



ECH⁺OS

A MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR

Fall Harvest is a time when we express our appreciation and gratitude for the many blessings we have received. *Eucharist*, which means "Thanksgiving," is a hallmark of the season, and at the very core of who we are as a Church, a Eucharistic people. It's been said that gratitude is the mother of all virtues to which we aspire. But blessings are not just to be counted, they are to be continued. A truly grateful heart realizes the value of the gifts that they have received, and knows that the best gifts are meant to be shared.

Gifts also figure prominently at Christmas. Indeed, it's been called a season of gift-giving. We show our affection and appreciation for one another by sharing gifts. I am particularly grateful for the gift of Christ, our God who is Emmanuel, present in the sacraments, and also sacramentally present in our brothers and sisters of St. Pius.

In our preparation for the season, we often make Christmas Lists for the people dear to us, or we present a list of the things that we want or need. In this *Echoes*, you'll see a kind of "Christmas List/Christian List" of opportunities in the *Parish & Stewardship Ministry Guide*. I ask you to prayerfully consider how a gift that you have meets one of the needs of our parish ministries. The greatest gift we can give sometimes is simply ourselves - our time, our talent, and our treasure.

The *Stewardship Guide* is not a list to see if we're naughty or nice, but a list of ways to participate in the Work of Faith and the Labor of Love. Hopefully you'll check this list at least twice - once for what you could do, and again for all that needs to be done.

In a special way, let us pray for the gift of peace. The Lord Jesus was born in uncomplaining poverty into a world with much violence and terror. Peace is more than just the absence of trouble or war, but it comes with the presence of God. Let us look for Christ in all the circumstances around us. This holiday season, let us see how Christ is born in our brothers and sisters, particularly those in need. And may Christ, and the Advent of His Peaceable Kingdom, come quickly. Wishing you and your loved ones all the blessings of the seasons ahead, I am,



Tater the Good Elf wishes you joy and everything good at Christmas!

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

MASS SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING LITURGIES

ALL SAINTS' DAY

November 1
8:30 am, 12:00 noon, 7:00 pm

ALL SOULS' DAY

November 2
5:15 pm

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 8
8:30 am, 12:00 noon, 7:00 pm

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23
5:00 pm Vigil

December 24
10:00 am ONLY

NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

December 24
5:00 pm Children's Mass,
8:00 pm, 12:00 midnight

December 25
10:00 am

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

December 30
5:00 pm Vigil

December 31
7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:30 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

January 1
10:00 am

"Prayer in action is love, love in action is service."

— Mother Teresa



Our Lady, Queen of Palestine, pray for us and for all the people of the lands made sacred by Your Son's life, death and resurrection. Amen

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND

Oh, Loving Father, we turn to You in our hour of need and ask You to bring Your peace and understanding to this most Holy, and most troubled of lands. Protect your faithful children, free them from discrimination and violence, and bring about an atmosphere of harmony and justice for all who dwell in these lands.

(For each verse, respond: Let there be peace.)

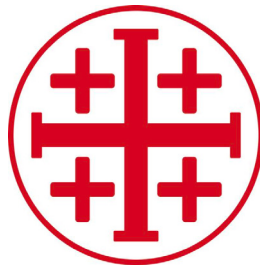
In Bethlehem, where Jesus was born ...
 In Nazareth, where Jesus spent his youth ...
 At the Jordan River, where Jesus allowed Himself to be baptized ...
 In Galilee, where Jesus chose His Apostles ...
 In Cana, where Jesus performed His first miracle ...
 In Capernaum, where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes ...
 In Jerusalem, where Jesus shared the Last Supper, where He suffered and died, and where He rose triumphantly from the dead ...

In these, and in all the other places where our Lord lived and walked, where He taught us the way to love one another, where He cured our infirmities and forgave our sins; in all the other places made sacred by His presence and touch, bring about the just and lasting peace that we are unable to bring about through our human efforts.

Amen.

