

# ST. PIUS X PARISH



# VISITATION PARISH

◇ Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts ◇

**Parishes of the Diocese of Greensburg**

Office: 740 W. Walnut St. Phone: 724-547-1911 Fax: 724-547-2630

St. Pius X Parish Ctr.: 724-547-0950

St. Vincent de Paul Society: 724-547-0413

Visit us at: [www.mpcatholicchurches.org](http://www.mpcatholicchurches.org)

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:30am - 11:30am & 12:30 pm - 3:00pm



224 Summit Street



Mt. Pleasant, PA



740 W. Walnut Street

November 27, 2022 - First Sunday of Advent



## Mass Schedule

**Saturday:** 4:30pm - Visitation Church; 6:00pm - St. Pius X Church

**Sunday:** 9:15am - Visitation Church; 8:00am - St. Pius X Church; 10:30am - St. Pius X Church

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Please call the parish office to begin preparation for this sacrament.

**Weekday Mass** - 7:00am - Visitation Church

Administrator - Rev. Paul A. Lisik - [plisik@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:plisik@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Parochial Vicar - Rev. Dan E. Carr - [dcarr@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dcarr@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Pastoral Associate and Faith Formation Director - Christy B. Cabaniss - [ccabaniss@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ccabaniss@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Facilities and Business Manager - Joy Wallace - [jwallace@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:jwallace@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Director of Liturgical Music - Sheryl E. Nagy - [snagy@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:snagy@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Secretary: Linda A. Amdy - [lamdy@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:lamdy@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Office Assistant: Connie M. Barnhart - [cbarnhart@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:cbarnhart@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Maintenance Supervisor: Joe Bauer - [jbauer@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:jbauer@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

## Mass Intentions

Mon.	11/28	<b>Visitation</b> 7:00am John & Jennie Rozell - daughter, Joni Edward Gorecki, Sr. - Dorothy Zelenak
Tues.	11/29	<b>Visitation</b> 7:00am Leonard Latsko - Ray & Theresa Holoman Parish Families
Wed.	11/30	<b>Visitation</b> 7:00am Frances Secorie - Tim, Desiree & Andy Mary Yezek - Helenrose Fleming
Thurs.	12/1	<b>Visitation</b> 7:00am Frank & Mary Kuzar & Patty Jaworski - daughter & sister, Joan Orlando
Fri.	12/2	<b>Visitation</b> 7:00am Donald F. Jahoda - grand- children
Sat.	12/3	<b>Visitation</b> 4:30pm Stanley Markiewicz - daughter, Mary Jane & family  <b>St. Pius X</b> 6:00pm Verna King - Leonard Biller
Sun.	12/4	<b>St. Pius X</b> 8:00am Bob & Cindy Cronin - Paul & Peggy Tepper  <b>Visitation</b> 9:15am Felix & Frances Zaffina - family  <b>St. Pius X</b> 10:30am Martha Yourish - Rita Gyurke & family



Please Note: That our parish office will be closed on Monday, November 28th. The office will reopen on Tuesday, November 29th at 9:30am.



**Just a Reminder**, there is an envelope in this month's packet for Christmas flowers. Donations may be given in memory of a deceased loved one, the sick or your own intentions. Two special Masses will be celebrated on Christmas Day for all who gave to the Christmas flower fund.

## Ministry of the Altar

Sat.	12/3	<b>Visitation 4:30pm</b> Greeters: Volunteers Lector: Robert Manjerovic Minister: Barb Sandzimier Servers: Caleb Stewart, Clara Stewart, Lily Spires Cantor: Kristen Felentzer/Choir  <b>St. Pius X 6:00pm</b> Greeters: Volunteers Lector: Joe Klocek Ministers: Andrea Poole, Barbara Dropik Servers: Brady Poole, Lucas Poole, Sadie Poole Cantor: Pat Martinoski
Sun.	12/4	<b>St. Pius X 8:00am</b> Greeters: Volunteers Lector: Lori Ann Chaussinand Ministers: Chris DeFlicht, Audrey Soforic Servers: Volunteer, Volunteer, Volunteer Cantor: Peggy Tepper  <b>Visitation - 9:15am</b> Greeters: Volunteers Lector: Denise Moyemont Minister: Joyce Guthrie Servers: Volunteer, Volunteer, Volunteer Cantor: Sharon Stewart  <b>St. Pius X - 10:30am</b> Greeters: Knights of Columbus Lector: Mike Polechko Ministers: Sister Juliana, Ted Czekaj Servers: Michael Hegyes, Nolan Davis, Volunteer Cantor: Phil Brown



