

Catholic Schools Week January 26 – February 1, 2025

Greetings St. Pius X School Families!

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**:

Thursday, January 30	6:00 PM – 7:30 PM	Open House and Ice Cream Social - current and prospective families welcome
Friday, January 31		Report Cards scheduled to be distributed
Friday, January 31	9:30 AM	Catholic Schools Week Liturgy
Friday, January 31	3:30-4:30 PM	Talent Show Rehearsal for participating students
Mon-Fri, February 17-21		Presidents Day – Mid-Winter Recess – No School



Registration for the 2025-26 School Year

Registration is now open for the 2025-26 School Year for all families, both current and prospective. Please submit completed registration packets as soon as possible to ensure enrollment.



Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated from Sunday, January 26, through February 1, 2025. This year's theme is "United in Faith and Community."

We will have several special activities throughout the week, including our annual Open House and Ice Cream Social on Thursday, January 30, from 6:00 PM-7:30 PM. Our PAC will be hosting a scavenger hunt during the open house, and we will again welcome our friends from the Chili Public Library, who will have a table set up in the gym.

Our school-wide service project this year will be the return of our "Soup"er Bowl. We are asking that everyone bring in canned goods or other non-perishable food items that will be donated to a local food pantry. We will be tracking donations using a special display that will be hung in the hallway. Please send in donations any time between now and Friday, January 31.

Catholic Schools Week schedule and dress down themes:

Monday, January 27 – Mismatch Monday -dress down with crazy hair, socks, hats (please no shorts, face coverings, or boots)

Tuesday, January 28 – Tie Dye Tuesday

Wednesday, January 29 – Lunar New Year – NO SCHOOL

Thursday, January 30 – Dress for Success (dress in the professional attire that shows the profession that you aspire to)

Open House and Ice Cream Social from 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Friday, January 31 – NO Dress down School Liturgy at 9:30 AM



This week's communication includes information on the Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA), which is a proposal before the United States Congress that would allow for privately funded scholarships for children in grades Kindergarten through 12. Please see the flyer included.



Big Week! We are up to \$667.40 for the year. Fifth grade had a huge week! They are now at 1,121 box tops for the month of January. Kindergarten is in second place with 744! Both classes are well above what we usually earn as an entire school in one month! Keep scanning and shopping those bonuses!



St. Pius Tenth School Talent Show

Dates are set for the Talent Show and rehearsals. The required rehearsals are Friday, January 31 and Friday, February 28, both from 3:30 – 4:30 PM.

The Talent Show is scheduled for Thursday, March 20 at 6:00 PM.



St. Pius X Clothing and Accessories Show your School Spirit!

Please see the enclosed flyer for ordering your spirit wear.

Our new vendor has added a much larger selection of items to choose from. There is also an add-on to have additional text added (i.e., "Grandparent" or a name).

Please note that PE uniforms were updated and now include both joggers and sweatpants. Please note that all PE uniforms MUST be navy blue.

CASE (Creating a Safe Environment) for Volunteers

All volunteers coming into the school must complete the online Diocese of Rochester's Creating a Safe Environment (CASE) for Volunteers Training. This training must be completed before volunteering at any event where students are present. Information is provided below:

Diocese of Rochester Volunteer Requirements

Catholic school system or in its parishes and related ministries fulfill the following criteria:

- 1. Participate in or complete online a Creating a Safe Environment Training course (<u>https://www.dor.training/home.aspx?pagename=volunteer-training</u>).
- 2. Complete and sign a Diocese of Rochester Volunteer Code of Conduct Form.
- 3. Complete the Criminal Record Check process.
- 4. If driving children, complete the Volunteer Driver Information Form and have driving record checked. This must be completed every year.

This is <u>required</u> to work with children in any capacity in our school - room parent, assisting in classrooms, clubs, lunch volunteers, chaperone/drive on fieldtrips, athletic coach, and/or assistant at any social event where students are participating. All volunteers must participate in a renewal of training as determined by the Diocese of Rochester.

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

-St. Catherine of Siena

SAINT PIUS TENTH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL FOR CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES

A B A

Thursday, January 30, 2025 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

3000 Chili Avenue Rochester, New York 14624



~ Meet our teachers ~ Meet current students and parents ~ Visit Classrooms ~ Meet the Principal ~ Ask Questions ~ Learn More About our Faith-Based Program ~ Enjoy Some Ice Cream ~Scavenger Hunt for Children

> Holistic Education for children in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5 A community of Faith, Knowledge, and Service

Registration for the 2025 – 2026 School Year Opens January 13, 2025, for current families and January 20 for prospective families!



St. Pius X Clothing and Accessories Show your School Spirit!

Scan QR code to order online! www.orangedaisyproducts.com/saint-pius-x password: StPiusX



ShirtsDrinkware\$12\$15Black, Navy
or Grey\$15Black, Navy
or Grey\$13\$13\$13\$13\$13\$14\$13

Outterwear Looking to add a name under the logo? Add "Customization" to your cart!







\$35 Black, Navy or Grey



\$20 Black, Navy or Grey

Mens, Ladies or Youth





St. Pius X P.E. Approved Uniforms



Sweat Pants, Joggers & Gym Shorts \$20



Scan QR code to order online!

www.orangedaisyproducts.com/saint-pius-x password: StPiusX





Educational Choice for Children Act Proposed in the U.S. Congress

Generates privately funded scholarships for children in K-12 education

The *Educational Choice for Children Act* (ECCA), would generate private charitable donations to fund scholarships for use in K-12 education. As many as two million students across all 50 states would benefit. *The ECCA will be reintroduced in the House of Representatives and Senate with new bill numbers in early 2025.*

During the previous session of Congress, the House ECCA bill was passed by the Committee on Ways and Means in September 2024, which amended the original ECCA that had more than 150 House <u>co-sponsors</u> and more than 30 Senate <u>co-sponsors</u>. This is the most congressional support ever for a bill to enact parental choice in education, including from the Republican congressional leadership. President-elect Donald Trump also has <u>voiced</u> his support. Specific features of the ECCA include the following:

- <u>Tax provision</u>. A non-refundable 100 percent federal income tax credit would generate up to as much as \$10 billion in annual donations to not-for-profit scholarship granting organizations (SGOs), which would financially enable parents to pay tuition to enroll their children in the best, most suitable school available or pay expenses to access education services for their children, akin to a 529 plan. There is no role for the U.S. Department of Education and no new federal spending or government mandates on states, school districts, private schools (including faith-based), or families.
- <u>Eligible students</u>. Students in grades K through 12 from both low-income and middle-class households in every state are eligible for a scholarship for every school setting, including homeschool; i.e., children in households with incomes up to 300 percent of the median gross income level by region as <u>determined</u> by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.
- <u>Protects religious liberty and school autonomy</u>. Prohibits governmental control or encroachment over SGOs that receive tax-credited contributions, schools that enroll scholarship recipients, or parents who instruct their children at home. The ECCA use of private donations, not public funds, further protects against government infringement of religious liberty or operational autonomy, pursuant to U.S. Supreme Court <u>case law</u>.
- <u>Coalition Support</u>. There are more than 150 national and state-based organizations and influencers that have endorsed the ECCA, listed <u>here</u>.

For more information about the *Educational Choice for Children Act* and how your organization can help make this a reality, please contact Peter Murphy at <u>pmurphy@investineducation.org</u>.