

St. Pius X Parish

G-3139 Hogarth Avenue, Flint, MI 48532
Parish/School Website: spxparish.com

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

We, the community of St. Pius X in Flint rejoice in our communion with our bishop and brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing. Together, we worship, we teach, we serve.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Anthony J. Strouse
Deacons: Dave Jansen, Gary Gallagher
School Principal: R.J. Kaplan
Religious Education Director: Cindee McColley
Minister of Music: Eduardo Guerra
Youth Ministry: Anne MacDonald
Pastoral Minister: Sandy Shaker

PARISH PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office	235-8574
School Office	235-8572
Latchkey	235-9746
Religious Education	235-8574
Minister of Music	235-8574
Powers Catholic	
High School	591-4741
E-Mail	spxparish@gmail.com
Prayer Warrior Ministry	(810) 487-0871

SUNDAY MASSES

4:30 p.m. (Sat.); 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY AND HOLYDAY MASSES

Consult weekly bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents must be registered members of the parish and must attend a workshop in preparation for Baptism. Call the rectory office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (RECONCILIATION)

Saturdays 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. and by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Contact the parish priest at least 9 months in advance. One of the couple must be a registered member of the parish.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Saturdays following the 4:30 p.m. Mass or call the rectory.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Call the rectory if you are aware of anyone who is homebound.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday, 9:00 a.m., in writing!

Hearing difficulties?

Please ask an usher for a Personal PA receiver.



Fourth Week of Advent

*O Lord, stir up Thy power, we pray
Thee, and come; and with great might
help us, that with the help of Thy Grace,
They merciful forgiveness may hasten
what our sins impede. Through Christ
our Lord, Amen.*

Christmas Eve Mass

3:20 pm Children's Christmas Concert/Pageant

(final pageant/concert/choir practice is Friday, Dec 23 beginning at 1:00 pm)

Please note the Children's Pageant is presented before the 4:00 pm Mass—all children should arrive by 3:00 pm

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass *(geared toward children, incense free)*

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass

11:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass with the Solemn Proclamation of the Nativity of the Lord *(with Adult choir)*



Christmas Day

9:00 am Christmas Mass

*Welcome to our newest Catholic,
Grace Harper,
baptized December 10th*

The Weekly Calendar FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(†Mass Intention)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 9:00 † Tom Page by family
(5th anniversary)
- 9:00 Adult Choir (church)
- 9:00 SAVE SUNDAY CCD/Atrium 1 (school/choir room)
- 9:00 Atrium 2/Bible Study and CAFÉ
(library/school)
- 9:00 RCIA (library)
- 11:00 † The Parish
- 12:00 Bible Study (library/school)
- 12:15 Christmas concert & pageant practice (church)
- 3:00 Advent Communal Penance (church)
- 6:00 NO Youth Group

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 8:15 † William Ruth by the family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 8:15 † Rene' Gramz by Ralph & Charlene Miller
- 8:45 Tuesday Toasters (parish center)
- 1:00 School Christmas program (comm room)
- 7:00 School Christmas program (comm room)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, School Mass,

1/2 day of school, dismissal at 11:30 am

- 8:15 (no intention)

- 10:00 Willowbrook

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 6:45 Adult Choir practice (church)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

- 8:15 (no intention)
- 1:00 Children's pageant practice (church)
- 2:00 Children's Christmas concert practice (church)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

- 3:00 NO Confessions
- 3:20 Children's Christmas concert/
pageant (church)
- 4:00 † The parish
- 6:00 † Peace in the Holy Land
- 9:45 Choir warm-up (church)
- 10:30 Carols begin (church)
- 11:00 † The parish



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

- 9:00 † The parish
- 9:00 Adult Choir (church)
- 9:00 NO SAVE SUNDAY programs
- 6:00 NO Youth Group

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: The parish office will be closed on Monday, December 26th for Christmas. The school staff will not be in the office from Thursday, December 22nd through Monday, January 2, 2017.

Altar Servers for December 24 & 25

- 4:00 A VanCamp, N VanCamp, S VanVamp, N Kaplan
- 6:00 A Sexton, A Glynn, volunteer
- 11:00 J Stephen, A VanderKuur, T VanderKuur
- 9:00 D Dickson, R Banwell, D Mulligan



Lectors and Commentators Dec 24 & 25

- 4:00 A Jamison 9:00 R Shand
- 6:00 C Cramer
- 11:00 L Stephen

Don Antonio's Dispatch.....

This week begins our Advent Week of Weeks. This is the last week of preparation before Christmas, and our readings focus in on everything preparing for the birth of Christ. The familiar Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" is based upon the antiphon for Vespers (Evening Prayer) for 17-23 December, and are called the "O Antiphons". In order they are:

- 17 Dec.: O *Sapientia* (O Wisdom)
18 Dec.: O *Adonai* (O Lord)
19 Dec.: O *Radix Jesse* (O Root of Jesse)
20 Dec.: O *Clavis David* (O Key of David)
21 Dec.: O *Oriens* (O Dayspring)
22 Dec.: O *Rex Gentium* (O King of the Nations)
23 Dec.: O *Emmanuel* (O God-with-us)

If you drop the O and go backwards from 23-17 December, the first letters spell out *Ero cras*, which is Latin for "I will come tomorrow." This may or may not have been on purpose, but it's neat nonetheless.

This is our last chance to prepare for Jesus' birth. On Tuesday, 20 December, I will offer a special time of confessions from 5:30-6:30 pm. This will be your absolutely last opportunity before Christmas, as we won't have confessions on Christmas Eve. Please see the cover page of this bulletin for our Christmas Eve/Christmas Day schedule.

See you there!!

