

# THE PARISH PRESS

*The monthly newsletter of St. Pius X Parish Community*

## A Reflection from Fr. Paul

Our parish provides copies of “Little Books” from the Diocese of Saginaw to parishioners for Advent/Christmas, Lent, and Eastertime. I was struck by a statement in the selection for December 31<sup>st</sup>: *reading scripture is not simply information. It is formation – God is shaping our thoughts and feelings through these words.*

Formation vs. information: I had never thought of it that way before, but it makes a lot of sense. If we are reading something for “information,” we want to be “informed,” we want to learn something. So, when I get a new gadget, I read the manual for information, that is, to learn something. It is very much in my head. I read a newspaper to be informed about what is happening in the world.

The danger of reading the Gospels that way is that we might think we “know” what the scripture passage is about. For example, I have read the story of the annunciation so many times that I could almost recite it by heart. In terms of information, there isn’t much more I can learn. I can breeze through it, without much impact on my life.

When I read for FORMATION, I am not looking to learn information, but rather reflecting on what the passage is challenging me to here and now, at this moment in my life. It is reflecting in silence, giving the Holy Spirit time and space to move my heart so that I can LIVE what I am reading. It is not simply gathering information: it is allowing what I read to FORM me as a disciple of Christ.

I invite us to consciously approach the Gospels we read and hear as a FORMATION opportunity, challenging us to grow as disciples of Christ, who bring His love and compassion to those around us.

## Parish Updates from Fr. Paul

### Love One Another Capital Campaign

As I have announced before, our parish, along with 188 other parishes in the diocese, is participating in the Love One Another capital campaign. You should have recently received a letter from Archbishop ListECKI announcing the campaign.

Sixty percent of the money raised will remain in the parish, forty percent will go to support diocesan initiatives. Our request to build a gathering space in the back of church with our portion of the funds was denied by the diocese for fear that the remaining worship space would be too small for future growth. Following the diocesan directives, our parish leadership has determined that the funds remaining in the parish will be used in two different areas: evangelization and facility improvement. More details will be shared as they are finalized.

Here is a link to a short video about the campaign: <https://bit.ly/LOAcampaign>.

Note: the annual Catholic Stewardship Appeal, which will start up February 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> for 2023, supports day-to-day operating expenses of the diocese. The Love One Another Campaign will support extraordinary expenses. Both are important.

You will eventually be contacted and invited to participate in the Love One Another campaign. Please keep the success of this campaign in your prayers.

### Guard your personal belongings

We have been informed by the diocese that there have been incidents in a number of parishes where someone has stolen purses left in the pews while the person went to communion. We like to think we are safe in church, but there are people who come to services, not to worship, but to steal. Please always keep your belongings with you.

*(continued on page 2)*

## Parish Updates from Fr. Paul, cont.

### Sister Parish

As I shared in this newsletter last month, our new sister parish is Mater Salvatoris (Mother of the Savior) in Nakapanya, Tanzania. It is a Salvatorian parish in one of the poorest areas of southern Tanzania. More information about the parish will be coming before our fall collection. Parishioner Sue Haertel will visit the parish this summer while she is in Tanzania, discussing ways we can make this relationship two way, in addition to praying for each other. She will also bring materials to begin developing a display in the sister parish alcove in the back of the church. Meanwhile, I invite you to take any items you would like from the Santa Maria parish display. After a few weeks, we will clear out what is remaining. Please keep both our former and our new sister parish in your prayers.

### Music Director

Thanks to your many prayers, we have found a Director of Liturgy and Music, Matt Zembrowski, who begins February 1<sup>st</sup>. Please see his biography on the next page and give him a warm Pius welcome.

### Thank You

Almost 30 parishioners stayed after the 10:30 am Mass on January 8<sup>th</sup> to help put away the Christmas environment articles and change over to green for Ordinary time.

Thank you for your generosity. **Pius Parishioners Always Come Through!**

Have a good month. Ash Wednesday will be here before you know it!! God bless.

## Operations & Finance

*Dean Weyer*

*Director of Operations & Finance*

### Finances

If you follow along in the bulletin you've noticed that stewardship giving is on pace to the budget for the first seven months of the accounting year! Expenses are also in check with the budget, which is balanced this year, meaning it projects income sufficient to cover the operating expenses. However, it also does not project any surplus. Assuming things continue at this pace for both income and expenses, we shouldn't have to dip into savings to pay operating expenses for this fiscal year (ending June 30<sup>th</sup>).

