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#### MASSES

Sunday Vigil: 5:00 pm

**Sunday:** 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am

& 12:00 Noon

Weekdays: 7:00 & 9:00 am

Saturday: 9:00 am Only

Vigil of Holy Days: 5:30 pm

Holy Days: Please see

schedule inside bulletin.

#### FRIARY OFFICE

#### Office Hours:

Sun: 8:30 am - 2:30 pm Mon-Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Sat: 9:30 am - 6:30 pm

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#### STAFF

Rev. Martin Curtin, OFM Cap. Pastor

Rev. Ernest Bedard, OFM Cap. Parochial Vicar

#### Kathy Lampron

Administrative Assistant

#### Peggy Wichowski

Receptionist

#### David Rogalski

Supervisor of Maintenance

#### Natalia Nawrot

CRE (Pre K - Grade 5)

#### Carol Butler

CRE (Grade 6 - Confirmation)

#### Andrew Berezowski Michelle Donahue **Gail Saltus**

Music Ministry

#### **SACRAMENTS**

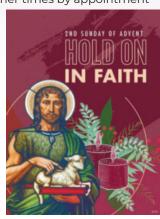
Baptisms: Twice a month at 1:30 pm for registered parishioners. Instruction for parents is required. Arrangements must be made in advance.

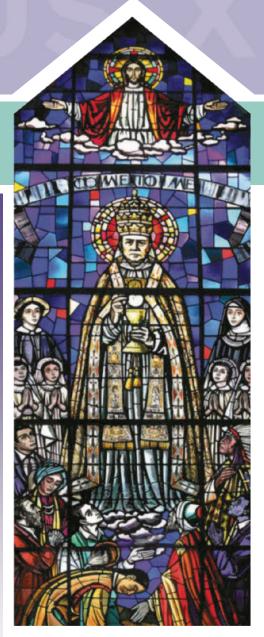
Marriages: Arrangements must be made at least one year in advance.

Care of the Sick: Please advise us of anyone from your family who is sick or hospitalized that we may keep them in prayer, visit them and bring the sacraments.

#### Reconciliation:

Saturdays at 3:30 - 4:30 pm Thursdays before First Fridays at 4:00 - 4:30 pm Other times by appointment





## WELCOME TO ST. PIUS X

#### WE ARE A TITHING PARISH

We extend a warm welcome to all who attend our church. We hope that you find our parish community a place where your life of faith will be nourished. We also hope that you will share your special gifts with the Your community. prayers, presence, and your talents are most welcome. Please introduce yourself after Mass. May God bless all of you.



#### St. Pius Parish Mission Statement:

We, a community of faith, have come together to respond to God's invitation to become holy by living the Gospel. We strive to do this through our awareness of God's presence, our sense of responsibility to one another, and our response to needs within and beyond the parish of St. Pius X.

"Love one another, as I have loved you." (John 13:34)



#### Saturday, December 3

5:00 PM Dec. Lisa Ann Augeri

#### Sunday, December 4

7:30 AM Dec. Enrico & Maria Antognini 9:00 AM Dec. Arthur Bonnier

10:30 AM Dec. David & Edward Myjak 12:00 NN Dec. Suzanne Binkowski Walsh

#### Monday, December 5

7:00 AM Dec. Franz & Maria Etzel

9:00 AM Dec. Lucille Ballachino & Rose Formica

#### Tuesday, December 6

Dec. Elisa & Ferdinando Bacchetta 7:00 AM

9:00 AM Dec. Debra Eaton

#### Wednesday, December 7

7:00 AM Living & Deceased Parishioners

9:00 AM Dec. Donald Pehota Dec. Nella TartaglIa 5:30 PM

#### Thursday, December 8—Immaculate Conception

7:00 AM Dec. DiMartino Family 9:00 AM Dec. Anne Cheatham

12:15 PM Special Intention Jacqueline Corda

#### Friday, December 9

7:00 AM Dec. Laurie & Henry Eichen 9:00 AM Dec. Paul & Jennie Tarbetsky

#### Saturday, December 10

9:00 AM Dec. Eileen Kelly 5:00 PM Dec. Tina McDermott

#### Sunday, December 11

7:30 AM Dec. Paul Miano Dec. Walter Mueller 9:00 AM 10:30 AM Dec. Emanuel Augeri 12:00 NN Dec. Agnes Haley



Thursday, December 8, the Immaculate Conception, is a holy day of obligation. Masses will be celebrated Wednesday evening at 5:30 and Thursday at 7 & 9 AM and 12:15 PM.

