

**The Pastor's Corner  
Fr. Paul Portland, SDS**

Dear Friends,

Our annual parish meeting was held a few weeks ago and was well attended. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find some comments on the meeting from someone a little more "objective" than I am, but I would like to say that it gave a good picture of what is happening in religious education, both at Wauwatosa Catholic and with children/youth in our tri-parish programs. I believe the focus on helping children build a relationship with God, in addition to helping them know and understand our faith, is a good one. I thank our dedicated school staff, parish staff, and volunteers for the important ministry to our children.

For more information on the school, check out the website <http://www.wauwatosacatholic.org>. For more information on the tri-parish religious education programs for children and youth, check out the website <https://www.triparishfaithformation.org>.

As you will gather from some of the articles and information in this newsletter, we enter the season of Advent this coming Sunday, a season of preparing ourselves to remember Christ's First Coming and rededicating ourselves to helping His Kingdom grow in preparation for his Second Coming.

Sometimes there are ancient traditions that can help us focus and enter into the Church year. One such tradition that can help us focus on the true meaning of Christmas in the final days before its celebration is the use of the "O" antiphons. I quote from the webpage of our US bishops: *The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the Magnificat canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.*

I invite you to save these and use them for a time of quiet reflection during the week before Christmas. I will repeat them in the bulletin on December 16 (You might recognize our Advent hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*):

**December 17: O Wisdom** of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: **come** to teach us the path of knowledge!

**December 18: O Leader** of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: **come** to rescue us with your mighty power!

**December 19: O Root of Jesse's** stem, sign of God's love for all his people: **come** to save us without delay!

**December 20: O Key of David**, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: **come** and free the prisoners of darkness!

**December 21: O Radiant Dawn**, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: **come** and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**December 22: O King of all nations** and keystone of the Church: **come** and save us, whom you formed from the dust!

**December 23: O Emmanuel**, our King and Giver of Law: **come** to save us, Lord our God!

Also, please remember there are two booklets in the back of church to help us be reflective in Advent, one for adults and one of family activities so children can be included. I hope you will use these resources. And join us for adoration, a short reflection on the parable of the Good Samaritan, quiet time, and Benediction between 7 and 8 pm on Tuesday, December 4. All are invited, including your extended family, friends, and neighbors. Hope to see you there!

We will have a **Communal Penance Service** with a chance for individual confession (Tuesday, December 11, at 7 pm) and the **Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick** at all Masses the weekend of December 8-9.

Let us pray for each other in a special way that we may reflectively prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

*Paul James Portland, SDS*

## Advent 2018

The season of Advent begins the weekend of December 1/2. During advent, we are called to prepare the way of the Lord, to watch and wait with joyful expectation not only for the Nativity of Jesus in Bethlehem but also for all the ways God chooses to take flesh in us every day. Here at St. Pius we have a long tradition of reaching out to those in need during the season of Advent. you are invited to participate in these efforts on the Sundays of Advent.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent – Card Sunday

Our joy is expressed as we touch the hearts of parishioners who are homebound, in nursing homes or in hospice, by writing out Christmas cards for them. We place the cards in the baskets in the sanctuary. The cards will be delivered, along with a holiday plant, when our shut-ins are visited by one of our Ministers of Care. (Watch the November bulletins for a list of names.)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Gift Sunday

We hear what God proclaims and we joyfully respond as we help to brighten the holidays of those in need. We place gifts we have purchased in the sanctuary. They will be distributed to various organizations in the community. (A list of needed items will be in the November bulletins.)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Food Sunday

We rejoice that God has blessed us and we respond by bringing food donations for the hungry in our community so that others may have the opportunity to have joyful and nourishing holiday meals.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – Family Sunday

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of Christmas, reflect on how you can bring Christ's joy to one another in your immediate, parish, community, and global families and make a commitment to do so in the coming year.