WHAT IS THE JERUSALEM CROSS?

The Jerusalem Cross is also known as the Crusader's Cross. It is associated with the Holy City of Jerusalem. The Cross is rich in symbolism; and the most common interpretations are the Five Wounds of Christ, Jesus Christ and the Four Evangelists, or a symbol of an Alliance of the Original Crusading Nations. It ultimately represents Christ's command to spread the Gospel around the world, a mission that started in Jerusalem.



The cross is worn by pilgrims who have visited the Holy sites, and in this moment, is a reminder for us to pray for peace in Jerusalem and the Holy Land.

St. Pius X Welcomes

Michèle
Bowe



A Dame of the Order of Malta, Michèle B. Bowe is the Ambassador of the Order to Palestine and President of the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation.

We welcome Michèle at all Masses the weekend of

DECEMBER 1-3

as we support the worldwide missionary work of the Church.



HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL
of Bethlehem Foundation

LIVE
NATIVITY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1
6:00 - 8:00 PM
ST. PIUS X
CHURCH CLOISTER

Food, Music, Vendors,
Live Nativity Performances,
and Much More!

Join us for an evening of Advent Joy
for the whole family.

Bambinelli
BLESSING

A very special Advent Tradition

December 16-17
Bring your Baby
Jesus figurine for
a special
blessing during
all Masses.

THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION

St. Pius X will be helping the many families in need this Holiday Season. In 2022, we provided 163 families in our community with Thanksgiving food baskets to share with their loved ones. *Our food drive collection will run from October 21-November 12.* The following items are requested. *No glass please.*

- Stuffing
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Green Beans, Corn, Peas
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Canned Fruit
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
- Packaged Turkey Gravy

Items may be dropped off at the church. If you would like to donate \$15.00 towards the purchase of a turkey and food for a family, make your check to "Saint Pius X" with Turkey Meals in the memo line and place in the offertory at Mass or outside the Simmons Center in the drop box.

You may also donate by using the QR code. Your generosity is most appreciated. To volunteer, contact Ellen and Gary Fennie at 336-202-4223 or ellenfennie@aol.com

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



COPING WITH GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAYS

*"How to best use
Advent to cope with
Grief and Loss"*

Seasons of Hope is a unique grief support program for Catholics that focuses on the spiritual side of grieving the death of a loved one. It invites those who mourn to accompany one another and to meet Christ through scripture, prayer, reflection, and simple activities that offer comfort and help to foster healing and spiritual growth.



Guest Speaker:

Mary Easton, LCSW, Parishioner

Sunday, November 5

1:00 - 4:00 pm

Simmons Parish Center

Register using the QR Code here or contact Anne Cooper at 215-837-8859.

THE ST. PIUS X GIVING TREE IS COMING!

The St. Pius X "Giving Tree" is coming the weekend of November 18th. Please choose a tag(s) from our Christmas Giving Tree in the baptistery after mass. Each tag represents a specific individual, and in many cases, this may be the only gift they receive for Christmas. Although we may never meet the recipients, know that your generosity and love is felt and truly appreciated. Your gifts will make a difference.

The individuals that we serve include: YWCA Teen Parent Mentor Program, Camden Place Health and Rehabilitation Center, Room at the Inn, Caring Services, Backpack Beginnings - Irving Park, Dolan Manor, Delancey Street, Hall Towers, The Servant Center, Triad Health Project, Holy Family Hospital and St. Pius X Special Requests.

Please return your gift, wrapped and with the tag securely attached on the outside of the gift by December 3. If your tag is a gift card, please place in an envelope with the tag attached on the outside. To volunteer, contact Joanne Spillane at 336-202-8884 or spillanejm@gmail.com. Thank you!



Giving TREE

ALL SOULS' DAY MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Thursday, November 2 at 5:15 pm

This Mass will be offered for the souls from our parish who were born into eternal life during the past year. Families and friends of the deceased are encouraged to join us for a special All Souls Day Mass and to light a candle in memory of their loved one. All Souls Day envelopes are available to be placed on the altar to remember your loved one at Mass during the month of November. A reception will follow in the Simmons Center for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one in this past year.





