



St. Pius X Parish: A Roman Catholic Community

834 Brookside Dr., Fairfield CT 06824 • Parish Office 203-255-6134 • Faith Formation 203-259-4800 • Fax 203-255-5232 • st-pius.org

Pastor

Rev. Samuel S. Kachuba
fr.samuel.kachuba@diobpt.org

Deacon and Resident Priests

• Deacon Donald J. Ross
dnross@diobpt.org
• Rev. Eric Silva
frsilva@diobpt.org
• Fr. Colin Blatchford
fr.blatchford@couragerc.org

Director of Music & Organist

Michael Lantowski
mikestro@gmail.com

Faith Formation

• Shari Garcia (Sacramental Prep.)
sgarcia@st-pius.org
• Paola Pena (Dir. of Evangelization)
ppena@st-pius.org
• Emily Rauser (Life Teen & Edge)
erauser@st-pius.org

Parish Office

• Terri Dawes, Receptionist
tdawes@st-pius.org
• Cathy Coyle, Admin. Assistant
ccoyle@st-pius.org
• Kimberlie I. Leon, Business Manager
kleon@st-pius.org

Parish Corp. Lay Members

• Kathryn Vogt
• Arthur Wolf

Parish Finance Council Chair

Jeremy Joyce

Parish Office Hours

• 9AM-4PM (Mon-Thur)
• 9AM-12PM (Fri)

Parish Membership

We encourage every family in the parish to register as it is our only means of certifying you as a member of our parish family. Register online: www.st-pius.org.

Online Giving

Safe, Secure & Paper Free!
To sign up, go to www.st-pius.org/onlinegive

St. Pius X Church is wheelchair accessible with parking at the sides of church.

Thank you for turning off all personal electronic devices before entering the church.

Weekly Mass Schedule (Church)

• Monday-Saturday: 8:30AM
• Monday: 7PM (Extraordinary Form)
• Saturday Anticipated Mass: 5:15PM
• Sunday: 7:30AM, 9AM, and 11AM

Holy Day Mass Schedule (Church)

• Vigil: 5:30PM
• Holy Day: 8:30AM, 5:30PM, 7PM (Extraordinary Form)

Confession (Church)

• Saturdays: 4PM-5PM
• Wednesdays: 7PM-8PM

Communion for the Homebound

If you or a loved one would like to receive Communion at home, contact Larry Rollins at lksgcrollins5@gmail.com

Devotions (Church)

• Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the First Friday of the month, 9AM-9PM
• Rosary and a Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is prayed 9AM, Fridays by parishioners in the Church.

Baptism

For information about Pre-Baptismal class and to schedule Baptisms, call the Parish Office.

Marriage

Registered parishioners should make arrangements one year in advance with the Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick

If you know a parishioner who is seriously ill and would like to be anointed, call the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is available year-round to anyone who wants to inquire about our faith, baptism, or completing their initiation as Roman Catholics with Eucharist and/or confirmation. Call the Parish Office for more information.





WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 14

8:30AM Thanksgiving & Intentions D’Cunha Family
5:15PM +Frank Agonito, Sr. J. & K. Donnelly

Sunday, January 15

7:30AM +Francis Rowe
9AM +Josephine Purcell D. DiStassio
11AM +Vincent Comunale Carpanzano Family

Monday, January 16

8:30AM +James DeGiacomo M. Quinn
7PM +Rev. Kevin P. Fitzpatrick S. Terenzio

Tuesday, January 17

8:30AM +Carol Vito Myers Family

Wednesday, January 18

8:30AM +Lillian & Gregory Patti G. Patti

Thursday, January 19

8:30AM +Ogden Booker Carpanzano Family

Friday, January 20

8:30AM +D’Cunha & Pereira Families D’Cunha Family

Saturday, January 21

8:30AM +Justin J. McCarthy S. Barrett
5:15PM +Frank Agonito, Sr. N. McLaughlin

Sunday, January 22

7:30AM +Edythe Dunston-Crawford
9AM + Frank Agonito, Sr. A. Lesko
11AM +Patrick J. Carolan II J. & K. Donnelly



**Sanctuary Lights in the Church
will burn this week for
All Those Struggling with Addiction**

**Sanctuary Lights in the Chapel
will burn this week in memory of
Patricia Mahakian**

PRAYER REQUESTS

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.

