

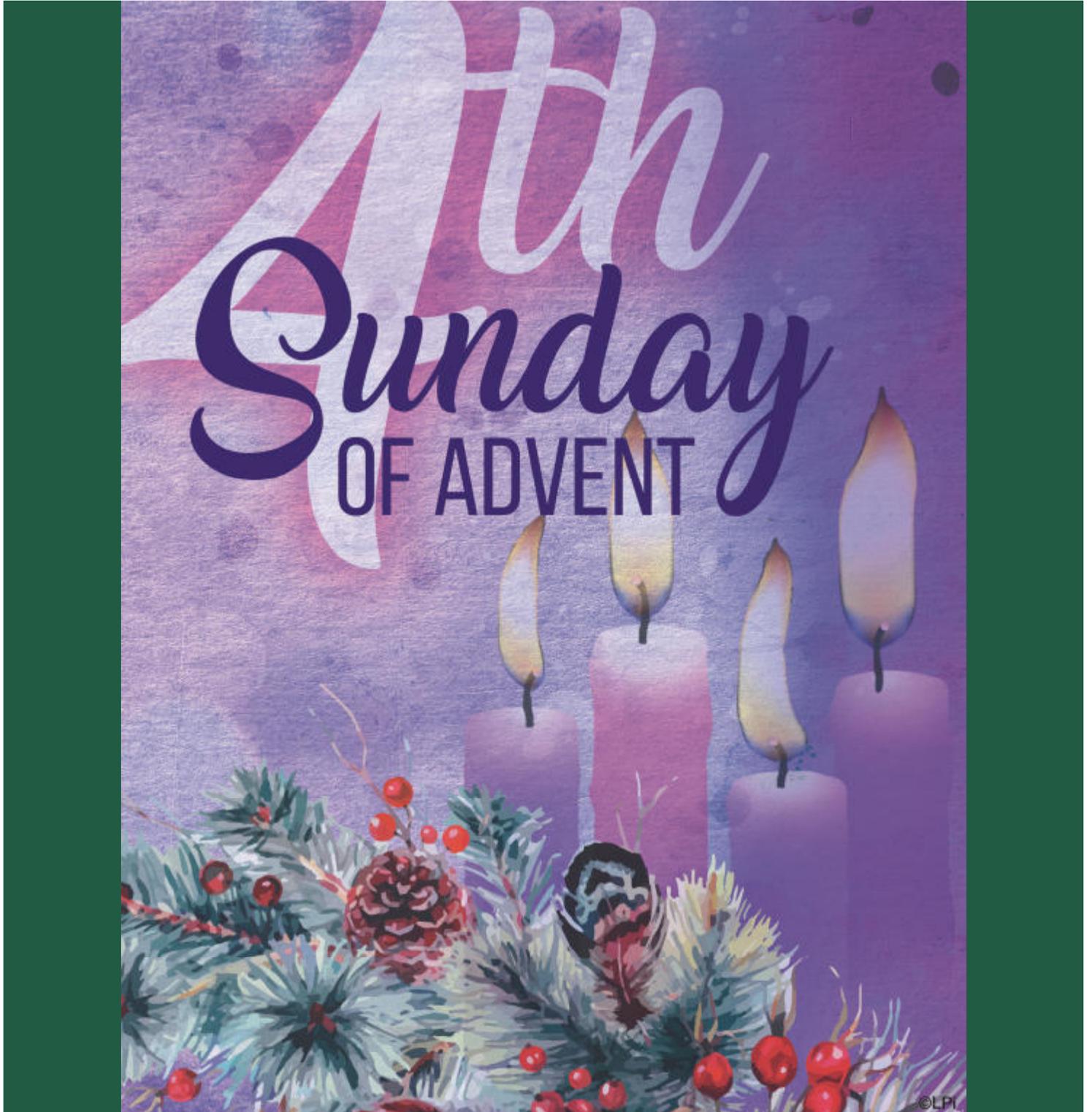
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 19, 2021

Saint Pius Tenth Church

Our Parish Mission:

"Everyday we reach to restore all things in Jesus Christ"



3010 Chili Avenue | Rochester, NY 14624 | (585) 247-2566 |
www.saintpiustenth.org

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, December 19

Sunday Youth 10:30 AM

MONDAY, December 20

TUESDAY, December 21

WEDNESDAY, December 22

Music Practice 6:30 PM - Church

THURSDAY, December 23

Folk Group Practice 6:30 PM - Church

FRIDAY, December 24 - Parish Office Closed

SATURDAY, December 25

No Confessions
No 4:00 PM Mass

SUNDAY, December 26

Mass 7:30 AM and 9:30 AM

RESERVATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve 4:00 pm / 6:00 pm / 11:00 pm

Christmas Day 9:30 am

We will be requiring reservations for all Masses. Our seating capacity is limited, and we want to make sure that you will have a seat.

