

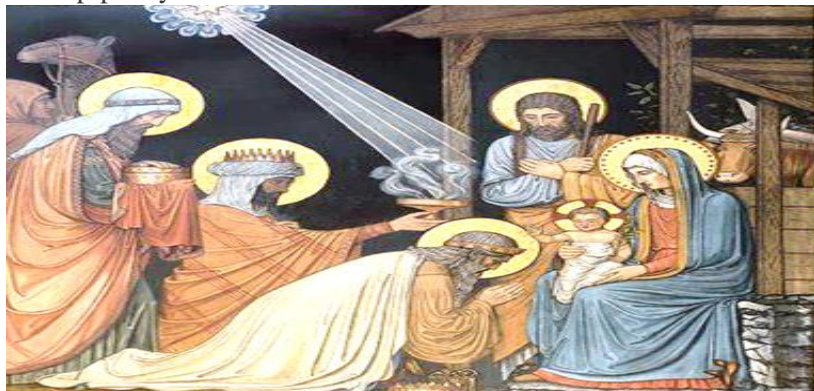


**ST. PIUS X
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
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**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
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The Epiphany of the Lord Year C Mt 2:1-12



“When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.” Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star’s appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage.” After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.”

The Journey of the Magi

By TS Eliot

‘A cold coming we had of it,
Just the worst time of the year
For a journey, and such a long journey:
The ways deep and the weather sharp,
The very dead of winter.’

.....
And arrived at evening, not a moment too soon
Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory.

.....
All this was a long time ago, I remember,
And I would do it again, but set down
This set down

This: were we led all that way for
Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly,
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death,
But had thought they were different; this Birth was
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,
With an alien people clutching their gods.
I should be glad of another death.

ACTS 2:42 GROUPS
ON MISSION AS A EUCHARISTIC PEOPLE
YEAR OF MISSION

“They devoted themselves to the teachings of the apostles,
the communal life, the breaking of the bread & prayer”
Next Meeting January 12 at 1:30pm @ St Pius
To Signup and attend a group session: Please come!
Or contact Ed Georgen edwardgeorgen@gmail.com

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

Visit our Website www.stpiusx.us

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday January 5, 2025
Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30

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,

Feast of the Epiphany Year C

Mt 2:1-12

Intriguing Gospel! John le Carré (Greatest spy novelist) has nothing over Matthew. In today's gospel, we hear that King Herod is visited by foreign citizens wishing to give honors to the newborn royalty within His own Kingdom. Herod understandably thought, "Wait, the last time I checked, I was still sitting on the throne, and I haven't birthed any son". Questions likely raced through Herod's head: *Did my wife not tell me something? Did I miss a memo from Caesar? Are my councilors brewing something in my palace? Or is it espionage-Are the Wise Men 'spies' (Joshua 2:1-24), and for whom?* Of course, such paranoid speculation, leads Matthew to add, "when King Herod heard this, **he was greatly troubled**, and **all Jerusalem with him**" (Matthew 2:3). King Herod's ego-mania has all of Jerusalem feeling jumpy, much like a 'long-tailed cat in a room full of rocking chairs!' Of course, as it turns out, the innocently curious and divinely inspired Wise Men, are guided by the Holy Spirit. They sense the danger and feel God's warning nudge for them never to return to Herod. They correctly saw through Herod's duplicitous flattery that he poured on them, and maybe gifts Herod gave them, too as he invited them back to his palace to report-informant style-back with him what they discover-Matt 2:8). However, Herod's homicidal paranoia erupts after they don't return, leading to his evil command to slaughter all the children in Bethlehem under age two (Matt 2:16-18), like a dragnet to eliminate any possible rival king. That is the world Jesus is born into in Judea.

