



SS. Isidore and Maria Parish

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



January 25, 2026

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." - Matthew 4:19

Do you feel overly oppressed or burdened by life's demands or unsettled and anxious about where you find yourself? Many walk through life carrying hefty sacks on their shoulders that weigh them down. Moments of joy and light are few and far between, with darkness and disappointment being the norm. God desires that we live in light and experience joy. Christ has revealed this to us. Often, we give the world and the things we have created too much power over us. We lose our sense of playfulness and freedom and allow other people and things to define and influence us. We are asked to reclaim ourselves today and realize that we are being asked to spread a Gospel of joy. Are we able and willing to do this? ~ Rev. Mark Suslenko



Registration now open for Vacation Bible School 2026: Passport to Peace!

The SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Office of Lifelong Formation hosts its annual Vacation Bible School (VBS): Passport to Peace at

St. Paul Church from Mon., June 22 - Fri., June 26 between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. The cost is \$40 for one child, or \$60 for a family, with free-will donations being sought for the Glastonbury Food Bank. Teen and adult volunteers are also needed for this program! For details or to register, visit <https://isidoreandmaria.org/vbs2026>.



Tenth Annual Coats for Kids a Success!

The **Glastonbury Knights of Columbus** and the parish **Wellness Ministry** extend their thanks to everyone who supported the tenth annual **Coats for Kids** program. Nearly 150 coats were distributed to 61 Glastonbury families through the town's Social Services Department. In addition hats, mittens, gloves, and scarfs were also distributed. Remaining items were delivered to the **Cathedral of Saint Joseph Food Pantry** in Hartford.



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

Our Sponsor Spotlight this week:
KESER'S FLOWERS
860-633-4621

Parish Support

Collections and Parish Finance

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



Report for the week of 1/18/2026:

Weekly collection: \$ 5,485.75
Online Giving: \$ 4,007.00
Total: \$ 9,492.75

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.



Requesting 2025 Year-End Tax Statements

If you would like to receive a tax statement with your total donations to SS. Isidore and Maria in 2025, please get in touch with Melissa by

phone **(860) 633-9419** or contact@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. **PLEASE NOTE:** *Online Giving users may print out their statements from the Online Giving dashboard.*



Branches on the Vine Jan. 24-30, 2026

As demand for Catholic education continues to grow, a new Catholic high school plans to open its doors this fall in New Britain to serve families in central Connecticut. It's in the latest edition of Branches on the Vine from the Archdiocese of Hartford:

<https://isidoreandmaria.org/category/branches-on-the-vine>.

Parish Director of Lifelong Faith Formation Visits Germany!



Ted Musco, our Parish Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, recently returned from a trip to Regensburg, Germany, and brought along a copy of the Glastonbury Citizen! Ted was there as a guest of Dr. Rudolf Voderholze, Bishop of Regensburg, in the German state of Bavaria. He toured the extensive Nativity scene collection of the

Regensburg diocese, which fits with Ted's overall view that Nativity scenes, large and small, are a truly powerful evangelization tool.

Wellness Ministry Provides Online Resources

The parish Wellness Ministry is providing online wellness resources on the parish website. These resources cover such topics as mental health, addiction, and the dangers of social media, and will be updated regularly. Be sure to bookmark this page:

<https://isidoreandmaria.org/wellness>

Parish Pulse is our weekly e-newsletter, delivered to your inbox each Thurs. Get ready for your weekend with all the latest parish news and events by subscribing to the e-newsletter today! <http://isidoreandmaria.org/parishpulse>.



Regina's Writings: Baptism Day

Do you know what day you were baptized? In the Cram family, it's cause for celebration with a bottle of root beer! Their matriarch and our columnist, M. Regina Cram,

explains this unique tradition in her latest column:

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

Blessing of Light

Where you have known darkness, may the light stretch and shine. Where you have dwelt in shadows, may the sun reach its gentle rays. Where you have hidden in shame, may you know light-filled redemption, healing, belonging, and rest in Jesus. Amen.