**IMPORTANT** We are in the process of updating our list of those members of our parishes who are in an assisted living, nursing home or are home-bound. If you know of someone, please contact the parish office.



*The Greater Scottsdale Area Choral Society will be performing its 2022 Christmas Concert at St. Pius X Church on Monday, November 28th. The concert will start at 7:00pm. All are invited for an evening of wonderful music!*



*Rosary for Peace  
Everyone is invited to  
Visitation Church every  
Wednesday @ 11:30am to pray the Rosary.*

*From  
the Desk  
of  
Fr. Dan*

## Happy New Year.

On this first Sunday of Advent we officially enter a new liturgical year. Each liturgical year concludes with a celebration of Christ the King, the one who sits at the right hand of God and will judge the living and the dead. Then, the following Sunday starts Advent and we begin to anticipate Christmas and the birth of Jesus.

This transition is a seamless one. Jesus Christ promised his disciples that, at the end of all things, He will come again in glory. As Christians, we await the fulfillment of this promise anxiously, especially as we experience the sufferings and injustices of this life. The book of Revelation, the last book of the Bible, concludes with "Come, Lord Jesus". This very same theme appears in many of our Advent hymns. "Come, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" and "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel". Although the two seasons might seem to be very different – one looking forward to the end and the other looking back to 2,000 years ago – they actually ought to feel very similar.

As they experienced the exile, the Israelites were wondering how God would rescue them and bring them back to their former days of glory. The prophets told them that the Promised One, the Messiah, would come to rescue them and be their king. In time they were returned from exile but not to self-governance. They were occupied by the Babylonians, then the Syrians, then the Greeks, and then the Romans and still no Messiah come to save them. Generation after generation awaited the fulfillment of the promises of God to conquer the enemy.

The season of Advent is about placing ourselves in the shoes of the Jewish people who waited to be saved. We know that God answered them. We know that Jesus fulfilled all of the prophecies, although in very unexpected ways. But for a time, we are called to imagine what it was like to be uncertain – to wonder if and when God would answer their prayers. The season of Advent is a season of hopeful waiting and faithful watching. Even though we know how the story ends, we know what it means to be uncertain about God's plan. Our everyday experiences can still leave us wondering if God is there and if his apparent inaction means he isn't listening. Advent helps us to remember the importance of waiting for the Lord, waiting for God's time.

I encourage you not to arrive at Christmas too early this year. The month of December can be so busy. Take some time to spend in Advent. As we begin this new year, we need to begin by looking for God. We need to remember that God keeps his promises, even if it takes some time. We need to take time to pray that ancient prayer that will always carry meaning: Come, Lord Jesus.

## *The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Schedule*



**Wednesday, December 7**

7:00am @ Visitation Church

**Vigil - 6:00pm @ Visitation Church**

**Thursday - December 8**

7:30am @ Visitation Church

6:00pm @ St. Pius X Church

***This is a Holy Day of Obligation.***

***The parish office will be closed Dec. 8th.***

***Please plan to attend Mass for the Holy Day.***



## *Advent Penance Service Schedule*

Mon., Dec. 12	St. Florian, United	6:30pm
Tues., Dec. 13	St. Aloysius, Dunbar	7pm
<b>Thur., Dec. 15</b>	<b>Visitation</b>	<b>7pm</b>
Fri., Dec. 16	St. Raymond of the Mountains, Donegal	7pm
Sat., Dec. 17	St. Joseph, Everson	11am
Tues, Dec. 20	St. John, Connellsville	7pm



## **Choices Make Us What We Are!**

With Advent, we begin a new year in the Lord. Our rebirth in Christ is at hand. We are being urged by St. Paul to make still greater progress. Christ calls us to stand up straight and raise our heads... to stand secure! We have choices to make! We can glide through life with our talents shared and growing. We cannot not decide!

