

ST. PIUS X PARISH

Newsletter

St. Pius X Church • 5 Barbara Street • South Yarmouth, MA 02664 • 508-398-2248 • www.stpiusxsy.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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Rosto de Cristo

Walking with our Brothers and Sisters in Ecuador

Over Thanksgiving week, we, Killian Powell and Thomas Rezendes, along with a dozen other students from St. John Paul II High School, visited Ecuador as part of an immersion retreat program. The purpose of our trip was to simply spend time living humbly in the community. We worked with missionaries from Rostro de Cristo, a Catholic volunteer group in Ecuador. The Rostro missionaries are recent college graduates who have given a year of their life volunteering in the community and building relationships with their neighbors. *Rostro de Cristo* means "Face of Christ" and their mission and our mission while we were there was to see the face of Christ in everyone we met. We were to spend time talking with people so they could make a positive impact on us and so we could make a positive impact on them.



We stayed in Arbolito, a neighborhood in Guayaquil, which is the largest city in Ecuador. The center of Guayaquil is very modern and well-maintained. We saw some of it driving from the airport. We passed over one bridge that led away from the city center, and the environment changed instantly. The buildings were poorly constructed and there was trash along the roads. We went over another bridge to enter Arbolito and the surroundings became even worse. Since it was nighttime when we arrived, we could not really see how poor the conditions were.

The next morning, the volunteers took us on a walking tour of the neighborhood and we were able to see the area in the daylight. Many of the buildings could barely be considered buildings. The walls

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Rostro de Cristo

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and roofs were incomplete, with large holes that would easily let water in. There was tons of trash lying around. There were stray dogs and cats everywhere as well.

Arbolito is an invasion community which means that people moved onto land which belonged to the government but was not being used. Invasion communities build up very quickly in Ecuador, with tens of thousands of people settling on the land in a few years. Sometimes when the invasion community become large, the government will recognize the community and then provide electricity, water, and paved roads. But sometimes during the early stages the government will bulldoze all of the homes as they are built illegally on private land. It is risky to move to one of the invasion communities that has not been recognized because in an instant, all of your property can be destroyed. But sadly it is the only option for many people who cannot afford to live elsewhere and need to be near the city for work.

Arbolito is a recognized invasion community so it now has electricity and paved streets and trucks bring large jugs of clean water for people to buy. Since Arbolito has been around a while, most of the buildings are made of concrete which is a more expensive material to build with. The newer, poorer sections of Arbolito have mostly cane houses. The cane homes are very small and rain easily leaks through the roofs and walls.

The average income of the people living in Arbolito is the American equivalent of \$2.60 a day. The water jugs that are delivered cost two dollars each so most people do not have the money to buy them and end up drinking non-potable tap water. As a result, many people become sick from the water. Trash pick up is very expensive which is why people burn it on the street corners or just dump it.

We met many people during the week but one was most memorable. The woman lived in a one room cane house. She left her husband because he would beat her. Her son lived in a cane shack next to her house. Her son was an addict and he would beat her for her money so he could buy more drugs. She saved her money for years and was able to send him to a rehab center. Unfortunately when he returned, he fell right back into drugs. The

woman could not afford food so she would walk a three hour round trip to her mother's everyday for a meal. She said she would not move in with her mother as she had saved her money for so long to buy her cane house. She was proud of her home and did not want to leave it.

The most memorable part about the woman was her faith in God. She said her faith was what kept her going. She prayed everyday, especially for her son. If it is late and he had not come home, she would pray the Rosary unceasingly until he returned. Despite having so little, the woman still did charity work for her community. She spoke of her belief that God will solve her difficulties when the time is right.



Rostro de Cristo

Continued from page 2

Our favorite part of the trip was spending time with the kids. We worked in an after school program twice while there. We helped with homework and then played outside with the students. They were so excited we were there. It was sad to think about the struggles that these kids go through everyday.

Another impactful moment of the trip was when we spent a day at a hospital for people with Hansen's disease (leprosy). Sister Annie started Damien House after seeing the poor conditions of the public hospital. Although Hansen's disease is curable, people live at Damien House due to either the complications of the disease or because their communities would not allow them to return because of the stigma associated with leprosy.

