

ST. PIUS X CHURCH

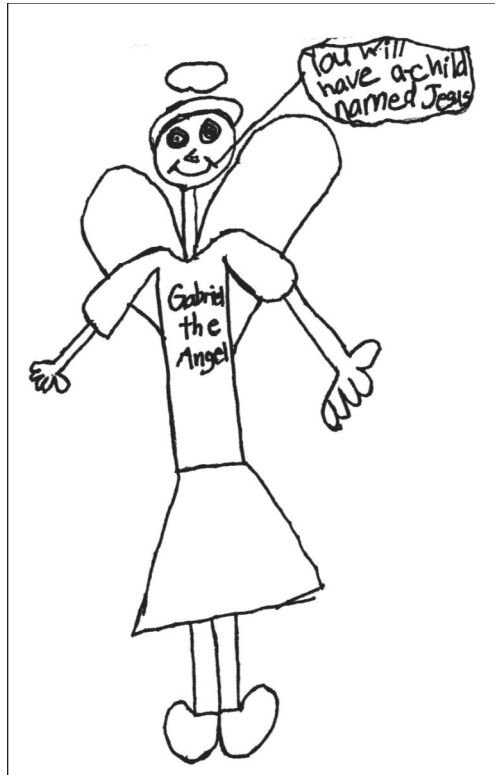
3663 66TH ST. • DES MOINES, IA 50322

Visit us on-line at www.stpiushome.com

A Welcoming Catholic Community!



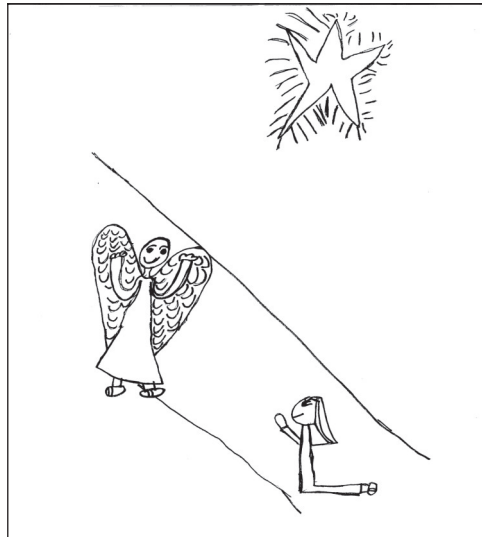
By: Giovanni Spatafora



By: Caley Kruse



By: Taylor Wilkinson



By: Kate Cain

Parish Office Hours

Hours.....Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm
Phone(515) 276-2059
Fax(515) 276-8351
Websitewww.stpiushome.com

Administration

Pastor, Msgr. Joseph McDonnell
Parochial Vicar Fr. John Harmon
Weekend Associate, Fr. Frank Palmer
Permanent Deacon, Deacon Rick Condon
Permanent Deacon, Deacon Jim Houston

St. Pius X School

Principal, Larry Zahm.....(515) 276-1061

Faith Formation

DRE, Mary Heinrich(515) 278-5684
CRE, Sherri Hunt
Youth Minister, Barb Mease
RCIA, Mary Sue Lone
Adult Faith Formation, Suzanne Crowley

Parish Staff

Business Manager, Bill Duff
Administrative Assistant, Chris Breuss
Administrative Assistant, Vicki Ferin
Music/Liturgist, Eric Webster
Pastoral Care Ministry, Fr. John Harmon
Capital Campaign Secretary, Bonnie Ehler
Wedding Coordinator, Linda Schroeder

Mass Schedule

WeekendSaturday 5:00 pm;
Sunday 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am
WeekdayMonday-Saturday 8:00 am;
Wednesday 8:15 am
Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6pm

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:15 to 4:15pm.
Saturday after 8:00 am Mass.

Baptism: First time parents are required to attend a one evening class on the Sacrament of Baptism. Call Deacon Jim Houston to register 331-1570

Marriage: One person must be a registered member. Call the office 6 months prior to date.

Anointing of the Sick: Brings the healing love of Christ. In case of an illness or hospitalization please call the parish office.

Parish Meetings

Pastoral Council: First Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm.
Board of Education: First Monday of every month at 6:30 pm.

Bulletin Deadline

Submit article in writing to the parish office or e-mail vferin@saintpiuschurch.org by Friday at 8:00 am.

Newcomers

Registration cards are located in the Gathering Space or stop in the parish office.

From the Desk of Msgr. Joe McDonnell

This being the Fourth Sunday of Advent we have but one week before Christmas. The closer we get to Christmas it seems the busier that we become. There are many wonderful details that need to be attended to have Christmas be as special that it has always been in our lives. Those with small children have more responsibility than perhaps the rest of us. I remember that when I was young I was really excited as Christmas drew near.

Generally the Christmas tree in our house didn't go up until just a few days before Christmas. Our mother generally had baked her Christmas cookies some time in the final week and my siblings and I had the happy responsibility of delivering plates of cookies to the older couples in our neighborhood. The wreaths we had in our front windows were all in place by the final week of Advent.

