

ST. PIUS X PARISH

Newsletter

St. Pius X Church • 5 Barbara Street • South Yarmouth, MA 02664 • 508-398-2248 • www.stpiusx.com

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Mission Statement

St. Pius X Parish is a community of Roman Catholics established in 1954 within the Church of Fall River to collaborate with its Bishop. Nourished through Word and Sacrament, we attend to the Holy Spirit and follow our Lord, Christ Jesus. We give witness to our participation in the Body of Christ by welcoming, evangelizing and serving all whom we encounter especially the poor.

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A Sabbatical and the Year of Mercy

As I was preparing to leave the parish in the Fall for sabbatical, people were extending their kindness and best wishes to me. Comments such as “have a good vacation,” “study hard,” “enjoy your time away,” and “don’t forget to come back” were common. Those comments and more are a good description of what the seven weeks that I was away embodied.

The sabbatical which I embarked upon was sponsored by the Pontifical North American College in Rome. The College prepares men for the priesthood in English speaking countries along with sponsoring a sabbatical program for priests who have been in ministry for a number of years. The priests were from throughout the U.S., Australia and New Zealand. From my window, I looked upon the city of Rome, and from the dining room window of the Casa O’Toole, where

I lived with the 30 priests of the program, the dome of St. Peter’s was bigger than life.

The program, entitled “The Church’s Works of Mercy,” consisted of study (no tests to take or papers to write) and an opportunity to witness mercy in action. We listened to a number of presentations from Catholic Relief Services (CRS). As a parish, we experience, or hear of CRS whenever there is a natural disaster in the world. The church mercifully responds to that disaster, for example hurri-



St. Pius X Altar, St. Peter’s Basilica, Vatican

cane Katrina and flooding in Louisiana, by asking us to pray and give to a special collection. CRS also sponsors the Rice Bowl program in which we participate each Lent. CRS’s arm of mercy extends beyond these activities by sponsoring

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Mass at the tomb of St. Peter, Vatican



The Altar of the Corporal from the Duomo of the Assumption, Orvieto, Italy

programs to teach people new skills and encourage them to use their God given gifts in just and equitable ways. A week in the Holy Land was not only an opportunity for us to be pilgrims, praying and developing a deeper appreciation of the lands where Jesus lived, but also an opportunity to see the merciful works of CRS in action. We visited a Women's Solidarity Group consisting of

Christian and Muslim women. They were members of a fair-trade corporation which was helping them to market their exquisite hand made goods. In Ramallah, we listened to a presentation from the director of a Palestinian Hydrology Project which is working to provide clean water to the needy at reasonable cost. CRS assists these and similar projects through instruction and funding. A cooperative consisting of two small dingy rooms where craftsmen grind and polish mother of pearl materials for religious articles and jewelry, was once a toxic environment resulting in severe respiratory distress. CRS was instrumental in improving working conditions by installing adequate ventilation.

The Palestinian and Israeli tensions in the Holy Land are intense. The Left Bank and the Gaza Strip are areas of tension marked by walls of separation and armed guards at all points of crossover. Life for the people is not easy, and CRS is on the front lines in trying to assist the people in the trenches.

Architectural Italy was the second part of the program. Through presentations from experts in the field of the theology of Gothic Art and Architecture, we learned about the development of the Catholic faith through architecture. Visits and guided tours of Roman churches such as the Pantheon (a Catholic Church since 609AD, St. Mary of the Martyrs), the Basilica of St. Maria Sopra Minerva, the Basilica of St. John Lateran, and, of course, St. Peter's Basilica, to name a few, gave us a sense of the history of Christianity from the time of the Roman Empire, through the Middle Ages to the present. Through the various forms and stages of architecture, the mysteries of faith were communicated to people through images. Frescos and mosaics in Roman and Gothic art show the development of people's faith in the mysteries of our faith.

