# ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

3663 66th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322, 515.276.2059 December 24, 2021 - January 2, 2022 Feasts of Christmas, The Holy Family, Mary the Mother of God and Epiphany

# The Nativity OF THE LORD

"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord." - Lk 2:11

LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. MAKE DISCIPLES. RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST.

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Visit us on-line at www.stpiusxurbandale.org

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## Welcome Visitors

We hope you have enjoyed celebrating with us. Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. *Please come again!* We have much to offer for all ages and stages of faith. If you are a visitor from out of town, we hope you enjoyed your visit with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home".

# Christmas 2021 "Prepare to Receive the Lord"

It can seem like we are always planning for the "next thing" – good or bad. Over the last couple of years at the parish we have had to continually adapt, plan, and adjust for all sorts of things, such as: new ways to reach out, minister, and accommodate people through the COVID pandemic; planning, fundraising, and beginning a building project; long range pastoral goals for the parish; the seasonal liturgical cycle and sacramental needs of our people. While these activities and plans may be necessary, they can also become a distraction to the most important thing: preparing to receive the Lord in our lives.

The very act of preparing to receive the Lord opens our hearts and lives to God's presence. God has promised us that he would be with us always. He desires us to be fully free and alive in Him in this life – and the next. In Advent, we express our longing for God to fulfill this promise. In the birth of Jesus, our Savior, this great promise has been realized. We simply have to be open to truly receive this most precious gift into our hearts and daily lives.

This Christmas, I pray that you receive the fullness of God's blessing and promise. May we take a moment to ponder God's radical and self-giving generosity and love for each of us and everyone.

Please know that the St. Pius X Parish community strives to be that welcoming place where you can know, experience, and celebrate the fulfillment of all that God desires for you - a place where the transforming and healing love of Jesus Christ may be discovered. That is our promise: He is here for you.

A Blessed Christmas,

Fr. Dave Fleming, Pastor

We warmly welcome all who have come today to celebrate this glorious feast.

We welcome the stranger, the traveler, and the guest!

We welcome our students back home from college!

- We welcome parishioners who have moved away but join us today as old friends!
- We welcome all who have not been active of late in their Catholic faith; and hope they will find new hope and inspiration this Christmas to come back again and again!
- We welcome our faith-filled parishioners, who seek to grow as disciples of Christ every day; may the Lord continue to bless you!
- May our gathering this day touch our hearts and deepen our 'family' bonds.



We are, after all, one People of God – gladdened by the good news of the Savior's birth and renewed by the "tidings of great joy".

# CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ALL!

#### Liturgy Corner

**PLEASE NOTE:** Christmas Day falls on a Saturday this year. As the solemn celebration of Jesus' birth, this day remains a Holy Day of Obligation even when it falls on a Saturday or Monday! Likewise, the Sunday obligation for the Feast of the Holy Family (Sunday Dec. 26) also remains in force. Thus, we will all have 2 Mass obligations to fulfill between Dec. 24 and Dec. 26, one for Christmas and one for Sunday. <u>One Mass satisfies only one obligation</u>. That means that one cannot "kill two birds with one stone." A person cannot go to an evening Mass on Christmas Day and satisfy their Christmas and their Sunday obligations. They will have to go to two Masses, one for each obligation.

#### **Christmas Schedule Reminders**

 NO Reconciliation on Sat Dec 25<sup>th</sup> NO Reconciliation – Sat, Jan 1<sup>st</sup>

#### Christmas Mass Schedule - Masks RECOMMENDED, but not required

Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>: 4:00pm (Livestream), 7:00pm, 10:00pm (all in the church) Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>: 9:00am

NOTE: NO Saturday 5pm mass on December 25th

#### Mary, Mother of God Schedule

Friday December 31<sup>st</sup>: 6:00pm Saturday January 1<sup>st</sup>: 9:00am

Note: *NO* Saturday, 5pm mass on January 1st



**EPIPHANY House Blessing** 

On January  $2^{nd}$ , we will celebrate the feast of the Epiphany. We will have the house blessing for people to take home and bless their homes for this new year. The blessings will be available near the entrances to the church!

