

THE PLACE WHERE YOU STAND IS HOLY GROUND

March 24, 2019 • Third Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about a man who had planted a fig tree in his orchard. The fig tree was not bearing fruit, and the owner was ready to give up. The gardener is more patient. He will cultivate the soil around it and fertilize it. Then, if it still fails to bear fruit, it can be cut down. The parable tells of God's patient mercy. Like the gardener, the Lord wants us to be rooted in God's merciful love and live fruitful lives, responsive to the grace and goodness in which we stand. Like the fig tree, however, we sometimes fail to bear good fruit, remaining dormant, living for ourselves, grumbling when we face challenges rather than relying on the fertilizer of the sacraments, especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Moses was never the same after his encounter with God on Mount Horeb. We are called to be open to an encounter with God's love every day. Lent is a season when we more consciously turn away from sin and toward God, opening ourselves to conversion, change of mind and heart, in order to be touched and changed by the Lord's

patient mercy. Doing so, we can be sure we will never be the same again.

CULTIVATING HOLY GROUND

There are three traditional Lenten practices that help us to cultivate the ground of our lives in order to grow in holiness and bear good fruit: prayer, which deepens our relationship with God and strengthens our desire to live as followers of Jesus; fasting, through which we heighten our hunger for God and become more attentive to the hunger and needs of others; almsgiving: sacrificing time, money, or resources in order to share God's merciful love with the poor and vulnerable. As we continue to journey through Lent, cultivate the holy ground of your life through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, so that you may live fruitfully and well.

Today's Readings: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11;
1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

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ST. ISIDORE CHURCH Laingsburg, Michigan

Pastoral Administrator: Rev. Robert C. Bacik
Rectory: 651-6617 – E-Mail: frbob@stisidorechurch.org
Parish Secretary: Sharon Gillespie
Office: 651-6722 – E-Mail: parishhq1@juno.com
Office Hours: Wed. & Fri. 8:00 – 3:00
R.C.I.A. Dir.: Nancy Kienitz – nk1001927@gmail.com
Religious Ed. Formation (REF) – Mary Stevens-
marystevens@stisidorechurch.org
Outreach Ministry: Jesse Anguiano – 517-881-2227
Web Address: <http://stisidorechurch.org>
Saturday Mass: 5:30 pm - **Sunday Mass:** 9:00 am
Confession: Saturdays 4:00 to 4:30 pm


HOLY FAMILY CHURCH Ovid, Michigan

Sr. Priest in Residence: Rev. Raymond J. Urbanek
Phone: 989-834-5855
Parish Secretary: Sharon Gillespie
Office: 989-834-5855
E-Mail: holyfamilyovid@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tues. 8:00 – 3:00
Religious Ed. Formation (REF) Ginger Kusnier
R.C.I.A. Dir.: Vivian Durling
Web Address: <http://stisidorechurch.org/hf/>
Saturday Mass: 4:00 pm - **Sunday Mass:** 11:00 am
Confession: Saturdays 4:00 to 4:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday—March 23	5:30 PM	† Bob Butterworth by Jerry & Barb Gialanella
Sunday— March 24	9:00 AM	† Ann McDougall by Robert & Mary Shaw
Monday	NO MASS	
Tuesday	NO MASS	
Wednesday	6:30 PM	† Don Smith by the Knights of Columbus
Thursday	8:30 AM	† Souls in Purgatory
Friday	8:30 AM	† Sheila Doyle by the Family
Saturday—March 30	5:30 PM	† Ken Cetnar by Jerry & Barb Gialanella
Sunday— March 31	9:00 AM	† Harold Hurst 10th Anniversary by Janice Hurst Family

PRAYERS: PLEASE PRAY FOR MELVIN PAMMENT, - KEVIN PLATTE, OLIVER WASHINGTON, - LINDSEY KING (GRANDDAUGHTER OF GEORGENE KING), - GERRY PACE, - PAT SIMPSON, - RAY DOYLE, - BEN SINIARSKI, - KYLE WALLER, - TYLER KING (GRANDSON OF GEORGENE KING) - JUDITH MARTELL (MOTHER OF TERESA PICKENS), - TERRY MILLER, - JIM (MAYO) HURST, - CHARLES OLENICZAK (BROTHER OF BARB WRIGHT), - PAT ROWLEY (SISTER OF JIM ROWLEY), - BRUCE CHANDLER (BROTHER OF MARTI ROWLEY), - JIM OLENICZAK (BROTHER OF BARB WRIGHT), - NICHOLAS SCOTT (SON OF VERONICA SCOTT), - ROSE MORRILL, - JULIE STONER (DAUGHTER OF GENE & BARB STONER), - JOHN MARTINEZ, - FRANK LUNDIE, - JANET ARTHUR, - KIM (KOONTER) BALCARCEL, - PAM DELONG, - SUSAN DELONG, - MARY CHADWICK, - LEAH ZAMARIPA, (COUSIN OF JESSE ANGUIANO), THERESA HEEG (DAUGHTER OF JOHN & SANDY VANGEERTRUY), - BETH MUSELLA (COUSIN OF ANITA LEATHERS), - ALBERTO ZAMARRIPA (RELATIVE OF JESSE ANGUIANO).—PATRICK MCMONAGLE (SON OF BOB & TERRY), - LANA MIERSEN, - MARY STEIN, AGGIE CASSADY



