

# ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

1051 Waggoner Road Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068  
((614) 866-2859 • [www.spxreynoldsburg.com](http://www.spxreynoldsburg.com)



Proceeds from the St. Pius X Festival held on August 3 & 4, 2018, will be used to purchase tables and chairs for our new social center.  
Photo: 05/10/2018



## SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday at 4:00 PM until all are heard and by appointment

**WEDDINGS** - No date may be reserved until after an appointment with a parish minister at least four months prior to the desired date.

**BAPTISMS** - Baptismal preparation classes are held the first Sunday of each month following the noon Mass. Register with the rectory prior to the class. Baptisms are celebrated at the noon Mass on the first Sunday of the month and at 1:30 PM on the third Sunday of the month.

**SICK CALLS** - Any time day or night (614) 367-1392. If you are homebound, please notify the rectory if you wish to receive Holy Communion.

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP** - New parishioners may stop at the rectory from Monday-Friday between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM to register. Parishioner registrations are held following all Masses on the second weekend of each month. You may also register directly from our website by completing a secure form or by downloading a registration form and returning it.

**ST. PIUS X ENDOWMENT FUND #320CL** - Please contact The Catholic Foundation at 614-443-8893 or visit [www.catholic-foundation.org](http://www.catholic-foundation.org) to learn how your bequest of cash, stock, real estate and/or insurance can help our endowment grow, giving our parish perpetual income.

June 10, 2018 – Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Celebration of Holy Mass

### SUNDAY MASSES

SATURDAY 5:00 PM

SUNDAY 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM & NOON

### HOLY DAY MASSES

EVENING AS ANNOUNCED  
ON THE DAY AT 8:30 AM

### WEEKDAY MASSES

8:30 AM, ROSARY FOLLOWS

### MAILING ADDRESSES

#### Rectory & Church Offices

1051 Waggoner Road  
Reynoldsburg 43068

Email - [StPiusX@spxreynoldsburg.com](mailto:StPiusX@spxreynoldsburg.com)

#### St. Pius X Children's Center

1067 Waggoner Road  
Reynoldsburg 43068

#### St. Pius X Elementary School

1061 Waggoner Road  
Reynoldsburg 43068

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

### BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday by noon

### PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

Dial (614) 866-2859 & extension:

Msgr. David Funk, *Pastor* - Ext 104

Deacon John Vellani - Ext 102

Deacon Jim Kelly - Ext 102

Brenda Brammer - Ext 116  
*Business Manager*

John Beyer - Ext 101  
*Asst Business Manager/Campaign Chair*

*We, the people of God at St. Pius X Parish, are a community of believers faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Tradition. We seek holiness through prayer, worship and the sacramental life of the Church. Inspired by the fire of the Holy Spirit, we give witness to the Gospel through education, service and sharing of our time, talent and treasure so that God's kingdom may live and grow in our midst.*

## Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 1, 2018

Behold, our God; our protector

### MASSSES FOR JULY 2-8, 2018

#### Monday

8:30 a.m. (MDF) ✠ Harold Wonnell  
by The Thomas Family

#### Tuesday

8:30 a.m. (MDF) ✠ Evelyn Link by Doris Lukie

#### Wednesday, 4th of July

8:30 a.m. (MDF) ✠ Tom Gaus by the Family

#### Thursday

8:30 a.m. (MDF) ✠ Ruth Streng by The Dixon Family

#### Friday

8:30 a.m. (MPG) ✠ Pat Finegan  
by the Portesch Family

#### Saturday

5:00 p.m. (MDF) ✠ Joe Beyer by the Beyer Family

#### Sunday

8:30 a.m. (MPG) ✠ Margaret Cooke  
by Gerald Cooke

10:15 a.m. (MDF) ✠ Gino Taormina  
by Francesca & Fred Knopp  
& Family

12:00 p.m. (RM) Living & Deceased  
Members of the Parish

#### NEWLY REGISTERED:

Claude & Elizabeth Fiambang; Jessica,  
Scarlett, Graelyn, Vincent & Lilah Sauer

### IN OUR PARISH

**ADORATION AND DIVINE MERCY** will **not** be held on Wednesday, July 4, 2018. The church will be locked after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.