## Other Advent Services:

### Advent Night of Reflection

December 4<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm - In church

All are invited to enter into the season of Advent with an hour of reflection and adoration. The hour will consist of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, an Advent reflection led by Fr. Paul on the parable of the Good Samaritan, quiet reflection time, and Benediction. Please take advantage of this quiet time with the Lord to help us prepare for celebrating the birth of our Savior.

### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Join in celebrating this holy day. The Collaborative Parish Liturgy will be held on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM at Christ King Parish.

## Communal Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will take place at all the liturgies the weekend of December 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to obtain the graces of this special sacrament.

## Communal Reconciliation Service

Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Pius X Parish

## Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 4:30 pm ( Note change in time from previous years)

Pageant begins at 4:15 pm

December 24<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 pm

Concert & Carols begins at 9:30 pm

December 25<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 am

Carols begin at 9:10 am

## An Advent Opportunity

This coming Advent we would like to carry the Advent candles in procession at the beginning of every Mass. We are looking for families, couples, or individuals who would like to participate by carrying the candles in the entrance procession.

There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Table. Please look at your calendars and consider selecting a Mass or Masses where you could help out with this liturgical action and then sign up at the Welcome table or you can contact Kathy Wellenstein at 453-3875 Ext. 14 or email at [kwellenstein@stpiusparish.org](mailto:kwellenstein@stpiusparish.org) to let her know at which Mass you would be available to help out.

## Join the Salvatorian Family for Advent Vespers

Wednesday, December 5, 2018, 7 pm, in the Community House chapel, 4311 North 100<sup>th</sup> Street – north end of DSHA. All are welcome!

## St. Pius X Very Own Pancake Breakfast and Secret Santa Workshop!

Come and Enjoy...

Yummy Pancakes Mouthwatering Sausage \* A little Holiday Shopping for You and the Kids

Maybe even Santa will stop by  
Bring your camera!

December 16, 2018  
9 AM – 1 PM school cafeteria

13 yrs—Adult—\$6.00

5 yrs—13 yrs—\$4.00

Under 5 yrs—Free

## Stewardship Drive Update Holly Cartier

We are coming to the end of the first month of our St Pius X pledge drive. Out of 435 parish families, only 167 have currently pledged. On December 1, we will be sending our second mailing. Please prayerfully consider returning your pledge cards, or go online to our parish webpage to pledge. You can save us printing costs and mailing costs. Please support our parish.

## Catholic Identity Holly Cartier

"When I'm worried and I can't sleep, I count my blessings instead of sheep..." I. Berlin. I often try to relate these pieces around an event or a line of Scripture, but this week I could not get this out of my mind. One of my greatest blessings is St. Plus X. My parents were charter members, I attended school here during much of my elementary years, received the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation and Matrimony in this church. My first coach was Father Leander, my teachers were Sisters of the Divine Savior, I learned to roller skate in this rink. My grandchildren were baptized here, my parents buried from here. My spiritual life is rooted here. How could I not feel blessed? You too, my parish family, are counted as one of my great blessings. May God's grace and gifts make your holiday season bright and happy. May His care and love surround you. May we all remember to see His face in each other. And may we remember this is our Faith, this is our Catholic identity.

All comments are welcome!  
Hcards.hc@gmail.com

## Year-End Contributions for 2018

You are reminded that contributions for calendar year 2018 must be received in the parish office by December 31, or in an envelope postmarked no later than December 31, 2018.

A check dated December 31 or earlier, but not in the parish's possession or in a valid postmarked envelope, and received by the parish office on January 1 or later, is a 2019 contribution.

Thank you for your financial support of our Parish Mission!

**Friday Morning Prayer:** Join the group that meets after the 8:00 AM Mass in the rectory each Friday morning. Read and learn about the Mass readings for the next Sunday and share in discussion and prayer. All are welcome.

## All Parish Meeting Summary

During the weekend of November 10/11, all parish meetings were held after each Mass. Thank you to the many parishioners who attended, as well as the members of the staff and Joanna Clementi, Pastoral Council Chairperson, who spoke.

