# St. Pius X Parish

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



July 10, 2022

Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time



# A Time for Giving Thanks to God

The following first appeared in Creative Communications. It seems the perfect entrance to Ordinary Time, which is anything but ordinary. We were granted permission to share it with you. We hope you like it.

May 17, 2022

#### A Prayer of Thanksgiving

"...they called the Church together and reported what God had done with them..." Acts:14:27

"In the church parking lot one Sunday, I overheard a child arguing with his parents. "I don't want to go to church," he wailed. "It's boring." I wondered if the father would drag the child kicking and screaming into church. The father simply said, "I'm going in to say thank you. God has given us so many wonderful things that aren't boring," and he began to list them. The child soon smiled, took his father's hand, and together they walked into the church. That lesson reminded me that we are the Church, called together to tell each other—by our presence—what God has been doing with us in our lives and how grateful we are to be loved by God. We call this Eucharist ("thanksgiving"). From beginning to end, the Mass is a prayer of thanksgiving.

~ Deborah Meister

Acts 14:19-28 • Psalm 145:10-13, 21 John 14:27-31a

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### Why the Name Ordinary Time?

"Ordinary" is not in contrast to "extraordinary" or "special" but rather stresses the Latin language notion of "ordinal" or numbered Sundays. The Latin title for the season, tempus ordinarium, conveys the sense that this time of the year is measured or numbered time. Measured time can allude simply to the numbered Sundays, or the notion that these Sundays are a "measured" time to deepen and immerse ourselves completely in the realities of Jesus' incarnation, ministry, passion, death, and resurrection. Ordinary time offers us the opportunity to connect the ordinary lived experiences of our lives with those of Jesus, who modeled for us how to live a truly human existence." **©LPi** 



Right: On the last Sunday of the month Erin and Joey Buyske organize "Bag Building." During this time all lunch sacks for the month are loaded for the sandwich ministry with a bottle of water, granola bar, fruit cup or chews,



and chips. Then each week 50 or 75 bags are topped with a fresh sandwich. Approximately 250-300 sack lunches are delivered to St. Vincent dePaul each month from our parish because of your generosity. Thank you to all who contribute in any way to this ministry of feeding the hungry!

# Join Our Family!

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 (406) 656-2522. You may also visit our website at www.stpiusxblgs.org or find us on Facebook at 'St. Pius X.'

# **Backpacks Needed for Older Students**

If you would like to donate a new backpack for an older student in middle or high school, please drop them off at the parish office. Our School Supply Drive will begin soon and this year we are short of that particular type. Questions? Call Shelly at (406) 656-2522.

# RCIA: A Blessed Journey of Conversion is Just Around the Corner

Are you, or someone you know ready to go deeper into a personal relationship with Our Lord, Jesus Christ? Take that first step now—inquire and ask questions. Perhaps Jesus wants you to become a disciple in our Roman Catholic tradition. Typical questions include:

- I have a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized; do you provide sacramental instruction?
- I am a young man or woman who feels strongly that the Holy Spirit
  is calling me to enter the Catholic Church and to live a "new life in
  Christ." Is it possible for me to receive the church's sacraments of
  initiation at St. Pius X? What are the first steps?

Please know that our parish community offers opportunities in small-group settings to learn about the Catholic faith. You can become a fully initiated member through the church's sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist. Our Sunday sessions focus on the teachings of Jesus, our Church doctrine, our sacred liturgy, scripture, and tradition.

Keep in mind also that our parish offers separate sessions for children and teenagers.

You are welcome to participate in this journey of learning, faith, and discipleship. Contact staff member, Matt Low, in our parish office. Watch our parish bulletin for future inquiry session notices for those interested. In the meantime, may the Holy Spirit continue to bless you and move you into a fruitful life of love, joy, faith, hope, and peace.

Love, Joy, Faith, Hope, Peace

# **Everyday Stewardship:**

Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

#### What Jesus Doesn't Say

"If Jesus wanted us to (fill in the blank), he would have said so."

