



March 3, 2022

Dear St. Pius X Parent(s) and/or Guardian(s):

We began the Lenten Season with Ash Wednesday services. Our journey will be marked with prayer, fasting, and abstinence / sacrifice. I ask you to pray for our school community which has experienced much loss this year. Most recently, parents of two of our current students passed away. Please keep those students and all of our families in your prayers. Please also pray for our world at large which continues to be marked with strife and discord. If you are of age and able, practice fasting throughout Lent. Walk with Jesus spiritually just as he did in the wilderness for 40 days. Support your student(s) at home by joining them in abstaining and sacrificing this Lenten season. Many of them may give up candy, screen time, or other luxuries until Easter. What better way for you to support their journey than by finding ways to give up things as well. Note: Students may not give up homework or school during Lent.

As a community we offer our prayers daily for those suffering in Ukraine. In addition to our prayers, Father Prince highlighted two charities to which you may wish to consider directing a financial contribution:

Aid to the Church in Need - This charity was founded by a Catholic priest after the Second World War, with a focus on bringing direct aid to Christians living under Communist rule in Eastern Europe. Throughout the following decades, **Aid to the Church in Need** became a Papal Charity, and its works on behalf of Eastern European Christians have given it a presence in every area that is currently being impacted by the war. For more information about the work of **Aid to the Church in Need**, follow this link <https://www.churchinneed.org/>.

Catholic Relief Services - This is an international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Our parish has participated in the Rice Bowl collection each year. The Rice Bowl Collection goes to support Catholic Relief Services and their work all around the world. You can give directly to Catholic Relief Services now and their work to support those struggling in Ukraine by following this link: <https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine>.

To get our school involved in support of those suffering in Ukraine, we will have a \$2 Dress Down Day this Friday, March 4, 2022 to promote peace. We ask all participating students and staff to donate a minimum of \$2 to dress down. If you are able, you are welcome to donate more. We will direct our total donations evenly between the two organizations listed above.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Zafra
Principal