- Seating will begin one hour before the start of Mass.
- There will be no saving of seats. If you want to sit together, we will seat you when all in your group have arrived. Reservations expire at the beginning of Mass. If there are seats available, we will seat walk-ins. Walk-ins will be asked to wait until folks with reservations have been seated.
- Online Reservations can be made beginning on **Monday, December 20 at 9:00 a.m. until Thursday, December 23 at 1:00 pm** on our website (www.saintpiustenth.org)
- Phone reservations (585-247-2566) can be made during office hours 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Monday, December 20 - Thursday, December 23

**DO NOT LEAVE RESERVATION
REQUESTS ON VOICEMAIL**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

For WALK-IN, IN PERSON SERVICE

Mon - Thur: 9 am - 1 pm, Fri: 9 am - 11 am

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 4:00 pm

SUNDAY 7:30 am and 9:30 am

DAILY MASS Monday - Friday 7:30 am

CONFESSIONS Saturday 2:30 - 3:15 pm

HEALING MASS Every First Monday 6:30 pm



stephen
MINISTRY.

Do You Know Someone Going through a Difficult Time?

Do you have a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who has been struggling with the loss of a loved one, loneliness, cancer, a layoff, relocation, divorce, a spiritual crisis, recuperation, single parenthood, or any of countless other life challenges? Our Stephen Ministers can provide them with the focused care, encouragement, and support they need to make it through the crisis. If you know of someone who is hurting, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders: Emily (224-6296) or Dick (469-0615). They can talk with you about how we can connect the person you know with one of our Stephen Ministers. It's a great way for you to show how much you care!

St. Pius X Pastor's Pastoral Page

Good Morning World. It is December 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The readings for today's mass (including an audio version) may be found at uscgb.org. The gospel is from Luke 1:26-38



THE STORY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY A feast called the Conception of Mary arose in the Eastern Church in the seventh century. It came to the West in the eighth century. In the 11th century it received its present name, the Immaculate Conception. In the 18th century it became a feast of the universal Church. It is now recognized as a solemnity.

In 1854, Pius IX solemnly proclaimed: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."

It took a long time for this doctrine to develop. While many Fathers and Doctors of the Church considered Mary the greatest and holiest of the saints, they often had difficulty in seeing Mary as sinless—either at her conception or throughout her life. This is one of the Church teachings that arose more from the piety of the faithful than from the insights of brilliant theologians. Even such champions of Mary as Bernard of Clairvaux and Thomas Aquinas could not see theological justification for this teaching.

Two Franciscans, William of Ware and Blessed John Duns Scotus, helped develop the theology. They pointed out that Mary's Immaculate Conception enhances Jesus' redemptive work. Other members of the human race are cleansed from original sin after birth. In Mary, Jesus' work was so powerful as to prevent original sin at the outset.

REFLECTION In Luke 1:28 the angel Gabriel, speaking on God's behalf, addresses Mary as "full of grace" or "highly favored". In that context, this phrase means that Mary is receiving all the special divine help necessary for the task ahead. However, the Church grows in understanding with the help of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit led the Church, especially non-theologians, to the insight that Mary had to be the most perfect work of God next to the Incarnation. Or rather, Mary's intimate association with the Incarnation called for the special involvement of God in Mary's whole life.

The logic of piety helped God's people to believe that Mary was full of grace and free of sin from the first moment of her existence. Moreover, this great privilege of Mary is the highlight of all that God has done in Jesus. Rightly understood, the incomparable holiness of Mary shows forth the incomparable goodness of God.

Mary as the Immaculate Conception is the Patron Saint of: Brazil, United States (franciscanmedia.org)

"Hail, full of grace..."

The piety of the faithful led to the understanding of the theologians as to what the greeting of the angel meant.

How could Mary be "full" of grace?

Let's start with the message of the angel in today's gospel of the annunciation.

How does an angel appear to Mary?