As I recall the crib was also put up in the final week without the infant Jesus that was placed in the crib Christmas eve. We had an Advent wreath either on a coffee table or on the dining room table and the appropriate number of candles were lit for supper.

Advent is the special time of anticipation and waiting for Jesus. It seems to me that the degree we anticipate or wait for something that is good and important accentuates the good when it finally arrives. We see this in many situations of our lives. Many of us anticipate vacations maybe weeks in advance and it is as if the vacation is almost present in our imaginations long before we actually start them.

With these final days I pray that all of us will continue to carve out personal time and time with family to reflect on just what it is that we are anticipating and waiting for. While each of us, young and old alike, have hopes and dreams for material gifts and these dreams have an appropriate place in our hearts, our faith tells us that Jesus is really who and what our heart longs for.

Jesus is our dearest friend and offers us gifts and blessings that only He can give. We know from personal experience that the gifts and cards we receive from others are really ways that others tell us that they love us and this is true for us as we send cards and give gifts to family and friends.

Basically, Advent and Christmas have to do with love. Love first and foremost for God and Jesus and love for each other.

We will provide the opportunity this Monday and Tuesday evenings, December 19 and 20, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm for the sacrament of reconciliation. Often times people who have not celebrated this sacrament for years do. This of course would be a very great gift from God. If this is your situation, come and receive one of the greatest gifts of your life.

In Christ,
Msgr. Joe McDonnell



Spent some
quiet time
with the Lord.

Reconciliation Times for Advent

Saturdays after 8 am Mass & 3:15 to 4:15 pm
December 17, 2:00 to 4:14 pm
December 19 & 20, 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Area Communal Penance Services

Saint Francis of Assisi - 7p m on Tuesday, December 20th

Perpetual Adoration helps people to be more central in their lives. By spending time with Jesus in the Eucharist, one is able to establish a truly personal relationship with Him. He waits for you to take time to come. Day and Night hours open. Please call Pat at 278-4471.

WEDDINGS

Please congratulate and welcome these couples recently married at St. Pius:



Andrew and Megan (Harrison) Ferin
Josh and Nicole (Johnson) Roth
Zach and Kristin (Roth) Clemens
Gary Sorensen and Lisa Goodman-Sorensen

Baptism Preparation

1st Time parents are required to attend the pre-baptism class. Godparents are also encouraged to attend either at their home parish or at St Pius. The next class is Thursday, January 5, 2012 at 7pm in the St. Michael Room. Babysitting available.

Call Deacon Jim Houston to register or for more information 331-1570.

Welcome New Families!!

We are excited to have you as a part of our parish family. If you have questions or would like information on how to get involved, call the parish office at 276-2059.

Faith Formation Calendar



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|------------|---|
| January 8 | Sunday CGS Atrium for 3 and 4 year olds resumes |
| January 10 | Tuesday Atrium resumes |
| January 11 | Faith Formation and Wednesday Atrium resumes |
| January 15 | Sunday CGS Atrium for 3 and 4 year olds |
| January 17 | Tuesday Atrium |
| January 18 | Faith Formation and Wednesday Atrium |
| January 22 | Sunday Atrium Confirmation Retreat, 1:00 pm |

St. Pius X School Calendar

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Dec. 19 -7:00 pm | 7th & 8th Grade Choir Concert in Gym |
| Dec. 20 -6:30 pm | Skating Party |
| Dec. 21 -8:15 am | All School Mass - 5J Christmas Vacation Starts @ 3:00 Dismissal |

Classes Resume January 3, 2012

Children's Christmas Party - December 17th

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a holiday party for all children of St. Pius ages 3 - 10 years old on Saturday, December 17th from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. The afternoon will feature crafts, activities, pizza and a visit from St. Nicholas. Contact Eric Schurr, 334-3208.

Holy Name Society Attention All Men of the Parish

What do you know about the Battleship USS Iowa?
What was the battleship's nickname?
What event took place on April 19, 1989?
What world leaders travelled on her?
When was it decommissioned?

Learn answers to these questions and more!
Next Holy Name meeting is January 2, 2012 in the parish center at 6pm Join us for dinner and guest speaker Jeff Lamberti.

Des Moines Symphony Academy Flute Choir

The Des Moines Symphony Academy Flute Choir will be playing at the 10:00pm mass on Christmas Eve. Plan to arrive at 9:40 to hear the choir provide prelude music!



Youth Ministry Update

Youth Night Christmas Party-December 18th at 6:30pm in the Parish Center. Join us for games, movies, prayer and pizza. And....*maybe* a visit from Santa!! Call Barb if you are planning to attend by Saturday, December 17th. Bring a friend!

Planning Meetings-are held every Wednesday at 3:30pm in the parish office.

Friendship Group- Wednesday, December 21 at 7pm. This is for all groups. Please contact your leader if you need a ride or you are unable to attend.

