# Church of St. Pius X

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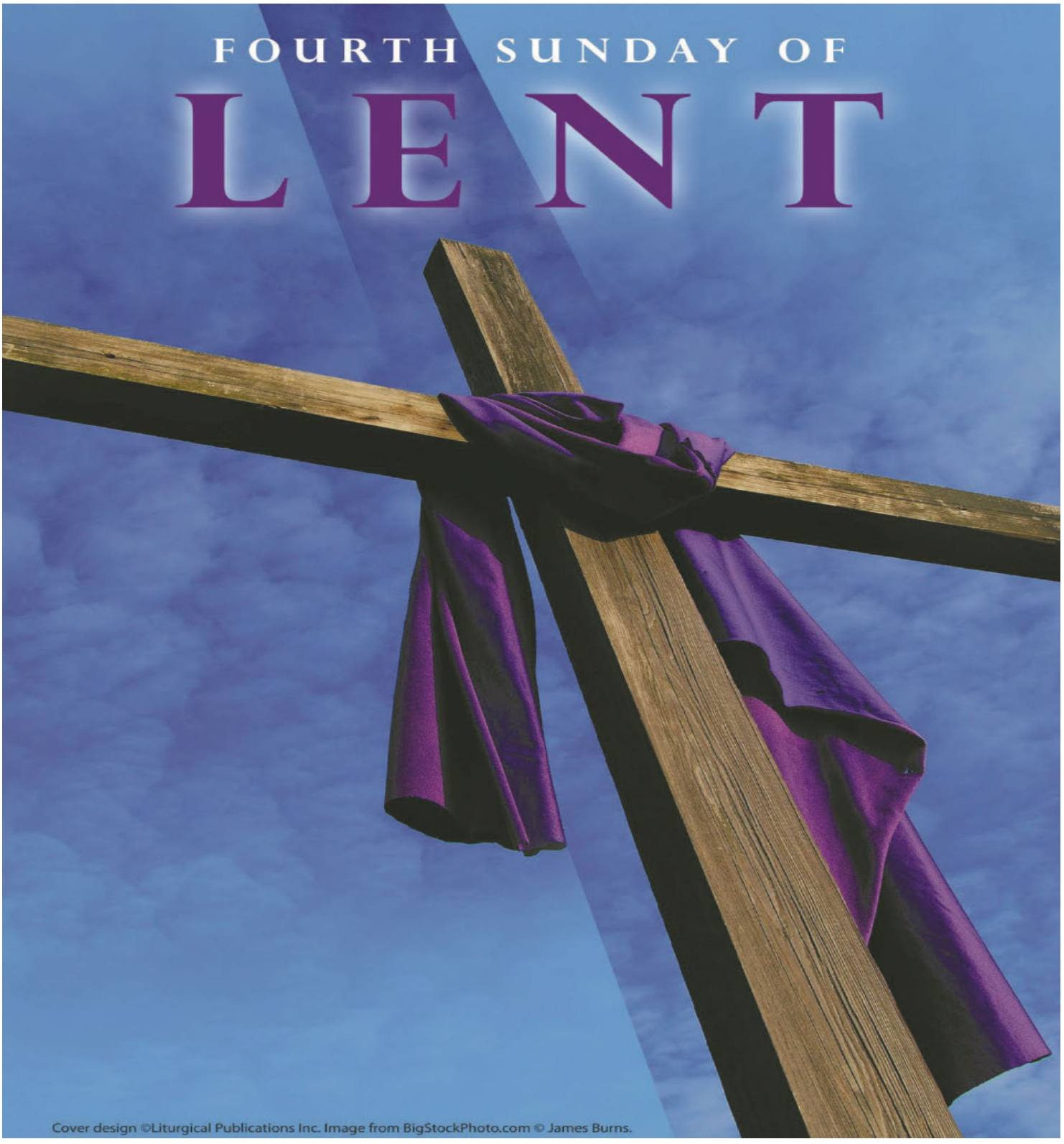
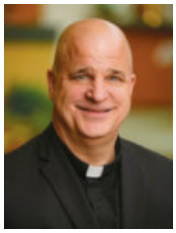


## Fr. Russ

### Laetare Sunday



Today's theme for the fourth Sunday of Lent comes from the entrance antiphon reflecting on Isaiah 66:10-11: "Rejoice Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exalt and be satisfied at her consoling breast." On Laetare Sunday, (as well as the third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday) the church expresses hope and joy during our Lenten fasts and penances. The rose-colored vestments the priest wears on this Sunday indicate a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we enter the somber days of Passiontide. The joy of Easter is around the corner. On this Laetare Sunday, there can be a visible "halt" to the drab and barren liturgical environment of Lent. Rose colored flowers and such may adorn the liturgical environment.