Travels to Tuscany and Umbria gave us the opportunity to reflect on the staunch Christians and great Saints who made these areas famous. Sienna in Tuscany, gave us the great Dominican Doctor of the Church, St. Catherine of Sienna. In Umbria, we visited Assisi, Gubbio, Orvieto, and Perugia. St. Francis was born in Assisi and founded his community in the town which enjoys great fame because of his simple life style. Gubbio, an ancient mountain top city near Assisi was also home to St. Francis for a short time. Legend has it that he befriended a wolf which was terrorizing the city and its livestock. He is revered to this day for his ability to tame the wild animal. In the

Chapel of the Corporal, in the 14th Century Duomo of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Orvieto, is housed a blood-stained corporal. A priest celebrating Mass in a nearby town in 1263, had doubts about the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The host began to bleed, staining the corporal on which it rested dissuading the priest's doubts. Finally, Perugia, an ancient Etruscan City, is known today for its universities and famous chocolates.

The Franciscan Path to Peace, which links Perugia with Assisi and Gubbio, was frequently travelled by St. Francis.

In all of these areas can be found Italian Gothic architecture with famous renaissance paintings and frescos. Dating back hundreds of years and in many cases well preserved, they were and still are important vehicles for passing on the mysteries of our faith. Those mysteries we celebrated in many of the churches we visited as we celebrated Mass daily.

The final days of the sabbatical we enjoyed an Ignatian style retreat given by a Jesuit priest. Ignatian Spirituality speaks to the life of diocesan priests as it solicits spiritual reflection on daily life and ministry.

Life in Italy and the Holy Land means plentiful and delicious food. I enjoyed the endless varieties of pasta in Rome and the hummus and the hot fresh baked pieta bread in Jerusalem. The mild sunny days were conducive to walking and exploring the ancient and new (built within 300 years) sights of Rome. It's a big city like Boston or New

York and people are friendly and helpful.

As I reflect on my time away there are many things which I will remember but four which I will truly cherish. On a beautiful Sunday in early October we (myself and the priests of the program) were invited to join about 900 priests and bishops to concelebrate Mass with Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square. Secondly, I had the opportunity

to celebrate Mass at the altar of St. Pius X in St. Peter's and to remember each of you, our Bishop, and our diocese of Fall River which was founded by Pius X in 1904. Thirdly, twice during the sabbatical we celebrated Mass at the tomb of St. Peter in St. Peter's Basilica. Finally, as my sabbatical was ending, so was the Jubilee Year of Mercy. On a beautiful Sunday, November 20th, over three thousand priests and bishops concelebrated Mass

with Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square. The square, and as far as the eye could see, was jammed with thousands of people. The sight of so many gathered in prayer is truly uplifting. As the Pope closed the Holy Door until the next Holy Year, hopefully our hearts remain open to receiving and extending the mercy of the Lord.

So, in my time away, there was vacation, relaxation, study and prayer. Now I'm pleased to have returned to our parish in order for us to continue our ministry together.

Fr. George Bellenoit

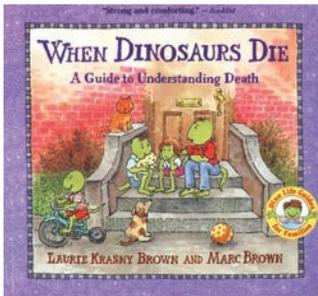


Pope Francis Blessing Congregation at St. Peter's, Vatican



The Library Corner

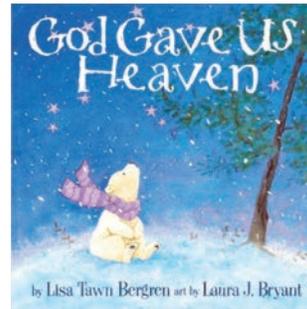
Are you dealing with sensitive issues like death or divorce with your young children or grandchildren? The St. Pius X Library has new resources available for you to borrow. In memory of Joan Robinson, late Director of Religious Education here at St. Pius X, a fund was established for books on such topics. Jean and Shanna Kelly selected books this summer, and Rebecca Gallerizzo installed the bookcase on the right wall as you enter the library. It's appropriately topped by Raggedy Ann and Andy, so you can't miss it! Please peruse the growing collection even if you don't need it right now. This Library Corner will describe just a few of the new books.