By the power and authority of God.

How can Mary be full of grace?

By the power and authority of God.

Mary questions how she can become a mother when she has had no relations with a man.

By the power and authority of God: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you."

And so now we ask, if everyone is born with "original sin" how can Mary be the exception?

By the power and authority of God.

Every time we prayer the "Hail Mary" prayer, echoing the words of today's gospel, we acknowledge the power and authority of God working in the world as God wills to work.

And so we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

May Mary pray for you and your loved ones, World, today and every day.

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH

Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 26

7:30 am and 9:30 am

(NO Confessions and NO 4:00 pm Mass on Dec 25)

The Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be no extra Masses for this Feast Day.

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Confessions 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm, Saturday, January 2

Mass Schedule

Saturday, January 2 - 4:00 pm

Sunday, January 3 - 7:30 am and 9:30 am

Creating Read-Aloud Routines

By: Mrs. Cathy Graves

One of the greatest joys of teaching in an elementary school is experiencing the growth children make when reading.

In the primary grades they learn to read, and then in the intermediate grades they read to learn. Fostering that transition is something that home and school need to work on together to ensure each child's success.

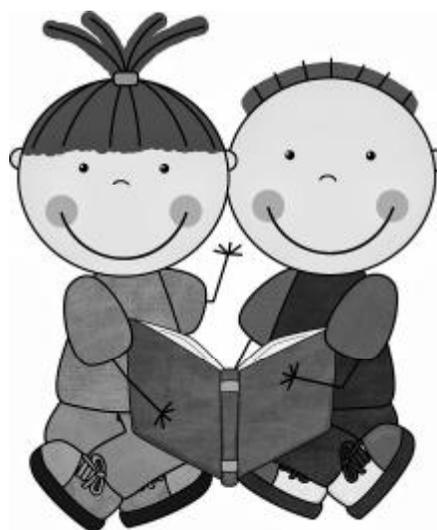
Reading aloud with primary aged children is a great start. If you don't already have one, develop a read-aloud routine using favorite story books (or ones that will become favorites). Then there are 4 easy steps to follow.

1. Introduce the book to your child in the same manner teachers do. Talk about the title, author, illustrator and kind of book you will be reading-fiction, fairy tale, informational book, poetry, etc. Ask your child if there is any prediction they could make or discuss some prior knowledge that relates to the title or the picture on the cover.
2. Model fluent reading with good expression and appropriate pacing. You can change your voice to convey character's emotions. Take time to study the pictures. Slow down your reading when complicated information is being given.
3. Stop, think, and discuss. Stop occasionally and check that your child understands what is happening, who the main characters are and what the main ideas and key details are. This is a great opportunity to talk about vocabulary as well. Children also need opportunities to ask questions.

If you need to, help your child answer questions by thinking aloud. Explain how you need to reread, look carefully at pictures, and think about what makes sense.

4. Discuss the book after you've finished reading it. At this point, you can help your child make connections between the book and experiences he or she has had. Connections can also be made to other books and to the world.

Most of all, take time to enjoy books together. In our tech-abundant world, it's a joy to cozy up in a shared blanket, in a comfy chair and read story books together. Seeing your child pick up those same story books and read them on their own, or read them with you over and over again is a joy that creates beautiful memories.



HAPPY READING!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Barb Legere, Youth Ministry Director
585-247-2566, ext. 111 email: barb.legere@dor.org

Sunday Youth Gatherings:

Sunday Youth December 19th 11-12:30 pm, Surprise! It's a Christmas Party for All Youth! Games Galore, White Elephant Gift Exchange and most of all fun with your friends! Please RSVP through the Young Disciples newsletter link. Masks and 3 ft physical distancing will be required.



Advent Devotional for Teens

We have a special devotional for teens to help countdown to Jesus birthday! This journal helps teens spend time with God once a day; but can be used once in a while too.

The goal is to help young people think about Jesus this holiday season rather than just gingerbread lattes and pine trees. But it will definitely spice up your prayer life!



Here at St Pius Tenth we want to remember together that we have *hope* this Christmas season, no matter what difficulties we may be facing. *We have hope because Jesus has come and is coming again.*

If you'd like a copy please email Barb at barb.legere@dor.org

Blessing of the Christmas Tree

God of all creation,
as we gather around this tree,
we ask your blessing upon us.
(The appointed family member
should light the tree.)
May your light surround us,
and show us the way to love and
serve you
throughout this Christmas season.