#### **QUEEN OF PEACE ADORATION CHAPEL NEWS**

January is fast approaching and with it our Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our Queen of Peace Chapel on **MONDAY** evenings from 6pm to 10pm. You can still signup in the Gathering Space! PLEASE LOOK FOR FEBRUARY SIGNUPS to be in the Gathering Space soon!. We need at least 2 people for each hour but hope that we will have several people at each hour. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is a liturgy, in

other words, it is a public prayer time even though we pray in silence. Contact Sherri Hunt, Liturgy Coordinator at <u>shunt@saintpiuschurch.org</u> or 276-2059 if you have questions or want more information.



DMARC Food Pantry Item of the Month for January is CASH! The next Food Pantry weekend is January 15 & 16. St. Pius X Church is hosting a virtual food drive! <u>www.dmarcunited.org/donate/virtual-drive/saintpius-x/</u> Thank you for your generosity!

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them: Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them. Please pray for eternal rest for:

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† Dick Wagner, brother of Mary Lee Phelan and Juanita McCabe.
† Bernice Canavan, mother of Bill Canavan.
May God our Father & the Lord Jesus Christ grant His fullest

blessings & peace in the hearts of their family & friends.

#### **Parish Staff**

Pastor: Fr. David Fleming Associate Pastor: Fr. Brad Robey Permanent Deacon: Deacon Jim Houston Permanent Deacon: Deacon Joel Schmidt Permanent Deacon: Deacon Rob Stark

**Permanent Deacon**: Deacon Rob Stark **Permanent Deacon**: Deacon Troy Thompson **Retired Deacon**: Deacon Dave Bartemes Retired Deacon: Deacon Ed Pantaloni Faith Formation Pastoral Associate Director: Dr. Cheryl Fournier Coordinator of Youth Ministry Grades 7-12: Samantha Montang Adult Faith Formation: Dr. Cheryl Fournier RCIA: Mary Sue Lone Faith Formation Associate: Dorothy Miller Liturgy Coordinator: Sherri Hunt

#### Parish Office 276-2059

The parish office is open the hours of 8:30am – 4:30pm (Mon.-Fri.). Website www.stpiusxurbandale.org

Mass Schedule - Please Note: Bishop Joensen has reinstated the Sunday Mass obligation. Bishop Joensen strongly recommends parishioners to wear a mask at Mass and other parish activities.

Weekday Mass Schedule:

•Monday - Friday: 8:15 am

Weekend Mass Schedule:

•Saturday: 5 pm

•Sunday: 7 am, 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm

#### Sacraments

<u>Reconciliation</u>: Individual Confessions will be offered in the church:

•Fridays 9am-10:30am

•Saturdays 8:30 am-9:30 am <u>Baptism</u>: First time parents are required to attend a class on the Sacrament of Baptism. Call Sharon Lyddon to register by phone 276-2059 or email slyddon@saintpiuschurch.org.

<u>Marriage</u>: Contact the office for availability and requirements at least 6 months prior to requested wedding date.

#### Bulletin Deadline

Submit in writing to Mary Sue Lone <u>mlone@saintpiuschurch.org</u> by Friday at 8 am.

#### Newcomers

Register by phone 276-2059 or email <u>slyddon@saintpiuschurch.org</u>, stop in the parish office, or register through our <u>website</u>.

## Shop <u>Amazon</u> to benefit St. Pius X. Click image for website.



Music Coordinator: Kyle Lechtenberg Pastoral Care: Vicki Ferin Business Manager: Dean Roth Bookkeeper: Rosemarie Kroner Facility Manager: Norm Bormann Secretary/Receptionist: Sharon Lyddon Capital Campaign: Chris Breuss

St. Pius X School 276-1061 Principal, Mary Jo Kever Asst. Principal, Alex Baranosky



Fiscal Year July, 2021 - June, 2022 December 12, 2021 Budget: \$33,389/week Actual: \$35,978 Surplus (Shortfall) \$2,589 Year to date: (\$64,500) WAYS TO GIVE: •Weekly Envelope •Automatic Withdrawal from bank through St. Pius - contact office •Your bank bill pay

- •Online donation button on website <u>www.stpiushome.org</u>
- •GivePlus mobile app choose St. Pius X. Questions? Contact Dean Roth: droth@saintpiuschurch.org.



