

Lancer

LEGEND



THE MAGAZINE OF ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL
WINTER 2023



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2023-2024

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MISSION STATEMENT

St. Pius X Catholic High School is a Catholic community dedicated to the education of the whole person, in an environment where extraordinary care and concern for the individual is ordinary.

VISION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic learning community of St. Pius X Catholic High School, strive to maintain recognized excellence in all educational programs for students of all abilities. We strive to impart Christian ethical principles of living to students, preparing them to be productive and contributing members of a global society. We, as members of the St. Pius X High School community, seek to challenge each other individually to become lifelong learners in mind, body, and soul.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

To the Lancer Family,

As the President of St. Pius X Catholic High School, I'm filled with a deep sense of honor and gratitude. The mission of our school, firmly rooted in Christ's teachings, goes beyond mere education. It's about nurturing the complete individual, fostering the harmony of mind, body, and soul.

In the role of educators within a Catholic school, we bear the profound responsibility of not just imparting knowledge but also instilling the moral and spiritual values that define our faith. Each day, I find renewed inspiration in sharing the wisdom and love of Christ with our students, faculty, and staff. The strength of our community is not just in the brick and mortar of our institution, but in the unwavering support of our parents, alumni, students, and friends. Your prayers, generosity, and dedication form the bedrock of our mission. I request that you continue to keep us in your prayers, for your faith and commitment are the future to our success.

Yours in Christ,

Jim Lehn, President

Business Alliance

Platinum

Craig R. Ruble, M.D. Orthopaedic Surgeon
H.W. Herrell Distributing Company
Sheet Metal Contractors, Inc., Home by SMCI
State Farm Insurance - Sandy Vest
Tim Surdyke's Gold Star Harley - Davidson and Outdoors
Surdyke Motorsports

Gold

All Weather Sewer Service, Inc.
Animal Care Service, Inc.
Leftridge Masonry, LLC
Sapaugh GM Country
Twin City Toyota
Wagner Collision Centers

Silver

Arnold Animal Hospital
Bauman Oil Distributors, Inc.
Cemtech
Dieb Enterprises Inc.
Gateway Real Estate - Heather Lewis
Genuine Appliance & Mattress
Hovis & Associates
Kidz Biz Pediatrics
Main Key Realty
US Silica

Bronze

Andre's – Oak Valley Golf Course & Resort
Autumn Ridge Residences
PawJama Party Kennels
StorageQ
The UPS Store – Festus

Thank you to all of our Business Alliance members. Please patronize these businesses that support our school. If you want to learn more about being a member of our Business Alliance program, please contact: Jim Lehn at (636) 931-7487, ext. 141 or president@stpious.com

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

What is your favorite St. Pius X tradition?



"MY FAVORITE SCHOOL TRADITION IS HOMECOMING WEEK. IT'S SOMETHING YOU ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO NO MATTER WHAT GRADE YOU ARE IN."

Chloe K.



"MY FAVORITE SCHOOL TRADITION IS THE HOUSE SYSTEM. I LOVE THAT YOU GET TO MEET SO MANY PEOPLE THAT YOU WOULD NEVER MEET BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE CLASSES WITH THEM."

Joseph H.



"MY FAVORITE SCHOOL TRADITION IS MEDIEVAL WEEK BECAUSE IT IS SO UNIQUE. IT INVOLVES COMPETITION BETWEEN EVERYONE, EVEN PEOPLE IN THE SAME GRADE."

Caroline A.



"MY FAVORITE SCHOOL TRADITION IS HOMECOMING WEEK BECAUSE EVERYONE DRESSES IN THE THEMES AND IS COMPETITIVE WHICH MAKES THE ENTIRE WEEK FUN."

Maryanne M.



"MY FAVORITE SCHOOL TRADITION IS HOMECOMING WEEK BECAUSE IT GETS EVERYONE EXCITED AND BRINGS EACH CLASS CLOSER TOGETHER."

Hannah R.



"MY FAVORITE SCHOOL TRADITION IS MOST DEFINITELY RING DAY. I LOVE THE FEELING OF CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY IT GIVES THE SENIOR CLASS."

Grace T.



St. Pius X Catholic High School is proud to announce that senior Francie Surdyke has been selected as a

NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALIST.

For the Class of 2024, approximately 16,000 students from around the country, representing less than 1% of the nation's graduating seniors, are recognized as National Merit Semifinalists based on last year's administration of the October PSAT. These semifinalists are now the only graduating seniors that have an opportunity to advance in the competition for some 7,140 Merit Scholarship awards.