Fr. Paul shared updates about some of the latest initiatives from the Archdiocese. One is Amazing Parish. Father Paul, a staff member, a trustee, and a parishioner attended a conference and since then a Pastoral Leadership Team has been set up and meets weekly (Kathy Wellenstein, S. Mary Lee Grady, Ron Skelton, Dean Weyer). The goal is to help the pastor make sure the parish is moving forward in its evangelizing efforts. Fr. Paul also mentioned the Advent events which are detailed in other parts of the newsletter.

Our Wauwatosa Catholic principal, Lori Suarez, shared her vision for the school and her extensive background as an educator. Our school is in good hands and does a great deal in promoting Catholic Identity through education, Mass, rosary, and prayer.

The directors Samantha El-Azem (ministry to children) and Sarah Daszczuk (middle school and high school ministry) shared the latest in their programs. Please go to the websites that Fr. Paul includes in his letter in this newsletter for more information.

Dean Weyer, Director of Administrative Services, summarized the financial situation of our parish. Of special note is the fact that we ran a total deficit of \$492,417 during the last five years St. Pius X Grade School existed. In the five years of our new school, Wauwatosa Catholic, we show a surplus of \$65,628. Our collaboration has been very successful and the school continues to offer a quality education. Dean also made it clear that our parish relies on the generous donations of our parishioners to keep our ministries alive and the lights on. If you have any questions about our parish finances, please contact Dean Weyer, [dweyer@stpiousparish.org](mailto:dweyer@stpiousparish.org).

After attending these meetings and hearing from our parish leaders, I am confident that we are very blessed to be in such good hands. Thank you to all the volunteers, staff and the Salvatorian Family for all you do!

***The Mission of St. Pius X Catholic Community is to nurture, deepen, celebrate and live out our identity as an apostolic community, a people who are called, gifted and sent by our God.***

***Served by the Society of the Divine Savior – Salvatorians***

## **News from our School Wauwatosa Catholic**

November has flown by! We began the month with an all school All Saints Day Mass. Our first graders processed into church dressed as a saint which they chose and researched. After Mass they delivered oral reports on their saint. All students learned of the Spanish commemoration of Dias de los Muertos, which coincides with All Souls Day. Many students contributed to a display outside of the Spanish room by leaving pictures of loved ones.

Our newly formed Art Club decorated our tree at Community Spirit Park. 100 trees are in the park—each decorated by a school in Milwaukee County. The theme for our tree is Unity. Each student decorated a puzzle piece. Many parishioners and parents purchased a puzzle piece for their family to decorate. The Art Club did a fine job of decorating. Our tree is located on Jefferson Street—mid block. If you are downtown during the holiday season, stop by to see all the beautifully decorated trees.

The 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students spent two days at Camp Gray where they participated in an Environmental Studies Program. The students explored the camp's 227-acre property while learning about our call as Catholics to care for our surroundings. The sixth graders are already talking about their return visit next year.

The eighth-grade class led a food drive. Their goal was to collect 750 cans of food for the Food Pantry. The drive began on Conference Day. It then ran from Monday through Thursday. They met their goal! On Friday, November 16, the food was blessed at the end of the St. Bernard Mass. It truly was an ambitious project. Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders should feel extremely proud of their service.

We have launched a new group of Student Ambassadors. Students from grades 5-8 were invited to apply for a position as student Ambassador. We have an eager group of 14 students who will act as a first contact for many visitors to our school. Their first job was to help create themes for our Catholic Schools Week. These creative young people will be assisting in many aspects of our community.

Our teacher Catholic Identity Committee is working to finalize our Advent activities. Students will be Preparing Their Hearts for the Coming of Jesus. Meaningful activities are being planned for each week of Advent. We are trying to build on what each of our supporting parishes are doing. It promises to be a busy December!

