



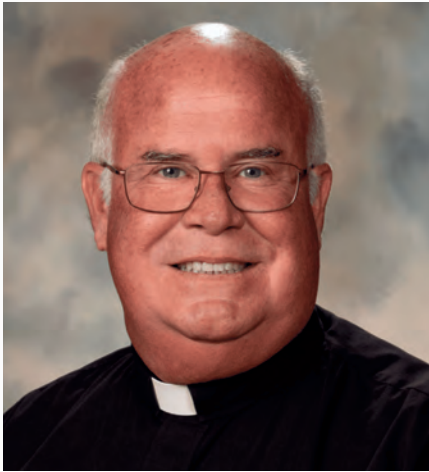
ST. PIUS X CHURCH

2025-2026 | ANNUAL REPORT



Each year, St. Pius X's Seder Meal on Holy Thursday is a much anticipated event.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BRADY



This summer marks the completion of my eighth year serving you as pastor, and my assignment to St. Pius continues to be a wonderful blessing. As a community, we've had a good year on all levels, and I want to thank you for your support of me and our clergy, especially Father Raymond and Deacon Sammy. Fr. Raymond, as you know, had successful treatment for his cancer and has been assigned as Administrator of St. Edward Church in Richard, LA. We wished him farewell the last weekend in June at the 10:30am Mass with a reception after, and he began his ministry at St. Edward on July 1st. Deacon Sammy is continuing his rehabilitation and making improvement week by week. We have been delighted that he has been able to serve at Masses the last two months. Let's pray for the continued health of both.

St. Pius continues to be a dynamic and vibrant parish community with continued growth in new registrations, ministerial activity, and participation in the sacraments. This growth is only possible

because of your high level of commitment to parish life prompted by God's Grace.

We continue to be financially stable. Our offertory grew by about 5% last year, and we continue to service and even pay ahead on the debt associated with the church building. However, last December the Diocese of Lafayette discontinued its Cooperative Deposit and Loan Program ("CDLP"). Therefore, we had to transition to third parties for some of our banking needs. We have been working with Home Bank to structure our finances without CDLP and to provide alternative financing for the school construction. Many thanks to Home Bank for their help in making the transition so easy.

Regarding the transition, we effectively netted out the diocesan loan and the assessment credit we earned during church construction, so our principal balance has been reduced from just under \$10 million to approximately \$7.5 million at our fiscal year-end. Of course, we'll continue to make our regularly scheduled payments on the new principal amount. The prepaid principal on our CDLP loan served as our "savings" account, so this is no longer available. Therefore, for the last 6 months, we have been working to build emergency savings and should have an adequate reserve within the next six months. After an adequate savings is established, we will resume prepaying on the loan.

In financing the school project, we reviewed several proposals and chose Home Bank for financing the construction. With the response to the "Fulfilling the Legacy" campaign and savings on hand, we reached the threshold necessary for successful completion of the project. However, we're not yet where we would like to be, and every dollar given saves several dollars in interest. If you have not yet donated, please consider "fulfilling the legacy" for St. Pius Elementary School. Every donation helps and is appreciated.

As always, I invite you to review the annual report, which provides articles about St. Pius and SPES, as well as other information regarding our parish community. As you know, I'll be away from August through November on sabbatical, so if you have any questions about the report, you can contact Mr. Eric Guidry, our administrator. I will be praying for another successful year for our community and look forward to returning from sabbatical for the completion and dedication of the school's Innovative Learning Center and library. Thank you again for your continued support and may we all grow closer to Christ in the coming year!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. James Brady
Fr. James Brady

FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY

Name	Statistics	
ACTS	64	Retreatants
Administrative Office	10	Volunteers
Adoration (Perpetual) Chapel	280	Adorers Serving
Adult Confirmation	18	Candidates
Altar Servers	56	Altar Servers
Bible Studies	85*	Participants
Blue Army of OLOF	3*	Members
Catholics in Recovery	6*	Participants
Come Lord Jesus!	79*	Members
Devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus	12	Members
Divine Mercy Ministry for the Dying	880	Souls Prayed For
Divine Mercy Sunday Veneration	3,000	Prayer Cards Distributed
Eucharistic Ministry, Homebound	45	People Served Weekly
Eucharistic Ministry, Homebound	43	Ministers
Eucharistic Ministry, Masses	133	Ministers
Eucharistic Ministry, Nursing Homes	25	Ministers
Eucharistic Ministry, Nursing Homes	266	People Served Weekly
Facebook Data & Fans	6,755	Facebook Followers
Facebook Data & Fans	77%	Female
Facebook Data & Fans	23%	Male
Facebook Data & Fans	1.8%	Age 18 yrs. - 24 yrs.
Facebook Data & Fans	31.9%	Age 25 yrs. - 44 yrs.
Facebook Data & Fans	37.4%	Age 45 yrs. - 64 yrs.
Facebook Data & Fans	28.9%	Age 65+ yrs.
Hospitality Ministry	239	New Families
Hospitality Ministry	4,198	Registered Families
Hospitality Ministry	12,544	Individuals
Knights of Columbus	231	Members
Lectors	69	Lectors
Magnify Women's Ministry	72	Participants (<i>maximum</i>)
	664	Facebook Followers
Marriage Preparation (in-home)	30	Mentor Couples
Mass Attendance (<i>Weekends</i>)	2,779*	Congregants
Media - Live Stream	22-405	Views (<i>depending on platform</i>)