(The appointed family member
should place the ornament upon
the tree.)

May all who gather here with us
enjoy the beauty of this tree,
the warmth of laughter,
and the gift of friendship.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
AMEN.



Bethany House

On December 29th, at 5:30 pm.
St Pius X Church has been
invited to lead a prayer service
for the residents of Bethany
House (1111 Joseph Ave).

Additionally we have the
opportunity to make a meal for
the residents on a
different date. If
you are
interested in
making a meal or
helping with the prayer services
Please email me at
Barb.Legere@dor.org



A MOMENT WITH TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

The Nativity of the Lord

“He so loved us that for our sake He was made man in time, through Whom all times were made; was in the world less in years than His servants, though older than the world itself in His eternity; was made man, Who made man; was created of a mother, whom He created; was carried by hands which He formed; nursed at the breasts which He had filled; cried in the manger in wordless infancy, He the Word without Whom all human eloquence is mute (St. Augustine, Sermon 188).” The miracle of what happens at Christmas is truly an awesome mystery. Revealed in the silent ordinariness of life is God’s intimate love for humanity and all that he made. The Word, existing for all time, comes and dwells among us. God kisses us. We can seek and soar with playful delight as a joy never known before fills our heart.

Joy is best expressed through dance. There is just something truly wonderful about the self-abandon a beautiful melodic dance reveals. If we are able to let go and really be free, it celebrates life in a way few other experiences really can. With the birth of Jesus Christ, God takes the Divine Dance to a deeper and more tangible level. We can now not only see what we believe but believe what we see! This most perfect dance is a call to beauty, innocence, truth, purpose, hope, faith, and love. Today we know, beyond doubt, that we are a necessary part of God’s beautifully choreographed masterpiece of life and not just a random happening without real intent or purpose. We are loved, treasured, and blessed.

Accepting the truth of God’s birth in time we also accept an invitation to dance with God. We can let go of what tethers us to anxious concerns and superficial securities. Throw caution to the wind and go with God. We have been blessed with talents, gifts, and life eternal. Follow the rhythm of the dance with joy and listen to what the Word who became flesh tells us about what the next steps can be. Today, heaven remains the same, but earth has been profoundly changed. ©LPi

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Did you ever find yourself wishing that God would just step in and fix all that is wrong with the world? After all, how much longer can all of this go on? There is so much inequity in life. Our world’s political, economic, and environmental systems do not always serve the best interests of people. We read stories about injustice, disregard for human life, greed, heartache, and people being hurt and deprived every day. People are still starving and there is often little regard for human life. This is not the way God intended it to be. Realizing that we have caused most of these problems ourselves, we look to God for an answer and a way out of the difficulties we have created. Taking responsibility for our actions is not something that comes easily. What we fail to see is that God has already sent the answer in the person of Jesus Christ. God did fix our problem! Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of Justice to come into the world. We need to do the same. It is only by believing in, listening to, and acting upon what God has spoken that true peace will ever come to be, and God’s fix be made known. ©LPi

A MOMENT WITH TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

4th Sunday of Advent

St. Augustine tells us that a “Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.” As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life’s necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world’s ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn’t God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world’s ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God’s vessel so that God’s greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God’s fix for the world’s difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God’s instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be. ©LPi

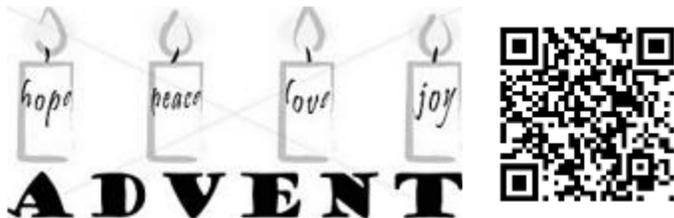


LIFE LONG FAITH FORMATION MINISTRIES

Deacon Johan Engström, Director of Faith Formation
585-247-2566, ext. 112 email: johan.engstrom@dor.org

LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION MINISTRIES

St. Pius X Church offer opportunities for children, youth, young adults & adults (parents, grandparents or not) to come to know Jesus and His teachings and grow in sense of community with one another.



Ideas for Families to Live Advent

You can find resource, including calendars, <https://saintpiustenth.org/advent-calendars-for-2021/> QR code above.

