



ECHOES

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS . DECEMBER 2021 & JANUARY 2022

A MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR



Merry Christmas from
Tater Marcaccio!

The true gifts of Christmas are unwrapped not just in a day but throughout the year: The gift of Faith in a Merciful God that sends His Only Begotten Son to save us; The gift of Hope in a regenerative, reconciling power that lifts us beyond the limits of our human horizon to that New and Eternal Day; The gift of Love in our relationships with our God and our neighbor. It seems the best gifts we receive are always the ones that we can share, put to good use, enjoy with others or have sentimental value. Among my cherished Christmas gifts is the privilege of being your pastor. It's one that I have tried my best to put to good use. A gift I have shared with you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. My priesthood is a gift I enjoy with others, indeed, my priesthood is meant for others and the heartfelt sentiments this gift brings me are too deep to convey on paper.

In my 30th year of priesthood, I count it a great grace to see the unwrapping of the Christmas gift of Jesus in your lives and in the life of our parish. Each

day and in every season, in new and surprising ways, God's Word and God's Will are unfolding in our midst. I hear you share and write your stories of Faith together, I see you strengthen the Hope of others in need of help, I feel the warmth of your Love through your affection and charity in Christ. Saint Pius is a remarkable place to pastor. I was talking with a priest currently constructing a church about our own building experiences, and remarked on how good the people have been, and always are, when the need is real, the stewardship is authentic, and the vision is shared. I told him that the diocese expected that we might be looking to refinance our mortgage of millions at this juncture but instead of refinancing, we are hoping to retire the debt this Christmas, years ahead of schedule. But the most remarkable thing - the critically important thing - is we do all this without our Hallmarks of Hospitality, Service, Formation, Community Engagement, Charity, and Catholic Education being compromised. Instead, we look for the unfolding of new ministries and the expansion of opportunities in accord with our mission. Yes, the best gifts are meant to be opened and shared in many ways and for many days and so, too, with Christmas. I wish you the gifts Faith, Hope, and Love that come with the Nativity of Christ, and the Joy, Peace, and Satisfaction that come with the stewardship of sharing them others.

UPCOMING MASSES & HOLY DAYS

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Wednesday, December 8
8:30 a.m., 12:00 noon, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day
Friday, December 24
5:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 12:00 midnight
Saturday, December 25
10:00 a.m.

Weekend Masses
Saturday, December 25
5:00 p.m. Vigil
Sunday, December 26
7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Saturday, January 1
10:00 a.m.

**Please note there is NO
First Saturday Mass at 8:30 a.m.*

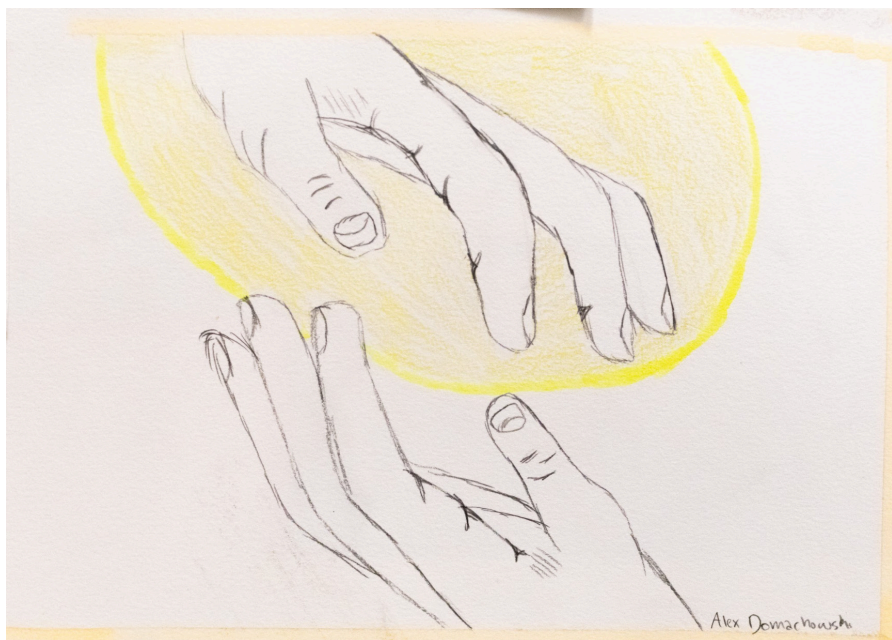
A SEASON OF HOPE, CHARITY AND GENEROSITY

This school year students at St. Pius X School and in Faith Formation are spending time taking a closer look at Christian virtues – the high moral behavior displayed by Christian stewards. As we begin this holiday season, it is appropriate that the children will be focusing on the specific virtues of Hope, Charity and Generosity. We know that we are called to work on behalf of Christ, announcing his good news and giving freely of the gifts He has entrusted to us, and we pray that while our children are growing in hope, charity and generosity, that each of us will do the same. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus reminds us that “whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” This Christmas season let us all rejoice in hopefulness for what God has promised and let this hope translate into joyful and generous giving of our gifts and talents. If you are unsure where to begin, please look to Realm for information about all of our parish ministries and stewardship opportunities.

