

# WELCOME to St. Pius Parish!

St. Pius Parish, 1100 Woodside Rd., Redwood City, CA 94061, Fax 369-3641 – [www.pius.org](http://www.pius.org) -- [parish@pius.org](mailto:parish@pius.org)

**SUNDAY,  
MARCH 29, 2009  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF  
LENT**



## Our Mission

The mission of Saint Pius Parish is to develop and nurture a faith filled, prayerful, generous and caring community rooted in the testimony of the gospel and the tradition of our faith.

We hope that your **family** will join our parish family as we strive to love like Jesus and build God's kingdom here on **earth**.

## Mass Schedule

**Daily Mass:** 8:00 am  
**Vigil Mass:** Saturday 5:00 pm  
**Sunday Masses:** 8:00, 9:30,  
11:30 am & 5:00 pm

Find Out How To Grow In Your Faith:  
[www.increaseourfaith.org](http://www.increaseourfaith.org)

## Parish Staff

Rev. Jim MacDonald, Pastor	361-1411	<a href="mailto:jim@pius.org">jim@pius.org</a>
Rev. Linh Nguyen, Parochial Vicar	361-1411	<a href="mailto:linh@pius.org">linh@pius.org</a>
Rev. Kevin Kennedy, Chaplain, Sequoia & Kaiser Hospitals	361-1411	
Rev. Gerald D. Coleman, S.S., Our Special Associate	361-1411	
Rita Carroll, Principal, St. Pius School	368-8327	<a href="mailto:saintpiusschool@hotmail.com">saintpiusschool@hotmail.com</a>
Barbara E. Drake, Operations Manager	361-1411	<a href="mailto:barb@pius.org">barb@pius.org</a>
Maria Cornell, Liturgy & Children's Faith Formation/ CCD	368-0429	<a href="mailto:maria@pius.org">maria@pius.org</a>
Spanish-speaking CCD	368-0429	<a href="mailto:Reled@mountcarmel.org">Reled@mountcarmel.org</a>
Adele Sanchez, Senior Adult Coordinator	361-1411	
Laura Martin-Spencer, Adult Faith Formation, RCIA	361-1411	<a href="mailto:laura@pius.org">laura@pius.org</a>
Elaine Rachko, Youth Minister	365-0140	<a href="mailto:elaine@pius.org">elaine@pius.org</a>

## Sacraments

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm  
(Contact a priest if you wish to receive the sacrament on another day.)

**Baptism:** Baptisms are normally held on the second and fourth Sundays at 1:00 pm. Arrangements should be made at least three months in advance. Parents must attend baptismal instruction before the baptism of their child. This preparation may be done before the birth of the child.

**Marriage:** Arrangements should be made by the prospective bride and groom at least six months in advance. The parish marriage preparation program is required of all couples.

**Communion in the Home:** Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Communion to those who are unable to attend Mass. Please call the Parish Center.

**Anointing of the Sick:** This sacrament is for those who are elderly, seriously sick or scheduled for surgery. Please call the Parish Center. For those in the hospital, contact the chaplain's office at that hospital.

**Gospel Jn 12:20-33**

*“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
unless a grain of wheat falls to the  
ground and dies,  
it remains just a grain of wheat...”*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

This week’s first reading from Jeremiah is a very powerful image and a foreshadowing of the message and ministry of Jesus. In the Jeremiah reading, the Lord announces that (yet again) a new covenant will be made between the people and their God. This time, however, the covenant will not be a collection of rules written in stone as was the case with the covenant of the Ten Commandments after the people had been led out of slavery in Egypt. The people have demonstrated that they are not able to uphold that covenant. This time, God declares that the covenant will be “planted deep within them” and “written on their hearts.” This is a wonderful image: I will write my covenant on your heart! It is the message that Jesus tried to convey over and over again—the Law of God is not to be found in a multitude of rules and regulations but it is a Law of the heart, calling for compassion and love.

This message is no better demonstrated than in this week’s gospel passage. Jesus declares that, “unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.” He is speaking of course about his own life, but he is speaking also to those around him and those of us who read the words today. Unless we are prepared to let go of our ego, our status, our “reputation,” for the sake of others and respond to them from the heart then we can never experience the breadth and depth of what it means to belong to a community. When we are prepared to let go of our hang-ups and reservations to make a difference in the lives of others then the “harvest” that will be gathered from those actions will be great indeed!

