

Every child in school has experienced the excitement of growing a simple bean seed planted in a paper cup or watched a time lapse video of the growth process. We watch this miracle sprout in a matter of days, and marvel at the whole process. A seed must be planted and die to itself in order to create a new life. Then it must be fertilized and watered and cared for. But most importantly, one must be patient and wait. Seeds take a certain amount of time to develop and may require being dormant for a while. Similarly, a human baby takes nine months to grow from the time the seed is fertilized.

But no matter what we do, and how well we do it, not all seeds will yield fruit. Sometimes the conditions are just not right to allow it. Not all pregnancies go full term. Farmers know the pain of a drought year, or storms that ruin a crop before it can be harvested. Diseases and blight and other things can take hold.

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SOME WILL BE LOST

Growing up in the Western states, beautiful fields of wheat and beans were a common sight for me, but I did not fully understand this parable until going to the Holy Land and seeing the rocky ground that Jesus spoke of. This was an "aha" moment, as I witnessed what a miracle it was when something had the strength and tenacity to grow among the crags despite the arid conditions. What a sign of faith and trust and hope even to plant crops there, knowing that some would be lost! It would seem easier to write them all off, or even less work not to plant them at all.

Jesus could do that to us, but he has not. He has faith and trust that a number of the seeds planted in us will bear great fruit. They will not wither and fade away, but will produce fruit, a hundred-, or sixty- or thirty-fold. And his faith in us gives us hope.

Today's Readings: ls 55:10–11; Ps 65:10, 11, 12–13, 14; Rom 8:18–23; Mt 13:1–23 [1–9]

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

NOTES FROM FR. BOB



Pass the word! St. Isidore - Holy Family is a parish family that takes care of each other! I continue to be grateful that everyone who has been attending Mass has been respecting the guidelines for increased safety (i.e. staying home if ill, face covering, social distancing, hand sanitizer). Please, pass to word to your Catholic neighbors that St. Isidore and Holy Family have been back to a regular Mass schedule for the past month and that we are doing our best to provide a safe atmosphere to worship God!

Streaming Mass— We need HELP!: For the past three months, we have been able to publish a weekly recorded Mass on our parish YouTube page (also shared on Facebook.) Though there are a wide variety of options for people to watch Mass on TV and the internet, we have found that many parishioners feel a special connection when they are able to watch Mass from their own parish. Plus, my mother likes to watch it! We will continue this service for the foreseeable future, **but we need some help!** I am looking for a few more people to join our video team— volunteers that would take turns recording, editing, and uploading the 5:30 pm Saturday evening Mass at St. Isidore. Equipment and training/orientation/support will be provided. Please e-mail or call the parish office if you are interested. This would be a great experience for teens or young adults with some technical know-how.

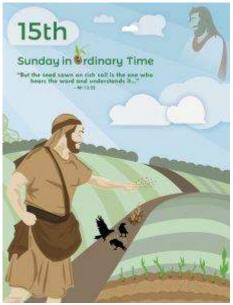
Outdoors Mass (UPDATE): Our outdoor Mass was very well received last week. There was plenty of shade and the heat was not overwhelming. Next week we will once again hold the Sunday 11 am Mass at Holy Family in the outside pavilion, weather permitting. Parishioners are asked to bring their own seating and spread themselves out in the surrounding shade. Please observe and respect social distancing. The rest of the weekend's Mass schedule will remain as usual.

Open Wide Our Hearts: In November of 2018, the Bishops of the United States released a pastoral letter against racism entitled, *Open Wide our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love.* I am planning on facilitating an **online study/discussion** of this document during the month of August. This will take place on the Zoom platform and will likely consist of four sessions lasting approximately one hour each. If you are interested in participating in this online group please email me. We will discuss specifics once I get a feel for the interest.

SCAM Alert: Please be aware that scam emails and text messages continue to be sent from someone asking for money on my behalf. Typically these messages asking for you to send pictures of gift cards so that they can use the funds. These are fake and not from myself. If you receive a message from me that appears out of character please ignore or contact the parish office to inquire. To the best of our knowledge, these people are finding contact information from online bulletins. We are now doing our best to remove any personal contact information before publishing online.

Have a blessed week! Stay healthy, stay cool!

Fr. Bob frbob@stisidorechurch.org



GUIDELINES FOR ATTENDING MASS

Stay home if you are ill or experiencing fever, shortness of breath or cough.

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains lifted for Catholics in the Diocese of Lansing.

- Please wear a mask or face covering while in Church building.
- Respect appropriate social distancing between households.
- Sanitize hands while entering and before receiving Holy Eucharist.
- Assist our cleaning efforts by cleaning your pew section before and after use.
- Avoid use of Church bathrooms if possible.



Sacrament of Confession

The sacrament of confession will continue to be offered in the parking lot of St. Isidore and Holy Family on a weekly basis.

> **St. Isidore**, Laingsburg: **Wednesday** 5:30 - 6:15pm

Holy Family, Ovid: Saturday 3:00 - 3:30pm



BABY PANTRY OF ELSIE Asking for laundry detergent. Please leave your donations in the entryway of the church at Holy Family.



HOLY FAMILY MEN'S CLUB MEETING Sunday, July 26th Following 11:00 am Mass

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

Virtual Vacation Bible School July 27—30 10 am—11:30 am

Registration is closed.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

July 20 Blood Drive (St Isidore Large Hall) July 22 Planning Meeting - To Be Determined

Knight of the Month: Father Bob **Family of the Month:** St. Isidore & Holy Family

Fall Yard Sale Cancelled due of the risks and complications of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are canceling the September yard sale for this year. Thanks again for all of your support of yard sales over the years!



