

Mary and Joseph play a key role in our Catholic devotional and spiritual life. No doubt, much of our devotion to Jesus' mother, Mary, and his foster father, Joseph, is rooted in our appreciation of their willingness to put themselves at the disposal of the will of God, to seek what God most desired of them and to carry it out. We find their example inspiring, and their proximity to the Lord consoling and encouraging. Knowing that they said yes to God in such dramatic and pivotal ways, even when there was so much at stake and there were so many obstacles to take into account, gives us much to ponder. Yet there is something else we must not forget: while God could have come to be with us as a child in any manner at all, God chose to be with us through the active and humble cooperation of a woman and a man, Mary and Joseph.

EMMANUEL

Of all of the names connected to our Lord, two stand out in the ways that they describe the identity and mission of the Lord: "Emmanuel: God is with us" and "Jesus: God saves." The

most stunning thing about our Christian faith is that God is not distant, abstract, demanding, a god of wrath and military might. Rather, God desires to be near to us, in relationship, one with us in our challenges and in our joys. God is with us even when remaining with us will lead to betrayal, persecution, and violent death. God who is beyond all of this struggle remains with us so that we might transcend the limitations of our human nature in order to become more like God, to embrace the divine light that resides within each of us. As we approach the celebration of Christmas, consider this: what does it mean to you that God is with us, now and always? What does this call you to be and to do as a Christian, as a follower of God's Son, Jesus, who is with us and who saves us?

Today's Readings: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

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ST. ISIDORE CHURCH Laingsburg, Michigan

Pastor: Rev. Robert C. Bacik

Rectory: 651-6617 – E-Mail: frbob@stisidorechurch.org

Parish Secretary: Sharon Gillespie

Office: 651-6722 – E-Mail: office@stisidorechurch.org

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: 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

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

Happy 4th Sunday of Advent! There are still a few days left to this season of joy and anticipation. Enjoy them! Slow down! Pray and relax with your family and friends, and the Lord! As the yard signs all around town tell us — KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS. This is a reminder for us! In the midst of your preparations and celebrations remember that all of this is because of CHRIST, the WORD made flesh, the LIGHT that comes into the darkness.

CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY FAMILY: Families today face many struggles, both through cultural pressure and through the personal struggles that accompany family life. Despite these struggles — and in large part as a result of them — families become what Pope Francis has called a “factory of hope.” In our many expressions of family we have a great capacity for love and joy, a joy that is strengthened through the peace and truth found in Christ.

To assist families in living out this joy of Christ, we are inviting all families and individuals to make a special consecration to the Holy Family on the Sunday after Christmas—the feast of the Holy Family. The word *consecration* literally means “association with the sacred.” The decision to consecrate yourself and your family is an intentional decision through which you more completely surrender to God through the Holy Family. You are accepting the truth that salvation history was changed forever by a family, and that through the domestic church, you are called to live their example.

PRAYER OF THE HOLY FAMILY

O Lord Jesus, you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. There you grew in age, wisdom and grace as you prepared to fulfill your mission as our Redeemer. We entrust our family to you. O Blessed Mary, you are the Mother of our Savior. At Nazareth you cared for Jesus and nurtured him in the peace and joy of your home. We entrust our family to you. O Saint Joseph, you provided a secure and loving home for Jesus and Mary, and gave us a model of fatherhood while showing us the dignity of work. We entrust our family to you. Holy Family, we consecrate ourselves and our family to you. May we be completely united in a love that is lasting, faithful and open to the gift of new life. Help us to grow in virtue, to forgive one another from our hearts, and to live in peace all our days. Keep us strong in faith, persevering in prayer, diligent in our work, and generous toward those in need. May our home, O Holy Family, truly become a domestic church where we reflect your example in our daily life. Amen.
Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

Please take a Holy Family prayer card home with you this week to help prepare for the commitment you are making. Consecration to the Holy Family is not a single event, it is a way of life for your family. You and your family are consciously choosing to be a beacon of light of God’s love through his Church.

Merry Christmas! On behalf of the entire parish of St. Isidore - Holy Family, I wish all of you and your loved ones a very blessed and Merry Christmas! May the Word that was born in a manger also be born in our hearts.

