



December 20, 2018

Dear St. Pius X Parishioners and Friends:

Please pardon this correspondence concerning finances at this holiday time of year, but it happens to also be an opportune time, here at the end of the calendar year, to share such information. So let me take this opportunity to update you concerning a few opportunities and challenges which are presented to our parish at the present time.

**1. First of all, some potentially good news – for you and for St. Pius X School**

“GO for Catholic Schools”, a product of the Oklahoma Equal Opportunity Education Scholarship Act (2011), allows individuals, couples and businesses to convert state income taxes (which have to be paid anyway) into scholarships for our Catholic schools – including St. Pius X School. This year St. Pius X School received a check in the amount of \$66,800 from GO. Our hope is to substantially increase that gift in 2019.

Here are some facts and figures relating to GO:

- a. Individuals can receive up to a \$1000 tax credit annually.
- b. Married couples can receive up to a \$2000 tax credit annually.
- c. Business entities can receive up to a \$100,000 tax credit annually.
- d. All gifts to GO are 100% tax deductible on federal tax forms.
- e. Donations to GO that are received by December 31, 2018 will count as charitable contributions for 2018.

**For more information and clarification, please contact St. Pius X parishioner Tom Kelley (who says this is a “win-win” for contributors and for St. Pius X School). But do it soon! **December 31** is the deadline.**

**Tom can be reached by phone at 918-625-0897,  
or through email at [tmkelley08@gmail.com](mailto:tmkelley08@gmail.com).**

**You can also learn more about GO at [www.GOforCatholicSchools.com](http://www.GOforCatholicSchools.com).**

(see more on the other side)

## 2. And now, some “more challenging” facts concerning finances at St. Pius X.

- ✓ The **debt** which remains to be paid for new school construction, as of 11/30/2018, is \$2,283,070.
- ✓ The Capital Campaign **pledge balance**, as of 11/30/18, amounts to \$468,699, of which \$90,337 is past due. So, even when all the pledges are paid off, St. Pius will still have a debt of nearly \$2 Million.
- ✓ This is the amount of unrestricted **savings** which St. Pius X Church has in the bank as of 11/30/18: \$657.18. Not much of a “rainy-day” fund. Cash flow is an on-going challenge for the parish. Sometimes we have to “rob Peter to pay Paul.”
- ✓ And here’s a **quote** which surprised me at my first Finance Council meeting: “Weekly collections are at the same dollar amount as they were 10 years ago, while costs continue to rise.” Ouch!

## 3. Lastly, in addition to the regular collection, your contributions to the Building Fund will help with these and some other specific facility needs:

- A safety guard being planned around the front of the baptistery (specifics still being deliberated).
- Landscaping to control flooding where old school buildings were removed.
- I think it would be a good idea to consider some parking spaces on the west side of the church, for easier access to the chapel for those who come to daily mass and adoration (I’d be glad to hear your thoughts about that).
- Ongoing maintenance and upkeep for our aging facilities.

Thank you for your consideration of these end-of-the-year financial facts and thoughts, intended just to give you a birds-eye view of our present status. And thank you for your generous stewardship of time, talent and treasure for the benefit of St. Pius X Church and School, and beyond.

Christmas Blessings,

*Fr. Bradley*

Rev. J. Richard Bradley  
Pastor