

ECHOES

EMERGENCY EDITION



*Reverend Monsignor
Anthony Marcaccio*

A Message from Monsignor

When this Lent began, some of the kids were sharing what they were giving up for the forty days. I must say their list was impressive, and I was more than embarrassed that my aspirations were not as heroic. When we began Lent, I wondered if the Lord would want me to fast from my favorites of Diet Mountain Dew, Hershey bars with almonds, or biscuits at breakfast. I never imagined that I would be asked to fast from the celebration of Mass. Already I miss being together with you and the Lord at the Eucharistic table. Already

the fast from prayer groups, Bible studies, Faith Formation, and our school has had a serious effect on the life of our parish. Just one week in, and it already feels like it's going to be a particularly hard fast to follow.

It's precisely because it's so hard that this may become one of the most fruitful fasts and Lents of our time. We embrace the discipline of Lent and the sacrifice of a fast to help us grow in self-control or some virtue. Perhaps, this Lent will help us grow in our spirit of profound gratitude for what we cannot now celebrate. But how?

Well, there is an expression that familiarity breeds dullness. When something, even a very good and extraordinary something, is around us all the time or available to us when we want, we naturally start to take it for granted. This can happen even with the Blessed Sacrament, since we are familiar with having multiple options to attend Mass. This will not be the case for a while. But rather than complain, let's adopt a perspective that appreciates the privilege that has been ours. With a renewed and a heightened sense of gratitude for the amazing action of God among us, it may be possible that this fast could lead to even greater dedication and devotion of our celebrations of Eucharist. With this perspective, we can also see that our sacrifice from the Blessed Sacrament pales in comparison as a mere inconvenience to those whose very gifts of life and health are at risk. We will meet the devastating effect of this pandemic with courage and perseverance.

Here, the perspective of history is helpful because the fast from

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Important Points from the Pastor

*Out of 52 weeks in the year, missing one week of offertory is difficult. Missing four or more weeks will be devastating. How can you help? Please consider an online giving option. Details are on page 3.

*The situation in our community is constantly changing and therefore so are our responses and our resources. Now is the time to stay informed. Sign up for REALM today. Details are on page 2.

*I need your help to check on our seniors and most vulnerable parishioners. Please see page 2 for details about how you can help.

Changes to our Ministries, Faith Formation Programs, Youth Ministry, and Mass Schedules can be found inside. Please see page 2 for details on how you can stay connected and receive the most up-to-date information through email, our website, and social media.

DO YOU WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE ON PARISH SCHEDULE CHANGES AND IMPORTANT NEWS?

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN:



1. Join REALM to ensure you are receiving parish-wide emails.

You can also download the REALM App! All you need is a valid email address on file with the parish office. Please fill out the form on our website at www.stpiusxnc.com/realm, contact spxmail@stpiusxnc.com or call the parish office at 336-272-4681.



2. Follow St. Pius X on Social Media. Look for us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @stpiusxnc.



3. Check our website home page daily. Visit www.stpiusxnc.com and look for updates. We will also be posting weekly bulletins online here because we are not having Mass at this time.

During these times of uncertainty and administrative decision making, please be sure to check back often for updated information, as the guidelines for events remains fluid.

HAVE YOU JOINED OUR ST. PIUS X "REALM?" Our database has been updated and now allows for parishioners to log into their own, secure account to view/update profile information and much more. Here is a list of just some of what you can do in REALM: Manage your profile; Customize your communication options; Search for and join ministry groups; View and manage your giving history; Register for programs and events; and more! Visit www.stpiusxnc.com/realm for more information.



BE LIKE TATER! You can add a profile or family picture and update your contact information easily through REALM. Manage your privacy settings, email, and text options. Help our parish staff keep our records up-to-date! You can even check and print your own giving history to see how many "bones" you've buried!

Seniors' Ministry Updates

It has never been more important to protect the health and well-being of our Seniors. Please reach out to Senior members of our parish now made more vulnerable by the presence of COVID-19 in our area to ensure they have the food, supplies and medication required.

If you are a Senior living alone without family or friends in the area and have a critical need for food or supplies, please contact Shelley Kreber, skreber@stpiusxnc.com or leave a message at 336.272.4681 ext. 106 and we will do our best to share your need with parishioners in your area who may be able to help. If the need is medical in nature, please contact your healthcare provider. Also, be sure to check with local grocery, pharmacy and discount department stores for various pickup and delivery options.

Ministry Updates

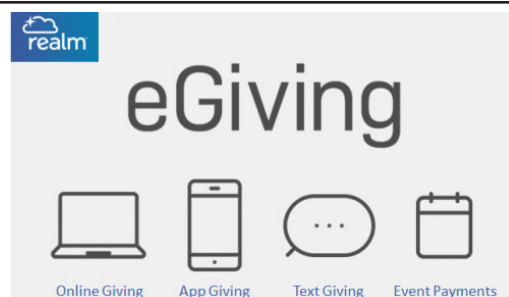
- **MUSIC MINISTRY** All choir practices, handbell practices, and children's choir practices are suspended until further notice.
- All group meetings, classes, and events are postponed until further notice. Please look for specific information from your ministry leaders.

Set Up Online eGiving for One-Time or Automatic Gifts to St. Pius X Parish

In addition to our goal to help keep people safe and healthy during this difficult time, we are also committed to minimizing the financial impact on them. As such, measures are being taken to pay staff, to continue providing benefits to those who are unable to work, and by ministering to those in need by the work of our parish mission in the Greensboro community.