“The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. To those who accepted him, he gave power to become children of God.” - Jn 1:14a, 12a



STEWARDSHIP INSPIRATION

Today’s responsorial psalm is the theme song of the good steward, “Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.” May I, too, stand ready to offer myself and my gifts in the service of God.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

- January 1, 2023 Weekend Offertory: \$13,214
 - 2022 Weekend Offering: \$11,550
 - Solemnity of Mary Offering: \$1,916
 - Monthly Offering: \$785
 - Maintenance Offering: \$230
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- January 8, 2023 Weekend Offertory: \$11,848
 - 2022 Weekend Offering: \$13,596
 - Monthly Offering: \$1,088
 - Maintenance Offering: \$369

SEE PAGE 6 FOR AN UPDATE ON OUR ANNUAL APPEAL.

Sign up for Online Giving:

www.st-pius.org/onlinegive

Please consider increasing your weekly contribution by \$1 or \$2 to help us keep up with the increased costs of running our beautiful campus.

If you’re interested in making a larger donation to support critical repairs in the School, contact Kimberlie Leon at kleon@st-pius.org to discuss.



FRIDAY ROSARY

Come pray the rosary following the **8:30AM Mass, Fridays, in the Church**. After the rosary, Pat Heile will lead the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Thank you to Pat for her dedication and service. All are welcome to attend!



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Parish Office is open **9AM-4PM, Monday-Thursday** and **9AM-12Noon, Friday**. The staff works remotely when not in the office so you can email them anytime. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

If you have not had a chance to visit the church since last Sunday, the removal of Christmas decorations might seem jarring, just as that spot once occupied by your Christmas tree seems rather bare once the tree has found its way to the attic or the curb. The comparatively spare decorations now in the church indicate that we have entered the brief period of Ordinary Time that precedes the great fast of Lent. "Ordinary" of course, is a relative term, for it refers not to our common usage "normal" but to "ordinal" or "numbered" time. These weeks are numbered, but in them, we are not marking any particularly high season. However, Ordinary Time ordinarily (pun somewhat intended) begins with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which in most years falls on a Sunday, but in 2023 was marked this past Monday. The feast of our Lord's baptism is instructive for our observance of these weeks.

By receiving the baptism of his cousin, St. John the Baptist, Jesus elevates the symbolic act of washing to the level of a sacramental act. That is, the washing with water will not only symbolize cleansing from sin, it will, in fact, effect the cleansing of sin. By entering the waters of the Jordan River, Jesus sanctifies the water of baptism and the act of baptism. So now baptism truly washes us clean of original sin. As He comes out of the water, the Holy Spirit descends upon Him. Just so for us, in baptism, the Holy Spirit begins to abide in our hearts and souls. The voice of God the Father speaks over Jesus, calling Him "beloved Son." So in baptism, each Christian receives the identity of beloved son or daughter.

In addition to what Jesus does for baptism, and in turn, what baptism does for us, there is another important component to the Lord's Baptism that speaks to what we will experience in these next several weeks. It is after His baptism that Jesus' public life begins. Now baptized, He goes to the desert to pray and prepare, and then He takes up the task of proclaiming the Good News. Just as the feast of the Epiphany oriented us to a life of witness – we are sent to manifest Christ to the nations – so the Lord's baptism and the time that follows reminds us of the task given to us by virtue of our own baptism. All the baptized are called to bear witness to Christ, to take up the mission to proclaim the Good News to all people, and to be the instrument that allows the Holy Spirit to enter the hearts and lives of all.

Baptism is an incredibly important and joyful moment in anyone's life. At the Easter Vigil, adults who have spent months (sometimes even years) preparing for baptism are welcomed into the Christian community. Almost every Sunday, infants are baptized here, a sign of joy and life for their families, and of hope for the future of the whole Catholic community. There are some practical, pastoral considerations for baptism that I would like to highlight here.

- Baptism ought to happen as soon after the child is born as possible. Pope Benedict XVI was baptized the same day he was born (a somewhat extreme example, perhaps!). I suggest having the baptism in the first three months after birth.
- Schedule the baptism of your child during your pregnancy, if at all possible. Just as you prepare a room and all the necessary baby supplies throughout the nine months of pregnancy, so include preparation for baptism in your preparations for your child's birth. Scheduling the baptism with so much advance notice also makes it easier for godparents and family members to prepare for any necessary travel.
- Speaking of travel, remember that the most important part of baptism is the **baby** being baptized. Any guests or other participants are a tremendous blessing, but the most important thing is having the baby baptized.
- Did I already mention baptizing the baby as soon as possible? Please give your baby the gift of God's life through the saving waters of baptism! What a treasure you entrust to them!

A final note, on a different subject. You may have seen the news that three priests in the Diocese of Bridgeport have just been honored by Pope Francis with the title "Monsignor." I have had the pleasure of knowing all three for many years. Msgr. Don Guglielmi was pastor of my childhood parish, St. Mark in Stratford, and later served as my spiritual director for a time. Msgr. Bob Crofut was the parochial vicar here at St. Pius when I arrived as pastor, and has been a tremendous example of faithful priesthood. Msgr. Bob Kinnally was parochial vicar here at St. Pius when I was assigned as a seminarian, and I later took his place in 2009. I then had the opportunity to work with him in the Diocese of Bridgeport's Vocation Office and am blessed to count him as both friend and mentor. These three priests are outstanding examples of service, devotion, and what a priest ought to be. Please join me in congratulating them and praying for their continued ministry!

