



Today you  
will be with  
me in paradise

November 24, 2019 • Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Ancient Israel understood God to be the only “King” that they needed. As time went on, human envy and insecurity crept in, and they wanted a king like their neighbors, an earthly king who would lead them to greatness. God’s people came to depend upon and find their strength in frail humanity rather than their faithful Creator. When that failed, they hoped for a human Messiah King to give them back that fragile sense of security. We can understand, perhaps, their confusion upon encountering the powerfully gentle and gloriously humble Jesus.

## THE KING OF HEARTS

Are you aware that today’s joyous feast is not even one hundred years old? In his 1925 encyclical *Quam Primas*, Pius XI established the feast of Christ the King. Remember what the world was like in those days—the rise of nationalism and secularism in Europe and un-Godly false prophets, leading inexorably to the Passion of the Holocaust and wide-ranging martyrdoms. No wonder the pope was anxious to show the

world a true King! Saint Luke today goes straight to the heart of kingship, of a king’s devotion to his beloved people. In this topsy-turvy kingdom, we see not a king decked in power and glory, but the crucified “King of the Jews” who robes himself in the suffering of a sad and lonely world. His forgiveness and heart-breaking love throughout his passion is a hard act for humans to follow, and yet Jesus gives us his life and death as a model. And then he tells us that, along with the “good criminal,” we will be with him “in Paradise.” What more could we ever ask?

It is fitting that Pius’ encyclical ties this royal feast to the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This King who gave his heart to humanity in the sacrificial love feast of Good Friday gives his heart every day to a broken world still trying to figure out who he is.

Today’s Readings: 2 Sam 5:1–3; Ps 122:1–2, 3–4, 4–5; Col 1:12–20; Lk 23:35–43

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### 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

**Transition Committee Update:** At its last meeting, the St. Isidore and Holy Family Transition Committee voted unanimously to formally petition Bishop Boyea to merge our two parishes into one entity.

**Transition Review:** It is understandable that many of you thought we completed the merger in 2012. While some of the initial work toward this merger had been carried out, there were some final steps necessary. I appointed a temporary Transition Committee to undertake this work since neither parish had an active Parish Council. Upon accepting the Transition Committee's petition, Bishop Boyea will issue a decree that officially merges St. Isidore and Holy Family into one entity. At that time a Parish Council and Finance Council will be appointed from the nominations you have supplied. The work and support of these councils will help us build upon our many strengths and identify areas that need attention.

**St. Isidore - Holy Family:** Much like a hyphenated last name, the Transition Committee is recommending to the Bishop that our new parish be referred to as St. Isidore - Holy Family. The names for the individual church buildings will not change. It is important to note that St. Isidore will become the main location of the parish, and canonically Holy Family will become an oratory (or chapel). All sacramental records will eventually move to St. Isidore.

**This is GOOD NEWS:** I realize that mergers are difficult and they involve sacrifices and a sense of loss on both sides, but I encourage all of us to look at this as good news. Through this process, we are aligning our many strengths and gifts to respond to the many ways God is calling us to worship, serve and love as a Catholic parish in Laingsburg, Ovid, Elsie and beyond. **Our best days are ahead of us!** There is much work to be done and I pray that you will be willing to share your gifts on this exciting adventure. Much more to come.

**New Bulletin:** I am excited to announce that we will be introducing a new combined bulletin format in the new year. A local Catholic publishing company will provide us with a four-page color bulletin free of charge. This service will be offset by local business advertisements in the bulletin. You've likely seen this style in other Catholic parishes.

**Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service:** Please consider joining Pastor Brian West (Laingsburg United Methodist Church), Pastor Tom Rundle (First Congregational Church), and myself for the annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service **THIS SUNDAY, November 24 at 7 pm.** This service will take place at the United Methodist Church and include a combination choir, and a brief reflection on Thankfulness from each pastor. A free-will offering will help support our Laingsburg community fund. Light refreshments to follow.

**Thanksgiving Day Mass:** Consider joining us for Mass on Thanksgiving day. Our service will begin at **9 am** (as opposed to the regular 8:30 am), to give you an extra half hour to put the turkey into the oven!

**Kanye:** Did you catch the news last month about Kanye West's latest album? This widely famous American rapper surprised many by entitling his 9th album, *Jesus is King*. It is a beautiful album with powerful lyrics that blends the best of hip hop with classic Gospel. Let's keep Kanye in our prayers-- his new direction will undoubtedly come with public scrutiny and spiritual attack.

On this conclusion of the Church Year and on the Feast of Christ the King, I leave you with the chorus from Kanye's track, "Use this Gospel:"

Use this Gospel for protection  
It's a hard road to Heaven  
We call on Your blessings  
In the Father, we put our faith  
King of the kingdom  
Our demons are tremblin'  
Holy angels defendin'  
In the Father, we put our faith

Have a blessed Thanksgiving with family & friends!

Fr. Bob



### PARISH WIDE

Nov. 24—Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service—7pm  
At Methodists Church

Dec. 12—Christmas Potluck & Mass— 11:30 am

### **MITTENS FOR THE HOMELESS**

Monday, Nov 25  
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:**

Yarn, Sweaters and Polar Fleece  
Please leave donations near office door.

