



*Fill us at daybreak  
with your kindness*

**September 8, 2019 • Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Although God gives us remarkable gifts and talents, our influence on others is incomplete, transitory. Our limitations frustrate us, particularly when we can do nothing to change a painful or harmful situation in our lives or the lives of our loved ones. Few experiences are as bitter as the helplessness we feel in the face of misery. Mysteriously, this same helplessness is a gift. For many of us, we must become helpless before we truly understand where our help lies: in our loving God. We face innocent suffering, humiliation, disaster, and death, remembering that Jesus chose these tragedies for himself. Jesus suffers with us. Jesus invites—but never forces—us to ask him to enter our broken hearts and messy lives. We are neither capable of nor responsible for saving the world, but Jesus can redeem everything we offer him.

## LET FREEDOM RING

We may balk at our helplessness, but remarkably, Jesus placed limitations even on himself. As people filed past Jesus hanging on his cross, they mocked him: "You who would

destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, if you are the Son of God, [and] come down from the cross!" (Matthew 27:40). Jesus could have glorified himself and forced his ridiculers to accept him as the Messiah, but God does not compel our belief or our love. Saint Paul echoes this as he writes to Philemon, "I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that the good you do might not be forced but voluntary." In Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamozov*, a character actually yells at Jesus for respecting our freedom. He claims human beings would be better off if Jesus used his power to control us, compelling us to believe in God and to care for each other. But God prefers to respect our freedom. In today's Gospel, Jesus invites us to renounce what we have and rely totally on him. It's our choice.

Today's Readings: Wis 9:13–18b; Ps 90:3–4, 5–6, 12–13, 14, 17; Phlm 9–10, 12–17; Lk 14:25–33

Copyright © 2019, J. S. Paluch Company, Inc., 3708 River Road, Suite 400, Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158 1 800 621-5197. With Ecclesiastical Approval.

### **ST. ISIDORE CHURCH Laingsburg, Michigan**

**Pastor:** Rev. Robert C. Bacik

**Rectory:** 651-6617 – E-Mail: [frbob@stisidorechurch.org](mailto:frbob@stisidorechurch.org)

**Parish Secretary:** Sharon Gillespie

**Office:** 651-6722 – E-Mail: [office@stisidorechurch.org](mailto:office@stisidorechurch.org)

**Office Hours:** Wed. & Fri. 8:00 – 3:00

**R.C.I.A. Dir.:** Nancy Kienitz – [nk1001927@gmail.com](mailto:nk1001927@gmail.com)

**Religious Ed. Formation (REF)** – Mary Stevens-  
[marystevens@stisidorechurch.org](mailto: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:** Wednesday 5:15 to 6:15 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](mailto: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 3:00 to 3:30 pm

# Notes from Fr. Bob Bacik

Dear Friends:

**Michigan Values Life:** A statewide signature gathering effort is now underway to ban the dismemberment abortion procedure, also known as Dilation and Evacuation. Over the next few months, the signatures of 400,000 registered voters in the state are needed to bring this measure before Michigan lawmakers. There will be an opportunity to sign the dismemberment abortion petition on the week-end of September 28 and 29. Until that time, I invite you to inform your consciences on this very important pro-life issue. More information can be found in the Small Hall Library or at [www.micatholic.org](http://www.micatholic.org).

**K of C Sale:** It has been great to see so many of you work together to put on this weekend's rummage sale. I have been informed that the sale will be open briefly after both the 5pm and 9am Mass. All proceeds help support the great work of the Laingsburg Knights of Columbus.

**HOLY LAND 2020:** Many of you have expressed your interest in the October 19-28 2020 pilgrimage to Israel. Please plan on attending an informational meeting on **Wednesday, October 9** at 7pm with the travel company. We will see where Jesus was born in Bethlehem, grew up in Nazareth and was crucified at Golgotha. Our pilgrimage will include this and much, much more.