*Question:* Do we come to Church or are we the Church?

*Question:* Do we rest on our faith for ourselves or do we go through the growing pains of being the faithful?

*Question:* Do we do for others only what pleases and satisfies or do we offer ourselves without expecting satisfaction, even thanks?

*Question:* Do we pray for another or do we pray to be the answer to another's prayer?

Advent is a call to rebirth, to get up and grow, to cease watching and to begin committing. We are what we choose. The choice is yours and mine to make now. We can no longer deny the call of our conscience: His Call!



## The Advent Wreath It's Symbols - It's Meanings

- ◆ The wreath, a circle, expresses God's unending eternity.
- ◆ Evergreen symbolizes God's unchangeableness and our immortality.
- ◆ Four candles, one for each week of advent, represent the many hundreds of years during which people awaited the Redeemer.
- ◆ Violet candles and ribbon remind us of longing expectation.
- ◆ The rose candle symbolizes joy and hope in awaiting the birth of Jesus.
- ◆ Red ribbon stands for Jesus' blood shed on the cross.



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## ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (Grades K-5)

**REMINDER!** Elementary Faith Formation (EFF) gathers THIS Tuesday, November 29 from 6:00-7:30 pm. This is also a friendly reminder that all students in grades K-5, who are not attending a Catholic school, should be attending our sessions, especially 2<sup>nd</sup> graders hoping to celebrate First Communion in the spring.



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## CONFIRMATION REMINDER

Reminder to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade families that Confirmation Service projects should be underway. Students are required to complete a minimum of 9 hours of service before they are Confirmed in the spring. There are many opportunities in our community, please seek them out and find where your gifts are a benefit!



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## FIRST PENANCE

Children in the second grade who have been preparing for First Communion will be celebrating the Sacrament of Penance on Monday, December 5 at 6 PM in St. Pius Church. Please keep these children and their families in prayer as they prepare to celebrate their sacraments.

## Parish Financial Report Delay

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday and the need to transmit the bulletin information early, the weekly offertory collection report will not be available. We hope this postponement does not inconvenience any of our parishioners who are interested in our financial stability.



## **Adoration: First Friday, December 2nd** **Visitation Church**

Adoration is on the first Friday of each month following morning Mass until noon.

## **Confessions: First Saturday, December 3rd**

12noon @ St. Pius X Church

3:30pm @ Visitation Church

(Each Saturday, 3:30pm @ Visitation Church)

## ***The Visitation Christian Mothers' Christmas Party is scheduled for Thursday, December 15, at 6:00 PM.***

The party will be held at The Laurelville Small Dining Facility. The cost for members to attend is \$15.00. The officers have planned a few festive surprises! We're hoping our efforts and shared fellowship will enrich your Holiday Spirit! **Members are asked to RSVP by Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Please call Jan if you plan to attend. (724-547-5356 or text to 724-972-6601)**



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## St. Vincent de Paul

The local St. Pius X St. Vincent de Paul Society exists to assist those experiencing financial hardship due to illness, job loss or other unforeseen circumstances. Assistance is provided based on need, with no regard to religious affiliation. Confidentiality is strictly maintained. If you or someone you know needs a helping hand, please call 724-547-0413.



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It's time to ring them bells! Looking for great, smiling people to ring the bell for Salvation Army. We are scheduled for Saturday, December 3, from 9am at the Market door, until we run out of volunteers. If interested in volunteering, please call Pat @ 724-547-4655. One hour is all we ask. What a great away to begin the holiday season of giving.

