



## *Jan. E-News*

### *New Year's Office Hours Monday, Jan. 2-Closed*

**Updated Mass Times** Remember the new weekend Mass schedule goes into effect this weekend: Saturday, Dec. 31, 5:00 pm (not 5:30), and confessions will be 3:30-4:30 pm. Sunday, Jan. 1, 7:30 am and 9:30 am. (No 11:30). The 9:30 am will continue to have ASL Interpretation. Since November the weekday Mass is at 5:30 pm.

**THANK YOU!** We extend a sincere THANK YOU for making this year's Adopt-a-Family and parish referral programs a great success! The gift card collection always exceeds expectations. The spirit of St. Pius X lives on. The parish gifted more than \$2400 in gift cards to parish referrals and more than \$800 in gift cards and gifts to Catholic Charities Adopt a Family. That is amazing. In addition, we provided more than 20 handmade fleece blankets to many others in need. The food pantry has never been short of food and so many families have benefited from the distribution of food. Thank you too, to all those who participated in the Knights of Columbus baby bottle drive and Bikes for Kids, and the Respect Life Advent baby shower that provide numerous baby items to Bethlehem House and Essential Pregnancy Services. St. Pius X is extremely blessed with the generosity of this very giving parish. It is astounding!

**Many thanks** to everyone who made our Advent and Christmas liturgies, church environment, and seasonal service projects so great! The meaning of Christmas abounds in our gatherings and prayer. In particular, as we have worked with visiting bishops, priests, and deacons, the spirit of St. Pius X has shown through. In a special way, Anne McGuire would like to thank all of the liturgical ministers who have been faithful in serving the 11:30am Sunday community. The spirit they bring with their service is truly special, and will be welcome at all Mass times come January 1.

**Pastoral Council** The monthly Pastoral Council meet and greet in the narthex will be after all the Masses on Jan. 7-8. Please stop and say hello and other thoughts, comments, suggestions. Also remember that there are forms in the kiosk and [online](#) where you can offer suggestions.

**Christ Life, Jan.9- Feb. 20, Monday Evenings 6:15-8:45, St. Leo's** Is your Plate Full or Empty? Join us at Discovering Christ. Join us for a free meal, prayer time, video teaching and small group conversations. For more information, contact Deacon Randy Landenberger, 402-397-0407, [christlife@stleo.net](mailto:christlife@stleo.net) or go to: [Christ Life](#) In addition, Each session, which includes a meal, takes place on Monday evenings at St. Leo the Great. We need volunteers to help fill water glasses, serve food, clear tables etc. for those who are participating in this series. We would greatly appreciate any help (Youth especially) you could provide. Use the Sign Up Genius link below to sign up for a specific date.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B48AAAF23A0F49-christlife>

**Catholic Schools Week, January 29-February 4** Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. This year includes: Celebrating Parish, Community, Students, Nation, Vocations Faculty, Staff, Volunteers and Families. Check out the St. Pius X/St. Leo school website for a schedule of events.

<https://spsl.net/>

**Theology Matters: Human Bodies, the Image of God, & the Hunger for Touch – Monday, January 30, 7:00 PM** in the Parish Center. We are a Church of the incarnation; God took on human flesh and used touch to heal us. The sacraments celebrate our physicality (you can't baptize or anoint via Zoom!), so it is right to recognize the human need for touch to thrive. Jesuit neurosurgeon and philosopher Fr. Chris Krall, S.J., addresses how human touch in an age of isolation and "social distance" offers healing and connection. Hosted by Spectrum ministry team. Spread the word and bring a friend!

**Finance News** As our December letter to the parishioners noted, the first request we have of you is to continue to pray for Fr. Joe and his return to ministry at St. Pius X. We are grateful to Fr. Gadache for his stellar leadership during Fr. Joe's absence. We are grateful as well for all who contributed to our Christmas collection. As we noted in our December

letter this collection is one of the most important sources of revenue during our fiscal year. It's not too late to send in your contribution or make your [online donation](#)! Finally we are most grateful to those deceased parishioners who blessed the parish with estate gifts. These bequests enabled our parish to remain financially solvent. Our question for you: Who will take your place as a generous benefactor to your faith community? A bequest gift to St. Pius X in your will could continue your generosity after death. Consult an attorney about making or updating your will and estate plan

**From Health Ministry January is Radon Awareness month** Radon, a cancer-causing, radioactive gas comes from the natural decay of uranium in every state's soil. In Nebraska, 50% of homes tested have high radon levels (above 4.0 pCi/L) because radon easily enters buildings through the soil via cracks in floors, walls, and around pipes. ***Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths and lung tissue damage progressing to pulmonary fibrosis and emphysema.*** Radon is impossible to detect without a testing kit, since it is invisible, tasteless, and odorless. Easy and inexpensive do-it-yourself short-term (2-90 days) and long-term (more than 90 days) tests are available at most hardware and home improvement stores. ***Information resources have been placed in the St. Pius X Narthex kiosk.*** Contact the *Nebraska Radon Program* for more questions and radon contractor information by calling (800) 334-9491 or (402) 471-0594 or via the website: <http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/radon/>

