



Whoever receives one child such as this
in my name, receives me;
and whoever receives me, receives not me
but the One who sent me.

Mark 9:37

Twenty-fifth
Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 19, 2021

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Today's Gospel passage has two parts: Jesus' announcement again of his coming suffering and death, and a scene with the disciples arguing about who is the "greatest." Mark places these scenes next to each other to emphasize the disciples' failure to understand. Their petty argument was the opposite of what Jesus had described as the way to follow him. The disciples were following the common understanding of group status: to honor the influential and those who seem to contribute the most. Jesus points to the opposite: he honors the vulnerable, the "least" in the community; in this case, a child. And he honors those who welcome the child.

Mark was addressing his own community in the early Church, who were seeking to learn how to live their faith. His questions may be important for us too. Who is honored in our faith community, and why? How do we honor those whom we set as examples? Who benefits from this different kind of "greatness"?

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ASK THE HARD QUESTIONS

Twice in today's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are reduced to silence. First when Jesus describes his future suffering and death, and again when caught in their argument about who is the greatest. Perhaps they were afraid to really understand his teachings because of what it might cost them. Maybe they were afraid of being seen as ignorant by Jesus and especially by each other. What if they had dared to admit their confusion and ignorance and asked Jesus hard questions? Would Jesus have welcomed them?

Jesus presents a child who is to be welcomed and embraced. The child sets an example: it is the child who knows that he or she doesn't know. The child is free to ask "childlike" questions, and is open to answers. What if, in the intimacy of our prayer, we asked Jesus our own hard, embarrassing questions: about life, about ourselves and our relationships, about God? How might our relationship with God then change?

Today's Readings: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8; Jas 3:16 — 4:3; Mk 9:30-37

ST. ISIDORE CHURCH

Laingsburg, Michigan

Pastor: Rev. Anthony Brooks

Rectory: 651-6617 - E-Mail: franthonny@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 5:30 to 6:20 pm

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Ovid, Michigan

Pastor: Rev. Anthony Brooks

Deacon: John Marsh

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. Anthony ...



Well... As I didn't get any bricks thrown through the window this week (so far), I will go out on a ledge and say that my last note in the bulletin was not received *too* unfavorably. At my former parish, I would write articles dealing with the history of our faith, liturgical practice or church items and I plan on reverting to that in the near future hopefully, so we will see how that goes. For the present however, I would like to spend these few moments keeping everyone abreast of the projects at the parish. This week at St. Isidore, we had an update to our sound system. The company we are dealing with has ordered all of the things we need to completely revamp our audio system and as is the case with many things these days, there are some supply issues, some things are backordered. They were good enough to set us up with at least some demo speakers - which are the same kind as which we ordered - that we can use to test the difference between our old and our new system. In the next few weeks we will be putting new candle holders in St. Isidore as well ("new" as in new to the current church, but actually being "old" as they are from the original church). I have a few more things in the works as well for Holy Family, including the placement of the Crucifix in the center of the sanctuary above the tabernacle, as I mentioned last week, and a new sanctuary lamp. There are a number of plans in the works for both churches, which we will start to see coming to fruition in the next few months and beyond. At the same time, I would like to allay a few possible concerns in terms of the finances. Do not be worried or assume that I will be draining the parish bank accounts. I know there have been similar situations in the past and at other parishes in the area. Many of the things we are doing are connected to our Witness to Hope projects. Some are being funded by bequests, some within the normal budget and some things are paid for by donors: so for the sake of clarity - we are not going into debt through any of this or emptying our savings. The fact is, that not a lot has been done to beautify our facilities or update them over the last number of years and things are starting to become not only necessary, but also proper and right to do. The goal is to use our money wisely - not just to keep trying to build up savings - but we can do both simultaneously within reason. I think we can all agree that money needs to be spent for the sake of our churches and to ensure the best we can for the next generation. I spent a number of years myself working in the trades and I know that money comes at the cost of one's labor, and that when it is offered to the Church there is the intention it be used for the glory of God and the sake of our Church and that it be used wisely. The majority of the things that I find for our churches in terms of liturgical items and so on, are either used and/or from closed churches. I have always been a fan of the quality of the older items, but of great relevance also is the fact that what we end up paying for them (which are usually nicer than anything you find on the market today) is less than half of what we would pay to get something similar, but new. I believe that the majority of us are not averse to spending a little more time searching for something if we can get better for cheaper (bargain shopping also comes into play here), but that we also try to balance when it is best to pay a little more for something that will be of higher quality or longevity. To not *"throw good money after bad"*. To summarize: I believe that a lot can be done to improve our churches and facilities without *"robbing Peter to pay Paul"*. I know that I am still new to most of you and it will take some time for us to get better acquainted, I only ask that we try and have a mutual trust of each other and continue to pray for each other to fulfill God's will. Thank you to all who have supported and continue to support our parishes over the years, your sacrifices make all these improvements possible. Let us pray to the Infant of Prague to help us keep our financial sensibilities and use our resources for the greater glory of God.

