

St. Pius X Parish

717 18th Street West | Billings, MT 59102
ph 406.656.2522 | fax 406.656.2584
www.stpiusxblgs.org

Bulletin

April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter



Welcome to St. Pius X

If you are from out of town and are joining us for worship or are new to our parish, we hope that you will find warmth and hospitality here! St. Pius X is a vibrant parish with many ways to be engaged. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today! If you would like more information on registration or activities or ministries that are offered for people of all ages, please contact the parish office at 656-2522. You may also visit our website at www.stpiusxblds.org or find us on Facebook at 'St. Pius X'.

Toiletry Collection to Benefit Two Agencies

On April 17-18, St. Pius X will be collecting hygiene items for Tumbleweed to distribute to homeless students and children who abruptly arrive in foster care without any personal possessions. The toiletry drive will be shared with St. Vincent DePaul as well. SVDP creates hygiene kits and distributes them to those in need on a regular basis. Items needed are listed below. *Please, only new or unopened items.*

- Travel or regular size toothpaste, lotion, shampoo, conditioner
- Deodorant, combs, brushes, toothbrushes, razors, acne medication
- Feminine hygiene products
- Socks for teens, women & men
- Foot powder

Lenten Alms Cups

The Council of Catholic Women (CCW) asks parishioners to total their loose change collected during the Lenten season and send a check for their almsgiving to **St. Pius X CCW**, 717 18th St. West, Billings, MT 59102. Or drop it by the parish office soon after Easter. Please note that this annual fund raiser allows CCW to donate to "Water for Life", the Madonna Plan and locally, to LaVie. CCW thanks all for their prayerful giving to these worthwhile projects.



Above: Our church doors welcome Easter parishioners!

Welcome to the Newly Initiated!

Congratulations to Shelby Scullen, Cy Hansen, Jennifer Arnold and Makayla Kostecky as they celebrated initiation Sacraments at the Great Easter Vigil. If you would like to view the Saturday, April 3 Easter Vigil Mass, it is archived on our website under the "Live-Stream" tab.

It's Time to Play Ball with the Saints!

The St. Pius X "Saints" softball team is looking for co-ed Players! Softball season runs from May 17th through June 28th, with a 3-day tournament on July 5, 6, 7. Games are on Monday nights at Stewart Park.

Interested? Please contact Alex at (406) 794-1322.





The St. Pius X Pastoral (Parish) Council is a visionary group of a dozen parishioners whose primary responsibility is to guide and determine the direction of our parish. These volunteer ministers, together with Father Greg, provide leadership and formulate policies, which define and direct our church community.

Each member of the Parish Council is asked to serve on one of the four parish commissions: Christian Service Commission, Education Commission, Parish Life Commission, or Worship Commission; a representative is also sought for Finance Council. In addition, there are up to four Ex Officio members (non-voting) who represent, Council of Catholic Women, Knights of Columbus, and Young Adults. Currently the Ex Officio position for Billings Catholic Schools is vacant. Pastoral Council meets once a month on the 3rd Wednesday at 7:00pm via ZOOM or in-person and members are asked to serve a three-year commitment.

Currently there are six seats open. Five of these members served an additional year, at the request of Fr. Greg, to provide consistency during the pandemic. A special thank you to these individuals who served above and beyond their initial commitment: Craig Rider, Chair, Dave Rigg, Secretary, Diane Bertrand, Nicole Geiger and Don James. Patsy Guenther's term ends this June, we thank her as well for her service. To all our Pastoral Council members thank you for your leadership ministry especially in such a year of unknowns!

