

DO YOU BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER?

At Easter we will renew our baptismal promises. Each week during Lent we are invited to reflect on these promises and how we are living them. Do I believe in God, who trusts me, forgives me, guides me, and loves me unconditionally? How do I reflect these qualities in my relationships with people and all of creation?

LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION

As a way for us to help the needy during Lent, the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society will be collecting canned goods. There are boxes at the entrances of the Church for your donations.

YOUNG LADIES INSTITUTE #124 SCHOLARSHIP

YLI #124 is again offering the Valda Britschgi Scholarship to any boy or girl in the 8th grade (public or parochial school) who desires to attend a Catholic high school. This is a one-year scholarship. The usual award is from \$100 to \$300. Applications are available at the CCD Office or at the School office. Applications must be returned by May 1, 2007.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

2006-2007 Fiscal Year as of 3/5/07
 Budgeted \$391,764.88
 Actually received \$392,383.64
 \$618.76

A MESSAGE FROM DEACON STEVE

Dear St. Pius Community,
 It is with great sadness that I write this letter to all of you. Due to my struggles with Hepatitis C and liver disease I have been advised by my doctor not to return to work. My doctor feels that the stress and travel would not be good for me. So after discussion with my wife and doctor, I will not be returning and have put in my resignation to Fr. Jim and the Archdiocese of San Francisco. I will miss you all and miss my duties there as well. You have been so supportive of me and my ministry. I have wonderful memories of my 12 years as a deacon at St. Pius, as well as my 25 years as a parishioner. Cherie and I plan to visit in the near future.
 I would love to hear from you. My home address and email are listed below. My treatment will end in June. I thank the children, adults and Seniors of the parish for your prayers and fellowship throughout the years. May God grant each of you the blessings of Lent and the joy of the Easter Season.

Michaelson62@yahoo.com

Home address: P.O. Box 172, Templeton, CA 93465

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES - MARCH 17,18

This second collection is **this weekend, March 17 & 18**. Many Catholics do not realize the extent of the overseas' relief and development work of the Church. This ministry is often the only source of hope for millions of people around the world. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

PALM SUNDAY

When you come to Mass on Palm Sunday, April 1st, please be sure to **pick up your palm branch before Mass begins**. Palms will be at the entrances of the Church.

GRADUATING SENIORS MASS AND DINNER

All high school seniors who live in St. Pius Parish and are graduating from high school this year are invited to a special Mass and reception with their parents here at the Church and the Parish Center, **Thursday, April 19, at 6 pm**. After the reception the Seniors (without parents) will attend dinner in Homer Crouse Hall. **PLEASE CALL 361-1411 TO RSVP BY WED., APRIL 11th.**

SOUP NIGHT

Don't forget *Soup Suppers* on **Tuesdays, 6-7 pm**, in Homer Crouse Hall. Soup will be served on March 20 and 27. Join us for soup, bread, and good conversation.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

We have received \$102, 036 from 332 parishioners, toward our assessment of \$126,000. This represents 80% of our goal. Thank you for your support.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS IN OUR COMMUNITY:

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|---|
| Deacon Steve | Anne Lindley | Jillian Geenen | 1 |
| Betty Nince | Steve Alonso | Cory Clifford | |
| Charlotte Kelley | Joe Sauer | Jocelyn Maroun | |
| Lana Vanderzyl | Scott Buchanan | Elizabeth Sturken | |
| James Steffen | Deborah Baca | Wendy McLean | |
| Parker Isom | Bev Eggleston | Keira Bowman | |

ALL NAMES WILL REMAIN ON THIS LIST FOR ONE MONTH. PLEASE CALL AFTER THAT TIME IF YOU WOULD LIKE A NAME TO REMAIN ON THE LIST, 361-1411. IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE A CALL THE NAME WILL BE REMOVED.

FESTIVAL SILENT AUCTION

We are looking for donations. Do you have any items you would like to donate to June's Silent Auction? Would you like to help out with the auction? We would love to hear from you. Contact Kika Kilmartin at 367-6698 or kmck092488@comcast.net

CASINO ROYALE, APRIL 21....SAVE THE DATE

Our 2007 fundraiser is coming! Casino Royale will include professionally staffed gaming tables, a Texas Hold'em tournament, exciting prizes, dinner and music! Tickets are on sale now. We still have room for sponsors and prize donations. Please call Yvette Gilardi at 369-0138 or email to womensclub@pius.org for details & tickets

CHALLENGE YOURSELF to grow in your faith. Join Sr. Pam Chiesa for a talk entitled "Lessons Learned At The Family Table" Wednesday at 7pm in Fitzsimon Center Community room, March 21st.