Applications ARE OPEN

[STPIUS.COM/APPLYNOW](https://stpius.com/applynow)

NOVEMBER 2023

- Apply for Archdiocesan High Schools by November 13, 2023
- Records for St. Pius X applicants due by December 1, 2023

JANUARY 2024

- Financial aid applications open - January 1, 2024
- Interviews - January 13, 2024
- Archdiocese Today & Tomorrow Educational Foundation (TTEF) open - January 22, 2024
- Admissions letters delivered - January 26, 2024

FEBRUARY 2024

- Class of 2028 Placement Test - February 3, 2024
- Class of 2028 Placement Test Makeup - February 6, 2024
- Deadline for financial aid applications - February 27, 2024
- Induction Night - February 29, 2024

MARCH 2024

- Spring Open House - March 5, 2024
- Scholarship deadline - March 15, 2024

MAY 2024

- Financial aid awards mailed at the end of May



Campus Ministry

Our school's theme for this year, "Anchored in Christ," takes its inspiration from Hebrews 6:19, emphasizing Christ as the unyielding anchor in our lives, upholding our faith with unwavering strength. This theme resonates deeply with the symbolism of an anchor, traditionally associated with hope and stability, steering us through life's tempestuous seas. As we navigate the storms and trials of life, Christ stands as our beacon of hope, providing steadfast support. Pope Pius X, during his tenure as Bishop of Mantua, drew from Hebrews Chapter 6:19 to create his coat of arms, featuring an anchor set against a turbulent sea, illuminated by a golden six-pointed star. He articulated that hope was the central companion in his life, an unswerving pillar in times of uncertainty and a potent force in moments of weakness.

To further explore this theme, we've divided it into sub-themes, each linked to our house system:

- Deutschmann House focuses on being "Anchored in Truth," with its crest featuring castles that pay homage to Msgr. Deutschmann and St. Benedict, champions of the truth within the Catholic Church.
- Borgia House embraces "Anchored in Hope," symbolized not only by an anchor but also a dove on their crest, signifying stability and hope.
- Genevieve House embodies "Anchored in Love," with the pierced Sacred Heart on its crest representing the loving heart of Sr. Genevieve and her religious order, the Adorers of the Blood of Christ.
- Dalton House stands as "Anchored in Faith," with three green shamrocks honoring the Irish heritage of Fr. Dalton, who sought to establish a school of faith, imparting education and faith to others, with the hope that students would continue to uphold their faith.

To reinforce our theme, a thematic t-shirt has been created for students and faculty to wear on Fridays, and anchors in classrooms and hallways as constant reminders of being "Anchored in Christ." Moreover, Fr. Ruzicka conducts Chapel masses on Thursdays during lunch, as well as offering adoration and confession on the first Friday of each month.

Excitingly, we welcome two seminarians from Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, Will Targy and Brian Hula, studying for the Archdiocese of Omaha, Nebraska, who will be ordained deacons next Spring. They will be a regular presence on campus, assisting with theology instruction and engaging in various school events, fostering a sense of spiritual community.



Art

All visual arts classes are making great progress! Freshmen are finishing up projects on lines and shapes and are about to begin a still life unit on value and form. Sophomores are finishing up a unit on portraiture and about to begin a unit on crochet. Juniors are well into a sculpture project on architecture, working with many different materials and techniques. Seniors are building their portfolios and logging their progress onto google classroom. This year we have a number of seniors exploring new mediums such as oil painting!



Music & Band

The 2023/2024 school year has started out quickly for the performing arts classes at St. Pius X. On August 30th the band, concert choir, and chorus combined and performed “God Bless America” at Busch Stadium to open up an eventual Cardinals win against the Padres. This performance came after most students had only four classes worth of rehearsal, but with a renewed focus and a dedication to their craft the students performed incredibly. The concert choir and chorus are currently working on preparing music for school Masses, while also beginning to look at music for Christmas Caroling and the Christmas Concert later this year. The concert band is working on music for the Christmas Concert. All groups invite you to join them at the Christmas Concert on December 7th, at 7:00pm in the gym.



Circle Theatre

Circle Theatre has been diligently working on our fall play. The play is a hilarious hybrid of Monty Python and Sherlock Holmes. A comedy for all ages. The show has already happened as of the date of this publication, we hope you enjoyed the show. Circle Theatre would like for you to mark your calendars for the Spring Cabaret March 7, 8, and 9, 2024. Join us on campus.



Homecoming

This year's Homecoming embraced the theme of "Home Sweet Homecoming," offering an array of creative theme days that included "Make Yourself at Home," "Home Run," "Homies," "Home Away From Home," and "No Place Like Home (Blue and Gold)."

