

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 20, 2023



Today's Readings: Is 56:1, 6-7 (118A), Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Rom 11:13-15, 29-32 Mt 15:21 - 28

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

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

O.C.I.A. Dir.: Roger & Shirley Hughes -
- hughes47rs@gmail.com

Saturday Mass: 5:30 pm - **Sunday Mass:** 9:00 am

Confession: Wed. 5:30 to 6:20 pm & 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

O.C.I.A. Dir.: Vivian Durling

Saturday Mass: 4:00 pm - **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>

Sacrament of Baptism
Sacrament of Matrimony
Anointing of the Sick
Last Rites

Please contact the office
For emergencies call the Rectory at 517-651-6617

ST. ISIDORE, LAINGSBURG**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK**

Saturday — Aug 19 —(5:30 PM) Chris & Kay Basgall 52nd Wedding Anniversary
 Sunday — Aug 20 —(9:00 AM) † Nancy Byrnes by Gary & Barb Koonter
 Wednesday— Aug 23— (6:30 PM) † LeaAnne Powers-Lighthiser by Lee & Winnie Hendrickson
 Thursday — Aug 24—(8:30 AM) People of the Parish
 Friday — Aug 25 — (8:30 AM) † Poor Souls in Purgatory by Chris & Kay Basgall
 Saturday — Aug 26 —(5:30 PM) † Janet Seymour by the Family
 Sunday — Aug 27 —(9:00 AM) † Patrick Hurst by Janice Hurst

HOLY FAMILY, OVID

Saturday— Aug 19— (4:00 PM) † John Bartkowiak by the Family
 Sunday— Aug 20—(11:00 AM) † Sylvia McKay by Dale & Lorraine Constine
 Tuesday — Aug 22— (12:10 PM) † Coleman Sovis by Leonard Mitchell
 Thursday— Aug 24— (6:30 PM) † Bill & Cletis Nall by Richard & Carol Theile
 Saturday— Aug 26— (4:00 PM) † Bernice Caudy by Joseph Caudy
 Sunday— Aug 27—(11:00 AM) † Doris Kibby by Dan & Vickie Csapos

**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
Aug 12 & 13, 2023**

St. Isidore Offertory- \$2,939
 Holy Family Offertory - \$3,402
 Online Offertory - \$1,555

TOTAL: - \$7,896**Remember our service members in your prayers:**

Taylor Earl Parsons—Air Force—Space Force
 Christian Garza—Army
 LTC Nathan Cooley - USN
 MSGT Joshua Delaney - Air Force
 Alexandra Cultra - Navy
 Andie Ostrander—Navy
 Patrick Schiffer—Air Force
 Kelly Brown—Navy
 Sergeant Jared Mersino—Army

*(To add names, - contact the office.)*

Jesse Anguiano would like to thank everyone
 for their recent prayers.