**Rides.** On occasion we have some of our older parishioners needing rides to a weekend Mass. If you are willing to give people rides (sometimes short term and sometimes long term) and are ok with us passing your name along please call or email the office. Also, if you are aware of any homebound parishioners, please contact us. Thank You Rita, 402-558-8446, [ritar@stpiusxomaha.org](mailto:ritar@stpiusxomaha.org)

**It's Festival Time!!! June 4<sup>th</sup>** Yes you read right. It is never too early for us to start planning. Meet your 2023 Festival Chairs, Kristine Ericson, Karen Hosier, Trish Wangler and Erica Williamson. And meet your Game booth Coordinators. Kate Macias and Christine Henningsen, returning for another year. Thank you to these folks. Some of the areas where we know where we can use help are the silent auction and the dime toss. As time gets closer we will also need captains for some of the game booths. If you have a seed of interest in knowing what any of these things entail, please call Rita, 402-558-8446 or E-Mail [ritar@stpiusxomaha.org](mailto:ritar@stpiusxomaha.org)

**Save the Date-ValLimar Jansen, Tuesday Feb. 7 Six Black Catholics on the Road to Sainthood Celebrate Black History month with accomplished Catholic speaker, artist and performer ValLimar Jansen, to learn about six black Catholics who are on the road to sainthood.** ValLimar Jansen is a highly regarded Catholic speaker, singer, composer and recording artist. She is also a college professor, a leader of worship and prayer, and a keynote and workshop presenter at conferences across the U.S. and internationally. All are welcome! Free Will Offering.

**Save the Date-Let Us Dream" Planning Morning, Saturday, Feb. 11, 8:45** Ideas suggested in ZOOM meetings in 2021 will be shared, and new ideas and dreams for our parish are welcome! Our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be in 2024, and our parishes are changing with Family Groupings. We invite all parishioners to be part of this "ideas moving into action gathering." The morning will begin with breakfast items at 8:45 AM and a time to share dreams. Everyone will have a chance to sit at two tables of choice to discuss ideas most important to them, and to begin action plans. These planning days began at Pius' 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary when a Men's Club started, a church building committee was formed, Youth Group began, a liturgy study group formed with a liturgist hired a year later, and hospitality became a key point with Welcoming beginning at Masses. Later planning days brought the Women's Organization, the Mary statue rebuild and placement, the Jubilation Choir, Pius Connect phone tree, demographic budget discussion around tuition, Bible study groups, Human Needs Outreach and the Pantry. Plan to come and bring a friend. Together we can continue to keep St Pius X a Place to Call Home. More details will be in upcoming Bulletins. Questions: Cindy at 402-968-1982 or [cindysauer@cox.net](mailto:cindysauer@cox.net)

### **Staff Updates**

**From Fr. Joe (12/5/22)** Just a quick note from Pennsylvania. As of last Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, I've been accepted in to the treatment program here at St. John Vianney Center. I had some health issues in my first week here, which slowed the assessment process down. Some of my team members (and I would like to emphasize the importance of this group) were on Thanksgiving vacation as well. The good news is that I was enrolled into some of the classroom experiences early, so I didn't have to wait for official admittance to begin. At this point, I have no idea how long I will be in residence, but I fully trust in the team and the process. I can honestly say this: even though I've only been here for a short period of

time, you wouldn't recognize me. I am slowly gaining physical strength (I only had a partial self-understanding of how bad of shape I was in upon arrival and I'm very thankful that I was here when my health was compromised) and I'm eager to address the rest of my concerns. I'm also thankful for your continued prayers and please know that I keep you in my prayers as well. More to come later...Fr. Joe

**From Anne McGuire:** After serving this loving community of St. Pius X for seven years, I am announcing my retirement from full-time ministry July 1<sup>st</sup>. Every aspect of my position as Director of Liturgy and Music has been fruitful and faith-filled, for a community who appreciates the integration of the many facets of its liturgical life. I will continue for the next six months, and hope you will continue to worship with your warm hospitality and passionate faith. I had been hoping to work part-time, but after exploring those options over the last few years, it seems this retirement from my full-time position is best. I look forward to continuing work in liturgy and music in the Omaha area. Blessings to all of you for your love and support over the years.

**More Information** *(We are now on Instagram @stpiusxo—Follow us!)*

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Flyers, CareNotes and other information can also be found in the kiosk in the narthex of the church.

St. Pius X  
6905 Blondo  
Omaha, Ne 68104  
402-558-8446

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