



**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



Lk1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

**Observances for the Week of
December 21-27**

- Thursday-Christmas Eve**
- Friday- Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**
(Christmas Day)
- Saturday-Feast of St. Stephen, the First Martyr**
- Sunday-Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph**

**Weekly Mass Readings
December 21-27**

- Monday** Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45
- Tuesday** 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
- Wednesday** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66
- Thursday** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79
- Friday** Is 62:11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
- Saturday** Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
- Sunday** Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;
Lk 2:22-40

Visit Us Online for Daily News

**ST. PIUS X:
WWW.STPIUSX.US**

**ST. ANTHONY:
WWW.STANTHONYGRANDRIVERS.ORG**

**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 & 6:00 pm
Thursday-8:00 am
Friday-8:00 am

*Eucharist Adoration-First Friday of each month-
8:00 am*

† **Online Mass**

Sunday -10:00 am
Wednesday - 6:00 pm

**We are still Live Streaming Facebook
for anyone at home**

Find us on Facebook at:
*St. Pius X & St. Anthony of Padua Catholic
Churches*

Parish Office Hours

Thursday 9:00 am-2:00 pm

**St. Anthony of Padua
Mass Schedule**

† **Weekend Mass**
1st Saturday of each month-8:00 am
Sunday- 8:00 am

† **Daily Mass**
Wednesday-9:00 am
Friday-9:00 am

*Eucharist Adoration-First Friday of each
month-9:00 am*

Pastoral Team

*Fr. Brian Johnson, Pastor
Paula Schmidt, CRE/Office Manager
Jamie Zaim, Bookkeeper/Bulletin/Website
Sr. Michael Marie Friedman*

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FROM THE PASTOR

A Message From Fr. Brian Johnson
December 20, 2020 Lk1:26-38



Dear St. Pius X and St. Anthony churches,

As the angel Gabriel visits Mary, she has a one of a kind 'birth announcement party and gender-reveal party' all in one! And what a 'reveal' it is! Mary learns not just that she is going to miraculously conceive and bear a son, but that she will give birth to a child, that is "holy, the Son of God" (Luke 1:35). And that's not all. Mary is also let in on her kinswoman Elizabeth's surprising 'announcement and gender reveal' party too. Elizabeth's son-to-come is also going to be part of Jesus' mission, establishing a never-ending kingdom and house that stands forever!

Mary's response after hearing the full announcement is, "May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). Mary trusts. It was a lot to absorb, but she trusts that God is directing this salvation history, of which she is now a critical part. She accepts her humble place in God's plan. **But Mary does wonder.** I emphasize that about Mary - She contemplates and studies how God may be at work in all these wondrous things happening. I believe that is why we call her unique form of prayer, the *rosary*, a '*meditation upon the mysteries of faith*'. Scripture describes Mary's attitude in prayer in several places. One of them we hear today following the announcement of Gabriel, that "*Mary pondered* what sort of greeting this might be....." (Luke 1:29). Also, Luke 2:19 says that "Mary kept all these things, *reflecting on them in her heart.*" And Luke 2:51 says that Mary "kept all these things in her heart." Whether we call Mary's style of prayer by the name 'contemplative', 'meditative', or 'introspective', it certainly involves the heart and mind discerning reflectively how God is at work in events, persons and her own self. In the past couple years, there has been a resurgence of interest in monastic form of prayer called 'lectio divina' (Latin for 'holy reading'). It is what poets call a 'close reading'. Most simply, it is an encounter with the 'Word', involving four steps of engagement with a text (any message or statement). The steps are to 1) read it, 2) meditate on it 3) pray over it & 4) interiorize or embody it. These careful steps help a person to approach the Word from all angles and draw out its fullest meaning. So we call our meditation themes of the Rosary, *the Mysteries* (Sorrowful, Joyful, Glorious & Luminous) as significant events in the life of the Lord and the Blessed Mother. Such prayer and reflection predisposes us to approach our own times and experiences in the good company of Christ and His Saints, because we have entered deeply into the events that they experienced. Such a prayerful processing of someone else's life encounters offers us holy templates to frame our own daily experiences. Of course, the more we do it, the more second nature such praying becomes to us. And it can all start with Mary's ponderings!