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

MON. JULY 20 ST. ISIDORE CHURCH 1:00 to 6:45 pm Sponsored by: Knights of Columbus You can make a reservation by calling 800-733-2767 or by visiting https://www.redcrossblood.org/

Financial Contributions

Many of you find yourselves in a place of financial uncertainty and may have to, understandably, adapt your parish contributions at this time. For those of you who are able to continue to give financially, we invite you to do so through our new online platform found on our webpage (www.stisidorechurch.org). Envelopes can also be mailed to the parish office.

Thank you.



MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

ST ISIDORE, LAINGSBURG

Saturday—July 11—(5:30 PM) ⁺ Tom Wrobel 5th Anniversary by the Family Sunday—July 12 (9:00 AM) ⁺ Anna Hurst by Gary & Barb Koonter Wednesday— July 15 — (6:30 PM) ⁺ Harriet Delaney by Dean & Linda Kiesling Thursday—July 16—(8:30 AM) People of the Parish Friday—July 17 (8:30 AM) ⁺ Cynthia Latchaw by Rich & Jane Poirier Saturday—July 18—(5:30 PM) ⁺ Rev. Mark Berland by Chris & Kay Basgall Sunday—July 19 (9:00 AM) ⁺ Jerry Goetschy by Lana Kaiser

HOLY FAMILY, OVID

Saturday—July 11—(4:00 PM) + Richard Rodgers by Gale Waddell

Sunday—July 12 (11:00 AM) + Irene Lorio by Joe Lorio Family - (OUTDOOR MASS)

Tuesday—July 14 - (12:10 PM) Charolette Csapos by Beverly Delaney

Saturday—July 18—(4:00 PM) ⁺ Juluis Remenar by Rose Thering

Sunday—July 19 (11:00 AM) + Larry & Anne Byrnes by Larry & Peggy Brynes (OUTDOOR MASS)

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), - TERESA KECK, (SISTER OF PHYLLIS HART & HELEN STELZER), - DENNY LEE, - DAVID OLENICZAK, - JEANNE OLENICZAK, - DON ELLIOTT, - TONI DOYLE, - MARY LOU DOYLE, - DAWN WROBEL., - THERESA PICKLER (FRIEND OF JESSE ANGUIANO), - JULIE JUSTICE (GRANDDAUGHTER OF LARRY & DEBBIE EARL), - BERRY DECKER (JESSE ANGUIANO), - CHRISTIAN GARZA (DEPLOYED TO IRAQ, GRANDSON OF MARY STEIN), DON NEGUS (SON OF MARY STEIN), - MEREDITH MIERSEN (GRANDDAUGHTER OF RON & LANA MIERSEN), - JENN HILL MCCAUSEY, - HEL-EN STELZER, - JOSEPH NEUMANN— ARLENE GUTIERRES, (COUSIN OF JESSE ANGUIANO), VIRGINIA BERNAL (COUSIN OF JESSE ANGUIANO), MATTHEW BALCARCEL, (GRANDSON OF GARY & BARB KOONTER), CHARLES BERNAL (COUSIN OF JESSE ANGUIANO)

PAMELA MORGAN, SYLVIA MCKAY, CRAIG & CAREN HENNING (NEPHEW & NIECE OF LEONARD MITCHELL), SHARON DARLING, (SISTER-IN-LAW ART & KAREN KELLEY), JUSTIN COLE, (NEPHEW OF COURTNEY & ANDY BATES); VAL THELEN, CONNIE WELLER, ROBERTA STANTON, SHELBY PORUBSKY, MIKE HEEG, CHARLES WADDELL FAMILY, JOHN OLINGER, BEVERLY DELANEY, JEANNE ALAGA, THERESA HEEG, RANDY BOWLES (SON OF ELLIE BOWLES), SUE NETHAWAY (SISTER OF ADRIANNE BOCEK), NICK DUNAY, JEFF WASON, BARB REWERTS, (GINGER KUSNIER'S MOTHER), GENE SCHOENDORF, EILEEN STRICKLAND (FRIEND OF ROSEMARIE THERING), MARY MAPES (MOTHER OF MIKE MAPES), JANE MCCALLISTER, BLANCHE WOODBURY, VINCE MINARIK (SON-IN-LAW OF LEONARD MITCHELL), ROBERT GARCIAS, MARIA JONES, BOB MCCUE, TOM HULBURT (SON OF NITA HUGHES), BETTE ALEXANDER (FRIEND OF ROSEMARIE THERING), CHRIS CHANDLER, MILDRED TEJKL, CARY LEN, LARRY HUGHES. CHERYL CHANDLER, LARRY MIL-LER, NANCY BEHRENS, ROBERT GALECKA

WEEKLY OFFERTORY July 4 & 5 2020

St Isidore Offertory—\$2,080 Online Giving—\$830 Total: \$2,910

Holy Family Offertory—\$1,960 Online Giving—\$185 Total: \$2,456 DSA COLLECTION STARTS -Happy The One Who Trusts In The Lord!

DSA continues—Online at **www.dioceseoflansing.org/DSA** or mail donation into the parish office.

This years goal for: St. Isidore is \$18,516 Holy Family is \$10,142



Current Pledges made: St. Isidore - \$24, 610 –24% parish participation Holy Family - \$6,775—25% parish participation