



**ST. PIUS X
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 12 2020**

**The Parable
of the
Sower**

Matt. 13:1-23



*“Hear then the parable of the sower.
The seed sown on the path is the one
who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it,
and the evil one comes and steals away
what was sown in his heart.
The seed sown on rocky ground
is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy.
But he has no root and lasts only for a time.
When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word,
he immediately falls away.
The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word,
but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word
and it bears no fruit.
But the seed sown on rich soil
is the one who hears the word and understands it,
who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”*

**Observances for the Week of :
July 13-19**

**Tuesday-Memorial of St. Kateri Tekakwitha
Wednesday-Memorial of St. Bonaventure
Sunday -Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Weekly Mass Readings
July 13-19**

Monday Is 1:10-17; Mt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday Is 7:1-9; Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday Is 10:5-7; Mt 11:25-27
Thursday Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Mt 11:1-8
Friday Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Mt 12:1-8
Saturday Mi 2:1-5; Mt 12:14-21
Sunday Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27;
Mt 13:24-43

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
Saturday- 6:00 pm
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

July 12, 2020 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 13:1-23

Dear St. Pius X and St. Anthony Church,

Seed and Bread! Isaiah 55:10 speaks of the fruitful effect of water (snow or rain) on the earth by its “Giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats”. We need them both: seed and bread! They both fuel energy & growth, but at different stages and in different ways. The fruit of seed in the grains ground and baked gives us bread. And the fruit of bread brings more seed from the strains of working the ground again to grow more plants! Isaiah compares this fruitful cycle to the work of God through His Word. That Word ‘achieves the end for which I sent it’ (Isaiah 55:11). God’s Word is effective, yet we have to be ‘with it’ to see its effectiveness. If we expect everything pre-packaged and ready to consume, we miss how God’s Word is working. I think that is why we hear about both the seed and bread today! Not just seed, not just bread, but both. Bread itself doesn’t grow on trees or stalks. It has to be worked from the seed-grain, ground up and baked. And the bread doesn’t obviously sprout seeds (*except for sesame seed topped buns-which I confess I do not like-How did they get together?*) But the bread strengthens us to work again the cycle of planting and growth to yield more seed.

Our readings provide a wonderful meditation on the magnificent *fruitfulness* of God’s word. His Word always surprises us with a harvest of more than we expected. The letter to Ephesians 3:20 says it this way, “*Now to him who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine....*” So in this cycle of seed becoming bread, or bread yielding more seed, there are more steps than we imagine. But also, there is so much more to receive in the harvest than we can imagine. What am I looking for? Do I settle for seed and stop at that, or do I work for the fuller fruit of bread? And those carbs from the bread contribute the energy to harvest even more seed! God is always doing more than we imagine! Recently I was rereading the journals of Thomas Merton and ran across this wonderful passage. He was reflecting upon his frustrated plans (of which he had many!) He had asked permission to spend more time in the woods alone to meditate and write. He was denied permission. But then his assignment as ‘abbey forester’ led to his going out more regularly to plant new trees on the monastery grounds with teams of novices. So he reaped the fruit of time in the wilderness, but not by his own asking. It was through the other purposes given him by the abbot of leading the young novices in their manual work duties of replanting the woods! He writes in volume 2 of his journals (Entering the Silence), on March 17, 2952, that he realizes how God gets to work answering our prayers, when we let go and step out of the way. Merton writes, “*In the end, I realize that St Benedict answered my prayer in a much wiser way than I myself had asked or hoped to be answered. As is usual in the kingdom of Heaven, that by giving up what I wanted I ended up having more than I had thought of wanting...*” What a wonder how God surprises us?

Here is another scripture verse that reveals God’s previously unimaginable ways of answering our prayers. Matt 13:32 says “The mustard seed is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the ‘birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.’” What is God trying to give us through the seed become a bush? A little more seed for a few more bushes? OR, can we see how God goes all in for us, with His method of using the little seed to provide us the more nutritious food of eggs or meat from the birds! Are we ‘one-tracked’ to only see seed coming from seed? Or do we see the meat and eggs that can come from the seed? Is the bush only producing seeds by plant-growth or is it producing eggs and birds by their attraction to nesting in it? To see God answering prayer often calls for a paradigm shift; or a parable shift! We often think too little of God! The seed brings bush, bush brings the nest and the nest brings eggs and meat! Jesus says in Luke 6:38 “*Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.*” There is much undiscovered for us to realize when it comes to God answering prayers. What is in your prayer? Peace, Fr. Brian

Another Saint in a Time of Plague: St. Dymphna (600-620 AD?)

