

Saint Pius X

Catholic Church and School

Fourteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

More than 60 years of faith
“To restore all things in Christ”

July 5, 2026

Dear friends,

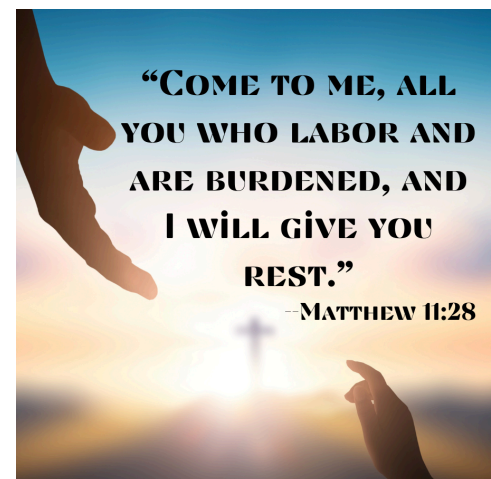
As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, we are invited to reflect not only on the gift of freedom we have received as a nation, but also on the deeper freedom that Christ offers to every human heart. In today’s Gospel from Matthew 11:25-30, Jesus gives one of the most tender invitations in Scripture: **“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.”** These words reveal the heart of Jesus. He does not promise a life without difficulties, struggles, or responsibilities. Instead, He promises to walk with us and to carry our burdens with us. The freedom Jesus gives is not freedom from responsibility; it is freedom from fear, anxiety, sin, and the heavy burdens that prevent us from living with peace and joy. The celebration of independence reminds us that freedom is a precious gift that requires responsibility. A nation is truly strong when its people use freedom not only for personal benefit, but for the good of others. This truth is beautifully reflected in the famous words of President **John F. Kennedy** in his inaugural address:

And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man. Finally, whether you are citizens of America or citizens of the world, ask of us here the same high standards of strength and sacrifice which we ask of you. With a good conscience our only sure reward, with history the final judge of our deeds, let us go forth to lead the land we love, asking His blessing and His help, but knowing that here on earth God’s work must truly be our own.

These words echo the call of Jesus. Christian freedom is never centered only on “me” but always reaches toward “we.” Jesus invites us to take His yoke — the yoke of love, service, compassion, and commitment to others. When we serve God and our neighbor, we discover the true joy of freedom. The great Indian poet and Nobel Laureate **Rabindranath Tagore** expressed this longing for a world transformed by truth and freedom in his famous poem: **Where the Mind Is Without Fear** from **Gitanjali**, the 1913 Nobel Prize Literature

*Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;
Where knowledge is free;
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments
By narrow domestic walls;
Where words come out from the depth of truth;
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way
Into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;
Where the mind is led forward by Thee
Into ever-widening thought and action—
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.*

Tagore dreams of a nation where people live without fear, where education and knowledge are open to all, where truth guides speech, where reason overcomes superstition, and where people work together beyond divisions. For him, the highest freedom is the awakening of the human spirit. This poem fits beautifully with reflections on independence: a country becomes truly free when its people are free from fear, hatred,



Who's Who

Pastor

Very Rev. Paul A. Hesse, V.G.

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Kurian Joseph

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Salvador (Sal) Alvarado

Deacon Loni Lugo

Deacon Mark Arnold

Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Director of Religious Education & Adult Faith Formation

Mary Maldonado

Director of Youth Ministry

Brandon Lutz

Music Minister

Michael Mullins

5:30pm Mass Band Leader

Mick Boudreau

School Principal

Beth Hinojosa

361.992.1343

Maintenance

Ernie Pena, Jose Vasquez,

Yolanda Villarreal

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Parish Website

www.spxcc.org

School Website

www.stpiusxschoolcc.org

ignorance, and selfishness, and are awakened to truth, dignity, and service. Tagore's prayer finds a beautiful connection with the Gospel. Jesus calls us into a freedom where the heart is freed from fear, where truth guides our choices, and where humanity is not divided by hatred but united by love.