#### RECTORY SUMMER HOURS:

The Rectory is closed on Fridays, through the end of July. The Rectory will be open as usual, Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**ALL GIRL SCOUTS IN THE PARISH ARE INVITED** to the 4th Annual S'Mores and More on Sunday, July 22, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Jefferson Park (Clark State Road). This year's theme is *Catholic Religious Emblems and Medals* and Scouts of all ages and levels will learn about the national Catholic Religious awards, play games, make crafts, learn about natural resources, and of course, make S'Mores! Contact your troop leader for registration details or email [spxgirlscouts@gmail.com](mailto:spxgirlscouts@gmail.com). All Catholic Girl Scouts are welcome, even if you are not a member of a SPX School troop. Registration fee is \$7.00, payable in advance or at the event. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Catholic Girl Scouting and to make new friends! Walk-ups and non-Scouts welcome (ages 6 and up, please)!



### THIS WEEK AT SAINT PIUS X - JULY 2-8, 2018

#### Monday

Pray Rosary for the Sick  
Men's Faith Sharing

Church Vestibule  
PAC

6:30 p.m.  
7:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday

ADORATION AND DIVINE MERCY WILL NOT BE HELD ON THE 4TH OF JULY!

#### Thursday

Men's Faith Sharing

Rectory

5:45-7:15 a.m.

#### Saturday

Men's FS & SS  
St. Vincent de Paul Collection

Rectory  
Church

6:30-8:00 a.m.  
After Mass

#### Sunday

Pray the Rosary  
St. Vincent de Paul Collection

Church  
Church

After 10:15 a.m. Mass  
After All Masses



## COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

**For the Week of June 24, 2018:**

Budget Requirements:	\$ 20,000.00
Actual Offertory Received:	\$ 29,755.17
Weekly Surplus (Deficit):	\$ 9,755.17

Faith Direct:	\$ 18,722.00
**EFT (Debit) Program:	\$ 1,318.50
Envelope Offering:	\$ 7,886.90
Cash Offering:	\$ 1,827.77
Total Offering:	\$ 29,755.17

Debit Program Participants:	216
Envelopes Used:	240
Faith Direct Participants:	59
Special Collection: Peter Pence	\$ 766.00

**For the Month of June, 2018:**

MTD Budget Requirements:	\$ 80,000.00
MTD Actual Offertory Received:	\$ 73,957.56
MTD Surplus (Deficit):	\$ (6,042.44)

YTD Budget Requirements:	\$ 1,030,000.00
YTD Actual Offertory Received:	\$ 971,049.53
YTD Surplus (Deficit):	\$ (58,950.47)

**Capital Campaign Update****Total Numbers as of 6/26/18**

Phase I	\$ 2,951,340
Phase II	\$ 395,676
Total all Pledges	\$ 3,347,016
Total Cash Received	\$ 2,078,890

**"Continuing To Renew All Things in Christ"  
Capital Campaign**

Msgr. Funk is asking ALL families to return a pledge card. If you are unable to commit to a pledge at this time, please notate that on your pledge card and a date to follow up. It is important to the success of our Capital Campaign that everyone who calls St. Pius X Church and School his or her home to:

- Pray for the success of the Combined Phase I and II of our Capital Campaign.
- Be an Ambassador by becoming informed and involved, enthusiastically sharing this information with as many people as you can and encouraging others to become involved.
- Make your sacrificial pledge. If unable to commit to a pledge at this time, return a pledge card with notes. Please deposit your pledge card in the offertory basket, drop it off at the Rectory, mail it in to the Rectory, or contact John Beyer by phone or email. [jbeyer@spxreynoldsburg.com](mailto:jbeyer@spxreynoldsburg.com).

**CONNECTIONS, ST. PIUS NEWSLETTER...**The August, 2018 edition of *Connections*, the parish newsletter, is being compiled. Please submit articles to Carol McGlone at [carol.a.mcglone@gmail.com](mailto:carol.a.mcglone@gmail.com) or to the rectory, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. **The deadline for the next issue is Friday, July 6, 2018.**

**PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATES!**

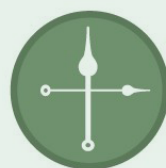
There are only five days remaining to schedule a photo sitting to have your picture taken for the 60th anniversary of the St. Pius X Pictorial Directory. It is our hope that anyone who previously scheduled and then cancelled or families

who have never scheduled a sitting to please take advantage of these last days. Photos are being taken in the PAC room in the school. Please visit the church website or contact Ariana Yokum or Cyndi Williams. If you are aware of any homebound or military members of our parish, please send their photo to the rectory to the attention of the Pictorial Directory so they may be included. Do you have awesome photos from the past 60 years in our parish? Please drop them at the rectory (we will return them) or send them via email to [ana88Lg88@gmail.com](mailto:ana88Lg88@gmail.com). We ask that you clearly label the photos so we know what events they belong to. Thank you for your participation and help in putting together this directory!

