



**ST. PIUS X
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
777 E. 5th Ave
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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



Fourth Sunday Advent Year A

Matthew 1:18-24



"This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.

Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."

'The Silent One'

By William Carlos Williams

Joseph, the silent one,
beside himself with love,
watched the acceptance of his promise,
the childlike dignity
of his betrothal.
Silently he stood beside the child
and the mother
and the God.
Silently he stood beside the Maker
of the worlds."

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SCHEDULE

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

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

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday Dec 25 St Pius 9:00 am

Christmas Choir Help Needed: Contact Danny Padgett



IN THE WORD WITH BISHOP MEDLEY

4th Sunday of month 1:30 St Pius Parish Hall Please join our group to study the Bishop's message monthly.

St. Pius X Mass Schedule

† Weekend Mass

Saturday- 4:30 pm

Sunday- 10:00 am

† Daily Mass

Tuesday – 6:00 pm

Christmas Eve -8:00 pm

Christmas Day -9:00 am

Friday-8:00 am

Eucharist Adoration

Visit our Website www.stpiusx.us

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday December 21, 2025

Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-16/Lk 1:67-79

Thursday Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Friday Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

Saturday 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

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

Christmas Eve -5:30 pm

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,

4th Sunday of Advent

Matthew 1:18-24

"First comes love, then comes marriage, then comes baby in the baby carriage" Don't we remember that old nursery rhyme, describing the normal order of events of courtship, marriage and childbirth for new families! Yet, we hear of steps two and three, being switched in places for Joseph and Mary, with today's gospel. Mary is 'found with child' before Joseph and Mary have completed their 'engagement' period. Joseph has a dilemma: He loves his fiancé Mary, yet he loves the Law of Moses too. Matthew 1:19 describes Joseph as a 'righteous man', which means he was a devout disciple of Mosaic law, observing its every detail. The Law of Moses didn't allow such a 'masking' of an indiscretion (obviously, **child-making** occurred outside of marriage), yet Joseph also sensed the innate purity and goodness of Mary. So, Joseph decides to back out of the final marriage ceremony, but to do it without attention, so as, to preserve Mary's place in society (spare her a public shunning), and her reputation (we know of Mary's purity/grace) and possibly her life (*if adultery charges were pursued by the Mosaic Taliban, then Dt 22:21-23 called for death by stoning!*). Matthew 1:19 says Joseph decides to 'dismiss Mary quietly'. I suspect that while Joseph is not willing to go through a **'public'** marriage ceremony with Mary (*avoid the duplicity involved in such a show*), that still his compassion moves him to make family arrangements for Mary to live and be provided for safely by relatives. Think of how Mary in the gospel of Luke 1:39-45, will seek to live with and help her kinswoman Elizabeth for a period of time - **or find refuge for herself**. So Joseph's considerate goodness & his prayerful discernment propose a mutually helpful solution to his dilemma

UNTIL, God hosts the true 'REVEAL' party in this marital arrangement and sends an angel to Joseph in a dream to let Joseph know this **'3rd'** person in their marriage is God Himself! Joseph learns the true godly solution to this dilemma: Accept Mary & Child and be the best father and husband to God's choice for him! God lets Joseph know that while he may have come up with a good idea to take care of a problem, his idea was not God's idea and it wasn't for the greatest good. The child may not be Joseph's, but if salvation is to come to Joseph, it will be through Joseph's assumption of this humble role accepting, blessing and fostering this 'holy child' of God with Mary (Matt 1:20). Joseph follows through obediently and receives Mary publicly in marriage, taking her and her child into his home. This is Joseph's 'Yes' to God's Will, which is similar to Luke's account of Mary's 'Yes' to God at the Annunciation event (Luke 1:34-38). The angel knows of Joseph's deep devotion to God's word, so he invites Joseph to consider and pray over the prophecy of Isaiah 7:11 about a divinely commissioned and virginally-born son who is sent to 'save his people'. As a devout believer, Joseph would be familiar with many scriptural stories of God's interventions into the course of human events. Joseph is aware that God intervenes in the lives of His people all the time. Yet, this time God is intervening directly in Joseph's life. It takes great faith to accept that God is working in our lives, especially when it happens unexpectedly and contrary to the 'normal, expected course'. In a poem of William Everson, he says, 'God writes straight. My crooked lines...' (Himself an unexpected spiritual poet!)

Sometimes we think, we know best, yet God surprises us with even more, if we trust. We may come up with great ideas, but if they are not ideas in sync with God's plan, they are not best (more importantly, not God's, so they are not going anywhere really). **But how do we know, if something we come up with is in conformity with God's will?** Joseph and Mary both exhibit an openness to God through their faith practices: scripture reflection and prayer, good counsel with others and a consistent practice of faith with devout works of mercy/charity.