Prayer is an act of faith. I know Pope Francis preaches this a lot: that simply turning to prayer is a sign of faith. Many people ask 'How do you pray?' Maybe this applies to others, but I will let each person decide. I once asked a spiritual director, "I am not sure I'm praying right, How should I pray?" He said, "Well, you do not have any problem talking, so start with that, just talk to God-but make sure you give Him time to talk back." I understand. He also told me that God often speaks to us through '*sign language*' (or an 'interior word' if you are graced). The 'sign' may be hearing a specifically targeted Word of God to us, or the 'sign' may be a naturally confirming event shared with someone or a conversation with a trusted friend. The special grace would be that we actually 'intuit' a verbal echo in our 'inner ear'! Before I get into a full-fledged conference here (again, I can talk.....), let me summarize by saying that Mary receives confirmation of her message from the angel by her visit and conversation with Elizabeth. These sisters-in-arms mutually support one another, and share in the common experiences as they both undergo miraculous and unexpected pregnancies. They will share many more dramatic life experiences as their children (Jesus & John) minister together in their Kingdom work for our salvation. Mary & Elizabeth, as trusted prayer friends, through their openness to God and each other, and their willingness to talk with and serve each other allow them to know God's will and God's Word for each of them. They find the comfort of confirmation from each other's prayer. Advent is our invitation to deeper prayer ourselves along with the comfort of sharing and hearing the meditation of others, all of us receiving God's incarnate Word anew at Christmas.

Peace, Fr. Brian

Another Saint in Time of Plague:

St. Alphonsus De Ligouri

(Born 9-27-1696 Died 8-1-1787)

St. Alphonsus was born in Marianella, near Naples, as the oldest of seven children to Giuseppe Liguori and Anna Maria Caterina Cavalieri. His father had a successful naval career as Captain of the Royal Galleys. Born of nobility, his father's side of the family had undergone some hard times financially due to failing investments and loss of land. St Alphonsus seemed a promising successor in the military arts like his father learning to ride horses and fence early in his life. However, due to poor eyesight and chronic asthma, his father steered him into education for a career in law. Tutored through his primary years, he later entered the University of Naples, where he graduated with doctoral degrees in both civil and canon law at only 16 years old! Formed in a devout Catholic faith from his birth, at 18 he joined the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mercy and began serving some days caring for the sick and visiting 'incurables' at the local hospital. He was a popularly successful lawyer, yet at times he felt sorrow over the ever present danger of corruption and injustice. After eight years of legal practice, he was devastated by the loss of a big case, wherein he overlooked some documentary evidence that when introduced 'clearly decided' the case. It was his first and only lost case, and was completely due to his oversight. Only 27 years old and humbled deeply by the loss, he resigned his post and left the legal profession. Almost immediately, he felt a call to religious life, and applied to be a brother in the Oratory of St. Philip Neri. His father opposed his joining the Oratorians and after negotiating, they agreed to a plan of him remaining at home (not moving into the religious house) and studying for the priesthood. He was ordained only three years later in December 1726. His first years as a priest were spent ministering among the marginalized youth and homeless of Naples. He was a very popular and motivational preacher to everyone. He founded several 'Evening Chapels' which were places for prayer and pious devotions in addition to faith teaching centers. By the time St. Alphonsus died, there were 72 such mission centers around Italy.

Three years after his ordination, he did move out of his family home and began living in the Chinese Institute of Naples. Here, he began his missionary ventures outside of Naples and into many villages and towns in the interior regions of Italy. He found more severe poverty and greater need of the gospel among the more rural areas outside Naples and the other cities. In 1731, St. Alphonsus found himself helping the poor be fed and rebuild after a devastating earthquake in the little town of Foggia. He had a vision of the Blessed Mother appearing as a 13 year old girl in a white veil during his service there. The next year, he founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists) for the spiritual purpose of preaching renewal missions and teaching morals and Christian action. His subtle moral teaching advised practicality and concrete action, always assisted by God's grace. He often refuted the strict rigorists of the heretical Jansenists. He counseled the faithful to imitate Christ in their lives. Grace being necessary, he taught that all Christian action began with prayer and the interiorizing of Christ's works of love with the administration of mercy. His legal background and deep pastoral experience were blessed gifts in his spiritual guidance of those visiting him. It is said that he never refused absolution to a seeking penitent. He was also known to write poetry and composed many hymns, having been taught music at an early age. He wrote many works of collected sermons, moral counsel and prayer devotions. He dedicated a classic work to the 'Glories of Mary'.

After many refusals and evasions of attempts to consecrate him a Bishop, finally in 1762 he was made Bishop of St. Agatha, a small diocese but in need of much reform. He worked tirelessly motivating the secular clergy to pastor and serve, and he preached constantly in the parishes to inspire religious renewal among the faithful. He ministered himself to exhaustion and at a late point in his life, while bedridden and holding a piece of cold marble to his head for relief from migraines, his spiritual director forbade him from writing anymore. He suffered grievously from Rheumatism and it caused an incurable wound to open on his chest. With his coughing from asthma, he suffered much and could not leave bed for mass in his last years. He bravely and patiently endured his sorrows and turned to prayer for consolations. He died in Pagani, (near Naples) on August 1, 1787. He is recognized as a 'Doctor of the Church' and patron saint of confessors, in addition to his patronage over all those suffering chest & lung diseases. So, in this time of Covid Pandemic, St. Alphonsus De Ligouri, pray for us!

