SLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



September 22, 2024 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Last of all, and the servant of all." - Mark 9:35



Sept. 29: Welcome Home!

Do you have friends or relatives who stepped away from their Catholic faith for whatever reason?

Please consider inviting these folks to come with you to a special Welcome Home event on **Sun., Sept. 29, at 12:30 p.m.** at **St. Paul Church**. It's an hour-long presentation of faith stories involving

amazing encounters with God. A reception will follow.

Flyers and personalizable invitations are now available at the church entrances. Registration is requested, though all are welcome. To register, visit <u>http://isidoreandmaria.org/welcomehome</u>. Questions? Reach out at <u>welcomehome@isidoreandmaria.org</u>.

THIS WEEKEND



Sept. 21/22: HOPES Collection

The HOPES (Help Our Parish Educators & Students) Collection annual collection takes place in our parish on the weekend of

Sept. 21 and 22. This fundraiser supports Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Hartford. The most vital resource in every Catholic school is its dedicated teachers. Their profession is avocation. This collection provides new revenue sources to offer teachers a just wage, ensuring quality education, enthusiasm, and stability. We ask you to join us in supporting our children by supporting their teachers. HOPES means brighter futures for all our children by enabling us to keep tuition affordable for families. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sept. 24: Faith Formation Parent-Only Meeting

All Grade Level Parent Meeting **Tues.**, **Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.** in the main body of St. Paul Church. At least one parent from each registered Faith Formation family needs to attend. Please check the email from Donna Berger for more information. Questions? Contact the Faith Formation office at 860-633-9419.



Sept. 2024 Pastoral Council Snapshot

The SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Pastoral Council met on Mon., Sept. 10, 2024.

Visit <u>https://isidoreandmaria.org/</u> <u>snapshotsept2024</u> for a snapshot of what they talked about.

"The heart of our Divine Master has no more amiable law than that of sweetness, humility, charity. Often place your confidence in Divine Providence and be assured that sooner heaven and earth shall pass away than that the Lord neglect to protect you." $\sim Saint Padre Pio$

Collections and Parish Finance

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

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Report for the week of 9/15/2024:

Weekly collection:	\$ 8,403.80
Online Giving:	<u>\$ 3,867.50</u>
Total	\$12,271.30

Parish Annual Collection \$71,988.00

Annual Chancery Assessment for fiscal year 2024: \$ 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.



2024 Parish Annual Collection Now Underway

The 2024 Parish Annual Collection is now underway. Please read Father Mark's letter on this effort and make your online donation at http://isidoreandmaria.org/ annualcollection24.

PHOTO GALLERY: 2024 Parish Golf Tournament and Fundraising Dinner



A message from Father Mark:

On behalf of the entire parish, I would like to extend deepest appreciation to the incredible organizers and sponsors of this year's SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Fundraising Golf Tournament and Fundraising Dinner. Of particular note, I wish to extend

gratitude to tournament co-chairs **Donna Berger** and **Brian Gauthier**. Participants, sponsors, and supporters alike had a fantastic time thanks to their leadership and vision. We look forward to next year's tournament and can't wait to see what you have in store!

Were you spotted at the 2024 Parish Golf Tournament and Fundraising Dinner?

Visit <u>http://isidoreandmaria.org/golfpics2024</u> to check out the photo gallery!

Inspiration for the Week by Rev. Mark Suslenko

What does it mean to be God's servant? It means being willing to call the world back to its childlike innocence, showing that joy-filled playfulness has a place in life. The servant of God serves to foster the Kingdom of God. God's kingdom is not a sterile, unhappy, strict, rigid reality. It is guite the opposite. It is a kingdom devoid of jealousy and selfish ambition where peace, gentleness, mercy, and good works abound. To be a servant of this kingdom means that selfish ambition must be set aside so that others can be first and justice can be pursued at all costs. The prayer of this kind of servant is focused on something other than self-advancement or need. Instead, the servant's praver seeks to detach from self-concern to be used by God. In this way, we who are servants can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led by God. We can then lay the kingdom's cornerstones: faith, hope, and love. It is upon these that God's firm dwelling is built. Accepting this call may place us last in the world's eyes but first in God's.



Deacon Steve Weaver to retire

On Sept. 26, Deacon Steve Weaver reaches senior status with the Archdiocese of Hartford and will be retiring from SS. Isidore and Maria Parish. Read more about his remarkable ministry to others and his future plans at http://isidoreandmaria.org/ deaconsteve.

DONATE TO THE ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Through the generosity of the SS. Isidore and Maria Parish community, 72% of our financial target has been met. All are encouraged to consider a gift that is

appropriate for them; let's work together to exceed our parish goal. Donation packets are at the doors of the church, or you may make your donation online at <u>https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/</u>. Thank you for your consideration.



