

# ✠ SS. Isidore and Maria Parish

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT

May 18, 2025



WELCOME

## May 20: Weekday Hospitality

All are welcome to join us following the 7:30 a.m. daily Mass on May 20 for Weekday Hospitality. This is a wonderful opportunity to take a moment to have a cup of coffee and get to know your fellow parishioners. We hope to see you there!



## May 26: Annual Memorial Day Mass

Join us on Mon., May 26 at 11 a.m. for the **Annual Memorial Day Mass** at **St. Augustine Cemetery**, 136 Hopewell Road, South Glastonbury.

This Mass is offered for the more than 350 Veterans for whom the cemetery is the final resting place, for the souls of nearly 3,000 others who are buried there, and for all men and women who have died while serving in the U.S. military.

Those attending are asked to bring a lawn or folding chair. In the event of inclement weather, the Mass will be held at nearby St. Augustine Church, 55 Hopewell Road, South Glastonbury. Please visit the parish website and social media channels on Memorial Day for updates.

## POPE LEO XIV

“We must be a Church that walks together seeks peace, charity and walks with those who suffer.”

**Pope Leo XIV: A Biography** Learn more about our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, by checking out his biography from Vatican news!  
<https://tinyurl.com/y3r3tjpi>

## Parish Support

### Collections and Parish Finance

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

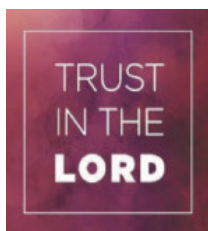


#### Report for the week of 5/11/2025:

**Weekly collection:** \$ 10,472.00  
**Online Giving:** \$ 3,756.00  
**Total:** \$ 14,228.00

#### Annual Chancery Assessment for fiscal year 2024: \$ 94,171.00

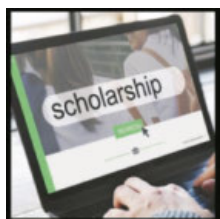
For a more detailed report please visit our website under the **ABOUT** tab. The monthly accountability reports can be found in the Financial Accountability folder. Check donations should be payable to: **Saints Isidore and Maria**. For online giving, go to our website and click on the **DONATE** tab. Thank you.



#### NOW UNDERWAY: 2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

The 2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Our goal is to engage our entire parish family in this year's Appeal and to pray for the success of the Appeal!

All funds contributed are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements. Please respond as generously as your means allow at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>.



#### Applications Available for 2025 Melzen Scholarship

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish is awarding two (2) scholarships for graduating high school seniors in memory of **Joseph J. Melzen, Sr.** Each scholarship awarded will be \$500.00 per year for up to four

years of college education. Any high school senior graduating in spring 2025 and having a parent registered as a member of SS. Isidore and Maria Parish are welcome to apply. Scholarship payments will be sent directly to the learning institution that the student will attend. For more information or to apply, visit [www.isidoreandmaria.org/scholarship2025](http://www.isidoreandmaria.org/scholarship2025).



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

Our Sponsor Spotlight this week:

**MULRYAN  
FUNERAL HOME**

### Inspiration for the Week *by Rev. Mark Suslenko*

The resurrected Christ strengthens us to do things we can never have imagined. Life will often give us mountains to climb, and we wonder how we will find the energy, ability, and determination to forge ahead. But, with a good dosage of faith and a fervent life of prayer, we find ourselves succeeding and ascending to heights that once frightened us. After reaching the other side, we realize that this hardship we once saw as an obstacle has become a vehicle for something better and greater. We are stronger. The same is true with the Gospel. The prospect of loving one another may seem idealistic or unobtainable. Yet, miracles happen when we risk moving beyond just looking out for or helping each other to actually **LOVING** each other. There is something extraordinary that occurs with love. We see people in ways we never saw before, understanding and appreciating each other's journey. Love leads to reverence. Faith is strengthened, and we move on to try again.