**WOMAN'S CONFERENCE:** This year's Diocese of Lansing Woman's Conference will take place on October 12, 2019 at the Lansing Center. More information and registration can be found at [www.lansingdiocesecwc.org](http://www.lansingdiocesecwc.org).

**Transition Committee:** As you may recall, I announced several months ago that I would be appointing a "transition committee" to lead us through the final processes of merging St. Isidore and Holy Family. I apologize that I have not been timely at following through with this initiative. The work of the committee will begin on the evening of September 18 at St. Isidore. If you were interested on serving on this committee and did not receive notice from me please call the parish office or contact myself this week.

**COMING THIS FALL:** Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Perhaps you or some members of your family have not been fully initiated into the Catholic faith through the sacraments -- maybe you are not affiliated with any church but are seeking answers about God and the Catholic faith— maybe you

are a practicing Catholic who wants to know more about your faith — if so, RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process of welcoming adult inquirers into the Catholic faith. The first step— called the **Inquiry Sessions— will begin SEPTEMBER 29 at St. Isidore.** During this process no commitments are made— this strictly is an "inquiry" period where questions are asked and answers provided by trained catechists. If you, or anyone know, are interested in this program, please speak to Fr. Bob or contact Nancy at 517-651-5957.

Have a blessed Labor Day weekend!

Fr. Bob Bacik

DIOCESE OF LANSING  
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE  
*Hope Restores*  
Oct. 12th—Lansing Center— 9AM –5PM

More information and brochures are on the bulletin boards. Registration forms on the bulletin boards or visit:

[www.lansingdiocesecwc.org](http://www.lansingdiocesecwc.org).



### PARISH WIDE

Sept. 12—REF Orientation Meeting—6:00 PM  
Sept. 22—REF Classes Start—10:15—11:15 AM

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

Sundays—10:15 AM—11:15 AM

REF Orientation Meeting—Sept. 12  
**First Day of Classes: Sept. 22**

### **MITTENS FOR THE HOMELESS**

Monday, Sept. 23

Large Hall—9 am to 2 pm

All ladies are welcome to join us. No sewing skills needed. We would welcome all the help we can get.

#### **Donations needed:**

Sweaters and Polar Fleece

Please leave donations near office door.

### **REF INFORMATION**

Parents-it's September and we will be starting REF soon. The first day of classes is September 22. You can get the schedule and registration form in the wooden rack by the office door in the large hall or after Sunday Mass beginning Sept. 8. **Please plan to attend the orientation meeting on 9/12/19 from 6:00-7:30 (dinner provided) for an important program required by the diocese.**

Sign up for **REMINd** to receive all notifications for REF. Go to

<https://www.remind.com/join/stisidorer>

Sign up to receive notices via text or email.



### **Annual Women's Retreat Weekend: September 13-15, 2019 St. Francis Retreat Center – DeWitt**

Our Annual Retreat has been changed from January to September. Hoping to have better roads.

**Theme:** River of Life - Flowing From Our Baptism

Join us and explore the calling of our Christian tradition! Suggested donation for the weekend is \$185 and includes all lodging, meals, and materials. The retreat begins with check in at 6:00 pm on Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday. Women of all ages are welcome! Register with St. Francis at 517-669-8321; registration is also available online at [www.stfrancis.ws](http://www.stfrancis.ws). Any questions, call Nancy Kienitz at 517- 651-5957.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Sept. 11—Business Meeting—7:00 pm  
Sept. 22—Pancake Breakfast

**Knight of the Month:** Doug Morrill

**Family of the Month:** Don & Pat Brown

**Family of the Year:** Bob & Terry McMonagle

### **Dynamic Catholic event at St. Martha in Okemos Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 9 am -1 pm**

Tickets will be 25% off at [dynamiccatholic.com](http://dynamiccatholic.com) starting Sept. 12 through Sept.16. After these dates the price increases. Don't miss your opportunity to take advantage of this limited time offer! For more information on the event visit [dynamiccatholic.com](http://dynamiccatholic.com)