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

<u>Our Sponsor Spotlight this week:</u> D'Esopo Funeral Chapel

Liturgical Schedule and Intentions			September 22, 2024
Date	Time	Intention	Requested by
Saturday, Sept. 21 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	4 p.m.	Dora Miles Taylor	Linda Yost
Sunday, Sept. 22 <i>Twenty-fifth Sunday in</i> <i>Ordinary Time</i>	8 a.m.	Geri Ruggiero	Family
	9:30 a.m.	Maria Falcon	Family
	11:15 a.m.	Pasquale Gallitto	Gallitto Family
Monday, Sept. 23 St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest	7:30 a.m.	Paul Ellis DiSanto, Sr.	Suzanne & Paul Ellis DiSanto, Jr.
Tuesday, Sept. 24	7:30 a.m.	Donald LaBombard	Elaine Henry & Family
Weekday	7 p.m.	Rosary (St. Augustine Church)	
Wednesday, Sept. 25 Weekday	7:30 a.m.	Ann Panek	Davey & Ron Vernier
Thursday, Sept. 26 Sts. Cosmas & Damien, Martyrs		NO MASS	
Friday, Sept. 27	12:15 p.m.	Pedro Aguero	Elaine Henry
St. Vincent de Paul, Priest	After Mass until 2 p.m.	÷	on of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday, Sept. 28 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	4 p.m.	Father Joseph Vujs	Fran Juda
Sunday, Sept. 29 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8 a.m.	Jeffrey Gauches (4 yr Anniv. of death)	Mother, Kathy Gauches
	9:30 a.m.	Celine Ezinwoke	Iloeje Family
	11:15 a.m.	James Sherry	Ann Sherry

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 <u>contact@isidoreandmaria.org</u>. We cannot publish the names of friends. Thank you for your understanding.



Ellona Bilotta James Bilotta Diane Varni Caisse Sandra Cavanna Thomas Cavanna Chris Delissio Robin DiTarando Brian Faxon Fred Forthofer Jennifer Graham Rita Henson Sheila Kimball Julia Miller Gilbert Morin Irene Papaleo Rachel Sage Peter Savidge Frank Schultz Garland Taylor Barbara Thurz Bill Vassar, Jr. Andrea Villegas John Vroblick Mary E. Wallace Roger Yost



Oct. 1: Solemn Celebration of Evening Prayer with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

PADRE PIO

Join us on Tues., Oct. 1 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 Lituray

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.

PLEASE NOTE: Tuesday night Rosary will not be held on Oct. 1 at *St. Augustine Church* so the parishioners may attend this special evening of prayer.





There is something about being first. Great satisfaction is achieved whether it be first in line, first to be

picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work. Our egos love

being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a sense of pride, and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. Do you want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often-vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the world's noise, we will continue to believe

the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony, and peace. When are we going to learn that constantly striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. Life is good when we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home and live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this. The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy.

~ Rev. Mark Suslenko



Another successful Fall Festival thanks to you!

More than 600 people gathered at the Elks Club in South Glastonbury on Sun., Sept. 15, to celebrate the season at the 2024 Glastonbury **Roman Catholic Parishes** Fall Festival.

It was a fun-filled, faith-filled day made possible by the parish Fall Festival planning committee, chaired by Damien Walsh and Erin Sullivan. Kudos to all our partners for their support: Blue Chip Creamery for bringing around their ice cream truck, Made U Look Promotions for donating fall decorations and balloons, Scott's Orchards for providing seasonal decorations, the Glastonbury Knights of Columbus for shucking 400 clams, and Officer Sergey Sharov of the Glastonbury Police Department for demonstrating the latest public safety technology in his cruiser. We also thank those who generously donated dessert items, gift cards, and raffle prizes. Additional thanks go to the parish staff at SS. Isidore and Maria Parish and St. Dunstan's Parish, with a particular note of gratitude to Father Mark Suslenko and Father Kevin Donavan for their leadership and support of the Fall Festival.

View the 2024 Fall Festival photo gallery at http://isidoreandmaria.org/fallfest2024pics.



PODCAST: The Misperception of Seeing **Through Human Eyes**

If we look at the world through human eyes alone, it becomes challenging to make sense of war, hunger, poverty, and suffering. According to Father Mark, though, applying a lens of faith gives us a new

perspective. Listen to his latest podcast at https://isidoreandmaria.org/podcasts.



Nalking with Purpose: Registration Now Underway

Enabling women to know Christ through Scripture

The women's Bible study, Walking with Purpose (WWP), returns for its fifth season with St. Dunstan and SS. Isidore and Maria Parishes. The cost of the program is \$45 per person.