©LPi



PHOTO GALLERY: Hospitality Weekend Jan. 2026 Were you spotted at the most recent Hospitality Weekend on Jan. 17/18? Here's a link to the full photo gallery, and be sure to get ready for our next **Hospitality Weekend on Feb. 14 & 15!** <http://isidoreandmaria.org/hospitalityjan26>

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, Jan. 24 <i>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Bruce Berlet	Frank & Stephanie Ferrall
Sunday, Jan. 25 <i>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Catholic Schools Week Begins</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Skip Thomas Fay Marie Kelly Liz Brodeur	Rob & Kara Zdrojeski Patrice & Richard Ehrhardt Pulito Family
Monday, Jan. 26 <i>SS. Timothy & Titus, Bishops</i>	7:30 a.m.	D. Joon Yoo	Family
Tuesday, Jan. 27 <i>St. Angela Merici, Virgin & Religious Founder</i>	7:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	Donald T. Eberhardt Pray the Rosary (St. Augustine Church)	Kathie & Family
Wednesday, Jan. 28 <i>St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church</i>	7:30 a.m.	Paul Cavanna	Bucior Family
Thursday, Jan. 29 <i>Weekday</i>	NO MASS		
Friday, Jan. 30 <i>Weekday</i>	12:15 p.m.	Bridget McHugh	Friends
	After Mass Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 2 p.m.		
Saturday, Jan. 31 <i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Peter Murray	Family
Sunday, Feb. 1 <i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Tom Massaro Paul Cavanna Florence Mulcahy	Clisham Family Michele Wierzgac & Susan Kenealy Family

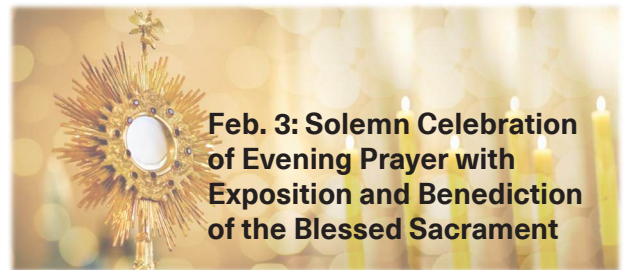
If you are offering a Mass Intention and you and your loved ones would like to bring up the gifts, please see the greeters prior to the start of Mass. One of them will be happy to assist you.



Remember in Your Prayers

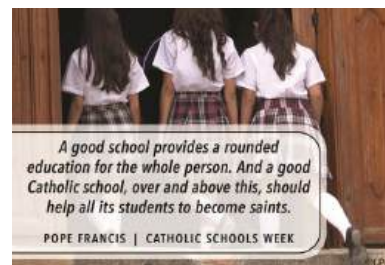
Ellona Bilotta	Robin DiTarando	Frank Schultz
James Bilotta	Brian Faxon	Garland Taylor
Ginny Blasko	Jennifer Graham	Doreen Thurz
Ron Blasko	Dan Hebert	Bill Vassar, Jr.
Gus Brodeur	Keith Henson	Andrea Villegas
Lorraine Brodeur	Julia Miller	Mary E. Wallace
Diane Varni	Gilbert Morin	Glyn Wellum
Caisse	Stephen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

We welcome parishioners to add prayer intentions for family members free of charge in the bulletin. 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.



Join us on Tues., Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul Church for the next **Solemn Celebration of Evening Prayer and Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**.

This service is an hour of traditional prayer and music. It includes the recitation of The Liturgy of the Hours and the Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It is a wonderful opportunity to focus on Jesus Christ and his presence in the Eucharist.





It was a typical day by all accounts, but John wasn't feeling himself. He was a little lightheaded and out of sorts. Later in the afternoon, he experienced chest pressure and a sharp pain in his arm. Quick thinking and action brought John to the Emergency Department with a diagnosis of a significant heart attack. Surviving this ordeal, he found himself face-to-face with his cardiologist, having an honest conversation about what needed

to change. "I came close to death," John found himself thinking. Then came the remorse. He was a young man with a loving wife and children who were very close to facing life without him. John found himself with intense sorrow for living an unchecked and self-indulgent life that almost brought him to his demise. He wanted to change.