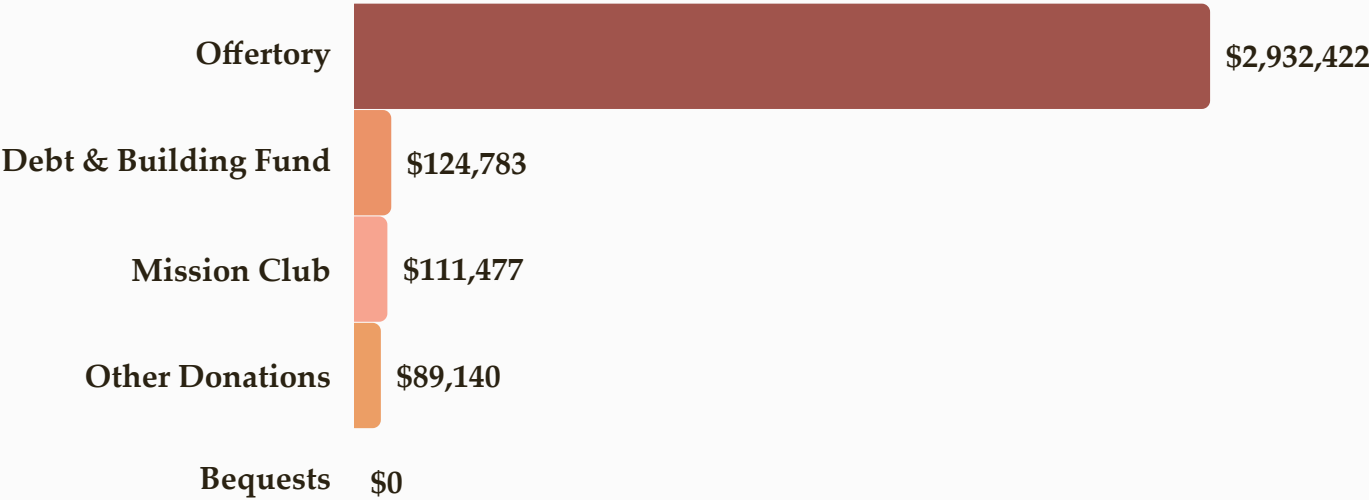
**an average number was reported from recurring sessions, multiple events or dates.*

Name	Statistics	
Mission Club	130	Food Baskets Distributed
	655	Christmas Gifts
Mission Club Food Pantry	120*	Bags of Meat (<i>per month</i>)
	120*	Non-perishable Food Bags (<i>per month</i>)
	80*	Perishable Food Boxes (<i>per month</i>)
Music Ministry	60	Members
OCIA	14	Candidates
Parish Prayer Line	412	Prayer Requests
Patriotic Rosary Group	9*	Members
Pius Senior Organization	80*	Attendees
Prayer Quilt Fellowship	233	Blankets Distributed
Rosary Making	4,088	Rosaries Distributed Annually
Sacraments - Baptism	137	Baptisms
Sacraments - 1st Communion	133	Candidates
Sacraments - Confirmation	98	Confirmation Candidates
Sacraments - Funerals	35	Funerals
Sacraments - Weddings	40	Weddings
Safe Environment	29	New Certifications
Safe Environment	75	Re-Certifications
SPES	712	Students Enrolled
SPES Alumni	1,400	Alumni
St. Elizabeth Seton Prayer Group	4*	Members
Staff/Personnel	12	Full-time Staff Members
Staff/Personnel	17	Part-time Staff Members
That Man Is You	35*	Members
Ushers	125	Ushers
Vacation Bible Camp	174	Campers
Vacation Bible Camp	51	Junior Volunteers
	20	Adult Volunteers
Women's Guild	82	Members
Women's Guild	12*	Volunteers Per Event
Youth - Challenge Jr.	90	Registered Participants
Youth - Conquest Jr.	64	Registered Participants
Youth - Edge	183	Registered Participants
Youth - Life Teen	59	Registered Participants
Youth - Young Saints	97	Registered Participants

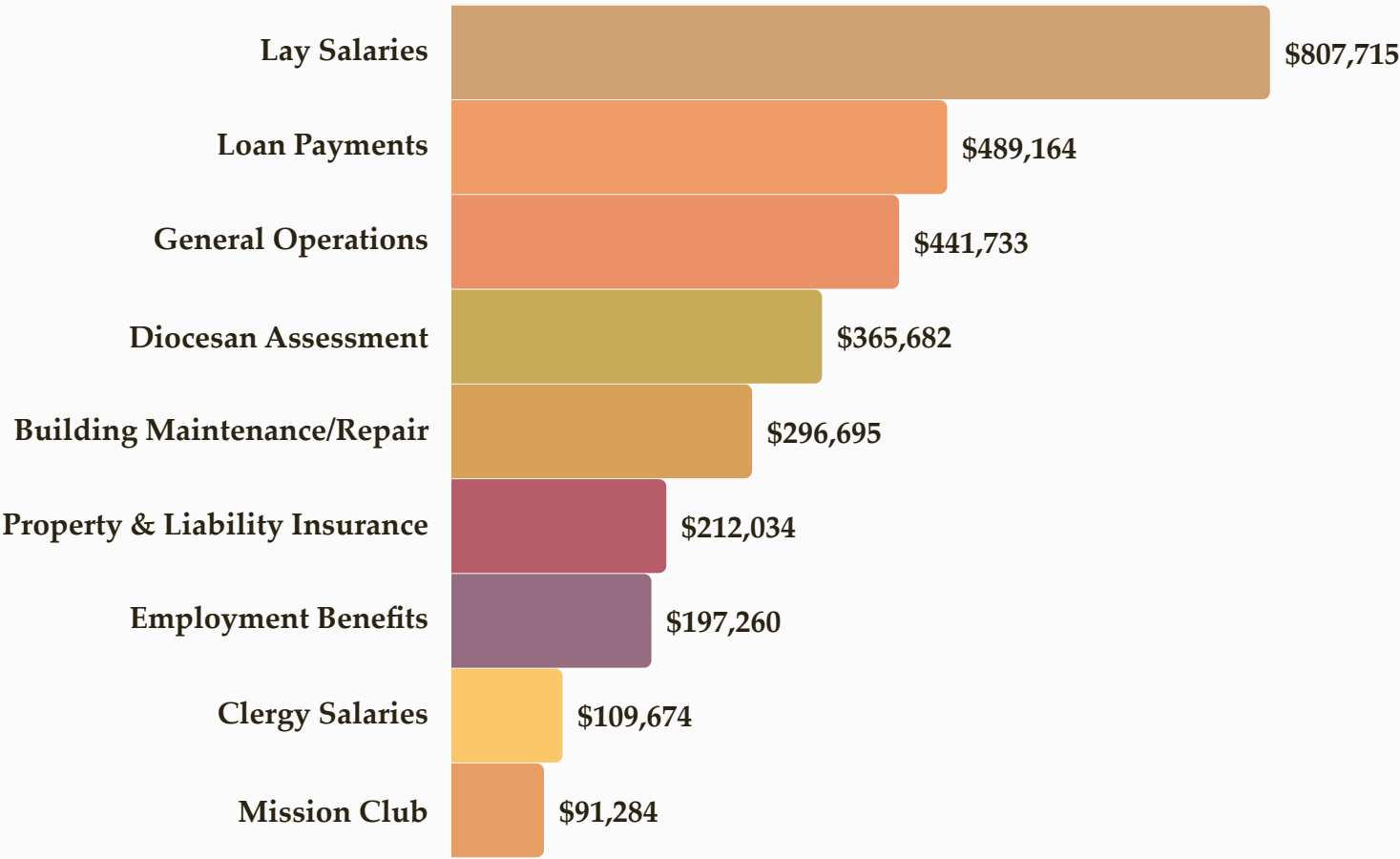
Thank you for your prayers, service and gifts!