Please Pray for: Tori Martens*Charles Oleniczak*Judith Bond*Steve Butler*Sean Robinson*Gary Hrncharik*Eddy Trevino*Shannon Strobel*Richard Hutchings*Phyllis Hart*Lana Miersen*Jim Mosley*Isabelle Welsey*Stan Beherns*Tristen Hening*Olivia Klein*Barb Wright*Judy Minarik*Janet Arthur*David Hager*Mercedes, Eric & Baby Chris Martinez*Zach Koonter*Jane Timlick*Dale Trierweiler* Mike & Theresa Hegg*Baby Owen Ulicki*Gregory Acker, Brother of Angela Michels*Napoleon Martinez, Jr., Brother of Elodia Keys*Bruce Chandler, Brother of Marit Rowley*Gary Delaney*Pat Spencer*Rebecca Crites, Friend/Relative of Bev Delaney*Shawn Pardee, Friend of Ginger Kusnier*Jase Ellsworth, Great Grandson of Phyllis Hart*Antia Rios, Armando Anguiano, Juan Chapas*Archie Schebester*Dave Hilleker, Friend/Relative of Jesse Anguiano*Mark Sickler, Nephew of Bachelder's*Craig & Caren Henning*Vince Minarik*Terri Sue*Tim Minarik*Dorothy Woodworth, Friends/Relatives of Leonard Mitchell*Nancy Alice Carbury, Mother of Maggie Sayles*Christine Tejkl, Relative of Joe Tejkl*Allen Smith, Nephew of Pat Brown*Haven S. King, Niece of Barb Wright*Chasidy Martin, Niece of Doug & Char Angell*Susan Hulburt*James Lester*Kinzley Dawn Hulburt*Tom Hulburt*Alexander Augustine, Friend/Relative of Nita Hughes*Katie Florian*Mary Hughly*Theresa Arnold*Adam Thering*Jason Miller Friend/Relative of RoseMarie Thering* Ron & Denise Pohl, Sister & Brother-in-Law of Donna Judd*Janice Smith*Hugh Smith*Tammy Smith*Brenda Seeley*Betty Ann Fulgaro*Chris Bozung, Friend/Relative of The Smith Family*Randy & Karen Evans*Diane Mead, Friend/Relative of Ron & Joanne Evans*Joe Eiseler, Grandson of Jim & Joy Eiseler*Pam Morgan*Melissa Hinkley*Tony Mullen, Brother-in-Law of Marina Easterbrook*Joe Tejkl*Nancy Brown*Don Negus, Son of Marianne Negus-Stein*Aggie Cassidy*Dennis Lee*Ron, Charlene & John Ginther*Tuffy Wolfrom*Joseph Caudy*Kathryn Okada, Friend of Dave & Charlene Porrell*Russ Mallery, Relative of Tom & Michelle Hatta*John VanGeertruy*Mike Adanec, Friend of Paul & Linda Pung*Melissa Harden

Notes from Fr. Anthony

Early weeds sowed by the enemy in the Lord's field

The first major heresy to hit the Church is **Gnosticism**. I mentioned it briefly in a previous article, however this week we are going to dig into it more deeply. There existed a primitive form of Gnosticism prior to the first century, however Gnosticism changes when the Church is founded by Christ and begins to take many of the ideas and teachings of Christianity and twist them into a heresy that struck the early Church very hard, and still is visible in many areas of religion today. The basic premise of the Gnosticism is that: *“matter is a deterioration of spirit, and the whole universe a depravation of the Deity, and they taught the ultimate end of all being to be the overcoming of the grossness of matter and the return to the Parent-Spirit, which return they held to be inaugurated and facilitated by the appearance of some God-sent Savior.”*

So now that that is clear, we move forward. Just kidding, we need to look at this a little more closely and try to understand what this all means. There is a second part of the Gnostic belief we need to see also:

“Whereas Judaism and Christianity, and almost all pagan systems, hold that the soul attains its proper end by obedience of mind and will to the Supreme Power, i.e. by faith and works, it is markedly peculiar to Gnosticism that it places the salvation of the soul merely in the possession of a quasi-intuitive knowledge of the mysteries of the universe and of magic formulae indicative of that knowledge. Gnostics were “people who knew”, and their knowledge at once constituted them a superior class of beings, whose present and future status was essentially different from that of those who, for whatever reason, did not know.”

What does this have to do with our Church or our Faith? In recent articles I cited a few scripture passages dealing directly with this - **Colossians 2, 16-18, First Letter of John 2, 18-23, 2 Peter** etc., so if you need a quick refresh take a look at those again. In summary, the issue with Gnosticism is that it holds a dualistic view - that there is basically a “good god” and a “bad god” - and that the spiritual was created by the good one and physical matter was created by the bad one. So, we need to do everything we can to escape the material world and human body. Salvation is gained by magic formulas and such that grant spiritual knowledge which one is privy to on a personal basis, and this knowledge is not available to the vulgar crowd, but only to the select few, the chosen ones.

