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Good News from St. Pius V

Fall 2014

1919 South Ashland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60608 • Phone: 312-226-6161

"Community Service Award"

AG Lisa Madigan to be honored at *Celebrating the Harvest*

Attorney General Lisa Madigan will receive the St. Pius V Parish Community Service Award during the annual Celebrating the Harvest banquet on Saturday, October 25.

For a decade our domestic violence program has received support from the Illinois Attorney General's office. "Domestic violence prevention is part of Jesus' Gospel mandate to free the oppressed," said Fr. Brendan Curran, OP, St. Pius V pastor. "I'm proud of the work our staff does and pleased to receive support from the attorney general. With that help our parish has assisted hundreds of victims, their children and even perpetrators each year. In the last two years, our letters of support have helped more than 50 domestic violence survivors obtain legal residency and a path toward citizenship under the U.S. Violence Against Women Act."

At this annual fundraiser we will also honor with the Institutional Advancement award Arturo Fernandez, our most generous and capable contractor who maintains and expands our parish buildings, those of our shelter, San Jose Obrero Mission, and the residence for Dominican Volunteers, USA.

We will bestow the Family of Faith award on Antonia and Daniel Orozco for their commitment to the parish's Special Religious Education program (SPRED), providing religious education for individuals with developmental disabilities. These honorees, and many other generous people like you, enable St. Pius V to serve and strengthen families through parenting and family counseling programs, our school, Casa Juan Diego youth enter, and many other religious and social programs we provide.

Please join us for the celebration. There are still choice sponsorship options available for your business or organization. Please visit www.stpiusvparish.org/harvest. Contact Sr. Beth Murphy, OP, for more details at 312-226-6161.

Fr. Tom Lynch, OP, joins St. Pius V staff

We are pleased to welcome to the parish staff our new parochial vicar, Fr. Tom Lynch, OP. Fr. Tom is not new to Chicago, having taught at Fenwick High School early in his Dominican life. He also gave ten years of service at the Dominican mission in Bolivia and now comes to us from Denver, where he served as associate at a suburban parish.

"**I've already seen** how important a vibrant Catholic community can be to the larger local community," he says of his few weeks in Pilsen. "I'm impressed with how well the parish works together with other neighborhood organizations to care for the well-being of the entire community."

Fr. Tom grew up in a tiny hamlet near Traverse City , Mich., and credits his parents and a traveling Dominican preaching team with his broad outlook on life and his call to a Dominican vocation.

Welcome Fr. Tom!

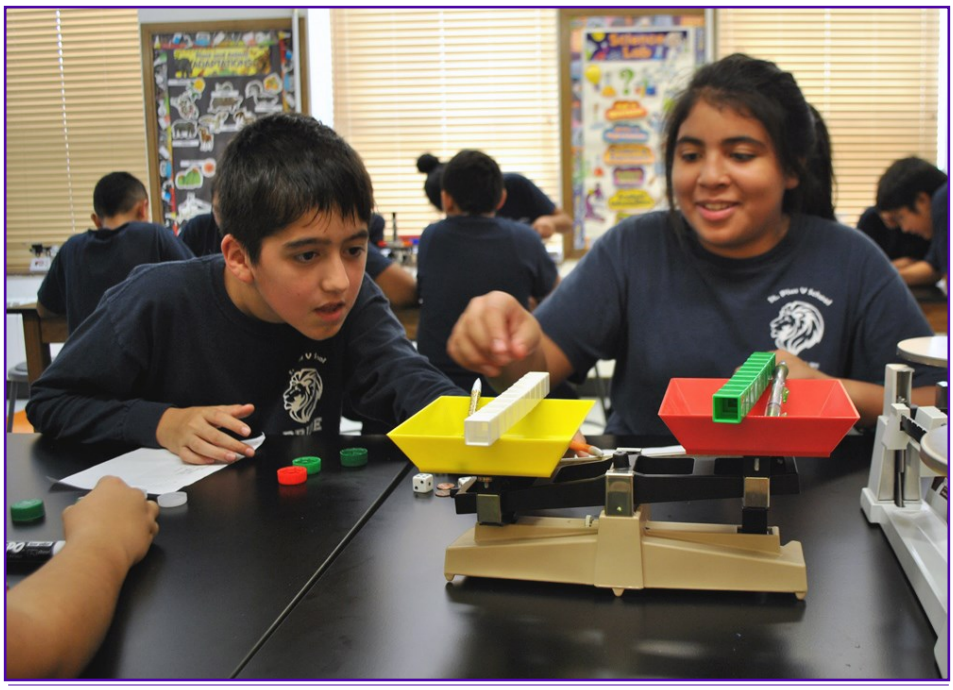
St. Pius V School Pride

Back to School

New Teachers, New Experiences, New Year!

Welcome to two new St. Pius V School faculty! Ms. Maria Galvan is the new kindergarten teacher. She started at St. Pius V as an intern from DePaul four years ago and worked last year as our resource room teacher. She will do a wonderful job filling the shoes of retiring legend Liz Lucarelli.

Mr. Colin Garrity will move into the resource room position. He joined us last year as a student teacher in 4th grade where he excelled in his dedication and innovative curriculum development.



Curious, fascinated minds at St. Pius V now have an important new learning tool, a well-equipped science lab furnished through Rush University Medical School. The new lab is the latest addition to St. Pius V School's repertoire of student-centered learning opportunities.

New Scholarship Provides New Opportunities

Thanks to the generosity of Chicagoland donors like you, St. Pius V School can offer scholarships this year to students who transfer to St. Pius V from a public or charter school. *Caritas Scholarships* are made possible by contributions from donors at St. Pius V and other parishes to the Archdiocese of Chicago's *To Teach who Christ Is* campaign. That means we can now assist more families in need as they seek to provide a safer, higher quality education for their children. This scholarship provides up to half of a student's annual tuition for three years, enabling students to succeed at levels far above the success rates they might have attained in public schools.