Peace,

Fr. Sam



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:1-3
The Gospel: Matthew Jn 1:29-34

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: Heb 7:25 -8:6; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
Friday: Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8, 10, 11-12, 13-14; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 3:20-21
Sunday: Is 8:23-9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17



CONGRATULATIONS!

We welcome these newly baptized children into our Family of Faith: Decker Kelly Uscilla and David Antonio Karol Bottaro



MEMORIAL FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

As you pray, remember all deceased parishioners, and especially those recently deceased: Patricia Mahakian, Robert Snowberry, Claire Melish.



WEEKLY ADORATION: TUESDAYS

Come spend some time with the Lord each week! Eucharistic Adoration is held **every Tuesday, 8PM-9PM**, in the **Church**. This is a wonderful way to take time away from the chaos of the world, quiet your mind, pray, and deepen your connection with the Lord.

you are called.

YOU ARE CALLED – SEEK23 CONFERENCE

March 10-12 at St. Pius X Catholic Church

*Every human heart is seeking the same thing—to find it, you must seek Him. **SEEK** is a national conference by FOCUS. At St. Pius X Parish, we have the pleasure of hosting it as a weekend conference experience (Friday evening through Sunday). This remote experience truly makes you feel united to the universal church! We hope to foster an encounter with the heart of Jesus through the sacraments, small groups, meals, and world-class speakers for our local community. After the event is over, you can continue meeting with your small groups throughout Lent as Curtis Martin and Dr. Edward Sri take you on a scriptural journey through the story of salvation.*

Pray, share meals, listen to amazing talks, and build community!

Cost

- \$150 (Individual)
- \$450 (Family of 3 or more)

Learn more www.st-pius.org/seek23. For any questions, contact Paola Peña at ppena@st-pius.org



PRAY FOR OUR NEWEST MONSIGNORI!

It is with great joy that we share Pope Francis has honored two former St. Pius X Parochial Vicars with the title of Monsignor.

Monsignor Robert J. Crofut and Monsignor Robert M. Kinnally's will receive the honor of Chaplain to His Holiness during a Mass and investiture ceremony set for Sunday, April 16, 5:00 p.m. at St. Aloysius Church in New Canaan.

Congratulations to our priests who have so faithfully served our parish, the Diocese of Bridgeport and the Lord with such devotion!

January 15, 2023
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time "Here I am Lord, I come to do your will."- Psalm 40

A single act of love makes the soul return to life" – St. Maximilian Kolbe



ST. PIUS X ANNUAL APPEAL NEEDS YOU

Donated to Date: \$163,586
of Donors: 256 out of 2,300+

This Year's Needs:
\$275,000 for School building renovations
\$1.2 Million to pay off construction loan

We're facing some very important financial challenges. Your gift, **no matter the size, will make a difference.**

●Our 60-year-old school building is used daily by parish students in faith formation/youth ministry and is also a source of income. Keeping it well maintained ensures it remains safe and is an attractive rental option for the community. Specific repairs/updates to the building are **approx. \$275,000**.

●We need to pay off our **\$1,215,700** bank loan related to the renovation of the church. While we continue to collect pledges from the We Stand with Christ Campaign, some pledges will not be redeemed as financial situations have changed, some have moved, and some have passed to their eternal reward.

We humbly ask ALL families to donate in some way.

TWO WAYS TO DONATE:

- Online** at www.st-pius.org/onlinegive
- Mail or Drop in Offertory** a check and put ANNUAL APPEAL in the memo

THANK YOU!

Thank You

A NOTE FROM SR. EILEEN

Dear St. Pius Parishioners,

You have donated almost \$2000 worth of gift cards for the poor of Bridgeport. This will assist me tremendously throughout the year in my street ministry. Thank you! These cards bring such happiness and relief to individuals who struggle every day. Let me tell you just one story that took place that frigid day before Christmas: Two men were sitting on stone steps looking old, worn out, depressed, cold and hungry. I've seen them before. I stopped and offered each man one of your McDonald gift cards. When one of the men, Marcus, received the card he broke hysterically into sobs. He was so thankful for your kindness he could not even speak. I know for sure the goodness of God works in our world through loving hearts like yours! Emmanuel!