**Gospel Focus – Love of life**

Jesus says, “Anyone who loves (their) life loses it; anyone who hates (their) life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.” This can seem pretty tough! It challenges us about how much we cling to the “things” of this life. Are we concerned about the labels on our clothes; the number of our friends; how much money we have; the sort of house we live in? If this is the “life” that we place meaning on, then we will surely lose it. However, if we put aside the world’s focus on material things and focus our attention on others then we are assured of eternal life.

**Have you thought? Why Greeks?**

The gospel reading begins with some Greeks wanting to meet Jesus. Why is it significant that they were Greek?

The Jews were very clear about the distinction between Jews and non-Jews (Gentiles). Regardless of their intentions and goodwill, a Gentile was simply not a Jew. Greeks, who worshiped an entire pantheon of gods, were regarded as almost as far from Jewish belief in one God as was possible. Yet Jesus made clear that his message was for everyone: Jew and Gentile alike. His death and resurrection would bring a “rich harvest” of belief among Gentiles as well as Jews.

**Scriptural context – The Final Days**

Today’s reading reminds us that we are closing in on the events of the Passion that we will remember more closely over the next couple of weeks. Although the Gospel of John appears to have Jesus in and around Jerusalem quite often, the events described in this week’s reading take place in the preparation for Passover.

It is a fitting culmination to the Sunday gospels of Lent. It prepares us for the account of the Passion that will be the gospel next week.

**Questions for children, teens and adults:**

- Q. How is the image of the grain of wheat relevant to Jesus’ life and mission?
- Q. How do you think the disciples might have responded to what Jesus said in this gospel passage?
- Q. What are some of the “trappings” or “things” of this world that people find difficult to let go of?
- Q. Do you know anyone who has put other people’s needs before their own comfort and status?
- Q. What do you need to “let go of” in your life to really flourish and “produce a harvest”?
- Q. How does the Jeremiah image of God’s Law “written on our hearts” challenge you?
- Q. What experiences in your own life prove the truth of the image of the grain of wheat that must die?
- Q. How can good come from hurt and pain?
- Q. What do you need to “let go of” in your life to really flourish and “produce a harvest”?
- The Jeremiah reading says that God wanted to write a new covenant on the hearts of the people: “I will be their God and they shall be my people.” What does it mean to be ‘claimed’ by God like this? How can our actions demonstrate that we are “God’s people”?

### **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION - TODAY**

This **5th Sunday** collection is **March 28th and 29th**, after all the Masses. During the months of January and February, we served 75 families. Our total income for those 2 months was \$4,854. Direct aid which includes rent assistance, PG&E, and vouchers for groceries, totaled \$9,677. We ask for your prayers and donations to help us continue helping those in need. Thank you, Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

### **ST. PIUS YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATER**

Enjoy the Theater, but want to shine behind the scenes? Then we have the job for you! **We are in need of volunteers to assist with stage crew for this year's production of "Bye Bye Birdie"**. You must be able to lift/move heavy objects, and be a true team player! Please be available starting Monday April 6th through Sunday April 19th. The times and days may vary (and of course no commitment during the holy days before Easter). Please call Meaghan Brennan at [xbrennans5@yahoo.com](mailto:xbrennans5@yahoo.com) or Tori Burns at [tburns78@yahoo.com](mailto:tburns78@yahoo.com).