We all have our wake-up calls. We have experiences and encounters that call us to really think twice about the choices we have made and the directions we have taken. Often, we find ourselves looking those we have hurt square in the eye

and wallowing in our foolishness. We regrettably realize that we have allowed our ego needs to lure us into making some cruel mistakes. We impulsively say things and flippantly do things that reveal our unredeemed and unhealed selves. It is a self we stumble over and try to tame, but can't quite seem to master and control. Help!

We spin our wheels naively thinking that we will somehow, perhaps through persistence, get ourselves unstuck. But, we don't. We stumble along, feeling very helpless, and look at the mess we've gotten ourselves into. Did we ever ask someone for help? Or, take the advice of One who is wiser and avoids this route altogether? "Come after me" are words that Jesus says to all of us. To heed his invitation, we have to leave our ego-self behind and follow. When we really see and understand the freedom, peace, justice, and love he offers, we find ourselves with such sorrow in our hearts for how foolish and silly we have been. All the misguided choices and sinful actions come into full view, and we see how risky our random, impassioned behaviors really are. Repentance is beautiful. When done with a sincere and contrite heart, it directs us to the glory that can be ours, ignites us with the challenge of living a life in service of others. It reminds us of what is important and that all is well.

Hope for Haiti Needs Your Help!

The SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Haiti group needs your help to provide burial clothes for the deceased in Haiti.

It is common for a funeral to cost more than a family earns in a single year in Haiti. Through generously sharing our time, talent, and treasure, our parish will prepare and send burial clothes to Haiti so that the deceased may be buried with dignity. There are various ways that you can help out with this effort:

The most significant need right are donations of clean, stain-free white sheets. Flat sheets are preferred but fitted can also be used. Please bring your donations to the parish office.

Volunteers are also needed to help with simple sewing. Thank you in advance for your help!



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
Bryan Coco	Michael Hitzer	John W. Murphy
Beau Douglas	Peter Kamianowski	Drew Scarfone
Celia Fajardo	Madeline Lanzi	Timothy Sullivan
Brandon Farrell	Mark J. Lord	Jack M. Zaremba
Gabe Forthofer	Gannon Lynch	



Scripture Readings for the Week

- SUN 1/25/26** Is 8:23-9:3/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17
- MON 1/26/26** 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30
- TUES 1/27/26** 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35
- WED 1/28/26** 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20
- THR 1/29/26** 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25
- FRI 1/30/26** 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34
- SAT 1/31/26** 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41
- SUN 2/1/26** Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

Most of us were taught that God would love us if and when we change. In fact, God loves you so that you can change. What empowers change, what makes you desirous of change is the experience of love. It is that inherent experience of love that becomes the engine of change. ~ Richard Rohr

UPDATE from the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation

THE SACRED TABLE INITIATIVE AND YOUTH MINISTRY — WHERE PARISH LEADERS AND PARENTS MEET

Archbishop Coyne recently issued a memorandum regarding a call to unite efforts in raising disciples in the home. He writes that the Sacred Table initiative “is about listening to one another with empathy and sincerity.” The entire Church needs to support families by uniting ministry leaders and parents in the process of lifelong faith formation.

Special thanks to **Mrs. Nicole Hamilton**, a mom of five and active catechist, who has come forward to lead this Sacred Table initiative, with special emphasis on the establishment of outreach to youth in grades eight through twelve. She and I will work with an interested group of parents and young people as well as attend an Archdiocesan workshop in January to learn more about implementing the Sacred Table initiative. More details will follow.

GREAT NEWS FOR LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION — YOUTH GROUP FOR GRADES EIGHT THROUGH TWELVE — INITIAL GATHERINGS BEGIN IN FEBRUARY 2026

Planning is underway for a variety of opportunities for those teens in grades eight through twelve. These gatherings will help youth encounter Christ more deeply, grow both personally and spiritually, and enter fully into the mission and life of the Church. As I have mentioned previously, the youth group should meet the needs of our youth, and therefore those who are interested are invited to be involved in the planning. No special talent is required. All are welcome, including those who recently were Confirmed in 2023 and 2024.