### Stewardship Campaign

As we wrap up our annual financial stewardship pledge drive I share the following:

- 209 of our 416 registered families (50+%) have submitted a pledge and/or are committed to monthly/weekly electronic giving (EFT/Vanco).
- An additional 48 families that contributed in 2022 have not submitted a pledge for 2023. I ask once more, that if you fall in this category, we would still like to hear from you (send in your pledge card, pledge online at [bit.ly/2023Pius](http://bit.ly/2023Pius), or contact me).
- Analyzing this data of pledges in hand and the known giving patterns of others allows us to project a reliable "total parishioner stewardship value" for next year's operating budget. As of now it appears that value will exceed this year's budget by 1-3%. This may not be enough to cover increasing utility and operating expenses.

THANK YOU to all who support the St. Pius X Parish Community and all our ministries with your financial support and prayers!

### Miscellaneous

The year-end tax letters acknowledging your 2022 donations to the parish went out on January 18<sup>th</sup>. Please call me if you have not received your letter in the mail or if there is an error.

FYI: 42% of our donating families now utilize electronic funds transfer (EFT) and/or the (Vanco) online giving tool for their stewardship giving. This is a safe and easy way to donate. For more information, feel free to call me or visit [bit.ly/donate2pius](http://bit.ly/donate2pius).

Once or twice a year I like to promote the use of the brown "TAKE PRIDE IN PIUS!" (B&G Fund) envelopes. Monies that come in this way, separate from your stewardship giving, are put aside to a specially designated fund used to cover unplanned repairs or improvements to the buildings and grounds not provided for in the operating budget. Examples include: sidewalk repairs, a blown hot water heater, meeting room/office updates (paint/flooring/ceiling tiles), security system, choir railings, and gym/school updates. It's so helpful to have this little "piggy bank" when the need arises! Every dollar helps! If you don't have the special envelope, and would like to donate, write "B&G Fund" on a plain envelope and/or the check memo line.

## Faith Formation

*Rob Hoffmann*

*Director of Adult Formation*

At the printing of this Parish Press, we are still in Ordinary Time, five weeks between the Christmas season and Lent/Easter. We are continuing with our winter faith formation programming, which includes finishing up the Acts of the Apostles in our Bible Study and our current video discussion series, *The Search*. *The Search* is a brilliantly filmed and incredibly thought-provoking production, which invites us to explore the big questions of life. Please consider joining a session between the Masses or via Zoom.

Lent begins on February 22<sup>nd</sup> with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. We will have a Lenten retreat the following Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. This Lent, Faith Formation will focus on making Lent a season of prayer. We will be hosting evenings of reflection, prayer workshops between the Sunday Masses, special prayer gatherings, and exploring the Gospel of John.

Details on these opportunities will be in upcoming bulletins, announced at Masses, on our Facebook and Instagram pages, and online at [www.stpiusparish.org/adult-ministry.html](http://www.stpiusparish.org/adult-ministry.html). In the meantime, enjoy these weeks of Ordinary Time!

### Lent Schedule

#### Ash Wednesday Masses

February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
8:00 am & 7:00 pm

#### Anointing of the Sick (during Masses)

March 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm  
March 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 & 10:30 am

#### Reconciliation Service

Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

## Key Changes

### Celebrate Kathy Wellenstein's (2<sup>nd</sup>) Retirement!

**Date:** Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** After the 10:30 am Mass

**Location:** Cafeteria

Join us to celebrate the service Kathy Wellenstein has given to our parish in music and liturgy, wishing her well in her "second" retirement. Her first retirement came in November 2021, but we were not able to celebrate because of the pandemic. Then, when the need came up this past November, Kathy stepped up to keep our liturgies and music going. With the hiring of our new Director, she was able to retire again.

We will gather in the cafeteria after the Mass to congratulate her and celebrate with her. Please come and let her know how much you appreciate her many years of dedicated service.

**Thank you, Kathy!**



### Welcome, Matt!

As Fr. Paul said in his updates, Matt Zembrowski has accepted the position of Director of Liturgy and Music.

