



## February E-News

### From the Finance Committee

Dear Parishioners

On November 20th of last year, the Finance Committee sent out letters asking for your help with phase one of our campaign to address the severe financial deficit our parish faced. This was followed by a pulpit presentation.

We are happy to report that the initial response from our parishioners has been excellent, and for that we say a heartfelt **THANK YOU!**

As reflected in the large number of pledge forms returned, significant year-end payments and catch-up contributions were made. In addition, our Christmas collection met the goal. All of this has enabled our parish to become current on its payments to St. Pius X/St. Leo School and to begin setting aside funds for the renovation of the parish center. We are most grateful for the generous spirit of everyone in the parish, and again we say **THANK YOU!**

**Now we turn to the second phase of our campaign—achieving a 50% increase in regular Sunday giving.** We realize that this is an ambitious request. But the year-end catch-up, which was so critical, is now behind us, and we must again meet our monthly obligations on a regular basis. If we can sustain the increase in giving that we saw at year-end, we will be able to pay those bills and to continue the many ministries of our parish with confidence.

Once again, we ask that all Pius parishioners continue to ***“respond as our founders did, with sacrifice, hard work and simplicity,”*** and help our parish move forward in this second half of our fiscal year.

**THANK YOU! The Finance Committee**

**Eucharist at the heart of all we do and all we are, Saturday, Jan. 27, St. Pius X 9-noon.** This event has been postponed to a later date.

**Family Mass, Sunday, Jan. 28, 9:30 am** While we hope every Mass is an opportunity to come and pray with your family and your faith family, this Mass we will be blessed with our young people helping lead the community.

**Free Throw Contest - School Gym (South Entrance), Sunday, Jan 28th 6:30 PM** Our Knights of Columbus council will be hosting a Free Throw contest again this year. This contest is co-sponsored with the St. Leo's Council. This contest is **OPEN to all kids ages 9 through 14 (as of Jan 1)**. Registration is from **6:30 – 6:45 PM. At 6:45 PM Shooting begins** Participants will need to complete and have their parents sign a registration form. This can be completed at the gym the evening of the event during registration. All participants will be recognized for their participation. Winners in each age group will advance to the district competition in February. Questions, please email Douglas Hoff and Greg Barry, [freethrow@kofc.stpiusxomaha.org](mailto:freethrow@kofc.stpiusxomaha.org).

**Soda Bread is now going on 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. Also, The Knights of Columbus will be wrapping soda bread. You are invited to help. Adults are encouraged to sign up with their youth for a fun opportunity of service together. Click on the link below to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050549AF2FA3FC1-47023821-soda#/>

**THIS and THAT, Feb. 10, 10:00 am -2:00 pm, St. Pius X Parish Center** Do you have leftover crafting and/or office supplies? Please consider donating them to the church for our first This and That Fund raiser event being held in February (more later). We will be collecting the donations through February 2, 2024. There will be a box in the narthex for you to place your donations. If you have any questions, please email Trish Lobsinger at [tlobsinger@tsalerno-law.com](mailto:tlobsinger@tsalerno-law.com).

Also, if you would like to be on a fun-raising committee, please email Nancy Lobsinger at [NLOBSING@COX.NET](mailto:NLOBSING@COX.NET) or call at 402-378-2547. This committee will be planning several fund-raising community building events throughout the year.

**Celebrate Mardi Gras! February 10 6:00 PM, St. Leo the Great.** Join us for an evening of Dinner and Entertainment! Enjoy a catered dinner and music by Billy Troy. Billy has achieved an extensive and exciting career in the entertainment industry. He has performed on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry. His accomplishments as a Nashville singer and songwriter have earned Grammy nominations. Whether it is music from the 50's, 60's, 70's or beyond, Billy does it all and gives his all. His voice along with his passion for the wonderful stories behind the music bring great enjoyment! Tickets are \$20 per person. Please RSVP to St. Leo's with payment by February 2nd. This event is open to all! Sponsored by St. Pius X/St. Leo Young at Heart