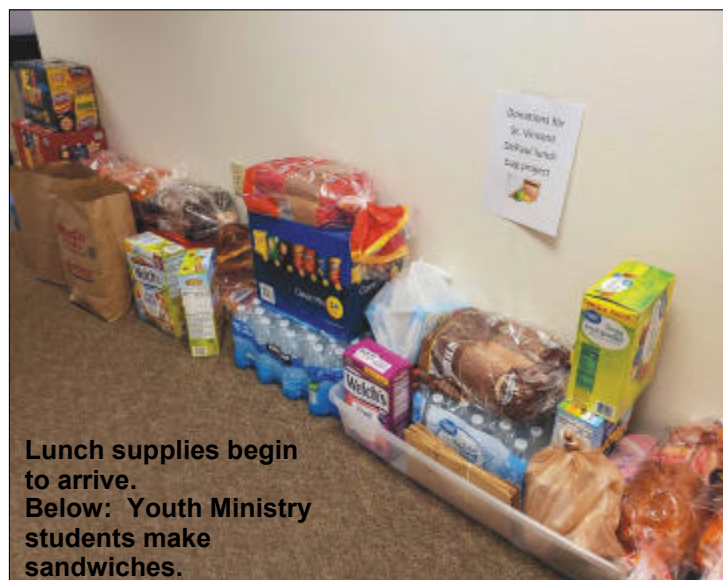
Our parish seeks individuals willing to serve in this special ministry of leadership as our parish welcomes the still unknown but gradual recovery from the pandemic. We will need true disciples of Christ helping us in these uncharted waters. If you feel called to serve and want to learn more, please pick up a packet of information at the Parish Center (our office is open from 8:30am – 4:30pm M-F) or find the information at <https://www.stpiusxblgs.org/about/councils-and-commissions/> and click on "Pastoral Council Information Packet" found at the top of the page. After reading the material, if you want to put your name in the hat, please send an email to Fr. Greg Staudinger at frgreg@stpiusxblgs.org and tell him of your interest.

On Saturday, May 22nd, Pentecost Weekend, six names will be drawn from the hat as we trust the Holy Spirit will guide in the selection of those who wish to serve.

If you have questions, please leave a message for either Fr. Greg or Craig Rider, the current Chair of Pastoral Council, at the parish Center, 656-2522.

St. Pius Students Feed the Hungry during Lent

During the month of March, Children's Ministry put out a call for sandwich making ingredients, snacks, chips and bottled water. Over 100 sandwiches and sack lunches were then created by Youth Ministry students. The population served at St. Vincent dePaul benefited from this project! Thank you to all who donated or created lunches!



Lunch supplies begin to arrive.
Below: Youth Ministry students make sandwiches.



In and Around Our Parish Community

VBS Update: After much discernment and guidance from Fr. Greg, the parish leadership has decided that the most responsible decision for the parish community is not to hold Vacation Bible School this year. The decision was based on the availability of vaccines, new variants of the virus, and our community's first responsibility to promote safety. I know this news is disappointing and I join you in wanting life to return back to "normal," but I would feel awful if one person got sick because of this difficult-to-manage format. In lieu of VBS, we are planning monthly outdoor Summer Family Fun Nights to support families in faith. Details to come! Thank you for your support and prayers.

All my best,
Jessie



You are Needed at St. Pius X!

Live-stream operator: If you like technology, this is for you! A live-stream crew member arrives at least 15 minutes before Mass. They operate the live-stream computer and cameras in a designated alcove area in the church during Mass. With the use of three cameras, joy stick control and OBS broadcast software, the operator produces the live streaming of Mass. Volunteers for this position rotate Sundays and/or daily Mass. Training provided. Call Kathy at 656-2522 to view the equipment and find out more!

Stay In Touch with Flocknote

How do you sign-up for text messages and emails on your phone from the parish? It's easy! Just text SPXBGL to 84576 and you will receive our Flocknotes. We create these about twice a month to keep you informed about important events like first Sunday of the Month food collections or if a funeral cancels a daily Mass. Please join and be connected and informed about your parish!

Youth Ministry... Amanda Michael, our Youth Minister, has formed several smaller groups for students in grades 6-12 utilizing social distancing. New members are welcome! Registration is open on the St. Pius X website and each student can choose which group day/time works best for their schedule. Questions? Please call Amanda at 281-8508.

Stewardship Report: April 4, 2021

Envelope Donation	\$12,065.00	Parishioner Envelopes & EFT	129
Loose Checks	\$3,700.00	Annual Parish Budget	\$1,080,000.00
Loose Cash	\$415.00	Contributions needed to-date	\$830,800.00
Electronic Fund Transfer	\$1,128.00	Contributions received to-date	\$818,676.82
Total Collection	\$17,308.00	Budget Income (Shortfall)	(\$12,123.18)
Weekly Average Needed	\$20,770.00		

Area Events

Friday, April 16 & Sat., April 17

- Helena Catholic Women's Conference at the Helena Civic Center featuring Sister Beata Victoria, Kimberly Zember and Nicole Rodriguez addressing the theme of "The Feminine Genius in Relationships." Event includes the women's conference, adoration, confessions, vendors & fellowship. Tickets and more information at www.Helenacwc.com.