14TH ANNUAL SPX MUSIC MINISTRY COFFEE HOUSE

Friday, November 10 at 7:00pm

Come and enjoy an evening of entertainment, hosted by our Music Ministry! Doors open at 6:15 pm. Admission is \$5/person or \$20/family.

Pay at the door or in advance on Realm. Dessert, light snacks, coffee, and adult beverages will be available.

ADVENT TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

After the 5:00 pm Evening Vigil Mass

In this very busy world, and especially during the holiday season, it can be difficult to set aside time to be quiet and to be present to the Lord. St. Pius X invites you to spend some time with us at an evening of meditative prayer.

The practice of Taizé Prayer was begun in Taizé, the Burgundy region of France, during World War II. The prayer service is characterized by repetitive, mantra-like songs (such as "Jesus, Remember Me"), prayerful silence, and short scriptural readings. These elements guide the focus of the prayer service that is held in a candle-lit environment.



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

**First Friday of the Month
12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.**

www.stpiusxnc.com/adoration



COFFEE TALK DATES FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, AND JANUARY

**November 5, 12, 19
December 3, 10
January 7, 21, 28**

Join us to learn about the true Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, learn all about angels, and begin "The Search" after the new year! Coffee Talk meets on most Sundays from 10:15 - 11:15 am in the Nicodemus Room in the parish center. The nursery is open and all are welcome. Donuts, coffee, and good conversation are provided.

MONTHLY ROSARY

**First Sunday of the Month
10:00 am in the Chapel**



The Knights of Columbus will lead parishioners in praying the Most Holy Rosary after the 9 am Mass on

the first Sunday of each month in the chapel. Please join us with your prayer intentions. God Bless and Vivat Jesus!

JOIN US FOR THE GREENING OF THE CHURCH!

**Monday, December 11
9:00am in the
Church**

**Many Hands
Make Light
Work!**



**BLOOD DRIVE
NOVEMBER 29
9:30 am - 6:30 pm
Parish Center**

Please make an advance appointment on the Red Cross website to secure your spot. Need to save time? Complete the "Rapid Pass" online before you come!

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER AND DANCE

**SAVE THE
DATE!
Saturday,
February
10, 2024**



ST. PIUS X KNIGHTS COUNCIL 11101 GIVES THE GIFT OF WARMTH

The Knights of Columbus "Coats for Kids" is a national program providing warm winter coats to deserving children. To date, nationally, the Knights have donated half a million coats in North America and Canada.

St. Pius X Council 11101 Knights of Columbus has recently delivered \$6,000.00 of winter coats to a local charitable organization, Backpack Beginnings, whose mission is to feed, comfort and clothe needy children. Started by Parker White, they are a volunteer effort providing comfort without charge to the children in Greensboro and outlying communities. The funds to purchase the coats came from Brother Knights, charitable works and the generosity of St. Pius parishioners.

WHAT IS YEAR-END GIVING?

Year-end giving usually occurs between Giving Tuesday (November) and New Year's Eve (December). It's a narrow window with a big impact, as many organizations seem to raise the most compared to any other time of the year. This time of the year is incredibly important for non-profit organizations for many reasons, including a greater number of large gifts and an increase in donations overall. There are also financial or tax incentives for donors, which vary by person and you can learn about by contacting your CPA.

St. Pius X has a number of fund options for year-end giving, including our general offertory, but also a variety of endowment funds. If you are considering a year-end gift, please contact Al Abram in the parish office.

You can also scan the QR code here and donate online.

