# St. Pius X Parish

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



May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

# Congratulations Class of 2023!

Seven graduating Seniors participated in the Baccalaureate Mass on May 7th. Our prayers and best wishes go with you as you navigate the next chapter of your life! God bless each of you! *Photo courtesy of Zach Rohrer*.



# Our Door is Open, Our Table is Set. There is a Place for You Here!

Welcome! Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you will find warmth and hospitality here. St. Pius X is a vibrant parish with many ways to be engaged. If you would like more information on registration, 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 stpiusxblgs.org, find us on Facebook at 'St. Pius X,' or on Instagram @stpiusx\_blgs.



# **Blood Drive May 16**

Are you ready to become a hero? Are you willing to take an hour or less out of your day to save a life, or three? St. Pius X Church and the Knights of Columbus are hosting a parish blood drive on Tuesday, May 16 from 12:30-5:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up online at kofc9976.org. If you have any questions, please contact unclebug111@gmail.com (Bob Holbrook) or call 406.671.5694. Set aside any fears and help us help our community!

# Pray for Vocations and Religious Life

Join Deacon Tom Landry for an hour of Adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament every third Wednesday of the month in the St. Pius X Day Chapel. Beginning at 7:00pm, the intention will be to pray for a call to vocations and religious life. May 17 is the next opportunity to participate.

# Dynamic Disciple Honored

Our own Janice Krueger received the St. Vincent dePaul "Jack Padon Jr. Volunteer of the Year Award" last month! Janice, a dynamic disciple in our parish takes her faith out into the community and we are delighted she has been recognized for her commitment. The traits listed for recipients of this award: a deeply spiritual person whose faith calls them to advocate for the underprivileged and the



marginalized; a heart to serve; humble and joyful; and provides time and talent to those in need. That describes Janice to a tee!

Among the wonderful accolades submitted for her nomination, (unfortunately, we don't have space for them all!) were: Janice is never afraid to advocate for the underprivileged and marginalized; and, she is quick to joke and bring happiness to those around her.

Janice, we are proud of you! God bless you and thank you for your disciple's heart! Pictured above are L-R, Philomina Bracy (widow of Jack Padon Jr.) Mandy Reinhart, SVdP Board member and St. Pius X parishioner, presenting the award to Janice.

## A 'Stellar' Vacation Bible School!

Blast off to outer space this summer! Join us for Stellar VBS, June 12-16! Volunteers needed to be elementary and preschool crew leaders. No preparation is needed! We also need a Spotlight VBS leader and an All-Star Games leader. Participants and volunteers can sign up through the VBS website: <a href="https://vbspro.events/p/events/stpiusx23">https://vbspro.events/p/events/stpiusx23</a>. Thank you to all who took a donation slip in the Gathering Area. A few more items are needed and will be at a table this weekend as well. Any questions? Contact Jessie Rohrer at <a href="mailto:jr@stpiusxblgs.org">jr@stpiusxblgs.org</a> or 406.281.8502. God bless you for serving our youngest disciples!

## Are you Hospitalized?

If you or someone in your family is hospitalized, please notify the Pastoral Care Office of either hospital and they will ensure Eucharist is brought to the room. Then, upon return home, please contact the parish office at 406.656.2522. We can put you or your loved one on our prayer chain; and, we have prayer shawls available as well. Homebound ministry is available to bring Eucharist until you or your loved one is ready to return to Mass in person. God bless you all.

# Confirmation and First Communion





April 29, 2023









Bishop Jeffrey Fleming, Presider Photos courtesy of Joey Buyske Photography and Rob Anderson

# **In and Around Our Parish Community**

## LaVie's Baby Bottle Campaign Begins Today

Change for Hope will run from May 14 through June 18. This is one of their largest fundraising events. Proceeds keep LaVie's doors open as they strive to empower individuals to embrace hope by providing loving, compassionate care for early pregnancies. Funds raised during Change For Hope are used to fund the programs offered by LaVie which assist women facing unplanned pregnancies with education, services, and information promoting life-affirming options, along with medical services. Please visit <a href="https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/?e=25099">https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/?e=25099</a> to donate to LaVie and help support this life-saving organization in Billings. If you'd prefer to donate physically, we have LaVie's Change For Hope display in the Gathering Area of church. Please use one of the giving envelopes or QR Code provided for you. If you're interested in learning more about the services LaVie offers, please visit <a href="https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/?e=25099">https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/?e=25099</a> to donate to LaVie and help support this life-saving organization in Billings. If you'd prefer to donate physically, we have LaVie's Change For Hope display in the Gathering Area of church. Please use one of the giving envelopes or QR Code provided for you. If you're interested in learning more about the services LaVie offers, please visit <a href="https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/?e=25099">https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrysync/event/?e=25099</a> to