Advent Wreaths, The Jesse Tree, The Nativity Scene and The Empty Manger are also described on this webpage.

RCIA GATHERINGS

Mondays, 6:30–8 pm, in Parish Center
Next Meeting Monday, January 3
Contact Dcn. Johan for more information.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION SPRING OF 2022

If you never prepared for your First Reconciliation, we invite you, regardless of age, to register and prepare this spring.

First Reconciliation Registration

January 3, 2022– February 1, 2022.

Parent Meeting – Sun, Jan 30, 12:30 pm in Parish Center

OR Tue, Feb 1, 6:30 pm in Church.

Celebration—Wednesday, March 10, 6:30 pm

The candidate need to have celebrated

First Reconciliation before First Eucharist

First Eucharist Registration Feb 14 -Mar 15, 2022

Parent Meeting - Sunday, March 13, 12:30 – 1:30 pm

OR Tuesday, March 15, 6:30 – 7:30 pm .

Celebrations— Planned for May, Dates TBA



Who Will You Invite For Christmas?

Advent means “Waiting”, but this weekend the Waiting will be over!

We have Good News to share with the world: A child was born in Bethlehem, and he was given the name Emmanuel (God With Us), more commonly known as Jesus the Christ.



This is worth celebrating, so much that we will have extra Masses and even extra seating at some of the Masses.

If you are happy that Jesus was born, invite someone to join you in the celebration at one of our Christmas Masses.



SPX ADULT FF GATHERING

Fishers of Men— in person in the Parish Center at 7:30 am—1st & 3rd Saturday.



Ladies of Grace Bible Study, Starting in January in the Parish Center, on Wednesdays 1–3 pm

YOUNG ADULTS AT ST. PIUS X

1st & 3rd Thursday of Month in Parish Center

Gatherings posted on Parish website (Use QR Code on the Left)



And Facebook Page

facebook.com/saintpiustenth/

Next Gathering January 6 @ 7 pm



**Faith Formation
Not Too Late to
Register
Information &
Registration Online**



STEWARDSHIP & FINANCES

OFFERING REPORT

December 12 & 13, 2021

The Offering Report for December 12 & 13 was not available at the time the bulletin was sent to the publisher.

It will appear in next week's bulletin.

NEW TO THE PARISH??

We request that you complete a parishioner registration card. Pick one up at the reservation desk at Mass, stop by the Parish Office when we are open or find one online at <https://saintpiustenth.org/register/>



We welcome the following children into our Catholic faith and parish community

Landon Daniel Kolb
son of Daniel & Gina

Oliver Dee Lansberry
son of Cody & Alyssa

Liam Craig Berner
son of Ryan & Christina

Olivia Mae Stevens
daughter of David & Alyssa

JOB OPENING: St. Peter's Kitchen Bookkeeper

Part-time paid position, 10 hrs per week. Ability to use QuickBooks. Hours flexible but mornings are best. Monday-Friday, days flexible. Will require onsite attendance. Ideal for a retired person who wants to continue using her/his skills.

Contact Patricia Lorenzen, Executive Director of St. Peter's Kitchen at saintpeterskitchen@gmail.com or 585-235-6511.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Baby Jesus' Wish List

Odds are you've got a Christmas list going by now — gift ideas for everyone from your nephew to your goddaughter to your mailman. But what about the birthday boy? What's the gift Jesus gets from you this Christmas?

If you've ever read the Book of Leviticus, you know all about the sacrifices God asks of the Israelites, referred to in the reading from Hebrews today. Leviticus can be a chore to read — a little repetitive, a little intimidating. There's a lot of very specific actions that God asks His Chosen People to complete to make up for whatever they have done wrong. In essence, it's a bit of a wish list for gifts.

But it's a wish list that can really confuse you. What's God going to do with a cereal offering? The kidneys of an animal? If you look closely, what God is doing here is beautiful. He's customized his wish list to only those things He knows the Israelites can give. It's God saying, in what amounts to theological baby-talk for folks who barely know of Him and His ways, exactly how they could be stewards. "Do this, but don't do that. If you do that, do this and you will find My mercy."

