



IMPORTANT DATES

October

- 2 Deaf Group Potluck
Hospitality Sunday
- 4 1st Reconciliation Parent
Meeting 7pm CH
- 8-9 Mens' CRHP Retreat
- 16 Welcoming Breakfast
10:30am FLC
- 18 Confirmation Parent
Meeting 7pm
- 21 Club 55 Luncheon 12:00
- 24 Bereavement
- 25 Mini Book Fair FLC

November

- 1 All Saints Day
- 2 Bereavement Mass with
Hospitality following 7pm
- 5 Hospitality Sunday
Engaged Couples
Conference
- 13 Deaf Group Potluck
Confirmation Meeting
6:30pm
Candidates/Sponsors/Fr.
Jim
- 15 First Reconciliation 7pm
- 24 Thanksgiving
- 25 Parish Office Closed
- 28 Bereavement

December

- 4 Hospitality Sunday
- 8 Immaculate Conception
- 9 Blood Driven 1-6 pm
- 10 Breakfast in Bethlehem
- 23-26 Parish Office Closed
- 25 Christmas Day- Masses to
be announced
- 26 Bereavement

Marriage Preparation with a Sponsor Couple

Deacon Tim Etue

There is more and more a need to have our parish as well as the Diocese of Toledo Marriage Preparation Ministry address the needs of every engaged couple. We are finding that just having an Engaged Couples Conference scheduled on a Saturday or Sunday does not address the needs of many engaged couples who may be working at jobs that will not let them off on these days. To address this unmet need the Diocese of Toledo now offers another marriage prep ministry program called "Sponsor Couple."

The sponsor couples are trained to work with an engaged couple and to cover all five of the topics that would be discussed at the one day Engaged Couples Conference. The sessions are provided in the sponsor couple's home. This is designed to fit the needs of both couples. Usually, about 5 sessions are needed to dialogue completely on each topic. The Diocese of Toledo is currently using the manual, "For Better & For Ever," written by Fr. Robert A. Ruhnke, C.S.S.R., D. M. as it's the recommended manual

for this program. St. Pius X now has one couple trained to offer this program and I have participated in the training provided by Fr. Ruhnke and found it very meaningful. This manual could also be used as a marriage enrichment program. If that idea appeals to any married couples, please let me know and I will see if we could implement it in the future. We have a trained couple from another parish that helps us by providing this ministry to two couples.



I am so pleased to see our parish offer both marriage prep ministries at this time. If any married couples would like to join in this ministry, I would be more than happy to talk with them. Yes, I am sure that any of the couples currently in these ministries would also be glad to discuss how meaningful this ministry has been for their own marriages.



THE PROCLAIMER
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THE PROCLAIMER is published quarterly: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. Letters to the Editor are always welcomed and encouraged.

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**News from the Director
of Religious Education**

Anne Etue

The Religious Education office is really hopping this time of the year. All of our current programs are ready to begin and we are pleased to have another program returning. For information on any of these programs, please call Anne Etue at the Parish Center (419-535-7672 x223).

On Sunday, September 18, Catechetical Sunday is celebrated throughout the United States. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops calls us to recognize the catechists who teach and share faith in our religious education programs on that day. At the 9:30 a.m. Mass the catechists in our Parish School of Religion will be recognized and commissioned for their ministry. The theme for this year's Catechetical Sunday is Life is Christ. This theme is taken from Paul's letter to the Philippians, which is read at that Sunday's liturgies.

Our Parish School of Religion will begin on Sunday, September 18, from 10:30-11:45 a.m. in the school. PSR is for students in Grades 1-8 who attend public schools. The catechists in our Parish School of Religion are: Grade One – **Robin Roth, Amy Kochendoerfer and Missy Anderzack** (team teaching); Grade Two – **Tracey Rudnicki;**

Grade Three – **Kathy Axe;** Grade Four – **Nichole Bundy;** Grade Five – **Aili Meyers;** Grade Six – **Sharon Turby;** Junior High – **Aaron Radlinski.** We are very grateful to these folks for volunteering to share their faith and their knowledge with our students.

