



SS. Isidore and Maria Parish

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



Thank you, Father Mark!

With love from your grateful people.



May God bless you!
Ad Multos Annos!

November 9, 2025

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica



"His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'" - John 2:17

Parish Support

Collections and Parish Finance

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



Report for the week of 11/2/2025:

Weekly collection:	\$ 11,612.16
Online Giving:	\$ 3,596.00
Total:	\$ 13,208.16
All Saints	\$ 1,159.00
Military	\$ 1,573.00
Parish Appeal	\$ 95,434.00

Annual Chancery Assessment for fiscal year 2025:
\$ 131,798.00

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.

Nov. 15 & 16: Hurricane Melissa Relief Collection

The effects of Hurricane Melissa have seriously impacted our sisters and brothers in the Caribbean. Recognizing that many parishes in the Archdiocese of Hartford have family, friends and relatives in Jamaica, Cuba and Haiti, we are taking up a second collection to help with relief efforts. Please make place your donations in an envelope marked "hurricane relief" in the donation collection kiosks, with checks made out to SS. Isidore and Maria Parish, and "hurricane relief" in the memo line. Thanks!



PODCAST: Living in Joyful Hope!

In this episode of *Living in Faith, Hope & Love*, Father Mark reflects on what it means to **live in joyful hope of the resurrection**. He shares three powerful lessons drawn from the Feast of All Souls — presumption, purification, and prayer — reminding us that God's work in us is ongoing,

transforming us into the fullness of who we are meant to be. Listen now at <https://isidoreandmaria.org/podcasts>.



Branches on the Vine Nov. 8 - Nov. 14, 2025

Parishioners at a Plainville parish are cultivating community through gardening. Get

the full story in the latest edition of *Branches on the Vine* from the Archdiocese of Hartford:
<https://isidoreandmaria.org/category/branches-on-the-vine>.

Inspiration for the Week by Rev. Mark Suslenko

Are we ready and prepared for what life will ask of us? The answers to life's challenges, especially those involving purpose, meaning, and happiness, are not found in material things or in searching the Internet. Many things in life require a journey of the heart and the acquisition of wisdom. When one acquires wisdom, one acquires priceless wealth. Sadly, pursuing wisdom is not valued by the world today. Examining our lives, pondering the bigger questions, reflecting on where we have been, and where we are going, are invaluable exercises that not only bring us wisdom but open our eyes to God's presence. Those who seek wisdom shall not be disappointed and will always be ready for whatever comes their way.

Nov. 2 - Jan. 3: Vocations Prayer Drive

During **National Vocations Awareness Week** (Nov. 2 - 8), the parish **Vocations Ministry** kicks off its first-ever prayer drive! The ministry asks parishioners to pledge any amount of time to pray for more vocations for the Catholic Church. Pledge any amount of time per day, week, or month by visiting the link below. The prayer drive continues **through Jan. 2, 2026**. Make your pledge here:
<https://isidoreandmaria.org/vocationsprayerdrive>.

Nov. 8 & 9: Blood Pressure Screenings

The Parish Wellness Ministry conducts its monthly blood pressure screenings, provided free of charge, after the 4 p.m. Mass on Sat., Nov. 8, and after the **8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses on Sun., Nov. 9**. Screenings are held in the conference room of the South Wing of St. Paul Church. *All participant names and results are confidential.*



Thanksgiving Meal Assistance Available

If you or someone you know is having difficulty providing a Thanksgiving meal this year, please contact Melissa in the Parish Office at 860-633-9419, or by email. *Baskets filled with food items will be available*

for pickup on Nov. 24 or Nov. 25 in the library of St. Paul church between 9 a.m. and 12 noon.



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

Our Sponsor Spotlight this week:
BROTHERS OIL CO.
860-289-9468

"You will see by this that no man should be judged by another here in this life, for the good or evil he has done. Deeds may be properly judged, whether they are good or bad, but not men."

~ *The Cloud of Unknowing* Translation by Clifton Wolters

Eucharist

“There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us.”