MERCY WEST DENTAL CLINIC William T. Grask, D. D. S. 1601 NW 114th Street, #351 (515) 221-0381

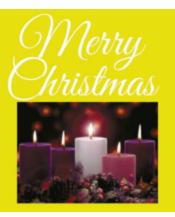
St. Pius X Annual Tithing Campaign Our annual tithing campaign is underway. Please return your tithing pledge card to the parish office or drop it in the

**collection basket at mass**. To date, we have received 405 pledge cards returned out of approximately 1550 registered households.

Please prayerfully consider increasing your tithing gifts. Returning the pledge card helps determine the parish budget. Please consider how you are able to support the physical and pastoral needs of our wonderful parish!



We are grateful for all of you.



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Mon. 12–27	8:15am	Tom Paul
Tues. 12-28	8:15am	Kellen Willis
Wed. 12-29	8:15am	Jim Heddinger
Thurs. 12-30	8:15am	Mary Margaret Coyne
Fri. 12-31	6:00pm	Nancy Buttel
Sat. 1-1	9:00am	Andrew Basilici
Sun. 1-2	7:00am	St. Pius X Parishioners
	9:00am	Chuck Goodman
	11:00am	Mary Margaret Coyne
	5:00pm	Janet Lawson
Mon. 1–3	8:15am	Jacob Peterson
Tues. 1-4	8:15am	Fred Coffin
Wed. 1-5	8:15am	Patricia DeFazio
Thurs. 1-6	8:15am	Manuel Valdez
Fri. 1-7	8:15am	Greta Tollas
Sat. 1-8	5:00pm	John Thimesch
Sun. 1-9	7:00am	Mark Boggio
	9:00am	Mary Ann Dale
	11:00am	Charlotte Thorne
	5:00pm	St. Pius X Parishioners

Mass Intentions - Weeks of December 27 & January 3



• Due to an upcoming retirement, St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish is seeking a dynamic person of faith to serve as its Parish Secretary. This is a full-time position with competitive pay and benefits. The Parish Secretary serves as the first point of contact for Parish visitors responsible for scheduling of facilities, customer service, management of sacramental records, and oversight of the

Parish registry. Interested individuals may contact Mike Smith, Parish Manager at 515-279-4654 or via email at <u>michaelsmith@stsdsm.com</u> or visit the Parish website at SaintTheresalowa.org/employment-opportunities.

• St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church of West Des Moines, IA, is seeking a fulltime Communications Coordinator. This position facilitates the day-to-day communications which includes the bulletin, website, social media, e-newsletters and marketing materials. Visit <u>www.saintfrancischurch.org/our-parish/job-openings</u> for a full job description. Please submit Resume and Cover Letter to: Human Resources Coordinator, 7075 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, IA 50266 or by email: <u>communications@saintfrancischurch.org</u>.



Thursday, December 23 - Closed Friday, December 24 - Closed Monday, December 27 - Closed Tuesday, December 28 - Office open 8:30am-Noon Wednesday, December 29 - Office open 8:30am-Noon Thursday, December 30 - Office open 8:30am-Noon Friday, December 31 - Closed Monday, January 3 - Closed Regular office hours resume at 8:30am on Tuesday, January 4.

## LOVE GOD ~ LOVE OTHERS ~ MAKE DISCIPLES

Adult Faith Formation Offerings and Events at St. Pius X and in the Des Moines Area

## "Gifted for Mission" February 12 9-Noon

Fr. David Fleming Dr. Cheryl Fournier

For more information, contact Dr. Cheryl in the parish office



After living the pandemic life, many are looking for a fresh start. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a Catholic faith based marriage enrichment program, providing couples

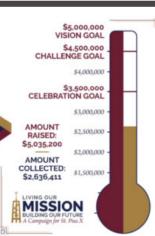
better communication skills and tools for over 50 years. Find out what you've been missing by attending one of the upcoming experiences. February 11 - 13th in Ankeny; April 23 - 24th in Epworth.