For Christians, the highest example of freedom is found in Jesus Himself. He freely gave His life on the Cross out of love. The Cross teaches us that freedom is not simply the ability to choose; it is the grace to choose what gives life to others. As we celebrate 250 years of American independence, it is a time for introspection: What kind of freedom are we building? Are we using our freedom to create a society of compassion, justice, and peace? Are we bringing the gentle heart of Christ into our families, workplaces, communities, and parish? May we remember that the greatest freedom is found when we come to Jesus. He alone can give the rest that the world cannot give. When our lives are rooted in Christ, we become people who bring peace, hope, and healing to others.

May God bless America and all nations. May He bless our parish families with the freedom, peace, and joy that come from the meek and humble Heart of Jesus.

Happy Independence Day!



In Loving Memory

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of Ronald (Ronnie) W. Arispe who passed away on June 23, 2026. We commend Ronnie to the loving mercy of God and ask our parish family to keep his family and loved ones in prayer during this time of loss. Eternal rest grant upon him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

Schedule of Services

Masses: First Saturday 8:15am

Saturday Vigil 5:30pm

Sunday 8am, 10am, 12pm, 5:30pm

Vietnamese Mass 7:30pm

Monday - Friday 8:15am

Wednesday & Friday 5:30pm

Holy Days: 6:30am, 8:15am, 12pm, 6pm (Vigil 5:30pm)

Confessions: Saturday 4-5pm & Thursday 7:15-7:50pm

Marriages: By appointment only and 6 months advance notice.

Baptismal Instruction: Pre-register through the office.

Anointing of the Sick: On request

Journey to Damascus (JTD)



JTD is for those seeking a stronger foundation in Christ and deeper unity with other believers. This is a 3-day Christian weekend for those who want to deepen their relationship with God, strengthen their faith, and experience true Christian brother/sisterhood. It is open to all denominations and centers on renewal through prayer, reflection, and community. JTD is for those seeking a

stronger foundation in Christ and deeper unity with other believers. It is for those who:

- want to grow spiritually,
- need time away from distractions to reconnect with God,
- value community, faith, and encouragement.

The weekend is full physically, emotionally, and spiritually, so pilgrims should set aside outside responsibilities and come ready to be present

The upcoming 2026 Weekend Schedule is:

Men's: September 17-20

Women's: July 30-August 2 or October 15-18

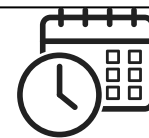
Weekends are held at the OLCC Campus on Lantana and the Weekend Fees are \$225.00 (assistance is available for those with need). More information can be found at www.journeytodamascus.org or you may contact Bud Colwell @ 361-779-1971 or Michelle Ochoa 361-400-5473

Answer the Call to Serve

Jesus calls each of us to serve in different ways. For young parishioners who have received their First Communion, altar serving is a wonderful opportunity to serve Christ, help the priest and assist the congregation in worship. It is a meaningful way to grow in faith, learn more about the liturgy, and serve your parish family. Watch the bulletin for details about upcoming altar server training.

Stewardship Thought - Time, Talent and Treasure

Summer often brings new opportunities to serve. Consider volunteering in one of our parish ministries. Whether you can offer an hour a month or several hours a week, your gifts help build up our parish family.



Parish Happenings

Wednesday, July 8th

6:00PM – Church Night Movie Night – YC

7:00AM – Joyful Pillars – CC#2

Thursday, July 9th

7:00PM – Confessions/Adoration – CH

A Partnership that Works

Scan the QR code below to learn more about partnering with our school as a Give Back Community Partner!



Join Us in Praying the Rosary

Join us on Sundays in the church as 7:30am prior to the 8am Mass or at 9:25am prior to the 10am Mass.



