

fourth Sunday OF LENT

MARCH 22
2020

THE POOL
OF SILOAM
JERUSALEM

I was blind and now I see.
JOHN 9:25

It is helpful to observe that our Gospel passage from John, the healing of the blind man, is the first part of a longer episode. When Jesus' words end Chapter 9 in today's passage, he goes on speaking in the discourse on the Good Shepherd in Chapter 10. The healing of the blind man was not only a demonstration of God's power, giving him the physical capacity of sight. It was even more than the awakening of the man's personal faith in Jesus. The image of the Good Shepherd confirms that the man was liberated from the social isolation of his blindness and became a member of Jesus' flock. All of Jesus' powerful actions of healing were intended as gifts, not only to individuals, but for the building up of the community of faith.

HUMILITY AND ACTION

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the LORD looks into the heart." In our first reading, Samuel draws conclusions about who God will choose as king based on his assumptions of what a proper king looks like. But God sees a deeper reality.

How easy it is to miss our own blindness. How frequently we are unaware of our own flawed assumptions about others and about ourselves. We often need a deeper humility about the limitations of our perceptions and our convictions.

Yet, as the letter to the Ephesians encourages, there are times to expose the "fruitless works of darkness", to speak out, especially when persons or groups are suffering from abuse or oppression. We are called to live within a tension that these scripture passages convey. We are to seek God's guidance in prayer with genuine openness. We are then to speak and act forcefully against wrongdoing, even as we maintain humility about how much we know, or what is the best action to take. We are called to bring God's wisdom and mercy to all.

Today's Readings: 1 Sam 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

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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 PM

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

Deacon: John Marsh

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

Lockdown

Yes, there is fear
Yes, there is isolation
Yes, there is panic buying
Yes, there is sickness
Yes, there is even death
But...
They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise
You can hear the birds again
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet
The sky is no longer thick with fumes
But blue and grey and clear
They say that in the streets of Assisi
People are singing to each other
across the empty squares
keeping their windows open
so that those who are alone
may hear the sounds of family around them
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland
is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound
Today a young woman I know
is busy spreading fliers with her number
through the neighbourhood
So that the elders may have someone to call on
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples
are preparing to welcome
and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary
All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting
All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality
To how big we really are
To how little control we really have
To what really matters
To Love
So we pray and we remember that
Yes, there is fear
But there does not have to be hate
Yes, there is isolation
But, there does not have to be loneliness
Yes, there is panic buying
But, there does not have to be meanness
Yes, there is sickness
But, there does not have to be disease of the soul
Yes, there is even death
But, there can always be a rebirth of love
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now
Today, breathe
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic
The birds are singing again
The sky is clearing, Spring is coming
And we are always encompassed by Love
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able
to touch across the empty square,
Sing

By Fr. Richard Hendrick, OFM
March 13th, 2020



All public Masses cancelled through at least April 8, 2020. Fr. Bob will continue to offer daily Mass for your intentions.

Church Open for Private Prayer:

St. Isidore, Laingsburg

7am - 9pm, Daily

Holy Family, Ovid

Tuesday and Thursday: 9am - Noon

Sunday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St. Isidore, Laingsburg

Wednesday: 5:15 -6:15 pm

Holy Family, Ovid

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday: 5:15 - 6:15

St. Isidore

LANSING OUTREACH MASS

Sunday

6am and 10 am

WLAJ Lansing TV53

Walk to Jerusalem Update

5,384 miles walked

Almost there!

Keep tracking your miles.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

**REF Classes Cancelled until April
Holy Family & St. Isidore**

TOOTSIE ROLL CAMPAIGN

The Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Campaign has been postponed until the fall. If any parishioner is suffering from Tootsie Roll withdrawal, please contact any Knight.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

March 23—Red Cross Blood Drive –1 to 6:30 pm

March 25— Planning Meeting— **CANCELLED**

Knight of the Month: Jerry Gialanella

Family of the Month: Tim, Stacey, Jacob and
Thomas Voisinet



MITTENS FOR THE HOMELESS

THIS YEAR THE LADIES DELIVERED

651 HATS—KINTTED OR CROCHETED
AND
577 MITTENS

TO THOSE IN NEED



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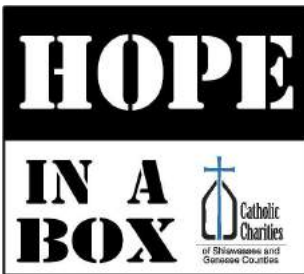
FR. BOB'S INTENTIONS FOR PRIVATE MASS

SATURDAY — March 21		† Phyllis Izdebski by Mary Lou Smith
SUNDAY — March 22		† Leon Lundie, Sr. by Mrs. Frances Lundie & Family
Monday		
Tuesday		† Thomas Davey & Marcy Davey Haywood by Alaga Family
Wednesday		† Cynthia Latchaw by Rich & Jane Poirier
Thursday		† Pat & Robert Delaney by Beverly Delaney & Family
Friday		† The Broughan Family
SATURDAY — March 28		† Deceased Members of the VanGeertruy Family by their Children
SUNDAY — March 29		† Tony Sinicropi by Sid & Angie Wittenberg

PRAYERS: PLEASE PRAY FOR MELVIN PAMMENT, - 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, - 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), - DENNY LEE, - DAVID OLENICZAK, - JEANNE OLENICZAK, - VERN WRIGHT, - DON ELLIOTT, - TONI DOYLE, - KEITH HURST, - MARY LOU DOYLE, - DAWN WROBEL, - PEGGY ROUMPZ (FRIEND OF NANCY CLARK), - THERESA PICKLER (FRIEND OF JESSE ANGUIANO), - JULIE JUSTICE (GRANDDAUGHTER OF LARRY & DEBBIE EARL), - BERRY DECKER (JESSE ANGUIANO), - CHRISTIAN GARZA (DÉPLOYED TO IRAQ, GRANDSON OF MARY STEIN), - DON NEGUS (SON OF MARY STEIN), - FRANK & NANCY DUKES, - MEREDITH MIERSEN (GRANDDAUGHTER OF RON & LANA MIERSEN), - JENN HILL MCCAUSEY, HELEN STELZER, - JOSEPH NEUMANN— ARLENE GUTIERRES, (COUSIN OF JESSE ANGUIANO)



Special thank you for all the prayers for John Martinez in his time of need.
(Friend of Jesse Anguiano)



Need for the month of March

Hand Soap & Body Wash

OFFERTORY March 14 & 15, 2020

45 Adult Envelopes	\$1,951
Loose Collection	\$181
Children's Offertory	\$2
Total Weekly Offertory	\$2,134

DSA COLLECTION STARTS - MARCH 7 & 8 *Happy The One Who Trusts In The Lord!*

DSA continues. Informational brochures are available in the entryway to the church. Envelopes are available near the bulletins. Please put all donations into the collection baskets.

This years goal for St. Isidore is \$18,516