We hear this argument applied to every controversial topic under the sun — and even some not-so-controversial topics, too. Whenever someone is trying to make a case for a decision they have already made, they call in Jesus' scriptural silence on the matter as their expert, unimpeachable witness.

And sure, there's much Jesus doesn't talk about in the Gospels. But by this logic, we would have to assume that Jesus doesn't care, for instance, if we drive well over the speed limit (he doesn't discuss cars and highways in the Bible) or what we do online (he never mentions the Internet or websites at all!), when we know that certainly is just not the case.

Like the scholar of the Jewish law who challenges Jesus to define who exactly his "neighbor" is, we can argue semantics all we want. But if we rest in prayer and look deep into our hearts, we know what path we need to take, and it's usually not the easy one.

I find that I do this plenty in ways that are far more subtle. I lament that the situation facing me is not sufficiently "black and white." I become frustrated by the shades of moral grey and toss up my hands, claiming I don't know what the right answer is, insisting that I can't be blamed for the ramifications of whatever decision I make.

What I need to be doing in these situations is asking God for His guidance, even if it makes me nervous. I need to be like the scholar. He was brave enough to ask, even though I think he knew he wouldn't particularly like the answer. Let's strive for that same courage.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Song and dance at VBS.

# Your Offering in the Collection Reaches Out to the Community

Like any family, St. Pius X Church has a long history of tithing. Dynamic disciples tithe, whether convenient or not, to express our thanksgiving for all we have received from God. When you contribute to the collection at Mass or online, a portion of your tithing reaches out to the local community either by a monthly or yearly donation.

The Christian Service Commission of our parish oversees and distributes our tithing to various local non-profits that address the needs of the poor, elderly, unemployed, minorities, the disenfranchised and the underserved. We also tithe monthly to the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth's (SCL) missions in Peru.

In addition, 14 months ago we began engaging with St. Vincent dePaul (SVdP) to provide sack lunches on Wednesdays through the generosity of your supply donations and parish volunteers. Through your kindness, we also collect needed items on the first Sunday of the month alternately for St. Vincent dePaul (SVdP), the Billings Food Bank, and Family Service Inc. Three times a year you are invited to donate to a Toiletry collection to benefit Tumbleweed, SVdP and Period Pals 406.

Soon the Christian Service commission will organize the Pak-A-Kid and School Supply drive to benefit children whose mothers utilized the programs at Angela's Piazza and Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley. In November, we will provide a few Christmas gifts for these families as well. All this is made possible by your incredible giving spirit!

Below are the nonprofits who received our tithing from July 2021-June 2022.

- St. Vincent dePaul (monthly)
- Family Service Inc. (monthly)
- Angela's Piazza: Women's Drop In Center (monthly)
- SCL missions in Peru (monthly)
- Child Bridge Billings office
- Friendship House of Christian Service
- Warrior Wishes of Montana
- Senior High Holiday Gift Card Program
- AIDSpirit USA
- · Big Brothers Big Sisters
- CASA
- LaVie
- Tumbleweed
- Habitat for Humanity
- Riverstone Health Child Advocacy Center
- Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley
- Headphones and backpacks for the School Supply drive were also purchased from this fund.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributes to the weekly collection at Mass! Not only do you support the ministries of our parish, but you extend your care and support to vulnerable community members. Dynamic disciples love unconditionally like Jesus. Thank you for making that a lived experience at St. Pius X.



# **In and Around Our Parish Community**

#### Flood Relief for Montana Communities

All parishes of the Diocese of Eastern Montana have been asked to conduct a special "Yellowstone Valley Flood Victim Appeal." If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider giving a donation to help those Montanans severely impacted by the recent flooding. Please make your check payable to St. Pius X Catholic Church and mark "Flood Victim Appeal" in the memo line. A distribution committee will apportion the funds to those in need without regard to religious affiliation in Gardner, Livingston, Columbus, Absarokee, Red Lodge, Fromberg, Bridger and beyond.

