

# Saint Pius Calling



## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Newsletter Staff. Small though we are, we are here to keep you up to date on some of the wonderful things happening at St. Pius X.

Although the Christmas Season is now over, this newsletter contains several articles on events of the season and trivia that we hope you find interesting. We also would like to ask for your feed back on our efforts and if there is anything more we can do to spark

your interest. Please, by Joyce Seno please, please send us a note via email at [spx1newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:spx1newsletter@gmail.com). If you are interested in being a "reporter" let us know, we can use all the help we can get.

We hope your Christmas was as blessed and full as ours. Some dates to keep in mind for the coming year: the first week of Ordinary Time started Monday January 8th and will end Tuesday February 13th. Lent begins February 14th which is Ash Wednesday.



December 2023  
and January 2024

## In this issue:

- Newsletter Greetings
- Fiducia Supplicans
- The Donkey
- Childrens Christmas Party
- National Night of Prayer for Life
- SEEK 24
- National March for Life
- Guardian Angels

## FIDUCIA SUPPLICANS

Parishioners might recall that after one of our Advent Masses, Fr. Josh alluded to a recent development within the Church while reinforcing the Church's teaching on the Sacrament of Matrimony.

He was referring to the newly-released "Declaration, *Fiducia Supplicans*, On the Pastoral Meaning of Blessings" issued by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith on December 18, 2023.

The document has generated world-wide discussion since its release. In the event you haven't read it, the Newsletter team is including a link for your convenience and information. Grab a coffee...it is six pages long.

[https://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc\\_dcf\\_doc\\_20231218\\_fiducia-supplicans\\_en.html](https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_dcf_doc_20231218_fiducia-supplicans_en.html)

## THE DONKEY

by Hope for The Brokenhearted

Here's something interesting about donkeys you may not know. Almost all donkeys have a naturally occurring dark cross on their backs. It runs down their spines and across their shoulders. According to the Australian Donkey Society, if you shaved their fur, you would find the cross on their skin.



coincidence that Jesus entered his first week of life riding in his mother's womb on a donkey and then, again, the last week of his life fulfilling prophecy by riding a donkey.

How amazing it is to consider that the donkey is the only animal to have a cross on its back.

(credit: Hope for The Brokenhearted)

God is always in the details. I don't think it's any

## ST. PIUS X CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY 2023 by Blondie Lecce

Preparing for Jesus' birth can be a fun time for kids, and nothing beats a big Christmas party! This year, our Knights of Columbus hosted our PREP kids and their families on the second Sunday of Advent, 2023. Truly a picture is worth a thousand words. In attendance were parents and grandparents...



A multitude of children...



And you know who...

The Great Renaldo made his annual appearance with all of the regalia fit for a magical magic show! He also called on volunteers to assist with some of his tricks...



Participant reactions were positive: Ethan liked it! Paxton liked the presents! Sophia gave her kudos to the good pizza! Kids liked being part of the magic show!







The buffet meal included all-time favorites like hot dogs, fries, pizza, chips, desserts, and cupcakes, and the 7th and 8th grade kids helped serve the younger ones...

A huge THANK YOU to Ray Cerezo and the participating Knights for their hard work and dedication to this successful annual event.



An especially huge THANK YOU to Jolee Cerezo, sent to the party by Santa himself, to help the kids welcome him



We hope everyone had a blessed and joyous Christmas season!



and Rudolph and all of the other reindeer...



## THE NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

by Joyce Seno

On Friday December 8th starting at 9 PM through Saturday December 9th at 1 AM prayers were lifted to our Lady for the 34th annual National Night of Prayer .



The evening of prayer spans the feast of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 8, and the anniversary of Our Lady of Gua-

dalupe's first apparition to St. Juan Diego on Dec. 9.

Catholics were asked to pray for the unborn, an end to abortion and for protection of the sanctity of human life.

The National Night of Prayer for Life included adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Pro Life Rosary, prayers of reparation, silent prayer and hymns.

It was a long night but we had approximately 20 people participate in the event. Some for the full 4 hours and others at random. ALL prayers were welcome and appreciated.

Thank you to all who attended and helped to make the event a success. We at St. Pius have been hosting this celebration since 2016 and will be celebrating again this year. Mark your calendar and join us.

## THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE

by Joyce Seno

On Friday January 19th 12 brave souls of Saint Pius X stood against the cold winds to show support for ending abortion. The weather kept many people away but that did not stop all. Groups from Kansas and Missouri traveled across country to be a part of

the march. Young people with a fire to stand up for all life.

The theme for this years march : "With Every Woman, For Every Child". The fight is not just for the unborn but for the mothers and fathers as well.



## SEEK 2024

by Kelly Sullivan , Susquehanna University

The first week of January, myself (Kelly Sullivan, Class of 2026), Vincent Checco (Class of 2026), Abigail Paisley (Class of 2027), and Billy Mild (Class of 2023) traveled to Saint Louis, Missouri for the 2024 Seek conference.

Though we don't all live relatively close to one another, in one way or another we shared at least one flight. The purpose of Seek and most Focus Missionaries is to spread the good news of the Gospel. It's an event that is hard to put into words.



I was a little discouraged coming to college after my years of Catholic school, it was harder than I thought. It was refreshing and truly inspiring to be surrounded by thousands of my peers from around the world whose hearts were on fire for Jesus. We allow ourselves to forget so many things amidst the chaos of our daily lives. But for one whole week, we got to put that chaos on pause and recenter our hearts on Our Lord.