The most striking aspect from the trip was the faith of the people in Arbolito. They have so little material goods and so many problems, yet they live joyful lives. They recognize and are extremely grateful for every blessing they have. They taught us so much about how we need to recognize how blessed by God we are for having everything we need. As Americans, we take so many little things for granted everyday that actually make a big difference to those who do not have them. We will never forget the people of Arbolito and the profound effect they had on our lives.

By
Killian Powell

St John Paul II High School Class of 2019; St Pius X School Class of 2015

Thomas Rezendes

St John Paul II High School Class of 2018; St Pius X School Class of 2014

Killian and Thomas are parishioners of St. Pius X Church and active members of the Altar Servers Guild.



Rostro de Cristo missionaries



Thomas (front left) and Killian (4th from left) with the volunteers



A glimpse of the Arbolito neighborhood

Library Corner

A gem among the many books given to the St. Pius X Library this summer is **Seven Last Words: An Invitation to a Deeper Friendship with Jesus** by James Martin, SJ.

On Good Friday 2015, Fr. James Martin, SJ presented meditations on Jesus' last words on the cross. Each of these homilies helps us share with Jesus our fears and hopes, knowing he understands our human struggles. Together, the homilies give us a portrait of Jesus that invites us to turn to him each day.

"Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

In his homily on FORGIVENESS, Fr. Martin tells us to think of the person who has sinned against us as more than that single act. Rather we must think of the person as a human being who has made a horrible decision, perhaps even forced to do so. Forgiveness is a gift from God, a grace. It is also a gift to the other and yourself.

"Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

With these words from the cross, Jesus promises us the hope of AFTERLIFE, reaffirming what he has said in the Gospels. God would never destroy the loving relationship he has with us, that joy we feel at the sound of a favorite hymn or the sight of a newborn baby or a beautiful sunrise.

"Woman, here is your son Here is your mother."

Our Lord Jesus Christ is fully divine, and we refer to Mary as Our Blessed Mother, Queen of Heaven, and the Mother of God. Also, Jesus of Nazareth was fully human, just as his mother was as Miriam of Nazareth. They both knew the strength of PARENTAL LOVE. Mary cared for Jesus as a helpless infant in Bethlehem just as Jesus, helpless again on the cross, helped his mother Mary. Thus he modelled the love of a child for a parent and noted the love of a parent for child. Even more, he referred to those who do the will of God as his brother, sister, and mother.

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Fr. Martin offers two interpretations of this question. First, by seeing this part of the 22nd psalm as a "shorthand" for

the whole psalm, we see Jesus calling out to God who hears him. On the other hand, one could see this as Jesus feeling ABANDONED but not despairing. His relationship with God is just too strong. As we might, he had faith in God but didn't feel him close at the time. Saint Teresa of Calcutta wrote of the same conflict. Despite feeling abandoned for 50 years, she had faith in God and their relationship. Jesus understands our bodily and spiritual suffering.

"I am thirsty."

Jesus understands PHYSICAL PAIN because he was born, lived, and died as a human being. He, too, got tired, he matured, and he experienced many human experiences, except sin. Even after the Resurrection, he displayed his wounds to the disciples. By sharing the experience of physical pain, his relationship with us is strengthened.

"It is finished."

As Jesus died, he might have wondered if his apostles would continue his work on earth. He might have been DISAPPOINTED that he would not be with them, but God had another plan, just as he will for us. Most interpretations feel "It is finished" refers to the fulfillment of the Father's will and Jesus's mission on earth.

"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

Jesus knew his vocation, his SELF-OFFERING, through his desire to do his Father's will. He gave himself, body and soul, showing us how we should follow God's commandments and live a Christian life. We must surrender to the future God plans for us.

Seven Last Words, An Invitation to a Deeper Friendship with Jesus by James Martin, SJ is a book you will want to read. It is brief, easy to read, but full of meaning. This book is definitely a "keeper." I found an eBook version on the Boston Public Library site: (www.bpl.org/general/circulation/ecards.htm). As a MA resident, you can get an eCard online and borrow up to 10 eBooks at a time for two weeks. I also purchased a physical copy from Amazon.

