



March E-News

Lent Opportunities

During the season of Lent, you are invited to take a **Little Black Book** with you, to pray and reflect each day. The books offer spiritual insights for us based on the scripture readings and seasonal emphasis of the day. They are available in the narthex.

Rice Bowls are also available in the narthex. These provide a way to give back, by collecting money to donate to Catholic Relief Services. In addition to supporting CRS, you receive recipes and connections to other cultures who benefit from the work of CRS.

Stations of the Cross are led each Friday during Lent, following the 5:30pm Mass. Each are in need of prayer leaders. Please let Anne McGuire know if you are willing to lead one week (February 24 through March 31).

Sunday Chats began last Sunday, with a great discussion taken from Pope Francis' Letter to the Laity. Based on passages from his letter, and from the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy from the Second Vatican Council, we explored what is meant for each of us by the phrase "full, conscious, and active participation." Upcoming Chats in March are: Rediscover the Beauty of Liturgical Symbols (March 5) and Rediscover the Beauty of Encountering Christ in the Liturgy (March 19). In April, May, and June, we will focus our discussions on the Eucharistic Revival, following reflections of Cardinal Cupich. The Sunday Chats follow the 9:30am Mass, beginning at 10:45am and going until 11:30am, in church.

Liturgical Ministers are needed for all of our **Holy Week Liturgies**. Please let Anne McGuire know if you will be around, and for which liturgies you might be available, Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday, April 1-2 through April 9. annem@stpiusxomaha.org

Lenten Soup Sunday – Sunday, Feb. 26, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM – Last year's Lenten Soup Sundays were a hit, so we are planning an encore performance! No RSVP is needed to eat, but to ensure that we have enough soup and servers, please use the [Sign Up Genius](#) to volunteer to bring a soup or help with set up, serving and cleanup. A free will offering will be accepted.

Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study – Wednesday evenings in Lent in the Church Library – Ashley Connor will lead a women's Bible study using the Walking With Purpose program materials. To join this group or start your own group, contact colleenc@stpiusxomaha.org. Check out the materials at walkingwithpurpose.com.

Lenten Small Groups – Faith Sharing, Bible Study, Fellowship The Archdiocese is offering Live Lent Together again this year with a new topic – Mission – that will help our parish as we adapt to being part of a family of three parishes. Find the program materials and list of leader training sessions at <https://archomaha.org/lent/>. Contact colleenc@stpiusxomaha.org if you want to start a group.

Stations of the Cross, Walk for Justice Friday, April 7, 1:00 pm Begins at St. Mary Magdalene Church (109 S. 19th) Sponsored by: Sacred Heart, St. Benedict the Moor, St. Leo the Great, St. Magdalene, St. John's Creighton University and St. Pius X Churches; Creighton Prep, Duchesne, Gross, Marian, Mercy, Mount Michael, and Skutt Catholic High Schools; Catholic Charities; Schlegel Center for Service and Justice, and Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Contact: Cathy, 402-451-5755, cajenkinswalsh@archomaha.org

Other Lenten Resources There are many opportunities available to help you enter into the spirit of lent. Find a variety of resources [here](#).

Soda Bread is here until March 12! The St. Pius and St. Leo Knights of Columbus are again offering Soda Bread. Please be sure to stop in the narthex after Mass to get your Soda Bread and help support our school. The funds from this go to St. Pius X/St. Leo School Tuition Assistance. Your donations are appreciated. All of your favorite flavors will be available.

Easter Flowers If you would like to purchase or make a donation towards Easter Flowers for the church please contact Anne McGuire, annem@stpiusxomaha.org

Pastoral Council Meet and Greet, March 4-5 after Masses, Narthex. Please stop and say hello and share thoughts, comments, suggestions. Also remember that there are forms in the kiosk and [online](#) where you can offer suggestions.

St. Pius/St. Leo Young at Heart St. Patrick's Day luncheon, March 15, 11:30, St. Leo's. Enjoy a catered traditional Irish lunch as we listen to Irish music and visit with other Young at Heart Leprechauns! Tickets are \$15 per person. Please RSVP to Dina at St. Leo's with payment by March 9th. This event is open to all! Sponsored by St. Leo/St. Pius X Young at Heart

Pasta Fridays are back for our 21st year! March 3, 10, 17 and 24 Serving from 5-7:30 p.m. St. Pius X Parish Center Please join us for your choice of five great meatless sauces over a variety of pastas. Macaroni and cheese or cheese pizza for the kids. Plus salad, bread and beverages. Everyone is welcome! Tickets are \$12 Adults, \$10 Seniors, \$6 Kids \$40 Family (2 Adults and their children) Questions? 402-558-8446 www.stpiusxomaha.org
Volunteers can sign up at [sign up genius](#).

Women's Night at the Movies Wednesday, March 8, 2023 - 7 pm Parish Center A relaxing Wednesday in March. Gather for a low-key night at the movies with two of our favorite men. Wear your comfy clothes and bring a friend. Feature Presentation: "It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" With Tom Hanks as Mr. Rogers. Bring a snack to share. **As always, BYO Beverage.** "The connections we make in the course of a life—maybe that's what heaven is." Fred Rogers
For more information, see the bulletin, [website](#), Sponsored by the St. Pius X Women's Group

Pancake Breakfast, March 12, 8:00 am-11:00 am The Knights of Columbus and Mens Club will be serving pancakes, with sausage, ham, milk, juices and coffee from 8-11 AM on Sunday, October 9. There will be special pancake "toppers" for the "kids" too! Everyone is welcome and the price for this event is a free will offering. See you there!!