**THE 2018-2019 ST. PIUS X PSR CLASS REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN.**

The Registration for the 2018-2019 PSR (Parish School of Religion) Program is open for grades Preschool through Eight on Sunday evenings, from 5:00-6:30 p.m. (with six class dates, from 1:15-2:45 p.m.). To register, please go to [www.spxreynoldsburg.com](http://www.spxreynoldsburg.com) Education/PSR and there is an online application and a paper form that you can print off. The beginning PSR date is September 9th at 5:00 p.m. Also, the 2018-19 PSR Date Calendar is on the website. If you have any questions, please feel free to call De Ann Bukowski at 614-648-9191.

**THE 2018-2019 PSR PROGRAM** has Catechist, Adult and High School Aide, and Substitute positions available starting this September. We have Catechist positions for both 1st grades. We have adult aide and high school aide positions for various grades. Also, we need substitutes that are willing to come and help when needed. If you are 18 years old and out of high school, the Protecting God's Children requirements of attending the class and fingerprints are a must. If you have any questions or wish to help, please contact De Ann Bukowski by email or 614-648-9191 (cell).



# MINISTRY SCHEDULER PRO

Effective Ministry Scheduling

Contact Us at [schedule@spxreynoldsburg.com](mailto:schedule@spxreynoldsburg.com) or 614-390-4718 for those who do not use internet/email.

Our schedule for June 30-September 30, 2018, is complete and has been published online. You will find this available from your online MSP account as well as the MSP app if you use this free tool. If you have questions, please contact us at [schedule@spxreynoldsburg.com](mailto:schedule@spxreynoldsburg.com) or, if you do not use the internet or email, please call Cyndi Williams at 614-390-4718.

- Review your schedule. Please request a sub as soon as you need one. The sooner you request one, the better chance you will have of finding a swap. If possible, please do not wait until the weekend of the service.
- You can "work ahead" and enter all cannot-serve dates in your future as soon as you know them.
- If you notice a misspelling in your name, please accept our apology and contact us so we can correct it in the database.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE: JULY 7-8, 2018

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS -H: (2) - Pulpit side/ H: (2) - Organ side C: (3) - Pulpit side/ C: (3) - Organ side

5:00 p.m. No Deacon	Leah Kelly (PH), Linda Marcum (PH), Valerie Hannahs (PC), Holly High (OH), Cyndi Williams (OH), Judy Cafmeyer (OC), Cynthia Moder (OC), Joseph Supino (OC), <b>Carol Summa (PH-L), Lisa Herbert (PC-PC), Norbert Stalica (PC-PC)</b>
8:30 a.m. No Deacon	Anne Baughman (PH), Katherine Crowell (PC), Sara Crowell (OH), Ariana Yokum (OH), Ann Cox (OC), Jeff Cox (OC), Lorrie Crowell (OC), <b>Megan Resetar (PH-L), Joyce Guth (PC-PC), Ifeoma uzoh-anigbogu (PC-PC)</b>
10:15 a.m.	Gordon Burke (PH), Gregory Canfield (PH), Patricia Canfield (PC), Amy Whetzel (PC), Chelsee Cress (OH), Maggie Del Rosario (OH), Debra Orellana (OH), Kelly Esparza (OC), Bernadette Lindquist (OC), Theresa Ogershok (OC), Juan Orellana (OC), <b>John E Goetz (PH-L), Shirley Callahan (PC-PC), Mindy Goetz(PC-PC)</b>
12:00 p.m.	Jon Caruso (PH), Kim Connors (PC), Juanita Rickman (OH), Carol Shown (OH), Dominic Nocera (OC) (sub req.), Arlene Reel (OC), David Roby (OC), <b>Wayne Wingard (PH-L), (sub req.) Sandy Puet (PC-PC), Mary Ann Wingard (PC-PC) (sub req.)</b>