This basically means that I can come to knowledge of all the mysteries of salvation of my own. This is where they used the Catholic sacraments in their heresy as gateways for this purely personal experience. The savior they were expecting was deemed to be Christ, however, He couldn't really be God in a human body because the human body is inherently evil. He is not really a savior, as the only sin is ignorance and there is no concept of or need for atonement. The only thing he did or could do for us was to bring into the world the “truth” that the chosen ones can know. The gnostic savior doesn't suffer for us as he can't suffer for us. The savior in Gnosticism is basically a **“good teacher”**. Here we see how Gnosticism infected many non-Christian religions that believe Christ is only a teacher, or a prophet. We see how many Christian denominations are infected with the teaching of the Gnostics as well in that understanding of Christ and also the idea that one does not need a central teaching authority or magisterium. The concept that on one's own the scriptures can be completely understood and so on. The Gnostics are also responsible for the authorship of so many of the supposed “gospels” or letters that pop up every now and then and are supposedly proof that the Catholic Church is wrong and so on. These documents always date later than the gospels and are very different in terms of theology and writing style for that matter and were intentionally put forth under the names of the early apostles and followers of Christ in order to gain followers from among the early Christians.

This heresy ends up giving birth to numerous other problems over the years but to two particular heresies - **Docetism and Transcendentalism**. We will give a quick definition of Docetism, which sprang up very shortly after the Gnostic heresy began, as Transcendentalism doesn't come about until much later. Docetism basically states that: Christ only *“appeared”* or *“seemed to be”* a man, to have been born, to have lived and suffered. Some denied the reality of Christ's human nature altogether, some only the reality of His human body or of His birth or death. Regardless of which they held, it is pretty self-explanatory in why it is a heresy. With that, we will call it a wrap for this week.

God love you, Fr. Anthony

O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Are you interested in exploring further the teachings of the Catholic Church? Come and Join our OCIA inquiry sessions which will begin in September either at Holy Family in Ovid or St. Isidore in Laingsburg. For more information please contact the OCIA coordinators at either parish --- Roger & Shirley Hughes at St. Isidore or Vivian Durling at Holy Family or Deacon John Marsh --- this can be done by leaving a message with the office at either parish. Come join us and become a more informed Catholic who can spread the Good News of the Catholic Church and its teachings!

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Sundays - 8:30 am - Rosary at St. Isidore
Sundays - 10:30 am - Rosary at Holy Family
Mondays—7:30 pm—"Zoom" online Rosary
Thurs.—9:00 am—Quilting Ministry—Holy Family
Aug 20— 6:30 pm—Youth Group—St. Isidore
Aug 26 -TMIY -7:30 am- 9am—Holy Family
Aug 27—Noon—Annual Parish Picnic at Holy Family
Sept. 9—Yard Sale—K of C -8-4 pm —St. Isidore

REF BEGINS.....

Holy Family—Sept 10 at 9:50 am

St. Isidore—Sept 17 at 10:15 am

Sign up now on our website:

www.stisidorechurch.org

More Info:

marystevens@stisidorechurch.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sept. 13 —Business Meeting—7:00 pm

Knight of the Month: Ron Miersen

Family of the Month: Steve & Mary Izdebski



ELSIE AREA FOOD PANTRY

They are excited to announce that the Sparrow Mobile Unit will be visiting the Pantry on the first Tuesday of each month. The Unit will be there from 8 to 10:30 am. Sparrow is offering school physicals, blood pressure checks, general wellness checks, and more. During flu season, flu shots will be offered. Everything is **FREE!** **NO CHARGE!** Plan on taking advantage of this medical service at the Pantry.

There is a new sign at Holy Family about the Pantry. It lists suggested items for donations, hours of operation and more. It's easy to be a part of this ministry—and the rewards are heavenly!



Food
Pantry
Ministry

K of C Rummage Sale

Time is running out! Donation for the Knights Rummage Sale **MUST** be received by Thurs. Aug. 31 to allow time for sorting and pricing. Leave donations on the marked tables in the large hall. If you need items picked up, contact Keith Kienitz 651-5957, Don Brown 517-290-4225, or Tom Mahoney 651-6638



**PILGRIMAGE TO BASILICA & NATIONAL SHRINE
OF OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION
Sept. 19, 2023**

Two seats available!