Fr. Steve Memorial Scholarship for Parish Children Attending St. Francis

The Fr. Steve Tokarski Memorial Scholarship was created in the fall of 2011 following the death on October 4, 2011 of Fr. Steve, former pastor of this parish. Funds donated in his name are in an endowment from which monies are used to support St. Pius X children who want to attend St. Francis Catholic School.

Scholarship applicants must be parishioners of St. Pius X Parish and registered through the Billings Catholic School System to attend St. Francis Catholic School for the 2021-22 school year. Applications may be picked up at the parish office or printed from the parish website: www.stpiusxblds.org/fr-steve-tokarski-scholarship-info. Applications due to the parish office by 4:30pm, **April 16, 2021**.

This Week's Meetings on the Campus of St. Pius X

Saturday, April 10

- Reconciliation, 3:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- Mass, 5:00pm

Sunday, April 11

- Mass, 10:00am

Monday, April 12

- NO Mass

Tuesday, April 13

- Mass, 8:30am, (Live-streamed)

Wednesday, April 14

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)

Thursday, April 15

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)

Friday, April 16

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)

Saturday, April 17

- Reconciliation, 3:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- Mass, 5:00pm
- Toiletry collection for Tumbleweed and SVdP

Sunday, April 18

- Mass, 10:00am
- Toiletry collection for Tumbleweed and SVdP

Care & Share Annual Appeal

The annual Care and Share Campaign is in progress! Coming together as a family of faith, our gifts touch the entire faith community of the Church of Eastern Montana. Your support is received with great gratitude, and conviction that we are growing as a family of faith, sharing in toils and happiness together, and being molded into the image of God. Care and Share packets may be found on a table in the Gathering Area of church. If you've already donated, thank you!



A virtual, online Retrouvaille marriage help program starts Thurs-

day evening, April 22nd. This program is **not** group therapy and you will not be asked to share your problems with anyone else. The program is led by people who have been through the program themselves. They share their own stories of struggles and how they applied the program's concepts, values, and tools to begin overcoming those issues. These experienced people will lead you on your own journey of healing and growth. For information please call (406) 761- 4830 or register at www.helpourmarriage.org.

Scripture Reflection:

Second

Sunday

of Easter

Acts 4:32-35
 Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
 1 John 5:1-6
 John 20:19-31

What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. "Mercy is the heart of God," Pope Francis tells us. The image of a heart has been used to point to the very life source of a person as it is the organ that allows life to flow through our veins and sustain us. Mercy is the heart of God. Imagine this dynamic, powerful, compassionate, piercing, embracing, loving, propelling, penetrating, absorbing, and enveloping, transforming presence of God flowing into the very depth of our souls. It is God's mercy that allows blood to flow through our veins. It is God's mercy that forms every atom of our being and leads us to what is true. God's mercy reveals all superficiality and falsehood, and lays bare all distortions, empty promises, weakness, and sin.

"Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope," Pope Francis continues. God's all forgiving, compassionate love is with us. When we finally believe and accept that Christ's resurrected transfigured presence resides with us, we then find within us a strong confidence to accept life's imperfections and disappointments and move on. Every day is a new adventure in new life. God leaves the past behind and opens doors to the future. It doesn't matter how many mistakes we made yesterday. All that matters is what we do tomorrow and what we learn along the way. It is so easy to remain tethered and mired in the past, but there is no need to do so. God is all about tomorrow and the work God has yet to do in our lives.

Mercy gives birth to hope. Hope for the greatest of sinners and hope for the worst of disasters. There is nothing God cannot do and nothing God cannot fashion. After all, everything we know and treasure was once nothing, and look what God did with the nothing God had! The resurrected Christ stands before us with nail marks in his wrists and wounds on his body as a testament that not even injustice, suffering and death can trample over and destroy God's mercy. What have we to fear? Why do we keep ourselves from peace? Our lack of faith prevents us from going forward and fully receiving the holiness God desires to breathe upon us. Breathe in God's mercy, allow the wind of God's presence to kiss all of your sins and caress all of your fears. Exhale peace.