+++ St. John Maria Vianney

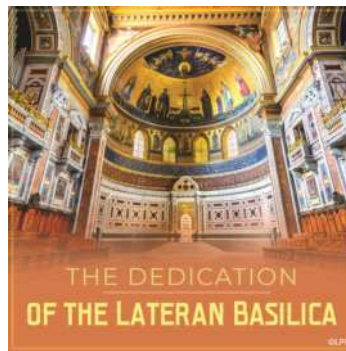
Date	Time	Intention	Requested by
Saturday, Nov. 8 <i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	4 p.m.	Raymond & Katherine Faith Zielinski	Zielinski Family
Sunday, Nov. 9 <i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	David Merrick Austin Kilbourn Cecile & Anthony Senna	Jim & Margaret LaCroix Family Family
Monday, Nov. 10 <i>St. Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church</i>	7:30 a.m.	Catherine & Stanley Slivonik & Dr. William Henry	Elaine Henry & Family
Tuesday, Nov. 11 <i>St. Martin of Tours, Bishop Veteran's Day</i>	7:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	Albert B. Pellegrino Pray the Rosary (St. Augustine Church)	Kathy & Gerry Brooks
Wednesday, Nov. 12 <i>St. Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr</i>	7:30 a.m.	Roland Eckstrom	Family
Thursday, Nov. 13 <i>St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin</i>	No Mass		
Friday, Nov. 14 <i>Weekday</i>	12:15 p.m.	James Rice	Family
	After Mass until 3 p.m. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament		
Saturday, Nov. 15 <i>Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Robert Malone	Family
Sunday, Nov. 16 <i>Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Edward Bona Robert Kelly Mary Lou McKenna	Family Patrice & Richard Ehrhardt Daughters



Remember in Your Prayers

Ellona Bilotta	Jennifer Graham	Garland Taylor
James Bilotta	Dan Hebert	Doreen Thurz
Diane Varni	Keith Henson	Bill Vassar, Jr.
Caisse	Julia Miller	Andrea Villegas
Sandra Cavanna	Gilbert Morin	Mary E. Wallace
Thomas Cavanna	Stephen O'Brien	Glyn Wellum
Chris Delissio	George Pappas	Roger Yost
Robin DiTarando	Peter Savidge	Beverly Czepiel
Brian Faxon	Frank Schultz	Zadroga

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.



Basilica Versus Cathedral

Question:

What is the difference between a basilica and a cathedral?

Answer:

Basilicas are churches that are so titled because of their antiquity, dignity, historical importance, or significance as centers of worship. A cathedral is the principal church of a diocese, which contains the chair of the bishop, or “cathedra” in Latin. The chair is the symbol of the bishop’s teaching authority.

Pray for peace in the Holy Land



Nov. 11: Wellness Ministry Meeting

The Parish Wellness Ministry will meet on Tues., Nov. 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the education wing of St. Paul Church. All interested in the wellness of our community are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Sue Ryan at wellness@isidoreandmaria.org.



Nov. 12: NAMI Family Support Group

The SS. Isidore and Maria Wellness Ministry and the Connecticut Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) welcome all to a free, confidential, peer-led family support group for any adult with a loved one who has experienced symptoms of a mental health condition. The group meets on **Wed.,**

Nov. 12, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the classroom wing of St. Paul Church.



Nov. 12: Wake Me Up When It's Over

How to Get Through the Holidays When You're Grieving

The holidays can be especially difficult when you're grieving the loss of a loved one. Join **Karen Carney-Pilkington, RN, LCSW,** and **Bill Pilkington, MA, STM, Ed.D.,** at St. Paul Church on **Wed., Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m.** for an evening of comfort, understanding, and hope.

Karen and Bill are compassionate professionals with deep expertise in death, dying, and bereavement. Together, they'll lead an interactive presentation and discussion designed to help you — or someone you love — find ways to navigate this tender season with gentleness and care.

Presented by our **Wellness and Bereavement Ministries.** Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. No RSVP required. For more information, email Lorraine at jacobslorraine23@comcast.net.