FINANCIAL REPORT: 2025-2026

TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$3,257,822



TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$3,011,241



RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS: \$246,581

A SOLDIER OF GOD

THE PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF BEN STONECIPHER

*“Everything we
give we will
always have, but
what we keep, we
will one day
lose.”*



Imagine growing up as an athlete then becoming a member of the United States Air Force, two roles society has taught to be the epitome of strength and masculinity. Then, being moved to tears hearing God's still small voice say "I love you." That's exactly what happened to Ben Stonecipher while in the air force when he was 21 years old.

In 1976 while in the service, his friend down the hall gave him a Bible. Fully armed in his bravado, Ben said no thank you. He had prayed the Rosary growing up, but never felt the need to study God's Word. However, his friend insisted, so Ben reluctantly accepted the offer and began reading. What Ben didn't know at that time was that he wasn't just saying "yes" to studying the Bible, he had just begun a personal relationship with God that would span over the next 50 years

of his life – and beyond. A month after he received the Bible, Ben had a profound conversion, not only spiritually, but also in his character, outlook on life, and actions. Growing up as the third of nine children, leading with strength became his hallmark as standing up for yourself and having your voice heard were necessary if a child was to have their needs met in such a large family. Like most families with that many children, conflicts arise and clicks form, often leaving one to feel excluded or like they don't belong. These persistent feelings kept Ben asking himself – what is wrong with me? Why am I so different from my brothers and sisters? Why don't I belong? Then one day while reading Scripture from Proverbs and praying, Ben asked God for forgiveness for his mistakes. That's when he heard God say "I love you." It was like all of his doubts and worries went away.

It was the first time he felt worthy of love, and the first time he realized nothing was wrong with him, God made him that way for a special purpose. A purpose he would soon discover.

After his conversion the hard and tough exterior Ben hid behind, to accurately portray the stereotype society placed on his athleticism and military service, began to soften. It's like God had planted a seed inside him which would soon change his core. His compassion for others began to motivate him to live life in Christ while the response from those he served moved him. He saw how his service to others filled a void in them, which left him with a new sense of purpose, like he finally found a place where he belonged.

His faith journey has allowed God to guide him and answer his prayers. Surviving seven near-death experiences, Ben also learned how to forgive and let go of anger. While playing basketball and asking his teammate to throw him the ball, he received a punch in his nose instead. He was deeply humiliated as a gym full of people laughed while his aggressor continued to taunt him. He held on to resentment and anger for nearly five years.



Ben Stonecipher and his family.

*“I tell my sons to
talk to God, He has
a plan for you.”*

After much prayer, God healed his heart and Ben was finally able to forgive his teammate. That was one of many experiences that taught Ben to trust the Lord and be the person God made him to be.

To give thanks and praise, Ben serves the Lord through his service to others. Around 15 years ago, Ben accepted the invitation of parishioner, Jesse Gary, to serve as an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister at nursing homes. Three times per week, you can find him at one of the two nursing homes he visits to distribute the Eucharist, pray and study the Word.

Ben left with these parting words “Everything we give we will always have, but what we keep, we will one day lose.” It's safe to say the only thing Ben has lost is the tough exterior that led him through a time in his life with much fear and loneliness, and as a result, he gained everything he needed to serve others and give Glory to God for His overwhelming love.



In his spare time, Ben enjoys making wooden Rosaries for his friends and family.



THE BUILDING LEGACY

The Innovative Learning Center at St. Pius Elementary School

Bringing the presence of Christ to others



As St. Pius Elementary School develops leaders for tomorrow, the Innovative Learning Center will empower students to thrive in an ever changing world, building skills for the future. This 28,000 square feet of new education space will allow us to further our ministry of faith formation and academic excellence as we strive to bring the presence of Christ to others.

PRINCIPAL'S | MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners,

Thanks to the generosity, prayers, and support of our parish and school families, we have officially broken ground on our new school building. This milestone marks the beginning of the final phase of our campus vision and a significant step forward in strengthening our mission of forming faith-filled disciples, servant leaders, and lifelong learners.

At St. Pius Elementary School, we believe our most important work is helping students grow in their relationship with Christ while equipping them with the knowledge, character, and leadership skills needed to make a positive impact in the world. Every day, we strive to nurture young people who lead with faith, serve with compassion, and live with integrity. The new building is an investment in that mission and in the generations of students who will follow.

As construction progresses, we ask for your continued patience and understanding. Building a new facility while maintaining the daily life of a thriving church and school requires careful coordination, but the end result will be well worth the temporary inconveniences. We are excited to see this long-awaited project take shape and anticipate welcoming students into the completed building approximately one year from now.

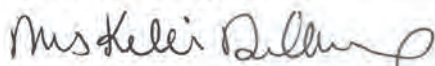
We are especially grateful to Fr. Brady for his unwavering support, leadership, and dedication to this endeavor. His commitment to the greater good of our entire parish has been instrumental in moving this project forward. We are also deeply thankful for his generosity in making the Parish Life Center available as temporary classroom space during construction. This collaboration is a powerful reflection of the unity that exists between our parish and school. As the largest ministry of the parish, our school is blessed to be part of a faith community that recognizes the importance of investing in the formation of our children while working together to advance the mission of the Church. At the conclusion of this temporary one-year use, the Parish Life Center will be thoughtfully refreshed, renovated, and returned to its primary purpose as a welcoming hub for worship, fellowship, ministry, and parish activities.

The new Innovative Learning Center is designed specifically to meet the needs of today's learners. It will provide a safe, modern, and inspiring environment for our youngest students while enhancing opportunities for faith formation, academic excellence, and community engagement throughout our school.

I invite you to review the following pages for a glimpse into the exciting future of St. Pius Elementary School. There, you will find details about the new building, the spaces that will support our students' growth and development, and the many ways this project will help us continue forming future leaders grounded in faith and prepared to serve others. While we celebrate the progress already made, our work is not yet complete. We continue to seek support through the Fulfilling the Legacy Capital Campaign. Every gift, regardless of size, helps ensure that this project is completed in a manner worthy of the legacy entrusted to us and the generations of students who will benefit from it in the years ahead.