**We thank you for
your continued
generosity!**



A CHILD IN WINTER: AN ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, AND EPIPHANY RETREAT

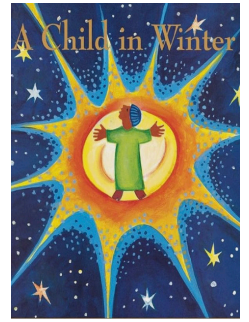
Using the book by the same name, join our retreat leaders, John Donohoe and Peg Ruble, for a new kind of seasonal, spiritual experience. *A Child in Winter* is a beautiful collection of inspirational wisdom and reflections, designed to open hearts and fill them with the wonder of Christ's presence and warmth during these special seasons of grace.

Participants will begin the Advent Season with a short retreat, followed by a season of guided, personal prayer and reflection. As Epiphany nears, the group will gather one final time for a closing session.

Meeting Dates (Choose one for Initial Session): November 30 – 6-8 pm **OR** December 2 – 9:30-11:30 am

Meeting Dates (Choose one for Closing Session): January 4 – 6-8 pm **OR** January 6 – 9:30-11:30 am

Cost: \$25 per person (Scholarships are available.) Sign up using the QR Code or contact the parish office.

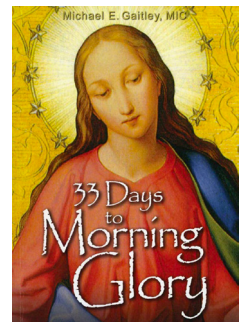


33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY - PATH TO MARIAN CONSECRATION

Join us in preparation for Consecration to Jesus through Mary. This is largely an independent study, with only two group meetings during the month leading up to consecration on Dec 8, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

- Purchase your own book: 33 Days to Morning Glory by Fr. Michael Gaitley. "A do-it-yourself retreat." (Be careful to purchase the correct book which says "A do it yourself retreat"... NOT the "retreat companion" or "study packet")
- 10-15 minute daily reading begins Sunday, November 5 (Day One); Weekly videos are free on Formed.org.
- Two (2) Group meetings during the preparation will be on Tuesdays, Nov 14 and Nov 28 in the Parish Center from 7-8:30 pm
- We will gather at 7pm Mass on December 8 to pray our Consecration prayer together.

There is no cost, but registration is requested. Please email questions to marthaharvey214@gmail.com.



FRIDAY
November 3rd, 7 pm

SUNDAY
November 5th, 4 pm



ST. PIUS X
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FACULTY AND STUDENT PRODUCTION

SHREK



THE MUSICAL

Please join our Faculty, Staff, and Students for a fun-filled production of Shrek, The Musical! Performances are Friday, November 3, at 7:00 pm, and Sunday, November 5, at 4:00 pm. Doors will open 30 minutes before the performance. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

Get your tickets at www.spxschool.com

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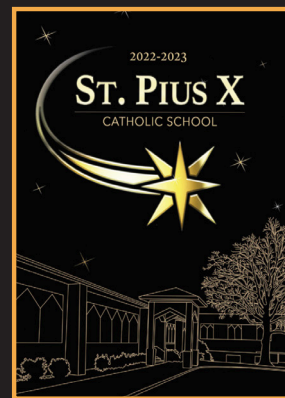


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NEWS FROM SAINT PIUS X CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Thank you to 275 Saint Pius X parish families who have chosen to enroll their children at Saint Pius X Catholic School for the 2023-2024 school year! Our enrollment is strong at 455 students in PK-8th grade. We still have a few openings for any families who are interested in a Catholic education for their children. Contact Amy McKee at amckee@spxschool.com or (336) 273-9865.

Saint Pius X Catholic School is a Direct Payment School for the North Carolina Opportunity Scholarship Program. This program has provided North Carolina's families the option of a private school education since 2013. Initially a need-based program, last month the North Carolina legislature voted to expand the program significantly so that all North Carolina families are eligible to apply for the 2024-2025 school year. What does this mean for our families?