2016 YEAR END CONTRIBUTION must be put into the weekend collection on December 24th & 25th or received in the parish/school office by 5:00 pm on Friday, December 30th or postmarked December 31st. Any donations after this time, including the New Year's Eve and New Year's Day collections, will be recorded as 2017 donations.

OPLATKI, THE CHRISTMAS WAFER is available in the sacristy for a donation of \$1 per envelope (2 wafers). The explanation of this Christmas custom is included on the envelope.

Due to the Christmas schedule for publishing the weekend Dec 24/25 bulletin, any articles for submission must be received no later than Tuesday, December 20th by 9:00 am. Thank you!



Decorating in the Church for this Christmas season will be Tuesday, December 20th after the 8:15 am Mass. Anyone is welcome. Please call the church office (810) 235-8574.

OUR WEEKLY COLLECTION

Week of:	Dec 11, 2016	Year-to-Date
Budgeted income	\$ 13,452.88	\$ 322,869.12
Actual income	\$ 17,157.32	\$ 278,375.91
Surplus (deficit)	\$ 3,704.44	\$ (44,493.21)

Sunday Is
God's Day
"Save Sunday"

ALL ARE WELCOME-Every Sunday
from 9:00 am to 10:50 am: Classes are
not in session over the Christmas holiday.
See you on January 8, 2017.
O Come, O Come Emmanuel



Religious Education Department –Wonder
question: Would Mary and Joseph have been
surprised by the shepherds?

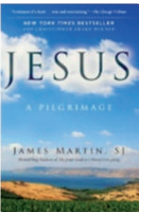
Moments in Level II atrium: Adoration of the
Shepherds, Blessing (grade 2) said "No. Mary would
not have been surprised by the shepherds. She knew Jesus as
the Son of God." In wondering about the shepherds visit, another
question was asked: How would Mary have felt? Jackson (grade
1) said "Mary would have rejoiced." Jackson also said if he was a
Shepherd at the manger, he would bow first and then "Rejoice".



Rite of Initiation for Adults— Classes resume on
January 8 with a teaching on the Beatitudes and 10
Commandments. Presentation by Cindee and
Sandy.



Adult Bible Study—Classes resume on January
8, 2017. We will be working in chapters 19-21.



Jesus: A Pilgrimage, Chapter 16: Bethesda

1. Why do you think Jesus asked the paralyzed man, "Do you want to be made well?"
2. John's Gospel often sets up "the Jews" as figures opposed to Jesus. What do we need to understand about that phrase so that we can avoid anti-Semitism and anti-Judaism and remember that Jesus and his followers were all Jews?
3. Sometimes healing in our lives is not euthus, or immediate. Can you recall experiences of healing-physical, emotional or spiritual that took months or even years? Can you still see them as "miraculous"? *Reference: Questions from Online source-catholic.com*

OBSERVATION BOX

In our Catholic tradition, in early times as well as today, light has a special significance - Christ Recall Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. No follower of Mine shall ever walk in darkness; no, he shall possess the light of life" (Jn 8:12) and "I have come to the world as its light, to keep anyone who believes in Me from remaining in the dark" (Jn 12:46). The light, then, is a symbol of faith, truth, wisdom, virtue, grace, the divine life, charity, the ardor of prayer and the sacred presence which flow from Christ Himself.

****We have two locations for our votive candles in church, one behind the ramp on the right side of the sanctuary beneath the Holy Family statues and the other is in the back of church next to the St. Pius X relics and memorial names canvas. There is a donation box provided. Please donate for each candle you light.**

REF: <http://www.ewtn.com/library/ANSWERS/CANDLES.htm>

The Called and Gifted Workshop is a great follow-up to the Called by Name Assembly for parishioners. Laymen and women learn about their specific call to mission, the charisms given by the Holy Spirit at Baptism and a process that helps with discernment of those gifts. Workshops will be offered around our diocese in January and February. Registration is now open at <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/evangelization-lay-formation>.



ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC SCHOOL
FAITH MOVING FORWARD
Website: www.spxparish.com

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
Give a gift that lasts forever

This is a wonderful time of year where we celebrate the birth of Christ and often times get together with friends and family to exchange gifts. I pray that each of you have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year! So often I think that we try to purchase gifts for our kids that end up not being played with the following year. One of the greatest gifts my wife and I have given our children is the gift of a Catholic education. It is a tremendous sacrifice for us to do this but year after year our children continue to use it. Our boys never get tired of it, it never gets broken and they seem to use it almost daily. Maybe you and your family have been thinking about getting your children a Catholic education starting next year and think you can't afford it. Nothing could be farther from the truth! Please take some time to pray on this and give me a call at [810-235-8572](tel:810-235-8572) and we can work together to make this gift a reality! Merry Christmas Everyone! May God bless you all!

Keep the Faith (1 Timothy 6:12)
R.J. Kaplan
Principal



St. Pius X Youth Group: No youth group on Sunday, December 18 and Sunday, December 25. Merry Christmas and enjoy spending time with family!

Powers Catholic High School is looking to fill head coaching openings for varsity ski team, varsity softball and varsity baseball. If you are interested in any of these positions, please send a cover letter, resume, and references to: Brian Sheeran, Athletic Director at bsheeran@powerscatholic.org.

SAVE THE DATE! ST. PIUS X
CHARGER DERBY is Saturday, April
29, 2017. Watch future bulletins for
information as it becomes available.



2016 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be mailed to contributing families before the end of January, 2017.

ALTAR CARE-Team 4
Pat Fearon, Kathleen Wilson



HOLIDAY SCRIP NOTES: The 100% family profit is still in effect. Stop at the office to purchase your Scrip gift cards.



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