# **Billings Catholic Young Adults Event**

All Young Adults are invited to 'Pizza with the Priests' on Thursday, May 25 from 6:00-8:00pm at MacKenzie River Pizza Co. located at 405 Main Street in Billings. All are welcome! This is a no host event. To contribute to the priest's dinners, visit <a href="https://www.billingscya.com">www.billingscya.com</a>. Questions? Call or text Sabrina at 406.694.3180 or Valerie at 406.208.3642.

## **Retrouvaille for Troubled Marriages**

Is your marriage heading for divorce? Do you feel helpless to save your marriage? Awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought you together. This program is highly successful in saving marriages and bringing reconciliation to couples who have separated or divorced. Go to <a href="https://example.com">HelpOurMarriage.com</a> and register for the August 4-6 weekend in Great Falls, Montana or call 1.800.470.2230 to find out more.

## St. Pius X Knights of Columbus Council 9976

Brother Knights, our K. of C. Blood Drive is this Tuesday, May 16 from 12:30 to 5:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. Appointments are still available. Contact Bob at 406.671.5694 if you are able to donate.

Wednesday, May 17 is the monthly Holy Hour to pray for Vocations. While this is not a K. of C. sponsored event, we look forward to filling the Day Chapel with Knights. Please consider spending an hour with our Lord Jesus in prayer and adoration from 7:00-8:00pm.

Thursday, May 18 is our Council meeting. We will be nominating officers for the upcoming fiscal year for our Council 9976. Your participation is needed. We pray the rosary at 6:30pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, and the meeting begins at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Council 1259 will provide a breakfast for the Montana Marathon at Pioneer Park on Sunday, May 21. They would like help at the park at 7:30am. Watch for a Flocknote later this week with more details.

The Knights will be hosting Bingo on Friday, May 19 in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm. We are still looking for Knights to help us in this continuing fundraising event.

#### Stewardship Report for May 7, 2023

Grand Total of Collection \$21,208.00
Weekly Average Needed \$21,346.00
Annual Parish Budget \$1,100,000.00
Contributions needed to date
Contributions received to date \$945,424.07

Budget Income Shortfall (\$15,145.93)

Thank you!

#### **Area Events**

#### Thursday, May 18

 Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention Training from 11:30am-1:00pm offered for free virtually. Call Alicia Kuhlman at 406.540.4120 or ght.alicia1@gmail.com for more information. This training is a three-step process used to intervene in a mental health emergency. Just like CPR, this 90-minute course equips attendees with the skills to respond to a crisis and get the person referred to help.

#### Saturday, May 27

 Can you help place U.S. flags on the graves of Veterans at 8:30am at Holy Cross Cemetery? Please call Angela Norris at 406.839.8387, and let her know if you, or your group, are willing to help. Thank you!

#### Monday, May 29

 A Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated at St. Ann's Chapel at 10:30am in Holy Cross Cemetery. Bishop Jeffrey Fleming will be the celebrant with Fr. Leo McDowell concelebrating.

# Scholarship for a Senior Girl

The five vicariates of the Great Falls-Billings Diocesan Council of Catholic Women are awarding one \$500.00 scholarship to a high school graduating senior girl. Applications are available at the St. Pius X parish office or contact Toni Ziegler at 406.654.1187. Applications must be received by May 20, 2023.

# St. Thomas Camp for

**Youth...**Visit the diocesan website at <u>diocesegfb.org</u> for more information on Catholic summer camp in Monarch, Montana.

