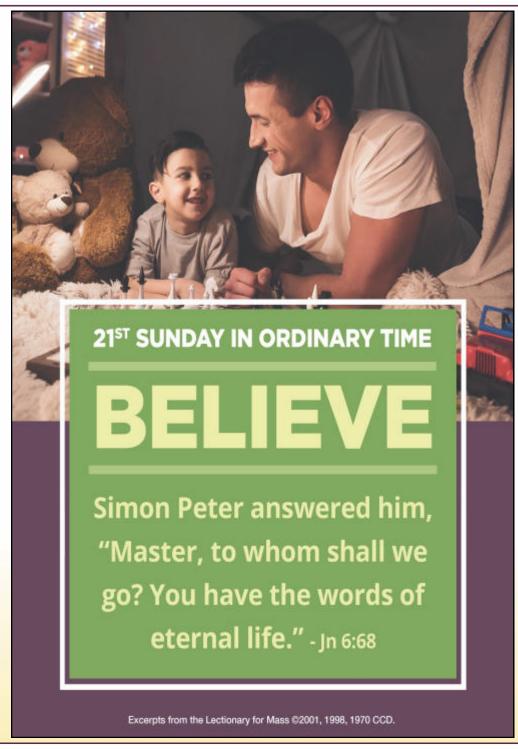
## St. Pius X Parish

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



August 22, 2021

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



# Register Now for Children's Ministry!

Registration is now open for this fall's Children's Ministry classes! We will offer in-person class on Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30pm and Sundays from 9:45-10:45am. You may register online through this link: <a href="https://www.stpiusxblgs.org/ministries/childrens-ministries/">https://www.stpiusxblgs.org/ministries/</a> or pick up a registration form in the church gathering area or parish office.

The registration deadline is **Wednesday**, **September 3**<sup>rd</sup> and classes begin on September 26 or 29<sup>th</sup>. Contact Jessie at 281-8502 or <u>ir@stpiusxblgs.org</u> for more information.



## Together, Let's Grow as Disciples!

Welcome! 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 <a href="https://www.stpiusxblgs.org">www.stpiusxblgs.org</a> or find us on Facebook at 'St. Pius X.'

# Help Form Young Disciples Through Children's Ministry!

Volunteers are needed for Children's Ministry classes, Children's Liturgy and more! Why volunteer with Children's Ministry? Because the future of the Church depends on your time and talent to form young disciples. The registration deadline is Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and classes begin on September 26 or 29<sup>th</sup>. Contact Jessie at 281-8502 or jr@stpiusxblgs.org to help grow these important ministries.

## Youth and Adults, Make a Joyful Noise!

After an 18 month hiatus, we are excited to announce that rehearsals for our Parish and Youth choirs will resume this fall!

Parish Choir will meet in the sanctuary on Tuesdays from 7-8:30pm beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>. No audition required!

Youth Choir will meet in the sanctuary on Wednesdays from 3:30 – 4:30pm beginning September 29<sup>th</sup>. Students in grades 1-8 are invited to join. Please contact Joan at (406) 281-8509 or by email at joan@stpiusxblgs.org for more information. We need your voices to truly celebrate our weekend Masses!

#### **Sacraments of Christian Initiation are Available**

Are you—or someone you know—seeking a personal encounter with Jesus through our Church's sacraments?

Have you been Baptized? Have you been Confirmed?

Have you received First Eucharist?

We promise to assist you in every way possible. We will walk you through our parish's sacramental initiation process.

Everyone is welcome! Become a disciple of Jesus Christ. Contact Matt Low in our parish office, 656-2522. Let him know your unique story and how the *Good News* of Jesus is calling you further into the Catholic Church.



Young disciples, Henry and Harrison help load one of several vehicles with backpacks to deliver to Angela's Piazza: Women's Drop In Center. Their exuberance for this task touched us all! It's time for school!

### Prayer for Beginning a New School Year

Loving and gracious God, your Spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us your ways. Look upon our students. Let them enjoy their learning and help them to persevere in their studies. Look upon our educators. Let them share their knowledge with gentle patience. Grant that students and teachers alike may be protected from all harm by your Holy Spirit, and also follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life, for ever and ever. Amen. (Adapted from the Catholic Book of Blessings.)

