

ANNUAL REPORT

Church of St. Pius X

September 2020 through August 2021



To Renew All Things In Christ

The Church of St. Pius X is under the pastoral care of the Religious Community of the Alagad ni Maria (Disciples of Mary)

A Roman Catholic Faith Community • Founded in 1954 • Renovated 2013

Dear Parishioners:

The pandemic continues to upend our lives and create challenges. As I reviewed the activities in this Annual Report, I was awed by how much our parish accomplished over the past year in spite of the pandemic because of your ingenuity and persistence.

We welcomed 22 new families to our parish and 55 new students to our religious education program. Most of our social outreach programs resumed, including delivering a record-breaking 471 turkeys to the hungry and providing clothing, toiletries, Christmas gifts, school supplies and cash donations to the needy. We held many of our liturgical services outside, including our annual backpack blessing, annual blessing of animals, and our first annual outdoor Christmas tree and lighting celebration. Other services were held inside the Church building, including some Sunday Ministry Masses, Light Up the Night, Stations of the Cross, and an Evening of Spiritual Renewal with Fr. Presutti. A very special thank you to our St. Pius X Reopening Safety Committee, Steve Amato, Marina Cardillo, Augustin Lago, Ivan Pooran, Terry Pratt and Joanne Sciortino, for attending weekly meetings and spending many hours planning so that we could attend services in a socially safe manner.



Our Religious Education classes, Bible Study classes and Eucharistic Ministry training were held via Zoom. Our First Holy Communion students were given the option to receive the Sacrament individually at weekend Masses, in a group service inside the church building with limited guests, or in a group service outside. Our Confirmation candidates made their Confirmation inside the church building with Most Reverend Bishop Sullivan in a socially distanced service. Thanks to the efforts of Theresa Regan, Maria Dhingra and Carrie Parker, our annual Christmas pageant was recorded in segments and made available for viewing.

We enjoyed social gatherings and “reimagined” celebrations, including a live organ recital, a Socially Distant Saturday with Santa, a re-imagined Easter Egg Hunt and an outdoor Multi-Cultural Pentecost Sunday luncheon. A special thanks to our Parish Council for forming a committee, Parish Council Connect, to reach out to parishioners telephonically and by email to share ideas, concerns and needs.

Elections for Parish Council were held in person and online. We welcomed Maria Bediako, Laeh Yang DiPietro and Claudia Murphy as new members of the Council. We extend a big thank you to outgoing members Denise Craft, Kathy Cripps, Carrie Parker and Joanne Sciortino for their service on the Parish Council and look forward to their continued involvement in parish activities. We also amended our parish’s By-Laws to clarify, among other things, who is eligible to serve on the Council and speak at Council meetings, to permit the President of the Council to fill vacancies, to formalize the nominating process for Parish Council candidates, to allow more than one Vice President, and to deal with amendments to the By-Laws.

In September 2021, Chris Saenger stepped down as a Parish Trustee after many years of service. We are very thankful to Chris for his guidance, support, financial expertise and willingness to devote his time and energy for the good of the parish. We welcome Kathy Cripps as our new parish trustee and look forward to working with her in her new role alongside Nick Brusco.

During the year, our devoted deacon, Ted Gaskin, and long-time parishioners, Margaret Cardillo, Terri Cerni, Anthony Scarcella and Penny Smith, returned to our heavenly Father. We pray that their souls may rest in peace.

This past year, we had an operating deficit in excess of \$213,000 and we are projecting an operating deficit in excess of \$104,000 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. In the past, we used a portion of the rental income from the school building to cover our operating deficit, but we have not been able to secure a long-term tenant. Last year, we funded the shortfall with collections of pledges to our Renew + Rebuild Campaign and collections of final pledges to the prior renovation campaigns, but as of October 31, 2021 the remaining uncollected pledges from the Renew + Rebuild Campaign amounted to \$135,000. In the absence of increased offertory collections and/or rental income from a long-term tenant, we will need to fund the shortfall from our reserves. It is not prudent to fund our operating deficit from reserves so we continue to encourage parishioners to make a consistent financial commitment to support our parish’s good works by using the envelopes they receive in the mail or by signing up for *We Share* online. This past year our collections were about 10% below collections from the prior fiscal year. We understand that current circumstances are difficult but if you have not increased your donations recently and your circumstances allow, we ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your contribution to our parish.

I am grateful and honored to serve as your pastor. Your willingness to share your time, talent and treasure with others is inspiring. We ask God to bless our Parish and end this pandemic.

