



**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



Second Sunday Advent

Year A

Matthew 3:1-12



"John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!' It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'"

'Produce Fruit Worthy of Repentance'

By James Russell Lowell

Men whose boast it is that ye
Come of fathers brave and free,
If there breathe on earth a slave,
Are ye truly free and brave?
If ye do not feel the chain,
When it works a brother's pain,
Are ye not base slaves indeed,
Slaves unworthy to be freed?

Is true Freedom but to break
Fetters for our own dear sake,
And with leathern hearts forget
That we owe mankind a debt?
No! true Freedom is to share
All the chains our brothers wear,
And with hand and heart to be
Earnest to make others free!

They are slaves who fear to speak
For the fallen and the weak;
They are slaves who will not choose
Hatred, scoffing, and abuse,
Rather than in silence shrink
From the truth they needs must think;
They are slaves who dare not be
In the right with two or three."

**IN THE WORD
WITH BISHOP MEDLEY**

New Sunday Meeting – Now on 4th Sundays
Next Meeting Dec 28, @ 1:30 pm St Pius Hall
Questions? Contact Ed- 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

Eucharist Adoration

Visit our Website www.stpiusx.us

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday December 7, 2025

Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Monday Gn 3:9-20/Eph 1:3-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14

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

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

Friday Rv 12:1-10/Lk 1:26-38

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 of Advent

Matthew 3:1-12

Today we hear and see John the Baptist at his salty-est and fiery-est! (*Jesus did call us to be 'salt and light of the world'-Matt 5:13-14*). To survive in the desert-wilderness, a person would have to be a 'rough and tough' character. Some people may have even thought of John the Baptist as a 'wild man in the woods', because of his being able to survive such a rugged landscape. Part of the crowd's curiosity to go out and listen to him, stemmed from the fact that they wondered "Why would you stay out there?" John did see himself as the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3, "I am the voice of **one** crying out in the **wilderness**" (John 1:23). How did he survive? John was dressed in camel's hair with a simple leather belly around his waist, and his diet consisted of locusts and wild honey (Matt 3:4) As a simple survivalist, he lived on what the environment provided: find an old camel carcass and cut off pieces for a cloak and belt. Just eat what you find – insects and plant drippings! This godly survivalist-lifestyle was seen in the Old Testament period with Elijah Himself in 2 Kings 1:7-8. It was also mentioned about Judas Maccabee and his crew in 2 Maccabees 5:27, where it is recorded that "*Judas Maccabeus, with about nine others, got away to the wilderness, and kept himself and his companions alive in the mountains as wild animals do; they continued to live on what grew wild, so that they might not share in the defilement in the city.*" John got by, with God led him to find useful around him in the desert. He would have been quite the sight! Many people may have gone out into the desert, just to get a good look at him (how & why does he live that way?)

But if his appearance got people to come visit him in the desert, apparently his language and message kept them there! He doesn't hold back. He lashes out at the Pharisees/Sadducees coming out to see him, "*You brood of vipers*" (Mt 3:7). That's a joltingly crude statement, with him basically calling them out, "*You slithering, slimy snakes!*" Well, John, tell us how you really feel! John's language has a threatening tone too--(Yes, today, HR or the police would be alerted about such a threat). John threatens, "*The ax lies at the root of the trees*" (Mt 3:10) This is not how they speak in the palace ballroom or temple chambers. But John is not going to hold back. He tells everyone, "The Reaper is coming with a blade and fire, so produce good fruit – only wheat is saved- chaff is burned away!" (Mt 3:8 & 12) Everyone repent!

Even with John's sharp edges and inflammatory language, people are inspired to repent! John gets results, and the people loved and respected John. In Matthew 21:26, we hear that when Jesus gave the Pharisees a chance to go on record criticizing John, even though they were terribly jealous of him, they would not say a word against him. Matthew tells us there that they "*feared the crowd, as everyone regarded John as a prophet.*" Even the cruel and corrupt Herod respected John, as we hear in Mark 6:20, "*Herod feared John & protected him, knowing that John was a righteous and holy man....*" And of course, Jesus praises John as a genuine messenger of God, saying that "among those born of women there has been **none greater than John** the Baptist.....And if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah, the one who is to come" (Matt 11:11 & 14) John had both the perfect resume and the 'street credibility' that makes a perfect candidate for the job of a prophet of God.

And what specifically was John's job? John's purpose, like an opening music band at a concert, was to fire up the crowd and build excitement for the main show to come – the Messiah's entrance! John called the people to 'Repent', and turn back to God. John called the people to make acts of reparation for their sins, or what he called "*Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance*" (Matt 3:8). What is good fruit, but actions that reveal your changed direction, such as selfless works of mercy shared with others as form of making amends for your sins. The works don't earn anything for us in God's eyes. They simply reveal God's grace working in you. As a changed person who has turned back to God's path, the repentant person shows their gratitude to God by willingly serving others through sacrificial deeds (acts of charity) done for other people. Over in Luke's gospel, John gets specific and names several acts of charity that should be performed as a sign of one's conversion and the resultant gratitude to God for His mercy, such as "*Whoever has two tunics should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise*" (Luke 3:11)

Advent is a time of readying the Way for the Lord's coming. Repent! Accept Jesus' Way. We prepare ourselves best for His coming, by also showing our gratitude to God, by also "producing fruit worthy of repentance" ourselves.

Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian

Pius X Parish Council Meeting Wednesday @ 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

First Reconciliation/First Communion Schedule

Congratulations to our First Sacraments Students who
received their First Penance last Wednesday!

Tyler Anderson & Eastin Devine

DECEMBER 7, 2025 + SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A

St Pius X Mass Intentions: Dec 8 – Dec 14

Mon Holy Day	8:00 am	<i>Special Intention</i>
Tuesday	6:00 pm	<i>Bob Darst</i>
Wednesday	8:00 am	<i>Charles "Chuck" Fischer</i>
Thursday	8:00 am	<i>James Terrell Richardson</i>
Friday	8:00 am	<i>Russell Tomlinson</i>
Saturday	4:30 pm	<i>Dolly Bardsley</i>
Sunday	10:00am	<i>The Hinkebein Family</i>

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Parish Hall Donation (11/30/25)	\$ 587.00
Budget for 2025/2026 Fiscal Year	\$ 205,000.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$ 3,942.00
Weekly Donation (11/30/25)	\$ 9,405.50
Online Giving (11/30/25)	\$ 1,778.00
Total Week's Gift Offering 11/30	\$ 11,183.50
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 108,606.41

Congratulations to Mary Weitlauf! Mary won the quilt raffle last Sunday! And thank you to the quilters who prepared Dolly's 2nd to last quilt to raffle! The proceeds to the St Pius Building fund was \$575.00! Thank you so much quilters for working so hard!

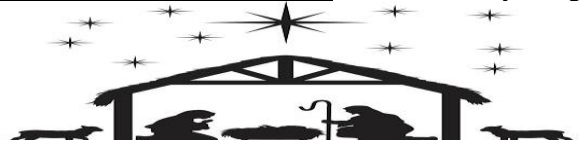
Raffle Christmas Message Print Fundraiser: We want to thank Gavin/Eastin & Madeline Devine for donating some of their handi-craft framed messages to be raffled off. They are donating the proceeds to a MCS Student Resource Center to help with buying Christmas gifts to children in the program in need. Check out their (& Ryan/Allison's) handiwork and buy some raffle tickets to help the Christmas cause!

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SCHEDULE

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



Happy Birthday! Dec 7 – Dec 13 St. Pius

Dec 7 Allison Devine	Dec 11 Charlie Doughty
Dec 7 Stephen Helpingstine	Dec 11 Kathy Smith
Dec 9 Justin Gentry	Dec 12 Colton Hobbs
Dec 11 Karen Williams	Dec 13 Justin Fatum
Dec 11 Charlene Fraley	

Happy Anniversary! St. Pius

Dec 10 Joe & Alice Morris

St Pius X Mass Assignments: Saturday, Dec 13, 2025

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

Mass Assignments: Sunday, Dec 14, 2025

Kinley Peterson	Philip Scheidegger	Amanda Scheidegger Marcus Newman Teresa Newman	Margaret Howard Gary Traylor Usher Volunteer	Jan Waniel Jean Waniel
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FFY Calendar & Activities Schedule

DATE	SUNDAY GOSPEL READING	Classes or Events
Dec 17, 2025	4 th Sunday of Advent - A	Christmas Break – No classes
Dec 24, 2025	Feast of Christmas – A	Christmas Break – No classes
Dec 31, 2025	Feast of the Holy Family - A	Christmas Break – Happy New Year

Remember our Sick in Your Prayers

St. Pius X: Matt Scheiber, Christine Thornton, Thomas Lorenz, 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 Russell Tomlinson, 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

Christmas Choir Practice: Will begin Sat Oct 25. We would like to invite all who are interested to join us. We will meet each following Saturday at 9:00

Many Thanks to all who helped the FallBazaar!

Creative Team: Joyce Noonan, Sherry Rebich, Joyce Wilkinson, Loretta Vargocko, Luann Kanaly, Karen Matthis, Cindy O'Brien, Brenda Georgen, Vern Hunsley, Wayne Bradshaw, Wendy Elrod Tinsley Rowe
Workers: Sandy/Kevin Deisen, Gail/Dan Dailey, Mark Wurth, Bobbie Edds, Judy Forsythe, Karen/Ron Matthis, Fr Bob Drury, Wendy Elrod, Shara Parish, Karen/Greg Williams, Pat Gorbett, Sonny/Karen Finnegan.

Thank you from the Bazaar Committee: Georgia Hunsley, Georgia Bradshaw, Sandy Ruth Deisen

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

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 7– Dec 13

No birthdays this week

St Anthony Anniversaries:

No anniversaries this week

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 8 – Dec 14

Mon Holy Day	9:00 am	Loretta Wheatley
Wednesday	9:00 am	Mike & Linda Drury Family
Friday	9:00 am	Helen Krivan
Sunday	8:00 am	Charles Thurman Jr

WEEKLY DONATIONS

Budget 2024/2025 Fiscal Year (July 2025-June 2026)	\$ 89,000.00
Donation Need Each Week	\$ 1,711.54
Weekly Donation 11/30/2025	\$ 1,319.00
Fiscal Year to Date	\$ 55,414.05



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 14, 2025

Lector	Wayne Bradshaw
Eucharistic Ministers	Shara Parish Mike Drury
Ushers/Greeters	Kevin Diamond Kelly Noonan
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, Thomas Lorenz, 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