CONFIRMATION RETREAT 2025

Thanks to all who participated in the Confirmation Retreat for nearly 80 ninth- and tenth-graders. The daylong retreat at St. Junipero Serra Parish in South Windsor was an essential part of the Confirmandi's preparation. The tenth-grade students will receive Confirmation this spring, and the ninth graders will receive it in the fall of 2026 as the Archdiocese and this parish transition to Confirmation in grade eight. The establishment of a Youth Group following Confirmation is a priority, and more information will be forth coming. The Youth Group will initially serve those students who have received Confirmation through the end of senior year of high school.



Regina's Writings: Feed First. Ask Questions Later

In this moving reflection by M. Regina Cram (adapted from Facebook's *Things That Make You Think*), she shares a story of one woman's simple act of kindness toward a hungry child and how it grows into a powerful reminder that "kindness isn't a program — it's a way of life." Read the full column at

<https://isidoreandmaria.org/category/reginas-writings>.



Dec. 11: Parish Book Club Meeting

The next Parish Book Club meeting will be on Thurs., Dec. 11, at 1 p.m., in the education wing of the St. Paul campus.

The book selection is "**The Women of Christmas,**" by Liz Curtis Higgs. The book recounts the story of three

sacred women of the season: Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna. Following in their footsteps, you, too, can prepare for the Savior to enter your heart, your mind, and your life in a vibrant, new way.

The book is available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble. All are welcome to participate. Registered is required. Visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/bookclubdec2025>.

If you believe what you like in the gospels, and reject what you don't like, it is not the gospel you believe, but yourself. ~*Saint Augustine*



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:

Connor Blomstrom	Kevin Gamache	Samuel MacDonald
Tammy Breiner	Chris Gibb	Alexis Maher
Aaron Bryant	Darius Gittens	Michael Scott Mullin
Beau Douglas	Michael Hitzer	John W. Murphy
Celia Fajardo	Peter Kamianowski	Drew Scarfone
Brandon Farrell	Madeline Lanzi	Timothy Sullivan
Gabe Forthofer	Mark J. Lord	Jack M. Zaremba
	Gannon Lynch	

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Priesthood

Question:

If someone is interested in becoming a priest, how does he go about it?

Answer:

Discerning a vocation can happen in any number of ways. It might come as a surprise to the person called or to family or friends. Sometimes it is a gradual process, and other times it is as quick and bright as lightning. Regardless of how it starts, a vocation to the priesthood or religious life requires a process of discerning, testing, and preparing. The best place to begin would be with lots of prayer, receiving the sacraments, and attending daily Mass whenever possible. Then talk to your pastor or a priest you know and trust. Your diocese may have a vocation director who can provide you with guidance and information. The Serra Club is also a great resource for information and contacts to help you discern if indeed God is calling you.

Remember that many young Catholic men have considered the priesthood. Some are ordained and others realize this is not their calling. However, we are all called to be of service to others as we practice our faith. These are extraordinary times in which we live, and they require an extraordinary witness to faith and to God's presence in the world. Our work, our ministry as Catholics, is to be the body of Christ with and for others. The Church needs priests. If God calls you to ordained service in the church, He will provide the grace, direction, and support you need. Just listen and respond with all your heart, mind, and soul.

Readings of the Week

- SUN 11/9/25** Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22
- MON 11/10/25** Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10/Lk 17:1-6
- TUES 11/11/25** Wis 2:23-3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/Lk 17:7-10
- WED 11/12/25** Wis 6:1-11/Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19
- THR 11/13/25** Wis 7:22b-8:1/Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135, 175/Lk 17:20-25
- FRI 11/14/25** Wis 13:1-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/Lk 17:26-37
- SAT 11/15/25** Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43/Lk 18:1-8
- SUN 11/16/25** Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 (see 9)/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
~Amen~

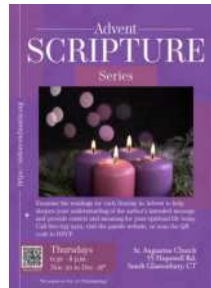


UPDATE from the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation

Nov. 12:

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Box Collection

The Office of Lifelong Faith Formation is again sponsoring this year the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Box collection. The assembly of these boxes will take place on Wed., Nov. 12, 2025, from 6-7:30 p.m. in the South Wing. All families and especially teens are invited to assist. Information about what is needed for the boxes was sent home recently with all students and is also available from the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation.