Laetare Sunday is the Church's way of giving us a "shot in the arm" as we approach the darkness and horror of the days through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. It is an opportunity to savor and keep in the back of our minds what awaits us on Easter Sunday – the reality that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, and that our hearts will always be filled with joy! God bless and have a good week.

## Sacramental Life

### Dedication Candle

Lisa Wiste †

Stations of the Cross

St. Pius X Parish will offer Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 24th and Friday, March 31st at 6:00 pm in the church .

Additionally, the St. Pius X School will offer Stations during Lent at 8:45 am in the church:

Please come join us for our last stations of the cross gathering on Friday, March 24th.

All are welcome.

### City Wide Lenten 2023 Reconciliation Services

Thursday, March 23rd — 6:30 pm

*Communal Reconciliation Service*

*Pax Christi Parish*

Friday - Saturday, Mar 24th & 25th — 4:00 pm

*24 Hours for the Lord at St. John*

Sunday, Apr 2nd — 3:30 pm

*St. John/St. Pius Joint Parish Service at St. John*

Tuesdays, March 28th – 5:00 pm

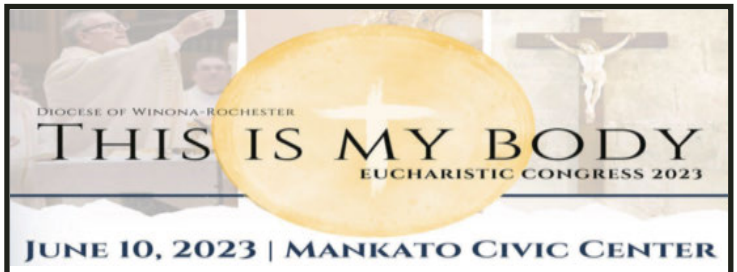
*Holy Spirit - Lenten Holy Hour*

Thursdays, Mar 23 — 5:00 pm

*Holy Spirit - Lenten Holy Hour*

## Parish Life

St. Pius X Spaghetti Dinner. The St. Pius X Knights and Youth Group are co-sponsoring their annual Spaghetti Dinner Saturday evening, April 29. The dinner is catered by Victoria's Restaurant. The menu includes spaghetti, meat ball, salad, roll, beverages and sherbet. Serving begins in Kennedy Hall right after the 4 pm Mass and continues until 6:30 pm. All proceeds go to the St. Pius X Youth Group to fund their summer mission trips. Purchase your tickets in advance to save [adults ($9), children ages 6 through 11 ($6) and family ($25). Children 5 and under are free]. Those are the same great prices as last year. Tickets are available from members of the youth group, or in the parish office or by calling Mike Sheehan [288-3767] for "Will Call" pickup that evening. Tickets can also be purchased at this weekend's Pancake Breakfast in Kennedy Hall. Join us for some great food and fellowship at an unbelievable price, all for the benefit of our St. Pius X Youth.




Have you signed up yet? You don't want to miss the chance to join us in Mankato for the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress. This family-friendly event will take place on Saturday, June 10th. The day will include a special Eucharistic procession, great talks, music, and the celebration of Mass. We want to see you there! Sign up online at eucharist.dowr.org. Registration is $35 per adult and $15 for youth ages 8-17. St. Pius will provide (coach bus) transportation for the first 100 registrants. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!

**Event information and registration links can be found on our parish website:**

**www.piusx.org.**

*Financial assistance for St. Pius X parishioners is available.*

## Lenten Project

Throughout Lent, St. Pius X has been collecting donations to support Family Promise of Rochester. Family Promise is a local non-profit that helps families experiencing homelessness.

Funds may be donated in the weekly collection baskets (please indicate "Lenten Project" or "Family Promise"). Online donations may be made by scanning the QR code.

Family Promise has also provided an Amazon wish list at:

**https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2HCSU80F8M9MX?ref=wlshare**

Items purchased from this list may be shipped directly to Family Promise from Amazon or dropped off in the receptacles in the church entrances.

**Family Promise - Did you know?** Family Promise provides monthly updates about its activities, mission and volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in staying connected to Family Promise Rochester. Visit their website and add your email to their distribution list:

***www.fprochestermn.org***

## Knights of Columbus

### St. Pius X Knights Council Meeting

There will be a Knights Council meeting on Thursday, March 23, in Founders Hall. The meeting begins at 6:30 PM with a rosary. Brother Knights, mark your calendars now and plan to join us.