WHAT DOES GOD LOOK LIKE IN THE MIND OF A CHILD?

Our students, Pre-K through 8th grade, accepted a very special invitation from Boston College to participate in the 3rd annual “World Drawing God Day.” This special day, inspired by the children’s book, *Drawing God*, by Karen Kiefer, is a catalyst for creating opportunities for children to draw their vision of God -- What does He look like? -- and for children to draw closer to God.

Please enjoy this beautiful collection of pictures of God, by the students of Saint Pius X Catholic School.



St. Pius X School
Serves Grades Pre-K through 8
For School Information and Enrollment
Information, please visit:
www.spxschool.com or call 336-273-9865

SENIOR EVENTS FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

Tai Chi Dates

December 2, 9, 16, 30

January 6, 13, 20, 27

9:30 AM in the Simmons Center

Seniors Mass & Luncheon Dates

December 14 & January 18

11:00 AM Mass

12:00 PM Luncheon in the Simmons Center



HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL OF BETHLEHEM FOUNDATION: BENEFIT DINNER WITH GUEST SPEAKER MICHELE BOWE

**Saturday, December 11
6:30 - 8:00 PM**

Dinner and Drinks Provided

You are invited to attend a fundraiser dinner, featuring guest speaker Michele Bowe. All proceeds raised at the dinner will directly benefit the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation.



Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization with a mission to deliver life, peace, and hope in the Holy Land. The Foundation works to support a state-of-the-art women and infants hospital located just 1,500 steps from the birthplace of Christ. To learn more about the hospital or the foundation, please visit:

<https://birthplaceofhope.org>.

Please note that there is no charge to attend this event, however, donations are greatly appreciated and will directly benefit the HFH Foundation.

Register NOW at: www.stpiusxnc.com/events or by calling the parish office. Seats are limited.



LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM NATIVITY, MUSIC, FOOD, ANIMALS

**Friday, December 10
6:00 - 8:00 PM**

Join us on a Friday night to celebrate the Advent Season. Bring the whole family and experience our very own Town of Bethlehem here in Greensboro at St. Pius X.

Live Music, Live Nativity,
Animal Petting Zoo,
Camel Rides,
Food & Snacks,
Artisan Displays



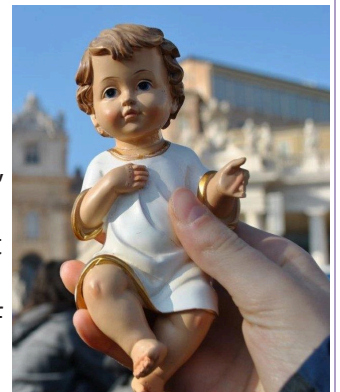
BAMBINELLI BLESSING WEEKEND

**Saturday, December 11
Sunday, December 12
All Masses**

Bring your Baby Jesus figurine or statue for a very special blessing during Mass. Simply place your Baby Jesus on the altar upon your arrival.

A beloved annual tradition in preparation for Christmas, the Blessing of the Bambinelli was first instituted by St. John Paul II. On the Third Sunday of Advent, the children of Rome are encouraged to bring the baby Jesus (Bambinelli) from each of their Nativity sets to St. Peter's Square.

Following the Sunday Angelus address, the Pope blesses the figurines. Now celebrated in other churches around the world, this Advent tradition is a way for families to connect their Nativity scene at home to the celebration of Christmas at St. Pius X.



TAX-WISE WAYS TO GIVE

If you are age 70 1/2 or older, you may make a gift individual retirement account (IRA) to the Church. It's charitable distribution (QCD).

Why is a QCD such a good giving option?

- Giving directly from your IRA - rather than withdrawing increase your adjusted gross income or subject your to more taxes.
- Such gifts can count toward any annual required minimum distribution (RMD). For those turning 70 1/2 beginning in 2020, the minimum age for taking RMDs has increased to 72.
- QCD gifts can be especially advantageous for those who do not expect to itemize their deductions or for those whose deductions are limited.
- You may make QCD gifts in any amount up to \$100,000 per person, per year, or \$200,000 for a couple with separate IRAs.

Can I do this with other retirement plan assets?

- The QCD is only possible with an IRA. It is possible to roll funds from other retirement plans into IRAs in order to take advantage of a QCD.
- Some people choose to simply make charitable gifts with their retirement plan withdrawals - whether IRA, 401(k), 403(b), or other similar arrangements. When doing this, you will recognize income on your tax return, but you also can deduct the amount of your gift.