Yours truly in Christ,
Fr. Sebastian
Father Sebastian

*So the Big Bad Wolf showed his teeth and said: "Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down." And he huffed, huffed, and he puffed, puffed; but he could not blow the house down.
The Three Little Pigs – excerpt from the English Fairy Tales, James Halliwell Phillips c.1886*

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

What a year this has been. A tumultuous year that has seen our lives upended by a global pandemic, widespread protest over systemic racism and social injustice, bitter political division and a contested election, economic crisis, environmental disasters, war, and global instability. A year in which many of us have suffered with grief, stress, and anxiety, and some have been overpowered by sadness, loneliness and, at times, despair.



During these last months, a sense of loss has overwhelmed me: loss of lives, human contact, certainty, and hope. I have felt emotionally shaken and ungrounded. But in the darkest moments, when I could not find an answer to the question "why", when I felt alone and isolated, and in the grip of an emotional storm, I found strength in my faith and refuge in our church. St. Pius X Church, an ever-standing home no matter the outside adversities and hardships, where we can remember God's blessings and forget the day's troubles.

"Let's build a house where love can dwell." I am grateful to all the founders and parishioners of St Pius X and Father O'Brien for laying the foundation. I am thankful for Father Sebastian, our beloved late Deacon Gaskin and all our clergy for continuing to build our parish with their vision and spiritual guidance, and for making it a home where all of us are welcome.

During this last year, as the world around us changed dramatically, and as St. Pius X parish was met with new challenges, we found strength and new practices. We masked our faces but showed our hearts. We re-imagined ways to connect although we could not be together in person. I am thankful to all of you for your generosity and the continuous care that has made it possible to keep our community vibrant and engaged through the organization of spiritual events, participation in outreach ministries, and promotion of programs in support of social justice.

I am deeply grateful to our Parish Council members, and especially the Church re-opening committee, for all the time, effort, and energy they dedicated to make sure we could return safely to enjoy Mass and our beautiful music in person, together.

I long for our full Church again, for us pressing together in the pews to make room, for our ushers pointing out just one more seat, for the in-person voices of our choir to fill our Church, and for our many social events. We all need to keep the fire of longing burning bright enough to make that full Church a reality once again. Please join in supporting our community with prayers, action, and your financial generosity.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marina Cardillo".

Marina Cardillo
St Pius X Parish Council President



The Church of St. Pius X

**Committed Giving and
Sharing Our Gifts**

The Trustees, Finance Committee and Parish Council determined that our parish's ability to continue to support and expand the good works and spiritual community we have become is dependent on our ability to cover the expenses associated with the operation of our parish, which includes our ministries. It would be helpful for our planning if you committed to give to your parish on a consistent, ongoing basis. You can do this by enrolling in electronic giving by visiting *WeShare* at <https://saintpiusxchurch.churchgiving.com>, clicking on *WeShare: Give to St. Pius X* on our homepage at <http://saintpiusxchurch.com>, or calling the parish office at (914) 725-2755. Alternatively, you can use the parish envelopes mailed to you, write a check or set up recurring payments from your bank account or credit card.

