



**ST. PIUS X
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
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**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
1518 J.H. O'Bryan Ave
P.O. BOX 447
Grand Rivers, KY 42045
Office (270) 395-4727 (NEW #)
www.stanthonygrandrivers.org



2nd Sunday Advent Year B Mark 1:1-8



“The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

It Tried to Prepare Me'

By Hafez

It tried to prepare me

The clear night sky tried to prepare me for
What it knew would someday happen;

It began to show me ever deeper aspects of
Its splendor, and then one evening just directly
Asked, Will you be able to withstand your own
Magnificence?

I thought I was just hearing things, until
A spring orchard I was passing my days with
At the height of its glory burst into song,
About our -every human’s- destiny to burn
With radiance.

Still I felt my ears, were playing tricks on me,
Until the morning came when God tore apart
My chest.....needing more room to bloom
Inside.

I began to roll through the streets in ecstasy
Everyone thought I was crazy.

Advent Meditation from St Francis Assisi

“We lose everything which we leave behind us in this world; we can bring with us only that right to a reward for our charity and the alms we have given away. Since I came into the world with nothing and I will leave with nothing, then may God will that since I have learned to live by trust in Him, eternity can be the enjoyment of how my gifts blessed others.”

St. Pius X Mass Schedule

† **Weekend Mass**

Saturday- 4:30 pm

Sunday- 10:00 am

† **Daily Mass**

Tuesday - 6:00 pm

Wednesday-8:00 am

Thursday-8:00 am

Friday-8:00 am

Eucharist Adoration

Visit our Website www.stpiusx.us

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday December 10

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday Rv 11:19a; 12:1-10/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15

Friday Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Steps of Lectio Divina

1. Read – Read through it.
2. Reflect – Slowly consider it.
3. Respond – What does it say?
4. Rest – Contemplate, Deep Prayer

St. Anthony of Padua Masses

† **Weekend Mass**

Sunday- 8:00 am

† **Daily Masses**

Wednesday-9:00 am

Friday-9:00 am

Eucharist Adoration-First Friday 9:00 am

First Saturday of Month Mass 8:00 am

Visit our website

www.stanthonygrandrivers.org

Weekly Online Mass Sunday -10:00 am We still Live Stream on FB: Facebook at: St. Pius X & St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Churches

Fr. Brian Johnson, Pastor
Paula Schmidt, CRE/Office Manager
Bulletin/Website Submissions

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Parish Office Hours

Tuesday -- Thursday

9:00 am-2:00 pm



Pastor's Study Desk Notes



Dear St Anthony & St Pius Families, 2nd Sunday Advent Year B

Mark 1:1-8

What is in the wilderness? **'Lions and Tigers and Bears!'** (John the Baptist is like a lion roaring in the desert fiery messages of repentance! - Amos 1:2 prophesied, "The LORD **roars from Zion & thunders** from Jerusalem...") From the earliest days in our church history the symbol representing the Gospel Writer Mark has been a **LION**, because his gospel begins with John Baptist 'roaring' out in the desert for everyone to straighten up and focus on God's coming! (*The symbols for other gospels are John-Eagle, Luke-Ox & Matthew-Man also taken from their opening lines-scenes.*) So, Mark's gospel begins by introducing John the Baptist out in the desert wilderness, calling out 'Repent & Prepare: the Lord is Coming!' Mark 1:3 actually quotes Isaiah 40:3, **'A voice of one crying in the desert'**. That is John the Baptist, lonely though he may be out there, John preaches to everyone a message of preparedness and repenting of sin to get ready for the Lord's Coming. Maybe John the Baptist wasn't always preaching such **'fire and brimstone'** but he surely could be fired up enough to match the volume of a ROAR, as when he prophesies about Jesus in Matthew 3:11, saying, "He will baptize you with the holy Spirit **and fire.**" John's fierce and **fiery** talk is one connection linking him closely with another roaring prophet Elijah, as we remember that Elijah was assumed up into heaven with God back in 2 Kings 2:11 when "a fiery chariot and fiery horses came between the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind". The gospels make several intentional comparisons between John the Baptist and Elijah. A couple more such connections include their unique but similar dress (Matt 3:4 & 2 Kgs 1:8) of 'camel's hair cloak and leather belt around his waist', in addition to their fearless attacks on corrupt Kings, when they calling out the royal immorality (1 Kings 18:18 where Elijah condemns King Ahab & in Matt 14:3-4 John Baptist condemns King Herod).