Thanks to **Nancy Lawrence,** our preschool Sunday school, *Seedlings*, is returning. We will begin on Sunday, September 18, during the 9:30 a.m. Mass. This program is for children who are three, four, and five years old (including Kindergarten). They will be using the Pflaum Gospel Weekly, which has prayers, activities, and crafts using the Gospel for each particular Sunday. We are very excited to have this wonderful program returning to our parish and are grateful to Nancy for coordinating. For more information about *Seedlings*, call Nancy at 419-536-8268.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process by which adults who are not baptized, who have been baptized in another tradition, or who are Catholic and need to complete the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation), are received into full communion in the Catholic Church. Classes for RCIA begin on Wednesday, September 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center.



Experiencing the Eucharist

Mary Ann Niedzielski

As the year of the Eucharist comes to a close, it seems appropriate to reflect on the significance of the Eucharistic celebration in our lives. The Mass has always been an integral part of our communal worship, providing sustenance and inspiration throughout our lives. It enhances our wedding celebrations, grants solace at our funerals, and heightens our sense of community and continuity at our baptisms. For Catholics, the Mass is essential to their experience of Church and their connection with the Divine. Indeed, St. Francis de Sales called the Eucharist "the sun of all spiritual experiences ... the most holy, sacred, and most sovereign Sacrament ... the center of the Christian religion, the heart of devotion, and the soul of piety."

In order to provide insight into how Catholics experience the Mass, a number of parishioners were asked to offer their thoughts on the Eucharistic celebration. In particular, they were asked to identify some of the elements of the Mass that help to enhance and deepen their worship. "Some of the elements that create a good Eucharistic liturgy for me," says **Sue Meyers**, "are a sense of unity within the participants, a prayerful demeanor, a celebrant who brings everyone into the celebration with him, and participation by all in attendance. Enhancing the worship experience are music

that is appropriate (prayerful, upbeat, solemn - depending on the service) and lectors who are well prepared and can proclaim the Word in a meaningful way."

Nicole Bundy offered these comments: "I feel personally a great homily really hits home to our hearts, something that we can directly relate to our life's experiences, whether it be reflecting on our good side or bad side, something that will make us want to be better Christians. What enhances my worship is singing great, uplifting songs. Songs that everyone at Mass knows and sings out. That is a very moving experience."

"My experience of a good Eucharistic liturgy first involves my own mental/ spiritual/ physical preparation for it," says **Mary Rosa**. "Then a friendly atmosphere is ideal, enhanced by appropriate and at least somewhat familiar songs. Inclusive language is a must, and hoped for is an inspiring homily. Holy Communion is always a wonderful experience, but when it comes after all this, it seems even better."

Marty McCabe believes "the experience people have is in direct relation to their relationship with God and their faith. The experience is like a marriage; we get out of it what we put into it on a regular basis. The worship experience is enhanced when we pray, sing, and are attentive to our fellow man. The experience is better when we expand our relationship with others outside our parish community."

Dave and Bea Wolfe shared their experience of a Mass they participated in as a team couple for St. Pius X Marriage Preparation days. "We were all standing around the altar, continuing with the offertory and consecration what we started earlier in the day. It gave us a sense of what Eucharist truly is - highly personal and deeply moving as you feel the Lord's presence. We still feel it today."

"Music has the power to be very inspiring and uplifting," says **JoAnne Carson**. "Also the participation of the whole congregation is important, and I think the St. Pius parishioners are very good in this area. The sermon is also a very important part. It's more meaningful when the priest or deacon connects the scripture readings to everyday life. The sign of peace is a special part to me because, whatever has happened between you and a member of your family during the week, it's a great time to become at peace with each again. It is also a way in which we express our care and concern for our fellow parishioners."

"For me, every Eucharistic liturgy is good, no GREAT," reflected **Gene Canestraro**. "I enjoy, look forward to, my time in the BIG house. My friends, those devoted to Faith, Hope, and Charity, are surrounding me. We are about to receive, quite literally the Holy Spirit. That's about the highlight of my week. Sunday Mass enriches me, regardless of its length or content."

New School Staff

St. Pius Community is pleased to welcome two new teachers to our building and we wish both a happy and exciting year.

Connie Hurley, who is the second grade teacher, has had seven years of experience at both Holy Rosary School and Ladyfield. At Holy



Rosary, she was a lector and led the "Liturgy of the Word with Children". She is married to Nathan and has a son, Mitchell, going on three. Connie is from Oregon, OH and graduated from UT. She enjoys reading, listening to music, shopping, and going places with her family. Connie is very excited about preparing the students for the sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist. She feels strongly that "teaching in a Catholic school is not just a job; it's a ministry".

