

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT

March 24, 2024



March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion



"So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields."

- Mark 11: 7-8

What an ironic twist of events! Jesus is hailed with palm branches as he comes down a street one minute and faces agonizing suffering and death on a cross the next. Does any of this make any sense? They shouted, "Hosanna to our King," out of one side of their mouths and, "crucify him," out of the other. At first glance, it seems like hypocrisy. Yet, when we step back, there may be more truth to the story than we care to admit. We struggle with Jesus. We hail him in our churches but struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. We are fine when we hear pious renderings of his messages and preaching, but we wince when it comes to the part about changing how we conduct business and becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized. We invoke God's name when we want victory and keep silent regarding global solidarity. We talk from both sides of our mouths, too, looking only to what works or suits us at the time and leaving the rest. Each one of us has a person who hails our King with hosannas and a person who is all too willing to choose Jesus over Barabbas for the cross. Something to think about this Holy Week! ~ *Rev. Mark Suslenko*

Collections and Parish Finance

We are grateful for your generous support of our Sacrificial Giving Program.



Report for the week of 3/17/2024:

Weekly collection: \$ 9,665.46
Online Giving: \$ 3,190.50
Total \$ 12,855.96

Annual Chancery Assessment for 2023: \$ 94,171.00

For a more detailed report please visit our website under the **ABOUT** tab. The monthly accountability reports can be found in the Financial Accountability folder.

Check donations should be payable to: **Saints Isidore and Maria**. For online giving, go to our website and click on the **DONATE** tab. Thank you.



2023 Year End Tax Statements

If you would like to receive a tax statement with your total

donations to SS. Isidore and Maria, please contact Melissa by phone (860) 633-9419 or by email: Melissa@isidoreandmaria.org.

Please specify if you would like your statement mailed or emailed to you. **There will not be an automatic mailing of statements. You must request it.** Online Giving users may print out their own statements from the dashboard.

DONATE TO THE ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Help us help others by donating to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal supports many important ministries and programs. Gifts are allocated towards religious education programs, youth ministries, local charities, the education of our seminarians, our retired clergy, our Catholic schools, and the many ministries provided daily by the Archdiocese. If you have not made a gift, please prayerfully consider making a pledge or one-time gift. Join us, your parish community, and Do This in Memory of Me, by sharing your blessings with the less fortunate. Please note that no Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements. Please respond as generously as your means allow.



Apr. 7: Divine Mercy Sunday Chaplet

Sun., Apr. 7 is Divine Mercy Sunday. Join us at St. Augustine Church at 3 p.m. that day as we gather to pray together the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. All are welcome. Curious about the Chaplet of Divine

Mercy? Learn more here: <https://hallow.com/blog/how-to-pray-divine-mercy-chaplet/>



Apr. 28: Mass with Archbishop Christopher Coyne

On Sun., Apr. 28 at the 11: 15 a.m. Mass we welcome Archbishop Christopher Coyne to SS. Isidore and Maria Parish to celebrate Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend this Mass and reception that follow. Please plan to attend to warmly welcome Archbishop Coyne to Glastonbury.



2024 Easter Sanctuary Decoration Fund

Easter marks the most important liturgical time for all Catholics as we celebrate Jesus' victory over sin and death, as well as salvation for all humankind.

We're inviting you to celebrate this joyous occasion with a contribution

to the **SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Easter Sanctuary Decoration Fund**. This fund will be used to purchase the flowers and other decorations that will adorn our churches for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter, through the Easter season until we celebrate Pentecost on May 19.

Memorial and honorary donations are being accepted. To donate, visit <https://isidoreandmaria.org/easterdecor2024>. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

News about upcoming Vacation Bible School Sessions

Due to low enrollment, the Vacation Bible School (VBS) one-half day session scheduled for May 18 has been canceled. Join us June 24-28 for our annual summertime edition of Vacation Bible School - a week of faith, fun and friends! More information coming soon!



March 2024 Pastoral Council Snapshot

The SS. Isidore and Maria Pastoral Council met on Mon., Mar. 11. Learn more about it in the latest Pastoral Council Snapshot, available on the parish website at

<http://isidoreandmaria.org/snapshotmar2024>

"The reason for our existence is to quench the thirst of Jesus. When he asked for water, the soldier gave him vinegar to drink — but his thirst was for love, for souls, for you and me." ~ *Mother Teresa of Calcutta*





Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves

singing hosannas during worship. It becomes trickier when it comes to changing how we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. Like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, we also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but in replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible to find the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path. We have created drugs and

laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate, or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our way.