### LINEN SCHEDULE: De Ann Bukowski

### COLLECTION COUNTERS:

Team 1: CC Richards; Mary Girard, Juan Pena, Bill Richards, Joy Thaman

	Lectors	Servers	Gift Bearers	Greeters	Ushers
5:00 p.m.	Regina Courey Dean Miles	Andrea Bergman Adam Fairchild Carla Pena	Daniel Trout Stephanie Trout	Family Herbert	Mike Angle Ken Marr Stan Michnowicz Bob Munjas
8:30 a.m.	Tammy Baron T.J. Bryan	Andrew Crowell Kevin Gallagher Julia Kaminski	Patrick Hensel Sharon Hensel	David Dlugiewicz	Joe Bauman Ed Krause Don McKenzie Richard VanHorn
10:15 a.m.	Pat Lutz Karen Trainer	Alex Esparza Karsyn Esparza Christopher Esparza	Mario Piciucco Teresa Piciucco	Charles Stevenson	John Callahan Ted Habak Gervase Ngalla Brian Sauer
12:00 p.m.	Elizabeth Ficocelli Ron Shown	Aaron Hampshire Jared Hampshire Tyler Hampshire	Ed Sammler Pam Sammler	Sandy Puet	<b>NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED</b>



### FESTIVAL NEWS

It is a very exciting time for St. Pius X....our parish is about to celebrate its 60th anniversary. It's also exciting to know that we will soon have a parish social hall to use. Our annual parish Festival promises to be an extra special one this year as we Celebrate 60! The proceeds from this year's Festival will be used to buy furnishings for the social hall.

We thank the following businesses for their support of our Festival:

Airtime Heating & Cooling: \$50.00, Egan Ryan Funeral Home: \$100.00

Anthony Mampieri, Merit Advisors, LLC: \$100.00, Cotner Funeral Home: \$500.00, Dee Printing: \$500.00

If you are interested in becoming a SPX Festival Corporate Sponsor and would like more information, contact Natalie Bracone at 614-531-8902 or [nataliebracone@gmail.com](mailto:nataliebracone@gmail.com).

**SODA POP SUNDAY...JULY 7/8:** The Festival committee is inviting everyone to donate a case of **12 oz. cans of soda** or a **case of 16 oz. bottles of water** to the Festival. Donate your favorite flavor. This has been very successful the past few years and has helped eliminate our drink purchases and contributed to the financial success of the Festival! Collections will take place on July 7/8 and July 21/22 before and after all Masses. **12 oz. cans only, please.** Thanks for helping support our parish!

**FESTIVAL TICKET SALES AND VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP WEEKENDS** will be held on July 7/8 and July 21/22. Presale tickets will be 13 tickets for \$5.00. You get three additional tickets by purchasing them in advance! Tickets are good for midway games, bake sale items, prize winning pies, pizza, pop/water, and the beer garden. (Food vendors require cash payment.) Ride tickets and wrist bands may be purchased separately at the Festival. Please consider volunteering to work the Festival. There are many jobs that need done with a variety of time slots to fit almost any schedule! Sign up with your friends and family for even more fun. Most time slots only ask for a 2-hour commitment, leaving plenty of time to enjoy the rest of the evening. This is an excellent way to meet new people and become acquainted with old friends while doing something to benefit the St. Pius Festival!

**PIES, PIES, AND MORE PIES!** The magic number is "60!" That's the number of pies that are expected for the "Pam Briggs Memorial Pie Baking Contest" at this year's SPX Festival. Twenty-seven registration forms were handed out during Volunteer Sign-Up weekend (June 23/24). WOW! That's terrific! Don't wait for the next Volunteer Sign-Up weekend to register - just email [jcafmeier@hotmail.com](mailto:jcafmeier@hotmail.com) with the following information: Name, address, phone, email, competition division - Junior (14 and under), Young Adult (15-30), Adult (31-50), Seasoned Senior (51 and over) and # of pie entries (1 or 2). Email registrations will be sent a list of rules when their entry has been received. We are looking forward to a "taste-tempting" competition!