With gratitude, Sister Eileen Boffa



FAIRFIELD LIFE TEEN + EDGE STUDENT MINISTRIES

Fairfield Life Teen and Edge invites high school and middle school students in the local area into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Life Teen (High School Ministry) and Edge (Middle School Ministry) are hosted at St. Pius X and open to anyone one at any church. The mission of Fairfield Life Teen + Edge is to 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. Join us!

Upcoming Life Nights (Sundays, 6-8pm)

- Jan. 15: Fit for a King-The Kingdom of God in Matthew's Gospel
- Jan. 22: Power Packed!-The Power of God in Mark's Gospel
- Jan. 29: Heart Healthy-The Compassion of God in Luke's Gospel
- Feb. 5: Sacramentally Delicious-The Presence of God in John's Gospel

Upcoming Edge Nights (Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm)

- Jan. 18: Winter Kick-Off
- Jan. 25: Song Selection—The Bible
- Feb. 1: Oldies—The Old Testament
- Feb. 8: Social Night

FAIRFIELD LIFE TEEN + EDGE CORE TEAM

We need adult volunteers to be a part of our CORE teams for both our middle and high school ministries. CORE team members are essential in making Fairfield Life Teen + Edge a safe and welcoming environment where the teens are SEEN, KNOWN, and LOVED. They attend our weekly Life/Edge Nights, as well as planning meetings 2-3 times per semester. We are looking for adults to help with the following at the Life/Edge Nights:

- Set-up/clean-up
- Lead opening/closing prayer
- Prepare and give a short teaching on the topic for the night
- Lead small groups
- BE PRESENT with the teens

For more info, visit www.fairfieldlt.com or contact Emily Rauser at erauser@st-pius.org.



YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS LUNCHEONS

12Noon in the Community Room

January 9 Recap: We enjoyed fellowship and lunch to ring in the New Year! Thank you to everyone who helped set up, clean up, and bake. We couldn't do it without you:)

February: We will break for February as many fly South for some sunshine. See you in March! And don't forget you can still join us at Game Day each week- see below for details.

March 6: Save the Date for when we return for Spring! Details to come.

RSVP REQUIRED: Peter Carey at aandp1964@aol.com or 203-673-2081.

★ GAME DAY ★

YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS GAME DAY

Join us at **Young at Heart Seniors Game Day** to enjoy a variety of games or just come to meet new friends and have fellowship and conversation. See you in the Community Room **10AM-12Noon, on Tuesdays**. Questions? Contact **Margaret** at blk125@msn.com or **908-399-2945**. Stop by and check it out!



WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Walking With Purpose invites you to join our next bible study **Reclaiming Friendship: God's Plan for Deep Connection** on Thursdays from 9:30-11:30am in the Community Room. Explore what it takes to stay close to friends for the long haul, what to look for in a friend, and how to navigate toxic relationships. Let God reshape how you see and experience intentional relationships and become a woman who is capable of the lifelong bond of true friendship. Starts Thursday January 19th. New members are welcome! For more information, please see <https://www.st-pius.org/www/> or contact Dawn Carpanzano at dawnmariec@sbcglobal.net.



ST. PIUS X MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Our weekly men's fellowship group meets **6:30AM, Saturday mornings in the 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 in!



ST. PIUS X MASS LIVESTREAM INFO

- Mass Livestream: 8:30AM, Daily Mass and 11AM, Sunday Mass (posted on our Facebook and YouTube.)
- Follow us on Facebook/Instagram @st.piusx_church
- Like us and subscribe to St. Pius X on YouTube



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS WEEKLY MEN'S BEGINNER/SPEAKERS MEETING AT ST. PIUS

Park City Men's Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Beginners/Speakers Meeting, **7PM-8PM, Tuesdays, 2nd floor classroom, Religious Education Center (School.)** Enter via **left side exterior Door #2**. Meeting is **open to any man** seeking help with alcohol. The only requirement is a desire to stop drinking. If you, or someone you know, are trying to get help, stop by, or share this information.



HELP US STAY CONNECTED TO YOU

Do you have a new phone (land line or mobile), email, or mailing address? If so, please let us know so we can update our Parishioner Database. Email your updated information to secretary@st-pius.org with the subject line: "Update my Contact Info." Thank you for helping us keep our records current so we can stay in touch with you!

"The one who has hope lives differently; the one who hopes has been granted the gift of a new life."

Pope Benedict XVI



GIVING AT ST. PIUS X

There are many ways to give to our beautiful parish—the easiest and safest way is Online Giving.

Get started today or take a minute to review your scheduled donations.

“Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.”

—Luke 6:38

Benefits of Online Giving

- Safe and secure.
- You control the amount and timing and can change at any time.
- No more writing checks or handling cash.



www.st-pius.org/onlinegive

Questions? Call the Parish Office at 203-255-6134