

National Go Fishing Day June 18

There is a great deal of information in this week's communication, which is our **main tool for sharing information** with families. Therefore, we ask that you take the time to read it, in its entirety, to keep up with what is happening in our school. Thank you in advance for your time and attention!



Please note the following important **calendar dates**:

Wednesday, June 18

Thursday, June 19

Friday, June 20

Thursday, June 26

Last Day for Intramurals Juneteenth – No School Last Day for Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 students Last Day for students K - 5

¹/₂ Day for all Students (11:45 AM Dismissal)

Please check with your home district for busing information for the last day of school, as the last day may vary from district to district.

Thursday, June 26

2:00 PM

Fifth Grade Commencement



Our PAC committee has a fun-filled Field Day planned for Thursday morning, June 26! Students may dress down that day, but <u>please make sure they are wearing sneakers</u>, as they will be doing various activities outside. Pray for good weather!

Please Join Us on June 22!



Please join us in wishing Mrs. Sabo a wonderful retirement! We will be honoring Anne at the 9:30 AM Mass on Sunday, June 22, 2025, at St. Pius Tenth Church.

There will also be a coffee hour immediately following Mass in the St. Pius Tenth Parish Center, generously sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 17086. All who are current or former students and families, colleagues, family, and friends are invited to attend to give her the sendoff that she so deserves.

Evacuation and Lock Down Drills

As mandated by New York State, all schools must complete a required number of evacuation and lockdown drills each school year.

In meeting this requirement, drills will be conducted on the following dates, before the end of the school year:

Lockdown Drills: Tuesday June 24

Evacuation Drills: Wednesday June 18 Friday June 20 Monday June 23

New Appointment

I am thrilled to announce that Mrs. Amanda Faruch, a familiar face to many of us, will be our new Music and Technology teacher beginning in the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Faruch comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience, having earned a B.F.A. degree in Musical Theater from the Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. She has elementary school teaching experience gained through the Brighton School District and currently cantors at St. Thomas More Church. Welcome, Mrs. Faruch!!

From Bishop Salvatore Matano

Please see the statement in today's communication from Bishop Matano regarding Physician-Assisted Suicide.

Save the Date!

The 2nd Annual Saint Pius Tenth School Gala will be held on Friday, November 7, 2025, at 6:00 PM. Please see the flyer included this week for more information.

All money raised stays within Saint Pius Tenth School to be used for operations and student programs and resources!

Intramurals



Please note that today, Wednesday, June 18, is the last day for 2024-2025 Intramurals.



Current earnings: \$1,176.00Leaderboard Standings Grade 2 – 117 Kindergarten – 44 Grade 1 – 20 Grade 3 – 7 Grade 5 – 0 Grade 4 – 0 There's still time to reach our goal!

Summer Office Hours



Beginning on Monday, July 7, 2025, the St. Pius Tenth School office will be open between the hours of 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Monday through Thursday. These summer hours will continue through August 22, 2025. If these hours are not convenient for you, and you need to come to the school, just give us a call, and we will be happy to arrange something with you.

The office will be closed the week of June 30, 2025, and will reopen at 8:00 AM on Monday, July 7. We will resume regular office hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM on Monday, August 25, 2025.

"Be Who God Meant You to Be and You Will Set the World on Fire!"

-St. Catherine of Siena





St. Pius X School Uniform Exchange

• Clothing for the exchange will be accepted <u>June 9-26</u> during regular school hours and <u>Monday, July 7 or Monday, July 14</u> from 8am-noon.

- Clothing brought in for the exchange must be:
 - \circ Freshly washed and folded.
 - $\circ~$ Free of rips, holes, stains, and significant fading.
 - Have the gender and size written on a piece of masking tape and placed on the items so that the information is visible when the item is folded.
- Please put items in a bag or bags and attach the bottom portion of this page.
- Come in July 21, 22, 24, 28, 29, 31* between 8am and noon to pick out clothes that are new to you for the 2025-26 school year! You will be able to pick one item for each item you brought in. We will also have some uniform pieces available for purchase.

*Not able to make these times? Other arrangements may be possible. Please contact gina.jennison@dor.org

Return this portion with your clean, folded, marked uniform pieces:

Family Name: ______

Number of clothing pieces: _____

Mark this box if you are donating and will not be participating in the exchange.





BONUS OFFERS

Offers are valid in a single transaction between 6/1/2025-6/30/2025



Buy 3, Earn 6 on Progresso products*



Buy 2, Earn 6 on Cheerios products*



Buy 3, Earn 5 on Betty Crocker products*



Buy 2, Earn 5 on Annie's products*



Buy 2, Earn 5 on Old El Paso products*

*Must submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Limit 5 claims per receipt.







