



# SS. Isidore and Maria Parish

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



August 24, 2025

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." - Luke 13:24

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

Discipline is necessary to focus our attention and develop and refine our skills. A disciplined person has integrity and can make difficult but necessary choices. Most people do not like discipline, especially children. When we have to rise above our impulses and desires and do something challenging, it can appear as a punishment. The struggles of living a good and effective Christian life, especially when we actively choose virtue over vice, are allowed by God and necessary for reaching spiritual maturity. God invites us to share in His Kingdom. Hearing and accepting that invitation requires an active, conscious decision. Reforming our lives and changing how we do things does not come easily. But it is precisely what is necessary for us to enter through the narrow gate that leads to life. Discipline is essential if we plan to discover our desire for union with our Creator and live in God's house. This way, we will not risk finding the door locked when we need it to open.

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish  
2025 Annual Collection



NOW  
UNDERWAY

## 2025 Parish Annual Collection Now Underway

Check your mailbox for a letter from Father Mark regarding

the 2025 Annual Collection, which is now underway. Please read his letter on the parish website:

<http://isidoreandmaria.org/2025annualcollectionletter>

and make your donation today!

## Facilitators needed for fall RENEW (small group program)



RENEW small groups are coming

to SS. Isidore and Maria Parish, and small-group faith sharing facilitators are needed! The core of the RENEW Method is small-group faith sharing. Groups of 6-10 people, led by a facilitator, gather for about 90 minutes once per week for six weeks to reflect on Scripture, pray together, and share their thoughts and points of view. Some might remember these groups from years ago. Meetings typically follow a format, starting with an opening prayer, and including scripture, sharing in response to open-ended topical questions, and a commitment to put faith into action. Facilitators are needed for our fall and spring sessions, with facilitator training provided starting Sept. 10. For more information, please visit the parish website:

<https://isidoreandmaria.org/renewsept2025>, or email [ted@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:ted@isidoreandmaria.org).

thank you

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 8/17/2025:

**Weekly collection:** \$ 7,899.00  
**Online Giving:** \$ 3,579.00  
**Total:** \$ 11,478.00

**Assumption** \$ 2,690.70  
**Missionary Appeal** \$ 9,585.00

#### 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.



### David Garrido-Cid to Leave Next Month

With both gratitude and sadness, we announce that our Director of Music Ministries, David Garrido-Cid, will be leaving his position here at SS. Isidore and Maria Parish to take a similar position at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church in Hartford. Since 2021, David has shared his many gifts with us, enriching our liturgies through beautiful music

and inspiring leadership. His dedication to our choirs, cantors, and musicians has helped raise our voices in praise and brought us closer to God through song. Please join us in offering David our heartfelt thanks for his ministry among us and in praying for him as he embarks on the next chapter of his journey. May God bless him abundantly for all he has given to our parish family.



### Branches on the Vine for Aug. 23 - Aug 29

Auxiliary Bishop Juan Miguel Betancourt recounts the elite of Waterbury native son, priest, and founder of the Knights of Columbus Blessed Michael J. McGivney, whose patronal feast in the Archdiocese of Hartford was

marked on Aug. 13. Learn more in the latest edition of *Branches on the Vine* from the Archdiocese of Hartford, available now at <https://isidoreandmaria.org/category/branches-on-the-vine>.



### Aug. 24: The Return of the Pop-up Choir! The Summer Pop-Up Choir is back!

The Summer Pop-up Choir is a spontaneous gathering of parishioners wishing to sing together

in the choir loft during Mass. No experience or RSVP required. Just bring your joy-filled voice for a brief rehearsal before the 11:15 a.m. Mass on Sun., Aug 24 (rehearsal is 10:45 a.m.), then sing along with us at 11:15!

This event is for ANYONE who wants to try or resume choral singing in a fun, low-pressure community event!