***Please pray for the wholeness & healing of***

Ken Keslar, Jen, Dwayne Thomas, Regis Melego, Mary Rose, Jeff Landy, David Gillott, Patricia Burke, Gina M., Carol K., Frank Chain, David, Amil Z., Jimmy Z., Gene, Edward P., Janet Pfeifer, Elizabeth E., Philomena Grohal, Don Seder, Joan K., Colleen, Jeff, William Pakulski, Kathi Kappel, Danny & Elaine Kurpiel, Brenda, Dorinda O., Patty, Gary French & family, Paul, Mike Ruskowski, Liz, Andy, Brenda, Paul, Bertie Zaucha, Barry Stanziana, David & Kitty Jensen, Donna Zemba, Ryan Snyder & family, John Ristway, Dolores Sann, Margie, Sue Ruskowski, Jeff Kiral, Isaac Donaldson, Amber, Susan Shafley, Ken E., Kim R., Jennie Ann Hurt, Julia, Beth, Margaret Fox, Corinne M., Laurie Deery, Susie Wiltrout, C. R., Nancy P., Brian McLaughlin, Arnold Donaldson, Mike H., Terri Ferko, Ron D., Eileen S., Bill Vance, Laurie, Jenny Batchko, Fr. Greg Premoshis, Fr. John Moineau, Janey, Linda G., Mary Keto, Susan, Jim G., Pam, Karen, Amanda Dennis, Jadon Michael Kalp, Denise Mastro, Rita, Kim, Mike Kristoff family, Natalie & family, James, Natalie W. & her father, Richard P. & family, Ray, Donald B., George Ozegovich, Lou Zaucha, Mark Sosko, Loretta Stana, Amber Harbak, MaryAnn, Isabel B., Elsie & Ed, Nicholas, Louise A., L.G., Thomas J., Doug P., Dolores Solinski, Faith P., Logan S., Rita, Ruth, CJ, Kim, Rita, Charles C., Richard & Sally B., Elizabeth & Edward Kendi, Remington Bazaar, Alvin Jaworski, RoseMarie P., Beth, Mark S., Carmelita, Mercedes Isola, Georgia & Adrian, Debbie Poklembo, Leo R. Rudnik, Sr., Gary Dorman, Carmen Tarasky, Louise A., Pat, Diane R., Patricia Skero, Neal, Michael Tarasky, Sr., Logan, Anna Marie Petras, Bill Rodgers, Special Intention, Angela Hurt, LeeEtta, Chuck, Christie, Malachi, Frank & Deb Piazza, Rob & family, Mary, Artie, Loretta & Alan Ambrosa. **We pray for all our homebound and hospitalized parishioners and all who need physical, spiritual and mental healing.**

***The St. Vincent DePaul Society will have Oplatki available November 26 & 27th and December 3rd & 4th at all Masses.***

***Donations accepted - No set price***

What is the tradition of Oplatki? Christmas Eve is a time when families join together for a special meal. Part of the tradition for many families is to include Oplatki before they eat. After the prayer that is printed on the back of your packet of Oplatki, the wafer is broken and shared with each member. It is dipped in a beverage of choice and eaten. This is a very special moment, as it reminds us of the communion not only with Christ but of family. Perhaps you might want to start a new tradition on Christmas Eve and include Oplatki before your family meal!



**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD's house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

**Psalm** — We will rejoice as we go up to the Lord's house (Psalm 122).

**Second Reading** — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

**Gospel** — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

**Candles this Week**



**St. Pius X**

**Sanctuary** - In memory of John L. Lee, Sr. - John L. Lee, Jr.

**Blessed Mother** - In memory of John & Mary Potosky - Mark & Deb Potosky

**St. Joseph** - Special Intention

**Our Lady of Czestochowa** - In memory of Louise DiPasquale - John, Sandy & family

**Visitation**

**Sanctuary** - In memory of James Vella - family

**Blessed Mother** - In memory of Maureen Como - Neil Como

**St. Joseph** - In memory of Leonard P. Latsko - Ray & Theresa Holoman

**Madonna & Child** - In memory of Michelle Jurkovic - Mom, Dad & daughter



***Please keep in your prayers these active military personnel who continue to give so much to our country:***

***Jacob Ruben Johnson,  
Jacob Shafley, Alex Shafley,  
Jared Yester,  
Stephen Shallenberger,  
Drew Sheldon and Jim Dzurica***