When Dinosaurs Die, A Guide To Understanding Death by Laurie Rasky Brown and Marc Brown is a cheerfully illustrated book geared to pre-school and lower elementary ages, perfect for the child who might say “All this dying stuff makes me feel

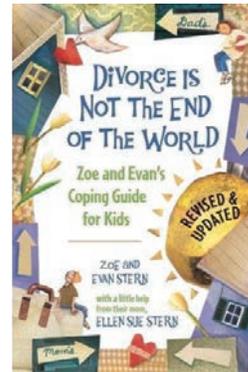
sad, worried, and afraid.” Chapters cover the meaning of “alive” and “dead,” why someone dies, and feelings about death. There are suggestions for reacting to sad friends, saying good-bye, keeping customs, and remembering someone who has died.

God Gave Us Heaven by Lisa Tawn Bergren is another charmingly illustrated book for young children which tells the story of Papa Bear and his cub talking about Heaven. Papa tells his cub “God loves us and never wants to be



far from us.” He describes Heaven as “No more tears, no more sadness, no more pain. Only good, only smiles.” In answer to the cub’s question “Can we take our stuff to Heaven?” he answers “Our best stuff doesn’t weigh anything at

all – stuff like love, family, and faith. That’s where our real blessings are.”



Divorce Is Not the End of the World by Zoe and Evan Stern with their mother Ellen Sue Stern is thoughtfully written from the perspective of two teenagers coping with their parents’ divorce. The mother adds her perspective on each issue, and this revised edition includes extra comments from ten years later. Together

they develop a guide to coping with the feelings and realities of a major change in all their lives. The format includes questions for the reader with suggestions for action. The chapters include:

- Why did this happen?
- Hope for reconciliation
- Coping with joint custody
- Getting caught in the middle
- Different rules
- Meeting parents’ new friends
- Holidays
- Stepparents
- Support groups
- Blended families
- Resources

There are many other books available in the Joan Robinson collection, and we invite you to browse this wonderful tribute to our late friend.

Barbara Finnerty

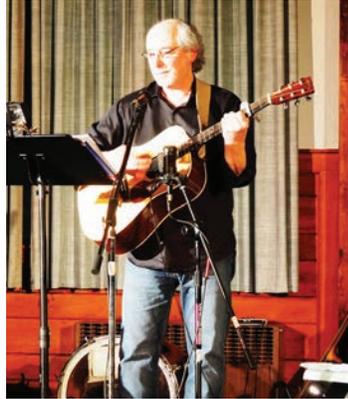
John Polce Headlines Coffee House Concert

On Sunday evening, October 30th, the St. Pius X Youth Group Coffee House, hosted a concert with featured performer John Polce. The concert opened with members of the St. Pius X Parish performing songs,

followed by our guest artist, John Polce. The concert master of ceremonies was Mark Girardin, the parish Director of Liturgical Music. Free will donations were collected.



The first performer was Deacon Bill Gallarizzo singing and playing his dobro guitar.



Our guest, John Polce, singer, guitarist and composer.



Mark accompanied Kevin Depin singing one of John Polce's songs.



David Girardin with Cece Kane on keyboard and Austin Sirois on bass.



MC Mark Girardin gets the concert started.



Julie DiPreta gave a solo performance for us.



Paul Sciuillo followed, singing and playing his guitar.



The members of the St. Pius X choir accompanied the singers on many of the songs.

The Bible and the Virgin Mary

This past Fall, a program entitled *The Bible And The Virgin Mary, A Journey Through Scripture*, was presented in our Parish. The program consisted of 12 weekly lessons authored by the St. Paul Center of Biblical Theology. The lessons were based on the book *Hail Holy Queen* by the renowned author and theologian, Dr. Scott Hahn. They were designed to allow lay Catholics to grow in their knowledge of the Scriptures and enrich their faith. The lessons revealed the teaching about the Blessed Virgin Mary in her role as part of God's Plan to bring Salvation to the world.

