

Luke 2:13-14

December 25, 2022 • Christmas

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It is customary to celebrate Christmas with lights of all sorts. This even happens in the southern hemisphere, where people aren't experiencing the shorter, darker days of northern climates. From little twinkles on Christmas trees to the glow of candles in church, Christmas is a celebration of the light born today in God's Word-made-flesh. As with other types of lights, the Christ-light takes on different forms. Sometimes its light is direct, while at other times it is a reflection. The lights of Christmas, like Jesus the Light of the world, offer comfort, ease fears, show us the way, and help us to see that God is present here. While we believe that Jesus is the light that no darkness can overcome, it can seem at times it seems as though the gloom around us is overcoming the light. We all are familiar with darkness's different forms that seem to bombard us daily, hourly—minute by minute, if we allow them to. And yet . . .

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ST. ISIDORE CHURCH

Laingsburg, Michigan

Pastor: Rev Anthony Brooks

Rectory: 651-6617

E-Mail: franthony@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.: Roger & Shirley Hughes-
hughes47@wowway.com

Religious Ed. Formation (REF)- Mary Stevens-
marystevens@stisidorechurch.org

Saturday Mass: 5:30pm—Sunday Mass: 9:00 am

Confession: Wed. 5:30 to 6:20pm & after Mass until 7:30

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

Saturday Mass: 4:00pm—Sunday Mass: 11:00 am

Confession: Saturdays 3:00 to 3:45 pm and
Thurs. 5:30 to 6:20 pm

Web Address: <http://stisidorechurch.org>

Notes from Fr. Anthony ...



It is hard to accept that it is already Christmas. I was planning on having a nice calm advent. Well, that went just about as I expected - it didn't.... There were a number of things that contributed to that and as much as I would have liked it otherwise, God allowed it to be so. We know Christmas is a time of thankfulness and gratitude. I am so grateful to all of you for the cards and gifts this season, it has been so thoughtful of you all and I am truly blessed by you. It is a pleasant thing when I walk down the hallway in the rectory and I see all the beautiful cards on the walls. I stop and reread a few each time or gaze on the beautiful pictures.

This is now our second Christmas together and this last year just flew right by it seems. Like a real family, we have experienced some growing pains together, but I believe through them we have grown and we know each other better for it. I am thankful for your patience and understanding over the last year, I am thankful for your prayers and support. These are some of the things I take with me before our newborn Lord in the manger. As I gaze upon Him, I am struck by His goodness and love for all of us. The fact that each of us was in His heart when He became man, He was thinking of us and was born so that He could die for us. As St. John tells us: ***And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.***

It all begins in that manger in Bethlehem. The innocent child refused a room or crib to be born in, the innocent love and goodness of a child - who is so often cast aside by the world as an inconvenience and we see that in particular in our world today.

The loving parents, Joseph and Mary, who in their own way are suffering with and for their Son, knowing He is Divine and the Redeemer of the world - yet still they are refused a room in a house for their Son to be born in. They are gathered in the stable together and show us that the family can weather the storm when they stay together and are united in fulfilling God's will. Regardless of the circumstances, true sacrificial love perseveres and bears fruit. And we stop to think, it was all done for us. ***For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.*** That is how much God loves us, how much His Son loves us, how much the Holy Spirit loves us. That is how much the Blessed Virgin and good St. Joseph desire us to be united with our loving God.

To finish please accept my thanks and heartfelt wishes for a peaceful and joyous Christmas. A heartfelt "thank you" to all who helped prepare our parish for our celebration - those who cleaned, decorated, prepared the flowers, the music for Mass and all of those who helped support all the things for celebration in any way. For all of you here at our parishes and all of those who are visiting us during these Holy days, I pray that God bless you and may you always have the star of Bethlehem as a guide to remind you of the presence of Christ among us. That even in the darkness of the world you may always remember that: ***What came to be through Him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.***

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Merry Christmas! Fr. Anthony

MEN:

Are you ready to take
more control of your life?

To grow closer to God?

To become a better man
for your family?

Exodus 90 is a 90-day spiritual
exercise for men that want to grow
in faith and freedom. Contact:
AndrewRBraun@gmail.com for
more information.