#### Introducing Our New Faith Formation Director, Ted Musco

We are delighted to welcome **Theodore (Ted) Musco** to SS. Isidore and Maria Parish to our parish staff as the **Director of Faith Formation**. A resident of Branford, Ted has dedicat-

ed over three decades to faith formation and evangelization at the parish, diocesan, and national levels and brings a wealth of experience, deep faith, and a lifelong passion for helping individuals and families grow in their relationship with Christ to his new role.

Ted succeeds Donna Berger, who has served in the role of Faith Formation Director for the past three years. We thank her for all her hard work and dedication serving in this role!

Read more about Ted on the parish website:  
<http://isidoreandmaria.org/meettedmusco>



#### Branches on the Vine for May 17 - May 23, 2025

The Office of Vocations for the Archdiocese of Hartford has launched **Rosary 100K**.

Learn more in the latest edition of **Branches on the Vine** from the Archdiocese of Hartford, available at <http://isidoreandmaria.org/category/branches-on-the-vine>.

# 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

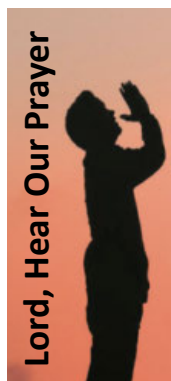
Date	Time	Intention	Requested by
<b>Saturday, May 17</b> Fifth Sunday of Easter <i>Armed Forces Day</i>	4 p.m.	John Flanagan III	Linda Yost
<b>Sunday, May 18</b> Fifth Sunday of Easter	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Barbara DiCecca Robert Wilde Anthony Pagliughi, Jr.	Granddaughter & Goddaughter Julia & Maggie Wilde Fran Dussault
<b>Monday, May 19</b> Easter Weekday	7:30 a.m.	Josephine Skierkowski & Arlene Hallisey	Kathy & Gerry Brooks
<b>Tuesday, May 20</b> St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest	7:30 a.m.  7 p.m.	Marianne Grabowicz <b>Coffee Social following 7:30 a.m. Mass</b> <b>Pray the Rosary (St. Augustine Church)</b>	Family
<b>Wednesday, May 21</b> St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest & Companions, Martyrs	7:30 a.m.	Jeffrey Gauches (Birthday)	Mother
<b>Thursday, May 22</b> St. Rita of Cascia, Religious		<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Friday, May 23</b> Easter Weekday	12:15 p.m. <b>After Mass until 2 p.m.</b>	Steven E. Krajeloski <b>Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	Don & Kathy Kray
<b>Saturday, May 24</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter	4 p.m.	Shirley Cyr	Gallery Choir
<b>Sunday, May 25</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Helene LaCroix Ken Bayman Edward McGuinness	Jim & Margaret LaCroix John & Mary Ann Kuschman Family

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another."

Jn 13:34



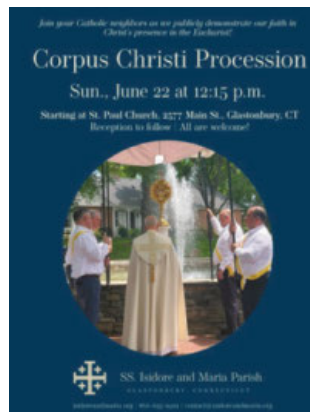
If you are offering a Mass Intention and you and your loved ones would like to bring up the gifts, please see the greeters prior to the start of Mass. One of them will be happy to assist you.



Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Ellona Bilotta  
James Bilotta  
Diane Varni Caisse  
Sandra Cavanna  
Thomas Cavanna  
Chris Delissio  
Robin DiTarando  
Brian Faxon  
Jennifer Graham  
Dan Hebert  
Rita Henson  
Sheila Kimball  
Julia Miller

Gilbert Morin  
Stephen O'Brien  
George Pappas  
Peter Savidge  
Frank Schultz  
Garland Taylor  
Barbara Thurz  
Bill Vassar, Jr.  
Andrea Villegas  
Mary E. Wallace  
Glyn Wellum  
Roger Yost

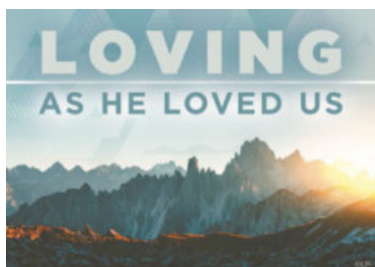


## Jun. 22: Corpus Christi Procession

Join us following the 11:15 a.m. Mass on **Sun., June 22** - Corpus Christi Sunday - to experience the magnificence and grandeur of the Procession of the Feast of Corpus Christi. We'll go forth from St. Paul Church, bringing Christ to the streets, witnessing to our faith, and giving due honor and glory to God in the Eucharist.

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](mailto:contact@isidoreandmaria.org). We cannot publish the names of friends. Thank you for your understanding.

"God's love for us is not greater in heaven than it is now." ~St. Thomas Aquinas



"It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God." Many folks work hard to circumvent difficult situations. We prefer the easier way around something rather than risk inconvenience,

hurt, or prolonged suffering. It's no wonder euthanasia is rapidly becoming acceptable around the world. Through purely human eyes, there is no issue bypassing the inevitable, taking control, and bringing things more swiftly to a place of peace.

If this is how God sees things, then why does Jesus make such a big deal in helping us understand and embrace the experience of suffering? God's wisdom takes us in another direction. Imagine if we were able to eradicate ALL hardship and suffering. Where would we be? Many solid, more growth-producing life lessons have been born of suffering, disappointment, inconvenience, darkness, and despair. There is something sacred about these experiences as God uses them to create something new.

Envisioning life without hardship and suffering brings us to a vision where everything is flat-lined and dull. As much as hardship and suffering are difficult crosses to bear, not taking them up runs the risk of us becoming shallow, empty, and lifeless. Helen Keller remarks, "A happy life consists not in the absence but in the mastery of hardships." What a sage insight! Many successful people and saints were brought to their station in life because they suffered. Suffering teaches us what's essential and propels us to search the depths of our souls for resources and strength we would never have known before.

This is especially true when we love as Jesus asks us to love. Above any other experience, love can cause us great hardship, pain, and suffering, especially when it's authentic and unconditional. While it can thrust us into an incredible experience of God and life, on the one hand, it can bruise and wound us deeply on the other. Mastering the art of love is the secret to living well, walking in the presence of God, and investing in the joy of the Gospel. Love and suffering walk hand-in-hand. Compromising one will compromise the other. That may be why Jesus spent so much time convincing us to accept both.



## Upcoming Women's Retreats

**May 30 - Jun. 1:** Welcoming the women of our parish to attend a weekend retreat at **Holy Family Retreat Center** in West Hartford. **In My Love, Abide** is dedicated to rediscovering the great

value and absolute need for prayer in one's personal life, in the life of the Church, and in the world. Retreat offering is \$350 per person, with scholarships available. For more information or to register, visit

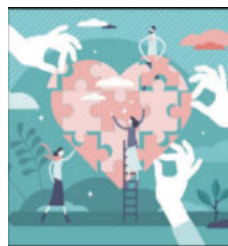
<https://www.holyfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats>. If you have questions or wish to coordinate carpooling, contact Vivien at 203-260-3693, or by email at [Vivvota93@gmail.com](mailto:Vivvota93@gmail.com). Scholarship inquiries may be made to the parish office at [contact@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:contact@isidoreandmaria.org)

**May 31 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.:** Morning Marian Retreat for Women!

This retreat celebrates the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and includes light breakfast, Mass, Rosary, and talks by a priest from the Legionaries of Christ. You'll also learn how to make a Marian Garden, and leave with a starter plant! This retreat takes place at the LC Cheshire Seminary, 475 Oak Ave., Cheshire. Offering is \$15. For more information or to RSVP, email [suzip@snet.net](mailto:suzip@snet.net).

