

August 21, 2020

Good Morning All,



It's a wet Friday! An obvious observation, so it's a good day for accomplishing tasks at work and home since most of us will be inside!

1. Today's Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/082120.cfm>

2. **The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus:** Saint Pius X, Pope (Term of office 1903-1914)

Any Catholic who received First Communion in second grade can thank Pope St. Pius X, who extended the practice to children, saying that "Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to heaven."

On August 29th and September 27th, our school and RE children will be making their First Holy Communion. Please ask St. Pius X to pray for these children as this special day of receiving Our Lord in the Eucharist for the first time approaches.

3. Quote of the Day: Pope Pius X was Pope right before the beginning of WWI so this quote was reflective of those times. Interestingly enough, if you read it carefully, this quote is valid for today also.

"Our Apostolic Mandate requires from Us that We watch over the purity of the Faith and the integrity of Catholic discipline. It requires from Us that We protect the faithful from evil and error; especially so when evil and error are presented in dynamic language which, concealing vague notions and ambiguous expressions with emotional and high-sounding words, is likely to set ablaze the hearts of men in pursuit of ideals which, whilst attractive, are nonetheless nefarious." -- Pope Pius X



Stay dry and have a great Friday!

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## Pope St. Pius X



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Joseph Sarto was born in 1835, one of eight children in a poor family; his father was a shoe cobbler. He was an excellent student, and felt an early call to the priesthood. After his ordinations, he was continually given new responsibilities because of the potential his superiors saw in him. In 1884 Joseph was named bishop of a region in Italy, and he became a cardinal ten years after that. He was elected pope in 1903 and took the name Pius X.

He was a rare pope in that he had extensive experience as a pastor of a parish before his election to the papacy in 1903. He had great concern for the everyday lives of the faithful and had a desire to “renew all things in Christ.” He was known for his simple and clear, direct homilies, and he encouraged all the faithful to read the Bible, which re-energized biblical studies.

Among his lasting contributions to the lives of Catholics: he encouraged frequent reception of Communion; began the renewal of the liturgy, which would flower in the Second Vatican Council; and gathered canon law into one code for the first

time. His decree on the age for first Communion allowed children aged 7 and older to receive the Eucharist; the practice had been reserved for children at least 12 to 14 years old.

He was known as a holy man and encouraged personal piety through prayerful devotion and living with humility and simplicity. He had a soft spot in his heart for children—even as pope, he would carry candy in his pockets and walk the streets of Rome to encounter and teach children there.

His will contained one sentence: “I was born poor, I have lived poor, I wish to die poor.” The reliquary chapel in the Basilica contains nearly a dozen of his relics, and the museum in the Basilica holds one of his white, papal zucchetos (the small cap worn by bishops).

Pope St. Pius X, you renewed the Church and profoundly changed Catholic life-- pray for us!

Source: *faith.nd.edu*

**Pope St. Pius X's prayer to St. Joseph**

Glorious St. Joseph, model of all who are devoted to labor, obtain for me the grace to work in the spirit of penance in expiation of my many sins; to work conscientiously by placing love of duty above my inclinations; to gratefully and joyously deem it an honor to employ and to develop by labor the gifts I have received from God, to work methodically, peacefully, and in moderation and patience, without ever shrinking from it through weariness or difficulty to work; above all, with purity of intention and unselfishness, having unceasingly before my eyes death and the account I have to render of time lost, talents unused, good not done, and vain complacency in success, so baneful to the work of God. All for Jesus, all for Mary, all to imitate thee, O patriarch St. Joseph! This shall be my motto for life and eternity.