Our new fourth grade teacher, **Wesley Rethman**, is just starting out on his teaching career. Wes is very excited and just a little nervous, but has looked forward to



meeting his students and going on! He is from Ft. Laramie, OH and has three younger sisters. Therefore, he is not worried about working with a mostly female staff at St. Pius X. Wes

graduated from Bowling Green State University and did his student teaching under Mrs. O'Shea. She contacted him when the opening in fourth grade occurred just one week before the beginning of the school year. He is engaged to Casey Skees who is a teacher at Lake School. Wesley enjoys sports, especially baseball and football (he coached baseball this past summer), movies, and playing cards.

My Viewpoint

Deb O'Shea

When I was asked to write a little "blurb" about my philosophy of education and discipline, I immediately thought of the philosophy I had to write when I was graduating from the University of Toledo in my undergraduate program. I dug it out of my portfolio and here it is!

I feel I bring a very positive atmosphere to a classroom I like to focus on what a student does that is right. Ever since I was in first grade, I have wanted to be a teacher. I admired my teachers over the years and I anticipated my turn to follow in their footsteps. I observed and noted what my teachers did that made a classroom exciting, challenging, and most of all – positive. Throughout my experience as a preschool teacher/administrator and my field placements at UT, I learned invaluable lessons about not only teaching meaningful lessons, but more importantly, how to manage an effective classroom. Then, when I was

given my first chance to teach in an elementary setting, I learned, through preparing and executing thorough and exciting lesson plans, how to mold students' minds into models of success. I instill in all my students a positive self-concept, a sense of belonging, and a family atmosphere. I am a confident professional who comes prepared to teach and I work hard to keep all student actively involved in the learning process. I incorporate cooperative learning activities, hands-on experiences, and multiple intelligence experiences to provide variety and enthusiasm in the "art" of learning. People whom I have worked with have complimented my on my patience and enthusiasm with children.

Now that I am an administrator, I re-read the above words and say my philosophy has not changed one iota. The really neat part is that I feel I really "fit" here at St. Pius X because all the teachers here already have an ownership in the same philosophy that I have. The only addition I can add (because of my experiences in the Toledo Diocese) is that I love incorporating my faith into my philosophy of education. God is the center of my life and He is the basis for all that is good. I've already been in various classrooms talking about appropriate behavior and respect and every time I use the acronym – **WWJD**. Whenever students are tempted to do something inappropriate, I ask them to ask themselves, "Is this something Jesus would do?"

Pastoral Council, a New Beginning

Greg Nusbaum

All of us who are Christ's followers must therefore meet and unite around him. This unity in the various fields of the life, tradition, structures and discipline of the individual Christian Churches and ecclesial Communities cannot be brought about without effective work aimed at getting to know each other and removing the obstacles blocking the way to perfect unity. - Redemptor hominis, Ioannes Paulus PP. II 1979 03 04

The above passage was taken from the first encyclical written by the late John Paul II. The document proposes very simply, that the Church cannot achieve the vision Christ had for it if divided into factions. The same idea holds true when applied to a smaller group, even our beloved St. Pius X Community. It becomes necessary to have a group in place within our community coordinating our efforts to ensure that we are working toward Christ's vision of the church. Enter the New Pastoral Council.

The Pastoral Council was formed in the early part of this year. It is made-up of Fr. Jim, representatives of various ministries in the parish, and four individuals elected from the parish-at-large. The collective purpose of the council is to coordinate the efforts and resources of the community toward becoming part of Christ's vision.

Parish ministries report to the Pastoral Council on their plans and activities. No one ministry exists separately; they are all interconnected and require monetary help, facilitation, and labor resources to exist. The Pastoral Council helps integrate these ministries into the overall vision of Christian unity, making the best use of the resources available.

If you know of or have an issue that you feel requires the council's attention, please pass it on to the parish secretary, Christine Velker at 419-535-7672. The Pastoral Council meetings are open for any members of the St. Pius X Community to attend. Meeting times and dates are listed on the parish calendar.