St. Dymphna is a very popular saint for modern issues like anxiety, stress and emotional burdens. Especially in this time of coronavirus, she is invoked as a help against Covid’s neurological symptoms or related panic disorders. Tradition holds that Dymphna was born in Ireland in the 7th century. Her father Damon was a local pagan king of Oriel. Her mother was very devout Catholic and dedicated to practicing her faith and frequenting the church. Dymphna was always by her side. When Dymphna was 14 years old, she consecrated herself to Christ and took a vow of chastity. Her mother died shortly after Dymphna’s personal vow was made. Her father Damon was devastated by the death of his wife. Overcome with grief, he began to lose his faculties and became erratic His court ministers encouraged him to remarry to anchor himself again in reality, and to keep him in office as king. Still overcome by his wife’s loss and fixated on her image, he became obsessed with his daughter and came up with a plan to marry her. When young Dymphna learned of this, she swore to uphold her vows to Christ and save her father’s soul from such an evil design. So she fled his court. She ran away with the protection of her priest confessor Fr. Gerebemus and two trusted servants from the royal court. They sailed across the sea and settled in a town called Geel in what is called Belgium today.

Having carried provisions and bringing some of the royal wealth with them, as soon as she moved into town, she used some of her family money to build a hospice for the sick and poor. She ministered among the sick and tended their wounds in her hospital. She soothed the fears of the patients, calming their torments and comforting them with treatments. However, some of the coins from her father’s kingdom made their way back to him in Ireland and he used the coins to track down his daughter. He sent agents to Belgium to go claim back his daughter and kill her priest confessor Fr. Gerebemus along with the royal aides that helped her escape. The agents found Dymphna, and reported word back to King Damon. He came to the town of Geel, and demanded that his daughter return with him and marry him. She adamantly refused, and claimed to remain always in her ministry caring for the sick. This enraged him and he struck her down with his sword, even beheading her. She died a martyr while she was still in her teenage years. The residents of the town of Geel loved and respected her so much that they assumed care for her body and laid her to rest with Fr. Gerebemus in a nearby cave. They were later moved to a church cemetery. Some of her remains ended up in a national shrine to her at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Massillon, Ohio.

Sometime after her death, many miraculous cures of people suffering from neurological symptoms like tremors, obsessive ideas, racing thoughts, quick irritability, delusional beliefs or even hallucinations sought her intercession. Many were healed through her prayers. A custom developed of troubled pilgrims to come rest or sleep in the cave by her tomb. Often the pilgrims would awaken healed and of sound mind again. Her prayer cards or statues often depict her with a crown wearing royal robes and awkwardly holding a sword. In some images, the sword is on the neck of agitating demons, or a demon may be seen chained to her foot all as signs of her holiness overcoming evil. She is also portrayed as holding a lily or lamp to ward off darkness or gloom. Covid-19 does provoke panic among some sufferers struggling for breath and results in some neurologic symptoms such as confusion and disorientation, so St Dymphna, pray for us! She is known as the “Lily of Éire” (purity and growth). Her feast day is May 15.

Daily Mass and Weekend Mass Participation: Capacity is allowed now up to 50%, with face covering/masks required and 6 ft distance between people/non-family units. *Of course, the Sunday Obligation to attend is still relaxed.* So the Live-Stream Mass and Personal At Home Prayer is the first & safest option. Maybe consider a weekday mass before a weekend mass: Wednesday and Friday mornings 8:00 am-St. Pius & 9:00 am at St. Anthony. We have two weekday evening masses Tuesday & Wednesday 6:00 pm at St. Pius. Our two Saturday masses are at 4:30-St. Pius & 6:00 pm at St. Anthony. And then Sunday mornings 8:00 St. Anthony & 10:00 am St. Pius. Again, **Face coverings and distancing are required, and we maintain the regular sanitizing of surfaces.**

We are still Live Streaming Facebook for anyone at home. We pray with you and remember our homebound members at each mass. Sunday Morning 10:00 am and Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm.

Confirmation: Retreat is scheduled for Sunday, August 23 at 11:00 am-3:00 pm at St. Pius X. Sponsors and Students should attend. **Confirmation** has been rescheduled to Saturday, August 29 at 10:00 am.

V National Encuentro: After four years of prayer, study, consultation, visitations, discernment and hard work, the V National Encuentro process of Hispanic/Latino Ministry in the United States is now in its pastoral planning stage! The next stage for the rest of 2020 is being called “Coming Down the Mountain” in which dioceses and episcopal regions are working on their own pastoral plans for Hispanic Ministry. Bishop Medley has commissioned a Diocesan Hispanic Ministry Pastoral Planning Committee to study the results of the V Encuentro process, discern our local pastoral responses and draft a diocesan pastoral plan for 2021-2025. If anyone has any questions or wishes to know more about the process, please contact Dcn. Chris Gutiérrez at chris.gutierrez@pastoral.org or our website: owensborodiocese.org/v-encuentro

Living Gratefully and Generously in a Pandemic.... The Stewardship Office has recorded a video meeting with Tom Lilly, Chancellor; Valeria Vessels, Director of Stewardship; and Steve McSwain, Generosity Strategist from Generis; titled: “Living Gratefully and Generously During a Pandemic....and Beyond.” You can access that video by visiting <https://owensborodiocese.org/stewardship>.