Thank you for your continued prayers, generosity, and commitment to our mission. Together, with God's grace, we are building more than a school—we are creating a place where future generations will grow in faith, discover their God-given gifts, and be prepared to lead and serve in their families, their communities, and the Church.

With peace and gratitude,



Kellie DesOrmeaux
Principal



NEW | BEGINNINGS

*PreK building demolition and
Innovative Learning Center groundbreaking*



In late May, we officially began construction for our new Innovative Learning Center with the demolition of the former Pre-K building. For more than 65 years, this building served many purposes in the life of our parish and school community, including as the original mission church, rectory, and educational space. With the structure and space cleared, on June 18th, we celebrated a significant milestone as groundbreaking took place for the Innovative Learning Center. The occasion was made even more meaningful with a blessing of the site by Bishop Deshotel, asking God's guidance and blessings upon the project and all who will learn and grow there in the years to come.

Construction is now underway, and the Innovative Learning Center plans to open in August 2027. We look forward to sharing updates as the project progresses and invite everyone to follow along with the journey. To keep up with construction progress and project updates, visit the Innovative Learning Center Updates page: <https://www.stpiuselementary.org/support/innovative-learning-center-updates>.

BUILDING HIGHLIGHTS

LIBRARY



Our new state-of-the-art library will serve as the heart of our school, where younger students can explore books and interactive material, while older students can integrate technology into research and projects. This space will also serve as a beautiful venue for hosting school events, furthering our commitment to community, faith, and fellowship. The library auditorium seating area will provide a quiet environment for learning, story telling, and presentations. This enhanced learning environment provides flexible seating for students to dive into their favorite picture book or novel while offering a change of pace from a traditional classroom. Our thriving community of readers will enjoy this space as innovative technology meets traditional books, audio, Chromebooks, and charging stations. The library pavilion is a beautiful, welcoming entrance to the Innovative Learning Center that also serves as an opportunity for collaborative learning experiences under the canopy. This space encourages fresh-air learning and a lifelong association between reading and enjoyable spaces.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING



The two collaborative learning areas are strategically located at the ends of hallways and allow for students from multiple classes to work together to extend their learning in a dynamic, non-traditional environment. These areas are an exciting way to foster creativity, mentorship, and deeper learning while developing teamwork, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills. Students can work on cross-curricular projects that integrate multiple subjects.

SPES *Voices*

St. Pius shaped not just who I am as a student, but most importantly, who I am as a Catholic. From my first years there to my last, reverence during the mass and in the presence of the Eucharist was something instilled in all of us, a something I still carry with me today.

— Abbie Grace Soileau, SPES Alumni

CLASSROOMS AND WORKSPACES



Three PreK3, four PreK4, and three Kindergarten classrooms will be equipped with private restrooms and sinks, ample storage, and dedicated space where children can enjoy time for prayer. This attention to design and detail ensures both convenience and comfort for our youngest students. The design specifically accommodates the age-appropriate need for young learners' size, movement, and attention spans. A dedicated teacher workspace is located on the first floor, and a Spanish elective classroom is included on the second floor of the building.



PLAYGROUNDS



The playgrounds were specifically designed for PreK3, PreK4, and Kindergarten students, where creative minds can explore and discover the world around them. Hands-on learning meets exploration in an environment where students can actively develop motor skills, engage in collaborative and social play, explore social and emotional growth, and foster their creativity and imagination as they experience the world around them.

BUILDING HIGHLIGHTS

LEARNING GARDEN



Located near the entrance to the library in between the playgrounds, the learning garden will offer year round learning and growth opportunities where students can experience a full circle approach as they grow and harvest fresh produce, then donate it to the St. Pius food pantry, food co-ops and communities in need. The garden also supports science (plant life cycles, ecosystems), math (measurement, data), and reading/writing (journals, observation logs). This space will serve as an outdoor classroom for multiple grade levels and strengthen ties between school and community.

GREEN ROOM



The green room allows students to cultivate their communications and broadcasting skills by creating engaging broadcast and digital content for SPNN (St. Pius News Network). The elective fosters confidence and public speaking skills through innovative learning with technology. Student broadcasts welcome the school community each morning with prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance and creative and informative news segments.

THERAPY ROOMS

The speech, physical, and occupational therapy rooms will accommodate our academic support program for students who currently receive services off campus. These rooms will eliminate lost instructional time from traveling off campus for therapy, and allow therapy to be integrated into daily learning routines. It also reduces the burden on families for coordinating outside therapy during school hours while supporting a collaborative approach to student success.



STREAM LAB

A connected STREAM lab and classroom gives students the ability to learn concepts and immediately apply them—turning ideas into real-world solutions in one continuous experience. The lab spans across two classrooms, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of lab work across the science curriculum. The lab connects science, technology, religion, arts and math while empowering students to apply theoretical concepts to practical projects, connecting theory and application. This space will house 3D and laser printers and reinforces real-world problem solving and critical thinking.

SENSORY ROOM



The sensory room provides a calm, controlled environment for students to decompress. With specialized lighting, tactile experiences, soothing sounds, and stimulating activities that will engage the whole individual. Students can manage feelings and reset, while improving attention, focus, and participation across subjects.

SPES *Voices*

St. Pius helped establish the foundation of my academic journey and provided me with a community to support me through it. My spiritual connection to God was strengthened by attending St. Pius. Growing up with a community bound together by faith in God was essential for my growth.

— Lauren Nassour-Caswell, PhD
SPES Alumni



LEARNING LAB

The learning lab provides a hub for specialists, reading/math coaches, and classroom teachers to coordinate. In this small group environment, teachers can implement consistent strategies and follow-up across subjects for students who need additional support. With this team approach to student success, this space can adapt for short-term interventions or ongoing support.

ART ROOM



Bathed in extensive natural lighting, the art room allows students to create with traditional mediums such as drawing and painting, as well as new mediums such as pottery and ceramics. A state-of-the-art kiln allows for infinite possibilities in a space built to explore art theory and produce masterpieces.



GIVING | OPPORTUNITIES

Contributions are not just an investment, they are a commitment to the legacy of St. Pius Elementary School. Donations to the campaign can be made as one-time gifts or pledges. Pledges can be paid over a period of up to three years. All gifts will be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts of cash, securities, and other marketable property are gratefully accepted.

▪ **Check**

Make checks payable to *St. Pius Elementary School* and mail or deliver it to the school office at 205 East Bayou Pkwy, Lafayette, LA 70508.

