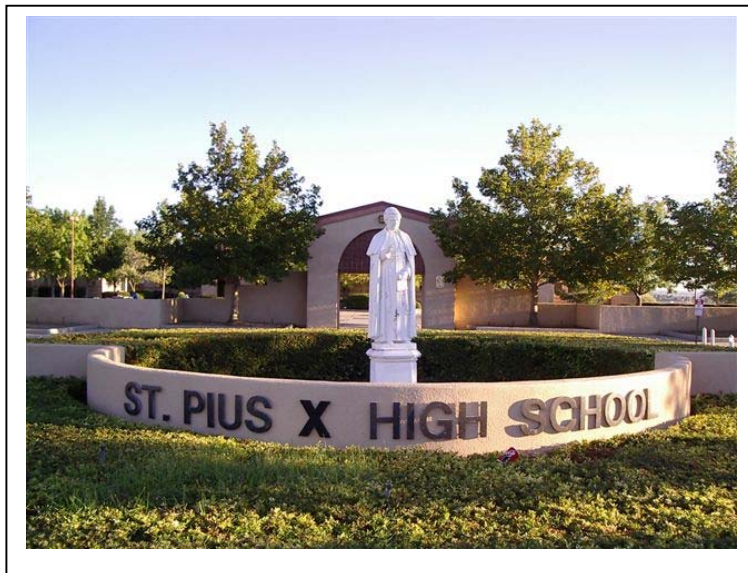


# Los Pequeños Pepper

*Publication of Los Pequeños de Cristo*

## Pius X High School Special

Volume I



**Warning! Some of the material in this issue is of a highly graphic and sexual nature.**

*...but this is what the children are reading and watching.*

*No type is more dangerous than this, and to be persuaded of it, it is sufficient to consider the obstinacy with which so-called "Liberal-Catholics" cling to their false doctrine, trying to lure the Church herself into their way of thinking. Priests must watch against that hypocrisy which attempts to enter into the fold of Christ preaching Charity and Prudence, as though it were Charity to let the wolf tear the sheep to pieces, or Virtue to practice that prudence of the flesh which is reproved by God...Priests must watch, for the faith is threatened, less by open denial than by subtlety and falsehood of those perfidious Liberal-Catholics, who, stopping scarcely on the brink of condemned error, find their strength in the appearance of pure doctrine.*

*Let priests take care not to accept from the Liberal any ideas which, under the mask of good, pretend to reconcile Justice with Iniquity. Liberal Catholics are wolves in sheep's' clothing. The priest must unveil to the people their perfidious plot, their iniquitous design. You will be called Papist, clerical, retrograde, intolerant, but pay no heed to the derision and mockery of the wicked. Have courage; you must never yield, nor is there any need to yield. You must go into the attack whole-heartedly, not in secret but in public, not behind barred doors but in the open, in the view of all.*

*Bishop Guiseppe Sarto, who would become Pope St. Pius X,  
in a letter to his priests*



**Cover: St. Pius X High School,  
Archdiocese of Santa Fe**

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*Newsletter of Los Pequeños de Cristo*

*Special Issue*

2003

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Newsletter of Los Pequeños de Cristo  
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*The Pequeños Pepper* is published monthly.

*We are an Archdiocesan-wide Catholic lay organization committed to a charitable defense of the Catholic Faith by means of education, communication, and prayer. We are devoted to the Roman Catholic Magisterium, the Holy Father, and to the bishops and clergy in union with him. Our members believe what the Church believes and we promote what the Church teaches. To this end, we believe that no individual, whether cleric or lay person, has the right to alter the substance of the gospel message or moral truths which have been inerrantly and infallibly held by the Catholic Church since Her founding.*

# Introduction from the Editor

By Stephanie Block

When the McDermott lawsuit against St. Pius X High School, which is under the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, hit the press, a local talk show opened the phones one afternoon to passionate callers on all sides of the issue.

One complained angrily: “I know that man [referring to Terry McDermott]. He’s a right-winger who wants to make Pius a Catholic school!”

Sizzle!

In that one, acerbic jab the caller hit on the heart of the matter: either Pius is a Catholic school or it isn’t. If it is, being “Catholic” is either objective or it isn’t. Parents are either right or wrong to hold Pius accountable to objective Catholic teaching and values.

Which is it?

## PIUS IS A CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Pius advertises itself as a Catholic school. The Archdiocese recognizes it as such in its Archdiocesan Directory, in monthly *People of God* articles, and with financial support. The caller’s implication that it isn’t, and doesn’t intend to be, was simply deluded.

What does it mean to be “a Catholic school?” The answer to this question is not a matter of conjuncture on the part of individuals – whether right-wing, left-wing, or wing-ding – but has been defined by Canon law. “A school is considered to be Catholic which ecclesiastical authority or a public ecclesiastical juridic person supervises or which ecclesiastical authority recognizes as such by means of a written document. It is necessary that the formation and education given in a Catholic school be based upon the principals of Catholic doctrine; teachers are to be outstanding for their correct doctrine and integrity of life.” (Canon #803) In plain words, Pius exists by virtue of Archbishop Sheehan’s permission (and, reading further among the canons, is answerable to him, who has the “right of vigilance over the schools in his territory,” canon #806) and it must by Church law, in order to be a Catholic school, teach Catholic doctrine.

Who decides what is “Catholic doctrine?”

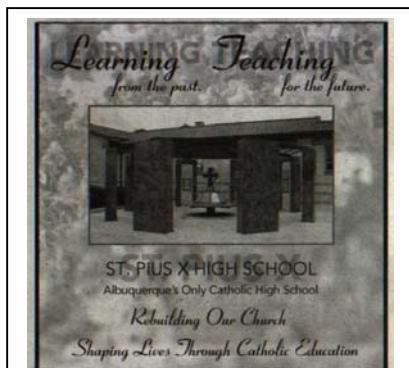
Once again, the Church defines this: “All that is contained in the written word of God or in tradition, that is, in the one deposit of faith entrusted to the Church and also proposed as divinely revealed either by the solemn magisterium of the Church or by its ordinary and universal magisterium, must be believed with divine and Catholic faith.” (Canon #750) The official Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Bible, and the various encyclicals of the popes would be sure sources of sound doctrine.

A *Catholic* school, therefore, is grounded on these sources. Conversely, a school calling itself “Catholic” and indulging in broad-based (throughout many of its classes) challenges against Church teachings violates its students.

## THE PARENTS FOR A ROMAN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Over the last several years, parents have collected a large amount of material about the formation and education of students at St. Pius X High School. It is of such volume that only a fraction can be covered in these pages, but what is presented here is sufficient, we believe, to demonstrate their concern that too many teachers at Pius are not committed to teaching and inculcating the principles of Catholic doctrine.

Archbishop Michael Sheehan has been presented with these materials over the years, but the situation has not changed. Therefore, Los Pequeños de Cristo has prepared this special issue of *The Pepper* – which will be sent to all Archdiocesan priests – with the intention of bringing parent concerns before the larger Catholic community and the hope that the high school, under the Archbishop’s guidance, will do some soul-searching. ✚



**Advertisement from the Archdiocese of Santa Fe's People of God Sesquicentennial Issue. It reads: "St. Pius X High School, Albuquerque's Only Catholic High School, Rebuilding Our Church, Shaping Lives through Catholic Education"**