### UPDATE: Fall Festival on Sept. 21

The Roman Catholic Parishes of Glastonbury 2025 Fall Festival takes place on Sun., Sept. 21, 2025, at the Elks Club, 98 Woodland Street, South Glastonbury, from 1 to 4 p.m. Here's what's happening:

- **RSVPs are now being accepted.** These are not required but are helpful to the organizing committee as they plan! Click here to RSVP: <http://isidoreandmaria.org/fallfest2025rsvps>.
- Donations of **gift cards** for the raffle may be dropped off at the parish office of either SS. Isidore and Maria or St. Dunstan. You may also place it in an offertory kiosk (labeled "Fall Festival"). Gift cards are needed on or *before Sept. 16*.
- Anyone wishing to provide a **dessert** item for the festival should contact Dottie Horan at 813-695-7339 or [dhoran750@gmail.com](mailto:dhoran750@gmail.com).

### Sept. 15: Catholic Vocations Q & A Night



Join us for a special Catholic Vocations Q & A Night, an open and welcoming evening designed for anyone curious about God's call in their life. It's happening Mon., Sept. 15 from 7-9 p.m. at St. Dunstan Parish, Father Bannon Hall, 1345 Manchester Road, Glastonbury.

Whether you're discerning a vocation to the priesthood, religious life, marriage, or a life of dedicated singlehood, this event offers a safe space to ask questions, share thoughts, and hear from those who've walked the path of discernment. 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. For more information or to register, please visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/vocationssept2025>.

# 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, August 23</b> <i>21st Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Dennis Wall	Temple Family
<b>Sunday, August 24</b> <i>21st Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Dr. William Henry Patricia Bussa (1 yr. Anniv.) Linda Daniels	Elaine Henry Family Family
<b>Monday, August 25</b> St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz	7:30 a.m.	Lea Santori & Pam McCue	Elaine Henry
<b>Tuesday, August 26</b> Weekday	7:30 a.m.  7 p.m.	Christopher Graham  <b>Pray the Rosary (St. Augustine Church)</b>	Patricia Graham
<b>Wednesday, August 27</b> St. Monica	7:30 a.m.	Lottie LeMay, Genevieve Klimascwski & Margorie Klimas	Beverly LeMay
<b>Thursday, August 28</b> St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	The People of SS. Isidore and Maria Parish <b>(at St. Augustine Church)</b>	
<b>Friday, August 29</b> Passion of St. John the Baptist	12:15 p.m.  <b>After Mass until 2 p.m.</b>	Suzanne Leonard  <b>Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	Janet Bunke & Joanne Elliot
<b>Saturday, August 30</b> <i>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Sandy Cassanelli	Sullivan Family
<b>Sunday, August 31</b> <i>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Andre Poulin Uche Iloeje (Birthday) Stanley & Mary Mackos	Gaetane Morin Iloeje Family 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.*



Ellona Bilotta	Julia Miller
James Bilotta	Gilbert Morin
Diane Varni Caisse	Stephen O'Brien
Sandra Cavanna	George Pappas
Thomas Cavanna	Peter Savidge
Chris Delissio	Frank Schultz
Robin DiTarando	Garland Taylor
Brian Faxon	Bill Vassar, Jr.
Jennifer Graham	Andrea Villegas
Dan Hebert	Mary E. Wallace
Keith Henson	Glyn Wellum
Michele Messier	Roger Yost
Beverly Czepiel	Zadroga

***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.***



## Altar Flowers:

*In Memory of*  
**Rondolfo Caranfa** *from Family*

*In Memory of*  
**Patricia Bussa** *from Family*

## Altar Flower Offerings

Donations may be made toward floral arrangements:

- Honoring a family member or individual
- Celebrating a birthday, anniversary or special occasion
- In memory of a loved one

Only 3 requests will be accepted for each week. Donation is \$35.00. Please contact the parish office 860-633-9419 to arrange a date.



“The serious disciple knows the necessity and value of discipline. Thinking of discipline as something punitive in nature, we underscore its place in our spiritual lives. Discipline is giving no inkling of

his plans; what choice do you have but to give yourself entirely to his guidance? If you are convinced that he is a good guide, you must have faith in him and abandon yourself to his care (Jean- Pierre de Caussade).”