▪ **ACH**

St. Pius Elementary School accepts ACH contributions via our website at www.stpiuselementary.org/support/innovative-learning-center-capital-campaign or contact Dawn Benoit at (337) 237-3139 for more information.

▪ **Credit card**

St. Pius Elementary School accepts credit card contributions via our website at www.stpiuselementary.org/support/innovative-learning-center-capital-campaign or by phone at (337) 237-3139.

▪ **Transfer of appreciated government securities, stock, corporate bonds, or other marketable securities**

You can increase your level of giving, avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciated value of securities, all while receiving a charitable tax deduction. Please consult your financial or tax advisor. Contact Dawn Benoit at St. Pius Elementary School at dawn_benoit@stpiuselementary.org or (337) 237-3139 and we will provide the Diocese of Lafayette form for transferring these assets.

▪ **Transfer of required minimum distribution (RMD)**

All or part of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) can be donated through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), allowing you to avoid paying taxes on the distribution, and possibly reduce your income taxes. Please contact Dawn Benoit at St. Pius Elementary School at dawn_benoit@stpiuselementary.org or (337) 237-3139 and we will assist you and your financial advisor.

▪ **Legacy giving**

If you are interested in establishing a planned, after-lifetime gift, please contact Dawn Benoit at St. Pius Elementary School at dawn_benoit@stpiuselementary.org or (337) 237-3139 and we will assist you and your will & estate attorney, through the Diocese of Lafayette to honor your wishes.

▪ **Company Matching Donations**

Some companies have programs where they will match their employee's donation to a non-profit organization. Have you checked with yours lately? We would be happy to provide any information you need to complete your company's form for matching donations. Please contact Dawn Benoit at dawn_benoit@stpiuselementary.org or (337) 237-3139.

▪ **Online giving**

Use the QR code for online giving.



To learn more about giving opportunities or to schedule a tour of St. Pius Elementary School, please contact Dawn Benoit at (337) 237-3139 or dawn_benoit@stpiuselementary.org



They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.

Acts 2:42

Touched by the words of St. Jerome, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ", Marianne Hebert shares her journey into Come, Lord Jesus! and her strong desire to encourage the study of Scripture within the Catholic tradition. She wanted others to find that same zeal within the Christ-founded Church that she had. Before her enrollment in Bible studies, her relationship with Jesus was not a personal one. Although she loved and respected God, prayed daily, and attended Mass faithfully, it was not until she sought him in Sacred Scripture that her faith life was transformed. "Reading the Bible brings life. The Word of God renews our Spirit. Sacred Scripture sanctifies."

Come, Lord Jesus!, a spiritual formation program that has been the anointed life work of Fr. Conley Bertrand, has blessed the lives of countless individuals since 1969. Fr. Bertrand's study is based on the Sunday readings of the entire liturgical calendar and provides a deep immersion into the entire Bible. Linking each scriptural reading with the Catechism of the Catholic Church further clarifies the teachings of our faith, demonstrating the Scriptural foundation of our beliefs and creating a new love of Catholicism within us.

“

After numerous years of Bible study in Baptist and nondenominational churches, I was blessed to find out about Come, Lord Jesus! which brought revival to my Catholic faith. While the love of God's Word and the zeal in members of the Protestant community were very inspirational to me, my experience with Come, Lord Jesus! has gone far beyond that.

-Marianne Hebert



In 2026, Come, Lord Jesus! participation at St. Pius X grew to 7 groups with 79 members.

Come, Lord Jesus! facilitates transformations in its members by fostering spiritual growth and communion with the indwelling presence of God. Members gain a deeper understanding of the Catholic Church and its traditions, witness the power of unified prayer, and enjoy close bonds of spiritual friendship. It is a reliable instrument for the many Catholics who desire to study the Bible but don't know how to begin. It also has the potential of providing active Bible immersion into our Catechism programs to provide the youth of our Church with wisdom and knowledge as they experience a personal encounter with Jesus.

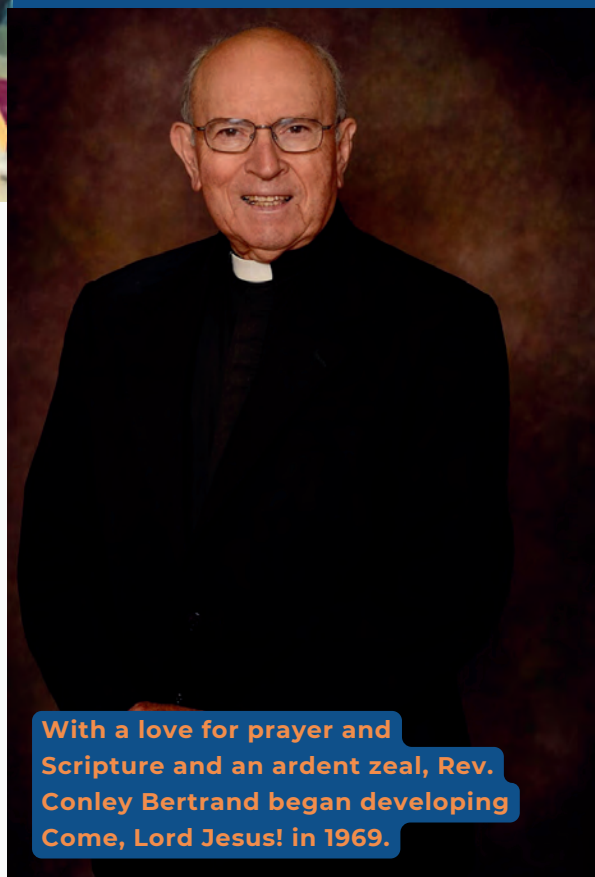


With Acts 16:10, "We have been convinced that God has called us to bring forth the Good News", close to Marianne's heart, she has worked closely with Fr. Bertrand since 2009 in forming groups here at St. Pius X and hundreds of other parishes throughout the state and beyond with hope to bring new life, a new Spirit, and an anointing of faith into our Holy Catholic Church. In closing, Marianne reminds us, "When you join a Come, Lord Jesus! group, you aren't just joining a meeting; you are entering into a tradition of preparation. By studying the upcoming Sunday Gospel, you walk into Mass with the Word already burning in your heart. Additionally, diving into the Catechism allows the 'Apostles' Teaching' to become our own.