Fellowship and community are important aspects of our lives and our faith. Our group at Susquehanna is small, and sometimes it's challenging to arrange all of our schedules to meet. It was a great joy to spend the first week of the year with our small Campus Ministry Group. We shared lots of laughs, meals, prayers, and

adventures. We are excited to work towards building our community on Campus and bringing more friends to experience the gifts that Seek brings.

Mass and adoration with 22,000 people is just unreal and the reverence that is displayed for the Eucharist is so moving. The speakers gave beautiful insight into many things that we tend not to think about. I couldn't possibly do justice to describe their powerful messages. However, many of the talks are available online at this link: <https://seekreplay.com/> It's a quick sign up.

I know we all felt truly blessed to share this experience.



## GUARDIAN ANGELS

by Joyce Seno and Dottie Longacre

Are Guardian Angels real?? Well, this past December a member of St. Pius X traveled to Philadelphia for a surprise party. Dottie is 83 years old and in good health but traveling alone can be risky. She left early to make sure she had extra time.

She thought the restaurant was in King of Prussia mall, but upon arrival could not find it there anywhere. She asked some passersby but they didn't know; then she asked a man who parked a distance from the mall stores and had just gotten out of his car; he seemed like a local. YES, he knew where the restaurant was but it was not at the mall and the directions were complicated. He told her that he had plenty of time and would lead her to the restaurant.

She was very grateful for his help and expected him to just point to the restaurant and drive on. However, he found her the only open parking spot but it was behind a delivery truck. He guided her as she backed around the truck; then he reached in and turned her steering wheel to line up her tires so she could back straight into the spot!!

She wanted to give him something but he politely declined saying that he just wanted to make sure she got to the party. She asked his name--"MICHAEL"--and thanked him for his extraordinary kindness.

She celebrated at the party and then looked for a gas station before starting home. The one she

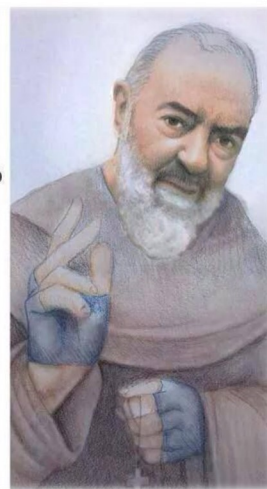
pulled into looked like it might be closed--not a car in sight. But she needed gas and proceeded to get out of her car, credit card in hand. As soon she exited her car, there was a man standing right beside her asking if she could use some help! She thanked him but wondered where he came from. He wasn't a gas station attendant and no car had pulled in behind her. He asked her to insert her card and indicate the kind she wanted and then proceeded to pump the gas.

He noticed her hands shaking (as they always do) so she explained that she's fine to drive, that she has essential tremor, is on a Parkinson's medicine that's not helping, and that she is switching to a different Neurologist. "That's what you need to do!" he said.

He told her that his mother is on a medication for the same problem and that she was in his car on the other side. Dottie realized that he must have pulled in just as she pulled in, but why did he cross to her side of the pump to be there

Do not forget the guardian angel who is always with you and never leaves you, no matter what wrong thing you might do.

St. Padre Pio



when she got out of her car?? They talked a little more and he asked where she was headed, asked if he could check the directions her nephew had put on her phone, and then asked her to be especially careful in the heavy traffic. Dottie felt his concern for her was as though she was a member of his family.

Who were these two men? Perhaps Guardian Angels? She was elderly, alone, and it would seem easy for someone to take advantage of her, but she was completely at peace and at no time felt fearful.

Examples of God's loving care are all around us. We just need to open our eyes and ears.



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### Our Mission

We the members of Saint Pius X Christian Community seek Christ who is our life and has revealed Himself to us. We praise Him by providing a spiritual environment so that all may follow in His footsteps. The realization of the Body and Blood of Christ through the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is the most important part of our journey. To be one with Christ through the Holy Eucharist is the ultimate expression of the faith.

Visit our Web Site for  
more information.  
[www.stpiusXparish.net](http://www.stpiusXparish.net)



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COLORING

by Joyce Seno

The Knights of Columbus offer multiple activities that promote Christmas and the season of Advent in their proper context including the Christmas Poster Contest. This contest and other programs provided by the Knights focus on the example of the Holy Family and the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Program encourages councils to prompt their neighbors to shift from a preoccupation with materialism to the light of Christ and the spirit of giving.

The Knights are proud to announce the winners of each age group from this recent contest. Each winner received a \$25 cash prize.

The Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC)



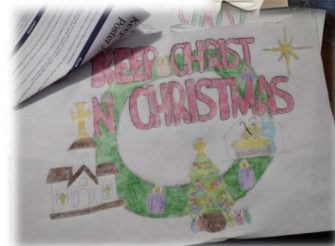
**Cali B Good  
3-4 Grade**



**Reese Bock  
7-8 Grade**



**Abri Wentz 1-2 Grade**



**Leia Torres 5-6 Grade**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL !!!**

### ARE YOU A HOBBYIST WRITER?

We need you! The Newsletter team received an article idea from one of our readers. He said, "I would love to read about a parishioner family, couple, or individual. Something more than simply their favorite food would be wonderful... maybe how they practice their faith, their outside

activities, or anything that can help us get to know each other better as parishioners." Thank you for that great idea, Joe Scartelli! We currently envision one article every other month, up to 500 words (flexible length). As the writer, you would be asked to uncover and contact pa-

rishioners using good verbal and written communication skills, meet semi-monthly deadlines, and work independently. Team support is always available. Please contact Joyce Seno at [spx10newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:spx10newsletter@gmail.com) with your interest. Thank you!