All of us at Wauwatosa Catholic hope that you had a Happy Thanksgiving. We want all of you to know how

much we appreciate all of the support you have provided to your school. We know that we could not do the amazing things we do without the prayers and support you so graciously provide.

## **Health Ministry News**

### **Family Caregiver Guides Available**

Copies of AARP's *Medicare Guide for Family Caregivers* and *Prepare to Care, A Planning Guide for Families* are now available in the Health Ministry resource area in the vestibule of church (Look on the lower shelf of the display.). Being prepared and staying informed helps family caregivers reduce stress and stay healthy.

### **Don't Miss the ACA's Deadline! Apply for Coverage Today!**

"Now more affordable, New Lower Premiums"

If you purchase your health insurance through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and have not done so, be aware that the "One and only deadline" for 2019 is December 15<sup>th</sup>. (Unless you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period.) The enrollment period is again just 45 days (Nov1-Dec 15) and there is no advertising about the window on TV (It was defunded.). Also, the ACA website is reported to be possibly down on Sundays for maintenance. View more information, plans and get coverage on [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) Plans sold during Open Enrollment start January 1, 2019.

### **Yoga for You**

Yoga is a powerful medicine but a slow medicine. With the practice of yoga practitioners reflect a calm sense of well-being, a willingness to accept the differences of others, and an orientation toward peace that makes for a stronger, more flexible and healthier world.

All are welcome, women and men  
9:00 am – 10:00 am Room 101  
Bring your mat or a chair is available.

Classes are free and are taught by parish member Mary Snow, a licensed and certified yoga teacher.

Updates on yoga classes:

The current 6-week session started November 19 to Dec.31. There will be no class on Dec.24th.

January 7th. Is our bye week, so the next session will start January 14 to February 18th.

**From Justice and Peace  
Joan Quinn**

**Moving Beyond  
To make a difference!**

Every week during Advent, we have outreach opportunities that have become part of “what we do at St. Pius”. One of the most amazing advent activities has been Gift Sunday, the day when parishioners fill the altar area with gifts for others in need. While Gift Sunday has never been under the purview of the Justice and Peace Commission, we would like to highlight the local agencies and organizations, the work that they do and the people that they serve.

The tradition of Gift Sunday goes back over 40 years. Throughout those years, there have been changes in the agencies and the needs of the people they serve. That has been reflected in the gifts that are requested now. Make sure to read the bulletin insert to learn about the agencies we support and get ideas for Gift Sunday Giving. Also, take some time to look at the poster with information and pictures of the people who will be the happy recipients of our generosity.

Christmas Blessings

**St. Vincent de Paul Warm Clothing Drive**

As temperatures are dropping, the meal program we participate in is also requesting warm clothing. If you have any of these gently used items that you are ready to part with, please place them in the bin labeled St. Vincent de Paul located in the back of church.

Sweatshirts-men’s, women’s, children’s, all sizes  
Winter boots-men’s, women’s, children’s, all sizes  
Winter coats- men’s, women’s, children’s, all sizes  
Hats, mittens, gloves, scarves— men’s, women’s  
children’s, Blankets

**Email List – please join!**

Each month the parish newsletter is sent to all members. We hope to be able to connect with parishioners through email.

If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter, please visit the parish website [www.stpiusparish.org](http://www.stpiusparish.org) and look for the **email sign-up link** to subscribe to our mailing list.

Using email saves us money for paper and postage and allows you to get the latest information sooner. Thank you.

**Calling All Crafters!**

We are again calling for our knit and crochet parishioners to make hats, scarves and mittens for Gift Sunday. All colors and sizes are needed.

The agencies we service really appreciate these home-made items. Gift Sunday is the weekend of December 8-9.

**Prayer Network**

If you, or if you have a relative or friend who is struggling with illness, loss of a loved one, a spiritual crisis or any of countless other life challenges, we have a group of parishioners who have committed to interceding in prayer on your or their behalf.