Sympathy Prayers: Please pray for the eternal rest of the soul of Melissa Outland, sister of Jeff Outland who passed away December 1. Please keep Jeff, his mother Carolyn and all the family in your prayers. May God comfort them in this time of grief.

FFY News:

The next Gospel Weeklies Unit will be mailed out to FFY families soon. For our FFY in-person sessions, we hope to gather in-person on January 6. If not, we will meet via Zoom.

ODYChristmas Party!! Calling all 6th Graders through Senior High Schoolers! You are invited to a virtual Christmas party!! Games, Prizes and Christmas Crazyness will happen on Tuesday, Dec. 22nd at 7:30pm. Contact Paula Schmidt if you are interested in attending this party.



Thursday, December 24-Christmas Eve:

St. Anthony 5:30 pm (Candles & Carols-5:00 pm)
St. Pius X 8:00 pm (Music & Three Trees Story- 7:30 pm)
St. Pius X 10:00 pm (Music & Three Trees Story- 9:30 pm)

Friday, December 25- Christmas Day:

St. Pius X 10:00 am (Prelude Music)
*Lightest attendance expected

We are operating faithfully under the health safety guidance, which includes mask face coverings, no contact-touch and distancing between families. We have added the 10:00 pm candlelight Eve Mass, and as a new time it may be the lightest attendance. Also, we encourage considering Christmas Day, (attendance always seems lighter on that Day). We do have the overflow area in parish hall arranged for when capacity is met, and we will be strictly following the health guidelines.

A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic

Most Merciful and Triune God, We come to You in our weakness. We come to You in our fear. We come to You with trust. For You alone are our hope. We place before You the disease present in our world. We turn to You in our time of need. Bring wisdom to doctors. Give understanding to scientists. Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity. Bring healing to those who are ill. Protect those who are most at risk. Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one. Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home. Stabilize our communities. Unite us in our compassion. Remove all fear from our hearts. Fill us with confidence in Your care. Amen.

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

December 21-27

Happy Birthday:

St. Pius X

December 22-Dawn Whitt

December 22-Bryan Willett

December 26-Joe Morris

December 27-Ann Burgess

St. Anthony of Padua

December 24-Pat Gorbett

Happy Anniversary:

St. Pius X

December 23-Marty & Kim Lampert

December 23-Robert & Julie Weekes

December 23-Kenneth & Eva Matthews

St. Anthony of Padua

December 24-Tolbert & Margie Sheppard

December 26-Juan & Betty Gonzalez

Protect our Children: Report and Seek Help against Abuse: The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian. Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities local law enforcement or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-597- 2331). To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church (paid or volunteer), call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) on the confidential phone line: 270-852-8380, or Susan Montalvo-Gesser/Miguel Quintanilla, Pastoral Assistance Coordinators (Spanish): 270-880-8360. The Diocese of Owensboro's sexual abuse policy is available this parish, on the bulletin board, in the parish office, and also on the diocesan website (<https://owensborodiocese.org/safe>).

Remember in Prayer

St. Pius X: John Bardsley, Kaileigh Row, Rose Grossius, Bennett Meisenheimer, Neil Trammell, James Eden, Peter Bullock, Jim & Rose Drury, Wes Hayes, Mike Norvell, Maryann Huebschmann, Shirley Mangan, Kenny Matthews, Dora Miller, Miller Meisenheimer, Joann Najgebauer, Elizabeth Nelson, Johnny Poe, Joel Rivera, Sister Rosemary, Carol Ross, Marty Tyskling, Lonnie Vogler, Brenda Waitke, Gary Walters, Andrew Walton, Larry Wenzel, Anna Williams, Dawn Williams, Wilma Lejuene, Lori Butler, Isabella Hamilton, Dr. Danny Butler, Jeanette Hayes, Cameron Richmond, Brad Longworth, Matthew Black, Helen Bennett, Nannette Frizzell, Catherine Broks, Stacey Newby, Bette Zilligen, Dorothy Henry, Ric Vaughn, Susan Sloan, Donny Travis, Betty Derry, Scott Hamilton, Connie Burt and family, Abigail Huebschmann, Lucas Hebnor, Juanita Perkins, Ericka Karpstein, Joanna Cooper, Carolyn Outland, Angel Thompson, Kaye Poyner, Jerry Huebschmann, Dorothy Henry, Bob & Lois Tashjian, Kim Bruce, Rita Cook, Hannah Padgett, Juliette Kaplanes, Jim Henthorn, Jack Bender, Penny Maupin, Don Kemp, Sharon Olejnicak, Tim Wilson, Beverly Dukes, Bill Norvell, Kacie Schmidt, Wallace Hunt, Phyllis White, Judy Krouse, Kerry Frazier, Rene Harrington, Joe Cirrito, Lisa Doyle, Forrest Michael Teeters, Mike Block, David Kroll, Cameron Brewer, Stefanie Wilkerson-Barragin, Hugo Santos, Sharon Gibbons, Lori Blades, Wayne Viniard, Braydn Barnett, Ann Burgess, and their families and caregivers

St. Anthony of Padua: Elena Carey, Donna & Jon Gresham, Bill Rodgers, Tom & Margie Sheppard, Bob & Lois Tashjian, Deanna Hayward, Mr. Driskill, Margaret Adams, Pat Gorbett, Ed Derringe, Charles Paulius, Helen Krivan, Imogene Ramey, Bob Lang and their families and caregivers.

