

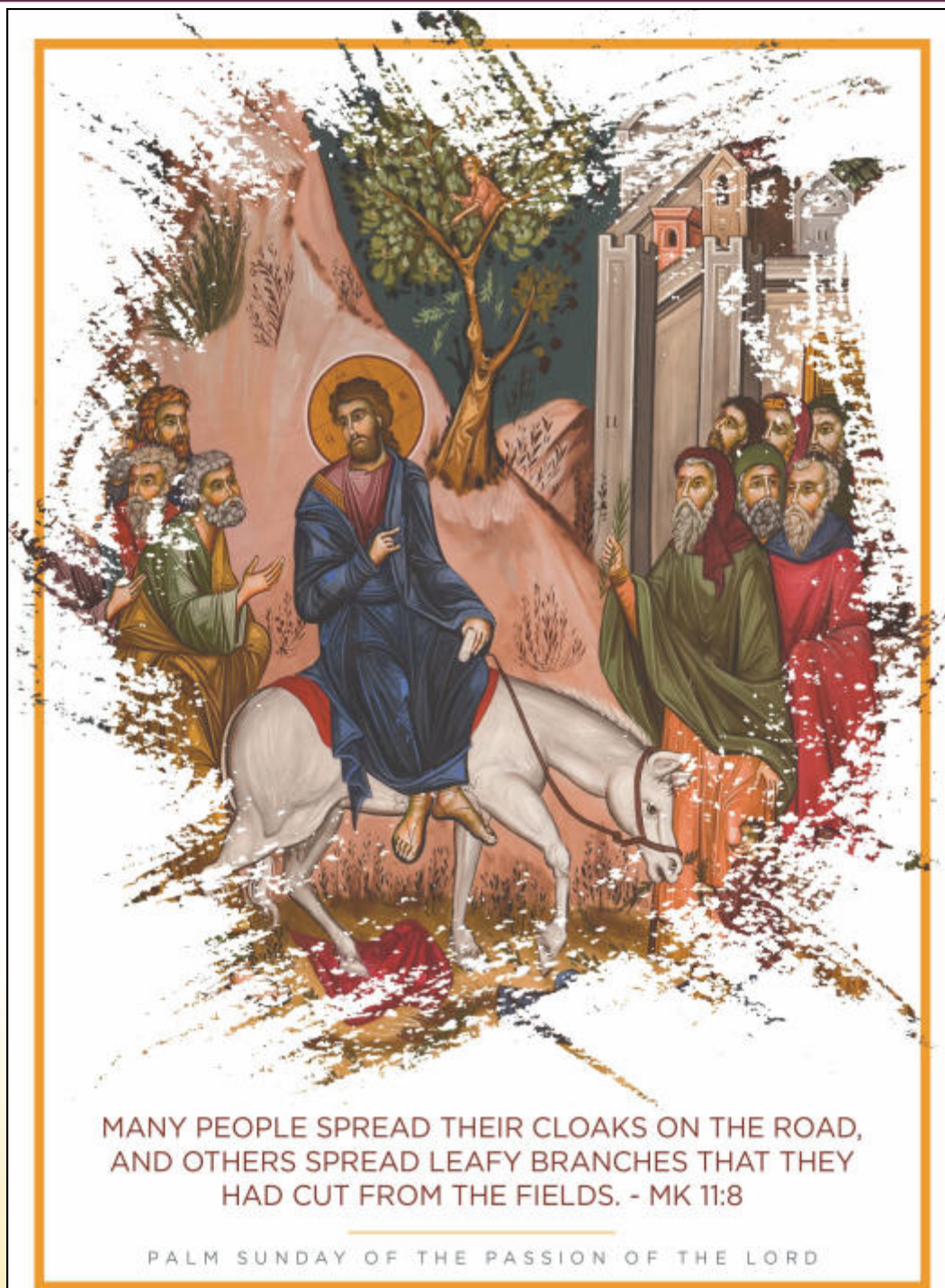
St. Pius X Parish

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

Bulletin

March 28, 2021

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



MANY PEOPLE SPREAD THEIR CLOAKS ON THE ROAD,
AND OTHERS SPREAD LEAFY BRANCHES THAT THEY
HAD CUT FROM THE FIELDS. - MK 11:8

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC. ©LPI

Drive-by for Palms

If you are viewing our
Live-stream Mass on
Palm Sunday at
10:00am, (March 28),
you are invited to
drive by to pick up
blessed palms from
11:15-11:45am in
front of the church.

Hosanna!

Hosanna!