If you would like to have someone included in the daily prayers of the network members or if you would like to become a member of the network, interceding on behalf of others, contact John Kielich at [jkielich@wi.rr.com](mailto:jkielich@wi.rr.com) or at 414-732-7295.

Because of HIPAA policies, a hospital cannot notify the parish of admittance of a parishioner, so a family member must take the initiative. To arrange for a priest to visit a loved one in the hospital, please contact the parish office.

**The Tosa Community Food Pantry**

The Tosa Community Food Pantry has been in existence since 1983. It’s primary purpose is to collect and distribute food to feed the needy in and around Wauwatosa. The pantry is housed in St. Bernard’s Church and is open two days each week--Mon. from 1-3PM and Sat. from 9-11am. It serves an average of 125 families, or 275 individuals each month, with the help of approximately 50 volunteers. St. Pius has supported the pantry in variety of ways since the pantry’s inception. There are regular food drives through-out the year where parishioners can bring non-perishable food items to St. Pius for delivery to the Food Pantry.

Outside of the formal food drives, donations can also be brought to the parish on a weekly basis and will be delivered to the pantry. Additionally, the parish provides regular financial and volunteer support.

Volunteer opportunities include staffing the pantry on days it’s open, shopping locally for food, unloading large deliveries, stocking pantry shelves, fund raising, and sponsoring fund-raising events. If you’re looking to get involved feel free to reach out to Jennifer Boettcher at [jboettcher@wi.rr.com](mailto:jboettcher@wi.rr.com)



# St. Pius X Community Calendar

## December, 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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<b>2</b> Fellowship—J&P 9 am Café  <b>1st Sun Advent</b>	<b>3</b> Yoga 9 am 101	<b>4</b> Advent Night of Reflection 7 pm Church	<b>5</b> CGS 3-5 yr old 4 pm Atrium @ CK CGS K3-5th grade 6 pm Atrium @ CK PC Agenda 6:15 pm R/LR/DR/Apt J4J 7pm Church Dartball 7 pm 101	<b>6</b> SG Sing/Ring 3:30 Choir Rm Choir 7:15 Church	<b>7</b> Refl on Sun script 8:30am R/DR	<b>8</b> BVM Cluster Mass 8 am @ CK Anointing of Sick 5 pm Mass
<b>9</b> Fellowship— CLC 9 am Café Anointing of Sick 8 & 10 am Mass Gift Sun 11:15-12:45 CGS Atrium 9 am @CK <b>2nd Sun Advent</b>	<b>10</b> Yoga 9 am Rm 101	<b>11</b> B Scouts 6:30 101 Communal Reconciliation 7 pm Church	<b>12</b> Dartball 7 pm 101 CGS 3-5 yr old 4 pm Atrium @ CK CGS K3-5th grade 6 pm Atrium @ CK Councils 6:30 @CK	<b>13</b> SG Sing/Ring 3:30 Choir Rm Health Min 6pm Conf Rm Choir 7:15 Church	<b>14</b> Refl on Sun script 8:30am R/DR	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Pancake Brkfst 9am Family Prog 12 pm @ St. B Pageant R 1:30 church MS Edge Night 4:15 @ St. B HS Form Night 6 pm Mass church 7 pm Class school <b>3rd Sun Advent</b>	<b>17</b> Yoga 9 am Rm 101 WC Christmas Prog 6:15 pm Church Steward 5:30 pm R/LR	<b>18</b> J&P 6:45 R/LR	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Choir 7:15 pm	<b>21</b> Refl on Sun script 8:30 am R/DR	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Environment C 11:30-2 Church Pageant R 1:30 Church Church Gr 1-3 101 <b>4th Sun Advent</b>	<b>24</b> Pageant @ 4:15 Mass @ 4:30 pm Mass @ 10:00 pm Concert @ 9:30  <b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>25</b> Mass @ 9:30 am Carols a @ 9:10   <b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Refl on Sun script 8:30 am R/DR	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Cluster Mass 4:00 pm @ St Pius <b>New Year's Eve</b>					