### Why Register at St. Pius X?

Because we can stay in touch and take advantage of opportunities to grow in the love of Christ together! If you regularly attend Mass at St. Pius X Parish, please have your name added to our parish records. Adult members of your family who are no longer living at home and are self-sufficient may register separately. If you will be moving or are no longer attending Mass, please call to update your information. To register for the first time or to update your records, please contact Rita at the Parish office, 656-2522. You can also register on our website: www.stpiusxblgs.org.

## RCIA: *Inquiring* Hearts and Minds Want to Know More

We have an **RCIA** *Inquiry Session* scheduled for interested individuals on Sunday, August 29<sup>nd</sup> between the two Sunday Masses—9:45am to 10:45am—in the Day Chapel of church.

Are you—or someone you know—interested in the Roman Catholic process of the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)*? In the RCIA, the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist are offered to those who have not received them.

This formation process becomes a spiritual journey where the participant enters into a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith, and hopefully a more personal relationship with Jesus.

Here at St. Pius X Parish we can walk you through each stage of this process.

So, what are some of your typical questions? Examples can vary: My children are not baptized and have not received religious instruction; what do you suggest? I have a child who is getting older and has not been baptized; do you provide sacramental instruction? I am a middle-aged man—not Catholic—but I've been attending Sunday Mass with my wife for years; is it too late to enter the Catholic faith?

Our parish community offers opportunities in small group settings to learn about the Catholic faith and to become fully initiated members through the church's sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First

Eucharist. Our parish offers separate sessions for children and teenagers.

Everyone is welcome to become a disciple of Jesus. We are all on a spiritual journey, learning more. Please feel free to contact, Matt Low, at the parish office, 656-2522. Let him know your story. How is God working in your life? See you at our next Inquiry Session. *Peace and God's continued Blessings* ~ Matt Low.

### Students Benefited

The Pak-A-Kid for school delivery day blessed 112 students in School District 2 with perfectly filled backpacks. In addition, these seven schools benefited from your generosity with boxes filled with loose supplies: Orchard, Ponderosa. McKinley, Broadwater, Newman, Riverside Middle School and Senior High.

A sheet of paper accompanied each box saying, "Thank you Educators and Support Staff



for all you do for our children. You are appreciated!! Hope you can utilize some loose supplies for kids that might not have all they need. From parishioners of St. Pius X Catholic Church."

Thank you to the members of the Christian Service Commission of our parish and volunteers who called to help with sorting and delivering for this project. St. Pius X is truly a community of generosity rooted in faith!



### **In and Around Our Parish Community**

#### Coming to Mass? Could You Help us Worship?

We need your help, St. Pius X community, for our liturgical ministry! Your support at any Mass is welcome and much appreciated!

Live Stream Operators: If you like technology, this is for you! A live-stream crew member arrives at least 15 minutes before the 11:00am 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 and special liturgies. Training is provided. Please call Kathy at 656-2522 to view the equipment and find out more!

#### **Dueling Pianos: A Gala Benefiting Montana** Children

Friday, October 15 at the Big Horn Resort. Sing, dance, and laugh until your cheeks hurt at this interactive, high-energy, unforgettable dueling piano show! Proceeds benefit Catholic Social Services of Montana. Tickets are available at www.cssmt.org. Silent auction items and sponsors are still needed for this event. Please call Michelle Perlick at CCSM for event and sponsorship information, (406)252-3399. Thank you!

#### Virtual Online Retrouvaille Weekend

During the upcoming weekend phase of Retrouvaille, September 16-19, a series of presentations are given by a team of three couples and a priest. The team presents a technique of communication that enables you to take a good look at most areas of your relationship. After each presentation, you have time in the privacy of your home to discuss the previous presentation. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication. For more information contact the registration team: at (406) 761-4830 or visit the website: www.HelpOurMarriage.org

### St. Pius X Knights of Columbus Council 9976

Brother Knights, as we get back on track in our Council activities, let's remember one of our primary goals is to grow our membership. Please consider extending an invitation to a family member, friend, or parishioner you know. Any man 18 years or older who is a practicing Catholic is eligible to join. Contact Grand Knight Steve Geiger to find out more about Council 9976, nsgeiger@yahoo.com.



Make a donation to our parish via this QR code for Venmo or PayPal. Access is also available on our website. Look for these icons at the top of the homepage at www.stpiusxblgs.org. Thank you for your support!