From Hope Clinic to both parishes of St. Anthony and St. Pius X: Thank you for the recent generous donations and church sponsorship of our late summer fundraiser. Your gifts make our ministry of life and care for the unborn and mothers possible. You are a true blessing to our work for preborn children and young families/parents. Thank you!

Birthdays & Anniversaries
Week of July 13-19



St. Pius X
July 14-**Diane Fischer**
July 15-**Robby Robertson**

St. Anthony of Padua
No Birthdays this week



St. Pius X
No Anniversaries this week
St. Anthony of Padua
No Anniversaries this week

Remember in Prayer

St. Pius X: John Bardsley, Kaileigh Row, Bennett Meisenheimer, Peter Bullock, Jim & Rose Drury, Wes Hayes, 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 Hebner, 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, Tom and Sharon Olejnicak, Tim Wilson, Beverly Dukes, Bill Norvell, Kacie Schmidt, Wallace Hunt, Phyllis White, Judy Krouse, Kerry Frazier, Rene Harrington, Joe Cirrito, Lisa Doyle, Phyllis Whit, Lanie Pellegrin, Forrest Michael Teeters, Mike Block, Jerry Isaacs, David Kroll, Cameron Brewer and their families and caregivers

St. Anthony of Padua: Elena Carey, Donna & Jon Gresham, Bill Rodgers, Sister Rosemary, Tom & Margie Sheppard, Bob & Lois Tashjian, Deanna Hayward, Mr. Driskill, Margaret Adams, Pat Gorbett, Ed Derringe, Charles Paulius, Helen Krivan 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 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
July 13-19**

Tuesday	6:00 pm	<i>Harold Dacus</i>
Wednesday	8:00 am	<i>Sarah Bernadine Courtney</i>
Wednesday	6:00 pm	<i>Special Intention</i>
Thursday	8:00 am	<i>Catherine Doughty</i>
Friday	8:00 am	<i>Leonce & Flecia Francois</i>
Saturday	4:30 pm	<i>Clinton Bailey</i>
Sunday	10:00 am	<i>Shirley Henderson</i>

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Total for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	\$ 179, 287.27
Parish Hall Donation (07/05//20)	\$ 371.00
Budget for 2020/2021 Fiscal Year (July 2020-June 2021)	\$ TBA
Donation Need Each Week	\$ TBA
Weekly Donation (07/05/20)	\$ 2, 812.00
Online Giving (07/05/20)	\$ 1,230.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 4,042.00

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

Gasper on the Go! Summer Camps:

For information and registration, go to gasperriverretreatcenter.org

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

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

St. Pius X Mission Statement: *We, the parishioners of St. Pius Tenth Church, gather in the name of the Lord to praise God and His Son, Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, thanking them for the many blessings that they have given to us. We gain strength from the Word of God in order to share and celebrate God’s love through the sacraments*

St. Anthony of Padua

**Mass Intentions
July 13-19**

Wednesday	9:00 am	<i>Carol York</i>
Friday	9:00 am	<i>David Mudd</i>
Saturday	6:00 pm	<i>Mike Friedman</i>
Sunday	8:00 am	<i>James Jackson</i>

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Total for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	\$ 69, 204.29
Budget 2020/2021 Fiscal Year (July 2020-June 2021)	\$ TBA
Donation Need Each Week	\$ TBA
Weekly Donation (07/05/20)	\$ 1,476.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 1,476.00

Livingston County Helping Hands

Food Pantry Needs:

paper towels, toilet paper, laundry detergent, shampoo, bath soap, diapers, feminine hygiene products, dish washing liquid, coffee, tea, macaroni and cheese, sugar, flour, cereal (all kinds), peanut butter, jelly, tuna, salmon, other canned meats, canned fruits, and canned vegetables

There is a donation basket at the back of the Church for your non-perishable items.

Parish Council

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

Bereavement Committee

<i>Helen Krivan</i>	<i>(270) 559-7586</i>
<i>Pat Gorbett</i>	<i>(270)362-3377</i>

St. Anthony of Padua Mission Statement: *We, the Catholics of St. Anthony of Padua Parish of Grand Rivers, are united as a faith-filled community to give hone and glory to God, to aid each other, and others, on the journey of salvation and to share the Good News of the Gospel.*

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