“

Come, Lord Jesus! has deepened my faith by helping me to understand the readings. It has transformed the way I view the Mass.
- Glenda LeBlanc

Come, Lord Jesus! has done so much for my spiritual life, I want to encourage others to join a Come, Lord Jesus! group where members join in fellowship and prayer, study the Sunday Readings, and share their faith. Doing so prepares us for the Holy Mass and the Divine Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.
-Group Member



With a love for prayer and Scripture and an ardent zeal, Rev. Conley Bertrand began developing Come, Lord Jesus! in 1969.

GROWING IN LOVE & FAITH

“We were impressed with the beauty of the Church, but even more so by the people of St. Pius X. Everyone was so friendly and inviting, which helped to make us feel at home.”

If you haven't met Rhett and Sally Young yet, you most likely heard of them. By their involvement in the parish, you might even assume they've been parishioners since the parish's earliest days. However, it wasn't until they moved to Lafayette in late 2020 when they joined the parish. It didn't take them long to get acclimated to such a large parish and allow the Holy Spirit to place various forms of service on their hearts.

Joining St. Pius X didn't occur by happenstance, Rhett and Sally prayed and discerned which Church they would call their next spiritual home. They prayed for an active parish where they could use their time, talents and treasure, a place where they could belong and call home. Arriving to St. Pius X Church for the very first time, the size and beauty of the Church took their breath away. What soon followed was even more meaningful to this couple, who wasn't sure if the small community-like feel of their

previous parish in Ville Platte could be possible at a parish as large as St. Pius X. “We were impressed with the beauty of the Church, but even more so by the people of St. Pius X. Everyone was so friendly and inviting, which helped to make us feel at home.”

“At home” is an understatement as the number one thing they missed the most after traveling several weeks was the parish. “After traveling for so long, we were happy to be home and sleep in our own bed, but most of all, we missed our spiritual home, our Mass, our priests and the people of St. Pius X.”

After joining the parish, Rhett and Sally were very active with ACTS in Ville Platte and wanted to get involved at St Pius but weren't sure how. “One afternoon we went to drop off food for the Mission Club in the back of church and by chance or The Holy Spirit, the Women's Acts Retreat Team were leaving for their retreat. It was here we met Jennifer Russo and the rest is history.



Sally and Rhett Young became parishioners after moving to Lafayette and praying for an active parish they could spend their retirement years at.

Now that they're retired, they are making up for lost time by serving in various ways. Rhett serves in the Knights of Columbus and loves cooking with his fellow Knights for parish and school events as well as Life Teen and Edge. “Cooking for Life Teen and Edge makes my heart happy because I see the future of the Church in these young people.” Rhett noted that there are many great cooks in the KC'S! He also volunteers once or twice a week cooking at Food With Love.

Rhett also volunteers with Food With Love, a ministry founded by parishioner, Kent Zerangue.



This ministry provides spiritual support and meals to hospice patients and their families. Rhett has teamed two ACTS retreats so far at St. Pius and participates in Acts small group bible studies. Mirroring Jesus' example of sharing meals, Rhett also hosts a monthly Catholic Men's Supper. Each month a group of ACTS brothers from St. Pius gather to pray together, watch videos of the saints and the early fathers of the Catholic Church, cook and share a meal.

"Cooking for Life Teen and Edge makes my heart happy because I see the future of the Church in these young people."

If they say a way to a man's heart is through a meal, can a man's meals be a way to heaven? For Rhett Young, who has been cooking since the age of 4, it's certainly worth a try.

Sally comments frequently how grateful they are that God led them to an active parish. The doors of opportunity unfolded after teaming an ACTS retreat. Since then, her involvement in various ministries, including the ACTS Core team, Prayer Quilt Fellowship, Women's Guild, Magnify, and as a substitute receptionist in the Church office, has brought endless joy. "We truly feel blessed to belong to a parish that encourages and nurtures so many meaningful ministries." Sally also actively participates and finds spiritual growth in the Morning Glory Theresian community. This dynamic duo takes the role of being "salt and light of the world" quite seriously.

Now, after 42 years of marriage, they continue to pray together each and every day. Their prayer life extends to their children and grandchildren as you will frequently notice them seated together at 9am Sunday

Mass. Another spiritual discipline they've upheld the last 27 years is a monthly couples Bible Study with 6 other couples. Since 1993, they've studied together and applied what they've learned to their family and everyday life.



Serving the parish has become a family affair for the Youngs. Rhett, and his grandson, Joseph, cooking for the Parish Picnic.



SACRAMENT *of Confirmation*

"My Confirmation has impacted my faith with God by fully receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation for me was much more than just a feeling, it was formally accepting Christ's sacrifice and freely acknowledging his love for us through the Church he established. Change through Confirmation is not instant or easy. But with God you can endure."

-Alex Evans
Class of 2026

Through the grace of the Holy Spirit, around 200 youth and adults grow deeper in faith and strengthen their relationship with Christ through the Sacrament of Confirmation each year. The Sacrament's special significance is often exhibited by His Excellency, Bishop Douglas Deshotel, celebrating the Rite and administering the Sacrament.

Whether they received the Sacrament in grade school, as an adult through the Adult Confirmation ministry or OCIA, each candidate becomes fully initiated into the Catholic Church, bearing witness to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in all that they say and do.

Where as we enter into a relationship with God at our Baptism, become nourished with His body and blood at our Sacrament of the Eucharist and are forgiven for our sins at our Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Sacrament of Confirmation pours the grace of the Holy Spirit upon us equipping us to not only live out God's will in our lives, but also to support the lives and faith of those around us.

The Sacrament is meaningful to not only the candidates, but also volunteers who have helped to coordinate the Rite here at St. Pius X. Katie Martin, who served the parish and the candidates from 2020-2025, describes the impact her efforts had on her faith. "To be given a front seat to watch the Holy Spirit move in the lives of these young adults was an absolute privilege. God repeatedly reminded me that 'my' Confirmation kids were not just mine, but were His first. The Holy Spirit made His Presence known in small, intimate movements throughout those five years, each of which affirmed and strengthened my faith again and again."



BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

Last fiscal year, a concerted effort by Vicki Delhomme and other selfless ladies that comprise the St. Pius X Women's Guild invigorated efforts of the parish's Bereavement Ministry. A team of 35 ladies rotate the preparation and delivery of meals when St. Pius X parishioners lose a loved one. Other volunteers are asked to pick up any ordered foods, drinks, or make a dessert of the family's choice to accompany the meal. Though a Meal Train had been implemented at the parish from time to time, all parishioners are now able to participate allowing volunteers to maximize their service to the parish community. Thanks to our Heavenly Father pulling at Vicki Delhomme's heart strings, Vicki recognized that as members of the Women's Guild began aging, a more simple system was needed to streamline the efforts of volunteers. Now, current

volunteers receive a text message about the upcoming volunteer opportunity, and those who agree to serve are then sent instructions. Additionally, new volunteers are able to sign up online, and families now have set meals they can choose from. As one might expect when doing the Lord's work, God always provides to those serving in the ministry. When a parishioner loses a loved one, the short turnaround time could pose a challenge. Yet, there is always the right amount of volunteers who are available to serve, and just enough time for the meals to be prepared. Similarly, when God placed this ministry on Vicki Delhomme's heart, she wasn't sure if she was capable of leading the ministry while also working full-time. After much prayer, God made it clear that it was her time to step up in service to others. When she began

her role, God showed her a path to provide a simplified way to accomplish the mission, ultimately saving her the time she was concerned she wouldn't be able to give. As always, God didn't stop there. The fulfillment God provides

“God has made a difference in my life by providing me with more of a servant's heart to help others in need at a most difficult time in their lives. Witnessing all of our volunteers participate so freely, and willingly serve others without hesitation, has also increased the appreciation I have for them.”

-Vicki Delhomme

to the volunteers who serve, and the comfort He provides to grieving families are more than Vicki thought possible.

NEWEST TEAM MEMBERS

CHERYL DUBOIS



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mrs. Cheryl Dubois serves as Fr. Brady's administrative assistant. Cheryl previously worked as a paralegal for Fr. Brady when he was a lawyer before entering the seminary. Cheryl replaces Leah Schmidt, who served in the position for four years before then.

KRISTEN LAZARINE



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTER & COORDINATOR OF ADULT FORMATION

Before serving as the High School Youth Minister and Adult Formation Coordinator at the parish, she served as the Religion Administrator at St. Pius Elementary School for four years. She also will be working with adults in the various stages of their faith journeys, particularly those in marriage prep and OCIA.

Welcome

REV. DAVID BRIAN HEBERT PAROCHIAL VICAR

Born on November 4, 1958, Rev. Hebert grew up in Abbeville. After receiving his degree in Business Administration and a Masters in Human Resources Development, Rev. Hebert worked for LifeShare Blood Centers for 24 years and at a rural hospital. He always attended church faithfully, but after attending



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Shreveport and getting more involved in ministry, he became happier in his spiritual life while also growing more frustrated with his profession. Throughout life, he felt called to the priesthood but would fight it. When the calling to priesthood could no longer be denied, Rev. Hebert enrolled in the seminary where he attended Notre Dame for his first three years then Sacred Heart School of Theology for his last three years. He graduated on May 6, 2011, with a Master's Degree in Divinity.

Rev. Hebert is no stranger to St. Pius X Church. After being ordained a Deacon in 2010, the parish is where he completed his first summer assignment. He also preached his first homily at St. Pius X. After being ordained to the Sacred Order of the Priesthood on June 11, 2011, Rev. Hebert was assigned to Sts. Peter and Paul in Scott, followed by St. Augustine in Basile, and then to St. Elizabeth Seton in Lafayette.

When he's not celebrating liturgy or providing parishioners with pastoral care, you can find Rev. Hebert hunting, fishing, cooking, and in the outdoors. As we welcome our newest Shepherd to our spiritual home and community of faith, let us pray for Rev. Hebert in his new assignment and enjoy coming to know Christ through his care.



Fr. Hebert at his previous assignment at St. Elizabeth Seton.

Congratulations

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL



**RAY
DOMINGUE**

Born and raised in Lafayette and after graduating from STM, Ray met his wife Stephanie. They have been married for 21 years and have three daughters: Lucy attending ULL, and twins Maddie and Katie (17) who are seniors at STM. After living in Thibodeaux for 15 years, their family returned back to Lafayette and has been active in the St. Pius X community since then. Their girls participated in Life Teen throughout school. Ray and Stephanie serve as a mentor couple in the Marriage Prep Program helping engaged couples prepare for the sacrament of Matrimony. Ray currently serves on the Bienvenu Smith Board, which partners with Louisiana Right To Life in its pro-life mission. Professionally, Ray works as a Senior Engineer in Information Technology at Louisiana Blue. Ray's motivation for running in St. Pius X's Parish Pastoral Council elections is to support the Church and give back to the parish community that has given so much to his family.



**STEVE
HENNIGAN**

Stephen F. (Steve) Hennigan is a Lake Charles native by way of Beauregard Parish. He and his family moved to Lafayette and became members of St. Pius X in early 1980. He is married to the former Renee' Franques of Lake Charles. They were blessed with four children: Heather, Ashton, Bryce, and Colen. They have been involved in public schools, SPES, STM, and Vermilion Catholic. After marriage, he felt called to the Catholic Church and converted when Heather was six. As an educator and an oil gas professional with a degree in mathematics and a master's in engineering management, Steve's professional expertise extends internationally in places like Syria, Russia, Australia and most recently, Alaska. Steve is a member of St. Pius x Knights of Columbus Council #8901, and several professional and service organizations. Steve is looking forward to serving on the parish pastoral council to help St. Pius X move forward, flourish and be all that God wants it to be.



**BETSY C.
RICHARD**

Betsy Comeaux Richard grew up in Lafayette and graduated from Our Lady of Fatima where she and her family were lifelong parishioners. She has 5 siblings, 3 children and 6 grandchildren. She has been a St. Pius X Parishioner for over 20 years where she has served as an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister, Adorer, Lector, and attended A.C.T.S. and Cursillo. After graduating from USL, Betsy served as a direct selling business owner for 30 years gaining sales, team and leadership development skills, and recruiting and leading a sales force of almost 300 employees. After opening a B&B, she wrote a bestseller prayerbook about her experience and she is now a Certified Outgrow Advisor supporting companies to increase revenue every year. In 2019, Betsy became a certified spiritual director through the Archdiocese of New Orleans and supports 8-12 directors at a time. After much discernment, Betsy feels called to sit on the parish pastoral council. She has served on the Better Business Bureau board and was the Vice President of the Louisiana Association for Spiritual Directors. She volunteers for Catholic Charities of Acadiana every month.

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

St. Pius X has been sharing in the evangelical mission of Jesus Christ at an unprecedented level after the pandemic shifted its focus to making liturgies, homilies and prayer requests readily accessible online. As a result, over 47K people from 84 countries visited St. Pius X's website last fiscal year. The pages most frequented included live stream, bulletins and Mass times.