### **Campaign Goal Met for LaVie**

The Baby Bottle campaign goal set for St. Pius X by LaVie of \$3,000 was met and exceeded by 105%! Thank you to all who contributed!

#### **Devote an Hour to Jesus**

Are you seeking time alone with Jesus? The Adoration Chapel welcomes you! There are several hours available, particularly the "sacrifice hours" of late night or early morning. Come and spend quality time with Jesus in an intimate, secure environment. For more information and to register, please call or text (406) 413-0978 or visit: adorationchapelbillings.org.

### Free Scripture Resource

Your parish is again providing free copies of *The Word Among Us* in the Gathering Area because we exist to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ. This issue is for July/August to help those who travel take reflections and the daily Mass readings on the journey. Please pick up one of these free booklets!

# 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 Shannon at the parish office, (406) 656-2522 or register on our website stpiusxblgs.org.

# St. Pius X Knights of Columbus Council 9976

Brother Knights, a reminder that our Council has suspended our General meetings for the months of June, July, and August. We have moved our Officers' meeting to the third Thursday of the month. So, there will be not be a meeting July 14<sup>th</sup>. Our Officers' Meeting will be the following Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. As usual, it will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm. These meetings are open to all of our members and I encourage you to attend. We will be discussing items such as sack lunches for St. Vincent DePaul, our upcoming August Blood Drive, Knight and Family of the Month, and more. Your participation and input are appreciated and necessary to keep our Council thriving.

#### **Area Events**

#### Young Adult Catholics Saturday, July 16

6:30pm BBQ Potluck and Bonfire. Burgers and hot dogs provided but please bring your own beverages and a side dish or dessert to share. Bring a friend or two! 2730 Blackhills Ln. Billings, MT. For more information or questions, check out the Facebook page @billingscya or call Sabrina at (406) 694-3180. Young adults are 18 + years of age.

#### Billings Community Monday, July 18

The Man of the Shroud, is a
presentation on the Shroud of
Turin. Well known Shroud expert, Jim Bertrand, will bring a
replica of the Shroud and offer
a one-hour presentation at
6:30pm at St. Bernard Catholic
Church. Register at
billingscatholicradio.com/
shroud.

#### Saturday, July 23

The 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Mexican Fiesta will be held this year at Mary Queen of Peace Parish from 10:00am-3:30pm. Streets 3rd and 2nd Ave. South will be blocked off in front of the church and the old Little Flower School building, as well as 34th Street S. The traditional Mexican dinner of enchiladas, beans, rice and verde will be served. There will be kids' games, craft booths, raffle, a silent auction and food trucks along with live entertainment featuring the Tejano Outlaws. The Tejano Dance will be at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center that evening from 8:00pm to 12:00am with tickets of \$15 per person or \$150 for a table of 10. Contact Celest at (406) 294-7605 for tickets or for table reservations.

The Stewardship Report for July 3, 2022 was unavailable at time of print.

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

#### Monday, July 11

NO Mass

#### Tuesday, July 12

Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)

#### Wednesday, July 13

Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)

#### Thursday, July 14

Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)

#### Friday, July 15

Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)

**Question:** My friend has never heard of Christ and I want to share the Gospel with her but I'm afraid to. How do I share my faith?



**Answer:** There are a lot of ways to bring up the topic of religion, without being judgmental or pushy. Begin by asking what her thoughts are about religion, or what her experience was growing up. Finding common ground is often easier than you think, because the questions and problems we have about God, the presence of evil, our purpose in life, and our relationship with God are universal concerns.