ST. PIUS X PARISH

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.stpiusxblgs.org or find us on Facebook at 'St. Pius X'.

'First Sunday of the Month' Collection for St. Vincent dePaul

On Easter weekend we will have a hospitality collection for St. Vincent dePaul. These items are needed regularly:

- ◆ Laundry soap (any type)
- ◆ Coffee (Regular)
- ◆ Sugar
- ◆ Non-dairy creamer
- ◆ Napkins
- ◆ 8 oz. coffee cups
- ◆ Disposable soup bowls
- ◆ Disposable eating utensils
- ◆ Disposable plates (small & dinner size).
- ◆ **NEW:** healthy snacks in individual packages such as breakfast bars, nuts, dried fruit, etc.

Please bring your donations April 3-4 and place them in the bin in the Gathering Area. Or, if you prefer, make a monetary donation to "St. Vincent DePaul". The collection box is located next to the food bin. Thank you for your generous support of monthly collections!

Lenten Regulations

Fasting: Catholics ages 18-59 fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting means one full meal and two smaller meals. Eating between meals is not allowed, but liquids including milk and juices are allowed. **Abstinence:** Catholics age 14 and older abstain from meat on all the Fridays of Lent.



Children's Ministry

Second year sacramental preparation students: No class this week! We will see you for our last class on April 7th. Don't forget about our mandatory rehearsal on Wednesday, April 21st at 6:30pm. The Candidates need to attend with a parent and/or sponsor.

Gospel Weekly Families: We will not have a parent meeting on Monday, April 5th.

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.
~ Jessie Rohrer, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Week (Reservations needed except for Stations of the Cross)

- Holy Thursday, April 1 at 7:00pm (live streamed)
- Good Friday, April 2, Stations of the Cross, 3:00pm, South side of church in the outdoor Father Steve Memorial Garden
Good Friday Service, 7:00pm (live streamed)
- Easter Vigil, April 3 at 8:00pm (live streamed)
- Easter Sun., April 4. Masses at 8:30am (live streamed) & 11:00am...all seats are now reserved but there will be a wait line for any available seats and options for seating in the Fellowship Hall via Live-stream on large screen. Communion brought to the Hall.

Reservations Still Available for Most Holy Week Liturgies

Reservations are still available for attendance in-person for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. Reservations help promote fair, safe access for all parish families to worship during this pandemic. Reservations are available on our website and ready to be filled. Scroll down on the homepage of our website and click on the '**Holy Week & Easter Reservation Information**' section for more information and to make your online reservations. If you do not have online access, call the parish office at 656-2522 and we will assist you. Please note that all of the above mentioned liturgies will be Live-streamed and archived so they may be viewed at any time during or after the event.

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

Deacon Tom Landry will lead a Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 3:00pm utilizing our outdoor Stations in the Father Steve Memorial Garden.

Lenten Alms Cups Done Differently

The Council of Catholic Women (CCW) asks parishioners to save their loose change during Lent. But keeping all members and parishioners safe during the pandemic means a different kind of collection process. Rather than passing out Lenten Cups at the start of Lent, CCW asks that between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday weekends, individuals and families keep track of their loose change saved as part of their Lenten almsgiving and send a check for that amount, made out to **St. Pius X CCW**, to the parish office after Easter. This annual fund raiser allows CCW to donate to "Water for Life", the Madonna Plan and locally, to LaVie. CCW thanks all for helping make this Lent one of prayerful giving to these worthwhile projects.

St. Vincent dePaul

"A small amount, if given with love, never ends, but becomes a source of life and happiness." Pope Francis.

Almsgiving, one of the three pillars of Lent, is a great way to contribute to the Mission of St. Vincent de Paul. Giving your donations directly to SVdP, allows them to direct money where it is most needed right now. This includes assistance with rent and utilities for those who have lost income especially due to COVID-19. Thank you for considering making a donation during these final days of the Lenten season.

Care & Share

Our Diocese needs your help! The annual Care and Share Campaign comes around each year asking for your support and reaching out to all our brothers and sisters to come together to do the Lord's work throughout the Diocese. Your contribution benefits several ministries that help our Church in the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings to thrive. Please help us to further the Gospel through the Catholic Church of Eastern Montana by completing the pledge card found in your campaign packet. Additional packets may be found on a table in the Gathering Area of church.

Position Opening

The Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana is currently accepting applications for the full-time position of *Communications and Development Specialist*. This new staff member will focus on increasing awareness, knowledge, and support of the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Montana. For a complete job description, please visit www.catholicfoundationmt.org.

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Everyday Stewardship: Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

Walk Every Step with Christ

Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance.

