



# GOOD NEWS ST. PIUS V PARISH



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St. Pius V Parish | 1919 South Ashland Avenue | Chicago, Illinois 60608 | Spring 2016

## ARCHDIOCESE ANNOUNCES PLAN FOR PILSEN CHURCHES

### ST. PIUS V CONTINUES UNDER ITS CURRENT STRUCTURE; OTHER PARISHES FACE CHANGES

In mid-February, the Archdiocese of Chicago announced a highly anticipated re-configuration plan for the six Catholic parishes of Pilsen after a consultation and planning process that lasted for more than a year.

In order to use “resources and personnel in a more effective and pastoral way” the Archdiocese has decided that St. Pius V, St. Paul, and St. Procopius will remain as the three central parishes of Pilsen.

St. Ann will become a worship site of St. Paul parish, Providence of God a worship site of St. Procopius parish, and St. Adalbert will close its doors. Our parish, St. Pius V, will continue as it currently stands.

While our faith community is certainly grateful for the high level support for the future of our parish, we are also deeply aware of the challenging transitions our neighboring parishes face. This transition gives us an opportunity to reach out not

only to our fellow Catholics but to all our neighbors—both longtime and new—and find ways to grow as a parish.

In support of this next phase of our faith journey, St. Pius V will launch a capital campaign later this year to strengthen our parish family, improve our physical plant, find better and more productive ways to use our facilities, and explore how we can support our family strengthening ministries.

We will take care of important maintenance needs of our church and improve the worship space. The campaign also will allow our parish school to expand and develop other resources to better educate our students.

We look forward to sharing with you more about our plans over the coming months and inviting you to participate in the growth of our parish mission.



## CAR RAFFLE AND STREET FESTIVAL SUPPORT PARISH MISSION



The winner of our car raffle will drive away in a 2016 Toyota RAV4! The drawing takes place June 5 at the end of our parish street festival.

You can support the mission of St. Pius V by taking part in our annual car raffle, an important fundraiser for our parish. The winning ticket will be drawn at the end of our street festival—La Kermes—the first weekend of June. The grand prize winner drives off with a new 2016 Toyota RAV4 and two others win prizes of \$1,000 or \$500!

La Kermes itself kicks off at 5:00 pm on Friday June 3 on Cullerton (in front of

our office and school entrance) and concludes with the raffle drawing on Sunday, June 5 at 10:00 pm. Each day and evening is filled with family fun including delicious Mexican food, cultural entertainment, carnival games for children, live music and dancing, and a chance to catch up with friends.

On behalf of all who are served by our ministries and outreach, thank you for supporting the car raffle!



## LEARNING THROUGH SERVICE AND PEACEMAKING

Our school celebrated Martin Luther King's birthday with the Peacemaker Awards, one of the highlights of our year. Students in each grade nominate and select one or two of their peers to receive this award for exemplifying the qualities of forgiveness, kindness, inclusiveness, and willingness to resolve conflicts.

Our students are busy with service projects as part of Lenten observances and our school's overall commitment to the gospel value of service.

The 3rd-graders led our school in a food and clothing drive for Midwest Workers Association. Students in 5th-grade organized a school-wide drive for books and toiletries to donate to the local men's shelter, San Jose Obrero. Finally, our 8th-grade students led our school's annual Lenten mission drive. Our children and families collected funds to support Dominican sisters ministering in Iraq. These sisters have become refugees, along with the people they serve, after ISIS invaded and

destroyed their community and church in the city of Mosul.

As graduation approaches, we take time to give thanks for our 8th-graders, who are truly leaders in our school in everything from prayer to service to academics. These students exemplify the education, generosity, and service that our entire school strives to teach and which builds from year to year



The 17 students who were selected by their peers to receive Peacemaker Awards stand proudly with their principal Nancy Nasko, pastor Fr. Jose, and associate pastor Fr. Chuck.

De La Salle Institute, Holy Trinity, Jones College Prep, Lane Tech College Prep, St. Ignatius College Prep, Trinity, and Whitney Young.



Sometimes we need to step away from the serious business of academics and peacemaking and service—and just play dress-up! Our Early Education (preschool) children show us how it's done.

On top of all this, our extraordinary 8th-grade teacher Mark Zacek works hard to get our graduating students into the best area high schools. Not only does Mark masterfully prepare each student, but he diligently communicates with the high schools to find the best match for each student. So far this year, St. Pius V 8th-graders have been accepted at



Thanks to the generosity of friends of our school, our students and faculty have incorporated laptops, iPads, and interactive white boards into our teaching and learning. Your support helps us continue to prepare our students to expertly use the technology they will find in high school, higher education, and beyond.

## RETREAT BUILDS FAITH, HOPE FOR PARISH LEADERS AT ST. PIUS V

Parish leaders enjoyed a day-long retreat on January 30 at Casa Juan Diego led by



Director Francisco Arriaga and youth members of the choir led the music at the January 30 parish leadership retreat.

