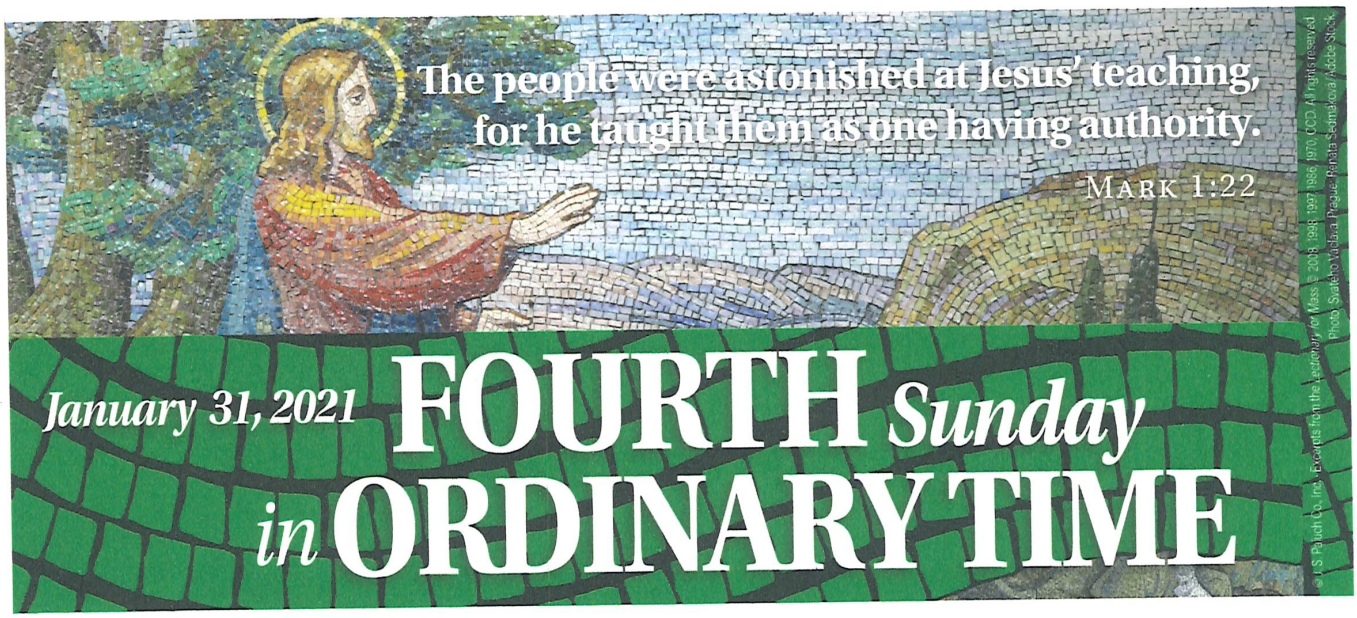

Uniquely in the Gospel of Mark, Jesus' public ministry begins with a direct confrontation with an unclean spirit. Today's Gospel passage reflects a recurring theme in Mark, that Jesus' coming is part of a cosmic battle between God and evil forces. It was commonly believed that many spirits were present in the world, and some sought to control human beings. Mark asserts that in Jesus, God has come to rescue humanity, to free us from every form of bondage.

In today's passage, the unclean spirit does not surrender power quietly. After complaints, convulsions, and screams, the spirit finally departs. As we may witness in own experience, that which binds us—fear, injustice, resentment—often departs only after a mighty struggle. Confronting anything "unclean" in our hearts, our institutions, or our society often involves a long journey toward freedom. May we sustain our efforts and our trust in God, during these long struggles.

PROPHETS IN DAILY LIFE

Moses assures Israel of God's continued presence by promising a new prophet. Like Moses, the prophet will be raised up directly by God. But how to distinguish a true prophet from a false one? Many claim to speak for God. The task is complicated by the fact that often, true prophets make waves, cause trouble, and disturb how things are normally done. Many simply don't want to hear what God is saying, because it threatens their privilege, comfort, or sense of identity.

Like the Israelites in today's reading, it can be hard for us to bear the voice of God. For God calls us out of all the ways we avoid opening our hearts to God and to others. And so, God raises up surprise prophets in daily life. These are all the people and events who summon us to fuller maturity in love and in faith. We are called upon to always be ready for the prophetic word that may emerge from God's surprises.