If someone wants to be physically fit, they readily find a competent trainer who sets them on a rigorous schedule. Determined to reach their goals, they sacrifice personal pleasure and trust in his guidance. Why should it be any different with God?

To remain faithful to the way Jesus places before us, we must listen, learn, and be willing to change. Falling in love

with God and maintaining that relationship requires an investment of time, energy, and hard work. Putting personal preferences aside in pursuing the Gospel and giving proper attention to our spiritual lives is challenging work. At first, “all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it (Hebrews).”

“What God does is essentially good. It does not need to be reformed or controlled...If you would live according to the Gospels, give yourself completely and simply to the action of God (Jean-Pierre de Caussade).”

Submission to the holy will of God is not a submission to a pre-ordained set of circumstances. Instead, it is abandonment and trust in God’s creative, life-giving, and salvific power. God brings light out of darkness and life out of death. Nurturing this bond of trust and seeking God in all things creates an intimate and particular relationship and bond between our Creator and us. When He comes, there will be no issue with us recognizing Him or Him recognizing us. We will have met before.



## Sept. 7: World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly

The Fifth World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is to be held in the U.S. on Sun., Sept. 7. This year’s

theme is “*Blessed are those who have not lost hope*” (cf. Sir 14:2).

Established by Pope Francis in 2021, the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is intended to be an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and the elderly can become a sign of hope in every family and church community.

Visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/grandparents2025> to learn more about it, and how you can celebrate with your loved ones!



## A Gentle Request Regarding Perfume Usage in Church

As we gather in the warmth of our sacred space for Mass, we kindly request your support in creating an atmosphere that

fully allows everyone to experience our church’s tranquility. Our diverse congregation has individuals with varying sensitivities to scents, including strong perfumes and colognes. Therefore, we humbly ask for your cooperation in **refraining from using strong perfumes and scents** during Masses and other parish gatherings. Doing so ensures that each parish family member can worship in an environment of comfort and harmony. Thank you for your understanding and thoughtfulness.



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



## A New Day Bereavement Program Begins Sept. 9

Are you or someone you know hurting from the grief of losing a loved one?

A New Day is a faith-based program and offers the best message for healing from such pain and suffering. It is offered to both men and women. Beginning Sept. 9, the parish Bereavement Ministry will be offering another 10-week session of this program. We will meet on Tues. evenings in classroom four from 6:30 – 8 p.m. Attendance is free, but registration is required. Please visit <https://isidoreandmaria.org/newdayfall2025> for more information or to register.



## PODCAST: Faith That Ruffles Feathers

Speaking the truth of our faith isn't always comfortable. It can challenge the way people think, disrupt the status quo, and sometimes create

resistance or even division. Yet, as followers of Christ, we are called to confront what pulls us away from God — in our own lives, in our communities, and in the world around us.

In this episode of his podcast, Father Mark invites us to embrace that calling with courage, even when it means ruffling a few feathers along the way. Listen today at <https://isidoreandmaria.org/podcasts>.



## Oct 14: The 2025 SS. Isidore and Maria Golf Tournament

Sign-ups are now underway for golfers, sponsors, and dinner-only guests for the 2025 SS. Isidore and Maria Golf Tournament takes place on Tues., Oct. 14 at Glastonbury

Hills Country Club. For more information or to register, visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/golf2025>.



- SUN 8/24/25** Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/ Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
- MON 8/25/25** 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22
- TUES 8/26/25** 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/ Mt 23:23-26
- WED 8/27/25** 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32
- THR 8/28/25** 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/ Mt 24:42-51
- FRI 8/29/25** 1 Thes 4:1-8 (429)/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mk 6:17-29
- SAT 8/30/25** 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/ Mt 25:14-30
- SUN 8/31/25** Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/ Lk 14:1, 7-14

“Our hearts were made for You,  
O Lord, and they are restless until  
they rest in You.”  
~ St. Augustine of Hippo ~