**SILENT AUCTION AND WINE TOSS... CAN YOU HELP???** St. Pius X Children's Center Preschool and Pre-K hosts the silent auction at the annual parish Festival. Please consider donating a NEW (never used) item for bidding. We gratefully accept small items like gift cards, or larger items like a weekend get-away, spa or handy-man services, OSU football tickets, and everything in-between! Use your imagination. We are also in need of bottles of quality wine for our ring toss game! Please leave a voicemail at 614-577-0826 or email [SMiller@spxreynoldsburg.com](mailto:SMiller@spxreynoldsburg.com) to arrange for the collection of your donation. All donations should be received by mid-July. Thank you for your generous support! Come in to the gym to cool off during the Festival and win some real bargains!

### HELP WANTED!



St. Pius X is seeking volunteers who have expertise in writing, graphics, web and social media for projects within St. Pius X Church and School. Please contact John Beyer at [JBeyer@spxreynoldsburg.com](mailto:JBeyer@spxreynoldsburg.com) or (614) 866-2859 to share your interest. Please include your area of expertise.



## AROUND TOWN

**SAVE THE DATE: 2018 Sacred Heart Conference:** *All invited and encouraged to attend.* Come to hear inspirational speakers, for Mass, to pray the Rosary and for great fellowship. All welcome – young, old, married, single, men, women, life-long Catholic, recent convert, those new to the Sacred Heart, or those that have a long-time devotion to the Sacred Heart. Saturday, November 10, 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High Street, Worthington, OH 43085. Tickets: \$10.00/person, and \$20.00/family. Please visit the website to register: [SacredHeartCongressColumbus.org](http://SacredHeartCongressColumbus.org). Coffee, snacks and refreshments will be available throughout the morning. Questions, please call/text/email John Swisher at 614-477-7730 or [swisher721@gmail.com](mailto:swisher721@gmail.com).

**MIKE HELFER'S SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP** at Newark High School (auxiliary gym) – July 9th-13th. Open to boys entering grades K-8 in fall of 2018. Cost is: Grades K-2, \$60.00 and grades 3-8, \$90.00. Both include a T-shirt and basketball. For information, call 229-560-8506 or to register go to [www.helferbasketball.com](http://www.helferbasketball.com).

**JOSEPH'S COAT NEEDS FURNITURE VOLUNTEERS:** Are you available on Wednesday or Saturday to volunteer with us? Are you a young man or woman over 16 who can assist our client's getting beds and couches/chairs etc., into their vehicles? Could you ride in our truck with two others to pick up furniture donations in our area? We desperately need help with our furniture area. You will be happy and feel blessed that you came. We also need volunteers who might not be as strong, but definitely able to help our clients check in an out, or work in our sorting areas.

There is no cost for anything at Joseph's Coat, but you get many God Bless You's! You can come Wednesday/Saturday, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or Tuesday/Thursday, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.. Contact Michele at [josephs-coat.org](mailto:josephs-coat.org) to get more information and come for a tour. **Volunteering is Good for the Soul!**

**JOSEPH'S COAT SEEKS OPERATIONS MANAGER:** We are looking for a part-time Operations Manager to coordinate operations for this organization, which is open to the public for 10 hours per week. The person in this position will have responsibilities that include managing the facility, creating and maintaining communications among the volunteers, improving processes, and other basic operational tasks, but is not expected to be present for all open hours.

The ideal candidate will have a strong sense of volunteerism, and dedication to helping those in the community who are facing significant challenges and are in need of the most basic essentials. The position is posted at 12 hours per week and reports to the Board of Directors. As both the organization and donations grow, there may be an opportunity for increased hours. Please contact Pat Lutz at 614-395-2057 or email at [palutz108@gmail.com](mailto:palutz108@gmail.com). See our website at [josephs-coat.org](http://josephs-coat.org) for additional information about us. Joseph's Coat is located at 240 Outerbelt Street #5, Columbus, 43213.

**MARRIAGE IS A SACRAMENT:** What exactly does that mean? You'll learn a new way to find the Lord in your home at a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend. The next two weekends are July 13-15 and September 14-16, both in Central Ohio. For more information or to apply, contact Paul and Marilou Clouse at 614-834-6880 or visit our website at [www.wmccolumbus.org](http://www.wmccolumbus.org)

## ADOPT-A-STUDENT

The new school year isn't far away. It's time again for our annual Adopt-A-Student project sponsored by Father Hohman Council 5253 of the Knights of Columbus. This benefits families served by the St. Francis Center in McArthur, the county seat of Vinton County. Vinton County is Ohio's smallest county in terms of population and the most impoverished. Many families there cannot afford basic necessities, let alone school supplies.