For more information, options for the process or to register go to <u>iowa-wwme.org</u> or call 563-608-3305.

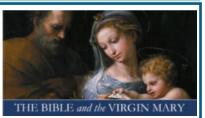
# Happy Epiphany!



If you have made a pledge or gift, thank you! If you have yet to join our cause, I invite you to make a commitment. Pledge cards are available in the Gathering Space or make your pledge securely at <u>stpiusxurbandale.org</u>. The project began June 1.



The A.M. Men is a men's Catholic faith study group. We meet Tuesday mornings from 6:30 to 7:30 am in the Martha and Mary Hall to discuss our Catholic Faith or the Bible. We typically



watch a short video followed by discussion. Coffee and donuts are provided.

Starting January 4, 2022, we begin a 12-week series entitled *The Bible and the Virgin Mary* produced by the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology. You will grow in knowledge of Catholic teaching on the Blessed Mother and how they are connected to scripture. We look forward to seeing you. For more information contact Mark Conway at 515-777-9881 or conirish@gmail.com.

During this Christmas Season let us all remember in our prayers our catechumen, Trung Nguyen and candidates, Brad Floden and Justin Wolber. May the light of Christ's birth continue to enlighten their



minds and touch their hearts in this holy season. What a great witness to us of God's love in this imperfect world. Thank you for your continued prayers!

## **Christ Our Life Catholic Conference**

Save the Date September 24 & 25, 2022, Wells Fargo Arena

Once again you are invited to hear world class speakers, celebrate Mass with thousands, fill your spirit with music, attend reconciliation and visit Jesus in adoration.



Feel Your Soul Rejoice! To learn more, contact your parish "GoTo" person: Juleen McGrath, 515-276-0808.

Mary, Mother of God and Our Mother, Pray for Us!



# THE SEASON OF GREAT FEASTS! On Behalf of the Staff and Faculty of St. Pius X Catholic Church and School, Have a Blessed Christmas Season!

#### Christmas: Feast of the Nativity of the Lord Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Mary, The Holy Mother of God The Epiphany of the Lord

The readings for these celebrations are found on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops at <u>usccb.org</u>. The Church will be busy celebrating feasts the next couple of weeks! Each of the feasts we celebrate points us at another truth of who we are as Church!

At Christmas we celebrate the reality that God so loved us that His Son, Jesus was sent to earth. The promise God made long ago to be with and redeem His people was fulfilled in the coming of Emmanuel, God with us!

The very next day we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family; a not so subtle reminder that we first learn about and encounter our faith and our God in the domestic Church; our home with our parents as our first and most important teachers and catechists.

One week after Christmas we gather to celebrate Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Chosen by God to bear His Son, we recognize and celebrate that she is also the Mother of the Church, meaning each of us!

On January 2<sup>nd</sup>, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany; the grand realization that the Son of God was born not for a limited number of people, but for the whole world, so that we might be united in Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and Faith.

These four feasts so closely celebrated remind us that there is so much more to think about and pray about. The Miracle of Jesus' birth opens for us a new reality; the presence of God is with us always; the fullness of God's love touches us from the

very beginning of life (family); we have within the Church models and witnesses of great faith and love (Mary); and the presence of Christ reaches to the ends of the earth (Epiphany). May we live into the mystery of these feasts! May we strive to celebrate them this year and always! May our preparations for this very holy season serve as a reminder to us of how we prepare to receive the Lord each and every week when we gather as community united in the love of God. Christmas Blessings!

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." ISAIAH 7:14



'May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women."

Dr. Cheryl

POPE FRANCIS



There really are not any words to express my heartfelt gratitude for all the prayers and support that you have given me through chemotherapy and surgery. My life is so blessed with some of the most amazing people! Thank you for being part of my journey! And know that I continue to pray for you. Vicki Ferin



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St. Pius, Des Moines, IA

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