- There is no longer an income requirement to qualify for the scholarship. However, the number of scholarship levels will be expanded, so that a family's income will determine the amount of the scholarship a student receives. The income and corresponding scholarship levels are anticipated to be published in January 2024.
- Students in the 3rd grade and higher will no longer be required to have attended a North Carolina public school within the past year. This means that families whose students have been enrolled in a private school may now apply.
- Applications for the 2024-2025 school year open on February 1, 2024. The state education website is www.ncseaa.edu/k12/opportunity. There is also a link on the school website: www.spxschool.com >> Admissions >> Affordability

SAINT PIUS X FALL SPORTS CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS!

Sports and extra-curricular opportunities have always been an important aspect of our school. In fact, Saint Pius X Catholic School is proud that over 95% of our students participate in some kind of extra-curricular activity: whether it's Chess Club or Fencing, Band or Choir, Lacrosse, Soccer, or Basketball; there is something for everyone!


Our Fall sports teams just wrapped up their seasons. Volleyball played hard all season, competing at a high level in a very tough conference. Both boys' and girls' Cross Country and Boys' Soccer brought home trophies as PECSAA Conference Champions. Boys' Cross Country won the conference championship outright, while the girls were runners up by just two points. (The conference cross country meet was at Sacred Heart in Salisbury.)

Following a robust tournament, Boys' Soccer defeated a veteran squad from Blessed Sacrament, 4-1, in the conference final. Hats off to all our coaches and big thanks to our players' parents for their dedication and support throughout the season, and way to go Comets!



Knights of Columbus

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



November 12, December 10, January 14

Join us between the 9:00 and 11:30 am morning Masses for a pancake breakfast with eggs, bacon, and coffee! There is no charge for breakfast, but donations are accepted! Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

SENIORS MINISTRY

TAI CHI

Thursdays at 9:30 in the Parish Center
November 2, 9, 16, 30 & December 7, 14, 28

SENIORS MASS & LUNCHEON

Tuesdays, November 28 & December 19
11:00 am Mass, followed by lunch and a program in the parish center.
Reservations are required.
Please RSVP to Gloria Essa at 336-299-3926
\$10 Per Person

K&W CAFETERIA LUNCH GET-TOGETHER

Tuesday, November 7
K&W Cafeteria in Friendly Center
Meet at 11:30 am - No Reservations Necessary!
Just grab a bite to eat and join everyone at the reserved tables. We hope to see you there!

NEWCOMERS . BAPTISMS . WEDDINGS . FUNERALS

NEWCOMERS - WELCOME!

Gary & Carol GREEN	27214
Ann & Lawrence MANN	27410
Steve & Christin MARASCO children Anthony, Thomas, and Matthew	27358
Jon & Amanda McCLAY children Talon, Daisy	27284
Joe & Emily MENARD children Kate, Ellie	27408
Andy MONCLA children Luna, Re	27455
Karl WILLIAMS	27408
Nick & Jordan NICKERSON children Emma, Lucas, William	27313
Nicolás & Denise NIKLE child Dylan	27455
Daniel & Maria PAREDES children Caralina, Rosemary, Ana Lucia	27455

Will & Miranda REAVIS children Kate, Alex	27455
Jenny & Tim RUNDLE children Timothy, Anna, Nadia, Kumar	27410
Edie SERVINO	27408
Brandon & Kemba SYLVESTER children Leilani, Kataya	27403
Jennifer WHITE child Andrew	27403
David WIGHT & Michelle RIFI children Layla, Clara	27410
Hycenta YAFI, Neng Emmanuella TOH, & Beltha TOH children Travis, Rayan	27401

BAPTISMS - BLESSINGS!

Levi Dumas	Merritt Cook
Remington Perry	Madison Babnick
John Von Bokern	Isabella McEachon
Thomas Malinda	Mavis Janke
Aiden Mann	Victor Daly
James Greear	

DEATHS - OUR SYMPATHY

Billy Gray
Yvonne Petrovic
Gaeton (Guy) Arcure

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

WWW.STPIUSXNC.COM
336-272-4681

ECHOES PARISH NEWSLETTER

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PARISH BULLETIN

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