ST. PIUS PARISH FESTIVAL - JUNE 1, 2 & 3 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are in need of chair people for the following activities...Strongman Tower, Friendship Garden & Crafts, Lawn Inflatable & someone walking around selling beads. Please contact Danielle Ghiozzi at 364-0887 or dannilg@sbcglobal.net or Anthony Bertolacci at 367-1919 or abertolacci@comcast.net.

TEEN MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO COLLECTION

This summer from **June 9-16**, over 80 members of St. Pius & Our Lady of Mt. Carmel parishes will be in Tijuana, Mexico, building houses for people in need. Next weekend at all masses, students and adults who attended last year's trip will be sharing their experiences with the parish and will be collecting donations to support this year's trip. It costs about \$600 per person for the trip. Please consider making a donation. Envelopes are available at the church entrances and will be distributed next week. Please make checks payable to St. Pius and put Mission Trip on the memo line of the check.

ST. PIUS MEN'S CLUB invites all men of the parish to attend our monthly general meeting on **Wednesday, March 21**, in Homer Crouse Hall. Cocktails begin at 6:30pm with dinner to follow. The cost is free to first time attendees. This is a great opportunity to see some old friends and make some new ones! If you have any questions, please contact Mike Maskarich at 650) 369-5158.

ANNIVERSARY MASS

On May 19 at the 5 p.m. mass we will be celebrating the anniversaries of parishioners who have been married for 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years After 50 years you are invited to celebrate with the parish every year! If you are going to attend the Anniversary Mass please call Barbara Drake by May 1st at 361-1411.

**Do Something Intentionally
Each Month To Grow In Your Faith
GET HISTORICAL!**

Church History w/ Fr. Jim MacDonald Monday Evenings – March 26 @ 7pm

Join Fr. Jim as he presents church history by developing important themes: Leadership, Freedom & Liturgy. This Monday evening talk is in the Parish Center.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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|---------------------------|--------------|
| Confirmation | April 21 |
| Women's Club Casino Night | April 21 |
| ICF Anniversary Dinner | April 28 |
| First Communion | May 5, 6 |
| Parish Festival | June 1, 2, 3 |

ST. PIUS SCHOOL BOARD SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

Applications for new members will be for the 2007-2008 school year. The Board's primary purpose is to establish goals and define policies which govern the operations of St. Pius School in conjunction with both the pastor and principal. Experience with marketing, web development, grant writing or facilities management would be particularly beneficial, but a strong commitment to Catholic education and St. Pius School and enthusiasm in ensuring its ongoing success are the most important skills to be successful in this position. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Polek at 650) 299-9362.

ST. PIUS SENIORS

Friday, March 23rd is our lunch with the first grade class. Ann Traylkill from the V. A. Hospital will also be joining us. Friday, March 30 we will be meeting and playing bingo.

Questions of the Week

For adults: What can you do this week to really spend time alone with God, listening with you heart?

Question for Youth: How does trusting in God make a difference in your life?

Questions for Children: What can I do to show that I know God loves me?

A SUNDAY FOR REJOICING

Today's Gospel story of the prodigal son is a favorite of many. We can identify with all the major figures and their criss-cross of emotions. The father's initial grief over his young son's avarice is turned to relief at his return. The son's grief over his loss of fortune, family, and friends is turned to delirious joy at the sight of his father.

We understand the eldest son's bewilderment over his father's generosity. For the older son, virtue seems not to be its own reward. For all his honorable toil and loyalty, there seems to be no celebration. The father, however, is prodigal in his forgiveness and mercy. He expects the same generosity from his older son. He wants all to rejoice when the lost one is found.

This is a Sunday for rejoicing. It's time to pause, consider, and encourage one another. We are the prodigal children heading home. We are the elder siblings waiting with the eager Father, who scans the horizon. In Christ Jesus we are reconciled to the Father and one another. In his death and resurrection we have passed over. We are a new creation. In this we rejoice.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Israelites ate of the yield of the land of Canaan (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) *or* 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) *or* Psalm 23.

Second Reading — Whoever is in Christ is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) *or* Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel — This man welcomes sinners and eats with them (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) *or* John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

SCHEDULED MASSES

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|--------|----------|-------|---------------------|
| Sat. | March 17 | 5 pm | Randy Cardellini |
| Sun. | March 18 | 8 am | People of St. Pius |
| | | 9:30 | Lou Geenen |
| | | 11:30 | Gerry Letzring |
| | | 5 pm | Luisa Rodriguez |
| Mon. | March 19 | 6:30 | Lou Geenen |
| | | 8 am | Leo T. Englert |
| Tues. | March 20 | 6:30 | Marie DeAngelis |
| | | 8 am | Bernard Mouline |
| Wed. | March 21 | 6:30 | Andrea & Delfin Chu |
| | | 8 am | Bill McGrath |
| Thurs. | March 22 | 8 am | Bill McGrath |
| Fri. | March 23 | 8 am | Peter Niemann |
| Sat. | March 24 | 8 am | Mary Gambelin |