Where has the authentic, compelling Christian voice been through all the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishment of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all the comings and goings of our human journey, with many of them having the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars, showing us how it can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, and the death with the life, we risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better?

~ Rev. Mark Suslenko



Pray for Those Who Are Serving

God, keep special watch over these men and women serving in the Navy, National Guard, Army, Marine Corps., Air Force, Coast Guard and keep them safe:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tammy Breiner | Peter Kamianowski |
| Oliver Cary | Madeline Lanzi |
| Beau Douglas | Mark J. Lord |
| Celia Fajardo | Samuel MacDonald |
| Brandon Farrell | Alexis Maher |
| Gabe Forthofer | Michael Scott Mullin |
| Kevin Gamache | John W. Murphy |
| Chris Gibb | Drew Scarfone |
| Michael Hitzer | Timothy Sullivan |
| | Jack M. Zaremba |

Thank You to our sponsors

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish sincerely thanks the sponsors whose generosity makes our bulletin possible.

Our Sponsor Spotlight this week:

Glastonbury Oil Company



Apr. 20 & 21: Parish Diaper Drive

The annual Parish Diaper Drive occurs on April 20 and 21 at all Masses. *Diapers of all sizes (and wipes!) are needed.* We challenge all households to drop off one box per family. Get more information on how you can help:

<http://isidoreandmaria.org/diaperdrive2024>.



Apr. 7: Divine Mercy Sunday Chaplet

Sun., Apr. 7 is Divine Mercy Sunday. Join us at St. Augustine Church at 3 p.m. that day as we gather to pray together the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. All are welcome. Curious about the Chaplet of Divine Mercy?

Learn more here: <https://hallow.com/blog/how-to-pray-divine-mercy-chaplet/>



Retreat. Rest. Rediscover.

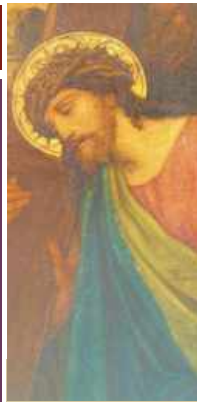
Sometimes, you need a bit of a break from the secular world to become closer to Jesus. Consider embarking upon a Catholic retreat. Whether it's for a half-day, full-day, weekend or longer, there

are several local Catholic retreat centers, each with a full schedule of on-going day and overnight retreats for individuals and groups. Get a list of local retreat centers on the parish website at <http://isidoreandmaria.org/retreats>.

Liturgical Schedule and Intentions

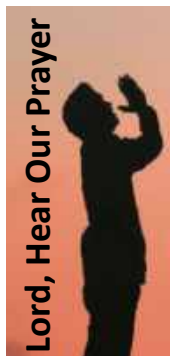
March 24, 2024

Date	Time	Intention	Requested by
Saturday, Mar. 23 <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</i>	4 p.m.	Ruth Kaminski	Family
Sunday, Mar. 24 <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Wanda Urbansky Barbara Vassar Salvatore Prizio	Fran Juda Parish Staff Prizio Family
Monday, Mar. 25 <i>Monday of Holy Week</i>	7:30 a.m. 12-1 p.m.	Geraldine Kane Confession	Elaine Henry & Family
Tuesday, Mar. 26 <i>Tuesday of Holy Week</i>	7:30 a.m.	Linda & Mark Cohau	Elaine Henry & Family
Wednesday, Mar. 27 <i>Wednesday of Holy Week</i>	7:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	Sal Prizio Rosary (St. Augustine Church)	Bill & Carole Kelly
Thursday, Mar. 28 <i>Holy Thursday</i>	6 p.m.	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper	
Friday, Mar. 29 <i>Good Friday</i> <i>Fast & Abstinence</i>	3 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Commemoration of the Lord's Passion Stations of the Cross (St. Augustine Church)	
Saturday, Mar. 30 <i>Holy Saturday</i>	11am-12pm 12:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Confessions Blessing of Food Easter Vigil	
Sunday, Mar. 31 <i>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Lynch & Humphry Family Henry A. Barrera (31st. Anniv.) Emil Sapere	Family Pat & Grandchildren Pulito Family



My God,
my God,
why
have you
abandoned
me?
Psalm 22

We welcome parishioners to add prayer intentions for family members free of charge in the bulletin for one (1) month. To do so, please contact the parish office at 860-633-9419 or contact@isidoreandmaria.org. We cannot publish the names of friends. Thank you for your understanding.



