

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 16, 2026



AUGUST

Month of the

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Today's Readings: Is 56:1, 6-7 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: 517-651-6617

E-Mail: franthy@stisidorechurch.org

Parish Secretary: Sharon Gillespie

Office: 517-651-6722 – **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 -

- ocia@stisidorechurch.org

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.: Richard Theile 517-599-6113 or

Carol Theile 989-395-0283

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://saintisidorehollyfamily.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

Saturday —Aug 15— (5:30 PM) † Denny Lee Family by Judy Wurm Family

Sunday — Aug 16— (9:00 AM) † Keith Kienitz by Martha Rowley

Wednesday—Aug 19— (6:30 PM) † LeaAnne Powers-Lighthiser by Lee & Winnie Hendrickson

Thursday—Aug 20— (8:30 AM) People of the Parish

Friday —Aug 21— (8:30 AM) † Nancy Byrnes by Terry & Patti Wright

Saturday —Aug 22— (5:30 PM) Chris & Kay Basgall 55th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday — Aug 23— (9:00 AM) † Bruce Chandler by the Family

**MASS SCHEDULE
FOR THIS WEEK****HOLY FAMILY, OVID**

Saturday—Aug 15— (4:00 PM) Randy & Yvonne Cross—50th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday— Aug 16 —(11:00 AM) † Lynn Bolton - 17th Anniversary by Barb & Family

Tuesday — Aug 18—(12:10 PM) Special Intentions of Stephen Yaich by Barbara Yaich

Thursday—Aug 20—(6:30 PM) Living & Deceased Members of the Ginther & Earley Families

Saturday—Aug 22— (4:00 PM) † Sandra Dolinar by Jerry & Lois Boone

Sunday— Aug 23 —(11:00 AM) † Sylvia McKay by Frank & Melvia Quine

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 8 & 9, 2026**

St. Isidore Offertory- \$3,694

Holy Family Offertory - \$4,306

Online Offertory: \$1,875

TOTAL: - \$9,875

ROSARY BEFORE MASS—HOLY FAMILY

Saturdays 3:30 pm

ROSARY BEFORE MASS—ST. ISIDORE

Sundays 8:30 am—Thurs. & Fri. 8:05 am

MONTHLY DEVOTIONS

1st Wed. of Month—St. Isidore—6:30 PM

Rosary and Litany of St. Joseph after Mass

1st Friday of Month—St. Isidore—8:30 AM

Litany of Sacred Heart after Mass

1st Saturday of Month—Holy Family

Litany of Loreto after 9:00 AM Mass

**Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish**

Names included should be parishioners, their relatives and friends.

Please contact the office to put names on the prayer list.

Remember all of our service members in your prayers.

Craig Henning	Napoleon Martinez, Jr.	Chuck Hazard	Cheryl Hurst	Joette Dennis	Monica Edington
Ken Latz	Gloria Costello	Jerome Smith	Jeff Watson	Rosemary Bailey	Deacon John
Pam Morgan	Chris Basgall	Jamie Lester	Therese Bruso	Mike Jones	Mike O'Dell
Dan Schwart	Elaine Stewart	Gary Lundquist	Tuffy Wolfrom	Todd Fox	JD Miller
Beverly Adcock	Margaret Lane	Mildred Tejkl	Nancy Kienitz	George Gates	George Harris
Olivia Klein	Tamera Bodine-Wilson	Michelle Houska	Judy Eyde	Anna Broome	Nancy Carbary
Jan Bozung	Ernest Carr	Lorie Mumby	Doug Maki	Richard Tejkl	Joe Tejkl
Rick Smith	Liz Miller	June Leaf	Ken White	Wayne Rodrigues	
Hugh Smith	Dale Coggins	Nick & Lucinda Dunay	Linda Pung	Kathy Fowler	
Jan Smith	Michelle Hurst	Joe Lorio	Pease Family	Ron Kruzman	
Tammy Smith	Usher Jackson	Marie Hurst	Marina Easterbrook	Mary Lauderdale	