**Sunday, April 2** Palm Sunday Masses
*(livestreamed)*
*St. Pius X Church Sat. 4 pm Sun. 8 and 10 am*

**Sunday, April 2** Communal Reconciliation
*Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist 3:30 pm*

**Thursday, April 6** Holy Thursday Mass
*(livestreamed)*
*St. Pius X Church 7 pm*

**Friday, April 7** Good Friday Service
*(livestreamed)*
*St. Pius X Church 12:15 pm*

**Saturday, April 8** Easter Vigil
*(livestreamed)*
*St. Pius X Church 8 pm*

**Sunday, April 9** Easter Sunday
*(livestreamed)*
*St. Pius X Church 8 am and 10 am*

## Easter Flower Memorials

We invite you to remember or honor a loved one by making an offering for the flowers that will adorn our parish during the Easter season. Donations may be placed in the collection basket or delivered to the parish office. A memorial insert will be inserted in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Thank you for helping to create a beautiful environment for prayer and worship.

## *Mass Intentions*

**Monday, March 20, 2023**
8:00 am **NO DAILY MASS**

**Tuesday, March 21, 2023**
8:00 am Edward Warren†
Evelyn Crowley†

**Wednesday, March 22, 2023**
8:45 am John Muehlenbein†
Lisa Wiste†

**Thursday, March 23, 2023**
8:00 am Living and Deceased Members of the Rocca/Hoye Families

**Friday, March 24, 2023**
8:00 am Vocations
Evelyn Crowley†

**Saturday, March 25, 2023**
8:00 am Dr. Robert Hattery†
4:00 pm Daryl Faulkner†
Mary Beckman†

**Sunday, March 26, 2023**
8:00 Vernoica Lubarski†
Bernard Loftus†
10:00 am Arthemisia da Silva†
Butch Klipsic†

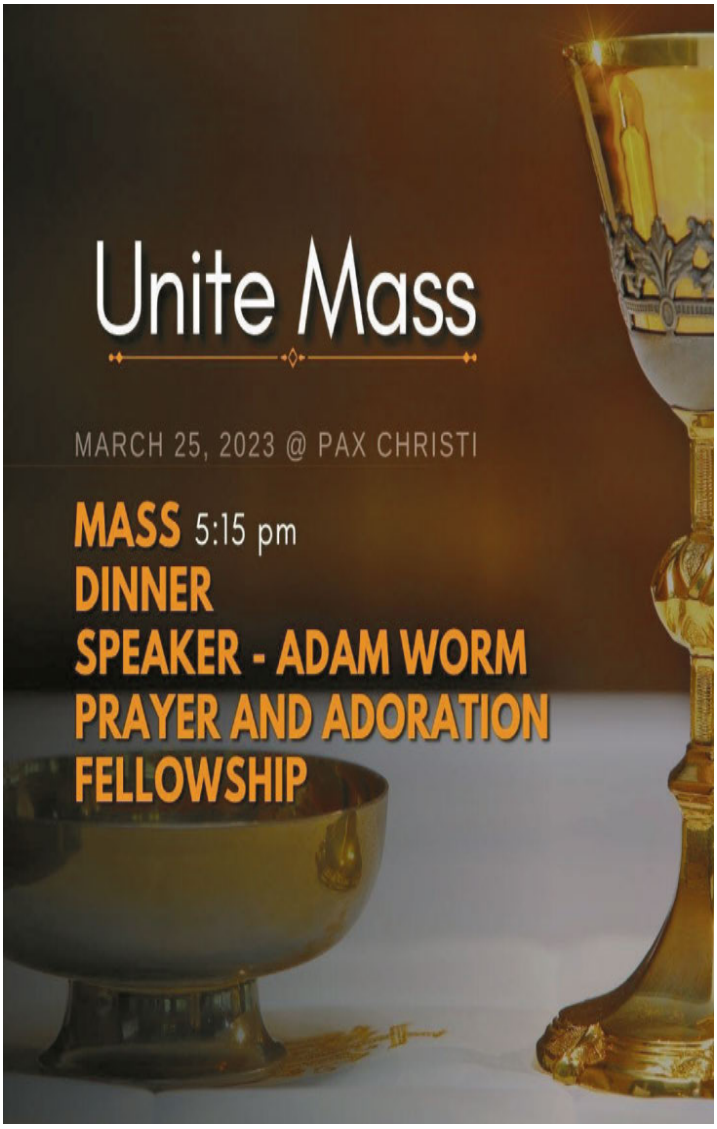
## Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Middle School presents:

Disney's NEWSIES JR.