Mass Intentions & Readings

Monday, April 12

Acts 4:23-31, Psalm 2:1-9, John 3:1-8

NO Mass

Tuesday, April 13, St. Martin I

Acts 4:32-37, Psalm 93:1-2, 5, John 3:7-15

8:30am Mass: † Bob Berkner

Wednesday, April 14

Acts 5:17-26, Psalm 34:2-9, John 3:16-21

8:30am Mass: † Patricia Rolandson Marrs

Thursday, April 15

Acts 5:27-33, Psalm 34:2, 9, 17-20, John 3:31-36

8:30am Mass: † Maynard Lipp

Friday, April 16

Acts 5:34-42, Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14, John 6:1-15

8:30am Mass: † Agnes Reichert

Saturday, April 17

Acts 6:1-7, Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19, John 6:16-21

5:00pm Mass: † Donna Hein

Sunday, April 18

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:3-15, 17-19, Psalm 4:2, 4, 7-9, 1 John 2:1-5, Luke 24:35-48

10:00am Mass: Int. of St. Pius X Parishioners

Ministry Schedule: April 17-18, 2021

Saturday, 5:00 PM

Greeter: Mary Brown, Jeanne Moller

Usher: Kyle Brehm, Katharine McArty, Bob Riesinger, Kevin Walter

Sanitizers: Diane Bertrand, Mary Brown, Janice Krueger, Jeanne Moller

Lector: Jon Stepanek-1, Bob Reid-2

Sacristan: Tim Morgan

Altar Minister: Diane Bertrand

Eucharistic Minister: Janice Krueger

Sunday, 10:00 AM (Live-streamed)

Greeter: Lani Wallace, Magdalen Wojtowicz

Usher: Joe Larimer, David Mork, Raul Rausch, Gerry Thomas

Lector: Tricia Hansen-1, Annette Behm-2

Sacristan: Clarinda Kremer

Altar Minister: Irene Matzen

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Karls

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Left: Deacon Tom Landry leads an outdoor Stations of the Cross on Good Friday in the Father Steve Memorial Garden. Close to 100 people attended. *Photo courtesy of Mary Landry.*

Raffle Tickets

Get your diocesan raffle ticket **soon** for the summer prize packages of a camper trailer, utility vehicle or half beef with Traeger grill. Tickets are available at the parish office for \$20 each. The drawing is **May 15.**



Parish Staff

Parish Center Hours: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday
406.656.2522 • www.stpiusxblgs.org • www.facebook.com/stpiusbillings

Father Greg Staudinger, Pastor, 406.489.6666, frgreg@stpiusxblgs.org
Deacon Tom Landry, 406.860.7842, acnerds@bresnan.net
Rita Brehm, Administrative Assistant, rb@stpiusxblgs.org
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Bill Walker, Custodian, walker@stpiusxblgs.org
Teresa Wehr, Children's Min. Assist./Nursery, children@stpiusxblgs.org
Joan Whelan, Music Ministry, joan@stpiusxblgs.org

Bulletin notices are due by 4:30pm on Monday.
Please email bulletin@stpiusxblgs.org or fax to 656-2584.

Mass Schedules

Weekend

Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 10:00 AM

Weekdays

Tuesday—Friday

Mass at 8:30 AM—Sanctuary
Rosary - 8:00 AM, before daily Mass

LIVE Stream

Sunday, 10:00 AM and Daily Masses
at 8:30 AM on our website at
www.stpiusxblgs.org. Click Live-
Stream on the homepage.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Sat. 3:30-4:30 PM
with social distancing

Baptism: Call us for details

Marriage: Six-month preparation
required

Anointing of the Sick: Please call
to arrange for an individual anointing.

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Prayer to St. Theresa
O Lord, who hast said: "Unless you become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven," grant us, we beseech Thee, so to walk in the footsteps of thy blessed Virgin Theresa with a humble and single heart, that we may attain to everlasting rewards: who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.

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