Summer Socials

Gwen Raupfer

Once again, the weather gods smiled on our parishioners for this year's **Pig Roast**. It was a beautiful Sunday for the great event, clear and sunny with low humidity. A very large crowd showed up after the 11:30 Mass to enjoy the meat which had been carved well before the start time and was served plain, barbecued, or sandwiched. The potluck dishes provided by parishioners covered three tables with salads, hot and cold dishes, and delectable desserts. Fellowship was enjoyed both in the Family Life Center and outside under the tent. Children enjoyed the games while adults enjoyed the company.

On August 26th the weatherman said rain, but the faithful believed it would be clear for the 3rd annual **Wine and Cheese; Beer and Brat party**. As evening fell, the courtyard glistened with tiny blue and white lights in the trees overhead. The sounds of conversation and laughter from the sell-out crowd mingled with the melodies provided by **Bob Lemle**, our St. Pius disk-jockey who led us in prayer before the group enjoyed brats, sauerkraut, and salads, and a variety of cakes provided by **Anne Etue**, who said that she cooks, and her husband, **Charlie Etue**, cleans up.

Participants brought their own beverages to share and some even had their own wine glasses or beer mugs to add "class" to a delightful evening of fellowship. As the party began to disperse around midnight the committee of **Jane and Ed Butkowsky, Jim and Angel Dandar, Sue and Karl Litle, Lonnie Hoepf, and Gwen and Ed Raupfer** promised to plan again next year. Also, it was decided at a follow-up meeting that we will rearrange the courtyard to accommodate 150 people next year, since the 125 tickets sold out so quickly.

Saturday, Sept. 17 was the date for the 3rd annual **Reverse Raffle** that benefits the sports programs at St. Pius X School. It was a sell-out crowd that enjoyed the good food, the beer and wine, the various games of chance, and the company of fellow parishioners. The

highlight of the evening was the reverse raffle with the following three people as the finalists: **Karen Davis, Tony Lamantia, and Debbie Ziegelhofer.** These three had the option of splitting the three top prizes, and after much discussion they did so with a twist. They each agreed to take \$1000 and give \$500 to the school **if another \$500 could be raised immediately from the attendees.** There was no problem meeting this requirement, so everyone went home happy and the school ended up a surprise winner in this event!

Parish Finances #2

Paul Nungester

In this edition we will discuss the “Non-Operating” portion of the parish finances. The term Non-Operating is somewhat misleading as church accounting is cash based. So, in the simplest form, all church monies are simply cash flowing in and out. However, certain funds are earmarked or restricted for specific functions such as capital improvements. The purpose of the Non-Operating section is to track these restricted funds separately.

So, what does that mean? It means that all cash received under this section is in the category of restricted bequests and gifts, fund drives, loan proceeds for capital improvement, and income derived from these funds. For example, a bequest was donated

to St. Pius X last year for the specific purpose of purchasing a new crucifix for the sanctuary. These funds could not be used to pay the heating bill or repave the parking lot. The Finance Manager of the Parish along with the Finance Committee and Pastor are tasked with ensuring that the goal of each restricted fund is achieved. Also, our recent parish and school remodeling capital project was partially funded with loan proceeds from the diocese.

Further, the expenses associated with each individual project must be carefully tracked so as to not overlap fund use. This can be particularly difficult if there are many open projects at any point in time. Capital funds can be ‘lumped’ together if they are general in nature and don’t name a specific project like the crucifix above. That makes them easier to manage and available for small but important projects like the new, beautiful doors into church and the concrete work out front. One item to keep in mind is that expenditures for capital projects often run over different years and may sway the numbers from one year to the next.



Sorry, but we need to talk numbers now. Non-Operating receipts for years ended June 2002, June 2003, and June 2004 were \$212,676, \$132,003, and \$101,511, respectively. June 2005 was budgeted at \$100,500. Expenditures were \$109,201, \$96,075, and \$46,885, respectively with 2004 budgeted \$100,500 for 2005. Therefore, net gain on cash was \$103,475, \$35,928, \$46,885 for each year and \$10,500 in 2005 budgeted.

Adding these numbers to the Operating Funds presented in our last article, the total parish gain or (loss) of cash during the 4 years we have been tracking are: \$15,064, \$48,727, \$120,508, and \$14,921 budgeted for 2005. While these numbers are all positive, St. Pius X did not make a ‘profit’ in any business sense. What these numbers suggest is that St. Pius X Parish had a positive impact on cash and overall is sound financially.