Location: Lourdes High School Theater
March 24, 2023 10:00 am
March 24, 2023 7:00 pm
March 25, 2023 7:00 pm

Come one, come all to our middle school performance of Newsies! Over 65 middle school students are involved with this action-packed performance.
Break a leg, kids!

# *Youth and Family Ministry*



**VBS Help is NEEDED** - We are very excited about our upcoming VBS on June 19-23! To make this out of this world, we need some help!!
We are looking for individuals who have experience in theater with set painting and building.
If you have this skill and would like to volunteer, please contact Jennifer Carlin – jcarlin@piusx.org.

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of March 19, 2023

**Sunday:** 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

**Monday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd 14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21 22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

**Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**Saturday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7 8a,8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38

**Next Sunday:** Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

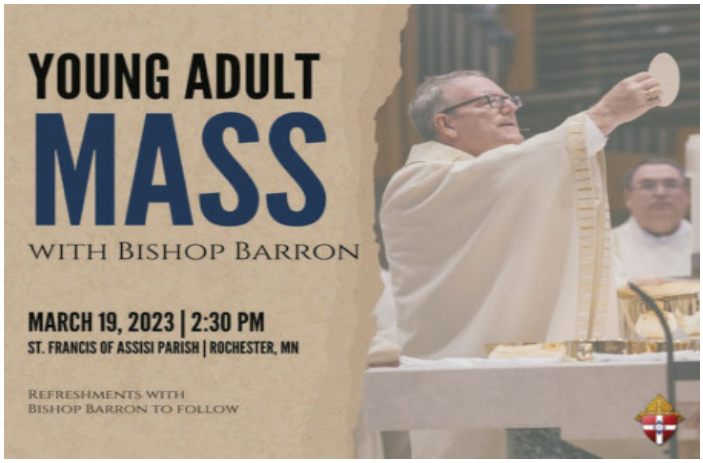
God asks a rhetorical and slightly sarcastic question to Samuel, the prophet: **"How long will you grieve for Saul, whom I have rejected as king of Israel?"** Like us, Samuel is depressed that the old king failed. It's painful to admit that the old regime is done. But God won't let us wallow our pity-party forever. **"I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem,"** announces the Lord, **"for I have chosen my king from among his sons."** Samuel finally goes and anoints the young David as the new king. And his kingdom is glorious; it's the golden age of Israel's earthly history.

How discouraging to see that my own selfish ego is no longer in charge! How long will I grieve that money, power, pleasure, and reputation have been rejected as the ruler of my life? How wonderful that God has a new future in store for you and me. He is sending us to Bethlehem to anoint the new David as our king. His kingdom won't fail us. He'll slay our goliaths, unite our dispersed energies, and build a Temple where God himself will dwell.

So how long will you grieve? How long?

*— Father John Muir*

## Community



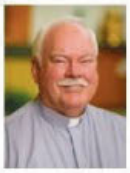

**The Lourdes High School Concert Choir** will be hosting a concert with 29:11 International Exchange Choir on Monday, March 27 at 7:00 pm in the Lourdes High School Auditorium. 29:11 International Exchange is a choir from South Africa that is touring the Midwest sharing a message of forgiveness and the rich culture of South Africa and its musical styles. It is going to be an experience you will not want to miss! Admission is free, with a free-will offering to benefit the group's tour efforts.

**Way of the Cross** Please join in the Way of the Cross procession through the streets of Downtown Rochester, with scripture, poetry, song, and silence. The procession will stop at four stations throughout the city on Good Friday, **April 7, 2023,** at 4:00 pm (gather at 3:50). The procession will start at the Main Entrance to the Government Center at 201 Fourth Street SE and will proceed to the Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 11 Fourth Avenue SW, where a Good Friday Service will follow at 5:30. All are welcome to attend and participation is free.

**Human Dignity Group** Join us one Monday morning a month at St. Johns to pray for the dignity of all life and discern how God is calling us to act in our parish and in our community to uplift and support the dignity of life for all. We will meet next on Monday, March 27th from 9:30-11:00am at St. John's (We meet in a child friendly room if you have a little one who would need to tag along!) In March we will specifically be exploring the USCCB's "Walking with Mom's in Need Parish Action Guide." Please contact Megan Rodriguez with questions and if you would like to get involved

## Parish Staff

**Pastor**
Rev. Russell Scepaniak
Cell: 507-517-4235
rgs@piusx.org



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Fr. Innocent Onuh

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**Maintenance - Custodial**
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