos* and *kairos*. Mary was conceived in the womb of her mother, St. Anne, at a moment in time. But God, who is outside of time, already knowing the saving power of His Son's death and resurrection, applied that grace – not yet won in *chronos* – to Mary. Divine power not limited by time and space thus works within time and space. This mystery is something powerful for our contemplation and prayer in Advent. It is also a holy day of obligation – we must dedicate some of our *chronos* to engaging with *kairos*.

Peace,

Fr. Sam

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 7

8:30AM.....+Lucy Patterson.....Bill & Patty 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

### Monday, December 9

8:30AM.....+Mary Margaret Niland.....The Chosen Group

5:30PM.....All Parishioners

### Tuesday, December 10

8:30AM.....+Jose Gomes.....F. Gomes & Family

### Wednesday, December 11

8:30AM.....+Edith C. (Cushnie) Weighart.....J&M Miller

### Thursday, December 12

8:30AM.....+Connie, John & Anthony Mallozzi.....Gleason Family

### Friday, December 13

8:30AM.....+Erwin A. Maurer.....R&K Vogt

### Saturday, December 14

8:30AM.....+Karl Corby IV.....S&M Francis

5:15PM.....+Dr. John & Nancy Coyle.....Coyle Family

### Sunday, December 15

7:30AM.....All Parishioners

9:00AM.....+Robert Fox.....S&K Douglas

11:00AM.....+Mary Jane Kaner.....J. Kaner



### Sanctuary Lights

Church in Memory of James Kiraly

Chapel in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes



### Baptisms

We welcome the newly baptized into the Church:  
Hudson Oswiecinski



### In Memoriam

Pray for our parishioners who recently passed:  
Anita Pucci

## STEWARDSHIP

Offerings	November 24	December 1
Weekend	\$ 12,070	\$ 14,734*
Cathedraticum*	<u>-\$ 3,310</u>	<u>-\$ 3,310**</u>
Net Retained	<u>\$ 8,760</u>	<u>\$ 11,424</u>

\*December 1 Weekend totals include gifts to the Mission, Monthly, Maintenance, and Thanksgiving Collections. Thank you for your generosity!

\*\*The Cathedraticum assessment imposed on parishes is utilized to support the administrative function of the diocesan curia.



### 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/](http://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

MON

9

DEC

Holy day of Obligation - Immaculate Conception of Mary, Mass 8:30AM, 5:30PM

WED

11

DEC

Adult Faith Formation, 7PM, Munro Room 2

SUN

15

DEC

Assemble Lunches for Merton House, After 9AM Mass, Community Room

## HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

**Monday, December 9**

**Mass - 8:30AM, 5:30PM, Latin Mass 7PM, (No Vigil Mass)**

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception asserts that, "from the first moment of her conception, the Blessed Virgin Mary was, by the singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of Mankind, kept free from all stain of original sin." The Blessed Virgin Mary under this title is the Patroness of the Dioceses of the United States. Our Lady, Pray for Us!

## 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/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cidmezzo@gmail.com) or Michael Lantowski [mikestro@ymail.com](mailto:mikestro@ymail.com).

# Christmas at St. Pius X

## CHRISTMAS EVE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM

6:00 PM

12 AM MIDNIGHT MASS

CHORAL PRELUDE AT 11:30PM

## CHRISTMAS DAY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:30 AM

9:00 AM

11:00 AM



## ADVENT



### PRE-DAWN RORATE MASS

Saturday, December 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.

### ADVENT AT ST. PIUS



### DECORATE ST. PIUS X CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!

Monday, December 23, 4PM, Church

St. Pius X needs help getting ready for Christmas! If you're interested in decorating the Church, call the Parish Office at 203-255-6134 or email Cathy Hughes at [chughes@st-pius.org](mailto:chughes@st-pius.org).

## EVENTS



### ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES

Wednesday, December 11, 7PM, Munro Room 2

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

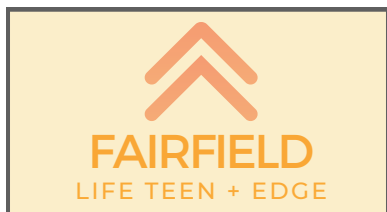
Sunday, December 22, 3PM, Church

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](mailto:patty.marie.obrien@gmail.com) & Darcy Ronan [darcy.ronan@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:Bill.Staley@SetonCollaborative.org) or visit [www.fairfieldlt.com](http://www.fairfieldlt.com).

## SERVICE



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

**Saturday/Sunday, December 14/15**

Join us in providing 250 lunches each month to **the Merton Center**. For this month, sandwiches made at home may be dropped off on Saturday, December 14, in the Community Kitchen Fridge. The lunches will be assembled during the December 15 Coffee Hour, after the 9AM Mass. To donate lunch items, scan the QR code or email Cathy Coyle at [ccoyale@st-pius.org](mailto:ccoyale@st-pius.org).



**Wednesday, December 18, 7-8PM, Community Room & Kitchen**

Our Wednesday night efforts continue as we make sandwiches for **nOURish Bridgeport**. The Wednesday crew is set with donations but if you'd like to help set up, make sandwiches or clean up, please email [stpiussandwichmaking@gmail.com](mailto:stpiussandwichmaking@gmail.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](mailto:drexel2424@optonline.net). We look forward to welcoming you!



### SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

**December 15, After 9AM Mass, Community Room**

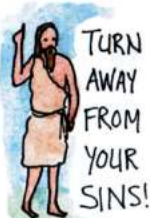
This weekend's Coffee Hour is hosted by the **Knights of Columbus!** Come to the Community Room for coffee and french toast. All are welcome!



### WELL-READ MOM BOOK GROUP

**Saturday, December 14, 9AM, Munro Room 2**

Well-Read Mom accompanies women in the reading of great books and spiritual classics to encourage personal growth, friendship, and meaningful conversations about goodness, beauty, and truth. The month's book discussion will be on My God and My All: The Life of St. Francis of Assisi by Elizabeth Goudge. Email Karen Lannigan at [karenlannigan0915@gmail.com](mailto:karenlannigan0915@gmail.com) with questions.



Advent is a time of joy, when we happily look forward to the coming of Jesus. Today's Gospel reading tells about how Saint John the Baptist went around telling everyone to repent and prepare for the coming of the Messiah.

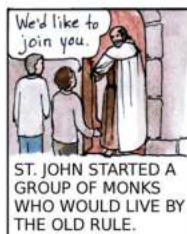
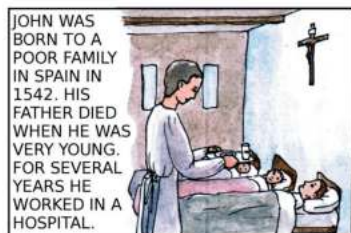
An Advent wreath is a symbol of the coming of Jesus, our Light, into the world. It has three purple candles and one pink candle. One candle is lit on the first week of Advent, and one more is added every week until Christmas. Every week it gets a bit brighter because we are getting closer to Jesus' coming at Christmas.

The purple candles stand for repentance- being sorry and making up for our sins. The pink candle represents joy. It is lit on the third week of Advent because we rejoice that the waiting is half over.



Answer to Immaculate Conception Word-Find: HAIL MARY

## ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRAY FOR US! FEAST DAY, DECEMBER 14



TODAY SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS IS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS WRITINGS. HE TAUGHT THAT WE WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO BE PERFECTLY HAPPY HERE ON EARTH BECAUSE WE ARE MADE FOR GOD IN HEAVEN. NEXT TIME YOU FEEL UNHAPPY, REMEMBER THAT PERFECT HAPPINESS IS WAITING FOR YOU IN HEAVEN!



In Advent we hear about Saint John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, who prepared the way for Jesus' coming. He preached to the people, telling them to repent, and baptized them.

When Jesus came Saint John told the people to follow Jesus because He was the Messiah.

Can you find your way from Saint John to Jesus?

[thekidsbulletin.com](http://thekidsbulletin.com)

## Immaculate Conception Word-Find

IS OULBHOWLA  
MARYIOKRIOL  
MOTHEREITVM  
AGASONPGHIS  
CONCEPTIONS  
UDJESUSNUGT  
LNEVERIATRA  
ACHOSENLRAI  
TOFFENDED CN  
EHEARTFREEY

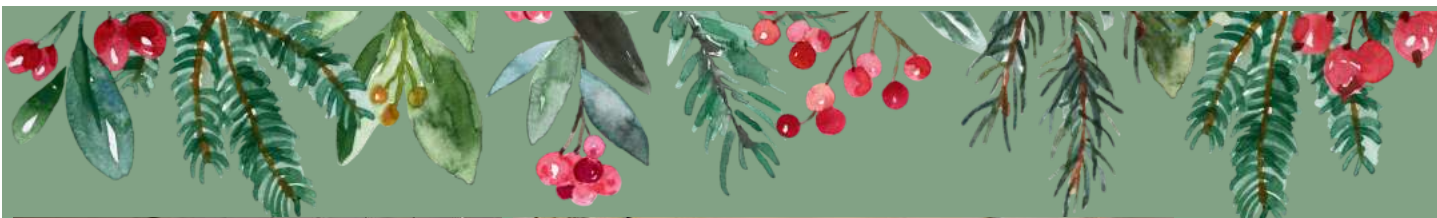


See if you can find the words that are written in CAPITALS.

The leftover letters spell the name of a special prayer we can say to Mary on her feast day.

This year, December 9th is the feast day of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. That is a name for MARY that means that GOD made her WITHOUT SIN because he had CHOSEN her to be the MOTHER of HIS SON. Her SOUL was FREE from ORIGINAL sin even before she was BORN. All her life she KEPT her HEART PURE and without the STAIN of sin. Mary NEVER OFFENDED God, and with his GRACE, she spent her whole life LOVING JESUS.





Young at Heart Christmas Luncheon





# Catholic Heart Work Camp 2025

## Seton Collaborative Youth Group

We will be flying to Nashville for a week of service work in Music City, USA. Open to all high school students. Total trip cost is \$1,250/person. Scholarship and fundraising opportunities are available. Visit [www.FairfieldLT.com](http://www.FairfieldLT.com) to register and for more info!

Secure your spot!  
**\$250**  
Deposit

**Fundraising opportunities available!**

### Package Includes

- ✓ Camp Registration & Programs
- ✓ Airfare & Ground Transport
- ✓ Lodging & Most Meals
- ✓ S.W.A.G.



June 22-28, 2025

**chwc**  
CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP

Register by Jan. 5, 2025 [www.FairfieldLT.com](http://www.FairfieldLT.com)