Our guide to stewardship — the Gospels of Christ — is less precise because by the time of Christ, God's people have grown in understanding of love and mercy and relationship with the divine. Through Christ, we find out that God's real wish list didn't really consist of cereal offerings and the kidneys of various animals. It's far simpler, but luckily, it's something we still have on-hand. All He wants is our whole heart.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



**Our CMA Goal this year is \$138,457.00
as of 12/6/2021 donations in the amount
of \$ 68,993.00 (49.83%)
have been pledged by 292 donors**

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday–Friday 7:30 AM
Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday –Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

PARISH STAFF

(585) 247-2566 cstpiusx@dor.org

Rev. Paul Bonacci

Pastor

Deacon Jim Briars

Pastoral Associate, ext. 103

Deacon Johan Engström

Director, Faith Formation, ext. 112

Sr. Jean Catherine Welch S.S.J.

Volunteer Coordinator, ext. 104

John Falk

Maintenance, ext. 201

Mary Ferugia

Receptionist, ext. 106

Dan Leitten

Finance Director, ext. 117

Barb Legere

Youth Minister, ext. 111

Marita Midwick

Bookkeeper, ext. 101

Bob Schrader

Music Director (choirbob@hotmail.com)

School - 585-247-5650

Maria Cahill

Principal

We are a "Safe & Sacred" Parish.

For more information please visit our website

www.saintpiustenth.org

Convent—247-9514

Credit Union—247-0724

Parish Council: parishcouncil.ej@gmail.com

Baptism: Arrangements for preparation (can be done before birth) see website. Contact Deacon Johan Engstrom

Marriage Prep Call the Parish Office (at least 6 months, preferably 12 months before intended date to marry).

Reconciliation Saturdays 2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick Call the Parish Office to arrange.

Sacraments: First Eucharist, First Reconciliation and Confirmation, contact Deacon Johan Engström.

Joining the Catholic Church (RCIA or RCIC): For anyone 4th grade or older, please contact Deacon Johan Engström.

Communion for the Homebound: contact Deacon Jim Briars.

Pray for the Sick: Call the Parish Office if you would like names added or removed from **The Sick List**.

Hospital Visits: Call the parish office if you or someone you know will be entering the hospital so one of the parish staff can plan a visit.

St. Pius Tenth CYO Sports Barb Legere

Music – Share vocal and/or instrumental gifts in at Mass. Questions about our music ministry, contact Bob Schrader.

Parish Membership: Register by visiting the Parish Office, picking up the materials at the Welcome Table, or online.

SUBMIT BULLETIN ITEMS TO: CSTPIUSX@DOR.ORG at least 9 (nine) days before the publication date.



December 20 - 26, 2021

Monday - Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM James Geissinger by Family

Tuesday - St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:30 AM Robert Doherty by The Leahy & Reale Families

Wednesday - Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM Josephine Olshefski by Frank & Gloria Angelini

Thursday - St. John of Kanty, Priest

7:30 AM Tom Cotton by Family

Friday - The Nativity of the Lord

7:30 AM NO MASS

4:00 PM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

6:00 PM Richard & Mary Meyer and Stanley & Josephine Olshefski
by Stan & Judy

11:00 PM Priests of the Diocese, Living & Deceased

Saturday - The Nativity of the Lord

9:30 AM Donald Palermo by Wife & Children

4:00 PM NO MASS

Sunday - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

7:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

Giuseppa Buonomo by The Buonomo Family
Richard Uhlman and Rose & Charles Cooney by Natalie Uhlman
9:30 AM Mary DeVries by The McGorray Family
Doris Small by Mary Trabucco & Family
Fr. Bernard Dollen by A Dear Friend

The Sanctuary Candle in the Church is offered this week for **ERIC PARUCKI** at the request of **The Parucki Family**

The Sanctuary Candle in the Convent is offered this week for **DONALD A. TOAL** at the request of **Wife, Marilyn & Family**



Scripture Readings for December 26, 2021

First Reading: Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14
Sec. Reading: 1 Jn 3: 1-2, 21-24
Gospel: Lk 2: 41-52

Submit bulletin items to the Parish email: cstpiusx@dor.org



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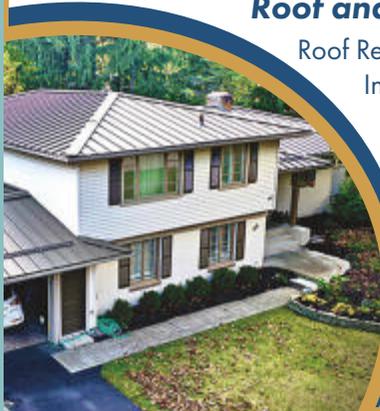
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