## PEOPLE OF THE LIGHT

We are called to reflect the light of God's love through the ways in which we live our lives. Imagine the impact if each of us took this call to heart, every day, at home, work, or school, in our parish, in the world. "All nations shall stream toward it," toward the love that only comes from God. Yet, we must admit that much of the time we fail to be beacons of God's light. We fall asleep, complacent, preferring to go the easy route, which often leads to darkness rather than the radiance of Christ's light. As we begin the season of Advent, Saint Paul admonishes us to throw off the works of darkness, to awaken to the call of light and love. In today's Gospel, Jesus too tells us to stay awake, to be prepared to greet the Lord of light as people of the light.

### *Christmas Eve*

**Saturday, December 24**

4:00pm St. Pius X Church  
4:00pm Visitation Church  
10:00pm Visitation Church

### *Christmas Day*

**Sunday, December 25**

9:15am Visitation Church  
10:30am St. Pius X Church

### *Solemnity of Mary - Vigil*

**Saturday, December 31**

**Regular Saturday Mass Schedule**

### *Solemnity of Mary*

**Sunday, January 1, 2023**

**Regular Sunday Mass Schedule**

### *The Epiphany of the Lord*

**Saturday & Sunday,**

**January 7-8, 2023**

**Regular weekend Mass Schedule**

**32nd Annual Festival of Lights, Braddock Trail Chapter House, corner of Church & Walnut Sts., Mt. Pleasant.** Tour through the 135 year old Mansion & view the decorated Christmas trees. Entrance Fee is \$6.00/person (age 12 & over) & under 12/free. All trees are available for purchase throughout the event.

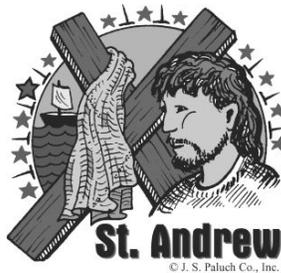
#### **Hours:**

**Sat. & Sun., Nov. 26 & 27-**(1:30pm - 9pm)

**Thurs. Dec. 1 -** (7pm - 9pm)

**Fri., & Sat. Dec. 2 & 3-** (1:30pm - 9pm)

**Sun., Dec. 4 -** (Noon - 4pm)



## **This Wednesday, November 30 is the Feast of St. Andrew, the Apostle**

Andrew lived a quiet and simple life as a fisherman. He worked with his brother Simon in the town of

Bethsaida in Galilee. One day Jesus walked by as they cast their nets and invited them to become fishers of people. Soon afterwards, Jesus worked a miracle in Andrew and Simon's house, healing Simon's mother-in-law of a fever. (All this is told in the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark.) In the gospels, Andrew is often shown bringing others to Jesus. It was Andrew who brought forward the boy with the five loaves and two fishes when food was needed for the crowd. "We have found the Messiah." After Jesus marched triumphantly into Jerusalem, Andrew helped some Greek men who wanted to speak with Jesus. After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Andrew brought others to Christ in a new way. He became a missionary. To this day, several countries in far-flung parts of the world claim to have been visited by Andrew; however, it isn't known for sure where he preached or where he died. Tradition says that Andrew was crucified on an x-shaped cross, called a "saltire cross." Because of legends that he preached in Scotland, that country put his cross on its flag. Thistle flowers are worn by the Scots today, the way shamrocks are worn by the Irish on St. Patrick's Day. Andrew is a patron saint, not only of Scotland, but of Greece and Russia.

*Father, God of Goodness, you give man the land to provide him with food. May the produce we harvest sustain our lives, and may we always use it for your glory and the good of all.*

**St. Rita Christian Mothers will hold their annual Christmas Cookie Sale on Saturday, December 10, beginning at 9am in St. Rita's social hall on First Street in Connellsville.** Featured will be Italian favorites: knots, pizzellas and biscotti, plus a variety of other cookies. Come early for best selection.

