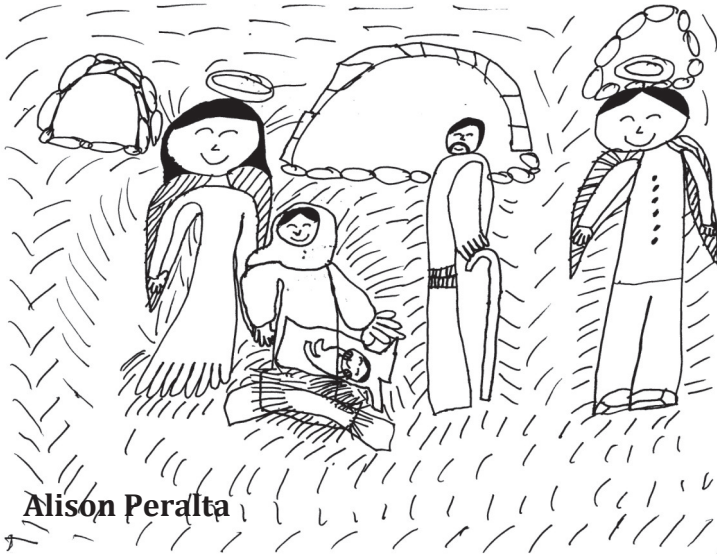


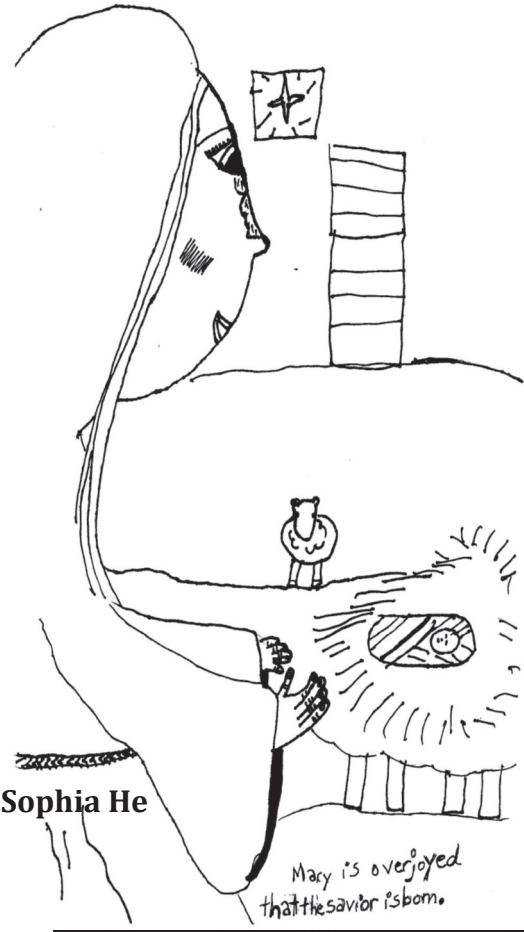
ST. PIUS X CHURCH

3663 66TH ST. • DES MOINES, IA 50322

Visit us on-line at www.stpiushome.com



Alison Peralta



Sophia He

Mary is overjoyed that the savior is born.



Grace Marshalls



Meghan McDonald

From the Desk of Msgr. Joe McDonnell

On behalf of Father Harmon, Father Palmer and our entire staff I want to wish you a Blessed Christmas and New Year.

Now that Christmas is actually here all the anticipation is completed and the festivities are in full swing. I will be going north on Christmas day to celebrate Christmas with my sister Mary Frances and her family. I pray that everyone who is traveling will travel in safety.

The Christmas liturgies are always wonderful. There is such a unique joy that we not only bring to church but that we experience together in our Christmas masses. Anyone who has been to our first mass on Christmas eve knows how packed the church is. This is true for most if not all of our urban parishes.

The children are especially excited at the 5:00 pm. mass because usually the presents have not been opened so they are still dreaming and hoping for the best. It is so fun to see them come to church and visit with them leaving. When I was growing up I would have to say that Christmas time was my favorite time of the whole year.

Christmas presents were always exciting to receive but also to give. Christmas is of course much more than the exchange of gifts. It is a time that we spend with family and close friends. It is a time of laughter and remembering. We are first and foremost mindful of the supreme gift that our heavenly Father gives to us in the sending of his precious only begotten Son, Jesus.

On two separate occasions I have had the opportunity to be in Bethlehem. I have celebrated mass in the Church of the Nativity and been in the cave below the church where tradition holds that the Christ child was born. There is a mark on the cave floor indicating the spot of the birth of Jesus. It is very likely that this was in fact the location of his birth. It was mind boggling to be at such a momentous place.

I also had the opportunity to celebrate mass in a cave where again tradition holds that the shepherds used for shelter in the field close to Bethlehem. The field again is the place where the shepherds were taking care of their sheep when the angel of the Lord appeared announcing the birth of Jesus Christ. I remember looking up in to the sky at this field trying to imagine what the sky was like when the great choir of angels appeared to the shepherds, singing to them with hymns straight from heaven.

The angels were exultant in their joy because they knew first hand the joy that was now going to be ours too. This joy we taste in just a little way here on earth and a joy that we will all have some day in heaven. This joy will be ours if we but let Jesus live in our hearts and guide us safely home.

Have a wonderful Christmas and Christ centered New Year.