The excitement of Homecoming Week reached its peak as Fr. Dalton Memorial Stadium came alive on Thursday evening, drawing students, faculty, parents, and alumni together to cheer on the PowderPuff football teams and later gather around the bonfire. The festivities continued on Friday with a spirited field day and culminated with an electrifying pep rally. The guiding force behind the enduring spirit was the St. Pius X Band, Lancer Dancers, and the Cheer Team. This year, it was the Class of 2024 who claimed victory and earned the coveted title of Homecoming Week Winners.

Homecoming 2023 concluded with the student dance held in the Ralph Boyer Memorial Gymnasium on Saturday. A heartfelt thank you went out to all who contributed to making Homecoming Week a celebration of the Lancer family.



8TH GRADE DAY

On Wednesday, October 5, we had the pleasure of hosting ninety 8th graders from ten different schools. These students were organized into groups, with guidance from our Junior and Senior student ambassadors. The day was dedicated to a series of presentations and engaging activities designed to empower the 8th graders to become the best versions of themselves. In between the insightful lessons, we enjoyed various games such as "Circle the Wagon," "Ships and Sailors," and the ever-popular "The Best Game Ever." Special thanks to Mrs. Cuba for her valuable insights on different learning styles and to Mrs. Atzert for leading an invigorating Zumba class. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the 8th graders for joining us on campus.

Contact Breanna Bannes '15, Director of Admissions at bbannes@stpius.com

Congratulations, GARY LINDERER & ANNA KRUSSEL

On October 13, 2023, St. Pius X Catholic High School proudly welcomed Anna Krussel and Gary Linderer into its Hall of Fame. Anna dedicated 54 years to Catholic high school education, with 27 of them at St. Pius X, contributing not only as a teacher but also as a vital scheduler. Gary, a St. Pius X class of 1965 graduate, exhibited remarkable valor during his service in the Vietnam War and has since become an advocate for veterans' rights and an accomplished author. Both Anna and Gary have made indelible contributions to the St. Pius X community, earning their well-deserved spots in the Hall of Fame.



FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA

It was a hot one and still hundreds of people came to enjoy the 2023 St. Pius X Fireworks Extravaganza that was held on June 29th. Attendees got to hear live music performed by Exit 180, enjoy yummy BBQ cooked by the Underwood family, tacos and nachos from Bob's Drive-In, and cool down with some sweet treats from Kona Ice and Luna's Shaved Ice. The event also featured a stunning 25 minute Fireworks show choreographed to music that was absolutely amazing. The show did not disappoint. Thank you to our friends at Big Shot Fireworks for partnering with us to make this a great event for our community.



GOLF TOURNAMENT

July 31, 2023 was the 34th annual St. Pius X Golf Tournament held at Crystal Highlands Golf Course. We had an incredible record breaking number of 67 teams! The 50/50 Golf Ball Drop from the top of the Crystal City fire truck ladder was so fun and the winner received \$895.00! We are proud to report over \$42,000.00 was raised from this event! Thank you to the many volunteers it took to make this tournament a success. THANK YOU to all of our families and friends for your amazing support of our school. Save the date for next year, July 26, 2024. Can't wait to see you there!





**HONOR A LOVED ONE
WITH A**

Legacy Brick

Join a timeless tradition by purchasing a Lancer Landmark brick to commemorate cherished individuals at St. Pius X High School. These inscribed bricks line our front entrance, connecting generations of alumni, parents, and friends. It's a meaningful addition to our beloved school.

WHY BUY A BRICK?

- Gracing the main entrance
- Ideal for any occasion
- Celebrate your loved ones
- Showcase your group

8" x 8" Paver Details

- Six lines
- 18 characters per line

4" x 8" Brick Details

- Three lines
- 18 characters per line

To order your brick, contact us at advancement@stpius.com or (636) 931-7487, option 3. Leave your legacy with a Lancer Landmark.

LANCER FOR A DAY

Spend a day...

- ATTENDING CLASSES WITH A CURRENT STPX STUDENT
- MEET OTHER STUDENTS AND TEACHERS
- EXPERIENCE OUR LUNCH HOUR AND HIGH SCHOOL LIFE AT ST. PIUS X FIRST-HAND



SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 13, 2024



**LEGACY GALA
DINNER AUCTION**

**ST. PIUS X
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

BOYS SOCCER
CLASS 2
RECORD 7-13-1



CROSS COUNTRY
CLASS 2

- First team to qualify for state!
- Jayden Metzler finished 15th out of 170 runners.
 - Set the school record with a 16:43.40 5K



FOOTBALL
CLASS 2
RECORD 7-4



- Justin Lehn set single-season rushing record with 1653 YDS
 - Set the single-game rushing record with 386 yds

SOFTBALL
CLASS 1
RECORD 8-11



GIRLS GOLF
CLASS 1
RECORD 8-3



- Placed 6th in the State!
- Hannah Hovis took 18th out of 95.