For more information contact Richard Theile 517-599-6113 or Carol Theile 989-395-0283.

Parish Picnic

As summer draws to a close, we would once again like to have our parish family reunion. The parish picnic will be August 27 from noon to 3:00 at Holy Family. We will have lunch for everyone provided by the parish. There will once again be a car show...please feel free to bring your pride & joy to the event for all to see. We'll have games for the adults and children. It's a great time for fellowship and fun. Please join us!



Youth Group at St. Isidore

We are starting a youth group at St. Isidore this year for all high school students. It will be student-run and organized. It should be super fun and YOU can be part of choosing how to make it that way. We'll meet on Sunday, **August 20 at 6:30 at St. Isidore** to start the planning process. If you have any questions, please contact Kaitlyn Kingsbury either at church or via email: kitkat.kingsbury@gmail.com. We'd love to see you there!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – 2023-2024

Registration for REF at **St. Isidore** this year will be held on 9/10/23 after Mass or you can **register online for either church** at stisidorechurch.org. Online registration tuition will be collected at the first class session.

This will be an exciting and challenging year as we are switching materials to be in alignment with the new Diocesan requirements. Catechists will be getting used to those new materials along with the students. When all registrations are received parents will be invited to join a special online portal. Using the portal will help keep parents in touch with the things students are studying in the classroom.

Special Dates for **St. Isidore** grades Pre-K through 7. Students preparing for confirmation will have a slightly different schedule. Parents will receive an email with information by 9/10/23.

(St. Isidore)

September 9, 2023 K of C yard sale.

SEPTEMBER 10 Registration after 9:00 am Mass or online.

SEPTEMBER 17 —Catechists presented at Sunday Mass

REF Begins—Sept 17 - 10:15-11:15 Session #1

SEPTEMBER 24 REF sessions 10:15-11:15 Session #2

OCTOBER 1 REF sessions 10:15-11:15 Session #3

OCTOBER 8 REF sessions 10:15-11:15 Session #4

Please reach out at marystevens@stisidorechurch.org if you have questions or concerns.

(Holy Family)

REF Begins -Sept 10 – Before Mass -9:50-10:50 Session #1

SEPTEMBER 17 REF sessions- 9:50-10:50 Session #2

For questions, please contact Ginger Kusnier

St. Isidore - Holy Family Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023 Financial Report

		2022 - 2023 Actual	
Administration			\$174,724
Salaries & Benefits		\$103,953	
Contract Services		\$5,781	
Diocesan Assessment & Tuition Assistance		\$35,975	
Insurance		\$13,712	
Postage, Phone & Internet		\$2,995	
Giffels Scholarships		\$4,000	
Supplies		\$4,842	
Misc. (Equipment, Bank, Seminars, other)		\$3,466	
Faith Formation			\$31,414
Salaries & Benefits		\$19,032	
Adult Education		\$824	
Evangelization		\$5,916	
RCIA		\$769	
Youth Ministry		\$3,158	
Contract Services		\$1,715	
Facility Operation & Maintenance			\$119,849
Salaries & Benefits		\$7,976	
Contract Services		\$25,918	
Equipment (Bathrooms, furnace,...)		\$53,429	
Capital Expenditures		\$3,774	
Maintenance (Roof repairs, painting, rectory well...)		\$127,947	
Insurance Reimbursement (roof repairs)		(\$137,778)	
Supplies		\$2,523	
Cemetery		\$3,510	
Utilities		\$32,550	
Worship			\$61,097
Contract Services		\$2,058	
Music		\$17,439	
Supplies		\$16,073	
Publications & Periodicals		\$3,192	
Equipment (Paschal candle holders, HF sound system, bapt. font)		\$15,543	
Parish Life		\$6,792	
Total Expense	(2021 - 2022: \$403,431)		\$387,084
Income			\$432,295
Offertory Collection		\$407,265	
Other (tuition, rentals, interest, etc.)		\$25,030	
Bequests and Other Donations			\$76,505
Grants		\$8,354	
Bequests & Donations		\$68,151	
Total Income	(2021 - 2022: \$502,129)		\$508,800