Matt brings extensive experience in both liturgy and theater to the position at St. Pius X. Most recently, he served as the Music and Liturgy Director at St. Robert of Newminster Parish in Shorewood.

Prior to that, he spent over a decade as the Pastoral Music Director at Cardinal Stritch University. He also served as the Youth Ministry and Youth Music Director at Holy Family Parish in Whitefish Bay, and Choir Director for Lutheran Church of the Living Christ in Germantown.

Additionally, Matt was the Theater Director and Choral Director at St. Thomas More High School from 2012-2021, and is currently directing the spring musical at Catholic Memorial High School. Matt has also performed for many local theater companies, and has written both the script and music for several full length musicals, most notably "Dad's Season Tickets", which played a sold-out run at Milwaukee Rep in the fall of 2021.

Matt lives in West Allis with his wife Lori and their two daughters, and is very grateful to now be working a few short minutes away from Cranky Al's.



## Wauwatosa Catholic School

*Karen Scharrer-Erickson*  
Curriculum Coordinator

Happy New Year! 2023 started with a flurry of activities at Wauwatosa Catholic.

Here's what's happening in some of our classes:

- The young learners in K4 are showing an interest in and readiness for reading their first book!
- Students in first grade presented their "Homes Around the World" project in which they chose a location, researched its geographical features, determined what type of home would be best to build in that environment and then built a model of it.
- Our fourth graders are learning about the history of immigration in the United States, and studying what is required to become a citizen.
- The sixth graders are working on their country project. They have been researching various aspects of a country they chose and will present their projects in early March.

Our Awards Program in January celebrated the attribute "principled". It was wonderful to talk to the students about the word principled and what it means. Even our very youngest students know that doing the right thing isn't always easy. The words of the teachers as they nominated their student of the month were amazing. Our young people know what it means and truly try to act in a principled, caring manner.

Catholic Schools Week began on Sunday, January 29th and students took part in the 10:30 am Mass at St. Pius X. They eagerly volunteered to lector and read petitions during that Mass. WCS hosted an Open House later that day where parents, students and staff members were on hand to talk to prospective members of our Wauwatosa Catholic School family. One thing that was stressed was that along with the faith-based academics, WCS is a community of caring people, truly a family!

Every day of Catholic Schools Week had a different theme. Monday was our International Day. Parents and community members talked to different classes about their ethnicity, where their family originated and family traditions. We had speakers with family ties to Southeast Asia, Croatia, Africa, Germany, South America. Fr. Paul shared some experiences from his time in Mexico and other countries. We ended the day with a presentation by the Hmong Dance Team, from the Hmong American Friendship Association. On Tuesday, students wore their pajamas to school and on Wednesday, to celebrate our nation, students wore red, white and blue. Thursday was spirit wear day and the annual staff/student volleyball game. The week ended with students celebrating vocations on Friday. Family and community members volunteered to speak to students about their vocation/career. Students dressed as they would in their future careers.

### Skate Night & Pizza

**Date:** Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** Beginning skaters start at 6:00 pm, party skating starts at 6:30 pm, & open skate is from 7:00 - 9:00 pm

**Location:** St. Pius X gym

**Cost:** \$5 per person, \$1 discount if you bring your own skates (no in-line, Sketchers or Heelys skates allowed)

If skating is not your thing, you are still welcome to come by and order a pizza to eat in or take home! Onion rings and cheese curds are available too!

**Please note:**

- Children under 16 must have an adult with them.
- ALL skaters, children and adults, must have a signed waiver (children by a parent or guardian) before they can skate. They are available at [www.stpiusparish.org/skate-night.html](http://www.stpiusparish.org/skate-night.html) and in the lobby when you arrive. One signed waiver is good for the entire season.



## Stewardship Commission

*Sue Haertel, SDS*

This month, James, the president of Safe Water for Life & Dignity (SWLD), has written to us about a project that provided a better water supply to a Salvatorian Community in Tanzania:

A few weeks ago, SWLD constructed a borehole at the Salvatorian community in Bigwa Mitimitatu, Morogoro. This community had been experiencing an acute shortage of water, which made the lives of our SDS brothers very difficult. Their former sources of water included the municipal water supply and an old shallow well both of which were not sufficient and reliable. The shallow well was dry due to drought and the change of the underground aquifer formation. The municipal water supply was under intense rationing due to the fact that there was a sharp decrease of water volume at the municipal water intake and their various other sources were completely dry.