But most importantly, the strongest connection behind Elijah and John the Baptist is the fact that John was a type of New Elijah that fulfilled the Hebrew prophecy expecting first Elijah to return, right before the Messiah showed up. Elijah's preparatory return from heaven would introduce the Messiah. The Old Testament prophet Malachi had predicted in Malachi 3:23 "I am **sending to you Elijah the prophet, Before the great day of the LORD comes...**" (also in Malachi 3:1). So, the expectation among the Hebrews was that Elijah would show up first, and then the Messiah would arrive! Jesus confirms such a linkage between Elijah and John the Baptist when Jesus says in Matthew 17:12-13 "*I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him but did to him whatever they pleased. So, also will the Son of Man suffer at their hands.' Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.*" And in Matthew 11:13-14 "All the prophets and law prophesied up to the time of John. **And if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah, the one who is to come.**" So, John's preaching is meant to motivate us to make the needed preparations for the Lord's coming. John wants to 'fire us up with zeal' to welcome Jesus the Messiah when He shows. (*Is this what Jesus is talking about in Luke 12:49 "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!"*) We need a Messiah, a Savior, because of our sins and the sinfulness abounding in the world. John's job was to draw our attention to our need of 'repentance', acknowledging our faults and turning to God for the remedy of forgiveness and new life in Christ. Matthew 3:6 tells us that John "baptized in the Jordan River as they (people) confessed their sins." So, our humble confession of personal sin and the acknowledgement of our faults/failings is what preps us to receive Jesus. To accept a Savior, I have to realize first that **I need a Savior!** And being aware of my need of God's forgiveness, begins when I first inventory my life (honestly admit my guilt) and it is John/Elijah that motivates me to closely examine and call out my own sins! Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian

St Pius X Parish Council Meeting Thurs Jan 18 @ 5:30 pm

Gary Traylor	(3)	Chair Person
Nora Canon	(4)	Secretary & Finance
Paula Humphreys	(3)	Spiritual Life
Stacey Newby	(3)	FFY & Religious Ed
Debbie Anspach	(3)	Social Program/Outreach
Michael Bowling	(3)	Building & Ground

Early Church Fathers Study & Discussion

Every Tuesday Night from 6:30-7:30pm Come study some of these foundational documents written by the students of apostles. After Scripture, these are our earliest sources of Faith!

DECEMBER 10, 2023 + 2ND SUNDAY ADVENT YEAR B

St Pius X Mass Intentions December 11 – December 17		
Tuesday	6:00 pm	John Bailey
Wednesday	8:00 am	Joan Harrison
Thursday	8:00 am	Rita & Thomas Marshall
Friday	8:00 am	Robert Hannegan Sr Family
Saturday	4:30 pm	Joan Lunt
Sunday	10:00 am	Harold Frizzell
WEEKLY DONATIONS		
Parish Hall Donation (12/3/23)	\$	381.00
Budget for 2022/2023 Fiscal Year (July 2023-June 2024)	\$	195,000.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$	3,750.00
Weekly Donation (12/3/23)	\$	4,698.00
Online Giving (12/3/23)	\$	1,669.00
Total Week's Gift Offering 12/3	\$	6,367.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$	102,329.35

Acts 2:42 Group: Session #4 is **Sunday January 7, at St Pius at 1:30 pm** & hosted by our parishes' group leaders. Come, Experience more!



ACTS 2:42 GROUPS

Mark your Calendars December Events

Dec 10 after mass **Fr Brian & Family Open House**
@ St Pius after 10 am mass
Dec 17 Knights Columbus Breakfast w/Santa

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Dec 10 – Dec 16

Happy Birthday! St. Pius X

December 11 Charlie Doughty
December 11 Kathy Smith
December 11 Karen Williams
December 12 Colton Hobbs
December 12 Pamela Randol
December 14 Mark Devine
December 14 Sydney Shea
December 15 Elizabeth Padgett
December 15 Lonie Vickers
December 16 Andy Fern
December 16 Austin Shea