Notes from Fr. Anthony

This week's questions:

God placed the Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil right smack in the middle of the Garden of Eden and commanded Adam & Eve to never eat from it. But, I have wondered if maybe God would let them eat it at some other point in time in the future. I did read someone's thought that maybe after Adam & Eve would've matured spiritually, God might've said ok, go ahead and eat from it. However, scripture states God said if they did eat from it, "[they] will surely die". It's been said that the tree was a test of obedience and free will, but I still think maybe it had a future use of some sort if God saw fit when it could be eaten from. We don't know if they ate from the Tree of Life, which was right next to the good & evil one. What's the Catholic answer, or even an ancient Jewish teaching if any, and/or your thoughts on both trees?

These questions deal with the two trees that are singled out by name in the garden of Eden and some of the misunderstandings that surround them, specifically first seen in Genesis 2, 9: ***Out of the ground the Lord God made grow every tree that was delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.***

The tree of life is in the center of the garden, not the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which is close to it, and in that we see a certain symbolism. The tree of life is the sign and symbol of intimate communion and union with God. It is the center of their world. Adam and Eve are not forbidden from eating from this tree at the beginning. As long as they are in union with God it is available to them. The ability to eat from that tree is taken from them after their sin and expulsion from Eden, but if we look to the book of Revelation, the tree of life is mentioned numerous times and the fruit of that tree is given to us again in Christ and those who follow Him are given the fruit of the tree of life - union with God and eternal life.

The tree of the knowledge of good and evil. First, we have to correct one error. There was never going to be a time when they should eat from that tree. Spiritual

maturity is not the issue, as they were both created in sanctifying grace and in complete communion with God. The main reason which is agreed upon in Catholic theology for the presence of that tree is to serve as **1. a test** and **2. to symbolize the finite nature of man's freedom.**

As a test, because man had free will and had to decide to either obey God and eat from the tree of life or disobey God and be driven from His presence. He had given the angels a choice as well. Adam and Eve already knew what good was. They lived in the presence of God the source of all good, in His paradise and in complete harmony with each other and nature. All the things He created were good. They would have known that obeying God was good. The only thing they did not experience up to that point was the direct consequences of evil and sin, which they would have had the understanding that it was the opposite of the good that God had offered them. They had been exposed to evil when the serpent tempted them by suggesting that God had lied to them and getting Eve to now see that tree as the center tree in the garden. The focus is no longer on the tree of life, which is the true center. We see that in Genesis 3, 2-4: ***The woman answered the snake: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, 'You shall not eat it or even touch it, or else you will die.'" But the snake said to the woman: "You certainly will not die!"***

The finite nature of man's freedom in that he is responsible for his choices and that those choices are not free of consequences for himself and for others. As St. Paul would later state ***"the wages of sin is death"***. This is what God had warned them of. They had known what good is, but that they would not gain anything by knowing what evil is. They would only gain death and separation from God - death of the good in them to an extent, death to the harmony between God and man and man and woman and man and nature - which they had known through the goodness in which God created them.

God love you, Fr. Anthony

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Mondays—7:30 pm—"Zoom" online Rosary

Thurs— **Resumes**—Aug 6—9:00 am—Holy Family

Aug 20—1:30 pm—WINGS—St. Isidore

Aug 30—6:00 pm—OCIA at Holy Family

Sept 13—Noon—Parish Picnic after Mass—Holy Fam

Sept 20—10:30 am—OCIA at St. Isidore

Sept 21—She Shall Be Called Woman—(9 Wks) - HF

WINGS AUGUST MEETING

WINGS will meet at 1:30pm on Thursday, August 20, 2026, in the St. Isidore Small Hall. For this month's community service activity, we will make fleece tie blankets. If you plan to participate in the activity, please take scissors to the meeting. Refreshments will be served. All women of our parish are welcome



RELIGIOUS ED. FORMATION—(REF)

Holy Family

First Class: Sept 13

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

St. Isidore

First Class: Sept 13 (10:15—11:00)

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

Registration: Aug 30 & Sept 13 after 9 am Mass

Any students who have been confirmed are invited to join a youth age group to further study the life of Jesus and the tenets of our faith.