By Barbara Finnerty

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

One of the most popular Catholic Christmas hymns is “O Come All Ye Faithful”, so popular is this hymn that most Catholics can even belt out the Latin verse or refrain *Adeste Fidelis*, and *Venite Adoremus Dominum*! That *Venite Adoremus* translates into the ever-popular refrain sung three times in a row, “O Come Let us Adore Him”. Coming to adore Jesus is something that we think of on the occasion of His birth, it reminds us of the shepherds, the Magi, the animals, and even Mary and Joseph, who adored with profundity the gift and the mystery of the Word made flesh who lay in the manger before them. Indeed, from our Lord Jesus’ first moments here in this world, the response of those who behold the fact that he became a human being has been a deep sense of adoration.

Adoration however, is not something reduced simply to the Christmas season. In fact, the very notion that we adore beckons the truth that who we adore is God Himself, who cannot be reduced or limited. However, God can and did freely choose to humble Himself. Jesus, the Word made flesh became a man who died, rose from the dead, and ascended to the Father. But before his death, Jesus did something remarkable; He left His Body and Blood in Sacramental signs that we call the Eucharist. This Presence of Our Lord in the Eucharist, which we receive so often in Holy Communion, is the same Eucharist whom we adore. Spending time in adoration acknowledges two distinct realities. The first is that Jesus Christ is indeed Present. The second, that if He is Present then we have not been abandoned by him while here in this world. Indeed, should we ever find ourselves desolate or distant from God in Heaven we need be reminded only of the reality that He came to Earth and He chose to remain. This profound reality shapes whom we are as Catholic Christians seeking to draw ever closer to our God in Heaven while we are here on Earth. Adoration affords us the opportunity to spend time with our God and get to know Him on a real, physical, and personal level.

What does Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament look like? After Mass, as most of us are aware, any hosts that remain are not discarded, for the presence of Christ is there, it is His Body. In the tabernacle, at the heart of our church, rests the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus, the true heart of our Church. A clear glass container is in that tabernacle at all times containing just one host that is placed into a stand on the altar called a monstrance. This monstrance



stands about two feet tall and has a place at its center for our Lord’s body to be placed. Around the center, the monstrance radiates out like rays of sun heading in all directions. The sun, center of our solar system, center of our physical world, becomes the symbol by which the Son, center of our Spiritual lives, is displayed for the world to adore and see.

When and where might I be able to witness Eucharistic Adoration? Our parish affords the opportunity for adoration on the Thursday evenings before the First Friday of every month at 5:30 pm. On most other Thursdays of the month, the Vocations Prayer Group prays in the church before the monstrance at that same 5:30 hour. Additionally, we are blessed here on Cape Cod to be situated between two chapels of perpetual adoration. At our immediate neighboring parish to the East, Holy Trinity in W. Harwich, a beautiful chapel of adoration sits on the hill behind their church parking lot. This chapel serves the specific purpose of perpetual (24/7) adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Additionally, at Corpus Christi Parish in E. Sandwich (just off exit 3 from the Mid-Cape highway) a perpetual adoration chapel exists just off the back entrance of their church. If you are desirous of a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ or would like to be drawn deeper into the mystery of his peaceful and consoling presence in the Most Blessed Sacrament, I highly recommend time in adoration as a means of achieving that spiritual goal.

By Father Chris Peschel

Running of the Rose

Beginning in March 2017, six Silver Roses began their journey across North America, from Canada to the United States to Mexico. *The 2017 Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose – One Life, One Rose Program* concluded on December 12, 2017 on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey, Mexico.

2017 marks the 57th year of the program, which began in 1960 to honor the Blessed Virgin under her title of *Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas*. The program has continued since then as a project of Knights of Columbus councils and Fourth Degree assemblies in several jurisdictions.

In 2001, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson expanded the program by beginning the “*Running of the Rose*” from the 119th Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council in Toronto. This is “a perfect program for the Knights of Columbus,” said Supreme Knight Anderson. “Through it we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of the Order, but we also reaffirm the Order’s dedication to the sanctity of human life. It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society. As we think in terms of ‘One Life, One Rose,’ it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and

the miracle of the roses.”