Happy Anniversary! St. Pius X

December 10 Joseph & Alice Morris

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Dec 24 St Anthony 5:30 pm Mass (Carols 5:00 pm)

Sunday Dec 24 St Pius 8:00 pm Mass (Carols 7:30 pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday Dec 25 St Pius 9:00 am

St Pius X Mass Assignments: Saturday, Dec 16, 2023

Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers / Greeters	Money Counters
Edward Georgen	Paula Schmidt	Jeff Riedfort Charlotte Riedfort	Volunteer (Usher) Volunteer (Usher) Volunteer (Greeter) Volunteer (Greeter)	

Mass Assignments: Sunday, Dec 17, 2023

Volunteer	Dawn Whitt	Marcus Newman Teresa Newman Pam Hurst	Philip Scheidegger Usher Volunteer Usher Volunteer	Nancy Singleton Richard Derry
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FFY Schedule of Classes and Events

Wednesday	Dec. 13	6:00 - 7:30	Christmas Party	Parish Hall
Wednesday	Dec. 20 & 27	Break	Christmas Break Enjoy the Break	
Wednesday	Jan. 3	6:00 - 7:30	Meal and Class	Parish Hall
Sunday	Jan. 7	11:00 - 1:30	Confirmation Class/Retreat with Sponsors & Parents	Parish Hall

Remember in Prayer

St. Pius X: Amanda Scheidegger, Diane Fischer Russell Tomlinson, Joanne Schmidt Mark Gamble, Paula Willett, Kent & Kim Henry, Linda Womer, Leah Vincek, Rick Wilson, James Poat, Richard Warmowski, Wade Barnes, Ashley Hayden, Donna Barrix, David Crass, Beth Strutzel, Jason Long, Helen Nicholson, Larry Kline, Bonita Walker, Joe Hedges, Jerry Wade, Katie Wood, Joanna Grimes, Amanda Bailey, Kaileigh Row, Dolly Bardsley, Pam Laibl, David Kroll, Henry Feezor, Lisa Hammond, Rose Grossius, Bennett Meisenheimer, Jim & Rose Drury, Wes Hayes, Mike Norvell, Maryann Huebschmann, Shirley Mangan, Kenny Matthews, Dora Miller, Miller Meisenheimer, Michelle Freeman, Joann Najgebauer, Johnny Poe, Joel Rivera, Carol Ross, Lonnie Vogler, Brenda Waitke, Gary Walters, Andrew Walton, Dawn Williams, Wilma Lejuene, Lori Butler, Isabella Hamilton, Dr. Danny Butler, Cameron Richmond, Brad Longworth, Helen Bennett, Catherine Brooks, Stacy Newby, Bette Zilligen, Ric Vaughn, Donny Travis, Betty Derry, Scott Hamilton, Connie Burt, Abigail Huebschmann, Lucas Hebner, Ericka Karpstein, Joanna Cooper, Angel Thompson, Kaye Poyner, Bob Tashjian, Rita Cook, Jack Bender, Don Kemp, Sharon Olejnicak, Tim Wilson, Beverly Dukes, Judy Krouse, Kerry Frazier, Rene Harrington, Forrest Michael Teeters, Cameron Brewer, Hugo Santos, Sharon Gibbons, Braydn Barnett, Elizabeth Witowski, Pam Dietz.

Pray for Our Military

St. Pius X: Cameron Thomason, Julianne Utley, Daniel Burgess, James Griffith, Cory Erickson, Justin Fatum, James A. Kinsey, Sarah Martindale, Devin McFadden, Benjamin Patton, Kousuke Sasaki, Noah Willett, Amanda Wojahn and Luke Jablonski.

St. Anthony Page Announcements

Quilters group at St Pius Every Tuesday: Contact Georgia Bradshaw for details. Quilters gather and work on their community quilt together. Come and join in their labor of love for their church family

St. Gianna Crisis Pregnancy Home, with the blessing of Bishop Medley, plans to open its doors in Bowling Green, Kentucky in 2024, a residential program for expecting mothers in crisis. Please visit our website to learn more: www.stgiannacph.org

Needed Donations: Sew on Velcro (any size) needed for a Diaper Project for Children in an orphanage in the Philippines. Contact Georgia Hunsley (St Anthony Church) at 402-920-0108 for more info. Baskets by church doors to collect the velcro.