More info: marystevens@stisidorechurch.org



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #12044

Upcoming Events:

Sept 9—Business Meeting—7:15 pm



Knight of the Month: Daniel Zeppa

Family of the Month: Fred & Therese Bruso

To become a Knight, visit kofc.org/join

CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES!!

Are you looking for a place to fellowship with other area Homeschool families? The Holy Family Home-school Coop has a few openings. We meet roughly three Tuesdays a month at Holy Family Parish in Ovid. We start with Mass at noon, enjoy lunch together, and then have a couple different enrichments opportunities. We are tentatively planning to learn about some saints together, and exploring conversational Spanish. Other ideas are in the works. We have groups from preschool to High School.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact us by email.

Angela Porta: theportapack2011@gmail.com

Kelli Porter: kelli08porter@gmail.com


 SAINT FRANCIS
 RETREAT CENTER

invites you to join us in celebration of the

Jubilee Year for St. Francis of Assisi

celebrations include:

10:30 a.m. walking rosary
 11:00 a.m. confession
 noon mass
 (including praying for the intentions of the pope)
 followed by:
 adoration of the
 blessed sacrament &
 veneration of relics of
 the true cross & st. francis

PILGRIMAGE DATES:
 JULY 16TH
 AUGUST 25TH
 OCTOBER 3RD
 NOVEMBER 11TH



boxed lunches are available for purchase via pre-ordering for those wishing to picnic after mass or you may bring your own lunch

← rsvp here or visit stfrancis.ws/jubilee

Pope Leo XIV has granted the opportunity to obtain a Plenary Indulgence under the ordinary conditions of Sacramental Confession, Communion, and offering prayers for the Pope's Intentions, for those who make a pilgrimage to any place of worship dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi.



Our **ZOOM Rosary Group** celebrated its sixth anniversary on August 10. The group started during the dark days of the Covid Pandemic and has faithfully prayed the Rosary every Monday night since.



Twenty-six of our parishioners attended the KofC - Night of Vocations at the Lugnuts Ballpark on August 7. Everyone had a great time and the Lugnuts even won the game 13-5. Plus, there were fireworks after the game!

Sunday, September 13, 2026 after
11 am Mass at Holy Family!

Parish Picnic



An Invitation to join OCIA

Are you looking to deepen your understanding of the Catholic faith? Do you have questions about God, Jesus, or the Church that you are longing to explore? Have you felt a calling to become part of the Catholic community? If so, we warmly invite you to join the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) at St. Isidore-Holy Family.

OCIA is a faith journey designed for those considering joining the Catholic Church or wanting to learn more about it. This program is open to:

- Those who are not baptized
- Those who are baptized in another Christian tradition and wish to become Catholic
- Catholics who were baptized but did not receive further formation or sacraments

Through OCIA, you will have the opportunity to explore the teachings of the Church, engage in meaningful discussions, and grow spiritually in a supportive community. The program includes weekly sessions where we cover a variety of topics related to faith and practice, as well as opportunities for prayer and reflection.

If you are interested in joining OCIA or have any questions, contact:

St. Isidore Church – Roger & Shirley Hughes, OCIA Directors
ocia@stisidorechurch.org
Or call Parish office at 517-651-6722

OCIA at St. Isidore begins September 20, 2026 at 10:30 am

Holy Family Church – Richard & Carol Theile, OCIA Directors
Call or text Richard at 517-599-6113 or Carol at 989-395-0283
Or call Parish office at 989-834-5855

OCIA at Holy Family begins August 30, 2026 at 6:00 pm

We are here to support you every step of the way. We look forward to walking this faith journey with you and helping you discover the richness and depth of the Catholic faith.