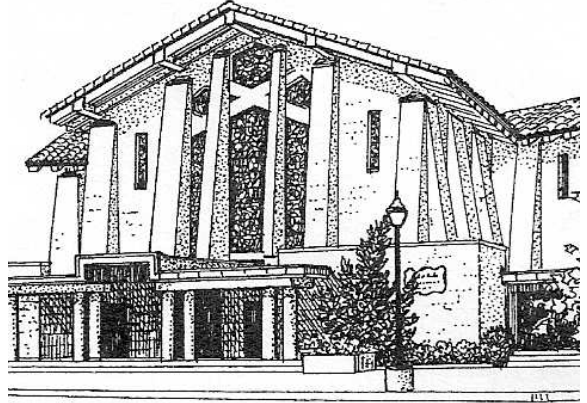


WELCOME to St. Pius Parish!

St. Pius Parish, 1100 Woodside Rd., Redwood City, CA 94061, Fax 369-3641 – www.pius.org -- parish@pius.org

The Epiphany of the Lord January 3, 2010



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
Daily Mass: 8:00 am (M-Sat)

Parish Staff

Rev. Jim MacDonald, Pastor	361-1411	jim@pius.org
Rev. Honesto Gile, Jr., Parochial Vicar	361-1411	junior@pius.org
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	saintpiusschool@hotmail.com
Barbara E. Drake, Operations Manager	361-1411	barb@pius.org
Maria Cornell, Liturgy & Children's Faith Formation/ CCD	368-0429	maria@pius.org
Spanish-speaking CCD	368-0429	Reled@mountcarmel.org
Adele Sanchez, Senior Adult Coordinator	361-1411	
Laura Martin-Spencer, Adult Faith Formation, RCIA	361-1411	laura@pius.org
Elaine Rachko, Youth Minister	365-0140	elaine@pius.org

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.

FAITH FORMATION AT ST. PIUS

The Epiphany of the Lord

Gospel Reflection (Mt 2:1-12)

The gospel of Mark, the first of the four canonical gospels to be written, does not bother at all with the question of the birth of Jesus. Written some ten or more years later, the gospels of Luke and Matthew both present a version of the circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus. The gospel of John, written later still, also avoids details of Jesus' birth. The two accounts of the infancy that we do have from the gospels tell very different stories because they have each been used to place the rest of the gospel in a particular context. Unfortunately, the two stories have been mashed together so much that we now have one notion of the Christmas story that is a poor amalgam of the two unique narratives.

In the gospel of Luke, Joseph and Mary are living in Nazareth and travel to Bethlehem and are forced to give birth out in a field because there is no room at the only inn in Bethlehem. The ones who bear witness to the birth in this account are shepherds—some of the lowest of the low—as the gospel of Luke identifies Jesus as having a preferential option for the lowly ones. In the gospel of Matthew, Joseph and Mary are living in Bethlehem and give birth in their own house. They later flee to Egypt and then settle in Nazareth. The two towns need to be included in both accounts because they are named in some of the ancient prophecies about the Messiah. In the gospel of Matthew, the witnesses to the birth are wise men, dignitaries from another land. The Matthew writer wants to emphasize the "kingship" of Jesus and it is fitting that foreign dignitaries present gifts on the birth of a king.

The two stories deserve to be dealt with uniquely and should be unraveled from the muddled, entwined version that dominates our Christmas imagery.

Historical Context – The Magi

In some translations, the "wise men" of this passage are referred to as 'Magi'. Magi was the name given to the Persian priestly caste. Persia (now, Iran) lies to the east of Israel. These wise men are also sometimes portrayed as astrologers, but that is largely because of the reference "We saw his star as it rose." It is interesting that the passage describes "some" wise men; tradition has developed a specific number of three—based on the three gifts presented. These anonymous (and purely literary) figures have been given names and their "relics" lie in honor beneath the Cathedral of Cologne.

Have you thought? – Epiphany

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus to humankind. The wise men are the representatives of humanity bearing witness to this revelation. However, the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus as not only the Messiah of Israel but the Savior of the whole world. Interestingly, in this gospel that emphasizes the "Jewishness" of Jesus, the witnesses to the birth are gentiles from a foreign land. Their inclusion is a powerful declaration that the revelation of Jesus is for all people. Regardless of the liturgical year, this reading is always used on the feast of the Epiphany to celebrate this pivotal moment.