The *Sanctuary Lamp* will burn this week in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Jesudason.





Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Steven Carlucci, Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O'Dell who were recently married here at St. Pius. May God bless them with many years Marriage of happiness together.

#### Stewardship Is Our Way Of Life

Tithing (Stewardship) is an important way to consecrate ourselves to the Lord. Our gift is made holy because we give thanks and praise to God without strings or conditions.

#### Stewardship of Treasure

All are asked to prayerfully consider tithing and return 10% of our income to the Lord (5% to the parish, 5% to God's other charities) in gratitude. The spiritual practice of tithing disposes us to place God first in every area of our lives!

Week 21—November 20 Actual Sunday Offering Electronic Giving for the Week	<u>2022 - 23</u> \$7,660· <u>\$5,195·</u> \$12,855·	<u>2021 - 22</u> \$10,963· <u>\$5,341·</u> \$16,304·
Week 22—November 27 Actual Sunday Offering Electronic Giving for the Week	2022 - 23 \$5,183· \$4,386· \$9,569·	2021 - 22 \$7,844· \$3,689· \$11,533·

#### "Tithing—Putting God First" - Stewardship

"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. "Matthew 3:10

Do you bear good fruit for Jesus? Do you spend time in prayer or do you waste it with mindless activity? Do you use your talent to help others or are you too busy? Do you use your treasure to support the Church or do you buy more things that go unused. Our time, talent and treasure are gifts from God.What we do with these gifts is our gift back to Him. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

#### Stewardship of Time and Talent Spending Time with God in Prayer

Join us for Sunday at 4 PM as we pray the Rosary together followed by Vespers at 5 PM

#### Talents in Service to God and Other

Our Advent Giving Tree is up and running. Consider grabbing a tag from the tree and buying something for someone in need.

Readings for the week of December 4, 2022 Sun.: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12 Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26 Tues.: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30 Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/ Lk 1:26-38

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent 2022

Advent is a time of waiting and preparing. What is worth waiting for? What is worth preparing for? Isaiah presents an amazing vision. It comes when the people have been in captivity for a several generations. The vision is almost inconceivable. The lion will lie down with the lamb and the child play at the vipers den, and there is no harm on God's Mountain. Lions and lambs- a lamb would have But God proclaims that this is what is worth waiting for, it is more than your wildest dreams- the whole world turned inside out.

John the Baptist is a herald of a new age. The Messiah is coming and He will turn things on its head. Anyone who eats locust and honey and wears camel skin is clearly signaling something extraordinary. The hope that is worth waiting for has a taste of accountability and fire. How does all this fit together.

The incarnation of God most high draws together the human and the divine - no longer the divine at a distance from what is human, they meet. That they should be bound together is as extraordinary as lions and lamb, children and venomous snakes. Jesus reconciles sinful flesh with God's perfect holiness. As it happened then so it happens now. On the altar all our human life is presented in the gifts of bread and wine and the Holy Spirit comes and consecrates them , transforming them into the Real Presence of Jesus.

We should be awed that the greatest gift is already ours and should never to be missed. But it is not a question of just fulfilling the external of coming to Mass and never missing a week. The gift we receive begs to be lived out, to be bear fruit in our lives. How does the living presence of Jesus that we receive show itself outside of Mass? How are we accountable for the gift of His life, His body and blood?