Follow us on Facebook

Keep up on all the latest on our Facebook page. Go to our link at facebook.com/stpiusxcc

The deadline for submitting bulletin announcements is **Wednesday at noon.**

This Week's Family Challenge

Set aside 10 minutes to pray together as a family. Read the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday, share one thing you're thankful for, and pray for someone in need. Faith is not just something we practice at church, it's something we live every day. As you enjoy vacations, backyard barbecues, and time with loved ones, do not forget to attend Mass wherever your travels take you, and thank God for the gift of summer. When traveling, check **Masstimes.org** for churches near you. As always, do not forget to support St. Pius X financially. Online giving helps ensure that we will have a consistent income during the summer months. Unfortunately, parish expenses never take a vacation!

Wednesday Movie Night!

What happens when mercy meets those who have lost all hope? Come discover how Jesus continues to transform lives, then and now.

Join us Wednesday night as we continue this inspiring series, Season 1 of *The Chosen* with *Episode 6*, "Indescribable Compassion". Jesus encounters those longing for healing, forgiveness, and a new beginning. Through powerful moments of faith and grace, this episode reveals the boundless compassion of Christ and reminds us that no one is beyond His love.

Join us for Episode 6 of The Chosen this Wednesday, July 8th in the Youth Center

When: Wednesdays, 6:00PM-7:30PM

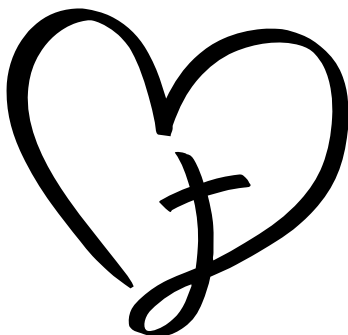
Where: Youth Center

Snacks: Popcorn provided, bring your own drink

Who: Everyone is welcome, bring a friend

Registration: Call the Parish Office or just show up.

See the story, feel the faith, share the moment!

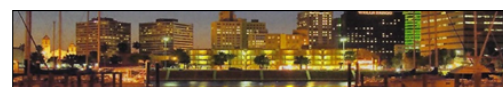


Meet the Men's Club

The Men's Club is a fellowship of Catholic men dedicated to serving God, our parish, and our community through faith, service, and friendship. Members work together to support parish events, volunteer for service projects, and strengthen the life of our parish while growing in their own faith. Whether helping with parish fundraisers, maintaining parish grounds and facilities, supporting special events, or lending a hand wherever needed, the Men's Club plays an important role in serving our church family. Beyond service, the club offers opportunities for fellowship, spiritual growth, and building lasting friendship with other men who share a commitment to Christ and His Church. All men of the parish, 18 and older, are invited to become part of this vibrant ministry. No special skill is required, just a willing heart and desire to serve.

The Traveling Crucifix

Thank you to Rick and Angie Quiroz for your prayers for vocations this past week. Rosie Garcia will be praying with the Traveling Crucifix this week. Tony and Martha Arnolds will be taking the Traveling Crucifix July 12 - 19, 2026.



Coastal Bend Insurance

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SI, hablo su idioma.



Please support our bulletin sponsor.

Bereavement Reception Ministry Volunteers Needed

The St. Pius X Bereavement Reception Ministry is seeking adult men and women volunteers to assist with receptions following funeral services. Duties include serving catered food and beverages and helping with cleanup. No food preparation is required. Volunteer times are flexible, with most receptions held on weekdays from late morning to midday and occasional Saturdays. Service time is usually about four hours per reception. This is a beautiful way to serve our parish and support families during times of loss. Please call the parish office if you are interested or have questions, 361-993-4053.

July, the Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus

During the month of July, the Church invites us to reflect in a special way on the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ that was poured out for our salvation. The Blood of Christ is a sign of His infinite love and mercy, bring new life to all who believe. As we journey through July, let us give thanks for the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross and turn to Him in prayer. May we seek His mercy, live in charity, and remain grateful for the gift of our salvation.