- Is your child entering **first grade** this fall? Now's the time to enroll your first grader in the parish Faith Formation program! Questions? Email Ann Poker at [ann@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:ann@isidoreandmaria.org).
- **Following Archdiocesan policy**, we are in the process of transitioning the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation to those in Grade 8. This is a gradual process that will take place over several years, as follows:
  - All current 10th graders will receive Confirmation in the Spring of 2026
  - All current 9th graders will receive Confirmation in the Fall of 2026
  - All current 8th graders will receive Confirmation in the Spring of 2027
  - All current 7th graders will receive Confirmation in the Fall of 2027
  - All current 6th graders will receive Confirmation in the Spring of 2028
- Preparation sessions for **adults needing the Sacrament of Confirmation** begin in late September. Please get in touch with Ted Musco (information below) if you or someone you know would like to participate.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Join us on **Sat., Nov. 8**, for our first annual Fall Faith Formation Forum. This inaugural conference for adults of all ages celebrates the Jubilee of Hope through prayer, Mass, presentations by local and national speakers, and a time to enjoy our neighbors and friends. Details will be shared shortly, but don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity.
- The parish would like to send all school-age children and teens and their families off to a new school year with a special blessing. **Please bring your backpacks with you to Mass on Aug. 23 and 24** for your special blessing and a prayer card that will remind you that God is with you throughout the entire year.
- For more information or any questions on these topics or anything else related to faith formation, please contact **Ted Musco, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation** at [Ted@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:Ted@isidoreandmaria.org), or 860-633-9419.



## Sept. 1: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Each year on Sept. 1, Christians around the globe observe the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. Established by Pope Francis in 2015, it invites us to join in prayer and action with our Orthodox brothers and sisters, who first began this observance in 1989.

This year's theme, *Seeds of Hope and Love*, reminds us that small acts of care for our common home can blossom into lasting change. Together, through prayer, gratitude, and stewardship, we can sow seeds that bear fruit for generations to come.





## ImmaCare Inc. UPDATE

Thanks for your support of the parish ImmaCare ministry. The schedule of ImmaCare events for Sept. is as follows:

- Thurs., Sept. 4: ImmaCare Outreach Program pickup
- Fri., Sept. 12: 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>.

## This Day in History — Aug. 24, 1869

### Cornelius Swartwout (Jul. 25, 1839 – Dec. 17, 1910)

American inventor Cornelius Swartwout was born in Westerlo, New York, and filed an early U.S. patent related to waffle irons. The earliest waffle irons were not the work of Mr. Swartwout, however. Instead, they originated in the Netherlands sometime in the fourteenth century.

On Aug. 24, 1869, Swartwout was awarded a U.S. patent for an "Improvement in Waffle-Irons," consisting of a novel handle for opening, closing and turning a stovetop waffle iron.

His invention looked nothing like modern electric model waffle makers. Fashioned to sit on wood or gas stoves, his waffle makers had a swivel hinge joined the cast-iron plates in a cast-iron collar. National Waffle Day in the U.S. is celebrated each Aug. 24 to honor his patent award.



Let's celebrate with a "Waffle Cone" filled with yummy ice cream!! Happy Waffle Day!



## Harry & Oliver's Corner

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cornelius\\_Swartwout](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cornelius_Swartwout)

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

**Donna Berger**  
Director of Volunteers and Ministries  
[donna@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:donna@isidoreandmaria.org)

### Elizabeth Cafarella

Office Assistant  
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### David Garrido-Cid

Director of Music Ministries  
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### Mary Helmlinger

Director of Social Justice  
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### Melissa Lacafta

Admin. Assistant to the Pastor  
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### Theresa Scalia, Bulletin Editor

### Carol Vassar

Director of Communications  
[carol@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:carol@isidoreandmaria.org)

### Lifelong Faith Formation

#### Ted Musco, Director

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation  
[ted@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:ted@isidoreandmaria.org)

#### Ann Poker

Program Coordinator  
[ann@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto: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](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.

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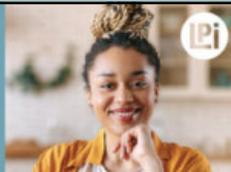
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