Or more specifically, a couple of years ago, I ran across a good checklist to use, when we wish to discern whether the hand of God, or not, is behind a particular plan of action we feel moved to perform. Of course, such famous spiritual directors like St Ignatius of Loyola or Jean Pierre de Caussade also provide helpful reading about discerning the Holy Spirit of God's movements. But I ran across a document written in 2014 by the Vatican Intl Theological Commission, submitted to the CDF and authorized for publication by the Vatican CDF. It was a work inspired by Pope Francis' call for 'closer listening' to the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Catholic faithful. It outlined qualities that dispose a person best to 'hearing and understanding' God's will in a particular situation. (# 88-105). The conditions which best support hearing God speak to direct us, include a) *Participation in the life of the Church*, b) *Listening to the word of God*, c) *openness to reason*, d) *Adherence to the magisterium*, e) *Holiness – humility, freedom and joy*, and f) *Seeking the edification of the Church*. These intentions and practices are all signposts to keep us on God's path, leading us in His Will and His Way! Something to pray about! Fr Brian

Pius X Parish Council Meeting Wednesday Jan 28 @ 5:00 pm

Chair Person, Secretary & Finance, Spiritual Life, FFY & Religious Ed
Social Program/Outreach, Building & Ground Comttees

Barb Melillo, Stacey Newby, Philip Scheidegger, Amanda Gentry, Allison Devine, Michael Bowling, Karen Williams

Weekly Scripture Study on the Gospel of Matthew

Every Tuesday Night from 6:30-7:30pm Come study this interesting approach and discussion about the week's gospel reading, using as a source material the work of Dr Brant Pitre.

DECEMBER 21, 2025 + FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A

**St Pius X Mass Intentions
Dec 22 – Dec 28**

Tuesday	6:00 pm	<i>Olive Geuer</i>
Christmas Eve	8:00 pm	<i>All Parishioners</i>
Thur Christmas	9:00 am	<i>All Parishioners</i>
Friday	8:00 am	<i>Linda Paluso</i>
Saturday	4:30 pm	<i>Virgilio Rendon</i>
Sunday	10:00am	<i>MaryAnn Huebschmann</i>

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Parish Hall Donation (12/14/25)	\$ 6,428.00
Budget for 2025/2026 Fiscal Year	\$ 205,000.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$ 3,942.00
Weekly Donation (12/14/25)	\$ 2,554.00
Online Giving (12/14/25)	\$ 1,373.00
Total Week's Gift Offering 12/14	\$ 3,927.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 118,716.91

Raffle Christmas Message Print Fundraiser: We want to thank Gavin/Eastin & Madeline Devine for donating their handi-craft Christmas Message! All the proceeds went to the Children's to a Gift Program thru the MCS Student Resource Center. Thank you!

Congratulations to Newlyweds Nathan & Lindy (King) Dothsuk who were married last weekend Sat Dec 13! May God bless them abundantly in their new life together! Congratulations & Blessings!

Joy, Laughter, and Holiness Women's Retreat
February 7, 2026 @ St. Ann Parish Hall, 304 S. Church St., Morganfield, KY. Doors open at 8:00am with program begins 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. Please visit owensborodiocese.org/womensretreat/

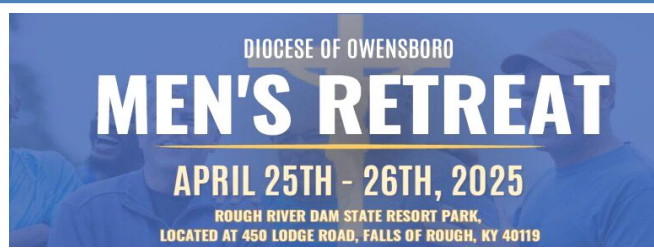


Happy Birthday! Dec 21 – Dec 27 St. Pius

Dec 22 Dawn Whitt Dec 24 Larry Whitt
Dec 24 Katie Anderson Dec 26 Joe Morris
Dec 27 John Watson

Happy Anniversary! St. Pius

Dec 23 Marty & Kim Lampert
Dec 23 Robert & Julie Weekes



St Pius X Mass Assignments: Saturday, Dec 27, 2025

Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers / Greeters	Money Counters
Franky Schiaretta Marlie Schiaretta	Brenda Schiaretta	Amy Crass Jeff Riedfort Charlotte Riedfort	George Humphreys (Greeter) Paula Humphreys (Greeter)	

Mass Assignments: Sunday, Dec 28, 2025

Volunteer	Mike Bowling	Marcus Newman Teresa Newman Volunteer	Margaret Howard Gary Traylor Usher Volunteer	Andy Ferm Sherry Ferm
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FFY
Calendar
&
Activities
Schedule