Prayer Intentions

Ellona Bilotta	Gilbert Morin
James Bilotta	Samantha Rapp
Sandra Cavanna	Baby Sage
Thomas Cavanna	Rachel Sage
Chris Delissio	Frank Schultz
Brian Faxon	Andrea Villegas
Rita Henson	Mary E. Wallace
Sheila Kimball	Roger Yost



Glastonbury Holocaust Remembrance Project Contest for High School Students

The Glastonbury Holocaust Remembrance Project (GHRP) is sponsoring a contest open to all high school age students (grades 9-12) living in Glastonbury. Students wishing to enter must answer the question, "What action can individuals and groups take to diminish prejudice and hatred in our community which lead to discrimination, violence, divisiveness and anti-semitism?" Students may choose to submit an essay, poem, oral interview, video, painting or multimedia project. **Deadline for submissions is Apr. 1.** Cash awards will include \$500 to the 1st place winner, \$250 to the 2nd place winner and \$150 to the 3rd place winner. Student submissions will be on display during the inaugural Glastonbury Holocaust Remembrance Evening on Thurs., May 9 at 7 p.m. at First Church of Christ, Congregational, 2183 Main St. Glastonbury. For more information or to enter, visit <https://ghrp.net/>.

Pray for peace in the Holy Land



HOLY WEEK 2024

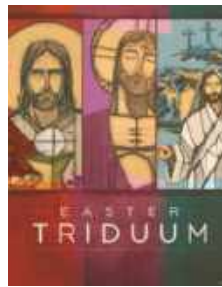
Sacrament of Reconciliation Schedule

The final session of Monday reconciliations will take place on Mon., Mar. 25, at St. Paul Church from 12 noon - 1 p.m.



Scripture Readings for the Week

- SUN 3/24/24** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/ Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39
- MON 3/25/24** Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11
- TUE 3/26/24** Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
- WED 3/27/24** Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25
- THR 3/28/24** **Chrism Mass:** Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/ Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
- FRI 3/29/24** Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42
- SAT 3/30/24** **Easter Vigil:** Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/ Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/ Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/ Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/ Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/ Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7
- SUN 3/31/24** Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/ Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7



- **Holy Thursday:** March 28 at 6 p.m. (with live stream)
- **Good Friday:** March 29 at 3 p.m. (with live stream)



Mar. 29: Stations of the Cross Location Change for Good Friday

The location for Stations of the Cross on Good Friday (Mar. 29) has changed! It will be held at **St. Augustine Church** at 6:30 p.m.

- **Confessions:** March 30 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon (in lieu of regular Saturday schedule)
- **Blessing of Food:** March 30 at 12:30 p.m.
- **Easter Vigil:** March 30 at 7:30 p.m. (with live stream)
- **Easter Sunday:** March 31 at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m.



ImmaCare Inc.

Donations, Food Needed for ImmaCare

Thank you to those who donated items and served for this month's ImmaCare dinners held on Mar. 1 and Mar. 8. The dates for the next ImmaCare dinners are **Fri., Apr. 5 and Fri., Apr. 12**. All are welcome to participate by preparing food or helping to deliver and serve our meals at the shelter.

In addition, ImmaCare's Outreach Program continues to seek food to supplement their street outreach program, which provides nourishment five days each week to the unhoused living on the street, in abandoned buildings, or wherever shelter can be found. A list of needed items is available at <http://isidoreandmaria.org/immacare>. **Our parish's next pickup is on Thurs., Apr. 4.** Items may be left at either St. Augustine Church or St. Paul Church.