Christmas is a celebration of light! We do bask in the splendiferous light from the sky (the star & illuminated angels), the glorious light from the manger since Jesus is the 'Light of the World' (John 8:12, Rev 21:23) and from the brilliantly radiant faces of the Blessed Mother and St Joseph proudly looking upon their newborn Jesus-God (who like Moses' face glows after looking toward God Ex 34:29-35). It is a magnificent celebration of birthing light. Matthew 4:16 quotes the prophet Isaiah (9:2) and gives voice to the people's expectation of a coming new day and the dawn of hope- new light in a dark world, when he says, "a people in darkness have seen a great light' (Also, keep in mind that Jesus will be called the 'morning star'-new day- in Revelation 22:6). However, we know too, that it is 'darkest before the dawn'. The world is as it is – much in need of a Savior. Though we hold to Christ our hope, we still trudge through a world ensnared in selfish evil and senseless cruelty. This can be a torment to the innocent – the world is a fallen place. So as Christ is born, we can say with Charles Dickens, "This is the best of times and the worst of times." As good as the refugee holy family over at Bethlehem is, Herod's palaces of power over in Jerusalem plot evil. We speak about 'epiphany' as a 'coming to see' or a flash of insight. It is a manifestation of realism. Jesus Himself will say in John 3:19, "that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light". Sin-shadows of death will try to eclipse the pure light. But John first announces Darkness will not overcome the light" (John 1:15) and Jesus will confirm us in goodness in John 16:33, saying, "I have overcome the world" (John 16:33) So, this appearance of Christ in the world is meant to be our strength of virtue, and incitement to grow good despite the darkness. Seeing things as they are, and yet keeping and carrying light forward, we have 'eyes wide open' to the reality of evil around us, yet aspire to cultivate the better among us. Like the cynic philosopher Diogenes, (404-323 BC) who walked the streets of Athens even in the middle of the day carrying a lantern looking for a good man, regardless of the world, Christians are to always seek grace and cultivate goodness, to be 'the light in a darkened world' (1 John 5:4 "everyone born of God overcomes the world). Jesus is our light and hope! And as rock group 'Disturbed' sing in their song, 'Light', "*It takes a bit of dark to rekindle the fire burning in you.....Sometimes, darkness can show you the light.*" Christians, shine on!

Peace, Fr Brian

St Pius X Parish Council Meeting Thurs @ 5:00 pm

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

Parish Council Elections February 2

Pick up a nomination form and submit some candidates to serve on the parish council. Please ask them to serve first.


Early Church Fathers Study & Discussion Tuesdays 6:30 pm

St Pius X Mass Intentions Jan 6 – Jan 12		
Tuesday	6:00 pm	Richard Craig Klohr
Wednesday	8:00 am	John & Florence Sharkey
Thursday	8:00 am	Patricia McNamara
Friday	8:00 am	Richard Sr & Marie Klohr
Saturday	4:30 pm	Jerry Pidcock
Sunday	10:00am	Dolly Bardsley
WEEKLY DONATIONS		
Parish Hall Donation (12/29/24)	\$	310.00
Budget for 2024/2025 Fiscal Year	\$	195,000.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$	3,750.00
Weekly Donation (12/29/24)	\$	6,096.40
Online Giving (12/29/24)	\$	986.00
Total Week's Gift Offering 12/29	\$	7,081.40
Fiscal Year to Date	\$	124,375.64

Christmas Memorial Flowers <i>In Loving Memory and Honor</i>	
In Memory of:	From:
The Doughty & Wilhelm Families	Kathy Doughty
Deceased Members of the Darst & White Families	Marty Darst
Paul Christamae Reichert	Tom/Nancy Forsythe
James & Beatrice Forsythe	Tom/Nancy Forsythe
Tom & Levena Dossett	Barbara Doughty
The Dacus & Tarr Families	Harold & Fran Dacus
The Mattingly & Goff Families	Pat & Lisa Mattingly
Irene Ross	George Princko
Marsha Princko	George Princko
Taylor Johansen	Kathy Johansen
Deceased Members of the Scheidegger Family	Philip & Amanda Scheidegger

Congratulations to New Deacon Conrad Jaconette
*We thank God for our new Deacon ordained last Saturday.
 Please pray for more priests to be called to serve in the Church.*

Upcoming Events: Mark your calendars
Jan 11 Sat Nite Potluck - Bring your favorite soup!
Feb 8 Valentine's Dinner – Italian Spaghetti Dinner



Happy Birthday! Jan 5 – Jan 11 St. Pius
 January 7 Matthew Brown
 January 7 Chance Lucas
 January 8 Donna Carr
Happy Anniversary! St. Pius X
 January 5 Willard & Kathy Doughty

St Pius X Mass Assignments: Saturday, January 11, 2025				
Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers / Greeters	Money Counters
Camryn Risley Kendall Risley	Liz Medley	Jeff Riedfort Charlotte Riedfort Suzette Whittington	George Humphreys (Greeter) Paula Humphreys (Greeter)	
Mass Assignments: Sunday, January 12, 2025				
Kason Peterson Kinley Peterson	Ric RJ Witowski	Allison Devine Kelli King Volunteer	Usher Volunteer Usher Volunteer Usher Volunteer	Jan Waniel Jean Waniel