All-Day Adoration on 1st Friday January 5th

St Anthony will begin all day Eucharistic Adoration. Plan to come some time through the day to pray in presence of the Blessed Sacrament. A schedule is being put together for people to sign up for particular hours. Please call Judy Forsythe - 612-245-3636

First Friday Sacred Heart Devotion: Holy

Eucharistic Adoration from 9:00 am -9:00 pm
First Friday January 5th Friday

First Saturdays Honor the Blessed Mother: Be sure to come to First Saturday Mass on January 6 @ 8:00am. Every first Saturday we offer mass and pray the rosary

Advent Angel Trees at each Church

Please pick up an angel from the trees to help provide the Christmas gift toys/clothes for over 100 children that we sponsor through the local school systems.



St Anthony Birthdays Dec 10 – Dec 16

December 14 David Loxley
December 14 Diane Quayle

Anniversaries:

No anniversaries this week

Lectio Divina Weekly Sessions

Every Wednesday @ St. Anthony of Padua, we gather for weekly "Lectio Divina" sessions. Come and open God's Word in your heart & mind. We have workbooks available



St. Anthony of Padua

**Mass Intentions
December 11 – December 17**

Wednesday	9:00 am	<i>Sally Anne Klohr</i>
Friday	9:00 am	<i>David Reed</i>
Sunday	8:00 am	<i>Laura Logsdon</i>

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Budget 2022/2023 Fiscal Year (July 2023-June 2024)	\$ 73,500.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$ 1,413.46
Weekly Donation 12/3/2023)	\$ 2,348.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 45,991.65

Thank you so much for your faithful generosity! The Parishes and the Church's Mission depends on you!

Livingston County Helping Hands



Food Items Especially Needed: *Saltine Crackers, Hamburger Helper*, sugar, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, tuna, salmon, canned fruits, canned vegetables. **Other items needed:** paper towels, toilet paper, laundry & dish detergent, shampoo (adult & baby), bath soap, diapers,

St Anthony Mass Assignments – December 17, 2023

Lector	Wayne Bradshaw
Eucharistic Ministers	Steve Wilkes Mike Drury
Ushers/Greeters	Kevin Diamond David Loxley
Server	Cindy O'Brien
Money Counters	Shara Parish Kevin Diamond

**CONSIDER ATTENDING DAILY MASS
SPECIAL FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT**

St Anthony Prayer List: Jeff Ritorto, Cathy Ritorto, Betty Gonzalez, Elena Carey, Donna & Jon Gresham, Bob Decker, Bill Rodgers, Tom & Margie Sheppard, Bob Tashjian, Mr. Driskill, Margaret Adams, Pat Gorbett, Ed Derringe, Imogene Ramey.

Pray for our Military

Joel Dumbacher, Matt Elder, Kathleen Erickson, Scott Erickson, Cory Erickson, James A. Kinsey, Jay Lockhart, Sarah Martindale, Devin McFadden, LeAnne Neal, and Kousuke Sasaki.

Parish Council

Mike Drury	Chair Person
Debbie Owens	Secretary/Family Life
Shara Parish	Finance
Kelly Noonan	Building & Ground
David Loxley	Social Concerns/Events
Steve Wilkes	Spirituality/Faith Formation

Next Meeting Wed January 17 @ 6:00 pm

The Holy Sacraments: Preparation for and Reception of the Sacraments

- † **MARRIAGE:** Preparation is needed prior to the wedding. Contact the office or Fr. Brian 6 months prior to date.
- † **BAPTISM:** Preparation is needed prior to the Sacrament. Contact the office or Fr. Brian 3 months prior to birth.
- † **HOSPITAL:** Please notify the office or Fr. Brian if you or someone whom you know is in the hospital.
- † **ANointing OF THE SICK:** Is offered to anyone ill, infirmed, or prior to surgery. Contact Fr. Brian at (270) 668-7675 (Emergency)
- † **CONFESSiON:** Saturday at 3:30 St Pius; or please ask Fr Brian before any mass, or to set an appt, please call him at 270-395-4727
- † **St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry:** 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month during office hours (9 am-2 pm). Call the office at (270) 395-4727
- † **Bulletin information:** Must be submitted to the office by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Email: stpiusx@stpiusx.us