Advertise in the Parish Bulletin

Local businesses and individuals are invited to advertise in our weekly parish bulletin. Advertising here ensures your message reaches a wide and diverse audience. Take advantage of our platform to maximize your visibility and connect with potential customers while contributing to the ongoing mission of our parish. Advertising proceeds directly fund church programs and outreach incentives. If you wish to place an advertisement in the parish's weekly bulletin, please contact the office Monday through Friday between 9am and 5pm. The cost is \$25.00 per Sunday bulletin.

Who Will You Invite This Summer?

The summer months are a wonderful time to reach out and invite someone to come to church with you. Try inviting friends, family, neighbors, or anyone who may be away from the faith. Worshiping together as a parish family strengthens our community and draws us closer to Christ. A simple invitation can make a lasting difference in someone's life. You may never know how God will use your small act of welcome to open a heart. Let's make this summer a time of reaching out in faith and love.

Catholic Daughters Rosary Rally

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court #2460, Angels of Mary, will have their monthly Rosary Rally on Saturday, July 11th at 10AM. Let us answer Our Lady's request to pray the Rosary daily.



Let us pray for our families, our loved ones and our parish. We will be praying in the parking lot. Please bring a hat and a chair. Bringing a friend is encouraged, too!

Don't Let Your Summer Be Boring - Join Youth Ministry

Looking for something fun to do this summer? Come be part of our Youth Ministry! It's a great place to meet new friends, grow in faith, have fun, and make memories that will last long after summer ends. Throughout the summer, we'll have exciting activities, games, service opportunities, faith-filled discussions, social events, and more. Whether you are new to the parish or have been here a while, there's a place for you!

Youth Ministry is more than just events. It's a community where you can be yourself, build lasting friendships, discover your gifts, and grow closer to Christ alongside other teens your age. Bring a friend and come see what it's all about! For upcoming meetings and events, contact blutz@stpiouscc.org We can't wait to see you this summer!

Mass Intentions



Saturday, July 4th – FIRST SATURDAY

5:30PM † Jay Francis by Jackie & Phyllis Benesh

Sunday, July 5th

8:00AM † Bill Hennings by Joan Hennings

10:00AM † Vernon Krause by Judy & Bob Buchanan

12:00PM For the People of St. Pius X

5:30PM † Jose Zuniga by Family

Monday, July 6th

8:15AM † Bruce Balli by Jeanne Balli

Tuesday, July 7th

8:15AM † Beatriz Salinas by Family

Wednesday, July 8th

8:15AM † Christopher Janosek by John, Debra & Brian Janosek

† Owen Harris by Julia Harris

† Mary, John, James P., & Margaret Kelly by KKH

† Julian Galloway by Family

† Frances Branning by Rick McCabe

† Rudy & Cody Reed by Rick McCabe

† Baby Boy Andres Jr., Cesar, Ezekiel Gonzales by Family

James W. Kelly III by James Kelly

John Kelly by James Kelly

Liliane Van Hoof by James Kelly

† Anna Van Dijck by James Kelly

† Karel Soudan by James Kelly

5:30PM † Maury Jarrell by Waynette Jarrell

Thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother by Mary Vasquez

Vivian Shelander by Helen Shelander

† Mary Pat & Albert T. Slavik by James & John Kelly

† Sharon & Tally Smart by James Kelly

† James W. Sr., & Helen B. Kelly by James & John Kelly

† Felix Van Hoof by James Kelly

Thursday, July 9th

8:15AM † Nancy Moser by Mary Fodor

Friday, July 10th

8:15AM † Susan Hesse by Al & Adelle Hesse

5:30PM † Ana Luisa Clark by Garcia Family

Saturday, July 11th

5:30PM For the People of St. Pius X

Sunday, July 12th

8:00AM † Bill & Tomo Koch by Cherly Kershaw

10:00AM † Salvador Mendez by Carlos Gomez

12:00PM † Alvino & Stella Campos by Family

5:30PM † Donna Tindall by Speed Family

Financial Report for 6/28/2026

Sunday Collection	\$	9,031.17
Sunday Online	\$	5,224.00
GOF (Other)	\$	40.00
Sunday Flower Donation	\$	10.00
Other Contributions	\$	379.05
Total Operating Revenue	\$	14,684.22