GIRLS TENNIS
CLASS 2
RECORD 11-3



- Chloe Kronlage and Brooke Madden qualified for State in the Doubles bracket
- Carlyne Argana qualified in the Singles Bracket.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
CLASS 4
RECORD 24-6



- Finished 2nd in State!
- Hannah Leftridge hit 1,000 kills
- Elana Ruble hit 1,000 assists.

STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH
LANCER
ATHLETICS





OUR FUTURE

We are delighted to share the successful acquisition of the 3.63 acre parcel of land situated at the forefront of our school. It has been a long-cherished dream and was only realized due to the invaluable support from our StPX community. This land allows us to reconfigure our athletic fields. The future construction of a new baseball field on this parcel is in the near future.

This significant undertaking, nurtured by the collective spirit of our dedicated alumni and supporters, represents not only the growth of our school but also the embodiment of a shared vision. Over the years, we have meticulously reviewed numerous draft layouts and harnessed the expertise of a group of passionate St. Pius X alumni and supporters, whose professional backgrounds encompass various fields, such as civil engineering and construction. Their collective knowledge and shared love for our school have breathed life into this project, and will guide us through the critical phases of development.

As we move forward, the next steps are already set in motion. We are diligently working to identify the water main, ensure the final grade and drainage meets the highest standard, and, with great anticipation, embark on the process of shaping the earth to establish an outstanding baseball facility. This endeavor is a testament to our dedication to providing a comprehensive educational experience that extends beyond academics, embracing athletic and extracurricular opportunities that enrich the lives of our students.

The future of St. Pius X Catholic High School shines brightly, and these developments will undoubtedly leave an indelible, positive impact on our community. We remain deeply grateful to every individual who has played a part in this remarkable journey. Your continued support and involvement are invaluable, and we eagerly anticipate celebrating these extraordinary achievements together.

FEAST DAY

St. Pius X Feast Day is celebrated on August 21 each year. St. Pius X's greatest accomplishment allows for us to receive daily communion. Something we do without question today, but in the past not allowed in the Catholic faith. We celebrated with an induction ceremony, welcoming the new Lancers into their respective Houses, followed by mass. Students then enjoyed house time to strengthen their connections within the Lancer community. The day ended with exciting house games, including Blind Football, Blindfolded Musical Chairs, Tug-of-War, and Circle the Wagon, fostering friendly competition and further cementing the spirit of camaraderie among the students.



St. Pius X Catholic High School ENDOWMENT FUND

The St. Pius X Catholic High School Endowment Fund will serve as a long-term "savings account" for need-based scholarships, faculty and student enrichment, and unrestricted funds for the growing needs of our school. St. Pius X partners with the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri to manage funds.

PLANNED GIVING

Planned Giving is for everyone. Anyone – regardless of income or age – can make a planned gift! You can make a tremendous impact on St. Pius X Catholic High School, likely at no cost to you during your lifetime.

For additional information please visit www.stpius.com/plannedgiving or contact Jim Lehn, president@stpius.com or (314)608-0669.



CAREER DAY

Career Day took place on Thursday November 9 in the Ralph Boyer Memorial Gymnasium. Over forty alumni came back to campus to show off their careers and share their professional development with our students. Students had a rotating forty minute schedule and were able to visit tables that showcased their career of interest. We are so excited to be able to bring this featured event to our students. If you are an alumni and are interested in joining Career Day, please contact Peggy Flanagan at pflanagan@stpius.com.

STPX GIVING DAY

StPX Giving Day is when the friends, alumni, students, parents, faculty, and staff of the St. Pius X family are extraordinarily supportive. All gifts help St. Pius X Catholic High School students achieve their academic goals, embrace their local community, and celebrate Christ in everything they do.

StPX Giving Day 2023 was Thursday November 9, 2023. Our Goal -

\$100,000 IN ONE DAY

Did we accomplish our goal? Visit stpius.com/givingday for the most up to date information.

Let's keep the momentum going as we strive to reach our annual fund goal of \$260,400 by June 30, 2024! If you were not able to donate on StPX Giving Day, you can make a donation at any time at www.stpius.com. Give Gold today!





St. Pius X High School

1030 St. Pius Drive
Festus, MO 63028
www.stpius.com

Return Service Requested

Parent: If this issue of the Lancer Legend is addressed to your son or daughter who has established a permanent address, please notify St. Pius X of the new address at (636) 931-7487, ext. 113 or bervin@stpius.com.