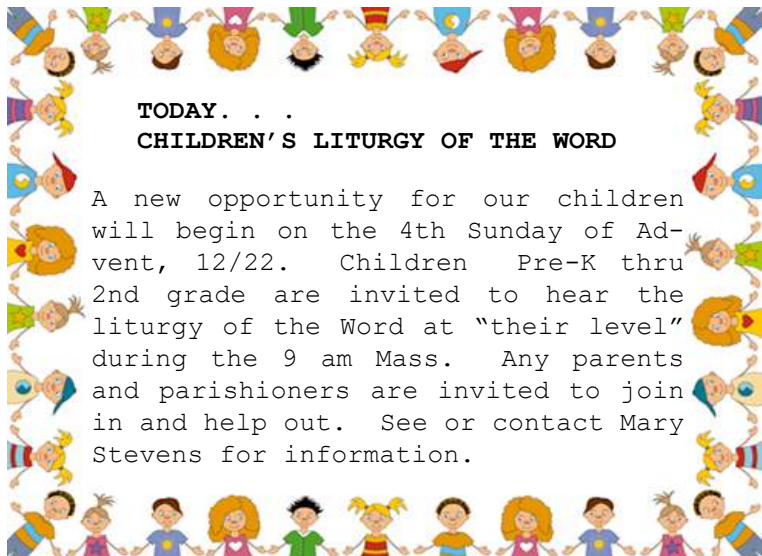
“Love is shown by little things, by attention to small daily signs which make us feel at home. Faith grows when it is lived and shaped by love. That is why our families, our homes, are true domestic churches. They are the right place for faith to become life, and life to grow in faith.” - Pope Francis (Philadelphia, 2015)

Have a Blessed Week!
Fr. Bob



PARISH WIDE

Dec. 22—Children's Liturgy



TODAY . . . CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

A new opportunity for our children will begin on the 4th Sunday of Advent, 12/22. Children Pre-K thru 2nd grade are invited to hear the liturgy of the Word at "their level" during the 9 am Mass. Any parents and parishioners are invited to join in and help out. See or contact Mary Stevens for information.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

Sundays—10:15 AM—11:15 AM

Dec. 22—REF Classes

Dec. 29 & Jan. 5—NO 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

Dec. 25—Planning Meeting— **CANCELLED**

Knight of the Month: Ken Brink

Family of the Month: The Kingsbury Family

MITTENS FOR THE HOMELESS

Monday, Jan. 13
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.

Always in need of Polar Fleece, Yarn, Sweaters, or money.

Christmas Flower are in Memory of the Following:



Rev. Mark Berland
Jr. & Beanie Basgall

Carol Slingsby

Al Ferland

Bruce Horn

Bob Mason

Arthur & Dorothy Risch

Carolyn Mahoney

Carolyn Platte

Fr. Raymond Urbanek

Deceased Loved Ones

Hubert & Helen Coleman

Patricia Greene

Frank & Mary Kral

Becky Scollon-Butts

Marilyn Galecka

Joann Kurka

Max Delaney

Donald Smith

Donald & Dorothy Miersen

Sam & Frances Coccia

Gene Stewart

Carrie Koonter

Bob & Agnes Arthur

Don & Liz Koonter

Landis & Rita Fields

Mr. & Mrs. WM Eiseler

Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Parent



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Office will be open on Friday, Dec. 27— 8 am—3 pm

The office will be closed on New Years Eve and New Years Day. Office will be open on Friday Jan. 4— 8 am—3 pm



MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

SATURDAY — December 21	5:30 PM	† Katie Russell Walters by the Family
SUNDAY — December 22	9:00 AM	† Charles H. & Dorothy Kendall by the Family
Monday	NO MASS	
Christmas Eve	5:30 PM	† Fr. Raymond Urbanek
Christmas Day	9:00 AM	Intentions of Fr. Robert Bacik
Thursday	8:30 AM	† Don Smith by Tom & Krys Rourke
Friday	8:30 AM	† S. S. Basgall by Chris & Kay Basgall
SATURDAY — December 28	5:30 PM	† Jerry Barnum by the Family
SUNDAY — December 29	9:00 AM	† Leon Lundie, Sr. by Mrs. Frances Lundie & 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), - 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), - DAWN WROBEL., - GARY ANDERSEN, - PEGGY ROUMPZ (FRIEND OF NANCY CLARK), - THERESA PICKLER (FRIEND OF JESSE ANGUIANO), - JULIE JUSTICE (GRANDDAUGHTER OF LARRY & DEBBIE EARL), - BERRY DECKER (JESSE ANGUIANO)

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24
4:00 pm - Holy Family
5:30 pm - St. Isidore

Christmas Day, Wednesday, Dec. 25
9:00 am - St. Isidore
11:00 am - Holy Family

New Years Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 31
6:00 pm - Holy Family

New Years Day, Wednesday, Jan. 1
12:00 (Noon) - St. Isidore

OFFERTORY

Dec. 14 & 15, 2019

76 Adult Envelopes	\$2,552
Loose Collection	\$391
Children's Offertory	\$30
Total Weekly Offertory	\$2,973

2020 Offertory Envelopes are in the back of church. If you do not see your envelopes please contact the office. Children's envelopes are available, please record the name and child's envelope number on the list. 2020 Calendars are also available

**Recently Deceased
We Remember
Cynthia Latchaw**