Today, six Silver Roses travel through North America exemplifying Knights of Columbus devotion to Our Lady and commitment to the Culture of Life.

This year, one rose began in British Columbia and then headed south along the Pacific coast and turning east on a winding path through the southwest and mountain states before reaching Texas. A second rose started in Saskatch-

ewan, went to Alberta and then headed south entering the United States in Montana and traveling through the northern US Rockies and the Great Plains on its way toward Texas. A third rose started its run in Manitoba, moving south through the central United States and along the Mississippi before turning to Texas. A fourth Rose began its journey in Indiana moving through the Midwest and some of the Mid-Atlantic States before ending in Washington, D.C. A fifth Rose began in Virginia and journeyed throughout the south on its way to Texas. A sixth

Rose started in Ontario and traveled throughout the northeast, completing its journey in Connecticut.

The Knights of Columbus, St. Pius X Council # 10346, presented the Silver Rose at a mass followed by a ceremony here at our St. Pius X Church in Yarmouth on October 4, 2017 before journeying onto its next destination.



Grand Knight Brian Obarowski, Fr. William Salmon and Deputy Grand Knight Dennis Boyko



Silver Rose

St. Joseph's Ministry

Saint Pius X Parish has participated in the NOAH program in Hyannis since 1988. NOAH, recently renamed Saint Joseph House, is a program for poor and homeless individuals. (NOAH was an acronym for: No Other Available Housing). Volunteers from local faith communities, civic and community groups provide the evening meal at Saint Joseph's House 365 days a year. Saint Pius X is responsible for the meals on the first and third Sundays of each month.

The Saint Pius meal is now prepared in our Parish Life Center's kitchen by approximately ten volunteers. In the beginning years of this ministry, the meal was prepared in the kitchen of the Religious Education building. Often the oven in the Rectory kitchen was commandeered if an oven was needed for a particular menu. Our volunteers would shuttle the food from the rectory kitchen and assemble the whole meal in the Religious Education building.

We are famous at Saint Joseph's House for dishes such as fruited chicken, shepard's pie, roast pork, meatloaf and baked ham with scalloped potatoes. Fresh nutritious ingredients are always used, and green salads usually accompany our meals. We also provide a variety of very tasty desserts.

Father Edward Healey, Monsignor John Smith and Father George Bellenoit have generously endorsed Saint Pius X's involvement in this fine program. It is an important component of our parish's ministries to the poor and homeless.

The work of preparing these meals is a joyful undertaking, and there is a special camaraderie among the volunteers, as they remember Jesus saying: "I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me."

By Julie Griffin

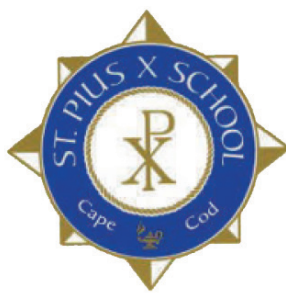


(L-R) Ruth Driscoll, Julie Griffin, Ellie Hay, Jim Hay, Jim Driscoll, Paul Riley, Mary Joyce and Jim Mullane (not pictured)



(L-R) Paul Riley, Mary Colbert, Dick McHugh, Bill Smith, Nell Sullivan, Joanne White, Barbara Collins, David White and Mary Durham

St. Pius X School



508-398-6112 • www.spxschool.org

SPX Religious Education's Advent Season



< The 3rd grade classes celebrated Baby Jesus' Birthday with the help from 3rd grade teacher Caroline Barnes.

∨ The generosity of our parish was so present in this year's Christmas Giving; over 200 families received Christmas presents for their children.

^ This year, the Advent project for our children, with the help of the parish, was to collect items for the homeless that are serviced through Street Reach in Hyannis.



< The Children's Fair was a big day and our 20 plus student volunteers were wonderful helpers to the younger children buying presents for their families. Let's not forget the adult volunteers who wrapped over 1,000 presents ready to be put under the tree.