If your teen is interested in joining this planning process or participating in a service project or activity, please send Mrs. Hamilton an email at faithformation@isidoreandmaria.org and we'll be in touch.



Feb. 17: Youth Ministry Mardi Gras Celebration

The new Parish Youth Ministry invites teens in grades 8–12 to kick off Lent with a Mardi Gras-style gathering on Tues., Feb. 17, from 6–8 p.m. in the Library of St. Paul Church. This evening of

community and celebration is the first of three Lenten gatherings offered for teens this season. Refreshments will be provided. RSVPs are required. To register, visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/mardigras26>. Questions? Contact **Nicole Hamilton** at FaiThFormation@isidoreandmaria.org

Pray for peace in the Holy Land



Thank you for your generosity in supporting the parish's ImmaCare Ministry. ImmaCare has indicated they remain in need of the following specific items:

- Short-Sleeve T-Shirts
- Long-Sleeve T-Shirts
- Hoodies/Sweatshirts
- White crew and athletic socks
- Cases of bottled water
- Plastic Forks (can be bulk)
- Plastic Spoons (can be bulk)

This is part of ImmaCare's Outreach Program, which continues throughout the month. To see the full list of items needed (and picked up on the first Thursday of each month), visit the link below. Items collected go to supplement ImmaCare's 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.

The schedule of ImmaCare events for Feb. is as follows:

Thurs., Feb. 5: ImmaCare Pickup
Fri., Feb. 6: ImmaCare Dinner Night
Fri., Feb. 13: ImmaCare Dinner Night

For ImmaCare Dinner Nights, anyone is welcome to participate by preparing food or helping to deliver and serve our meals at the shelter.

To volunteer, please visit <https://isidoreandmaria.org/immacare>.



Jan. 31: Lenten Children's Retreat (VBS style)

The Office of Lifelong Faith Formation invites children from age 4 through grade 3 to join us for a Lenten Children's Retreat (VBS style) on Sat.,

Jan. 31, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at St. Paul Church. This engaging morning will help children learn about and prepare for Lent through Bible stories, games, arts and crafts, and music—while enjoying time with friends. There is no fee to attend; a free-will offering with a suggested donation to the Glastonbury Food Bank will be accepted. RSVPs are required. Please visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/vbsjan26> to register. For questions, please contact Kimberlee Algieri at vbs@isidoreandmaria.org. *Snow date is Feb. 7.*



Feb. 19: Parish Book Club

The next Parish Book Club meeting will be on **Thurs., Feb. 19, at 1 p.m.**, in the education wing of the St. Paul campus. The book selection is “**Thunder Dog**” by Michael Hingson. It is the true story of a blind man and

his guide dog Roselle's incredible journey of survival as they escaped from the World Trade Center during the Sept 11 attacks. To learn more or to register, visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/bookclubfeb26>



Cookie Ministry Needs Bakers

The **Cookie Ministry** - a combined ministry of St. Dunstan Parish and SS. Isidore and Maria Parish - last year provided an incredible 377.7 pounds of baked goods for the residents at Saint Joseph's cared for by the Little Sisters of the Poor in Enfield! More bakers are needed from both parishes to make this ministry bigger and better in 2026. For more information or to become a volunteer baker, please contact **Anna Marie Samulis** at 203-500-1972, or via email at amsamulis@cox.net.



Feb. 7: Wedding Anniversary Mass

On Sat., Feb. 7, 2026, The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne, Archbishop of Hartford, will honor couples celebrating milestone marriage anniversaries: first and five-year increments from 5 to 60 years, and every year beyond 60 years, during 2025 – 2026.

The **Marriage Anniversary Mass** is in conjunction with National Marriage Week (Feb. 7-14), and will be at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford at 4 p.m. Registration is requested and closes January 21. (Snow date if necessary - February 28).

Questions? Contact **Valerie St. Jean**, Associate Director of Adult & Family Life Ministries at 860-541-6491 ext. 2678.



860-633-9419

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Directory

www.isidoreandmaria.org

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William G. Dziatko, Deacon
Stephen L. Weaver, Deacon

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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



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

handy QR code to begin the process.