# FIND YOUR GREATNESS

## MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

SATURDAY — September 7	5:30 PM	† Carolyn Mahoney by Jack & Julie Risch
SUNDAY — September 8	9:00 AM	† Don Smith by Keith & Nancy Kienitz
Monday	NO MASS	
Tuesday	NO MASS	
Wednesday	6:30 PM	† Don Smith by Tim & Stacy Voisinet Family
Thursday	8:30 AM	Reparations for Sins & Healing of Abuse Victims
Friday	8:30 AM	† Sheila Doyle by the Family
SATURDAY — September 14	5:30 PM	† Jim Rowley by Doug & Rose Morrill
SUNDAY — September 15	9:00 AM	† Anna Hurst by Janice Hurst

**PRAYERS: PLEASE PRAY FOR** MELVIN PAMMENT, - KEVIN PLATTE, OLIVER WASHINGTON, - GERRY PACE, - PAT SIMPSON, - RAY DOYLE, - KYLE WALLER, - JUDITH MARTELL (MOTHER OF TERESA PICKENS), - JIM (MAYO) HURST, - CHARLES OLENICZAK (BROTHER OF BARB WRIGHT), - BRUCE CHANDLER (BROTHER OF MARTI ROWLEY), - JIM OLENICZAK (BROTHER OF BARB WRIGHT), - ROSE MORRILL, - JULIE STONER (DAUGHTER OF GENE & BARB STONER), - FRANK LUNDIE, - JOHN MARTINEZ, (FRIEND OF JESSE ANGUIANO) - JANET ARTHUR, - PAM DELONG, - SUSAN DELONG, - THERESA HEEG (DAUGHTER OF JOHN & SANDY VANGEERTRUY) - LANA MIERSEN, - MARY STEIN, AGGIE CASSADY, - SHIRLEY GREENE, - MARY MAPES (MOTHER OF MIKE MAPES), - BILL DUSO, - TERESA KECK, (SISTER OF PHYLLIS HART & HELEN STELZER), - JOSEPHINE ANDERSON, - SHANNON HURST, - DENNY LEE, - DAVID OLENICZAK, - JEANNE OLENICZAK, - VERN WRIGHT, — NANCY BYRNES, - STEVE IZDEBSKI, - DON ELLIOTT, - TONI DOYLE, - KEITH HURST

### OFFERTORY

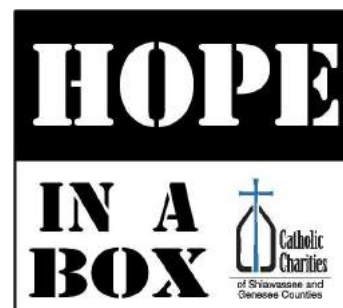
Aug 31 & Sept 1, 2019

70 Adult Envelopes	\$2,797
Loose Collection	\$223
Children's Offertory	\$13
<b>Total Weekly Offertory</b>	<b>\$3,033</b>



Need for the month of  
September

Hand & Bar Soap



### QUILT WINNERS - OUTDOOR MASS

The Quilting Ministry held their raffle after the outdoor Mass. Four quilts were raffled off. Due to your generosity, we will be donating \$827 to the Elsie Food Bank. Following is the list of quilt winners:

**Grand Prize:** - Sylvia McKay;  
**Reversible Game/Map Quilt:** - Elena Mulder;  
**Animal Quilt:** - Oliver Washington;  
**Retro Fabric Quilt:** - Ike Hunt.

### SENIOR DAY OF APPRECIATION

**Thursday, Sept. 26**

**At St. Mary's Church, Durand**

**11:00 AM Mass with Bishop Earl Boyea**

**Free luncheon following Mass**

**Please RSVP to the parish office by**

**Friday, Sept. 20**