Each lesson started with an approximate 30 minute video presentation. Following the video, the participants met in groups to discuss and answer questions in workbooks with



the lessons. Participants learned to use their Catholic Bibles and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Following the group sessions, the facilitator presented answers provided by the lesson authors. This approach reinforced the messages intended for each lesson.

Socialization was enhanced within the groups as stories about the Blessed Mother were shared allowing a closeness to develop. One individual stated it was "an awakening". Another individual stated that she felt more confident and comfortable in evangelizing, now being able to answer questions and comments about Mary and Catholicism. *Lectio Divina*, also known as Divine Reading, was used by several participants in their reading and studying Scripture. Some found that it brought them to a new opening of their hearts to our Lord and hearing the Holy Spirit working in them.

Overall, the program brought the participants into a deeper faith experience, learning how the Blessed Virgin Mary is threaded throughout the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Their theology of faith was enriched via the twelve dynamic videos in which the beautiful masterpieces of art of the Blessed Mother and Her Divine Child were woven into the lectures. The descriptions of the Marian Dogmas enhanced the participants' understanding of Mary's Perpetual Virginity, as the Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption. The Church's role in tradition and interpretation of the Scriptures was emphasized to help discern these Catholic truths. Participants learned how Mary is the New Eve, the Arc of the Covenant, the Queen Mother, the Church and Co-Mediatrix.

Feedback on the interest in future programs is solicited from our parishioners. This includes topics, program length and meeting times. Comments may be forwarded to rosaliegraveline@yahoo.com.

Thank you to all the participants who took part in this wonderful *Journey Through Scripture* with our Blessed Mother. Many were called, few were chosen. God bless you all and remember:

"Do whatever He tells you." Jn. 2:5.

*Rosalie Graveline and
Jacqueline Rockwell*

The Three Braided Cord



Francesca DiGiovanni
& Marylee Meehan

*And one standing alone can be
attacked and defeated,
But, two can stand back-to-back
and conquer;
Three is even better,
for a triple braided cord
is not easily broken.*

Ecc. 4:12

The National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA (NACN-USA) is a member of the International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medical-Social Assistants (CICIAMS). CICIAMS is approved as a private Catholic organization at the Vatican and comes under the Dicastery of the Pontifical Council of Health Care Workers (Spiritual Care). On January 1, 2017, this Dicastery will be under the Dicastery of the Pontifical Council for Life. We three, the NACN-USA, CICIAMS and the Vatican are in a sense a “three braided cord.” We collaborate in communion with each other. Therefore, I will tell you about the NACN-USA mission and our braided cord entwined with the braided cord of our Catholic Church. So, let’s begin.

The mission of the National Association of Catholic Nurses-USA is to give nurses of different backgrounds, but with the same Roman Catholic values, the opportunity to promote moral principles within the Catholic context in nursing and stimulate desire for professional development. This approach to Roman Catholic doctrine focuses spiritual nourishment, patient advocacy & integration of faith and health. As we continue to share our faith and values with each other, and with other healthcare providers, we simultaneously reach out to the larger Church and also our communities, as we offer support to those in need.

My role in this wonderful professional Catholic association is Presidential Emeritus as well as with CICIAMS. I am also a former member of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers (PCHCW) at the Vatican. Presently, I am advisor to the planning team for our NACN-USA 2017 Summit/Conference which is being held at our St. Pius X Parish Life Center on October 6, 7, and 8, 2017. The theme is “Catholic Nurses Ministering in the Spirit of Francis.” We are dedicating this event to the memory of Archbishop Msgr. Zygmunt Zimowski, President, Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers who went to our Father in July,

2016. His Excellency was very aware of the difficulties facing us in the health care profession.

Our fast-expanding liberal secular society is infringing on and trying to diminish our Catholic values, and that includes the Catholic values in the health care profession. We must constantly stay strong as our part in the “three braided cord.” Therefore, the team has been very busy for over two years planning this Summit/Conference. Fr. George has supported us one hundred percent in allowing us to use the Parish Life Center for the Summit/Conference, suggesting some speakers and praying for us and for a very successful event. We are most grateful to Fr. George for his support.