Sister Rosario Bobadilla, CSJ.

As our parish and our community go through a time of transition and our neighboring parishes reconfigure, we took time to reflect on our role as a Catholic people of faith in Pilsen.

Sister Rosario, who grew up in Mexico and now ministers in St. Louis, drew upon her experience as a retreat leader, therapist, and spiritual director to guide our community in this reflection.

Our parish is grateful for all who made this retreat day a success. We are blessed

by an abundance of dedicated and gifted leaders and volunteers at St. Pius V!



Sr. Rosario Bobadilla, a sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet ministering in St. Louis, directed the parish leadership retreat at Casa Juan Diego.

## IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER SERVES COMMUNITY

Mike McGillicuddy is an Ignatian Volunteer who works with our parish's HOPE family services program for nine months as a counselor and group facilitator.

Mike, who has a masters in social work, serves two days a week counseling couples and facilitating an anger management group at our parish.

Ignatian Volunteer Corps supports Christian women and men aged 50 and over who wish to work with the poor, serving two days a week for nine months. Ignatian volunteers meet monthly for spiritual reflection.



Ignatian Volunteer Mike McGillicuddy [second from right], from St. Mary parish in Riverside, facilitates a group as part of his service to St. Pius V parish and the HOPE family services program.

As members of St. Mary parish in Riverside, Mike and his wife were inspired when Fr. Chuck Dahm, O.P., preached on domestic violence at their parish. When he investigated ways to do something about domestic violence, Mike found he could serve at St. Pius V as an Ignatian Volunteer.

"We are seeing a polarization in the Church right now," Mike said, "with the Latino community and the Anglo community existing side by side but not coming together.

"We build social capital when we go across boundaries. My experience at St. Pius convinces me that we all benefit when we build personal bridges between diverse communities."

In his "spare time" he continues to work part-time as a social worker at MacNeal Hospital and in financial planning.

## HOPE VALENTINE GALA

Participants, staff, and supporters of HOPE at St. Pius V, the parish's family services program, gathered on February 12 for a Valentine-themed fundraiser at Crystal Sky Banquets. This was the third year that the HOPE program organized and hosted this event, which drew 275 guests and raised funding for the couples, parenting, outreach, and domestic violence services at St. Pius V.

"Valentine's Day is the perfect time for this event," said Dolores Tapia, program director, "because it's the celebration of the love we share with our partner, our families, and our community."



Couples who have been strong leaders in our HOPE family services program celebrated with some 275 guests at our Valentine's Day fundraising gala on February 12 at Crystal Sky banquet hall in McCook.

## CONFIRMATION PREP FORMS 75 PARISH YOUTH



Nine o'clock on a Sunday morning is a time when many teens are sleeping in but not so for 45 participants in the Confirmation preparation program at St. Pius V parish. A team of volunteer catechists has been working with the youth since early fall to prepare them for the sacrament on May 7. (They will be joined by 30 eighth-graders who are preparing through our parish school.)

"We learn from them," says Leonel Romero, one of the program volunteers. "We find out what blocks them from being aware of God in their lives and from sharing that with others. We start with things like skits and stories, get them comfortable and then they open up."

The youth meet for two hours before the 11:00 Mass and then attend church together. Their formation includes sharing and learning about prayer, Sacraments, the Bible, family life, healthy relationships, and other issues in their lives as they connect to our Catholic faith tradition.

## SPRED: FAITH FORMATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

SPRED is a national movement of Christian faith formation for children and adults with disabilities. St. Pius V has 54 participants and a team of dedicated catechists and leaders who provide the program in Spanish.

Each participant is paired with a catechist for activities. Large group time incorporates music and silence to create an environment of openness and peace. A shared meal concludes time together.

"Many of us were instructed in the faith by learning truths presented as intellectual concepts," explains pastor Fr. Jose Santiago. "In SPRED things are more concrete. We use symbols and objects that appeal to the senses. Our friends—the participants

and catechists—respond intuitively to what they experience. With God's grace this leads to an encounter with the Sacred. Our SPRED program is truly a gift not only for the families involved but for our entire parish."

Friends of SPRED celebrate sacraments together as well as festive occasions such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter.



## EASTER BLESSINGS!

You bring blessings of hope and life to families and individuals in need through your support of the mission of St. Pius V parish.

Your Easter gift sustains and grows our ministries to children, youth, families, and all who come to us in need.



If you

choose to **Fr. José M. Santiago, OP**  
give, **Pastor**

please use the enclosed envelope or donate safely and securely online at:

[stpivusparish.org/donate](http://stpivusparish.org/donate)

**Thank you!**



We thank the student group HOLA (Hispanic Outreach & Latino Awareness) of Fenwick High School and everyone who supported their food drive this winter. HOLA donated some 50 bags of groceries to the food pantry and soup kitchen of St. Pius V parish. ¡Muchísimas gracias!

The emergency food assistance program at St. Pius V provides more than 45,000 meals and meal equivalents per year.