The danger is that we don’t become complacent. In fact we are still a small parish with a spiritual mission to support a school, develop religious programs, and maintain several buildings with grounds. But most important are the people of St. Pius X and the way the church touches our lives. It behooves us all to remain diligent, as God has entrusted us with a mission to serve. Like the parable of the 8 talents, God tasks us to be “...faithful in small matters so we can be given great responsibilities...”

Youth News

Jen Bine

First of all I would like to say thank you to all members who helped at the St. Pius X Pig Roast. They seemed to enjoy this time of service, and the children all had a good time.

Then, on September 9, St. Pius hosted a junior high dance to help raise money for the Toledo area youth mass. Youth mass is celebrated on the second

Wednesday of every month from 7:00-9:00pm. It is held at Little Flower Parish with free pizza and pop after mass. Junior high through high school students are welcome. On September 18, the youth group also hosted an outdoor movie night for family and friends. A big screen was set up in the field and we watched the movie, *The Incredibles*.

Meetings for the youth group are the first and third Sundays of the month, from 6-8pm, in the 5th grade classroom. Please watch the bulletin and youth group board in the narthex of the church for upcoming events. Some events to look for are a hayride, a barn mass, and a trip to see the lights at the zoo. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Jen at 535-7688, extension 241.

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PIUS PEOPLE

The purpose of this page is to build community. Perhaps you could send a card, stop in for a visit, or remember these people in your prayers.

NEIGHBORS

Ann and Frank Bailey
of Central Ave.

Helen and Matthew
Jozefowicz
of Drummond

Nelly Barbery
of Middlesex

Susan Kirkbride
of Woodmont

James Bodi
of Executive Pkwy

David Klem
of Woodmont

Jennifer and Paul Kluczynski
of Argonquin

Lisa and Mike Borsos
of Waterford Dr.

MaryAnn Knack
of Southview Dr.

Rochelle and Neil Chryst
Of Bowen

Jared Clemens
of Sherbrooke

Robert and Sharon Littlehale
of Strauss

Jennifer Couture
of Argonquin

Frances Long
Of Ilger
Sarah and Eric Driftmyer
of Anderson Pkwy

Ellen and Jack McComis
of Sabra

Cathryn and Richard McGill
of Drummond Rd.

Tamara and Rodney Franks
of Pine St.

Helen Miller
of Homewood Ave

Donna and Eric Gwinn
of Wendover

Sherri Mossing
of Drummond

Josephine Herman
of Pelham

Cheri and Phillip Nopper-
Hahn
of Argonne Place

Margaret Higgins
of Arlington

Susan Nowak
of Gracewood

Sallie and Mark Hock
of Bowen

Mary Pedro
of Berkeley

Mary and Gary Holewinski
of Pemberton

Kirk Peterman
of Cheltenham

Pauline Ramsey
of Homewood Ave.

Theresa and Charles Sears
of Indian Valley Ct.

Troy and Melinda Seegert
of Twin Oaks Dr.

John and Patricia Shaffer
of Homerdale

Kay Shrewsbury
of Gracewood

Wendi and Daniel Sorensen
of Ariel Ave.

Frank Urbaniak
of Larchway Rd.

Michelle and Brian Weber
of Portsmouth

Mary and Robert Yard
of Beaufort

Eileen and Joseph Zawisza
of Clover Lane

Ellen Wyman
of W. Lincolnshire

MARRIAGES

Jon Meyers to
Martha Mahoney
6/25/05

Paul Kirlin to
Julianne Gurzynski
8/6/05

BAPTISMS

Alexander Sniegowski
Son of M/M Christopher
Sniegowski

Justin Cassidy
Son of M/M Justin Cassidy

Caden Leck
Son of M/M Ronald Leck

Irene Bundy
Daughter of M/M Ron
Bundy

Benjamin Talbert
Son of M/M Eric Talbert

Jacob Clark
Son of M/M Gregory Clark

DECEASED

Sherry Bertke
5/29/05

Sylvia Collins
6/2/05

Jim Perkins
6/7/05

Martha Gall
8/7/05

Virginia Schliesser
8/13/05

Thomas McCarthy
8/23/05