THANK YOU for the anonymous donation that was used to buy polar fleece .  
All donations are greatly appreciated!

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

Sundays—10:15 AM—11:15 AM

Nov. 24—REF Classes  
**Dec. 1—NO REF Classes**  
Dec. 8—REF Classes

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.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Nov. 27—Planning Meeting—7:00 pm

**Knight of the Month:** Will Seymour  
**Family of the Month:** Gary & Diana Hurst

### **GIVING TREE**

The Giving Tree is up and tags are waiting to be filled. All gifts are for the local children in the Laingsburg Schools. Gifts should be **wrapped and returned with the tags taped on the outside**. Food Items do not have to be wrapped just tape the tag onto the box or bag. **Return the gifts by Dec. 15.**



### **SWEATSHIRT DRIVE**

Every year Holy Cross Children's Services and the Knight of Columbus sponsor a sweatshirt drive to provide each of the youth served with a new sweatshirt as a Christmas gift. In many cases this is the only gift that these children receive. We need your help to do this. We are asking they you purchase a new sweatshirt, put it in a gift box and wrap the box as a Christmas gift. Label the gift with the size of the shirt and gender of the recipient. Then put the wrapped shirt in the wooden box at the entrance of the church. We need to collect all shirts by the end of November so that Holy Cross can distribute them before Christmas. Thank you in advance for your help.



### **LCS CONCERT**

The Laingsburg Community Singers will be presenting their Winter/Christmas Concerts on Saturday, December 7 @ 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 8 @ 4:00 pm. Free admission, donations accepted. Reception follows each concert in the large hall. We still have LCS Cookbooks for sale, they will be on a table in the large hall after concerts. Thank you for your support!

The Christmas Potluck Luncheon will be held in the large hall on Thursday, December 12. Mass is at 11:30am followed by the luncheon.  
More details to follow.

### **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST**

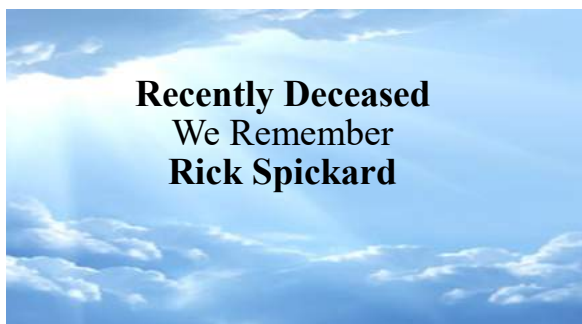
This year for the poster contest we asking our kids to make their posters at home. A blank poster and a sign up sheet will be given to the kids during REF classes on November 24. Extra blank copies can also be found in the racks near the parish office door. Completed poster must be return by December 8 and placed in the box near the parish office door. We will present awards at the pancake breakfast on December 15.

Next weekend, **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS YARD SIGNS** will be available to purchase for \$10 each.

## MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

SATURDAY — November 23	5:30 PM	† Grace Tisdale by the Family
SUNDAY — November 24	9:00 AM	† Jim Byrnes by Nancy, Bob, Melissa, Reanna, Mariah
Monday	NO MASS	
Tuesday	NO MASS	
Wednesday	6:30 PM	† Sheila Doyle by the Family
THANKSGIVING DAY	<b>9:00 AM</b>	† Anna Hurst by Robert & Mary Shaw
Friday	8:30 AM	† Carolyn Mahoney by Jack Mahoney
SATURDAY — November 30	5:30 PM	† Sheila Doyle by Jim Doyle
SUNDAY — December 1	9:00 AM	† Janice Tisdale by the Family

**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, - 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, — DON ELLIOTT, - TONI DOYLE, - KEITH HURST, - MARY LOU DOYLE, - VIRGINIA BERNAL (COUSIN OF JESSE ANGUIANO), - BRENDA SANFORD (FRIEND OF NANCY CLARK), - DAWN WROBEL, - GARY ANDERSEN, - PEGGY ROUMPZ (FRIEND OF NANCY CLARK)



**Recently Deceased  
We Remember  
Rick Spickard**

<b>OFFERTORY</b>	
Nov. 16 & 17, 2019	
83 Adult Envelopes	\$3,572
Loose Collection	\$309
Children's Offertory	\$35
<b>Total Weekly Offertory</b>	<b>\$3,916</b>

**NOMINATION FORMS** for Parish Council and Finance Council are available in the entryway to the church. Please return completed forms by placing them into the offertory baskets or into the box outside the office door by **Nov. 24th**.

**NOTICE:**  
**The office will be closed  
on Friday, Nov. 29**

### Catholic Campaign for Human Development Collection this weekend: Nov 23 & 24

There are more than 46 million people in the United States living in poverty. CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops. CCHD works with Catholic dioceses and their bishops to award grants to local, low-income community groups working to address the causes of poverty. By helping the poor to participate in the decisions and actions that affect their lives, CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out, helping people and communities overcome injustice, escape poverty and build bridges of solidarity. Envelopes are in your boxed sets.