Today's Readings: Dt 18:15–20; Ps 95:1–2, 6–7b, 7c–9; 1 Cor 7:32–35; Mk 1:21–28

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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

NOTES FROM FR. BOB

HOLY LAND 2021: The Holy Land pilgrimage's rescheduled dates are October 21 - November 1, 2021. These dates are, of course, pending the safe and responsible reopening of international travel. From my understanding, Israel is doing an exceptional job with the vaccination distribution. Hopefully, our country will follow suit! Our travel company best answers specific questions. Find their contact at trinitytourtravels.com

Rectory Phone Number: It appears that the rectory phone number has not been working, likely for the past several months. I am not receiving messages at that number. As we work to resolve the issue, please know that the office numbers are still working. Also, note my e-mail (listed below).

Catholic Schools Week: This week, we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Though we do not have a Catholic School within our parish boundaries, we are surrounded by excellent Catholic Schools to our south, east, and west. A modest portion of our monthly contributions are used to support these schools.

Daily Schedule: Note the change in this week's daily Mass schedule. I will be away for most of the week due to duties with various diocesan committees. There will be no Mass on Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday. Though I will travel back for Wednesday evening's Mass, there will not be Adoration and confession prior.

Stay Strong: As of this week, to the best of my knowledge, our parish community has lost five parishioners to COVID-19. Three of these deaths have come in the last two weeks. Many of you have loved ones near and far who have suffered much from this pandemic. I am grateful that our parish community has been responsible for following the best precautionary practices during our Masses. Since reinstating in-person Masses in June, we have had 0 cases of spread traced to our services. Even as more and more people are able to get vaccinated, I am asking all of us to **continue the precautions** set in place: Specifically, **social distancing**, **wearing a mask**, using **hand sanitizer** while entering, and before receiving communion. I know that this can be a charged issue for some. Please note that this is not the government asking you to do these things; your pastor asks you to do them. Thank you for your compliance.

Fr. Bob
frbob@stisidorechurch.org

ST. ISIDORE
— HOLY FAMILY —
Laingsburg, Ovid, Elsie

REMINDER

Parishioners using the original ACH electronic offertory: Please switch to the new format that is posted on our website. Click on the green *Donate Here.* User friendly and will give **you** total control over your account. Contact Sharon in the office as soon as you have switched so the old donation can be stopped, or if you have questions.

MEN'S CLUB—HOLY FAMILY

FISH FRY MEETING

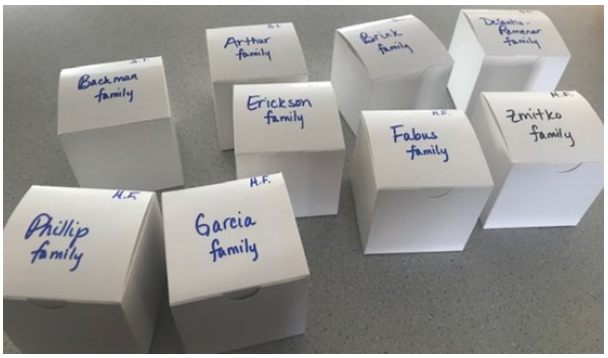
JAN. 31 AFTER SUNDAY MASS

MITTENS FOR THE HOMELESS
St Isidore

Always in need of **dark** sweaters and **dark** colors of yarn.

REF FAMILIES!

Want to start Lent off on the right foot? Be sure to pick up your family's Mardi Gras craft kit from the small hall at St. Isidore or the hall at Holy Family. Enjoy doing this little project with your children on the day before Lent begins.

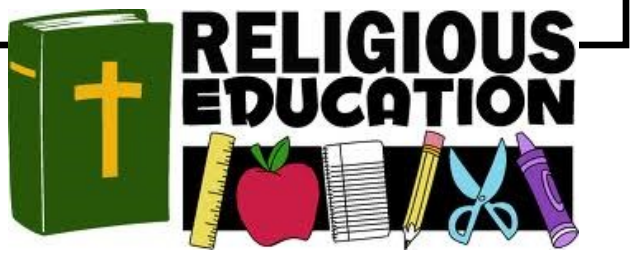


RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION (REF)

Questions, contact Mary Stevens for further information.
marystevens@stisidorechurch.org.

10:00—10:30 am—St. Isidore
10:15—10:50 am—Holy Family

Jan. 31—F2F or Virtual—Family Choice
Feb. 07—F2F or Virtual—Family Choice
Feb. 14—F2F or Virtual—Family Choice



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Feb. 10— Business Meeting— **CANCELLED**

Knight of the Month: Jim Pock
Family of the Month: Jack & Lisa Phillips
Family of the Year: Mike & Aloise Bachalder