It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. In my opinion it's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions.

But my friends, we simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie. Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes.

It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them. Cherish them. Be present for each one.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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In and Around Our Parish Community

You are Needed at St. Pius X!

Each week we will focus on one or two liturgical ministries with which we need your support. Nick Coffman, our parish Director of Liturgy, has revised all of our parish liturgical ministries to comply with CDC guidelines for health and safety during this time of the pandemic. He is also creating a digital formation series to train new and continuing liturgical ministers to minimize in-person contact. In line with the parish's needs and goals, the 11:00am Mass is due to return in the future. However, this Mass was especially challenged by a lack of liturgical ministers even before the pandemic. Your help is especially needed for the **11:00am Mass** time. However, your support at any service is welcome and much appreciated!

Eucharistic Altar Minister/Eucharistic Minister – celebrating the Mass, the Eucharist, is at the heart of our identity. Jesus takes, blesses, breaks, and gives himself to us. The ministers of holy communion are part of Jesus' giving action. If you delight in sharing the gifts of God with the people of God, then these ministries are calling your name.



The Virtual, Online Retrouvaille Marriage Program will start Thursday evening, April 22nd. The weekend portion will take place Thursday and Friday evenings, and a full day on Saturday and Sunday. The weekend will be followed by a series of virtual Post Weekend Sessions.

This is a successful worldwide marriage help program located in about 150 cities in more than 25 countries around the world. It has provided the tools to help 1000's of marriages and families over the last 40+ years. Some couples come to the weekend at the early signs of difficulty. Others consider the program their last resort and come during times of deep misery. Either way, this program will work for you if you commit to work the program. Please contact (406) 761-4830 for information or register at www.helpourmarriage.org.

Foreign Exchange Students Seek Housing for 2021-22 School Year

The Pan Atlantic Foundation is a not for profit organization that specializes in creating high-quality high school exchange programs for non-US citizens in the United States. They are now seeking volunteer host families to host exchange students for the 2021-2022 school year. Students originate from Denmark, Spain, Italy, Germany and Mexico.

When a host family is willing to host an international exchange student, they have just as many rewarding and enriching experiences as the student. Host families provide: open communication, encouragement, patience and sound advice. A separate bed. Three daily meals. Local transportation. And treatment as a member of the family. For more information, visit <http://www.iwanttohost.org>, email or call Shannon Passon at shannonpasson@gmail.com or call (406) 390-6432.

Area Events

Diocesan Fundraising Raffle! **Drawing May 15**

Support the ministries and mission of the diocese of Great Falls-Billings by entering to win the **Grand prize** of a 2021 Keystone HideOut 24BHSWE camper or \$15,000 cash; winner's choice.

Second prize: 2021 Honda Pioneer 1000-5 Deluxe Utility Terrain Vehicle.

Third prize: (two awarded) Montana Ultimate Barbeque packages of a Traeger Pro Series 34 Pellet Grill, Yeti Cooler and BBQ Supplies & Accessories. Also included, a processed half-beef from Bishop Warfel's herd of cattle.

Tickets are available for \$20 each at the St. Pius X parish office. Proceeds support Catholic parishes, schools and youth ministries throughout the diocese. Winners responsible for taxes. For all rules and information go to diocesegfb.org or call (406) 727-6683.

Friday, April 2

- All are invited to a Pro-Life Cross Walk at 12:30pm beginning in the parking lot of St. Bernard Church and proceeding to Planned Parenthood.

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.

Stewardship Report: March 21, 2021

Envelope Donation	\$6,311.00	Parishioner Envelopes & EFT	148
Loose Checks	\$2,431.00	Annual Parish Budget	\$1,080,000.00
Loose Cash	\$40.00	Contributions needed to-date	\$789,260.00
Electronic Fund Transfer	\$7,858.00	Contributions received to-date	\$789,690.82
Total Collection	\$16,640.00	Budget Income Overage	\$ 430.82 Thank You!
Weekly Average Needed	\$20,770.00		

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

Sat., March 27 & Sun., March 28 at church

- Saturday: Reconciliation, 3:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- Saturday: Mass, 5:00pm
- Sunday: Mass, 10:00am (Live-streamed)

Monday, March 29

- NO Mass

Tuesday, March 30

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

Wednesday, March 31

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)
- Parish office closed at noon through April 5
- NO Children's ministry classes

Thursday, April 1

Holy Thursday

- Parish office closed
- Mass of the Last Supper, 7:00pm, (Live-streamed)

Friday, April 2

Good Friday

- Parish office closed
- Stations of the Cross, 3:00pm, outdoors in the Father Steve Memorial Garden on South side of church
- Good Friday liturgy, 7:00pm, (Live-streamed)

Saturday, April 3

Easter Vigil

- Easter Vigil, 8:00pm, (Live-streamed)

Sunday, April 4

Resurrection of the Lord

- Masses at 8:30am (Live-streamed) & 11:00am

Monday, April 5

- NO Mass
- Parish office closed



Fr. Steve Memorial Scholarship

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.stpiusxblgs.org/fr-steve-tokarski-scholarship-info. Applications due to the parish office by 4:30pm, **April 16, 2021**.

