



Families come in all shapes and sizes. When asked to describe your family, you might begin by telling people about a parent, sibling, or extended family members. You might even describe what you have learned from a genealogical study. You are unlikely, however, no matter how wonderful your family may be, to describe your family as “holy.” And yet, this is our primary call. Each of us as people of God, and each of our families, is called to be holy. We are called to live as God’s people in the world, to communicate God’s love and presence through the way that we live together and in relationship with others. Every family, no matter what their circumstances, is called to be a holy family. Even Mary, Joseph, and Jesus faced challenges and trials. And yet they rose to the occasion, listened to and followed God’s will, and were assured of the love of the Lord through it all.

### LISTEN TO YOUR ANGEL

Have you ever found yourself at a crossroads? One direction may be momentarily advantageous or easy, another more

challenging but right or good. It is not always easy to know which direction to choose. Discerning our path of life necessarily involves prayer, the guidance of others whom we trust, and the promptings of the Holy Spirit within us. The example of the Holy Family is that they followed the will of God, trusting in God’s abiding presence even when they knew that doing so involved risk and uncertainty. Mary trusted the voice of the angel, although the message was beyond comprehension; Joseph listened to the voice of the Lord in dreams and proceeded, assured of God’s guiding spirit in the midst of troubling circumstances. This is what our families must do as well. Being Christian people in today’s world is not always easy, even when we know it is right. This is the meaning of holiness. This is what it means to be a holy family.

Today’s Readings: Sir 3:2–6, 12–14; Ps 128:1–2, 3, 4–5; Col 3:12–21 [12–17]; Mt 2:13–15, 19–23

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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



# The Holy Family—The Domestic Church

The Holy Family is the name given to the family unit of Jesus: The Divine Son of God Jesus, his mother the Virgin Mary, and his foster-father Joseph. We know very little about the life of the Holy Family through the canonical Gospels. They speak of the early years of the Holy Family, including the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the flight into Egypt, and the finding of Jesus in the temple.... While the exact details of the day-to-day life of the Holy Family may be unknown, we can still learn a lot from the stories we do have.

Devotion to the Holy Family is a recent development, but one that naturally grows out of a love for Jesus and his family. Devotion to the Holy Family grew in popularity in the 17th century, and several religious congregations have been founded under this title. The Holy Family also became portrayed in popular art of the period. On October 26, 1921 the Congregation of Rites (under Pope Benedict XV) inserted the Feast of the Holy Family into the Latin Rite general calendar. Until then it had been celebrated regionally. Popes before and including Benedict XV (especially Leo XIII) promoted the feast as a way to counter the breakdown of the family unit. Today the Church celebrates the Feast on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's Day (Known as the Feast of Mary Mother of God in the Catholic Church).

The Feast of the Holy Family is not just about the Holy Family, but about our own families too. The main purpose of the Feast is to present the Holy Family as the model for all Christian families, and for domestic life in general. Our family life becomes sanctified when we live the life of the Church within our homes. This is called the "domestic church." St. John Chrysostom urged all Christians to make each home a "family church," and in doing so, this sanctifies the family unit. Just how does one live out the Church in the family? The best way is by making Christ the center of family and individual life. Ways to do this include: reading scripture regularly, praying daily, attending Mass at least on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, imitating the actions of the Holy Family, going to confession frequently, and so forth, all done together as a family unit.

St. Paul provides advice on family life in Colossians 3:12-21:

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged (RSV).

The Holy Family feast is a good time to remember the family unit and pray for our human and spiritual families. We also may take this feast to reflect on the value and sanctity of the family unit, and to evaluate our own family life. What ways may it be improved? What would Jesus, Mary, and Joseph do? Finally, we can use this feast to ask ourselves what are we doing to promote the family within our own cultures, neighborhoods, and communities. (Source: *ChurchYear*)



## PARISH WIDE

Jan 13 — Mitten Making— 9 am to 2 pm Large Hall

### Thank you — Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who took a tag off the Giving Tree this year. We helped 30 kids have a brighter Christmas thanks to you. A special thank you for everyone getting them back on time. This made our job much easier.



### 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 Yarn, Sweaters, or money to buy supplies.



### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

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



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

Sundays—10:15 AM—11:15 AM

**Dec. 29 & Jan. 5—NO REF Classes**  
**Jan. 12—REF Classes Resume**

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

Jan.8—Business Meeting— 7:00 PM

**Knight of the Month:** Ken Brink  
**Family of the Month:** The Kingsbury Family

### 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



## MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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
Monday	NO MASS	
<b>New Years Eve</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	(6:00 PM MASS AT HOLY FAMILY)
<b>New Years Day</b>	<b>NOON</b>	People of the Parish
Thursday	8:30 AM	† Anna Hurst by the Wrobel Family
Friday	8:30 AM	† S. S. Basgall by Chris & Kay Basgall
SATURDAY — January 4	5:30 PM	† John & Helen Bartkowiak by the Family
SUNDAY — January 5	9:00 AM	† Fr. Ray Urbanek by Gary & Barb Koonter

**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)



<b>OFFERTORY</b>	
Dec. 21 & 22, 2019	
74 Adult Envelopes	\$2,356
Loose Collection	\$667
Children's Offertory	\$29
18 ACH Electronic Offertory	\$1,430
Total Weekly Offertory	\$4,482
Christmas Envelopes	\$3,815

**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