EARN DOUBLE AT WALMART

That's not all! Participating products earn double at Walmart from 6/1 to 9/14. Stock up on your favorites and fast track your summer earnings!

Learn more at BTFE.com/Walmart



SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOX TOPS APP AT

BUY A SNACK, GET YOUR MONEY BACK

Starting in June, when you buy one participating product and one participating snack product in the same transaction, you'll qualify for a rebate! Here's how it works:

- 1. Buy one participating product and one participating snack product in the same transaction
- 2. Fill out a simple form
- 3. Get a rebate via Venmo or PayPal
- 4. That's it!

Learn more at BTFE.com/FreeSnacks

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS





OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

1150 Buffalo Road Rochester, New York 14624 (585) 328-3210

Statement Regarding Physician-Assisted Suicide The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester June 10, 2025

In support with the New York State Catholic Conference's "Statement on NYS Senate Passage of State-Sanctioned Suicide Bill"

It is with great sadness that we have learned that both the State Assembly and the New York State Senate have passed legislation approving Physician-Assisted Suicide. Once again, a majority of members of New York State's legislators have failed to recognize and to protect God's precious gift of life.

The precious life of the new-born child is the same precious life of the old and the frail, the weak and the suffering, the ill and the infirm, the distraught and the sorrowful. As we care for the child so must we care for all persons in the vast spectrum of human life. When we subjectively determine when life begins and ends, when it is viable or not, or when it is too burdensome to endure, we begin a path toward self-destruction. Life is no longer precious, but just another commodity in the business of living. Relativism becomes the absolute, and even the value of life itself is questioned.

The value of persons who are gravely ill and/or at the end of their lives is currently being questioned and their very lives threatened by this growing movement in our society to end life prematurely. Now both bodies of the New York State Legislature have approved the bill to legalize physician-assisted suicide for patients diagnosed with a terminal illness. This legislation asks those in the medical profession, a vocation dedicated to the service of life, to assist in the termination of the very lives they have pledged to heal and to comfort at life's most critical moments.

Dr. Michael Brescia, former Executive Medical Director of Calvary Hospital in the Bronx, a specialty hospital serving advanced cancer patients, was described as a "palliative care and hospice trailblazer." Dr. Brescia had noted that with groundbreaking advances in pain medicine, "the physical aspects of pain can be managed effectively for all patients. [W]e have found that with attention, affection and high quality care, we can prevent patients from saying they want to die" (<u>http://noassistedsuicideny.org/in-state-resources/</u> see Calvary Hospital, Bronx, New York). Indeed, we must not abandon our terminally ill sisters and brothers. Dr. Brescia died on April 19, 2023, at home surrounded by his family.

The rejection of physician-assisted suicide is not solely a Catholic position; rather it is a human rights imperative. The Catholic Church is the defender of life in concert with physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other healthcare professionals; in union with these same people, we seek to protect people with physical and mental disabilities, those in lifethreatening situations, and those who have no one to speak on their behalf, from being viewed as burdens to society when they are our sisters and brothers in the human family. What is needed is support for and the further exploration of healthcare measures that will effectively relieve suffering, so that the terminally ill might know and feel the love, concern, compassion and care of a society that protects them and cherishes them. This, in itself, eases the greatest pain, which attacks the heart when people feel no one cares!

The Catholic Church, united with persons of other faiths and people of good will, does care, especially for those who are the weakest among us! And our concern is not irrational. It is a very reasonable and noble concern, which appreciates the worth of the human person in his or her most difficult moments of life. In 2011, the United States Bishops stated: "Respect for life does not demand that we attempt to prolong life by using medical treatments that are ineffective or unduly burdensome. Nor does it mean we should deprive suffering patients of needed pain medications out of a misplaced or exaggerated fear that they might have the side effect of shortening life" ("To Live Each Day With Dignity: A Statement on Physician-Assisted Suicide," USCCB, July 2011, p. 10, http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/assisted-suicide/to-liveeach-day). The New York State Bishops, in their 2011 "Catholic Guide to End-of-Life Decision-Making, Now and at the Hour of Our Death," noted that "out of deep respect for the gift of life, we must always accept, and others must provide, ordinary medical means of preserving life. Ordinary means are those that offer us a reasonable hope of benefit and would not entail excessive burden on us, our family, or the community" (p. 3, http://www.nyscatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/End-of-Life-booklet-final.pdf). But intentional euthanasia, the willful and conscious act of putting to death those who are sick, are disabled, or are dying, is morally unacceptable and a tragic offense against life!