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

ST. ISIDORE, LAINGSBURG

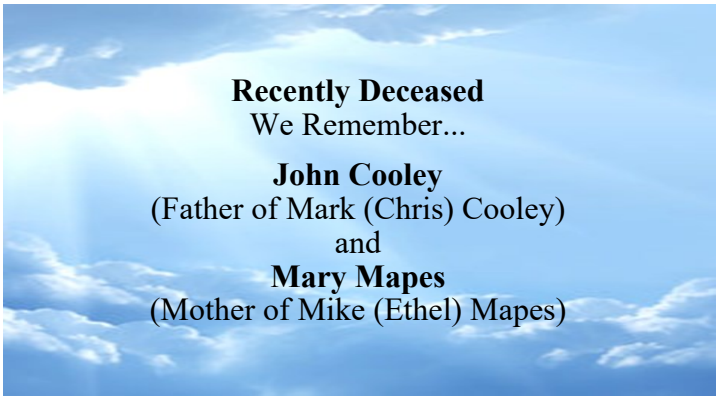
Saturday—Jan. 30 —(5:30 PM) † Phyllis Izdebski by Jerry & Barb Gialanella
Sunday — Jan. 31—(9:00 AM) † Harold Hurst by Janice Hurst
Wednesday— Feb. 3 — (6:30 PM) † Katie Walters by Richard & Barbara Russell
Thursday—Feb. 4—**(NO MASS)**
Friday— Feb. 5—**(NO MASS)**
Saturday—Feb. 6 —(5:30 PM) † Julie Bacik by Jerry & Barb Gialanella
Sunday — Feb. 7—(9:00 AM) † Ron Hart by the Family

HOLY FAMILY, OVID

Saturday—Jan. 30—(4:00 PM) † Deceased Members of the Julius Keusch Family by John & Konnie VanGeertruy
Sunday—Jan. 31- (11:00 AM) † Paul Ladiski by Dale & Sue Ladisky
Tuesday— Feb. 2 -**(NO MASS)**
Saturday—Feb. 6—(4:00 PM) † Kevin Angell 35th Anniversary by Mom & Dad
Sunday—Feb. 7- (11:00 AM) † Eugene, Robin, & Irene Dette by the Family

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, - LANA MIERSEN, - MARY STEIN, AGGIE CASSADY, - 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, - HELEN 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), - MARY CHADWICK, - RUDY RIOS (FRIEND OF JESSE ANGUIANO). AUTUMN MICHELS, JACKIE TREIB (NIECE OF CAROL JUHL), NICK & JESSICA HARRIS, ARTHUR ANGUIANO, JACK LENNIMANN, PEG FELTMAN, - JULIE WALSH (SISTER OF MARY SHAW). - BILL LULHAM (FRIEND OF JESSE ANGUIANO), - JOHN BACHELDER, (BROTHER OF MIKE BACHELDER), - TRICIA BRADFIELD BROWN.- MOSES ANGUIANO (COUSIN OF JESSE ANGUIANO), - ARCHIE SHEBESTER (FRIEND OF JESSE ANGUIANO), - JOHN MAJOR (FRIEND 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, THERESA HEEG, RANDY BOWLES (SON OF ELLIE BOWLES), SUE NETHAWAY (SISTER OF ADRIANNE BOCEK), NICK DUNAY, JEFF WASON, EILEEN STRICKLAND (FRIEND OF ROSEMARIE THERING), JANE MCCALLISTER, 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), MILDRED TEJKL, CARY LEN, LARRY HUGHES. LARRY MILLER, NANCY BEHRENS, ROBERT GALECKA,. JURLINE LEN, CAROL BOZUNG (FRIEND OF THE SMITH FAMILY) MARY SMITH, TERRI SUE (DAUGHTER-IN-LAW OF LEONARD MITCHELL). CAROL DARLING, PAT LATZ, MICKY CHAPKO (MOTHER OF ELAINE BARTHOLIC), KATIE KELLEY, DIANNE MEAD (FRIEND OF JOANN EVANS), MARJRI BOLLOUGH (FRIEND OF SYLVIA MCKAY), DAN MORGAN, STACY WOODBURY (DAUGHTER-IN-LAW OF BLANCHE WOODBURY), BRAD WALKER, BOBBIE JO HARTSUFF (DAUGHTER-IN-LAW OF DOUG & CHAR ANGELL), MARY LOU WILLOUGHBY (SISTER-IN-LAW OF ROSEMARIE THERING), LEONARD MITCHELL, BEV BARZ (FRIENDS OF ROSEMARIE THERING), NITA HUGHES, LYNN KROGER (FRIEND OF ROSEMARIE THERING), LARRY MILLER, EVERT & ELLEN MARTEN (FRIENDS OF JOE TEJKL)



WEEKLY OFFERTORY
Jan. 23 & 24, 2021

St. Isidore Offertory - $2,192
Holy Family Offertory - $1,607
Online Offertory - $1,180
TOTAL: - $4,979