# This Week's Meetings on the Campus of St. Pius X Hoppy Mother's Day!

#### Sat., May 13 & Sun., May 14 in the Gathering Area

- Sign up for the Parish Blood Drive
- Vacation Bible School information table
- Lenten Soup Recipe collection basket
- LaVie 'Change for Hope' fundraiser envelopes & QR code

#### Monday, May 15

- NO daily Mass
- SEEL Discernment group, 11:00am, Parish Ctr. # 3
- St. Pius X Conference of St. Vincent dePaul, 7:00pm, Parish Center # 3

#### Tuesday, May 16

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)
- Parish Blood Drive, 12:30-5:15pm, Fellowship Hall
- WoW prayer group, 1:00pm, Parish Center # 3
- Parish Choir, 6:30pm, Sanctuary
- Middle and High School Youth Ministry, 6:30pm, Youth Center

#### Wednesday, May 17

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)
- Sandwich ministry, 9:00am, Fellowship Hall
- Children of Joy and Gladness (charismatic prayer), 3:00pm, Day Chapel
- Worship Commission, 6:30pm, Parish Center # 3
- Emmaus Singers, 6:30pm, Sanctuary
- Adoration for vocations and religious life with Deacon Tom Landry, 7:00pm, Day Chapel

#### Thursday, May 18

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)
- SEEL prayer group, 9:15am, Parish Center # 1
- K. of C. Council, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall. Rosary in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at 6:30pm.

#### Friday, May 19

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)
- SEEL Challenge group, 10:00am, Parish Ctr. # 4
- K. of C. Adult Public Bingo, 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

#### Sat., May 20 & Sun., May 21 at church

- Lenten Soup Recipe collection basket (final collection weekend)
- LaVie 'Change for Hope' fundraiser envelopes & OR code
- Sunday: OCIA Inquiry, 9:45am, Fellowship Hall

# Scripture Reflection: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 Psalm 66:1-7, 16, 20 1 Peter 3:15-18 John 14:15-21

My dad was adopted as a baby. It's a big part of my family's story. His birth mother placed him in a Catholic orphanage not long after birth. A young couple longing for a baby strolled among the bassinets. My father, then only a few months old, looked at the husband and smiled. The man said, "That's my son." They took him home and the family grew. This moment of adoption was a wonderful truth they celebrated even when my dad was a young boy. They told him, "You're even more special than the other children, because we chose you to be our son." My dad's eyes well up with tears of gratitude whenever he tells the story, even eighty-three years later.

What is your story? Do we think or act like unwanted orphans? Who do we believe ourselves to be? As we continue to ponder Jesus' resurrection, we hear him say to us this Sunday, "I will not leave you orphans." God doesn't leave us alone like spiritual orphans. The power that raised Jesus from the dead is the Holy Spirit, who is also called the Spirit of Adoption. He chooses us to be His children, to share God's life forever. He gives us a future filled with hope.

We are not orphans anymore! This Easter, that's the story we should share with others. It's the true story we are living right now. — Father John Muir

# OCIA: Welcome to our Parish's Spring Inquiry Session

We have an OCIA Inquiry Session scheduled for interested individuals next Sunday, May 21, between the two Sunday Masses—9:45 to 10:45am—in the church Fellowship Hall.

Are you, or someone you know, interested in becoming Catholic or completing sacraments? The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), was formally referred to as the RCIA. We will offer the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist to those who have yet to receive them.

So, what are some 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?

Everyone is welcome to explore becoming Catholic through the Sacraments of Initiation. Please feel free to contact Matt Low at 406.281.8506 or email him at *mlow@stpiusxblgs.org* with any questions.

# **Mass Intentions & Readings**

**Monday, May 15**, St. Isidore Acts 16:11-15, Psalm 149:1-6, 9, John 15:26-16:4

Tuesday, May 16

Acts 16:22-34, Psalm 138:1-3, 7-8, John 16:5-11

8:30am Mass: † Pat Sommerfeld

Wednesday, May 17

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1, Ps. 148:1-2, 11-14, John 16:12-15

8:30am Mass: † Barbara Voeller

Thursday, May 18

Acts 18:1-8, Psalm 98:1-4, John 16:16-20

8:30am Mass: † Marion Fonner

Friday, May 19

Acts 18:9-18, Psalm 47:2-7, John 16:20-23 **8:30am Mass:** † Judith Ann Koppelman

**Saturday, May 20**, St. Bernardine of Siena Acts 18:23-28, Psalm 47:2-3, 8-10, John 16:23-28

5:00pm Mass: † Lorena and Helen Stein

Sunday, May 21 Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11, Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9, Ephesians1:17-23,

Matthew 28:16-20

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

11:00am Mass: † Caroline Hoffert

## Help Us Share God's Goodness!

Our goal is to generate and multiply the number of holy moments in our parish community. Matthew Kelly, the author of *Holy Moments—a Handbook for the Rest of Your Life*—states, "Every Holy Moment increases the goodness and the goodwill in the world." With this understanding we've set out to "collaborate with God" and create more holy moments in our community by inviting you, our parishioners, to drop off new greeting cards in the Gathering Area of church for inmates at the Women's Prison to utilize.