### ***Breakfast with Santa***

Sunday, December 11, after the 10:30am Mass at St. Raymond of the Mountains social hall. Visit with Santa and have your picture taken, enjoy breakfast, crafts and cookie decorating. Children are free! Please consider a free will donation to help cover the cost of adults attending. Signup by December 5th to [stray15628@gmail.com](mailto:stray15628@gmail.com).

## Something New - "A New Covenant"

The Bible includes both Old Testament and New Testament. The word, "testament," refers to the covenant God makes with us, the way in which God relates to us. During the Advent season, in Church, you will hear Scripture readings from both Old and New Testaments, because both covenants are important. Actually, the New Testament readings focus on preparing the way for the Messiah. This is far different from old and new clothes. Hanging in our closets, old clothes tend to move toward the back and are rarely used. Once in a while, however, we look back and rediscover something we really liked and we put it on again. The Old Testament contains treasures that need to be seen and valued. Unlike clothing, it never goes out of style. The message it proclaims is always relevant to our present life. The New Testament, though, makes God more real for us by revealing God's nature in a personal way, in an actual person, both in Bethlehem and still living in our hearts and minds. Perhaps the reason that Advent is so important is that it gives us time to think about what this coming means. We are enabled to have, within our lives, a new and closer relationship with the eternal God. We can use Advent for getting to understand God's nature more fully. We can experience God not as far off but near. We can see God's laws and commandments not so much as something "demanded" of us, but as something "offered" to help and guide us. Hearing the message of both Testaments, we can see God's love in both the Shepherd of the 23rd Psalm and in the one, who so loved the world as to give God's only Son for us. Advent can be a rich experience, if we can see ourselves in the light of both covenants, letting the New Covenant help us to discover God's love as fresh in our hearts. What a Christmas gift it would be if God's love could be born within us in a new and deeply personal way! Let's pray that this will happen. As parishes we should **"Prepare the Way of the Lord"** with random acts of kindness allowing them to symbolize the straw that was used as bedding in the manger where the Christ Child was placed by His Mother Mary on that first Christmas. "Every kind act, no matter how small, is like a pebble tossed into the pond of human caring, the rings reach our far beyond the point of impact; the action of our kind deed acts more kindly toward people around them, those people act more kindly toward the people around them and so it goes, on and on." With every kind act we perform this Advent Season, we will not only make positive changes to the persons and alter the focus of our surrounding from negativity to kindness and caring but this will also allow others, family, friends and strangers to open their hearts to the Christ Child.



**Reminder!**

The Lay Apostles Group will meet Monday, December 5th at 2:00pm in the meeting room in St. Pius X social hall.

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**Reminder!**

A reminder to all St. Pius X Holy Name members; our monthly Mass and meeting will be Sunday, December 11th at the 8:00am Mass at St. Pius X Church. Our meeting will follow Mass in the St. Pius X social hall. The Holy Name Society is always looking for new members. If you are interested, please join us on December 11th

### Anointing of the Sick

If you will be going to the hospital for elective surgery, please contact Fr. Dan to receive the Sacrament, Anointing of the Sick. Please do not wait until you arrive at the hospital to call a priest for the sacrament. Fr. Anthony visits patients at Frick Hospital and provides pastoral care for the Catholic patients each week. Also, family members should not wait until the last minute to call a priest to come and celebrate the sacraments. The sacrament of the sick is given to the sick and dying as part of the Church's comprehensive care of the person from sickness and dying to death and burial. Your help in this very important matter is appreciated.



### New Parishioners Welcome!

If you are new in the area, you are encouraged to register with a parish. Registration forms are available in the entrances of our churches and at the parish office. Completed forms may be returned by dropping them in the Sunday collection basket, mailed or brought to the office. Please let us know if you are relocating or moving away by dropping a note or phoning the parish office.

Diocesan is proud to now be printing

# St Pius X & Visitation Parish's Sunday Bulletin

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For further information,  
please call the parish office.

**Korey "CHOPS" Mullin**

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