Nov. 20: Advent Scripture Series Begins

Similar to the highly successful Lenten Scripture series from earlier this year, parishioner **Walter Twachtman** will lead an Advent Scripture Series designed to help parishioners deepen their understanding of each Sunday reading during Advent. You'll examine the author's intended message, the relationship between the weekly readings, and their meaning for today's spiritual life. This series is being offered FREE on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. from Nov. 20 – Dec. 18 (no meeting on Thanksgiving, Nov. 27) at St. Augustine Church. Registration is requested at <http://isidoreandmaria.org/adventscriptureseries25>.

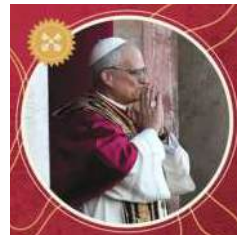
Thanksgiving Food Basket Collection—The Office of Lifelong Faith Formation will handle the collection of items and assembly of baskets on Nov. 21 at 4 p.m. Flyers were sent home last week. Thanks to all who volunteered to assist.

Please consider donating the following according to grade level:

- Grade 1 – Thanksgiving paper plates and napkins
- Grade 2 – boxed mashed potatoes or stuffing mix
- Grade 3 – boxed muffin mix or coffee
- Grade 4 – 6 – canned vegetables
- Grade 7 – 8 – canned fruit
- Grade 9 – jars of cranberry sauce or jelly/jam
- Grade 10 – jars of turkey gravy or mayonnaise

Items should be brought to the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation or the classroom BEFORE Nov. 20.

IMPORTANT: Volunteers are needed to assemble the bags on **Fri., Nov. 21, 2025, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Library.** Please email faithformation@isidoreandmaria.org or call 860-633-9419 to register to volunteer. Any questions, please email faithformation@isidoreandmaria.org.



Pope Leo's Monthly Prayer Intention for NOVEMBER

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

The prophet Ezekiel envisions a future of restoration and renewal for the exiled Israelites held captive in Babylon. *What future do you hope for with your family?*

Second Reading:

Paul tells us that as believers in Christ, the Spirit dwells in us, making us holy, the temple of God. *Can you share a time when you felt the Holy Spirit active in your life?*

Gospel:

The disciples understood the full meaning of Jesus' cleansing of the temple only after his resurrection from the dead. *What has hindsight taught you about your life?*

This Day in History — Nov. 9, 2025



Oliver and I are so proud of our Dad. He has dedicated his whole life in loving service to God and His people. We will be his faithful companions on this new journey, too. Our Dad will have time to rest, pray, write and maybe even go fishing to catch his own dinner! He will also have more time to give us plenty of treats!!



Congratulations, Dad!

Harry & Oliver's Corner

860-633-9419

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Directory

www.isidoreandmaria.org

Clergy

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

Parish Staff

Donna Berger
Director of Volunteers and Ministries
donna@isidoreandmaria.org

Elizabeth Cafarella

Office Assistant
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Mary Helmlinger

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Melissa Lacafta

Admin. Assistant to the Pastor
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Theresa Scalia, Bulletin Editor

Carol Vassar

Director of Communications
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Tyme Baez

Director of Music Ministries
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Lifelong Faith Formation

Ted Musco, Director

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation
ted@isidoreandmaria.org

Ann Poker

Program Coordinator
ann@isidoreandmaria.org

Weekend Masses

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

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>.

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



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handy QR code to begin the process.

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St. Isidore & Maria Parishioner



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Mark Ostrowski is a parishioner, and Co-Chair of Shipman's Litigation Department. He has over 36 years representing businesses and individuals in the Connecticut Courts. Mark represents individuals and estates in all types of personal injuries and death cases ranging from fire injuries, aviation losses, auto accidents and product related injuries. There is no legal fee unless there is a recovery.



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