Exodus 90 starts January 9th:
StartMyExodus.com

EXODUS

Reminder: There is a scam going around. Fr. Anthony will never text you and ask for help or gift cards.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

No Quilting Dec. 22 or 29

Dec. 28— **No Women's Bible Study**

Jan. 4—RESUME—6-8 Women's Bible Study —HF

RELIGIOUS ED. FORMATION—(REF)

Holy Family

Class Time—Sunday: 9:50 am—Before Mass

St. Isidore

Class Time—Sunday: 10:15 am—After Mass

More info: marystevens@stisidorechurch.org



QUILTING QUIPS. . . . From the Quilting Ministry, we wish everyone a very Merry & Blessed Christmas. The quilters will be on "vacation" until January 5, 2023! Enjoy the holiday with friends and family.

The Christmas Store was a huge success this year, thanks to everyone who donated or bought an item from the store. Because of your generosity, we raised \$2,213 for area food banks.

**CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ALL WHO
MADE THIS ANOTHER GREAT
CHRISTMAS FOR OTHERS!
THANK YOU!**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jan. 11—Business Meeting—7:00 pm

Knight of the Month: Steve Izdebski

Family of the Month: Tim, Stacy, Jacob & Thomas
Voisinet

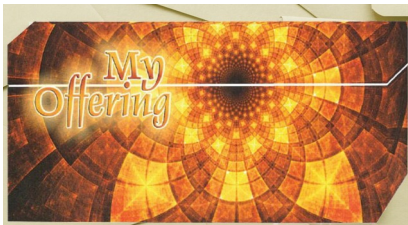


2023 Offertory Envelopes

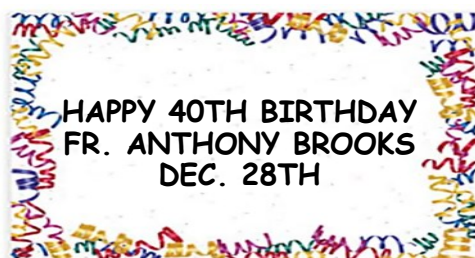
St. Isidore—Please pick up your envelopes in the main entryway to the church.

Holy Family—Please pick up your envelopes in the hall.

If you do not see your envelopes, please contact the office.



Thank you to everyone who donated to the Giving Tree this year. You made 10 Laingsburg, and several Ovid/Elsie, families very happy.



Become a

**Knight before
Christmas**

FREE MEMBERSHIP

Now through December 31st



Calling all Catholic men 18 and older. Now is a great time to join the Knights of Columbus. Scan the QR code, enter your information and use the FREE code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY for a FREE membership as an online member. The Knights are a Catholic fraternal organization that actively supports the teachings and values of the Catholic Church. Whether you have 2 hours a year or 2 hours a month, show your support for our faith and sign up.

ST. ISIDORE, LAINGSBURG

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Christmas Eve—Dec. 24—(6:00 PM) People of the Parish
Christmas Eve—Dec. 24 (11:00 PM) All Deceased Members of our Families & our Parish
Christmas Day— Dec. 25 —(9:00 AM) People of the Parish
Wednesday— Dec. 28— (6:30 PM) Fr. Anthony's 40th Birthday by the Parish
Thursday—Dec. 29—(8:30 AM) Special Intentions of Fr. Anthony by Chris & Kay Basgall
Friday — Dec. 30— (8:30 AM) Intentions of the Basgall Family
Saturday—New Year's Eve—Dec. 31—(5:30 PM) † Phyllis Izdebski by Bob & Trish Fineman
Sunday—New Year's Day— Jan. 1 —(9:00 AM) † Karen Brown by Mary Lou Smith

HOLY FAMILY, OVID

Christmas Eve— Dec. 24 — (4:00 PM) People of the Parish
Christmas Day—Dec. 25—(11:00 AM) All Deceased Members of our Families & our Parish
Tuesday —Dec. 27 — (12:10 PM) † Marian Shipley by the Family
Thursday Dec. 29— (6:30 PM) Gary Schrauben by the Smith Family
Saturday— New Year's Eve— Dec. 31 — (4:00 PM) † MaryAnn Hier by Ford & Lynn Hier
Sunday—New Year's Day—Jan.1—(11:00 AM) † Adrienne Bocek by Ford & Lynn Hier