**St. Pius X Health Ministry Blood Pressure (BP) screening after Masses! February 10-11** Second weekend every month at all Masses (Mark your calendars)

**Candy Sales, Feb. 10-11 after all the Masses** Have a sweet tooth or know someone that does? Once again Candy Sales will be happening. We would love your participation. Here is how: Make candy or other sweet snacks to sell at the sale; Help plate, package and price the candy on Sat. Feb. 10; Work the sale after any of the Masses on that weekend; BUY COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF CANDY. Contact Mary Harrell if you are able to help in any way. [mmbkharrell@cox.net](mailto:mmbkharrell@cox.net)

**Pasta Fridays Serving from 5-7:30 p.m. Feb. 23, March, 1,8, and 15** Pasta Fridays are back for 4 consecutive Fridays beginning Feb 23. 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! Questions? 402-558-8446 There are a variety of volunteer positions available. You can sign up here. [sign up genius.](#)

**70th Anniversary Celebration Organizational Meeting, Sunday, February 11 after the 9:30 mass, Multi-Purpose Room** Our parish is celebrating 70 years of sacrifice, hard work and simplicity as well as spirit-filled worship and prayer during 2024. It is time to plan our celebration to be carried out over the next several months. It will take many hands to complete this task. Prayerfully consider being part of this and join us at this organizational Meeting. Email Colleen and Jerry at [cdmomaha@gmail.com](mailto:cdmomaha@gmail.com). All are welcome!

**Blood Pressure, Feb. 10-11** The St. Pius X Health Ministry will be providing blood pressure screening after all the Masses in the old liturgy office.

**Heart & Sole: Journey Back to Jesus 2024** The Health Ministry committee is sponsoring a parish walking program/challenge this Lent. The program begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, and ends on Holy Saturday, March 30th. Sign up for the program in the narthex after all the Masses the weekends of February 3/4 and February 10/11. Participants will be given an information sheet and a Lenten reflection booklet. The program is FREE and is a great way to build physical and spiritual health this Lent. Questions? Contact Margaret at 402-709-4624 or [tom-margaret@cox.net](mailto:tom-margaret@cox.net)

**Blood Drive, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 am-noon, Parish Center** For an appointment, please visit <http://www.redcrossblood.org> and enter sponsor code: StPiusX. For any questions, contact Jim Lohr, [fs@kofc.stpiusxomaha.org](mailto:fs@kofc.stpiusxomaha.org) (*Sponsored by Knights of Columbus*)

### **From SPSL School**

**Catholic Schools Week, January 28 – February 3** Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. This year's theme, "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community." Check out the St. Pius X/St. Leo school website for a schedule of events. <https://spsl.net/>

**Pre-K and Kindergarten Roundup at SPSL!** Calling all Future Panthers! Join us for Pre-K and Kindergarten Roundup on **Saturday, February 3**. Pre-K Roundup will be at 9am, and Kindergarten Roundup will be at 10:30am. This is your chance to hear from our teachers and administration, see our Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms, and learn about a day in the life of an SPSL student. You can RSVP and learn more at [www.spsl.net/roundup](http://www.spsl.net/roundup). You can also call the school at 402-551-6667 or email [kim.kenney@spsl.net](mailto:kim.kenney@spsl.net) with any questions or to set up a tour.

**SPSL is now enrolling for all grades!** To learn more or schedule a tour, please call the school office at 402-551-6667 or email [kim.kenney@spsl.net](mailto:kim.kenney@spsl.net).

**New Private School Scholarships Available** Financial barriers should not keep you from accessing the best educational

fit for your child. Visit the [website](#) to see if your family qualifies for an *Opportunity Scholarship* to the nonpublic school of your choice.