We must also continue to meet all our other financial obligations. Please continue your financial support of St. Pius X Parish if you are not adversely impacted by this crisis. In each packet of offertory envelopes you receive, there is a mail-in envelope included. You can mail your offertory gift to the parish office at St. Pius X Catholic Church, P.O. Box 13588, Greensboro, NC 27415-3588.

You can also access online giving by logging into your REALM account and clicking on the “Giving” tab or by going *directly* to this secure website: <https://onrealm.org/stpiusxnc/give/online>.



Please Help Support the DSA

The cancellation of Masses means we will miss the opportunity to hear from our DSA speaker and the in-pew appeal. We will not be able to reach our assessment without your support. Please make a donation today. Visit the St. Pius X DSA website at www.stpiusxnc.com/dsa to learn more and to donate online today.

You can also scan the QR code to the right and it will take you directly to the Diocese of Charlotte DSA donation page. Be sure to specify our parish “St. Pius X” when you give online.



A Message from the Principal of St. Pius X Catholic School

In accordance with Governor Cooper’s executive order (Saturday, March 14), guidance from the North Carolina Department of Education, and in conjunction with the Chancery, Diocese of Charlotte Catholic Schools, including Saint Pius X Catholic School, have suspended all on-campus classes Monday, March 16, through Friday, March 27.

Effective immediately, all schools in the diocese have moved to remote learning modes. The staff of Saint Pius X has been working to effectively prepare for this possibility.

Following the finalization of planning on Monday, March 16, our teachers are reaching out to the parents of their respective students to communicate plans, information and resources.

Schedules are being communicated from Principal Chris Kloesz that provide students and families the opportunity to pick up personal items and any resources needed to continue distance learning from home. Updates to these schedules for picking up instructional resources, library books, etc., will be sent by teachers and administration using the parent portal in RenWeb/FACTS, via email blast, or through the Parent Alert text messaging system.

Keeping our students, families, and staff safe and healthy is of utmost importance. The Saint Pius X School staff is appreciative for everyone’s understanding and patience as we work through these challenging times -- something no one has ever experienced. We will continue to monitor the situation as it unfolds, and updates will be posted as necessary.

God’s Blessings to all – and stay healthy.

Chris Kloesz, M.Ed., Principal, Saint Pius X Catholic School

St. Pius X Catholic Church - Mass Information

- According to the CDC guidelines (at the time of this publication), all gatherings of ten (10) people are to be suspended until further notice.
- ***All weekend Masses are canceled through Holy Thursday.***
- ***Daily Mass and the Stations of the Cross*** on Fridays will continue as scheduled and be held in the main church not in the chapel.
- ***The church will be open*** on Saturdays from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. and on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon for personal prayer and worship.
- The ***Sacrament of Reconciliation*** will be offered on Fridays from 6:00 - 6:45 p.m. and on Saturdays from 4:00 - 5:00 pm. These will be done face-to-face in the chapel.
- ***All information is subject to change!***

Updates from the Office of Faith Formation, Youth & Young Adult Ministry, and Sacramental Preparation

Sacramental Prep - First Holy Communion

- We will not meet again in the classroom this year. Packets will be sent out digitally on Sunday, March 22 and available for pickup in the parish office beginning on Monday, March 23. Students will need to complete the packets and bring to their First Holy Communion Practice. Other information regarding dress, Mass time selection, and practice times will be sent out with the packets and through email updates.

Sacramental Prep - Confirmation

- In-person classes are suspended until after Easter. Please be on the lookout for emails from Isabel on at home work for students to complete their requirements. No decision has been made on the sacramental date and mass, Isabel will send out an email if anything changes. Teachers will be meeting with Isabel soon to discuss how to finish the year virtually. Please direct all questions to Isabel istreed@stpiusxnc.com

RCIA

- At this time, RCIA will meet virtually. Please visit the St. Pius X website at www.stpiusxnc.com/rcia for work you can be doing from home, recorded notes, and videos! We will give you more updates through email and remain in contact as much as possible until Holy Week.

Regular PreK - 6th Grade Faith Formation

- We will not meet again in the classroom this year. An email will be sent out to each grade level with specific instructions for make-up work.

Youth Group (Middle and High School)

- All youth group events are postponed until after Easter. Please stay updated with our Facebook and Instagram for online lessons and studies! High school students please see more detailed updates via email and GroupMe! Our potato bar fundraiser is canceled, our work camp annual collection and our car wash dates are TBD. Follow us on Facebook @spxyouth and on Instagram @spxncyouth.

Young Adult Ministry

- Until after Easter all young adult gatherings and events are canceled. Please stay updated with our Instagram for online lessons and studies! If you would like more constant updated information please email Isabel about joining the GroupMe. Follow us on Instagram @spxncyoungadult

Adult Bible Studies and Coffee Talk

- At this time, all studies and Coffee Talk are suspended until after Easter. Facilitators will send out class-specific information to view videos online or for make-up classes.

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Please see inside for important parish-related communications and updates.

Our next Echoes issue will be the May 2020 edition. The deadline for submissions is Tuesday, April 21 at 3:00 p.m. Please email to terrekepler@gmail.com or deliver to the parish office.

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