In our conversation with the Tanzania Pro-province administration and the Mission director, Fr. Tigatiga, we agreed that this community was in urgent need of water. SWLD embarked on the project after receiving the living water funds. The works included hydrogeological survey to determine the availability of water and depth; securing of drilling permit from the Wami basin authority; drilling of a borehole, pvc and gravel pack installation.



We drilled a 100 meter deep well with a very good yield of water. After successfully completion of drilling and PVC installation we installed a submersible pump, connected the water pipe to the existing raiser and water tank available at Mitimitatu community. Currently, water is now available at the community and can be used for domestic purposes, gardening and supporting other economic activities to generate income and livelihood.

We are also planning to increase the height of the existing tank raiser to increase the flowing of water in the houses at the community.

Many thanks to you all at St. Pius X and the living water project for the donation and improving the lives of our fellow brothers at SDS Mitimitatu community.

*Thank you,  
Dr James Nyangas, PhD*



## Stewardship Commission, cont.

### Open Doors Pius

**What:** A tour of our facilities

**Dates:** Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

**Times:** After the Masses

**Location:** Meet at the base of the steps leading up into the sanctuary.

All are welcome to join the Stewardship Commission at "Open Doors Pius." It's your chance to tour the building, ask questions, and learn more about our parish. The tour will last 20 – 25 minutes.

## Catholic Identity

Holly Cartier

At the end of December, my brother and I lost a cousin. My brother wrote a reflection and gave me permission to use it and I think it is worth sharing:

*I was driving and "Jack and Diane" by John Mellencamp came on the radio. There's a line in the song that says, "Oh yeah, life goes on long after the thrill of livin' is gone."*

*I started thinking - when does that happen? It hasn't happened for me yet, at 68. I still feel the "thrill of living" every day. Part of that is my effort to notice joy every day, and to live a life of gratitude.*

*In his last public appearance, on David Letterman's show (20 years ago already - wow!), Warren Zevon's advice was to "enjoy every sandwich." Seems mundane, but it's totally thrilling!*

*On Friday, I will attend the funeral of a dear cousin, who succumbed to cancer on December 31<sup>st</sup>. At only 54, he was far too young. You better believe he would find the "thrill of living" in waking up, putting on a tee shirt, and having a bowl of cereal.*

*Find joy every day. Be grateful every day. Experience the thrill of living every day!*

I hope you can find the joy of a life in Christ every day.

This is our Faith, this is Our Catholic identity.

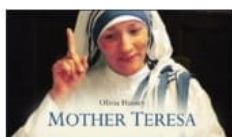
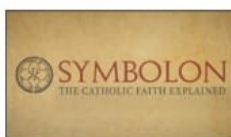
Holly welcomes comments at [hcarts.hc@gmail.com](mailto:hcarts.hc@gmail.com)

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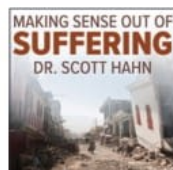
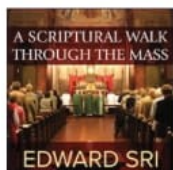
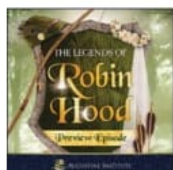
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# St. Pius X Parish Community Calendar