Social Justice Book Read Thursday evenings, March 16, 23rd, April 6th, 7:00 pm This is often the first reaction felt when race, racism, or racial justice are brought up. "Aren't things a whole lot better?" "How am I possibly part of the problem?" "I treat everyone the same - don't see color." Join a Lenten book read to discuss such questions using *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*, by Emmanuel Ocho. A former pro football player, he wrote this book to gather the questions he'd been asked over the years. He is easy to read, gently teaching his truth. You can check out YouTube videos under his name or the book title and see short clips, some with famous people. A 4th date to be decided by the group. Share with any interested friends. Contact Cindy: cindysauer@cox.net, or 402-968-1982 with questions, and to join. Books will be ordered March 3.

Omaha Together One Community (OTOC) Annual Fundraiser, Sunday March 26th, 4:00 -7:30 pm St. Pius X Parish, a member organization will help them "Celebrate Community" at the Omaha Design Center. You can register and buy tickets at: <http://bidpal.net/otocauction2023> The silent auction opens online on Saturday March 18 and closes on Sunday March 6 at 6:30 pm. We are accepting auction items until March 8. Contact Colleen Morrissey at cdmomaha@gmail.com Omaha Together One Community www.OTOC.org

Theology Matters, Wed. March 29, 7:00 p.m. Parish Center - Dr. Patrick Saint-Jean's books, *The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice: A Month of Meditations*, and *The Crucible of Racism: Ignatian Spirituality and the Power of Hope* offer his personal experience of racism as a Jesuit in formation, an immigrant, and a Black man. Prepare yourself by for the presentation by reading one of his books or another on the topic, such as *White Fragility* (by Robin DiAngelo), *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man* (by Emmanuel Acho) as a part of your Lenten spiritual journey. Start or join a group to read and discuss the books together. Hosted by Catholic Social Teaching ministry team.

From Finance Council The three traditional pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through the three pillars of Lent we journey to an Encounter with Christ to develop a closer relationship to God. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is "a witness to fraternal charity" and "a work of justice

pleasing to God." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 2462). Sharing your wealth with your parish is one example of being a "witness to fraternal charity" and a work of justice pleasing to God." The finance committee is especially grateful to deceased parishioners who have included St. Pius X in their estate plans. Here are questions to promote your thinking about preparing estate planning documents:

- Have you provided appropriately for your spouse and children?
- Have you remembered your favorite charities in your estate plan?
- Do you know what implications property ownership has on who inherits your assets at death?
- Do you realize the effects of your beneficiary designations on insurance policies and retirement plans?
- How much will you or your heirs pay in taxes upon your death?
- Do you want some of your assets that would go to pay taxes to instead pass to charity?
- Will probate complicate the lives of your family?
- Who will manage your money or make end of life decisions if you are incapacitated?

Please look these over before contacting your attorney to set up your estate plan

From Health Ministry March is Ladder Safety Month With spring approaching and home improvement projects being planned the Health Ministry is sharing important goals and ladder safety information provided by the [American Ladder Institute \(ALI\)](#), the only program dedicated to exclusively promoting ladder safety. It's goal is to provide critical guidelines and raise awareness on ladder safety at home and in the workplace. Pick up a flyer in the kiosk.

It's Festival Time!!! June 4th 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. We are looking for a couple of people who would be willing to do the Silent Auction. Please let us know if you would like to visit more about this wonderful opportunity. If you have a seed of interest in knowing what any of these things entail you can email us at festival@stpiusxomaha.org

From Fr. Joe The past few weeks have been particularly trying between the work here and life. At the end of January I was able to attend a memorial service for a friend in Cold Spring, NY. Rick was one of the founders of the "Writing a Song that Matters" retreat that I've attended since 2013. He was an amazing musician and artist who personified the should of this group that is now over 300 strong. He embodied collaboration and will be sorely missed. I had planned to invite Rick and his wife Michele (another founding member) to come to St. Pius, but COVID and, now, death will not make this possible. It is our loss. If you would like to listen to some of their music (which I recommend, as well as see some of Rick's awesome Hudson River landscapes), please look up <http://www.openbookmusic.com/rick-gedney-paintings>. Play close attention to their harmonies together...it is stunning. Rick's death (as well as the work I had been doing here) opened up many unexplored/buried feelings and memories for me that led to a tumultuous two weeks. There is not space to get into any details, but suffice it to say...there was constant tears. If you are a reader of Thomas Merton then you are familiar with what he describes as the "True Self" and the "False Self." I'm in the process of trying to dismantle (which may not be the best description) my "False Self." Believe me when I say the "False Self" does not like to be challenged. There is much in me that needs to die and everyday provides another opportunity or imperative to surrender. I've been reading some timely books that have provided challenge and comfort...there needs to be a balance to do this work. Know that I have a great team working with me and that we are making progress. I greatly appreciate your cards and notes...they help me remember the outstanding community we have at St. Pius. Fr. Joe

Save the Date

Women's Organization Annual Spring Brunch, Saturday, April 15 Speaker: Angela Hardin. She is the chairperson of the Omaha Archdiocese Black Catholic Implementation Team. Cost: \$15 More details will be coming. Watch the website, email blast, digital board and the bulletin.

St. Pius X/St. Leo School Golf Classic, Monday, May 22, 10:00 am Plan on joining in at this annual event. This will be played at the Field Club of Omaha (Scramble format). Registration Opens at 10:00 am. Lunch is provided. 11:00 am Tee-Off. There will be a short program, prizes, and dinner reception following. A foursome is \$520 and Individual is \$130. A Panther card that allows for advantages on designated holes is \$50 per team. Watch for more information.

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

[Website](#)

[Full Calendar](#) (includes meetings, etc.)

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

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