God bless, Fr. Anthony



RCIA—Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Many times people have asked what is the RCIA and the meaning. This is a process where people who are interested in the Catholic faith and want to become a member of the parish; any person who needs to complete their Sacraments of Initiation; or people who really want to renew their own faith. We invite you to take a challenge and "come and see" what being a Catholic is all about. Contact Vivian Durling or Nancy Kienitz for more information. Leave a message at the parish office and we will contact you.

517-651-6722—St. Isidore—office@stisidrechurch.org
989-834-5855—Holy Family—holyfamilyovid@gmail.com

ENGRAVED BRICKS

Sale of Memorial & Family Bricks will continue into Mid-October. We are about 1/2 way to our goal. Please spread the word and order additional bricks if you would like.

We are still accepting brick requests.

QUILTING QUIPS. . .

Have some free time on Thursday mornings and just don't know how to fill those hours? How about visiting the quilting group between 9 and noon this Thursday and find out how you might be able to help. We are presently working on craft items for our Christmas Store that will be opening November 13/14, just in time for some deer hunter's specials. A big thanks to one of our volunteers, Leonard Mitchell. He has been hard at work, cutting the fleece material to make reusable Swiffer dusters. They were a huge hit in the past and we are making more thanks to Leonard's cutting skills. He has also learned how to sew and finished several quilts that were started by his grandmother during the time that he has been coming! Come on in and learn a new skill or just chat with us for a while!



Leonard's cutting skills. He has also learned how to sew and finished several quilts that were started by his grandmother during the time that he has been coming! Come on in and learn a new skill or just chat with us for a while!

MITTEN MAKERS

We are in need of sweaters and polar fleece. It is time to clean out your closet of sweaters you no longer wear. Also accepting cash donations as we are always purchasing polar fleece.

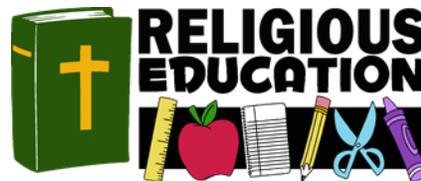


Doug & Rose Morrill will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on September 24!!

Religious Education Formation—REF

REF classes will begin Sept. 12, 2021

St. Isidore—10:15—11:15—Sundays
Holy Family—Before Sunday Mass



Are you wanting to help share your faith? We are looking for "Shepherds" to help out in the REF classes. You will assist an experienced Catechist and can let us know which weekends you can help. Please contact Mary Stevens at marystevens@stisidorechurch.org if you are interested or have questions.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sept. 19—Pancake Breakfast
(St. Isidore)

Oct. 1, 2 & 3 —Tootsie Roll Drive

Oct. 11—Blood Drive

Oct. 13 —Business Meeting— 7:30 pm



Knight of the Month: Fr. Anthony Brooks

Family of the Month: Jerry & Barb Gialanella

Family of the Year: Don & Pat Brown



September 19—St. Isidore
Adults—\$3
Seniors & Kids—\$2
Family—\$10



K of C Tootsie Roll Drive
Oct. 1, 2, & 3
Volunteers Please Sign up After Mass

ANNUAL EVANGELIZATION APPEAL HELP SPREAD THE FAITH

Collection—Sept. 25 & 26

Envelopes are in your boxed sets, in the entryway to the church, or in the Faith Magazine,

This collection supports the U.S. Bishops' communications efforts, Catholic University and the Diocese of Lansing evangelization efforts that include Faith Magazine, Televised Mass, FAITHmag.com and Social Media.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