Please consider the following types of greeting cards: Thank you cards, blank cards, get-well cards, birthday cards, Mother's Day cards, friendship cards, religious-themed cards (avoid Christmas cards; they already have plenty). Please avoid donating cards that have any sort of added attachments on them, including glitter. Thank you!

## Lenten Soup Recipe Search

During the Lenten Season, many were able to partake in some wonderful meatless soups during our Friday Stations of the Cross and Soup suppers. If you are willing to share your recipe, please place a copy in the basket marked "recipes" in the Gathering Area of church by next weekend, May 21. Carolyn Gransberg will be collecting them for a future display. Don't forget to add you name to your recipe!

# Ministry Schedule: May 20-21, 2023

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass

Greeter: Arlene Forney, Brooke LaRoche

Usher: Bob Holbrook, Mike Persha, Keith Schott, Phil

Zeeck

Lector: Renee' O'Dea-1, Alan Gransberg-2

Sacristan: Tim Morgan
Altar Minister: Richard King

Eucharistic Minister: Heather Kaiser, Mary Karls,

Karen Schott, Mark Sevier

Cross: Cooper Papez, Server: Halle Anderson

Nursery: Kylie Schott

Sunday, 8:30am Mass

Greeter: Connie James, Need 1

**Usher:** Don Judice, Steve Komar, Doug Slotsve,

Richard Wood

Lector: Meghan Lehman-1, Shannon Behounek-2

Sacristan: Need 1

Altar Minister: Andy Mikes

Eucharistic Minister: Ashley Buller, Rick & Sharon

McCann, Ron Yates

Cross: Victoria Willis, Server: Keely Bakkedahl

Nursery: Kelly Keller

Sunday, 11:00am Mass

Greeter: Markus Hulquist, Joe Larimer

Usher: Kyle Brehm, Steve & Nicole Geiger, David

Mork

**Lector:** Eileen Hendershot-1, Patsy Guenthner-2

**Sacristan:** Germaine Riesinger **Altar Minister:** Sandi McGovern

Eucharistic Minister: Susan Johnson, Ross Marquis,

Mary Rah, Jessie Rohrer

Cross: E. Dominguez, Server: L. Boelman

Nursery: Brittney Linford

Please support the Annual Catholic Appeal by visiting diocesegfb.org/ACA or picking up a contribution envelope in the Gathering Area of church.

#### **National Collection for CCC**

Next week is the national collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign (CCC). This campaign engages and builds Catholic communities in the U.S. and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the money collected remains here in the diocese of Great Falls-Billings.To learn more, visit usccb.org/ccc.

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## **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 Instagram @stpiusx\_blgs

Fr. Martin Ezeihuaku, Pastor, 406.281.8504, <a href="martin@stpiusxblgs.org">frmartin@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Deacon Tom Landry, 406.860.7842, <a href="martin@stpiusxblgs.org">acnerds@bresnan.net</a>
Shannon Behounek, Administrative Assistant, <a href="martin@stpiusxblgs.org">shannonb@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Shelly Greenfield, Bulletin, Christian Service, <a href="martingsggsggstpiusxblgs.org">sggstpiusxblgs.org</a>
Karyn Haider, Parish Administrator, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">khaider@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
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Olivia Hanser, Interim Youth Minister, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">olivia@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Matt Low, Director of Christian Initiation, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">mlow@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Kathy McCleary, Communications & Volunteers, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">kmc@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Mike Persha, Cemetery Manager, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">mpersha@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Jessie Rohrer, Children's Ministry Coordinator, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">marys@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Bill Walker, Custodian, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">bwalker@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Stacy Wegner, Children's Ministry Assistant, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">children@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Joan Whelan, Music Ministry, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">joan@stpiusxblgs.org</a>
Council of Elders, <a href="martingstpiusxblgs.org">elders@stpiusxblgs.org</a>

Bulletin notices are due by 4:30pm on Monday. Please email submissions to bulletin@stpiusxblgs.org.

# **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

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

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