Multiply the impact of the Caritas Scholarship fund with a donation to the Make a World of Difference Fund. For information call the school at 312-226-1590.

Maria Galvan

Colin Garrity

Tomorrow's Doctors Study in New Science Lab Today

The school's beautiful new science lab, furnished by Rush University Medical Center, will help us teach the doctors, nurses, and scientists of tomorrow. The lab is equipped with learning tools like microscopes, rock samples, and scales. It features an interactive white board on which students can make presentations and watch instructional videos. This gift is a blessing to our students and will benefit them and our community for years to come.

Thank you, Rush Medical School!

DID YOU KNOW?

- Neighborhoods with closed Catholic schools see an increase in disorder and crime.
- The presence of active Catholic schools is linked to increased social cohesion.
- Police beats with open Catholic schools experience lower rates of serious crime than those without them.

* *The University of Chicago Law Review, 2012.*

A Welcome and a New Ministry

We welcome Jose Edilberto Chavez Velandia as our director of religious education. Jose taught philosophy and social sciences in his native Colombia, studied theology at Mundelein Seminary, and completed an MDiv at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

He wants to find new ways to involve students and families in religious education. "I want to get to know people better, and become more involved with the spiritual and material needs of our families."

A sense of vocation is important too. "In talks with parents, catechists, and children I plan to address the meaning of vocation, especially the vocation of service."

In addition to Sunday classes for hundreds of students in Spanish and English, the program includes formation for approximately 100 volunteer catechists, sacramental preparation for adults, Special Religious Education for 60 children with disabilities and their families, and a new formation program for parents as catechists.

Lisseth Gonzalez, a former part-time employee, will now work exclusively as youth minister and coordinator of our Confirmation program. With a core group of 15 young people, 16-24 years of age, *Jóvenes en Acción* has made its mark on parish life. Last month they organized an all-parish outing to the Indiana Dunes for Mass on the beach; they shared their youthful energy by staffing a food booth at the parish street fair in June, and they have shared their spiritual energy by assisting Fr. Brendan with a skit in a homily at a Sunday Mass. They are currently developing a drama reenacting the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

St. Pius V Leads Response to Domestic Violence

Mayor Rahm Emmanuel asked Fr. Brendan to represent faith communities on Chicago's Domestic Violence Coordinated Response Council. Recently Chicago police reported receiving an average of 550 domestic violence calls a day. "Think of the pain and suffering this number represents: Frightened children, desperate women, families living in constant violence," Fr. Brendan said. The domestic violence council initiated a pilot program to train police officers to more effectively respond to victims' needs.

St. Pius V continues its own outreach in the region. This fall Fr. Chuck Dahm, OP will preach at all Masses at eight additional parishes (a total of 46) and then assist them in developing their own domestic violence response committees. The parishes are Divine Savior in Downers Grove, St. Aloysius, Old St. Patrick's, Good Shepherd, St. Felicitas, Our Lady of the Angels, Our Lady of Lourdes, and Our Lady of the Wayside in Arlington Heights. He will also meet with representatives from 20 of these parishes in order to develop an archdiocesan organization to carry on and expand this work to aid victims and end violence.

Fr. Brendan spoke at the closing summer street Mass with Bishop Alberto Rojas presiding. Throughout the summer St. Pius V celebrated Masses on different blocks preceded each night by street basketball and volleyball games organized by The Resurrection Project. These activities help create community, reduce violence and bring the Word of God into the far corners of our neighborhood.

Bumper Crop!

Casa Juan Diego's garden and its summer program produced bountiful harvests this year. Eighty children enjoyed a learning environment that included bringing a garden to life, weekly field trips throughout the city, and time to splash in the pool along with reading and math projects designed to stem the typical learning loss that occurs during summer vacation. The program had a waiting list of more than 40 students. CJD anticipates a bustling after-school program as well this year.

Visit www.casajuandiego.org to learn more or make a donation.

Dominican Volunteers Serving in Pilsen

Two new faces have arrived at Casa Juan Diego. Notre Dame graduate Juan Miguel Alvarez works primarily with our afterschool and Confirmation programs and David Gayes, a Dominican University graduate, serves as a teaching assistant at the Tolton Center Family Literacy program housed at CJD. He writes and translates for CJD and Tolton Center. They are Dominican volunteers (DVUSA) and live in Pilsen with Sr. Beth Murphy, OP, and fellow Springfield Dominican Sr. Martha Marie Kirbach at the St. Adalbert Parish rectory near St. Pius V.

DVUSA Pilsen Community 2014. Row 1: Julie Iuliano, Philip Catalanatto, Sr. Beth Murphy, David Gayes. Row 2: Daived McCullough, Juan Miguel Alvarez, Sr. Martha Marie Kirbach, OP, Susan Van Trieste.

You and St. Pius V: A Key to Neighborhood Cohesion

We thank you for your generous support for our ministry. We especially want to encourage donations to support:

- HOPE at St. Pius V, our domestic violence program
- Casa Juan Diego, our after school program for children and youth
- St. Pius V School Make a World of Difference Fund, providing scholarships for families of limited resources
- Join us for our Harvest Night on October 25. Bring along a new friend, someone you would like to introduce to the good work that your generosity supports. We look forward to seeing you soon! May God continue to bless you with much peace, love and good health.

Brendan — Fr. Brendan Curran, OP, Pastor

Chuck — Fr. Chuck Dahm, OP,

Matthias — Fr. Matthias Mueller, OP

Tom — Fr. Tom Lynch, OP

Dominicans Associates