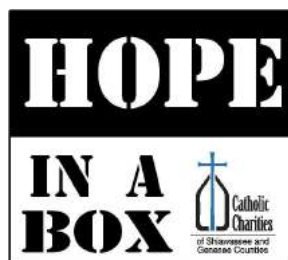
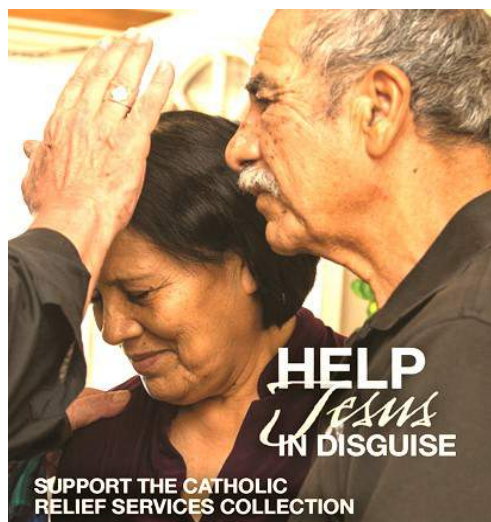
STATIONS OF THE CROSS
 Fridays of Lent—7:00 PM (April 12—Outdoor Stations at Mt. Olivet Cemetery)

HOLY FAMILY—STATIONS OF THE CROSS
 March 8, March 22, & April 5 – 7:00 PM

Catholic Relief Services Collection Next Weekend - March 30 & 31

This collection gives aid to victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Envelopes are in your boxed offertory set or near the bulletins.

OFFERTORY	
March 16 & 17, 2019	
79 Adult Envelopes	\$3,497
Loose Collection	\$511
Children's Offertory	\$17
Total Weekly Offertory	\$4,025



Need for the month of March:

Dish Soap



PARISH WIDE

March 24 & 31—**NO** Cooking Club
March 29—Stations of the Cross 7—Fridays of Lent

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

Sundays—10:15 AM—11:15 AM

March 24 & 31—**NO** REF—Spring Break
April 7—REF Sessions Resume

Donations Needed for
Mittens for the Homeless



Polar Fleece
Sweaters
Thread



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

In the midst of yet another Polar Vortex...Is it too early to dream of SUMMER?

I THINK NOT! With that in mind I am asking you to prayerfully consider helping with Vacation Bible School (VBS). We are in need of Money, Time and Talent. After Easter, please be on the lookout for support cards on the bulletin board on the north wall of the large hall. Thank you in advance for your generous support. -Mary Stevens



Remember to turn in your DSA contributions.

2019



Drop them into the offertory collection baskets

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

March 27—Planning Meeting—7:00 PM

Knight of the Month: Fred Bruso
Family of the Month: Jack & Julie Risch

OLD PALMS

Bring back your old palms and place them in the box in the back of church. The palms will be used for ashes distributed on Ash Wednesday.



HOLY FAMILY FISH FRY DATES

March 29
April 12
4:30 - 7:00 PM



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

Don't miss the opportunity to bring FORMED.org home for Lent!

Get the best Catholic movies, e-books, and study programs available, all on your laptop, tablet, or phone.

Use parish code **NH8RB3** (case sensitive) as you register for this free resource.



DSA COLLECTION

Whoever Sows Bountifully will also Reap Bountifully

DSA continues.... Informational brochures and donation envelopes are available near the bulletins.

This years goal for St. Isidore is \$17,182

Notes from Fr. Bob Bacik

DSA UPDATE: Last weekend I invited all of you to join me in making a contribution to the annual Diocesan Service Appeal. I ask you to return your pledge cards to the regular offertory once you have discerned your gift. The DSA directly supports the numerous ministries and activities that are carried out on the Diocesan level (i.e. Seminarian education and formation, Catholic Charities, St. Francis Retreat Center, etc.). Together we can reach our combined goal of \$27,587 (St. Isidore- \$17,182 and Holy Family- \$10,405. More information and online credit card/ EFT pledge form is available at www.dioceseoflansing.org/DSA. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Joseph Pilgrimage: I will be chaplain to the annual "St. Joseph Pilgrimage" to the shrines of eastern Canada in Quebec. Highlights include St. Joseph Oratory of Mount Royal, Basilica of Our Lady of the Cape, the Basilica of St. Anne de Beaupre and the city of Quebec. Join us this Summer, August 5-9: \$600 per person, double occupancy includes 5 days and 4 nights. For more information or reservations please call Kaye (810-262-1130). Passport or enhanced license is mandatory for land travel.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: Many extra ministers are needed for the upcoming Palm Sunday and Triduum Liturgies. Please sign up in the Sacristy. Note that ministers from Holy Family will be encouraged to sign up as well.

WHY SO LATE? You will notice that this year's Easter Vigil Mass will be at a much later date than some are used to. This "greatest and most noble of all solemnities" begins with the blessing of the Easter fire and Paschal Candle. The vigil is to take place between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter Sunday. Sunset in Laingsburg on Saturday, April 20 is 8:25 PM so our Easter Vigil will begin at 8:30 pm.

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM 2019: The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum— from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil. The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are: Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday of the Lord's Passion and Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord. All events will take place at St. Isidore, Laingsburg unless noted otherwise.

Continued blessings on your Lenten journey!
- Fr. Bob frbob@stisidorechurch.org
517-651-6722 (Office)
517-651-6617 (Rectory)

Holy Thursday, April 18

6:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
8:15 - 11pm Adoration (Chapel)

Good Friday, April 19

1:30 pm - Liturgy of the Lords Passion
3:00 pm - Divine Mercy Chaplet
7:00 pm - Interdenominational Service (LUMC)

Holy Saturday, April 20

12:00 pm - Blessing of Food (Isidore)
1:00 pm - Blessing of Food (Holy Family)
8:30 pm - Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday, April 21

9:00 am - Mass
11:00 am - Mass (Holy Family)