FFY
Calendar
&
Activities
Schedule

DATE	SUNDAY GOSPEL READING	SUBJECT
January 8, 2025 Baptism of Lord	Baptism of the Lord Luke 3:15-16, 21-22	Lessons TBA
January 15, 2025 Wed 6:00-7:30 pm	2 nd Sunday Ordinary Time John 2:1-11	Lessons TBA
January 22, 2025 Wed 6:00-7:30	3 rd Sunday Ordinary Time Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21	FFY Mass @ 7:00 pm

Remember in Prayer
St. Pius X: Greg Williams, Judy Ayers, Pat Hobbs, Keisha Bradley Janet Norvell, Iris Joelle Maynard, Megan Mudd, Theresa Owens, Sara Repovich, Kaye Hinkebein, Amanda Scheidegger, Olga Edwards, Diane Fischer Russell Tomlinson, Joanne Schmidt Paula Willett, Kent & Kim Henry, Leah Vincek, Rick Wilson, Richard Warmowski, Ashley Hayden, Donna Barrix, David Crass, Helen Nicholson, Bonita Walker, Joe Hedges, Jerry Wade, Katie Wood, Joanna Grimes, Amanda Bailey, Kaileigh Row, Pam Laibl, David Kroll, Henry Feezor, Lisa Hammond, Bennett Meisenheimer, 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 Broks, Stacy Newby, Bette Zilligen, Ric Vaughn, Betty Derry, Scott Hamilton, Connie Burt, Abigail Huebschmann, 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. Anthony Pellegrin.

Pray for Our Military
St. Pius X: Cameron Thomason, 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

Coffee/ Doughnuts 1st Sunday Every Month Bazaar Workshop at St Anthony Every Tuesday Starting Jan 7 at 9:00 am – Every Tuesday & all parishioners invited to come participate in helping craft gifts for the annual bazaar fundraiser. See the list of item materials anyone can donate.

Orphaned Children Diaper Project: 1/4" Braided Elastic and Sew-on Velcro are needed. Please drop in any donations at the baskets by the front church door.

How Beautiful the Sanctuaries! Many thanks to Paula & all of the teams of decorators that transformed our churches by Christmas Seasonal Decorations! Also, to Danny Padgett and Ashley/Pam Thurman and their choirs for the beautiful music at all of the Christmas liturgies. Thank you for the gift of music!



Next Lunch Bunch gathering in February 20

Acts 2:42 Group: 2nd Sunday every month: Jan 12
Signup contact Ed Georgen edwardgeorgen@gmail.com

All-Day Adoration on Friday February 7

St Anthony Church has an all day Eucharistic Adoration every 1st Friday from 9:00am – 9:00pm. All are welcome to spend time in prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Confession available at 9:30am. Prayer Partners are requested for each hour Adoration.

First Saturdays Honor the Blessed Mother:

First Saturday Mass on February 1 @ 8:00am. Every first Saturday we offer mass and pray the rosary



St Anthony Birthdays Jan 5– Jan 11

January 4 Laura Day
January 11 Ashley Thurman

St Anthony Anniversaries:

January 11 Merlin & Renee Ray

Study ‘The Chosen’ Weekly Sessions

Every Wednesday @ St. Anthony of Padua, we gather for weekly study session at 10:00 am. Currently we are viewing the series “The Chosen” and discussing its portrayal of Christ and His Disciples. We use guide-discussion questions and compare experiences of the different models of service to Christ. Come enjoy an insightful discussion about Jesus; followers. and how we can identify or not with their approach

St. Anthony of Padua

**Mass Intentions
Jan 6 – Jan 12**

Wednesday	9:00 am	Dolly Bardsley
Friday	9:00 am	Linda Palusco
Sunday	8:00 am	Larry Muzzy

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Budget 2024/2025 Fiscal Year (July 2024-June 2025)	\$ 73,500.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$ 1,413.46
Christmas Collection 12/25	\$ 1,484.00
Weekly Donation 12/29/2024	\$ 2,148.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 58,844.39

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



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, wipes, feminine hygiene products. Collection container is in back of the church for your donated items.

St Anthony Mass Assignments – January 12, 2025

Lector	Darin Adrian
Eucharistic Ministers	Mike Drury Jo Herron
Ushers/Greeters	Vern Hunsley Georgia Hunsley
Server	Juan Gonzalez
Money Counters	Shara Parish Kevin Diamond

CONSIDER ATTENDING DAILY MASS

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

Pray for our Military

Kevin Rapp, 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

Kevin Diamond	Chair Person
Judy Forsythe	Spiritual Life/ Secretary
Shara Parish	Finance
Kelly Noonan	Building & Ground
David Loxley	Social Concerns/Events
Steve Wilkes	Faith Formation

Next Meeting Jan 15 Wed @ 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