DATE	SUNDAY GOSPEL READING	Classes or Events
Dec 24, 2025	Feast of Christmas – A	<i>Christmas Break – No classes</i>
Dec 31, 2025	Feast of the Holy Family - A	<i>Christmas Break – Happy New Year</i>
Jan 7, 2026 Wed 6:00-7:30	Feast of the Epiphany - A	

Remember our Sick in Your Prayers

St. Pius X: Matt Scheiber, Christine Thornton, Florine Daigle, Tena Brooks, Angie Farris, Kathy Sanderson, Greg Williams, Judy Ayers, Pat Hobbs, Keisha Bradley Iris Joelle Maynard, Sara Repovich, Kaye Hinkebein, Amanda Scheidegger, Olga Edwards, Diane Fischer Paula Willett, Kent & Kim Henry, Leah Vincek, Rick Wilson, Ashley Hayden, Donna Barrix, David Crass, Helen Nicholson, Bonita Walker, Joe Hedges, Jerry Wade, Katie Wood, Joanna Grimes, Amanda Bailey, Pam Laibl, David Kroll, Henry Feezor, Lisa Hammond, Bennett Meisenheimer, Mike Norvell, 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, Betty Derry, Scott Hamilton, Connie Burt, Ericka Karpstein, Joanna Cooper, Angel Thompson, Kaye Poyner, Bob Tashjian, Rita Cook, Jack Bender, Don Kemp, Sharon Olejnicak, Tim Wilson, Beverly Dukes, Kerry Frazier, Rene Harrington, Forrest Teeters, Cameron Brewer, Hugo Santos, Sharon Gibbons, Braydn Barnett, Elizabeth Witowski, Pam Dietz. Anthony Pellegrin.

Pray for Our Military

Cameron Thomason, James Griffith, Cory Erickson, Justin Fatum, James A. Kinsey, Sarah Martindale, Benjamin Patton, Kousuke Sasaki, Noah Willett.



**PRAY FOR
UKRAINE**

St. Anthony Page Announcements

Coffee/ Doughnuts 1st Sunday Every Month

Musicians Workshop: Jan 12-16 Chant Workshop
Discover how sacred music and chant can draw you closer to God by participating in Saint Meinrad's Winter Chant Workshop-Praying with Chant. Explore chant in a theological context and apply your insights in rehearsal. Register today at saintmeinrad.edu/sacred-music to deepen your love of sacred music.

Angel Tree Giving: Please pick an envelope off the tree and contribute to our St Anthony Angel Gifts to *Livingston County Families First* gift program of toys and clothes for needy families and children in the county. Please drop into collection.

Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University:
We're interested in hosting a financial-help seminar. At least 10 people needed to host classes. Please ask Kippling Spencer or Fr Brian info.

All-Day Adoration on Friday January 2
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.

First Saturdays Honor the Blessed Mother:

First Saturday Mass on January 3 @ 8:00am. Every first Saturday we offer mass and pray the rosary



St Anthony Birthdays Dec 21– Dec 27

Dec 23 Fr Bob Drury
Dec 24 Pat Gorbett

St Anthony Anniversaries:

December 26 Juan & Betty Gonzalez

St Anthony Wednesday Bible Study

Come join us every Wednesday at 10:00-11:00 for study of the gospel reading from the Sunday ahead. We'll be reading the text and conducting a form of Lectio Divina & discussing the fruit of our reflection upon God's Word



St. Anthony of Padua

Mass Intentions Dec 22 – Dec 28

Wednesday Christmas Eve	5:30 pm	<i>Living/Deceased Members Judy Forsythe Family</i>
Friday	9:00 am	<i>Patty Johnson</i>
Sunday	8:00 am	<i>Patrick Babcock</i>

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Budget 2024/2025 Fiscal Year (July 2025-June 2026)	\$ 89,000.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$ 1,711.54
Weekly Donation 12/14/2025	\$ 1,831.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 59,849.05



FOOD PANTRY

Food Items Especially Needed: Saltine Crackers, peanut butter, Hamburger Helper, sugar, cereal, 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 church

St Anthony Mass Assignments – December 28, 2025

Lector	Sandy Ruth
Eucharistic Ministers	Mike Drury Shara Parish
Ushers/Greeters	Kelly Noonan David Loxley
Server	Juan Gonzalez
Money Counters	Shara Parish Kevin Diamond

CONSIDER ATTENDING DAILY MASS OR WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

St Anthony Prayer List: Holly O'Brien, Theresa Owens, Kathy Johansen, Jeff Ritorto, Cathy Ritorto, Betty Gonzalez, Elena Carey, Linda Drury, Bob Decker, Bill Rodgers, 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 21 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