With your donations, the Knights help fulfill their needs by distributing kits containing basic school supplies. Each kit has a pencil box, five No. 2 pencils, three ballpoint pens, a pair of blunt or pointed scissors, a box of 24-count crayons, a large eraser or three pencil-top erasers, and one large or three small glue sticks.

Also needed are packs of notebook filler paper or loose leaf paper. Teachers can use extra supplies of facial tissues, hand sanitizer, and anti-bacterial wipes. Large sizes in particular are welcome.

Back-to-school sales of these items are beginning at major retail stores and office supply stores, enabling people to increase their generosity by buying more of the above items at lower prices. Watch for sales on these items and **bring them to Mass on the weekends of July 21-22 and July 28-30.**

These items will be assembled on Monday, July 30. Help will be needed to pack them at 6:30 p.m. in the PAC room. The Knights will take them to McArthur the following day.

Monetary donations also will be gratefully accepted. This will enable us to purchase additional items, which will be needed as the school year continues. Last year, you, the St. Pius parishioners, donated 336 complete kits, plus many extra items and \$2,036 in cash. Donations have grown each year, and we thank you!

Site coordinator, Ashley Riegel, of the St. Francis Center is most grateful for the help she receives each year from this drive. She said that St. Pius X Church has been the main supplier of these items for the students served by the center for many years, and that everything sent from St. Pius X was used during the school year at some point. The center assists people of all faiths, and most of the students receiving the donated items are non-Catholic.

With your help, the student will get a good start on the school year and you'll get the satisfaction of helping a child in need.

For more information, contact Tim or Sandy Puet at (614) 507-8388 or 507-8389. Thank you for your continued support.

## PHONES

Rectory and Church Office,

Msgr. David Funk, Deacon John Vellani, Deacon Jim Kelly ([deaconkellyspx@gmail.com](mailto:deaconkellyspx@gmail.com)),

Michelle Carey, Leah Kelly, Judy Miller and Christina Zacovic ..... 614-866-2859

Rectory Fax..... 614-866-1499

Cafeteria, Kim Laret..... 614-866-1282

Latchkey, Beth Antommarchi..... 614-866-1848

School, Darren Smith, Principal..... 614-866-6050

Children's Center, Mary Benedict and Sharon Miller..... 614-577-0826

Music Director, John Pottkotter..... 614-501-0104

Pastoral Minister and RCIA, Sr. Maxine Shonk..... 614-751-8815

Religious Education and Youth Ministry, De Bukowski and Judie Bryant ..... 614-864-3505

## SAINT OF THE DAY FOR JULY 2

**Saint Oliver Plunkett** (November 1, 1629-July 1, 1681)

**Saint Oliver Plunkett's Story:** The name of today's saint is especially familiar to the Irish and the English – and with good reason. The English martyred Oliver Plunkett for defending the faith in his native Ireland during a period of severe persecution.

Born in County Meath in 1629, Oliver studied for the priesthood in Rome and was ordained there in 1654. After some years of teaching and service to the poor of Rome, he was appointed Archbishop of Armagh in Ireland. Four years later, in 1673, a new wave of anti-Catholic persecution began, forcing Archbishop Plunkett to do his pastoral work in secrecy and disguise and to live in hiding. Meanwhile, many of his priests were sent into exile, schools were closed, Church services had to be held in secret, and convents and seminaries were suppressed. As archbishop, Plunkett was viewed as ultimately responsible for any rebellion or political activity among his parishioners.

Archbishop Plunkett was arrested and imprisoned in Dublin Castle in 1679, but his trial was moved to London. After deliberating for 15 minutes, a jury found him guilty of fomenting revolt. He was hanged, drawn, and quartered in July 1681.

Pope Paul VI canonized Oliver Plunkett in 1975.

Stories like that of Oliver Plunkett seem to fit history. "Things like that don't happen today" is often our thought. But they do. False accusations, prejudice, anti-Catholic sentiments, racism, sexism, etc. are still an active reality in our day. Maybe a prayer to Saint Oliver for peace and justice may be appropriate.

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