### **WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING - APRIL 8**

You are invited to our Annual WOMEN'S NETWORKING SOCIAL on **Wednesday, April 8, at 6:30 pm**, during the Women's Club General Meeting. Come share the products/services you offer. Call Yvette Gilardi at 369-0138 or email [yvettegilardi@concast.net](mailto:yvettegilardi@concast.net). We'll have an Italian dinner, beginning with cocktails. General members are \$15, Seniors are \$10. All non-members who RSVP **by April 7th**, will receive their first dinner free. Please **RSVP by Monday, April 7th**, by calling 364-5204, or email [womensclub\\_members@pius.org](mailto:womensclub_members@pius.org)

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING PARISHIONER WHO HAS PASSED AWAY:**

Joe Guarino

### **SUNDAY COLLECTION**

2008-2009 as of 3/08/09 (new fiscal year)  
Last Sunday's collection      \$7,302.00  
Cumulative total for year      \$403,491.85  
Budgeted                              \$415,423.33  
Over/(Under) budget              (\$11,931.48)

### **Lenten Soup Supper – Tuesday evening on March 31st, at 6-7pm, in Homer Crouse Hall.**

The Soup Supper is an opportunity to come together to share a simple meal. Donations support our SVDP.

### **ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL**

We have received \$83,120 from 285 parishioners, toward our assessment of \$123,400. This represents 67% of our goal. Thank you for your generous response.

**CONFIRMATION:** The rehearsal is **Monday, April 20th**, 6:30-9:00 pm. Candidates and sponsors must attend. Parents are also invited.

**MISSION TRIP:** If you are planning to go, please submit your application right away. Forms and information are available on our website [www.pius.org](http://www.pius.org). Our first meeting for those who have submitted an application will be **May 17th, 3:30-5pm**. Location TBD.

### **ST. PIUS SENIORS**

We will meet on Friday, April 3rd. We meet every Friday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We always welcome new members to our group. Please come and share your ideas with us. Call Adele at 366-3646, for more information,

### **THANK YOU - FROM THE 6TH GRADE**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the recent recycling fundraiser. With your help the 6th grade raised \$845.85, which helped reduce the cost of attending the CYO Outdoor Education Camp/Program.

### **PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS IN OUR COMMUNITY:**

John Smith	Amada Zarazuela	David Tinsley
Deacon Steve	Michael Pieretti	Bruce Faber
Jerry Pribyl	David Addiego	Madison Kitz
Nancy Goid	Norman Miller	Mary Noonan
Elena Darling-Hammond		

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

## **FESTIVAL - JUNE 5TH, 6TH, AND 7TH**

Newspaper Throw - New

Jingle Board

Caterpillar Crawl

Nachos

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We need your help chairing one of these booths**

We also need help staffing booths – Please visit our **new website link** at [www.pius.org](http://www.pius.org). Add your name to one of our sign up sheets.

### **SILENT AUCTION**

Can you donate something to our silent auction this year? How about a gift basket, a dinner party, tickets to a sporting event, or a golf outing? Please contact Betsy Bradford at 363-8455, [betsybradford@yahoo.com](mailto:betsybradford@yahoo.com) or drop off your items at the parish center.

### **THE RIDES ARE BACK**

Look for the Berry-go-round, Giant Slide, Bunny Hop and much more out on the lawn.

### **NEW BOOTHS**

Won Ton, photo, newspaper throw, soccer kick and prize wall.

**DINNERS** Friday night Smokey Mountain Ribs, Saturday night Pasta and Sunday night Chicken – get your tickets early...go to [www.pius.org](http://www.pius.org) for an order form.

**RAFFLE TICKETS** Raffle tickets are available now - \$10 each, 10 \$100 winners each day, Grand Prize 25% of sales – visit our website for the order form – [www.pius.org](http://www.pius.org)

**WE NEED BOOTH SPONSORS** Contact Mercedes Reshke at 367-8349, [mreshke@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mreshke@sbcglobal.net) or visit our website for a booth sponsor form.

The festival cannot function without volunteers. Please choose a booth you would like to help and call:

**Carol Sheetz – 650-365-2830 or [carol.sheetz@comcast.net](mailto:carol.sheetz@comcast.net)**

**Keith Hipsher – 650-367-1277 or [hip1@pacbell.net](mailto:hip1@pacbell.net)**

**Kim Velez – 650-368-6481 or [kimavelez2@yahoo.com](mailto:kimavelez2@yahoo.com)**

**Russ Vavuris – 650-368-6545 or [rusvavuris@aol.com](mailto:rusvavuris@aol.com)**

## **St. Pius Toddler Care**

We're expanding *Toddler Care* to include the **11:30am Mass, starting Sunday, April 5th**. Please come by for an **Open House in the Fitzsimon Center Community Room on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> after the 9:30 am & 11:30 am Masses**. Enjoy some cookies and juice with your toddlers! **Toddler Care will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**, but there will be a family Mass at the Fitzsimon Center at 9:30am.