#### Area Events.

#### Sunday, September 12

Save the date for the Billings Catholic Schools and BCS Foundation Running On Faith 3K Footrace, Carnival and All-School RamFamily Picnic! These events will take place incorporating Rose Park and the Saint Francis Catholic K-8 campus. Race registration will begin at 11:00am with the race starting at 1:00pm. Awards, carnival and picnic will follow the race at approximately 2:00pm. Visit billingscatholicschools.org or email bcs@billingscatholicschools.or g for more information.

#### Friday—Sunday, Sept. 24-26

DeColores! The Cum Christo Renewal will take place at St. Bernard Church. With inspiring talks, meditations, spiritual direction, music, and time for personal reflection, the Renewal weekend will fill your heart and soul with that deep love that only God can provide. The shortened version (Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon), is co-ed and you sleep at home. Applications and information are available at http://

> www.bigskycumchristo.org/ Billings.htm or contact Mary Strauss at 208-7881, birdmds@aol.com or Lucv at 208-2340, lucile53@gmail.com.

### Free Covid-19 Support

Call (877) 503-0833 or visit montanacrisisrecovery.com for confidential emotional support from the impacts of COVID-19.

## Stewardship Report: August 15, 2021

**Envelope Donation** \$7.564.00 Loose Checks \$3.189.00 Loose Cash \$621.00 **Electronic Fund Transfer** \$5.757.00 \$17,156.00 **Total Collection** Weekly Average Needed \$20,770.00

**Number of Contributors Annual Parish Budget** Contributions needed to-date Contributions received to-date Budget Income (Shortfall)

\$1.080.000.00 \$145,390.00 \$122,924.87 (\$22,465.13)

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

#### Sunday, August 22 at church

 Inquiry session for those interested in becoming Catholic, 9:45am, Fellowship Hall

#### Monday, August 23

NO Mass

#### Tuesday, August 24

• Mass, 8:30am, (Live-streamed)

#### Wednesday, August 25

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

#### Thursday, August 26

- Mass, 8:30am, (Live-streamed)
- K. of C. Fourth Degree, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

#### Friday, August 27

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

#### Sunday, August 29 at church

Bag Building for Brown Bag Lunch ministry,
 9:30am, Fellowship Hall

## What is the Role of Catholics in Society?

We live in a country that upholds the separation of Church and state. What is the role of Catholics in society?



Answer: The role of the Church in the world has taken different forms over time, but the theme is the same. Be disciples in it! As the lay faithful — that is, not vowed priest or religious — we are called to live and love in the circumstances of our daily lives. St. John Paul II wrote a document about the laity. In it he wrote, "In their situation in the world God manifests His plan and communicates to them their particular vocation of seeking the Kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God" (On the Lay Members of Christ's Faithful, 15).

God wants us in the hospitals, the board rooms, the law offices, the food pantries, and the little league games! We are to engage in the affairs of the world. But when we're there, we should live the plan of God. We need to respect those around us, engage in just business and legal practices, and love our children. We should care for the earth, use our money wisely, and get to know our neighbors. We must advocate for social policies that respect human dignity and human freedom. No matter our state in life, we are invited to build the kingdom of God!

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## **Scripture Reflection:**

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18 Psalm 34:2-3, 16-21 Ephesians 5:21-32 John 6:60-69

"Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods." We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these "gods" because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with "who is God" and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised "more." But in pursuing the more we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only "feels" true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God's kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It's a choice we all have to make.

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### **Mass Intentions & Readings**

Monday, August 23, St. Rose of Lima 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8-10, Psalm 149:1-6, 9, Matthew 23:13-22

**NO Mass** 

Tuesday, August 24, St. Bartholomew

Rev. 21:9-14, Psalm 145:10-13, 17-18, John 1:45-51

8:30am Mass: † Mike Hirsch

Wednesday, August 25, St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13, Psalm 139:7-12, Matthew 23:27-32

8:30am Mass: † Julie Prill

Thursday, August 26

1 Thessalonians 3:7-13, Psalm 90:3-5, 12-14, 17, Mat-

thew 24:42-51

8:30am Mass: † Lura Thelen

Friday, August 27, St. Monica

1 Thessalonians. 4:1-8, Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 10-12, Mat-

thew 25:1-13

8:30am Mass: † John Sengar

Saturday, August 28, St. Augustine

1 Thes. 4:9-11, Psalm 98:1, 7-9, Matthew 25:14-30

5:00pm Mass: † Joan Carlton

**Sunday, August 29 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time** Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8, Psalm 15:2-5, James 1:17-18,