Christmas Eve Dinner- Dinner for the poor and homeless. Saturday, December 24th. Call Trinity Methodist 282-3242 and ask for Linda or Abigail to sign-up. Families are welcome!

Youth Ministry-Adult Leader Volunteer Party - Sunday, January 8th at 2pm in the Martha and Mary Fellowship Hall. Check your email for more information.

High School Retreat Meetings-Sunday, January 8 at 1pm in the Martha and Mary Fellowship Hall.

www.groups.google.com/group/stpiusyouthgroup
Barb-238-0878

Reminders:

Please submit bulletin information early for the Christmas and New Year's season.

The office will be closed on 12-23 thru 12-26.
Office hours December 27- 30th are 8:00 am-noon.

As the winter cold gets stronger, we are in more and more need of warm clothing and blankets. Normally we get a lot of donations in by now, but for some reason this year we are very low on the following,
blankets - winter coats, gloves, winter hats. If you are able to help us it would be a huge blessing to our guests.
Thanks for your support.

DM Catholic Worker-Dingman House
1310 7th St.
Frank Cordaro-490-2490

Please remember to sign-up for Christmas and New Year's ministries.
The sheets are in the gathering space.

Mass Intentions Week of December 19

| | | |
|-------------|----------|-------------------------|
| Mon. 12/19 | 8:00 am | Jack Carney |
| Tues. 12/20 | 8:00 am | Leo Waggoner |
| | 6:00 pm | Phil Meng |
| Wed. 12/21 | 8:15 am | Art McGrath |
| Thurs 12/22 | 8:00 am | Ed Roth Family |
| | 6:00 pm | Glenn & Martha McCleish |
| Fri. 12/23 | 8:00 am | Greg Duteuple |
| Sat. 12/24 | 5:00 pm | Millie Uhlenhake |
| | 7:30 pm | Nicholas Grunzweig |
| | 10:00 pm | Betty Breuss Lenze |
| Sun. 12/25 | 8:00 am | Jason Weiser |
| | 10:00 am | Marlys Kelly |

Schedule of Activities

Monday, December 19

6:30-8:00pm Reconciliation Church
7:00pm Marian Cenacle Chapel

Tuesday, December 20

6:30-8:00pm Reconciliation Church
7:00pm Knights of Columbus PC

Wednesday, December 21

7pm Hearts on Fire Church

Thursday, December 22

7pm CRHP PC

Friday, December 23

10:00am Advent Study M&M

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Masses

Masses: 5pm, 7:30pm and 10:00pm

Christmas Day Masses

Masses: 8am and 10am

Room Codes: Archangel Gabriel (AR-G) • Archangel Michael (AR-M)
Archangel Raphael (AR-R) • Holy Family (HF) • Martha & Mary Fellowship Hall (M&M)
• Parish Center Gym (PCG) Parish Center Meeting Rooms (PCM) • Saint Cecilia (SC)
School Meeting Room (ED) • Staff Kitchen (JPII)



**Lessons & Carols
Preparations for Christmas
at St. Francis of Assisi
West Des Moines**

Come and join us on December 18th.
For our fourth annual Saint Francis of
Assisi Christmas Concert. This year's event is lessons
and Carols. Come hear your favorite carols, listen and
reflect on the Scripture readings that inspired them to
be written.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children over the
age of 5. Ticket prices cover the concert, beverages,
appetizers and dessert. The Parish Hall doors will
open for food, fellowship and music at 6pm. Seating for
the main event begins at 6:45pm

Purchase tickets at the St. Francis of Assisi parish
office or call Dan Buscher at 238-5819 or email him
with questions
busher204@mchsi.com

Give a Gift for the Soul!

The Christ Our Life Conference returns next September with another exciting line-up of world-class Catholic speakers who are sure to inspire and lead us closer to our Lord. **Gold Seating** and general admission tickets will be on sale this weekend after mass in the gathering space. Or call the parish office- 276-2059.

Gold Seating: These tickets are the same price as general admission but they will assure you the best view and easiest access.

Buy them now as a gift for the soul for your loved ones. More information about the conference is available until sold-out online at www.christourlifeiowa.com
Adults \$25
Student/Youth \$15

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses
5:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 10:00p.m.

Christmas Day
8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

New Year's Mass Schedule

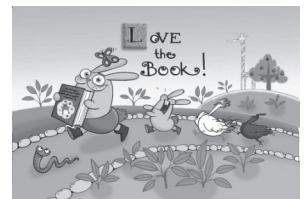
Vigil Mass for Mary, Mother of God
5:00 p.m.

New Year's Day
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Please remember to sign-up for ministries for these masses. Sign-ups are in the gathering space.

Story Book Project

The Martha and Mary Circle is supporting the Story Book Project of Iowa. This organization uses the children story books for women that are incarcerated. These books will be recorded by the mothers, to share a story with their children. Please donate any new/used (in good condition) children books for these families. Marked boxes will be in the gathering space.



Kathy Connolly Sparks 276-5886
Cecilia Barron-641-779-9866