



St. Pius Calling...

July-August 2017

Congratulations!



We celebrated with our 2017 graduates Daniel Napsha, Megan Fetterolf, Steven Pomykalski, Ryan Bucher and Tyler Scholl at a special breakfast on June 4. The breakfast was after the 11 am Mass during which there was a special blessing of seniors and presentation of Bibles.

Supermarket Gift Cards

By Gretchen Brouse

It's hard to believe, but the supermarket gift card sales began in 1993 when Father Joe was the pastor of our little church on University Avenue. The profit from selling back then was used to reduce our parish debt and bank money for building our new church. At the program's inception, the church netted a 5% profit from each gift card sold.

This same program that was started 24 years ago continues today before and after each weekend Mass and during the week in the parish office. The money earned from the sales of the gift cards continues to be used to reduce the parish debt. What's great now is we receive a 10% profit from each Weis or Giant gift card we sell. In essence, it's like "free money" for our parish.

Gift cards are available in denominations of \$10.00, \$50.00, or \$100.00 for both Weis Market and Giant Food stores and can be purchased with cash or a check made out to St. Pius X. Just like other gift cards out there, these are used like cash to purchase items in the stores: groceries, medicines and even gas. It is one of the easiest ways to give back to the church and a means of tithing.

The program has increasingly caught on throughout the years, but we still have not reached our full potential. Currently we have 763 families in the parish and less than 100 taking advantage of the supermarket gift-card sales program. As a reminder, a blue envelope is included in each monthly packet from the church to help with planning.

Celebrating 15 years of service



The church is fortunate to have 15 dedicated parishioners who volunteer their time promoting the gift cards before and after Mass, and we would love to have more! Those who sell them are usually scheduled one time per month and have the option to choose the dates and the Mass they wish to work. It's also a great way to meet other parishioners!

Please consider helping St. Pius X Church continue to flourish by purchasing supermarket gift cards from Weis Market and Giant Food or by volunteering your time selling at one of the Masses. It's a win, win for all of us!

If you are interested in helping out

or want more information about the program, please contact the parish office at spxc@ptd.net or Gretchen Brouse at gbrouse3@ptd.net.

Why Catholic? By Renee Ferry

I am a lifelong Catholic and received the early sacraments at my family church in Scranton. My husband and I were married in Bloomsburg in 2003. I attribute much of my devotion and dedication to my faith to my maternal grandmother, with whom I spent a great deal of time. To this day, I tell people that she was my best friend.

My grandmother was one of the most devout people I have ever met. She led a hard life: raised in poverty, having 10 children, and continuing to face poverty through much of her adult life raising a large family with the sole income from my grandfather driving a truck and then owning a small diner. She had a sister who was handicapped from birth who she helped care for; she buried a grandson and helped my grandfather through several addictions. She never complained.



Knights of Columbus, Marian Council 3780 Selinsgrove, PA

What are the Knights and what do we do?

From the moment of our founding in 1882, charity has been the first principle of the Knights of Columbus. We are men of faith and men of action.



Charity –Knights recognize that our mission, and our faith in God, compels us to action. There is no better way to experience love and compassion than by helping those in need, a call we answer every day.

Unity – None of us is as good as all of us. Members of the Knights of Columbus all know that – together – we can accomplish far more than any of us could individually. So, we stick together...we support one another.

Fraternity – Venerable Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus, in large part, to aid the widows and children left behind when the family breadwinner died – often prematurely. The Order’s top-rated [insurance program](#) continues to do this today, as do the good works of individual Knights, who gave more than 73.5 million service hours in 2015

Patriotism – Members of the Knights of Columbus, be they Americans, Canadians, Mexicans, Cubans, Filipinos, Poles, or Dominicans, are patriotic citizens. We are proud of our devotion to God and country, and believe in standing up for both.

At our local council, we have 6 service committees, **Church, Community, Council, Family, Youth, and Pro-life** and under each we try to do a minimum of 5 projects per year. Here are just a few: Children’s Christmas party, Spaghetti dinner for the needy persons, Relay for Life, family picnic, March for Life, kitchen cupboard, Special Olympics, maintenance of the church circle, too many to mention all. Our brothers participate as Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, lectors just to name a few. We support our parish and community in many ways.

Membership in the Knights carries many benefits. But, the truth is that we are all involved because we care about our church, our faith, our families and our community.

Commitment to the council can be as little as 2 hours per year. Each small amount contributed by many allows us to do all the events we host.

Looking for information and current events about the Knights of Columbus? You can access both the Supreme and State websites:

Supreme: kofc.org

State: pakofc.us

She said the rosary daily and had statues of Jesus and Mary with candles burning in front of each 24/7.

My time with her required that I become part of her routine: saying the rosary, going to church, watching “The Catholic Channel”, as she would call it, and praying any spare minute she had. She was truly a worrier but directed that worry where it belonged, with Jesus. She created such a curiosity in me about my faith and what it should mean to me.

From a young age, I was tied into this significant part of my life and reflected it in any way I could surrounding myself with religious items, praying and actually having “conversations” with Jesus. Despite this incredible foundation I had for a deeply religious experience, I still had a lot to learn as I ventured out on my own.

I recall one of the biggest challenges to my religious life came in college, when, for the first time, I would have to regularly attend a church that was not my home church. I was challenged as to how I would practice my faith when feeling like an outsider. This first faith challenge was a time when I needed to learn that I was never alone, that Jesus was always with me.

As an adult, whenever I have a difficult decision to make, I automatically ask Jesus to guide me in making the decision that brings me closer to Him. I pray “Dear Jesus, your will

be done.” During the most difficult and trying times throughout my life so far, whenever I pray or even walk into a church, I get this overwhelming feeling of “home.” That is the best way I can describe it.

Five years ago this month I came to St. Pius X after moving to Selinsgrove from Danville. I was very concerned about what changing churches would mean for me after spending so much time at St. Columba and being so entrenched in their community. This is where Jesus reminded me about how he is always with me every step of my life. When I introduced myself to Fr. Dan after my first Mass as a brand new parishioner, he welcomed me with that terrific smile of his and said “well, you and I will learn about this parish and community together as I just arrived as Pastor few weeks ago.”

I had no idea at that time the wonderful community I would soon become part of and who would welcome me with open arms. I am so blessed to have had a parade of individuals in my life, led by Jesus, that continue to assist me on my journey of faith.

So, when you ask, why Catholic? It is a pretty easy response for me. I can’t even begin to imagine my life without Jesus at the forefront guiding me every step of the way.