Why are you afraid? If you do not want to insult or offend someone, don't be pushy or judgmental. If you are uncertain about how to explain your own faith, do a little reading or practice with a friend. If you measure success only by this person converting, focus your attention more on beginning the conversation, not on bringing it to a perfect close! Faith is a journey of many acts of belief, many discussions about God, and many choices about how we practice what we preach. In some we will have great success; in others we will need forgiveness and perseverance. The most important thing to keep in mind is that the Holy Spirit is always at work and our most humble efforts can bear great fruit. Have faith in God because he has faith in you! ©LPi

# **AIDSpirit Conveys Thanks!**

"Thank you for your generous contribution in support of our work in our local community. In our community, we continue to provide frozen meals and the pantry for those living with HIV along with emergency assistance and community gathering events. You can be assured that you have made a difference in their lives today and in the lives of others who will follow. Thank you on behalf of these wonderful people in Billings and the entire AIDSpirit USA team and board."

# **Scripture Reflection:**

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 30:10-14 Ps. 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 Colossians 1:15-20 Luke 10:25-37

We can learn a great deal from Mister Rogers. Remember him? He was the gentle soul who found his way into living rooms worldwide starting as far back as 1968. Mister Rogers' Neighborhood was a beloved program that celebrated and exalted people, especially children. He taught us that we are neighbors and that everyone has a place. Everyone matters. He had a vision, born of his relationship with God that highlighted every human life's innocence, beauty, and uniqueness. To that end, he called us to be responsible for each other, saying nothing different than what Jesus said. Viewers quickly learned that life is not just about me.

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes (Fred Rogers)." It is so easy to look the other way. After all, I'm not the one who needs to leave home out of fear and try to find somewhere safe. I am not the one who is hungry and without shelter or food. I am not the one who has a child being bullied or ridiculed because of the way they dress or act. I am not the one being threatened with violence or unable to find meaningful work. The distress and agony of our neighbors are our distress and agony. We cannot walk by it with an attitude of indifference, especially if we call ourselves believers. When we no longer care, we have suffocated our souls. This is a great sin.

God's law "is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." We all have a need for love and acceptance. That's why Mister Rogers' television show was so popular. It spoke to something deeper, something sacred about humanity. God didn't give us his law in a book. He wrote it on our hearts. We know what we need to do. It's a matter of choice. Love is sacred. When we love another human being, especially without regard for ourselves, it is a holy moment. These moments are often missed due to our self-serving agendas and rules.

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# **Mass Intentions & Readings**

Monday, July 11, St. Benedict Isaiah 1:10-17, Psalm 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23, Matthew 10:34-11:1

Tuesday, July 12

Isaiah 7:1-9, Psalm 48:2-8, Matthew 11:20-24

8:30am Mass: Int. of Vicki Robins

Wednesday, July 13, St. Henry

Isaiah 10:5-7, 13-16, Psalm 94:5-10, 14-15, Matthew

11:25-27

8:30am Mass: † Barbara Voeller

Thursday, July 14, St. Kateri Tekakwitha Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19, Psalm 102:13-21, Matthew 11:28-30

8:30am Mass: † Mary Bartz

Friday, July 15, St. Bonaventure

Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8, Isaiah 38:10-12, 16, Matthew

8:30am Mass: † Roy John Aguilar

Saturday, July 16, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Micah 2:1-5, Psalm 10:1-4, 7-8, 14, Matthew 12:14-21

5:00pm Mass: † Doris Geary

Sunday, July 17 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Genesis 18:1-10, Psalm 15:2-5, Colossians 1:24-28, Luke 10:38-42

8:30am Mass: Int. of St. Pius X Parishioners 11:00am Mass: † Karla Belgarde Sokoloski



# The Annual Catholic Appeal

One of the most basic needs for us as a Catholic family is that we are served sacramentally. This is one of the most basic ways that we are "Living Our Faith Together." Through your gifts to the Annual Catholic Appeal, you ensure that we can support the nearly 100 parishes and missions throughout Eastern Montana. This cannot be done without your support. Please, if you have not yet given, prayerfully consider your gift to the

ACA now. Every gift matters and ensures that all of our 30,000+ Catholic family can be served sacramentally.