Pam Spencer / Toddler Care Coordinator  
368-0429 or [pam@pius.org](mailto:pam@pius.org)

## **MASSES**

Sat.	Mar. 28	5 pm	Albert Boragno
Sun.	Mar. 29	8 am	Mary Alves
		9:30	Nello Lombardi
		11:30	People of St. Pius
		5 pm	Antonio Giovanzana
Mon.	Mar. 30	6:30	Visconti & Gotelli families
		8 am	Tony Parrinella
Tues.	Mar. 31	6:30	William Lewellyn
		8 am	Peter Granara
Wed.	Apr. 1	6:30	Raymond Moynihan
		8 am	Olivia Dei Rossi Comin
Thurs.	Apr. 2	6:30	Augusto Cui
		8 am	Dennis Fitzgerald
Fri.	Apr. 3	6:30	Gumercindo Romero
		8 am	Lorraine Perruso
Sat.	Apr. 4	8 am	William Lewellyn
		5 pm	Cortopassi Family
Sun.	Apr. 5	8 am	James Lucey
		9:30	Martin Etcheverry
		11:30	Andy Dei Rossi
		5 pm	People of St. Pius

## **EASTER EGG HUNT - WOMEN'S CLUB**

The Women's Club will host an Easter Egg hunt on the lawn area after the 9:30 am Mass, April 12th. Have the children bring their Easter baskets to gather candy.

We need **donations of wrapped candy, without** nuts or peanut butter, and small ziploc bags. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Center or School, **labeled "Easter Egg Hunt"**. Thank you.

## **Stay-at-Home Play Group**

- This group gathers monthly (first Friday of the month) for faith sharing, friendship building, and activities for the little ones. All parents and children are welcome!
- Call or email Laura at 361-1411 or [laura@pius.org](mailto:laura@pius.org) for more information.

## **ST. FRANCIS CENTER - IN NEED OF CLOTHING**

St. Francis is greatly in need of "gently used" clothing for their "Clothing Room". They especially need clothing for children. Any help you can give will be appreciated. Please call 365-7829 for more information. The address is 151 Buckingham Avenue and the hours are 9 am - 3pm, Monday to Friday. Thank you for your generosity.

**MEN'S CLUB**

President: Tom Cortopassi  
Vice-President: Brad Naylor  
Treasurer: Peter Dunlavey

**WOMEN'S CLUB**

President: Carolyn Moyer  
**womensclub\_members@pius.org**  
First VP: Dee Cereghino  
Second VP: Lisa Maskarich  
Rec. Secretary: Barbara Cage  
Treasurer: Michelle Ortiz

**PTG BOARD**

President: Siobhan Surraco  
VP: Kelli Crowley  
Secretary: Amy Reynolds  
Treasurer: Bridget West

**ST. PIUS SENIOR FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

Adele Sanchez, Coordinator  
Meets each Friday in the Senior Room at 10:00 am

**FESTIVAL CHAIRS**

Keith Hipsher Carol Sheetz

**MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Kit Fragulia, Chair Sharon Geenen  
Mike Descalso, Co-Chair Joe Krauss  
Arcie Eppler Tom Lunzer  
Katie Stafford-Eady Bill McSweeney  
Mel Sigona Sue Burns  
Fr. Linh Nguyen Karen Chang  
**parishcouncil@pius.org**

**GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTERS**

**grief\_help@hotmail.com**  
Katie Stasun Rich Morton  
Linda Beroldo Rita Morton  
Angela Brassinga Pam Nehrenz  
Patty Dana Dorothy Rottinghaus  
Mary Dickinson Linda Hird  
Elizabeth Rowan-Mitchell Mel Sigona  
Mary Houweling Katie Stafford-Eady  
Suzanne Lasseigne, RSCJ

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 8 PM  
Friday 8:30 AM - 3 PM  
Saturday 2 PM - 6:30 PM  
Sunday 9 AM - 2 PM