**June 5-8:** St. Philip The Apostle Church will be sponsoring a Women's ACTS Retreat June 5-8, 2025, at the Immaculate Conception Center, in Putnam, CT. This is a simple, reverent, Catholic retreat with goals of renewing yourself spiritually, strengthening your faith in your daily life, and creating lasting and supporting friendships within your church community. All women are invited to attend. For more information contact the retreat director: Maureen Fleming at 860-338-1392.

## Ministry Highlight — Wellness



The SS. Isidore and Maria Parish **Wellness Ministry** is dedicated to nurturing the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of our parishioners and the community. Grounded in faith, compassion, and love, we strive to provide resources, support, and education that empower individuals and families to lead balanced, healthy lives.

The Wellness Ministry conducts educational and health programs throughout the year, including monthly blood pressure screenings, mental health support groups, diaper and food collections, seminars on affordable medical insurance options and the risks of social media usage in youths, and grief/loss seminars.

If you are interested in helping to maintain and improve the health of our parish, consider volunteering your time with our Wellness Ministry. Learn more at <http://isidoreandmaria.org/wellness>.

"The surest way to determine whether one possesses the love of God is to see whether he or she loves his or her neighbor. These two loves are never separated. Rest assured, the more you progress in love of neighbor the more your love of God will increase." - St. Teresa of Avila



## Jun. 9: Discover Your Calling: Exploring Catholic Vocations

Join us for **Discover Your Calling: Exploring Catholic Vocations** on Mon., Jun. 9 from 7 - 9 p.m. in Father Bannon Hall at St. Dunstan Church, 1345 Manchester Road, Glastonbury. This evening will offer presentations and discussions

about discerning God's call to:

- **Priesthood:** Serving the Church through sacraments, preaching, and pastoral care.
- **Religious Life:** Living a consecrated life of prayer, community, and service as a sister, brother, or nun.
- **Marriage:** Building a holy family and witnessing God's love through lifelong commitment.
- **Diaconate:** Serving the Church through liturgy, charity, and the Word.
- **Lay Ministry:** Using your gifts in service within the parish and the wider community.

Whether you are just beginning to wonder or are well along on your discernment journey, this event will offer guidance, inspiration, and community support. Refreshments will be served. Registration is required. To register, please visit <https://isidoreandmaria.org/vocationsjun2025>, or scan the QR code.

Do you have questions before you register? Please contact **Jack Harrington** (SS. Isidore and Maria Parish) at [vocations@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:vocations@isidoreandmaria.org), or by phone at 860-931-1855, or **Romina Italia** (St. Dunstan Parish) at [vocationsct@gmail.com](mailto:vocationsct@gmail.com), or by phone at 860-337-3013.



## Scripture Readings for the Week

<b>SUN 5/18/25</b>	Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 (see 1)/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35
<b>MON 5/19/25</b>	Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
<b>TUES 5/20/25</b>	Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a
<b>WED 5/21/25</b>	Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8
<b>THR 5/22/25</b>	Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
<b>FRI 5/23/25</b>	Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17
<b>SAT 5/24/25</b>	Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
<b>SUN 5/25/25</b>	Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-2

## 2025 Rice Bowl Effects Net over \$1,200 for Catholic Relief Services

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Rice Bowl efforts during Lent 2025. Your donations netted more than \$1,200 for Catholic Relief Services. These Lenten alms go to help alleviate hunger and poverty in communities around the world and in the U.S.



**ImmaCare Inc.**  
UPDATE

Thank you to the volunteers who so generously donated food to our ImmaCare ministry in May. The schedule of ImmaCare events for June is as follows:

**Thurs., June 5: ImmaCare Outreach Program pickup**

**Fri., June 6: ImmaCare Dinner night**

**Fr., June 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.

**ImmaCare's Outreach Program** continues throughout the month. The program seeks food to supplement its 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.