North America

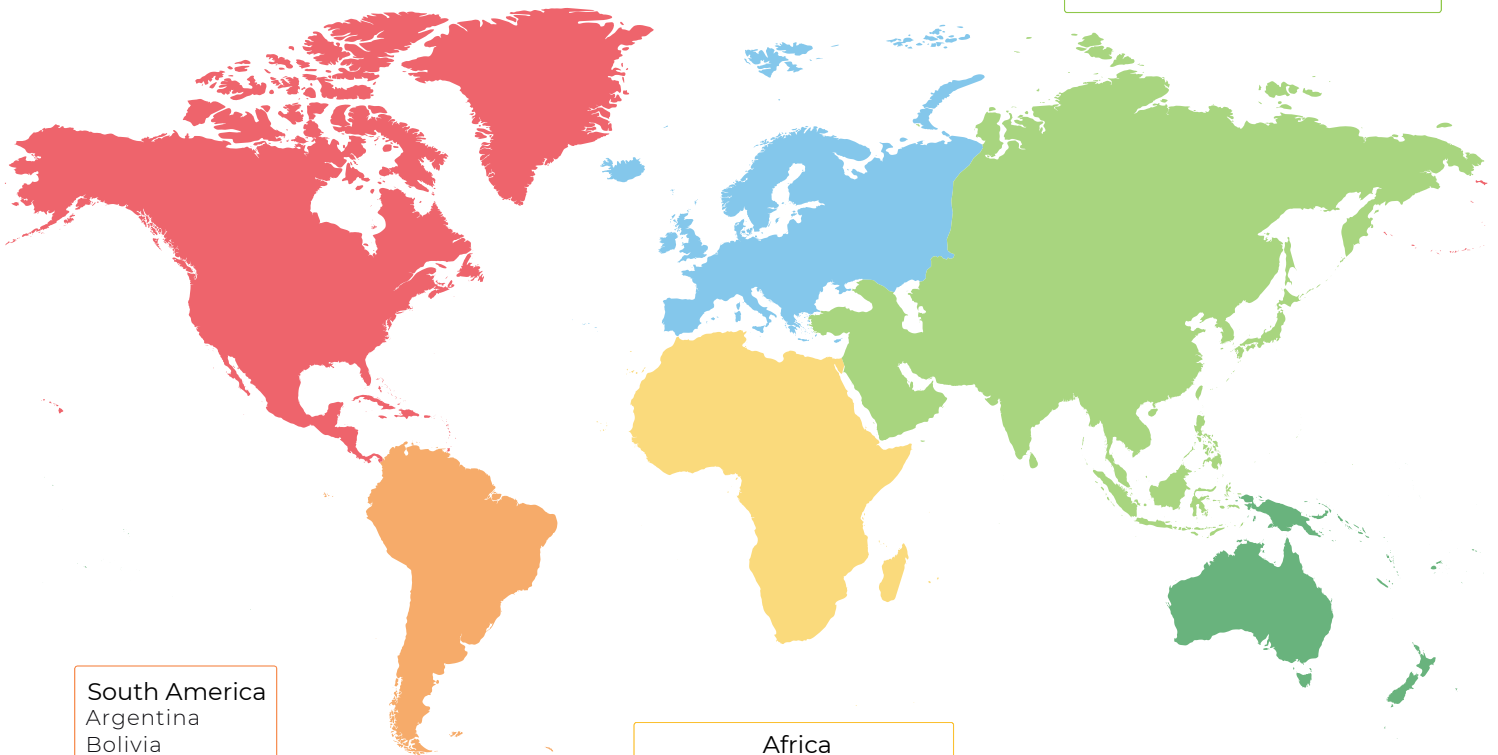
Antigua & Barbuda	Mexico
Canada	Nicaragua
Costa Rica	Panama
El Salvador	Trinidad & Tobago
Haiti	United States
Honduras	

Europe

Austria	Morocco
Belarus	Netherlands
Czechia	Poland
Denmark	Russia
France	Serbia
Georgia	Spain
Germany	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Italy	Ukraine
Moldova	United Kingdom

Asia

Azerbaijan	Myanmar (Burma)
Bahrain	Nepal
Bangladesh	Oman
Cambodia	Pakistan
China	Palestine
India	Philippines
Indonesia	Qatar
Iraq	Saudi Arabia
Israel	South Korea
Japan	Turkey
Jordan	Thailand
Kazakhstan	United Arab Emirates
Kuwait	Vietnam
Lebanon	
Malaysia	



South America

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
Paraguay
Peru
Uruguay
Venezuela

Africa

Algeria	Mauritania
Angola	Mauritius
Egypt	Nigeria
Ethiopia	Senegal
Gabon	Sierra Leone
Kenya	South Africa
Libya	Tunisia
Malawi	Uganda

Oceania

Australia



Last year, members of the Prayer
Quilt Fellowship Ministry wrapped
233 parishioners prayer.

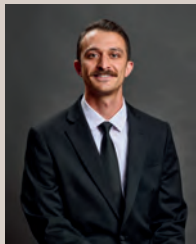
VOCATIONS

ALONG WITH THE OTHER MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE ENTERED THE RELIGIOUS OR CONSECRATED LIFE, THIS YEAR WE PRAY FOR THREE SEMINARIANS FROM ST. PIUS X CHURCH:



COBY HEBERT

Configuration II
Class: 2028
Seminary: Notre Dame



GIOVANNI
RANZINO

Configuration II
Class: 2028
Seminary: St. Ben's



ELI WEIL

Discipleship III
Class: 2031
Seminary: Holy Trinity

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

2025-2026

Phil Camel (May 2025)
Taylor Davis (May 2026)
John Deats (May 2025)

Alysia Gauthreaux (May 2026)
Rob Gutierrez (May 2027)
Amanda Mcalister (May 2026)

Trustees
Reggie Ringuet
Mary Anne Smith

MISSION & VALUES

INTEGRITY

CHRIST LIKE

FAITH-FILLED

DEPENDABILITY

HUMILITY

COMMUNITY

ST PIUS X ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH PARTICIPATES IN THE EVANGELICAL MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST ENTRUSTED TO HIS APOSTLES (MT 28:19-20), WELCOMING ALL WHILE BEING DEVOTED TO THE TEACHING OF THE APOSTLES, COMMUNAL LIFE, THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND PRAYER.
(ACTS 2:42)



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