ST. ISIDORE, LAINGSBURG

Saturday—Sept. 18 —(5:30 PM) Fr. Bob's Birthday by Chris & Kay Basgall
 Sunday — Sept. 19 —(9:00 AM) † John March by Joseph & Jane Dowd
 Wednesday— Sept. 22—(6:30 PM) People of the Parish
 Thursday— Sept. 23—(8:30 AM) † Julie Bacik by Katie Grettenberger
 Friday— Sept. 24—(8:30 AM) Doug & Rose Morrill 50th Wedding Anniversary
 Saturday—Sept. 25 —(5:30 PM) † Carolyn Platte by Paul Platte
 Sunday — Sept. 26 —(9:00 AM) † John Voisinet 17th Anniversary by the Family

HOLY FAMILY, OVID

Saturday—Sept. 18—(4:00 PM) † Ed Ladiski by Mark & Kathryn Stasa
 Sunday—Sept. 19—(11:00 AM) Oakley Munson by Great Grandma Sylvia
 Tuesday— Sept. 21 —(12:10 PM) † Paul Ladiski by Dan & Vickie Csapos
 Saturday—Sept. 25—(4:00 PM) † Sandra Hornby by John & Konnie VanGeertruy
 Sunday—Sept. 26—(11:00 AM) †Dean McKay by his Wife & Children

PRAYERS: PLEASE PRAY FOR Tricia Bradfield Brown, Archie Schebester (Friend of Jesse Anguiano), Theresa Pickler (Friend of Jesse Anguiano), Gene Stoner & Family, Autumn Michels, Pamela & Dan Morgan, Tori Martens, Tom & Mary Hughly (Friends of RoseMarie Thering), Charles Shipley (Brother of Marian Horsley & Nancy Shipley), Janice Smith, Hugh Smith, Beth Ann Elliott (Daughter of Don & Denise), Clarence Dell, Craig & Caren Henning, (Nephew & Niece of Leonard Mitchell) Vince Minarik, (Son in Law of Leonard Mitchell), Terri Sue (Daughter-in-Law of Leonard Mitchell). Pat Latz, Brad Walker, Virginia Bernal (Cousin of Jesse Anguiano), Fr. Mathias Thelen, (Brother of Pam (Ryan) Fabus), Bonnie Ehlert, Gary Delaney (Nephew of Bev Delaney), Pat Spencer (Friend of Bev Delaney), Charles Oleniczak, Judith Bond, Sandy McPherson (Sister of Cooky Hawkins), Sharon Darling, Jim & John Ginther (Sons of Ron & Charlene), Ron & Charlene Ginther, Carlos Duncan (Cousin of Jesse Anguiano), Steve Butler, Sean Robinson, Cary Len, Chasidy Martin, (Niece of Doug & Char Angell), Jesse Loar (Great Grandson of Leonard Mitchell), Dawn Wrobel, Mary Lou Willoughby (Sister-In-Law of RoseMarie Thering), Sam Thering (Brother in Law of RoseMarie Thering), Rosa Zamarripa, (Cousin of Jesse Anguiano), Taylor Nixon, (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), Bob Bunn (Nephew of Pat White), Terry Powell, (Son of Marti Rowley), Bob McCue, Kathy Latz, (Daughter in Law of Pat Latz)

Please contact the office to add or remove names from the prayer list.

Remember our service members in your prayers:



Taylor Earl Parsons—Air Force—Space Force
 Aubrey Hurst—National Guards
 Christian Garza—Army
 Fr. Brandon Oman—Air Force
 LTC Nathan Cooley - USN
 MSGT Joshua Delaney - Air Force
 Alexandra Cultra - Navy
 Andie Ostrander—Navy
 Patrick Schiffer—Air Force

(To add names, - contact the office.)



We Remember...
 Recently Deceased
 Richard Ehlert

Visitation—Smith Funeral Home, Ovid
 Sept 19 & 20— 2-4 pm and 6 –8 pm

Funeral at Holy Family—Tuesday, Sept 21—10 am

WEEKLY OFFERTORY Sept. 11 & 12, 2021

St. Isidore Offertory - \$2,359
 Holy Family Offertory - \$1,965
 Online Offertory - \$1,370

TOTAL: - \$5,694