We had invited Msgr. Zimowski to speak at this event; however, do to his premature death, we are now going to invite another dignitary from the PCHCW. We also invited the Holy Father to Skype us at the Summit/Conference, and if this were not possible, would he consider sending us a video of his support of defending our faith especially in the work place. Bishop DaCunha will be present for the weekend. Two priests from Divine Mercy are participating, one is Fr. Chwalek who was on the Translation Team of St. Faustina’s Diary and the other is “one of our own,” Fr. Cambra. Sr. Calista Roy PhD, RN will speak on “Nurse: The Ethical, Oral and Spiritual Self.” Other presenters include Marie Hilliard PhD, JCL,RN, who is involved with Bioethics in Public Policy at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, Representatives from the St. Marianne Cope Shrine (as she was the First American Nurse Saint- 2012) and I will speak on the topic of “David & Goliath.” There will be a “Blue Ribbon Panel & Task Force Roundtable Leaders” for the subjects: Veteran Suicide, Drugs Pre-Birth to Pre-Death, and Pain-Stress Management. There will also be other presenters. All health care workers, hospital chaplains and others are invited to attend by registering on line at nacn-usa.org.

As you can see, our association is very active in participating in the role of the Catholic Church. I personally have been to Rome 19 times. Recently I was invited to a seminar coordinated by the Holy See in collaboration with the Royal Order of Malta per request of the Holy Father. The topic was about migrants and the women and the religious around the world who care for them. In addition, we were informed there would no longer be a Dicastery of the Pontifical Council for Migrants. Migrants will come directly under the supervision of the Holy Father.

Marylee J. Meehan

St. Pius X School



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Religious Education & Youth Group *Rebecca Gallerizzo*

ADVENT – Advent was a busy time at St. Pius Religious Education program.

The older children volunteered to be helper elves at the Children's fair. More than one thousand gifts were purchased and then wrapped by volunteers.



The students and parishioners donated items for 100 gift bags for Windsor Nursing Home for the Religious Education outreach project for Advent. The fourth and fifth grades decorated the bags and the 8th graders stuffed them and they were delivered to Windsor.

Our younger children from grade three thru six performed the joyous Christmas pageant Christmas Eve. Joining them was the children's choir singing Silent Night.



This year the Parish, through Christmas giving, helped over 100 children have a Merry Christmas with over 270 gifts. Our volunteers sorted and organized for pick up the gifts for the families.

THANKSGIVING – The St. Pius X Youth group prepared the food and decorated the Life Center for the reception after the Thanksgiving evening Mass.



SPX Parish Events



Fr. Chris Blessing the Animals.



Fr. George explaining the Jesse Tree at the 9:00am mass.



Thanksgiving Day prep for the homebound.



Women's Society Christmas Fair. (Left to Right) Cindy Guerin, Madeline Manchuk, Sue Eastman, Elaine Bass



Fr. Chris blessing the Nativity sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

St. Pius X Parish Quarterly E-Newsletter

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Visit our website at: www.stpiusxsy.com and sign up for the E-Newsletter today.

GO PAPERLESS



Faithful Departed

Please pray for the following recently departed parishioners.