Gospel Focus – Going home

The wise men, or Magi, are warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and they go home by a different way. How could they do anything but go home another way—indeed, go home as different people? They are changed by their encounter with the child Jesus and they go home a different way; in a different state; in a whole different frame of mind. When we genuinely encounter Jesus—in scripture, in life, in prayer, in ourselves—then we cannot go home the same way; we must go home by a different way as the Magi did.

Questions for children

- Q. The wise men searched for a king. What do you think they imagined Jesus would be like?
- Q. What did they see when they found Jesus?
- Q. How would you greet Jesus today?

Questions for Adolescents

- Q. Why does Herod appear to take a great interest in the birth of Jesus?
- Q. What might Mary and Joseph have thought to see the wise men bringing gifts to their baby?
- Q. In what way was the journey of the wise men a journey of faith?
- Q. What is the significance of the wise men presenting earthly 'treasures' to the Christ child?

Questions for Adults

- Q. Why did the wise men approach Herod to ask about the infant king of the Jews?
- Q. Why is it significant that Jesus' birth be witnessed by important men from a distant land?
- Q. Whether or not the wise men are a purely literary device, what "truth" does their story convey?
- Q. In what ways do you "bear witness" to Jesus?

TEEN CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Please keep our candidates in your prayers for this very special experience.

Our retreat will be at St. Patrick’s Seminary on **January 10th**. Candidates can be dropped off at 9:00 am, and will be ready to be picked up at 6:00 pm. All retreat fees are due now!

DIVORCE RECOVERY COURSE offered by the Separated and Divorced Catholics of the Bay Area provides a chance to understand the emotional journey begun with the loss of a relationship. It will be held for seven Sunday evenings beginning January 10 and will meet at St. Bartholomew Church, Spirituality Center, 600 Columbia Dr, San Mateo from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost of \$45 covers book and materials. To register or for more information, call Joanne at 650/347-0701 or Susan at 415/752-1308.

PARISH DIRECTORY 2010

If you would like to place an advertisement there is still space available. Please call Kit Fragulia at 366-6371.

If you have not yet returned your response to our request for updates for the directory, please do so as soon as possible. The deadline is January 15.

HOLY COMMUNION IN THE CUP - CHANGE

In order to help prevent the spread of illness during flu season, Archbishop George Niederauer has directed that the following *temporary* changes be made:

We are asked to **stop the distribution of Holy Communion in the cup.**

For better hygiene and out of consideration for others, **all are encouraged to receive Holy Communion in the hand, rather than the tongue.**

The Sign of Peace should be offered without shaking hands (for example: a smile or nod of the head, while saying “Peace be with you”).

Those who distribute Holy Communion should cleanse their hands with antiseptic solution before and after administering the Sacrament.

We are asked not to hold hands during the “Our Father”.

Please do not come to Mass if you have flu-like symptoms in consideration for others.

These are temporary changes which are necessary to follow until the danger of flu season is over.

SCHOOL TOURS:

Please visit St. Pius School for a tour and learn about our community and the excellent education we offer. The tour will begin in the foyer of Fitzsimon Center at **8:30 am, January 15, 2010.**

St. Pius School, mindful of its mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded to or made available to students at this school. St. Pius School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national and/or ethnic origin, age, gender or disability in administration of educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school administered programs.

MEN’S CLUB CRAB FEED-JANUARY 23RD

This annual event is Saturday, January 23rd, in Fitzsimon Center. Get your tickets early! The price is \$35.00 per person. There will be pasta for those who do not eat crab. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Call Mark Engelhart at 365-4029 for tickets.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS IN OUR COMMUNITY:

Madison Kitz	Deacon Steve	Lou Gambelin
Chris MacDonald	Catherine Strus	Justin Levers
Bill Beaton	Richard Hall	Gloria Cavazos
Lisa Kitz	Ferdinand Engesser	Jackalynn Cornin

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.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

The Order of Malta invites you to the annual World Day of the Sick Mass offered by Archbishop Niederauer on February 6 at 9:30 am at the Cathedral of St. Mary, 1111 Gough Street, San Francisco. A special invitation is extended to the sick and their caregivers from our parish. The Mass will include anointing of the sick, blessing of the hands of their caregivers, and a blessing with Lourdes water. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Ken Ryan at kenmryan@aol.com or 415 865-6718.