Scripture Reflection: Palm Sunday

John 12:12-16
Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalm 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Philippians 2:6-11
Mark 14:1-15:47

Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way.

Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk

Continued on page 6, bottom of left column.

Mass Intentions & Readings

Monday, March 29

Isaiah 42:1-7, Psalm 27:1-3, 13-14, John 12:1-11
NO Mass

Tuesday, March 30

Isaiah 49:1-6, Ps. 71:1-6, 15-17, John 13:21-33, 36-38
8:30am Mass: † Tom Canape

Wednesday, March 31

Isaiah 50:4-9, Psalm 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34, Matthew 26:14-25

8:30am Mass: Int. of Mike & Bonnie Thomas

Thursday, April 1

Holy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14, Psalm 116:12-13, 15-18, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-15

7:00pm Mass: † Angeline Gilles

Friday, April 2

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25, Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9, John 18:1-19:42

7:00pm Word & Communion

Saturday, April 3

Easter Vigil

Genesis 1:1-2:2, Exodus 14:15-15:1, Exodus 15:1-6, 17-18, Romans 6:3-11, Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23, Mark 16:1-7

8:00pm Mass: Int. of St. Pius X Parish

Sunday, April 4

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34, 37-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-9

8:30am Mass: † Barbara Voeller

11:00am Mass: † Tom Breshears

In thanksgiving
for the life of
Chris Reimer.
Please keep his
family in your
prayers.



Scripture Reflection continued from page 5.

among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better?

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Ministry Schedule: April 1-4, 2021

Holy Thursday, 7:00 PM (Live-streamed)

Greeter: Joyce Stoppel, Lani Wallace

Usher: Jim Kaiser, Joe Larimer, Mike Persha, Bob Reisinger

Sanitizers: Judith Lampi, Craig & Christy Rider, Lorraine Walter

Lector: Tim Guenther-1, Patsy Guenther-2

Sacristan: Donna Dierenfield

Altar Minister: Clare Dooley

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Tom Landry

Good Friday, 7:00 PM (Live-streamed)

Greeter: Shannon Behounek, Lisa Wood

Usher: Ming & Digna Cabrera, Dan Miller, Bob Riesinger

Sanitizers: Kim Komar, Judith Lampi, Alice O'Reilly, Phil Zeek

Lector: Heather Kaiser-1, Kim Komar-2

Sacristan: David Mork

Altar Minister: Don Judice

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Tom Landry

Holy Saturday, 8:00 PM (Live-streamed)

Greeter: Fawn Gongre, Carrie Mikes

Usher: Andy Mikes, Richard Wood, Sam Wood, Phil Zeek

Sanitizers: Dan & Clare Dooley, Jackie Fears, David Mork

Lector: Shannon Behounek, Kathy McCleary, Mark Sevier, Bob Holbrook, Jennifer Mack

Sacristan: Tim Morgan, David Mork

Altar Minister: Richard King

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Tom Landry

Easter Sunday, 8:30 AM (Live-streamed)

Greeter: Donna Berkner, Loretta Frank

Usher: Greg Luck, Bob Riesinger, Dan Sloan, Herb Tate

Sanitizer: Germaine Reisinger, Jerome Ries, Lorraine Walter, **1 Volunteer Needed**

Lector: Rod Hart-1, Alan Gransberg-2

Sacristan: Gail Mack

Altar Minister: Kim Komar

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Tom Landry

Easter Sunday, 11:00 AM

Greeter: Ann Frazer, Janice Krueger

Usher: Roland Barnes, Tyler Blood, Markus Hulquist, Michael Riedel

Lector: Vicki Marquis-1, Don Judice-2

Sacristan: Clarinda Kremer

Altar Minister: Irene Matzen

Eucharistic Minister: Deacon Tom Landry

Parish Staff

Parish Center Hours: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday
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Jessie Rohrer, Children's Ministry Coordinator, jr@stpiusxblgs.org
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
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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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