**Giving to Support School Choice Scholarships** A statewide “Scholarship Granting Organization” (SGO) was set up called Opportunity Scholarships Nebraska (OSN). All three bishops in the state of Nebraska agreed that all the diocesan Catholic schools in the state will use this scholarship granting organization as it relates to the School Choice Act Scholarships. Individual and corporate taxpayers may contribute to the SGO and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for up to 50% of their Nebraska 2024 state tax liability up to a maximum of credit of \$100,000 (50% of \$200,000 tax liability). Note that such contributions do not qualify for a federal tax deduction. More information [here](#)

### **Opportunities**

**Narthex Display Case – decorators needed!** Do you decorate for Christmas? Easter? Challenge your creativity by adding a faith twist to your handiwork. We are looking for some creative people who would like to decorate one section of the glass display case in the narthex with seasonal displays and messages. Grab a friend and have fun putting your talents to work to inspire others! Contact: [liturgy@stpiusxomaha.org](mailto:liturgy@stpiusxomaha.org)

**St. Leo/St. Pius X Youth Group** starts every meeting with sharing a meal. IF you, your family, or maybe your group/organization is interested in making and serving one of our meals, please email [janetd@stpiusxomaha.org](mailto:janetd@stpiusxomaha.org). We are so thankful to those people who provide this opportunity to break bread together.

**Parish Festival 2024, June 2,** (Tentative date) Who likes games? How will you use your gifts for this great community event? The Festival Committee is looking for people to chair the games at the festival. Basically, this entails choosing the games and inflatables, ensuring that there are booth captains for each booth (school provides 8 booth captains), and making sure all the game pieces and misc. items are ready the day of the festival. We want to thank Christine Henningsen and Kate Macias for chairing this for the past two festivals. If anyone is interested in this opportunity or any other way to be involved, please send a message to [festival@stpiusxomaha.org](mailto:festival@stpiusxomaha.org)

More Information and Details

[Website](#)

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

[Ministry Guide](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Weekly Bulletin](#)

[SPSL News](#)

[Rectory Email](#)

[E-News Archives](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Digital Display in the Narthex](#)

Not on Facebook? Posts viewable at [website/publications](#)

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

[Donate](#)

## Lent Opportunities

During the season of Lent, you are invited to take a little **Lenten Reflection Book** 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.

**Ash Wednesday, Masses, Feb. 14, 5:30 and 7:00 pm** Join us for Mass we begin our journey through Lent together.

**Rice Bowls** are available in the narthex. Donations to the Rice Bowl change lives -- your life and those who benefit from your gifts. Twenty-five percent of the proceeds fight hunger and poverty in the local diocese, and 75% go to Catholic Relief Services projects around the world.

**Stations of the Cross** are led each Friday during Lent, following the 5:30pm Mass.

**Heart & Sole: Journey Back to Jesus, Ash Wednesday, February 14th, and ends on Holy Saturday, March 30th.** Sign up for the program in the narthex after all the Masses the weekends of **February 3/4 and February 10/11**. The Health Ministry committee is sponsoring a parish walking program/challenge this Lent. The program begins on Participants will be given an information sheet and a Lenten reflection booklet. The program is FREE and is a great way to build physical and spiritual health this Lent. Questions? Contact Margaret at 402-709-4624 or [tom-margaret@cox.net](mailto:tom-margaret@cox.net)

**Lenten Soup Sunday – Sunday, Feb. 23, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM** – Kick off Lent with a simple meal of soup. Come up straight after Mass or come from home, but either way, plan on enjoying a bit of fellowship and food with friends. Sign up to bring a soup or to serve. A free will offering will be accepted.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4FA4A82DA1FA7-lenten1#/>

**Stations of the Cross, Walk for Justice Friday, March 29, 1:00 pm** Begins at St. Mary Magdalene Church (109 S. 19<sup>th</sup>) 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. If you and/or your high schooler want to participate in any way, please contact Colleen 402-558-1898 [colleenc@stpiusxomaha.org](mailto:colleenc@stpiusxomaha.org) **Parish Reconciliation, Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm**

**Liturgical Ministers** are needed for all of our **Holy Week Liturgies**. Please let the [liturgy committee](#) know if you will be around, and for which liturgies you might be available, Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday, March 23 through March 31.

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