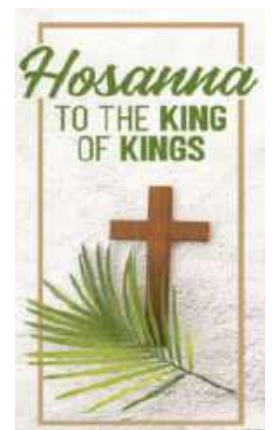


Invigorating Faith: The Men's Ministry

Are you seeking a deeper connection with your faith? A community of brothers who walk alongside you in your spiritual journey? Look no further.

The men of SS. Isidore and Maria Parish are invited to explore Men's Ministry – a dynamic, small-group experience designed to empower men to live out their faith boldly and authentically. Men's Ministry is a fellowship of Catholic men seeking to enrich their relationships with God and apply their faith to their daily lives. It is more than just a gathering; it's a transformative experience designed to nurture spiritual growth, foster brotherhood, and equip men to become leaders in their families, workplaces, and communities.

Want to learn more? Men's Ministry meets each Saturday at 7 a.m. sharp in Father Bannon Hall at St. Dunstan Church, 1345 Manchester Rd. Drop by, say hi, and explore the possibility of deepening your faith life.



Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

Despite his suffering, we hear how the prophet Isaiah found strength in his faith and fidelity to God. *How does your faith help you through professional or family challenges?*

Second Reading:

Paul taught that central to Jesus's identity was his humility and obedience to God. *How well do you practice these Christian virtues?*

Gospel:

We hear today Mark's account of the Passion of our Lord. *How do you prepare yourself to listen to the passion narrative?*

"Joyful acclamations at Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, followed by his humiliation. Festive cries, followed by brutal torture. This twofold mystery accompanies our entrance into Holy Week each year." ~ Pope Francis

This Day in History — March 30, 2024



Świeconka means "the blessing of the Easter baskets." It is one of the most enduring and beloved Polish traditions on Holy Saturday during Easter, dating back to the early history of Poland. The tradition of food blessing at Easter has early medieval roots in Christian society, possibly originating from a pagan ritual. The basic form dates from the 7th century. The more modern form containing bread and eggs (symbols of resurrection and Christ) dates from the 12th century.

Baskets containing a sampling of Easter foods are brought to church on Holy Saturday to be blessed. According to local traditions, the food blessed in the church remains untouched until Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning.

Harry, let's remind all our friends about this beautiful tradition. Maybe our Dad will make us a basket of treats for a blessing too!

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish holds its food blessing this year on Sat., Mar. 30, at 12:30 p.m. at St. Paul Church.



Harry & Oliver's Corner

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/swieconka>

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Directory

Clergy

Rev. Mark S. Suslenko, Pastor
William G. Dziatko, Deacon
Stephen L. Weaver, Deacon

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Program Coordinator
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Weekend Masses

St. Paul Church
Sat. Vigil: 4 p.m.
Sun.: 8 a.m.
Sun.: 9:30 a.m.
Sun.: 11:15 a.m.

Daily Mass

St. Paul Church
Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7:30 a.m.
Fri.: 12:15 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions at St. Paul Church Sat. 2:30 p.m.

Live streaming of weekend Mass

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish live streams the 4 p.m. Vigil Mass each Saturday from St. Paul Church. Please join us on Facebook, YouTube or the parish website to view the stream. Rebroadcasts of the 4 p.m. Vigil may be found at <https://www.youtube.com/@SSIsidoreandMariaParish>.

Announcements about additional live streamed liturgies may be found on the parish website, e-newsletter, bulletin and/or St. Paul Church bulletin boards.

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each Fri. following the 12:15 p.m. daily Mass (approximately 12:45 p.m.) at St. Paul Church. It concludes at 2 p.m.

Rosary

Pray the Rosary each Tues. evening at 7 p.m. at St. Augustine Church.

How to Report an Incident of Sexual Abuse to the Archdiocese of Hartford

If you have knowledge or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult (an adult with an intellectual disability) has been sexually abused, in any manner, by personnel of the Archdiocese of Hartford, you are urged to report this information to:

Faith Vos Winkel, MSW

Victim Assistance Coordinator
860-541-6475
faith.voswinkel@aohct.org



Looking to update your parish registration? Or register with SS. Isidore and Maria Parish? Scan this

handy QR code to begin the process.

Bulletin submission deadline is Friday. All bulletin submissions must be received no later than each Friday, nine days before the requested bulletin publication date. Please submit your request at <http://isidoreandmaria.org/commform>.

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