If you are interested in making an IRA gift to our parish or Catholic school, ask your IRA custodian for a form to arrange for a QCD. **The benefits of a QCD are subject to adjustments for those who also make deductible IRA contributions. Check with your advisors.*

Can I contribute through Stock donations? Of course you can!

Reach out to people in need through a gift of stock to the Diocese of Charlotte. A gift of stock may be made via electronic transfer or by physical certificate. *The Diocese cannot initiate stock transfers on your behalf. You must contact your broker directly.*

Scan QR Code here for Stock Donation Form:



“ IT'S NOT HOW MUCH WE GIVE BUT HOW MUCH LOVE WE PUT INTO GIVING.

-MOTHER TERESA



HELP ST. PIUS X BE DEBT FREE BY CHRISTMAS!



Your Generous Support is Appreciated. Please contact the parish office with any questions.

TEXT
"STPIUSXNC DEBT" to 73256

ONLINE
<https://onrealm.org/stpiusxnc/give/debt>

CHECK
Clearly Label "Debt Reduction"

SCAN
Open your smartphone and point it at the QR code here to access the easy online giving form.



LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO RETIRE OUR DEBT AND ACCOMPLISH OUR FIRST GOAL OF THE STRATEGIC VISION PROCESS.

WREATH SALES WREATH SALES WREATH SALES WREATH SALES



2022 PRICING

10" - \$15 12" - \$20
 14" - \$30 16" - \$40
 Brass Candle Holder - \$12
 Advent Candle Set - \$8

Our annual Wreath Sale Fundraiser is back!

We will be selling wreaths in person after all Masses the weekend of December 4-5. Wreaths are first-come, first-serve. Once they are sold out there will be no more available.

Stop by to grab a wreath, an Advent candle set, or a candle holder.

All proceeds go toward our youth ministry summer trips, such as:
Catholic Heart Workcamp,
Camp Covecrest,
and Camp Hidden Lake.

WREATH SALES WREATH SALES WREATH SALES WREATH SALES



Accepted Payments or donations:
 Cash, Check, Card, Apple or
 Android Pay.



Questions of concerns? Contact Isabel for details! ibowen@stpiusxnc.com

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION!



This is a just a portion of the food donated by you to insure folks in Greensboro know we care about them and they can be grateful at Thanksgiving that Love Is Alive in Our Community!

The Word Became Flesh

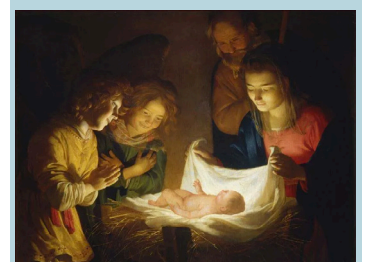
The Word is born
 this very night:
 Hail, Mary,
 full of grace!
 A hanging lantern
 sheds its light
 On Joseph's anxious
 face.

The Word must
 come
 in human form,
 In God's redemptive
 plan.
 A Babe takes every
 heart by storm,
 But who will heed
 the Man?

The Word is born
 this very night,
 And humble is the
 place;
 The world is dark,
 but hope is bright,
 And sinners look for
 grace.

The Word has come
 to end the war
 Which Adam first
 began.
 O bless the Babe
 who sleeps on straw.
 And listen to the
 Man!

- Fred Pratt Green



Editor: Lindsay Sartorio

Deadline for **FEBRUARY** Issue:

Monday, January 17 at 4:00 p.m.

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NEWCOMERS - WELCOME!

Toby & Sherry ANDERSON children Owen and Ethan	27455
Ekene BIOSEH & Mercy FASH child Chiamaka	27408
Darrell and Darlene BOAN children Hannah, Tacoma, Jonah, Micah	27410
Scott & Ashley COOKE children Carter, George	27410
Phillip & Bridget CRUMP	27407
Chip & Anne CUMMINGS	27410
Marc & Dawn GREEN child Leah	27455
Mark & Patricia HOFFMAN	27214
Harold LAURENT	27455
Monette & Raymund MABOLO	27405
Glenn & Denise MARTIN	27403
John MILLER & Meghan Skotnicki	27455

Marvin & Isaris MITCHELL children Leonardo, Maximus, Isabella	27405
Toni RIEGER	27455
Shirley TOURIGNY	27408
Tom & Veronica WILLIAMS	27410

BAPTISMS - CONGRATULATIONS!

Connor Murdock

DEATHS - OUR SYMPATHY

Michael Condon
Judith Duquaine
Mary Hall
Patrick Keaney
Gretchen Ray
Jerry Searce
Frank Sestak

WEDDINGS - BLESSINGS!

Alina Wirtz & Michael Cronan
Emma Jessee & Michael Pelchat
Hannah Johnson & Casey Davis