21-22, 27, Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

8:30am Mass: Int. of St. Pius X Parishioners

11:00am Mass: † Doris Bender

## Do we have your correct information at St. Pius X?

If you are registered at St. Pius X, do we have your correct phone number? If you have dropped your landline or changed to a different phone number, please call Rita at the parish office, 656-2522, or email updated information to <a href="mailto:rb@stpiusxblgs.org">rb@stpiusxblgs.org</a>. The Parish Staff continues to work on keeping the St. Pius X registry of parishioners accurate. Also, please let us know if you have not been receiving our Flocknote emails. We may not have your email on file, and we occasionally send out important information about activities and opportunities to serve. Thank you for helping us keep up—to-date!

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## Ministry Schedule: August 28-29, 2021

Saturday, 5:00 PM

Greeter: Erik & Erin Beiergrohslein

Usher: Bob Riesinger, Keith Schott, Kevin Walter, 1

Needed

Lector: Eileen Hendershot-1, Carol Schaff-2

Sacristan: Joyce Stoppel Altar Minister: Richard King

Eucharistic Minister: Diane Bertrand, Deacon Tom

Landry, Nancy Wandler, Tyler Wiltgen

Cross: Halle Anderson Altar Server: Kynzie Mallow Nursery: Celeste Appel

Sunday, 8:30 AM

**Greeter:** Shannon Behounek, Tim Morgan **Usher:** Chuck Legerski, Greg Luck, Sam Wood, **1** 

Needed

Lector: Rod Hart-1, John Koppelman-2

Sacristan: Jan Kirk

Altar Minister: Kathleen Bernhardt

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Tom Landry, John &

Brenda Pankratz, Lisa Wood Cross Bearer: Luke Pankratz Altar Server: Ava Romee Nursery: Roxanne Kuntz

Sunday, 11:00 AM (Live-streamed)

Greeter: Ann Frazer, Magdalen Wojtowicz

Usher: Markus Hulquist, Joe Larimer, David Mork,

Michael Riedel

Lector: Andrea Horrell-1, Vicki Marquis-2

Sacristan: Needed

Altar Minister: Lynn DeMeyer

Eucharistic Minister: Tyler Blood, Deacon Tom

Landry, Mary Rah, Mary Taylor Cross Bearer: Matthew Rah Altar Server: Lizzie Rah Nursery: Stephanie Brown

## **Explorers Academy Open Enrollment**

Explorers Academy—A Head Start Program announces open Pre-school enrollment. Apply online at <a href="https://www.explorershs.org/enrollment">www.explorershs.org/enrollment</a>. No cost to eligible families! Call (406) 245-7233. A child must be age three by September 10, 2021.

### Is Your Superpower Cooking?

Can you make a hot meal for 25 people? Are you willing to volunteer once a month? Tumbleweed needs you! If you are interested in providing a meal for the youth of our community once per month, please contact Sophia at Tumbleweed, (406) 259-2558. "It only takes one caring adult to change the trajectory of a youth's life."

## **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 Nick Coffman, Director of Liturgy, ncoffman@stpiusxblgs.org Shelly Greenfield, Bulletin, Christian Service, sg@stpiusxblgs.org Karyn Haider, Parish Administrator, khaider@stpiusxblgs.org Jan Kirk, Accounting/Bookkeeping, jan@stpiusxblgs.org Matt Low, Director of Christian Initiation, mlow@stpiusxblgs.org Kathy McCleary, Communications & Volunteers, kmc@stpiusxblgs.org Amanda Michael, Youth Ministry, amichael@stpiusxblgs.org Mike Persha, Cemetery Manager, mpersha@stpiusxblgs.org Jessie Rohrer, Children's Ministry Coordinator, jr@stpiusxblgs.org Bill Walker, Custodian, bwalker@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 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

#### Weekdays

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

#### **LIVE-Stream**

Sunday, 11:00 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 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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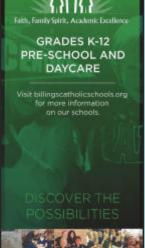
Prayer to St. Theresa O Lord, who hast said: "Unless

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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