God the Father arranges for us to live out Christ presence. There are opportunities to be courteous, to be kind, to be a source of encouragement. Even the secular Christmas stories tell us to hope for this. Marylou Who in the simplest of ways innocently talks to the Grinch and his heart grows 10 times larger. Santa invites Rudolph to lead his sleigh with that that red nose of his. Frosty melts and dies but then is risen from the dead. Everything tells us there is something to be hoped for.

The challenges that come in daily life will expose how we need to grow in the gifts of the Spirit. If we are going to help the grinches in our life to get new hearts, if we are going to help our outcast red nosed reindeer discover their power to read, if we are going to help our snowmen rise from the dead, we will need the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Those gifts are: wisdom and knowledge, counsel and understanding, fortitude and piety and fear of the Lord. This is the life of Jesus in human form. This is worth preparing for: asking for the gift as it is in Jesus to come and mix itself in my human life. It is worth waiting for-those gifts tend to grow in us over time.

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#### **Advent Evenings of Scripture Study and Reflection**



Fr. Ernie would like to invite you to join him for Advent Evenings of Scripture Study and Reflection. This will take place on three consecutive Monday evenings beginning on Monday, December 5th, from 7-8:30PM in the church. Each week (Monday the 5, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>), the group will prayerfully reflect on the readings for each Sunday during advent as

a way of preparing themselves for the celebration of Christmas. Through the program, participants will come to a deeper understanding of the readings, and will be given the opportunity to reflect on how the readings may be speaking to them today. Registration for the program is free, but pre-registration is required to participate, and space is limited to 15 people. Fr. Ernie will provide background reading on the scripture readings as a way to help prepare for the discussion. Stop by the parish office (and provide an email address) or contact Fr. Ernie for more information or to register for the program.

Advent Vespers
Sundays during Advent at 5 PM
Everyone is invited to join us!



Advent Giving Tree

Please take a tag from the tree, purchase the item and return the package as soon as possible, but no later than the noon Mass on December 18. Please follow the directions on the tag. Wrap the package and place the tag securely

on the package, Some gifts are not to be wrapped, but merely put in a bag and labeled. We are also collecting one pound boxes of candy for one of the agencies. Please place the boxes in the specially marked basket under the tree, If you are unable to donate a gift and would like to donated to this endeavor, Please send or drop off a check payable to St. Pius X church and mark it for the Giving Tree. Thank you in advance for your help and kindness.

**Come Pray the Rosary** 

Everyone is invited to join with fellow parishioners Sunday, **December 4 at 4 PM** to pray the rosary together for healing, purification and reconciliation





Sunday, December 11 8:30 AM—Noon Bill Fortin Memorial Hall

> Coffee & Donuts Arts & Crafts Coat Drive Poinsettia & Wreath Sale



#### <u>Poinsettia &</u> <u>Evergreen Bowed Wreath Fundraiser</u>

Supporting Youth Ministry Events and Outreach Projects. Youth Ministry members will be selling live poinsettia and evergreen bowed wreaths after all masses on the weekends of December 3 & 4, 10 & 11 in the Bill Fortin Memorial Hall, or by calling the Friary for weekday purchases. Colors and Sizes available while they last! Give the gift of cheer and brighten your homes for Christmas! Thank you in advance for your support.



#### Fill The Bin Collection on Everything Sunday December 11 7:30-12 Noon

Men's...Women's...Junior's...Children's...Infants

Gently Used & Laundered: Coats, Vests, Snowpants, Snowsuits, Boots and NEW: Hats, Mittens, Gloves,

Scarves and Socks.



Colder weather is fast approaching. As you search your home closets and try on last season's winter coats and apparel, please keep us in mind for those you've outgrown. A table will be available for accepting both new and gently used items in the Parish Hall on "Everything Sunday". The items collected will be sorted and donated to

Middletown's Head Start Program CREC/ACES to distribute to their clients who are in need. Please be sure that all gently used items have been laundered and that the pockets are emptied. This project is being sponsored by our Youth Ministry Team. Any questions, please call the Friary at 860-347-4441. Thank you in advance for your generosity and being a witness to your Faith!

#### TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE SUNDAY, December 11th at 6 PM

Everyone is invited to come join with members of our Peer Ministry and parish youth for a Taizé Prayer Service next Sunday in the church to pray around the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Taizé is a little village in the south of Burgundy, France. In this village, over



60 years ago, Br. Roger founded a community devoted to prayer and living a parable of reconciliation within the church and the human family. Taizé prayer uses repetitive chanting as a form of sung prayer interspersed with silence. Taizé provides a moving and contemplative way to enter more deeply into this Lenten season.



PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for the members of our parish who are suffering serious or chronic illness. Please take some time this week to remember them. If you or a member of your family would like the faith community of St. Pius to join you in prayers for special needs, contact the parish office at 860-347-4441. They will be remembered during the Masses that week and then listed in the bulletin for three months. To remain on the list after three months, a follow up call to the friary is necessary. Helen Goldman, Jacqueline Corda, Joey Sassano, Mike Erwin, George Morton, Ellen, Jenny Boutin, Versalita Rona, Gabby. Emily, Lily Vartanian, Ernie Garofoli, Thomas Bauer, Jr. Theresa Davis & daughter, Cindy Cote, John Czuba, Jr., Glenn R.

daughter, Cindy Cote, John Czuba, Jr., Glenn R. Inman.

Please pray for the souls of our faithful departed and remember those whose anniversary of death occurs this week: Lorraine Nettis, Lucinda Tarallo, Mary A. Crowley, Everett P. DeEtta,

Tillie Connors, Mary Ida Marsilli, Ann Velting, George DeToro, Steven D. St. Amand, Olive Dunn, Patrick Derosier, James B. Thaxter, Jr., Edward J. Hayes, Pauline Vasiliauskas, Thomas Zile, Mary A. Burgess, J. Paul Hickey, Thomas Cote, Helen Scully, Eli Rascati, Helen Tomassi, Louis Santostefano, Sr., Florence Stetynski, Sebastian V. Blancato, Jr., Frank Rogala, Beatrice Thody, Donna Genovesio, Clifford Donald Johnson, Thomas Tantullo, Joseph Huot, Elizabeth Kolinsky, Dorothy Klick, Mary C. Hull, Peter Rosano, Edward A. Hujar, Anita Sardinas, Matthew Weiss, Henry J. Zuilkowski, Concetta Casella, Eleanor Humphreys, Jean Lapointe

#### Awakening: How is the Holy Spirit at work in your life?

Join us for a 4-part Mission designed to help deepen your faith! Rediscover God's Unconditional Love. Learn more about the Holy Spirit's Gifts, Develop a deep and meaningful prayer life, Experience the mercy of God through a deeper understanding of reconciliation December 6 and 8 at 7-8:30 PM at St. Pius.



#### **Great Opportunity to Meet 2022 ACA Goal!**

The Annual Catholic Appeal is thrilled to announce that two wonderful donors have come together to help us reach our 2022 goal! Together the Rossi Foundation and Padre Pio Foundation of America have generously agreed to make a donation equal to 50% of every new dollar we receive. This means, if together, we donate \$195,790 new dollars to the ACA, the Rossi Foundation and Padre Pio Foundation of America will donate \$97,895, bringing us to our goal of \$2,700,000!! If the majority of people reading this make a donation of any size, we will be well on our way to reaching our goal. If you have already donated, and are able to donate again, your new gift will qualify us for a match as well. Currently, only 15% of our parishioners have donated. We need your help to ensure that our ACA supported ministries continue to do the work of Christ, providing spiritual, physical, educational and emotional support to so many. Please prayerfully consider making a donation and join me in thanking the Rossi Foundation and Padre Pio Foundation of America for their tremendous kindness. The deadline for new gifts to qualify for this incredible matching opportunity is December 15<sup>th</sup>. You may make your gift online at norwichdiocesedevelopment.org, mail your check to the Annual Catholic Appeal, 197 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06360 or call our Campaign Manager, Heather Harris at (860) 886-1928 ext. 111. Thank you very much for your generous support!



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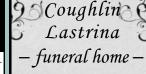
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