Visit https://isidoreandmaria.org/wwp2024 for additional details or to register.



National Migration Week

October Events



Learn About Affordable Health Care Options! Confused by Affordable Insurance Options? The Parish Wellness Ministry is holding another seminar on this topic in the lower level of

the St. Paul Church Education Wing on **Wed., Oct. 2, at 1 p.m.** *Joan Norman*, a Medicare specialist, will provide information on Medicare for those 65 and over. Find out WHAT you qualify for and HOW to get it! No RSVP required.

Questions? Contact Sue at wellness@isidoreandmaria.org.

Oct. 14: Investiture of the Pallium

On Mon., Oct. 14 at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, the Archdiocese of Hartford celebrates the Investiture of the Pallium, to be bestowed upon Archbishop Christopher Coyne by the Apostolic Nuncio to the U.S., Christophe Cardinal Pierre. A reception will follow. If you would like to attend please email the parish office, or call 860-633-9419.



Regina's Writings: When Dying Comes Before Living

A mother's group gets an unexpected plea from a parishioner and springs into action to support a family whose infant daughter is

dying. Regina's Writings this week focuses on how the Body of Christ comes to life, even amid death. Read her latest column at <u>https://isidoreandmaria.org/regina09162024</u>.

"We should spend as much time in thanking God for His benefits as we do in asking for them." St. Vincent De Paul



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

Oct. 5: Blessing of the Animals

On Sat., Oct. 5, at 11:30 a.m., SS. Isidore and Maria Parish holds its annual Blessing of the Animals at the gazebo outside of St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury. This annual event honors the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the



Catholic Church's patron saint of animals. This event is RAIN or SHINE! Pets of all sizes, shapes, and species are welcome. <u>All animals must be leashed, crated, or caged and</u> controlled by their owners at all times.



Oct. 10: Parish Book Club

The next Parish Book Club meeting will be on **Thurs., Oct. 10, at 1 p.m.,** in the education wing of the St. Paul campus.

Our book selection is The Red Tent by Anita Diamant. This book "combines rich storytelling with a valuable contribution to modern fiction: a new perspective of female life in biblical society. (Amazon)" It is available via the Hoopla app from the Welles-Turner Library, Amazon or Barnes and Noble.

<u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: Even if you have attended a book club meeting in the past, please sign up for this event on the parish



Scripture Readings for the Week

SUN 9/22/24	Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 (6b)/ Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37
MON 9/23/24	Prv 3:27-34/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/ Lk 8:16-18
TUES 9/24/24	Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44/Lk 8:19-21
WED 9/25/24	Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163/Lk 9:1-6
THR 9/26/24	Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9
FRI 9/27/24	Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4/ Lk 9:18-22
SAT 9/28/24	Eccl 11:9—12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17/Lk 9:43b-45
SUN 9/29/24	Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 (9a)/ Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



Oct. 24: Bereavement Facilitator Training Workshop

A Bereavement Facilitator Training Workshop takes

place on **Thurs., Oct. 24, from 9 a.m. - 12 noon** at St. Paul Church in Classroom 1 near the Parish office.

This training workshop is for anyone looking to volunteer to become a New Day Bereavement Facilitator. The workshop will provide direction in developing bereavement groups within the parish, planning and guiding group sessions, and making human connections that can help to mend broken hearts. Registration is required. To register, visit <u>https://isidoreandmaria.org/ bereavement_facilitator</u>, email <u>bereavement@isidoreandmaria.org</u>, or call the parish office at 860-633-9419.

Keep Holy the Sabbath

860-633-9419

Clergy

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

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This Day in History - Sept. 22, 2024

September 22 is the 265th day of the year in the Gregorian calendar; 100 days remain until the end of the year. It is frequently the day of the **autumnal equinox** in the Northern Hemisphere.

An **equinox** is the instant in time when the plane of Earth's equator passes through the geometric center of the Sun's disk. It occurs twice each year, around March 20 and September 23. At this moment, the center of the visible Sun is directly above the equator.

Autumn, also known as Fall, is one of the four temperate seasons. Outside the tropics, autumn marks the transition from summer to winter. In September, the duration of daylight becomes noticeably shorter with cooler temperatures. Day length decreases as the season progresses until the Winter Solstice in December.



Harry, this is the season when squirrels scurry about looking for acorns to store up for winter! Maybe we can help!



Harry & Oliver's Corner

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/September 22

www.isidoreandmaria.org

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Directory

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 <u>https://www.youtube.com/@</u> <u>SSIsidoreandMariaParish</u>.

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.





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