Angela Varanelli	9/2/16	Thomas P. O'Connor	11/7/16
James M. Fredericks	9/2/16	Stephen R. Kennedy	11/5/16
Kevin Dennehy	8/20/16	Joan Rooney	11/9/16
Edward J. McEnroe	9/5/16	Beverly A. Coholan	11/9/16
Edward A. Oberlander	9/8/16	Ann M. O'Brien	11/14/16
Margaret M. Paquet	9/12/16	Warren Sommers	11/14/16
Joseph R. Sarnosky	9/14/16	Edward F. Doyle	11/15/16
Victoria M. Ferioli	8/30/16	Dianne S. Brennan	11/17/16
Margaret Dugan	9/14/16	Louis A. DeGergorio	11/20/16
Dorothy Borkowski	9/25/16	Jack Olsen Jr	11/23/16
Anita Sullivan	9/27/16	Ciara M. Casey	11/26/16
Cheri Armenti	9/22/16	Jack Olsen Jr	11/23/16
James Febbriello	9/26/16	Gary F. Lombard	12/13/16
Mary B. Hanley	10/10/16	Josephine G. Clarke	11/18/16
William H. Ott, Jr	10/21/16	Richard Dennehy	12/17/16
Jeanne Nash	10/25/16	Shirley C. McDowell	12/15/16
Joan Patricia Dunn	10/28/16	Rita S. Joyce	12/26/16
Winifred C. Winslow	11/6/16		

Recently Baptized

We rejoice with the following who have recently received the Sacrament of Baptism.

Rylan Paul LeBlanc	9/18/16	Hudson Allen Schauwecker	11/20/16
Sloane Amelia Griffin	9/18/16	Patrick James Foran Jr	11/20/16
Luka Neves Roecker	9/18/16	Mila Ruby Mott-Frye	11/20/16
Oakman Timothy Toomey	10/23/16	Jaime Ann Corey	12/17/16
Scott Stanley Wetmore	11/5/16	August Michaeli Gebbia	12/18/16
Regan Cash Chapman	11/12/16	Micheal Gilbert Gonzalez	12/26/16

Recently Married

Congratulations and best wishes to the following newlyweds.

Michael Anthony Polsonetti and Kimberly Ann O'Connell	9/3/16
David Lawrence Arruda and Erin Mary Sherman.....	9/10/16
Todd David Telesmanek and Rachel Marie Peluso	9/17/16
Marcelo Fabian Calle and Magali Geoconch Calle.....	9/24/16
Michael F. Walker and Courtney A. Bell.....	10/1/16
Ryan Patrick Fallon and Danielle Nicole Paretto	10/1/16
Mark Norwood and Jessica Roberts.....	10/8/16
Nathaniel August Borrelli and Bridget Elizabeth Anderson	10/8/16
Alix M. Griben and Krista Marie Kenyon.....	10/9/16
Christopher Plummer and Sara Sozanski	10/15/16
Gregory James Hill and Tiffany Anne Quirk.....	10/22/16

Requests for Memorial Masses can be arranged 1 month in advance. **Anniversary Masses** can be arranged up to 3 months in advance (including the current month). All requests can be taken beginning on the Monday of the last full week of the month by visiting or calling the parish office at 508-398-2248 between 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday – Friday.

CALENDAR

January 16, 2017 Martin Luther King Day - Parish Office Closed
 January 25, 2017 Red Cross Blood Drive - 1 pm - 6 pm in the Parish Life Center
 January 28, 2017 Pasta Dinner 4:30 - 7:00 pm in the Parish Life Center
No Brunch in January, February & March



February 2, 2017 Adoration in the Church Thursday before First Friday 5:30 - 6:30 pm
 February 4, 2017 Youth Group Game Night in the Religious Education Center
 February 5, 2017 Marriage & Anniversary Celebration at the 10:30 am Mass
 February 14, 2017 Valentine's Day
 February 14, 2017 Women's Society Meeting
 February 20, 2017 President's Day - Parish Office Closed



March 1, 2017 Ash Wednesday - Beginning of Lent
 March 2, 2017 Adoration in the Church Thursday before First Friday 5:30 - 6:30 pm
 March 3, 2017 Simple Supper 5:00 pm followed by Stations of the Cross 6:00 pm- Every Friday during Lent
 March 12, 2017 Daylight Saving Time Begins
 March 14, 2017 Women's Society Meeting



April 16, 2017 Easter Sunday



We have an electronic version of the quarterly newsletter for your convenience. Visit our website at: www.stpiusxsy.com and sign up for the E-Newsletter today.

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We encourage your comments and suggestions.
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**Seeking
 Volunteers to
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 newsletter!**

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