## February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Mass, 8:00am Bible Study, 8:30-10:00am, FJ CGS 3, 2:30-4pm, CK CGS 1, 2 & 3, 4:15-5:45pm, CK CGS 2, 6-7:30pm, CK	<b>2</b> The Search, 7:00pm, Zoom Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 7:15-8:45pm, Church	<b>3</b> Mass, 8:00am Reflection on Sun. Scriptures, 8:30am, FJ CGS 1, 10:00-11:30pm, CK	<b>4</b> Reconciliation 4:00-4:30pm, Church Mass 5:00pm
<b>5</b> Mass, followed by fellowship, 8:00am CGS 1, 2 & 3, 9-10:15am, CK The Search, 9:15-10:15am, FJ Mass, followed by fellowship, 10:30am Middle School YM, 4-5:30pm, SB HS Small Groups, 6:30-8:00pm, CK HS Alpha, 6:30-8:00pm, CK	<b>6</b> Mass, 8:00am Health Ministry, 6:00pm, Zoom Formation & Evangelization, 7:00pm, FJ J4J Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Church	<b>7</b> Justice & Peace, 7:00 pm, FJ Bible Study, 7:00-8:30pm, TBD	<b>8</b> Mass, 8:00am Bible Study, 8:30-10:00am, FJ CGS 3, 2:30-4pm, CK CGS 1, 2 & 3, 4:15-5:45pm, CK CGS 2, 6-7:30pm, CK Pastoral Council, 7:00 pm, FJ	<b>9</b> The Search, 7:00pm, Zoom	<b>10</b> Mass, 8:00am Reflection on Sun. Scriptures, 8:30am, FJ CGS 1, 10:00-11:30pm, CK	<b>11</b> Reconciliation 4:00-4:30pm, Church Mass 5:00pm
<b>12</b> Mass, 8:00am CGS 1, 2 & 3, 9-10:15am, CK Pancake Breakfast, 9:00am-12:00pm, Cafeteria The Search, 9:15-10:15am, FJ Mass, 10:30 am	<b>13</b> Mass, 8:00am	<b>14</b> Seniors Mass & Breakfast, 10:00am, Church, MA & FJ Boy Scouts, 6:15pm, 101	<b>15</b> Mass, 8:00am CGS 3, 2:30-4pm, CK CGS 1, 2 & 3, 4:15-5:45pm, CK CGS 2, 6-7:30pm, CK	<b>16</b> The Search, 7:00pm, Zoom Celebration Choir Rehearsal, 7:15-8:45pm, Church	<b>17</b> Mass, 8:00am Reflection on Sun. Scriptures, 8:30am, FJ CGS 1, 10:00-11:30pm, CK	<b>18</b> Reconciliation 4:00-4:30pm, Church Mass, followed by Open Doors Pius, 5:00pm, Church
<b>19</b> Mass, followed by fellowship (Cafeteria) & Open Doors Pius (Church), 8:00am CGS 1, 2 & 3, 9-10:15am, CK The Search, 9:15-10:15am, FJ Mass, followed by fellowship (Cafeteria) & Open Doors Pius (Church), 10:30am Middle School YM, 4-5:30pm, SB HS Small Groups, 6:30-8:00pm, CK HS Alpha, 6:30-8:00pm, CK	<b>20</b> Mass, 8:00am Stewardship Commission, 5:30pm, FJ	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Mass, 8:00am CGS 3, 2:30-4pm, CK CGS 1, 2 & 3, 4:15-5:45pm, CK CGS 2, 6-7:30pm, CK Mass, 7:00pm  <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<b>23</b> The Search, 7:00pm, Zoom	<b>24</b> Mass, 8:00am Reflection on Sun. Scriptures, 8:30am, FJ CGS 1, 10:00-11:30pm, CK	<b>25</b> Lenten Retreat, 8:30am-12:00pm, FJ Reconciliation 4:00-4:30pm, Church Mass 5:00pm Middle School YM, 5:15-7:30pm Skate Night, 6:00-9:00pm, Gym
<b>26</b> Mass, followed by fellowship, 8:00am CGS 1, 2 & 3, 9-10:15am, CK Prayer Workshop, 9:15-10:15 am, FJ Mass, followed by fellowship & Kathy Wellenstein's retirement party, Cafeteria Middle School YM, 4-5:30pm, SB HS Small Groups, 6:30-8:00pm, CK HS Alpha, 5:00-8:00pm, CK	<b>27</b> Mass, 8:00am Finance Council, 6:00pm, FJ J4J Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Church	<b>28</b> Boy Scouts, 6:15pm, 101	<b>Key</b> 101 = Room 101 CGS = Catechesis of the Good Shepherd CK = Christ King FJ = Francis Jordan Room (R/LR) MA = Mary of the Apostles Room (R/DR) MGC = Mother of Good Counsel SB = St. Bernard's WCS = Wauwatosa Catholic YM = Youth Ministry  All Masses are in the church.			