I strongly urge Governor Hochul to veto this legalization of physician-assisted suicide, for it will inevitably put tremendous pressure on our most vulnerable citizens to end their lives. As the New York State Task Force on Life and the Law cautioned many years ago (1994), in an era of health care rationing and cost-cutting, assisted suicide could easily rise to the level of the most acceptable, inexpensive, and even expected "treatment" for terminal illness. Indeed, the rapid push for passing this euthanasia legislation is evidence that this day has sadly arrived in our State. We owe our brothers and sisters in the human family so much more.

Far more than a political issue, this is a moral issue, which is beyond the competency of government, any government, assuming to create legislation inconsistent with the intent of the Creator, bound to His creation made in His image and likeness. I pray that reason will prevail and be guided by an even greater Wisdom. Shakespeare said it well many years ago: "There's a divinity that shapes our ends, rough hew them how we may" (*Hamlet, V*.ii). Indeed, there is One greater than ourselves and He said, "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full" (John 10:10).



13 Reasons Why State-Sanctioned Suicide AKA Medical Aid in Dying Act (A136/S138) Must Be Rejected

- 1. The American Medical Association strongly opposes: "Physician-assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer, would be difficult or impossible to control, and would pose serious societal risks."
- 2. This legislation promotes and normalizes suicide at the very same time the State spends millions of dollars to prevent suicides. No matter how hard the advocates try to avoid the word, this is by any definition a program to promote suicide, which virtually every public health authority calls a major public health problem.
- 3. The CDC says suicide was the second leading cause of death among adolescents (ages 12-17) across the U.S. in 2020, and 22 percent of high school students seriously considered attempting suicide in 2021.
- 4. Advocates say their bill is only for "mentally competent" people. But the law they want doesn't require a mental health evaluation, even though public health experts treat suicide as a mental health crisis. Doctors would NOT be required to find out if the patient has ever contemplated or attempted suicide before, or if they've ever been treated for depression, paranoia, dementia, anxiety, or any mental health condition.
- In Oregon, which New York advocates point to as the model, patients are rarely if ever – referred for psychiatric exams. Of the 1,167 suicide prescriptions written in 2023 and 2024, only six were referred. That's 0.5%, or one half of 1 percent. (Source: Oregon Health Department.)
- 6. Doctors prescribing the suicide drugs don't need to see a patient in person. Visits could be via Zoom.
- 7. The suicide doctor doesn't even have to be your regular physician and probably isn't. In Oregon last year, half of the suicide prescriptions were written by doctors who had been working with the patient for *five weeks or less*.
- 8. The national group "Death with Dignity" advises patients to "ask any doctor ... *even your dermatologist*" to write a suicide prescription. Last year in Oregon, one doctor alone wrote 84 prescriptions 14 percent of the total.
- 9. Across the country and in Canada, advocates have pushed for expansion of initial laws, chipping away at supposed "safeguards." Six of the 10 states where doctor-assisted suicide is legal have subsequently broadened it. States have opened the law up to non-residents, permitted non-doctors to write prescriptions and, in California, legislation was introduced to expand it to include dementia patients.

- 10. While the NY bill says this will only be for "terminally ill" patients, Canada said the same thing until their law was expanded to include people with "chronic" but not terminal illnesses (e.g., arthritis). In 2027, the Canada law is set to expand to include people suffering from dementia, depression, anxiety and other mental illnesses.
- 11. In 2022 alone, 2,264 Canadians used "aid in dying" to end their lives because of **loneliness**, and another 323 did so when they were **unable to access palliative care**, while 196 did it after they could not **obtain disability support**.
- 12. Advocates say the state can evaluate the program but that's impossible, as the legislation requires doctors to falsify death certificates by requiring a person's underlying illness to be listed as the cause of death and not the lethal dose of chemicals the doctor prescribed. Under any other circumstances, this would be a crime under the state's Penal Law. Because death certificates are falsified, no one could ever know how many people took their own lives under this program or even if the rules were followed.
- 13. If you asked New Yorkers to list the top 20 issues that they want lawmakers to address, this would not make the list. Outside of a small, well-funded, and very loud niche group, New Yorkers are not calling for this.



Stop Physician-Assisted Suicide in New York

New York is on the brink of legalizing physician-assisted suicide. Bill A136 has already passed the Senate and Assembly. The only thing standing in its way is Governor Hochul's veto – and she needs to hear from you.

This bill would allow doctors to prescribe lethal medication with the sole purpose of ending a patient's life. It puts the most vulnerable among us – the elderly, people with disabilities, and those facing emotional or financial despair – at even greater risk. **Suicide is not healthcare.**

We must speak out to protect the dignity of every human life. Assisted suicide is a dangerous and deadly path – one we must not go down.

Take Action!



Contact the Governor's office now to oppose this deadly practice! Visit **bit.ly/veto-pas** or use the QR code.