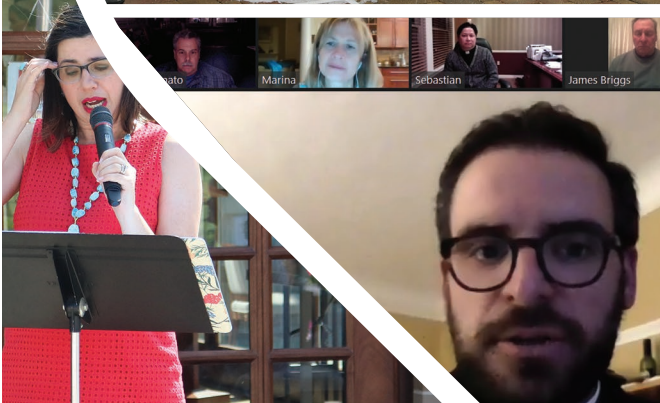
Social Action

Despite the pandemic this year, almost all of our social action programs continued or were reimagined and we added some new programs. Our social action programs included, among others, delivering a record-breaking 471 turkeys to the hungry during our **Thanksgiving Food Drive**; providing food to persons less fortunate through programs such as **St. Peter's/St. Denis' Food Pantry** and our **Lenten Food Drive**; preparing, delivering and/or serving meals through **Meals on Wheels** and **Bread of Life**; collecting toiletries and donations for a reimagined **Teen Boutique**; holding our annual **Blood Drive**; collecting coats for our annual **Coat Drive** for St. Joseph's Church and St. Gabriel's Church in New Rochelle; collecting items for babies and pregnant moms through our annual **Baby Shower Drive** for Good Counsel Homes, the Elinor Martin Residence for Mother & Child and the Sisters of Life in support of their service to pregnant women; purchasing, wrapping and delivering Christmas gifts to needy persons at St. John Bosco, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Sisters of Life, Good Council Homes and St. Patrick's Nursing Home through programs such as **Adopt-a-Family**, the **Christmas Angel Giving Tree** and the **St. Patrick's Nursing Home Christmas Wish List**; supplying computer tablets, traditional school supplies and backpacks for

local children at My Sister's Place, the Sharing Shelf and the Church of the Sacred Heart under our **Bag 2 School Program**; assisting with the cost of **educating seminarians** of the Religious Community of the Alagad ni Maria (Disciples of Mary); and sending snacks, toiletries and cards to our deployed military through **Operation Cupid**. We participated in **Not There Yet – Challenges Facing Women at Worship, Work and Home** and held **Open Wide Our Hearts**, a spiritual gathering with reflections to support social justice and the black community, and a **Virtual Race with Grace** to raise funds for the **Thrive for Life Prison Program**. Our youth assisted parishioners with **COVID vaccination appointments** and our 7th and 8th graders baked cookies and decorated Easter eggs for our long-time parishioners.

Unfortunately, we were not able to hold our Annual Luncheon for Persons with Disabilities; our youth were not able to visit seniors in their homes, nursing homes or assisted living residences to chat or play games; and our Midnight Runs were cancelled. Nevertheless, our 7th and 8th graders put together toiletry kits and clothing kits for a Breakfast Run that were delivered to the Midnight Run organization for distribution.





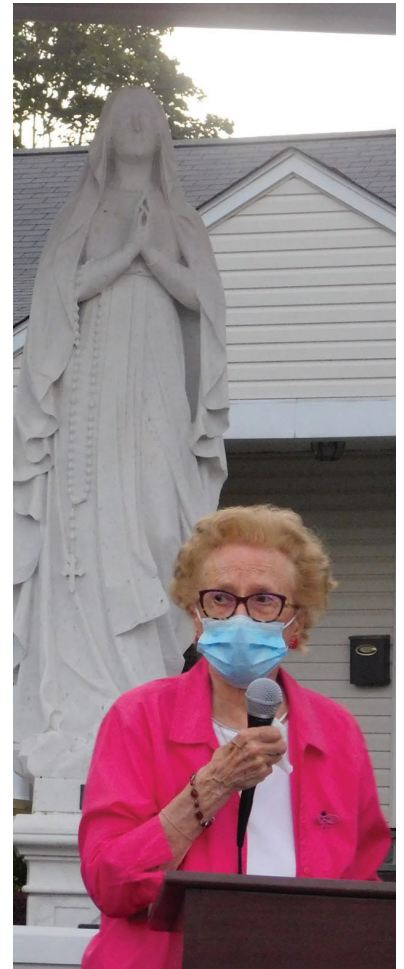
Liturgical Services

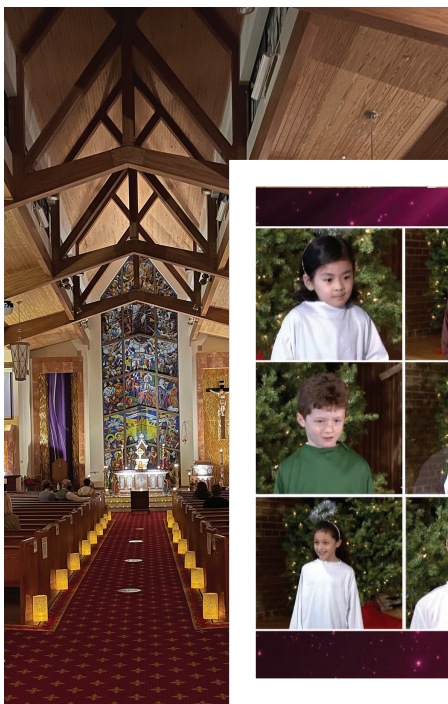
Because of the pandemic, some liturgical services were held outside, others were held in the church building in accordance with the social distancing rules promulgated by the Archdiocese of New York and were live streamed and recorded; and some were held via Zoom. Our **annual backpack blessing; annual animal blessing; Mary's Birthday celebration; some Masses; First Holy Communion** for some 2nd graders; **Blessing of the Angel Tree, Advent Wreath and Manger; and our First Annual Outdoor Christmas Tree and Lighting Celebration** took place outside along with a drive through to pick up palms on Palm Sunday. One of our Christmas Eve Masses was broadcast in our parking lot so persons could listen to the Mass from their cars.