Pray for Our Military

St. Pius X: 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 of Padua: Joel Dumbacher, Matt Elder, Kathleen Erickson, Scott Erickson, Cory Erickson, Jason Huber, James A. Kinsey, Jay Lockhart, Sarah Martindale, Devin McFadden, Ryan M. Fields, LeAnne Neal, and Kousuke Sasaki.

St. Pius X

**Mass Intentions
December 21-27**

Tuesday	6:00 pm	Cipriana Rendon
Wednesday	8:00 am	Benedict Lazatin
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Marilyn Redding
Thursday	8:00 pm 10:00 pm	All Parishioners
Friday	10:00 am	All Parishioners
Saturday	4:30 pm	Sr. Teresa Riley
Sunday	10:00 am	Chester Rudnicki

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Parish Hall Donation (12/13/20)	214.00
Budget for 2020/2021 Fiscal Year (July 2020-June 2021)	\$ 165,000.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$ 3,173.08
Weekly Donation (12/13/20)	\$ 1,840.00
Online Giving (12/13/20)	\$ 735.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 84,071.00

Online Giving: To sign up, visit our website at www.stpiusx.us and click on the link for "online giving" to set up your account. If you need assistance, please call the parish office.

Church Christmas Decorating

We will decorate the St. Pius X church for Christmas on December 24 starting at 9:00am. Please contact Paula at 270-395-4727 or 270-556-7008 if you want to help decorate.

St. Pius X Jesse Tree: The Jesse Tree is up and ornaments representing our Salvation History are being hung every weekend before Mass. Before Mass begins, we learn about the people from our family tree from the beginning of time through Jesus' birth. If you are unable to attend weekend Mass, join us via Facebook Live at 10:00am on Sunday to hear about our Salvation History through the Jesse Tree presentation.

Parish Council

Pam Hurst	Chair Person
Jeff Outland	Building & Ground
Larry Krouse	Secretary
Robert Weekes	Finance
Dawn Whitt	Spiritual Life
Catherine Broks	FFY

Bereavement Committee

Fran Dacus (618)383-4646

Other Groups

Finance Council	Harold Dacus, Chair
Art & Decorations	Paula Schmidt
Knights of Columbus	Philip Scheidegger

St. Anthony of Padua

**Mass Intentions
December 21-27**

Wednesday	9:00 am	Perry & Clara Sulea
Thursday	5:30 pm	All Parishioners
Sunday	8:00 am	Monroe Adrian

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Budget 2020/2021 Fiscal Year (July 2020-June 2021)	\$ 60,000.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$ 1,153.85
Weekly Donation (12/13/20)	\$ 1,135.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 29,636.00

Congratulations to Grant & Sommer Johnson! And Welcome to our newest member, newborn Kaiden Thomas Johnson who was baptized at St. Anthony December 12, 2020! As newly baptized, we welcome him into the family of Christ and may he always walk as a child of light!

Livingston County Helping Hands

Christmas Food Basket Collection:

Food donations for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets are being collected. **Non perishable items needed:** corn, green beans, chicken broth, tomato sauce, cranberry sauce, tomatoes, chili beans, pinto beans, mixed vegetables, evaporated milk, sweet potatoes, spaghetti sauce, tuna, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, Spaghetti noodles, great northern beans, sugar, flour, Kool Aid, pancake mix, macaroni and cheese, kids cereal, crackers, cake mix, frosting, tea. There is a collection container at the back of the church for your non-perishable items. Thank you for your generosity!

2020 Angel Tree: We will be collecting monetary donations for Livingston County Family First again this year for their Christmas for Kids program. Collection envelopes will be available on the Angel Tree. Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Council

Roy McFadden	Chair Person
Mike Drury	Vice Chair/Building & Ground
Debbie Owens	Secretary/Family Life
Shara Parish	Finance
	Building & Ground –Indoor
Nick Zaim	Social/Spiritual Concern
Sr. Michael Friedman	Spiritual/Faith Formation

Bereavement Committee

Pat Gorbett (270)362-3377

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 Jamie by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday. Email: stpiusx@stpiusx.us