ANNIVERSARY OF ROE VS. WADE - JAN. 22

The anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, Roe vs. Wade (1973), is January 22nd, 2010. This is a particular day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. It is also a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right of life.

STAINED GLASS WINDOW

As you can see, our Pope John XXIII stained glass window has been removed for repair. The window had deteriorated to the point of being dangerous, so it needed to be taken care of immediately. The full window will be removed for a few months and will be reinstalled in February. We ask for your understanding and patience during this time.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

2009-2010 as of 12/27/09

Last Sunday's collection	\$ 8,890.00
Cumulative total for year	\$289,524.76
Budgeted	\$280,384.00
	\$ 9,140.76

RETROUVAILLE - LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGE

This program helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It will give you the opportunity to re-discover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. This program has helped many couples experiencing marital difficulties including disillusionment and deep misery. Call 415- 893-1005 or visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

TRANSITIONS SUPPORT GROUP

This is a drop-in support group for those suffering the breakup of a marriage or significant relationship. The meetings are informal and unstructured, confidential and safe. There is no charge. Come to St. Thomas Aquinas Pastoral Center, 3290 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, 94306. Questions? Call (408) 739-2881.

ST. PIUS CHURCH WEBSITE

Please check out our website at www.pius.org

MASSES

Sat.	Jan. 2	5 pm	Julie Galiata
Sun.	Jan. 3	8 am	Ben & Mary O'Riordan
		9:30	Michael Alonso
		11:30	People of St. Pius
		5 pm	Frank & Ginny Long (Int.)
Mon.	Jan. 4	8 am	Gene Koch
Tues.	Jan. 5	8 am	Claire Sans
Wed.	Jan. 6	8 am	Leo T. Englert
Thurs.	Jan. 7	8 am	John Wright
Fri.	Jan. 8	8 am	Andy Dei Rossi
Sat.	Jan. 9	8 am	Margaret Martella
		5 pm	The Cortopassi family
Sun.	Jan. 10	8 am	Ben & Mary O'Riordan
		9:30	Charles Pearce
		11:30	Silvio Forcari
		5 pm	People of St. Pius

ANNIVERSARY MASS-ST.MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Bishop William Justice cordially invites all married couples of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, to a Eucharistic Celebration and renewal of vows on **Saturday, February 27th, at 12 noon.** This renewal of vows is at St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral, 1111 Gough Street, San Francisco. Special honor will be shown to those celebrating their 25th, 50th or 50+, Wedding Anniversaries. For more information call (707) 552-3394.

E-Contributions

This is just a reminder that contributions to St. Pius Church can be done online for those who might be interested. Log on to e-Paluch.com to register for this service. Currently, we only accept debits to your bank account. We are unable to accept credit cards. If you have questions please call Barbara at 361-1411.

St. Pius Young People's Theater

The play for this year is "OKLAHOMA".

We will begin practices on January 5th from 7:00-8:30pm. Questions? Please contact Meaghan Brennan at x5brennans@yahoo.com or 299-9310.

MEN'S CLUB **mensclub@pius.org**

President: Tom Cortopassi
Vice-President: Brad Naylor
2nd Vice President: Tony Perazzo
Treasurer: Peter Dunlavey
Secretary: Dave Swan

WOMEN'S CLUB

President: Dee Cereghino
womensclub@pius.org
First VP: Lisa Maskarich
Second VP: Julia Fex
Third VP: Chris Swan
Rec. Secretary: Barbara Cage
Treasurer: Norene Rusteen

PTG BOARD

President: Kelli Crowley
VP: Christine Healy
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

MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Mike Descalso, Chair	Sharon Geenen
Karen Chang, Co-Chair	Tom Lunzer
Kit Fragulia	Bill McSweeney
Joe Krauss	Arcie Eppler
Katie Stafford	Jan Sullivan
Anthony Price	Al Zappelli

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
Suzanne Lasseigne, RSCJ	

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Tuesday	8:30 AM - 4 PM
Wednesday-Thursday	8:30 AM - 8 PM
Friday	8:30 AM - 3 PM
Saturday	3 PM - 6:30 PM
Sunday	9 AM - 2 PM