SPX Youth Group

An amazing group that has been sponsoring family events, volunteering, cooking for Thanksgiving along with fund raising

By Rebecca Gallerizzo



^ Street Reach Volunteers



^ Family Movie Night with "Polar Express"



^ Thanksgiving Parish Reception



Trunk or Treat ^

Parish Events

Our Lady of Fatima 100th Anniversary



Our Lovely Blessed Mary traveling statue



Fr. Chris during Eucharistic Adoration



Andrea St. Germaine explaining the apparition.



Fr. Paul Blessing of the Nativity Scene



K of C Council members Brain Obarowski and Frank Sullivan, along with Principle Anne Dailey, presented the winners of the "Keep Christ in Christmas" contest. The three runners up were Nina Burchill, Zlata Alioshka and Olivia Arden. The Grand Prize winner was Lydia Stanney.



Lottery Tree Bonanza



L – Women's XMAS Fair



R – Santa's Helpers – Barbara Cataldo and Marguerite Ruel

Recently Married

Congratulations and best wishes to the following newlyweds.

Kyle Kessel and Christine Cotter	9/16/17
Colin R. Brady and Jacqueline E. Sullivan	10/8/17
Brian M. Bond and Caitlin M. Capozzi.....	10/14/17

Faithful Departed

Please pray for the following recently departed parishioners.

Raphael Altavilla	9/6/17
Joseph Moravick	9/11/17
Louis Catalano	9/14/17
Elmer "Phil" Ballard	9/18/17
Arlen Shaw	9/21/17
Claire M. Sherman	9/22/17
Elmer Philip Ballard	9/18/17
Mary E. Hines	9/29/17
James E. Canning	10/1/17
Clarence J. Cormier	10/19/17
Rita M. Doherty	10/23/17
Marilyn Yuskaitis	10/24/17
Carroll R. Cusick	10/19/17
Frances M. Smith	11/12/17
Harold J. Manley	11/18/17
Edward J Murphy, Jr	11/16/17
Philip Paul Sullivan	11/15/17
Francis X. Manning Jr.	12/9/17
Peter P. Trespas	12/2/17

Recently Baptized

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

Kayden Cole Doherty	9/17/17
Luna Margaret Berry	9/23/17
James Henry Kux	10/15/17
Makenna Hurley	10/22/17
Cody Vincent Brunetti	11/19/17
Krishna Eddie Calarese	11/19/17
Olivia Grace Hernandez	12/17/17
Joseph Anthony Deppner	12/17/17

St. Pius X Parish Quarterly E-Newsletter

Join other parishioners who are opting out of the print version of the newsletter and going electronically. It's convenient and you can view it online in full color!

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

GO PAPERLESS



Bishop Edgar da Cunha celebrating mass at Our Lady of the Highway Chapel on October 7, 2017 for the National Association of Catholic Nurses conference.



Knights of Columbus leading the procession at the mass for the National Association of Catholic Nurses at Our Lady of the Highway Chapel (L-R) Paul Griffin, Brian Obarowski, Dennis Boyko and George Finn.

CALENDAR



January 15 Martin Luther King Day – Parish Office Closed
 January 27 Pasta Dinner 4:30-7pm in the Parish Life Center
 January 31 Red Cross Blood Drive – 1-6pm in the Parish Life Center
 No Brunch in January, February & March

February 1 Adoration in the Church Thursday before
 First Friday 5:30-6:30pm

February 14 Ash Wednesday – Beginning of Lent

February 14 Valentine's Day

February 16 Simple Supper 5pm followed by
 Stations of the Cross 6pm –
 Every Friday during Lent

February 19 President's Day – Parish Office Closed

March 1 Adoration in the Church Thursday before
 First Friday 5:30-6:30pm

March 3 SPX School Corned Beef Dinner 4-7pm

March 9 SPX Lower School Play

March 11 Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 13 Women's Society Meeting 6:30-9pm

March 17 St. Patrick's Day

March 23 & 24 SPX Middle School Play

March 25 Palm Sunday

March 29 Holy Thursday
 No Bingo

April 1 Easter Sunday

April 1 Easter Egg Hunt 8:30-11am

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

*Palm
Sunday*

*Happy
Easter*

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.

St. Pius X Parish
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We encourage your comments and suggestions.

Drop us a note: Newsletter, c/o St. Pius X Rectory

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**Seeking
 Volunteers to
 help with the
 newsletter!**

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