In Christ,
Msgr. Joe McDonnell

"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." - Lk 2:11-12



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD
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*Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy, and
Blessed New Year!
St. Pius X Parish Staff*

Adoration

Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us Life. Night and Day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love come back to the Eucharist, come back to that adoration. Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Day and Night hours open. Please call Pat at 278-4471.

Please pray for eternal rest for Francis Doyle, husband of Joanne Doyle. And father of Katy Raasch, Margaret Elliott, Kevin Doyle, Eileen Doyle and Therese Richardson.
Thomas Probasco, father of Pam Deutsch, Bill Pritchard, father of Sue Danielson, and Kathy Wattier, mother of Mike Wattier.



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



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

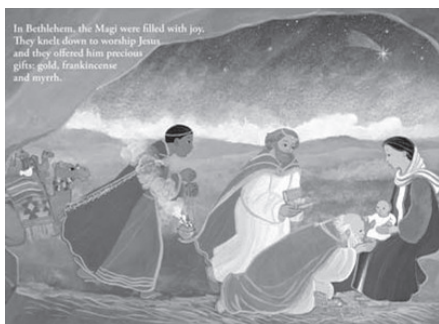
St. Pius X School Calendar

January 19	6:30 PM Pre School Round Up In Large Meeting Room @ St. Pius X School
January 29	10:00-11:30 AM Catholic School Week Open House @ St. Pius X School
February 9	6:30 PM Kindergarten Round Up In Large Meeting Room @ St. Pius X School

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.



In Bethlehem, the Magi were filled with joy. They knelt down to worship Jesus, and they offered him precious gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh.

New Year's Mass Schedule Feast of Mary Mother of God

Vigil Mass- Saturday December 31- 5pm
Feast Day Mass- Sunday, January 1
7am, 9am and 11am

PARISH WEB SITE

Visit the parish website:
www.stpiushome.com

Youth Ministry Update

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

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

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

Regular Mass Schedule

Weekend

Saturday 5:00 pm;
Sunday 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday .Monday-Saturday 8:00 am;

Wednesday 8:15 am

Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6pm

Parish Office- 276-2059

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

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.

Mass Intentions Week of December 26

Mon. 12/26	8:00 am	Francis & Erma Flynn
Tues. 12/27	8:00 am	Florence Jensen
	6:00 pm	Jerry Van Horne
Wed. 12/28	8:15 am	Marge Gass
Thurs 12/29	8:00 am	Adoration Volunteers
	6:00 pm	Maureen Duff Osmond
Fri. 12/30	8:00 am	Marlene Meehan
Sat. 12/31	8:00 am	John Preuschl
	5:00 pm	Kathleen Fitzsimmons
Sun. 1/1	7:00 am	Rosemary Wieskamp
	9:00 am	Carol Thimesch
	11:00 am	Bob Burgus

Mass Intentions Week of January 2

Mon. 1/2	8:00 am	Leo Waggoner
Tues. 1/3	8:00 am	Marge Gass
	6:00 pm	Terry Martin
Wed. 1/4	8:15 am	Al Racette
Thurs 1/5	8:00 am	Day Hacke
	6:00 pm	Phyllis Foster
Fri. 1/6	8:00 am	Gene McCormick
Sat. 1/7	8:00 am	Jerry & Greg Dutemple
	5:00 pm	James L. Judge
Sun. 1/8	7:00 am	Mike Fleming Family
	9:00 am	Jan Brick
	11:00am	Steven Pritchard

Schedule of Activities

Monday, December 26

7:00pm Marian Cenacle Chapel

Wednesday, December 28

7pm Hearts on Fire Church

Thursday, December 9

7pm CRHP PC

7pm Celebration Singers Church

Friday, December 30

Saturday, December 31

New Years Eve

5pm Mass—Vigil Mass for Mary Mother of God

Sunday, January 1

New Year's Day

Masses 7am, 9am, 11am

Schedule of Activities

Monday, January 2

7:00pm Marian Cenacle Chapel

7:00pm Holy Name PC

Tuesday, January 3

6:30pm BOE School

7:00pm RCIA AR-M

Wednesday, January 4

7pm Hearts on Fire Church

Thursday, January 5

6:30pm Pre-Baptism Class AR-M

7pm CRHP PC

7pm Bible Study AR-R

Friday, January 6

First Friday Coffee and Donuts M&M

The next step in the Bible Timeline Studies:



The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation is a fascinating study that takes you on a journey through the entire Bible. Go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. Using a unique color-coded system, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. St. Pius X will offer this study on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month beginning on **January 12, 2012**.

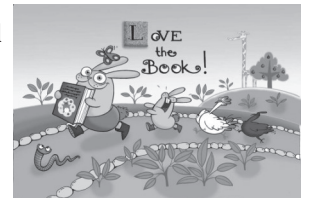
To register, contact:

Suzanne Crowley at scrowley@saintpiuschurch.org or 633-0868

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

Franciscan Spirituality & Justice Parish Retreat

† Sponsored by St. Pius X Social justice Committee

† January 21, 2011 - 8am -5pm

This parish retreat is designed to breathe new life into the themes of Catholic social teaching and the Church's justice tradition. Through the life and witness of St.

Francis of Assisi, this retreat offers participants an opportunity to gain a better, fuller understanding of our call to love and serve others; and it offers practical ways to put faith into action in a format that is both informative and engaging.

contact Bonnie Reed at 515-276-6988

rcubed0@hotmail.com