Many of our liturgical services were held inside the church building with reservations required and live streaming and/or recording for those not comfortable attending the services in person. These services

included Sunday and weekday Masses, our **Wedding Jubilee Mass, a Valentine's Day blessing** for couples, **Stations of the Cross, Light Up the Night, An Evening of Spiritual Renewal – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving in Isolation** with Fr. Presutti, **Sunday Ministry Masses, 8th grade Spirit Mass, and Blessing of Children and Gold Books** for our First Holy Communion students.

Communities of Spirit, a program to shine a light on the spirituality and missions of women religious, was held via Zoom. **Rosary** prayers were said via Zoom and by phone. Our annual **Christmas Pageant** was prerecorded in segments and made available to our parish community to view. Communion has been made available after the Saturday evening Mass and on Sunday afternoon after Mass under the glass canopy to any parishioner who is not comfortable attending Mass in person. Adoration was cancelled and reconciliation has been by appointment.





Learning and Sacramental Preparation

We welcomed **55 new students** to our religious education program. Our **religious education classes**, **Eucharistic Ministry training**, **Confirmation** candidate interviews and **Bible Study** classes including **Walking with Purpose**, a Bible study class designed to transform the hearts and lives of women, were held via Zoom. Our **First Holy Communion** students were given the option to receive the Sacrament individually at weekend Masses, in a group service inside the church building with limited guests or in a group service outside. Our First Communion children made their first confession inside the church building with safety protocols in place. Our Confirmation candidates recited the Creed in person and made their Confirmation inside the church building with Most Reverend Bishop Sullivan in a socially distanced service.



Community Building

While we held some celebrations and social gatherings in person with safety protocols in place, other events were reimagined. We held a **live organ recital** in the church building presented by the Westchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and our annual **Trunk or Treat** Halloween event in the parking lot where our children were able to trick or treat from the trunks of decorated automobiles. **Musical Chair Yoga** continued virtually. Our Parish Council formed a committee, **Parish Council Connect**, to reach out to parishioners telephonically and by email to share ideas, concerns and needs.

In lieu of our annual Christmas luncheon, we did a **Christmas cookie exchange** with prizes for the tastiest and best decorated cookies. Our youth group and Parish Council members baked cookies and delivered them along with poinsettia plants to our long-time parishioners. A **Socially Distant Saturday with Santa** replaced our annual Brunch with Santa. Parishioners had the opportunity to **pre-order an Irish meal** in lieu of our annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon. For Easter, the Parish Council prepared **Easter baskets** and delivered them to our long-time parishioners and we held a **re-imagined Easter Egg Hunt** in a socially distanced manner outside. We enjoyed our annual **Multi-Cultural Pentecost Sunday luncheon** outside.



A Letter from the Finance Committee

November 5, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

The following pages contain detailed information regarding our parish income and expenses for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2021. Our ordinary expenses amounted to \$868,592, compared to \$834,954 last year. This represents a 4% increase over last year.

In addition to those ordinary expenses, we had extraordinary expenses of \$186,550, compared to \$179,215 last year. Our extraordinary expenses consisted of: \$2,444 for charitable contributions, compared to \$10,745 last year; \$6,275 for program and development, compared to \$8,399 last year; \$86,795 for archdiocesan church tax assessments, compared to \$66,308 last year; \$71,377 for our archdiocesan Global Regional School System assessment (calculated as a percentage of our collections), compared to \$71,380 last year; and \$19,659 for improvements and furniture, compared to \$22,383 last year. (The church and school tax assessments represent our required Archdiocesan Cathedraticum.)

The expenditures described above total \$1,055,142 and were funded as follows: \$815,844 from Christmas, Easter and weekly collections, fundraisers, votive shrine donations, and Religious Education tuition; \$25,820 from interest and dividend income; and \$213,478 from collections of capital campaign pledges.

The total added to reserves in fiscal 2020-2021 was \$19,839, consisting of the portion of collections of pledges to the Renew + Rebuild Campaign and final pledges to the prior renovation campaigns not used for operating expenses.