PRAYERS: PLEASE PRAY FOR Archie Schebester (Friend of Jesse Anguiano), Pamela Morgan, Tori Martens, Mary Hughly (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), 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), Fr. Mathias Thelen (Brother of Pam (Ryan) Fabus), Gary Delaney (Nephew of Bev Delaney), Pat Spencer (Friend of Bev Delaney), Charles Oleniczak, Judith Bond, Sandy McPherson (Sister of Cooky Hawkins), Sharon Darling, Carlos Duncan (Cousin of Jesse Anguiano), Steve Butler, Sean Robinson, Chasidy Martin (Niece of Doug & Char Angell), Rosa Zamarripa (Cousin of Jesse Anguiano), Taylor Nixon (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), Bob Bunn (Nephew of Pat White), Tom Hulburt (Son of Nita Hughes), Larry Miller, Diane Mead (Friend of Joanne Evans), Gary Hrncharik, Donna Fruchey, Nancy Alice Carbury (Mother of Maggie Sayles), Michelle Houska, Melvia Quine, Judy Kovarik (Mother of Bill Kovarik), Eddy Trevino, Bruce Chandler (Brother of Marti Rowley), Tammy Smith, Brenda Seeley & Betty Ann Fulgaro (Both friends of the Smith Family), Gregory Acker (Brother of Angela Michels), Michelle Dell, Shannon Strobel, Toni Doyle, Jase Ellsworth (Great-Grandson of Phyllis Hart), Richard Hutchings, Phyllis Hart, Pam Hurst, Katie Florian (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), Rebecca Crites (Friend of Bev Delaney), Micalah Brundage (Step Daughter of Mike Putnam), Lana Miersen, Napoleon Martinez, Jr. (Brother of Elodia Keys), Jim Mosley, Mike (Doc) O'Bryant, Isabelle Wesley, Don & Denise Elliott, Anita Rios (Sister of Jesse Anguiano), Stan Beherns, Pat Shaw, Armando Anguiano, (Brother of Jesse), Juan Chapas, (Friend of Jesse Anguiano), Dave Nickols, Jodi Barber (Friend of Tammy Smith), Tristen Henning, Teresa Arnold (Friend of RoseMarie Thering), Olivia Klein, Haven S. King (Niece of Barb Wight), Steve Bachelder & Mark Sickler (Nephews of Mike & Aloise Bachelder), Allen Smith (Nephew of Pat Brown), Michelle Hurst, Nancy Ferguson (Friend of Cindy Broome), Richard Elliott, (Son of Pat Elliott), Mary Harris, Robert Shaw, Kathryn Okada, (Friend of Porrell's), Donald Jacks, (Son in Law of Diane Stasa), Randy Evans (Son of Ron & Joanne Evans), Matthew Rios, (Great-Grandson of Nita Hughes), Jamie Lester, (Friend of Nita Hughes), Chris Bozung, (Friend of Smith Family), Adam Thering, Patty VanLeiw, Dee Bingham, Sue Hardaker, Bill Lyon, Greg Smith

Remember our service members in your prayers:

Taylor Earl Parsons—Air Force—Space Force
Christian Garza—Army
Fr. Brandon Oman—Air Force
LTC Nathan Cooley - USN
MSGT Joshua Delaney - Air Force
Alexandra Cultra - Navy
Andie Ostrander—Navy (To add names, - contact the office.)
Patrick Schiffer—Air Force
Kelly Brown—Navy
SPC Jared Mersino—Army

ADORATION

St. Isidore Church- Wednesdays

5:30—6:20 pm Adoration & Confessions
6:30 pm Mass
Adoration & Confessions Following Mass
Until 7:30 pm

Holy Family—Thursdays

5:30—6:20 pm Adoration & Confessions
6:30 pm Mass



WEEKLY OFFERTORY Dec. 17 & 18, 2022

St. Isidore Offertory- \$5,582.
Holy Family Offertory - \$3,665
Online Offertory - \$2,085
TOTAL: - \$11,333