Donation envelopes are available on a table in the Gathering Area of church. You may also use this QR code on the left or give online at diocesegfb.org.

# **Ministry Schedule:** July 16-17, 2022

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass

Greeter: Jackie Fears, Steve Lattimer

Usher: Jim Kaiser, Richard King, Bruce McMorris,

**Bob Riesinger** 

Lector: Mark Sevier-1, Tyler Wiltgen-2

Sacristan: Joyce Stoppel Altar Minister: Heather Kaiser

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Brown, Clare Dooley,

Jeanne Moller, Germaine Riesinger

Cross: Skyler Sanchez, Server: Evan Miller

Nursery: Kylie Schott

Sunday, 8:30am Mass

Greeter: Loretta Frank, Richard Wood

**Usher:** Chuck Legerski, Andy Mikes, Doug Slotsve,

Lector: John Koppelman-1, Kelsey Komar-2

Sacristan: Jan Kirk Altar Minister: Kim Komar

Eucharistic Minister: Rick McCann, Christy Rider,

Lorraine Walter, Lisa Wood

Cross: Laila Bakkedahl, Server: Keely Bakkedahl

**Nursery: 1 Trained Attendant Needed** 

Sunday, 11:00am Mass (Live-streamed)

**Greeter:** Ann Frazer, Joe Larimer

Usher: Steve & Nicole Geiger, Markus Hulquist,

Michael Riedel

Lector: Tim Guenthner-1, Patsy Guenthner-2

Sacristan: Janice Krueger

Altar Minister: Magdalen Wojtowicz

Eucharistic Minister: Lynn DeMeyer, Sandi McGov-

ern, Mary Rah, Jessie Rohrer

Cross: Marilyn McKenzie, Server: Theo Melugin

**Nursery:** Teresa Wehr

## Thank you from Child Bridge

"Imagine being pregnant with one baby but bringing home two! Just three days old, little Abigail's future was uncertain as she waited at the hospital for a foster family to care for her.

Thirty weeks pregnant, Emily and Phil received a call to foster this precious newborn. Without hesitation, Emily rushed to pick up the baby, not knowing what the future might bring.

Two months later, baby Simon joined his 'twin' sister, and the two became inseparable. Matching blankets and a double stroller only served to compliment what their parents already knew: God destined these babies for each other and for their family.

Your support made Abigail's story possible. Thank you, from a tiny girl with a family to care for her."

Interested in foster care? Call Child Bridge at (406) 2-FOSTER.





## **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, <a href="mailto:rgreg@stpiusxblgs.org">rgreg@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Deacon Tom Landry, 406.860.7842, <a href="mailto:acnerds@bresnan.net">acnerds@bresnan.net</a>
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Joan Whelan, Music Ministry, <a href="mailto:joan@stpiusxblgs.org">joan@stpiusxblgs.org</a>

Bulletin notices are due by 4:30pm on Monday. Please email bulletin@stpiusxblgs.org or fax to (406) 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 <a href="https://www.stpiusxblgs.org">www.stpiusxblgs.org</a>. Click Live-Stream on the homepage.

#### **Sacraments**

Reconciliation: Sat. 3:30-4:30 PM Baptism: Call us for details Marriage: Six-month preparation

required

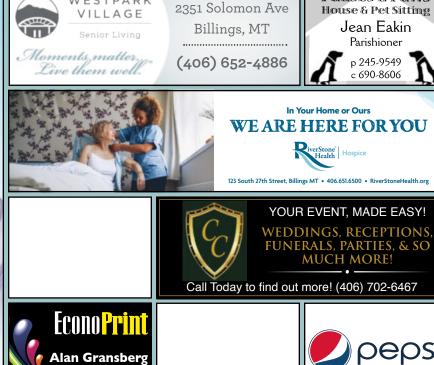
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