Based on the budget we submitted to the Archdiocese, we are projecting an operating deficit of \$104,873 for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2022. In the absence of rental income and increased offertory collections, the deficit will be funded from our reserves and additional collections of Renew + Rebuild pledges and interest and dividend income; therefore, we need to continue to seek increased annual collections and a long-term tenant for the school building.

As of October 31, 2021, the remaining uncollected pledges from the Renew + Rebuild Campaign amounted to \$135,000.

Thank you for your support.

Finance Committee Members:
Denis Andreuzzi
Kathi Fredella
Blaise Fredella
Mark Fitzimmons
Austin Lago

Trustees:
Nicholas Brusco
Kathy Cripps

ONLINE GIVING

Many of our parishioners are making automatic online gifts to the Church of St. Pius X. You may make gifts to our weekly collections and archdiocesan special collections online. By giving online, you will no longer need to receive envelopes in the mail each month.

For further information, or to enroll in the Church of St. Pius X online giving program, *We Share*, please visit saintpiusxchurch.churchgiving.com to complete the enrollment form. Our easy-to-use enrollment takes just a few short minutes.

“GIVING” FOR THE FUTURE

A donation to the Church of St. Pius X in your will is fully tax deductible and will help us sustain our work, our mission, and our ministries for future generations.

If you choose to include us in your will, won't you let us know? You can contact Fr. Sebastian at (914) 725-2755 or email fbacatan@yahoo.com.

Thank you for ensuring the legacy of your memory through a bequest to the Church of St. Pius X.

Financial Report

CHURCH OF ST. PIUS X COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING AUGUST 31, 2021 AND 2020

REVENUES COLLECTED	2021	2020	DISBURSEMENTS PAID	2021	2020
REGULAR RECEIPTS			CHURCH & RECTORY EXPENSES		
Sunday & Holy Days	470,568	527,150	Clergy Remuneration & Benefits	134,623	134,954
Holiday Collections	254,592	269,132	House Maintenance	43,527	29,457
Votive Shrines & Candles	3,072	5,390	Salaries & Employee Benefits	345,752	353,737
Rental Income	-	250	Church Exp's (Music, Books, etc.)	47,536	45,956
			Utilities, Tel., Water, Other	56,951	52,333
			Maintenance, Contracts, etc.	60,767	40,497
			Insurance & Pension	71,059	72,160
			Office Expenses	31,754	41,452
			Church Tax Assessment	86,795	66,308
			Global Regional School Sys. Assess.	71,377	71,380
			Add'l School Support Based on Rental Income	-	-
TOTAL	728,232	801,922	TOTAL	950,142	908,234
RELIGIOUS ED. PROGRAMS			RELIGIOUS ED. EXPENSES		
Tuition Collected	62,752	53,595	Salaries, Social Security	69,426	55,055
RCIA Income	-	250	Religious Ed. Expenses	7,197	9,253
			RCIA Expenses	-	100
TOTAL	62,752	53,845	TOTAL	76,623	64,408
EXTRAORDINARY INCOME			EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES		
Fundraiser	6,710	20,824	Charitable Contributions	2,444	10,745
Donations & Bequests	18,150	256,661	Program & Development	6,275	8,399
Interest & Other Income	25,820	26,549	Furniture & Improvements	19,659	22,383
TOTAL	50,680	304,034	TOTAL	28,378	41,527
CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS			CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS		
Renovation Campaigns	146,127	96,925	Building Improvements	-	-
Renew + Rebuild Campaign	87,190	96,927			
TOTALS	233,317	193,852	TOTALS	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	1,074,981	1,353,653	TOTAL EXPENSES	1,055,142	1,014,169
	2021	2020			
RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	19,839	339,484			
UNREALIZED GAINS ON INVESTMENTS	288,546	103,573			

Questions regarding the Financial Report?
Contact: Blaise Fredella, CPA, bfredella@auzzo.com

The Church of St. Pius X Welcomes You!

Have You Registered?

If the Church of St. Pius X is where you regularly worship and/or where your children attend religious education, we invite you to fill out a parishioner registration card that can be found on the table in the Narthex or on our website www.saintpiusxchurch.com.

Registration is our only means of certifying membership in the parish.



*If you have any questions or comments about
our Annual Report, please contact:*

Nicholas Brusco (Trustee)
brusco165@yahoo.com

Kathy Cripps (Trustee)
kathy.cripps@verizon.net

Marina Cardillo (Parish Council President)
mammadoc@gmail.com

Blaise Fredella (Finance)
bfredella@auzzo.com