For a list of needed items or to volunteer for an upcoming ImmaCare dinner, please visit

<https://isidoreandmaria.org/immacare>.



## Jun. 12: Parish Book Club Meeting

The next Parish Book Club meeting will be on Thur., Jun. 12, at 1 p.m., in the education wing of the St. Paul campus. The book selection is *"The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell"* by Robert Dugoni. For more information or

to register, visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/bookclubjune2025>.



## 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**  
**Tammy Breiner**  
**Beau Douglas**  
**Celia Fajardo**  
**Brandon Farrell**  
**Gabe Forthofer**  
**Kevin Gamache**  
**Chris Gibb**  
**Darius Gittens**  
**Michael Hitzer**  
**Peter Kamianowski**

**Madeline Lanzi**  
**Mark J. Lord**  
**Gannon Lynch**  
**Samuel MacDonald**  
**Alexis Maher**  
**Michael Scott Mullin**  
**John W. Murphy**  
**Drew Scarfone**  
**Timothy Sullivan**  
**Jack M. Zaremba**

## Thank you for supporting the annual Diaper Drive!

On behalf of **Joan Dauber's family** and the **SS. Isidore and Maria Wellness Ministry**, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous contributions to the annual parish **Diaper Drive**, this year held in Joan's memory. Your kindness and support have made a significant impact, allowing us to collect nearly 12,000 diapers.

These donations will be distributed to families who need them through various organizations in Hartford and Glastonbury, including Positive Parenting, Burgdorf Pediatric Clinic, Family Med at Asylum Hill, and Glastonbury Social Services. Your generosity highlights the compassion and commitment of our faith community in promoting health and wellness. Thank you once again for your invaluable support.



## This Day in History: May 20, 1950

**Armed Forces Day** is celebrated on the third Saturday in May, this year May 17, 2023. It falls near the end of Armed Forces Week, which begins on the second Saturday of May and ends on the third Sunday of May.

First observed on May 20, 1950, the day was created on Aug. 31, 1949 to honor Americans serving in the five U.S. military branches – the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard – following the consolidation of the military services in the U.S. Department of Defense. It was intended to replace the separate Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Days, but the separate days are still observed, especially within the respective services.

The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated by parades, open houses, receptions and air shows. The United States' longest continuously running Armed Forces Day Parade is held in Bremerton, Washington. In 2019, Bremerton celebrated the 71st Armed Forces Day Parade.



Harry and I honor all who serve in our military service. We especially remember and hold in prayer our parishioners currently serving in the United States military.



## Harry & Oliver's Corner

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armed\\_Forces\\_Day#United\\_States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armed_Forces_Day#United_States)

860-633-9419

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish Directory

[www.isidoreandmaria.org](http://www.isidoreandmaria.org)

### Clergy

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

### Parish Staff

**Elizabeth Cafarella**  
Office Assistant  
[elizabeth@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:elizabeth@isidoreandmaria.org)

**David Garrido-Cid**  
Director of Music Ministries  
[david@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:david@isidoreandmaria.org)

**Mary Helmlinger**  
Ministry Coordinator  
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**Melissa Lacraft**  
Admin. Assistant to the Pastor  
[melissa@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:melissa@isidoreandmaria.org)

**Theresa Scalia**  
Bulletin Editor

**Carol Vassar**  
Director of Communications  
[carol@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:carol@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](mailto: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.

### Faith Formation Office

**Donna Berger**  
Faith Formation Director  
[donna@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:donna@isidoreandmaria.org)

**Ann Poker**  
Program Coordinator  
[ann@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:ann@isidoreandmaria.org)

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## Saint Isidore & Maria Parish

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*(We encourage sharing this QR code with family, neighbors,  
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*This promotion ends October 31st, 2025.)*



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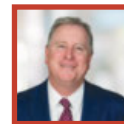
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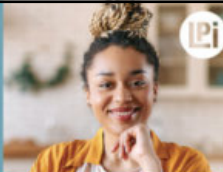
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