Other Contributions:

AOC	\$	75.00
Emil & Marie Habeeb Schol. Fund	\$	80.00
Peter's Pence	\$	530.00
Solidarity Fund for Church in Africa	\$	10.00
Other Contributions	\$	695.00
Total Contributions	\$	15,379.22

Please Pray for our Sick & Shut-Ins:

Becky Aikens, John Albertini, Ernie Albornoz, Bob, Kathy, & Tony Almendarez, Luis Alvarado, Danilyn Arevalo, Sugar Arras, Abby Arredondo, Missy O'Rourke Atkinson, Tamra Bacon, Manuel C. Balbin, Carmen S. Barrera, Ann Marie Bazan, Georgie Benton, Bernice Berry, Lucy Boyd, Kanon Brown, Bob Buchanan, Jimmy & Carolyn Buehrig, Michael Campos, Lisa Caperton, Belle Carson, Benita Marie Casey, Timoteo Casanova, III, Rose Marie Cortinas, Carole Cotter, Natalie & Elaine Elwood, Frances Leal Emry, Dale Flannagan, Guadalupe Flores, Bobby Floyd, Debbie Fuqua, Berta Garcia, Dakota Garcia, Juanita Gaytan, Deborah Giese, Joe Gomez, George Gongora, Hilario Gonzales, Sr., Beatriz Gonzalez, Martin Gonzalez, Linda Goulet, Ana Guzman, Monte Hall, Janice Hass, Roger Heitzmann, Jr., Shain Hennig, Shelley Hinojosa, Graham Hughes, Mark Hyde, Carl Jacobi, Joseph Jude, Desiree Kund, James Lawrence, Annette Ledesma, Arlene Leep, Sharon Lewis, Gladys Lippincott, Kenny Lopez, Pearl Lopez, Larry Ludka, Bill Lyman, Tom Malone, Mary Louise Mandujano, Christopher & Linda Manka, Norma Marshall, Samuel Marsillo, Ruben

Martinez, David & Rick McCabe, Jack McCord, Andra Megivern, John Miller, Oralia Mir, Fred & Vickie Mitchell, John Morgan, Sam Morris, Sterling Murphy, JG Musser, Sandra Nicolas, Jason Olog, Scott Olson, Ozzie Osborne, Linda Park, Tom Patterson, Joyce Pouncy, Joe Prejean, Derrel Puckett, Frances Quinn, Irma Ramirez, Tino Ramos, John Rank, Michelle Richter, Alexis M. Rodriguez, Petra Rodriguez, JoAnn Rosales, Jean & Hedy Rosenast, David Russell, Button Ruzicka, Dolores Saenz, Dora Salazar, Kimberly Salch, Sandra Salinas, Janie San Miguel, Rick Sanders, Arnold Santos, Adam Saylor, David G. Scherzer, Wayne Schoen, Jack Schuett, Steve Schuster, Liz Sefcik, Anita Shirley, Alma Silva, Peter Siracusa, Rodney Sirius, Denise Sosa-Villagran, Mary Ann Starkey, Anne Suarez, Della Swoboda, Randy Sykora, Brandee Torres, Jaime Torres, Ernie Trevino, Sarah Urbanovsky, Jessica Underbrink, Mary Vasquez, Joan Vedder, Helen Witzsche, Wilson Woolley, Mary Bell Yankee, Carole Zanetti, Joe Zepeda, Belinda Garza Zuniga and all those who asked for and need our prayers.

