



# SS. Isidore and Maria Parish

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



August 31, 2025

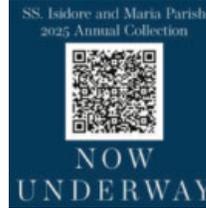
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

- Luke 14:11

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

"Humble yourself the more, the greater you are." These words from Sirach are packed with wisdom. Who we become and our success are due not only to our merits but also to God's grace. Without God, we cease to be. This is a simple fact. We are deluding ourselves if we ever feel entitled to honor, superior treatment, or privileges. The person who truly understands and is responsible for their well-being and success will quickly become a servant of others. We tend to forget how important service is. Being generous and kind, especially to those who cannot repay us, is the hallmark of the Christian life. Are we willing to put ourselves last? An easy way to seek an answer is to determine how much value you place on sitting in the seat you occupy today or the space you choose to park your car. Would you offer these to someone else?



## 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!

## UPDATE: Fall Festival is Sept. 21

RSVPs are now being accepted for the Roman Catholic Parishes of Glastonbury

2025 Fall Festival taking place on Sun., Sept. 21, 2025, at the Elks Club, 98 Woodland Street, South Glastonbury, from 1 to 4 p.m. **Gift card and dessert donations are needed, plus news about a special raffle!** Visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/fallfest25> for details or to RSVP for your family!



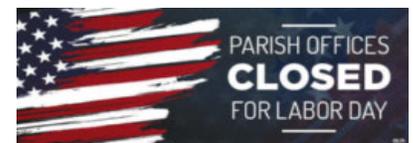
*thank you*

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

Our Sponsor Spotlight this week:

**GLASTONBURY HILLS COUNTRY CLUB**

860-633-5253



Have a safe and happy holiday!

## Parish Support

### Collections and Parish Finance

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



Report for the week of 8/24/2025:

Weekly collection: \$ 6,703.74  
Online Giving: \$ 3,629.24  
Total: \$ 10,332.98

Additional Mission Appeal \$ 2,931.00

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.



### Branches on the Vine for Aug. 30 - Sept. 6

As part of a continuing formation program, the Office of Worship for the Archdiocese of Hartford is offering upcoming evenings of reflection and

formation for lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Learn more in the latest edition of Branches on the Vine from the Archdiocese of Hartford. Read it at <https://isidoreandmaria.org/category/branches-on-the-vine>.

## 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. Learn more about the Wellness Ministry by attending their next meeting on **Tues., Sept. 9 at 5:30 p.m.** in the classroom wing of St. Paul Church, or by visiting <https://isidoreandmaria.org/wellness>.



### PODCAST: Free Fall Into Faith

What does it take to push past fear and trust completely? In his latest podcast episode, Father Mark reflects on the determination needed to face life's greatest challenges, whether that's skydiving

from a plane or stepping forward in faith. Listen now at <https://isidoreandmaria.org/podcasts>.



### Sept. 13 & 14: Special Collection for Gaza Relief

On the weekend of Sept. 13–14, our parish will take up a special collection to support our brothers and sisters in Gaza and surrounding areas of the Middle East. Funds collected will be distributed through the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

CNEWA is on the ground in Gaza providing emergency humanitarian relief, including medical and psychological care for the sick, malnourished, and wounded. CRS is working through local Church partners to provide food, shelter, cash assistance, hygiene supplies, and support for people's emotional well-being.

Your generosity will bring hope and healing to those most in need. Please place your donation in an envelope marked "Gaza Relief" and deposit it into one of the collection kiosks. Please make any checks out to SS. Isidore and Maria Parish. Thank you in advance for your support.



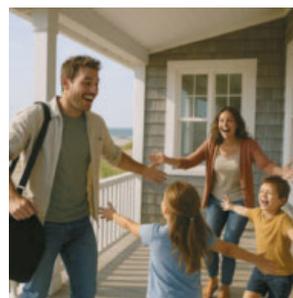
### Volunteer Corner

*Our parish ministries run on volunteer power! Your help is needed in a variety of areas, including:*

#### Funeral Mass Greeters

We are forming a team of compassionate and welcoming volunteers to serve as Greeters at Funeral Masses. This team offers a vital presence to families

and guests during a difficult time by welcoming attendees to the parish, distributing funeral programs, and providing a warm, supportive atmosphere. Funeral Masses are typically held in the mornings, and each commitment lasts approximately 1 to 1.5 hours. Volunteers will be contacted on an as-needed basis and can serve according to their availability. If you are interested in serving in this meaningful way, please contact Damien Walsh at 860-430-9608.



### Regina's Writings: Surprise and Sacrifice

A big sacrifice by a family member makes a HUGE and positive impact on Regina's family as they gathered on the Cape for their annual summer vacation. Read the latest in the series, Regina's Writings, from M. Regina Cram,

now available on the parish website:  
<https://isidoreandmaria.org/category/reginas-writings>.



# 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, Aug. 30</b> <i>22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Sandy Cassanelli	Sullivan Family
<b>Sunday, Aug. 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
<b>Monday, Sept. 1</b> <i>World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation</i> <i>Labor Day</i>	7:30 a.m.	Robert Gamer  <b>Parish Offices Closed</b>	Patrick & Sandy Harrington
<b>Tuesday, Sept. 2</b> <i>Weekday</i>	7:30 a.m.  7 p.m.	Bob & Maureen Harrington  <b>Pray the Rosary (St. Augustine Church)</b>	Patrick & Sandy Harrington
<b>Wednesday, Sept. 3</b> <i>St. Gregory the Great, Pope &amp; Doctor of the Church</i>	7:30 a.m.	Gerri & Bill Brown	Patrick & Sandy Harrington
<b>Thursday, Sept. 4</b> <i>Weekday</i>	<b>No Mass</b>		
<b>First Friday, Sept. 5</b> <i>Weekday</i>	12:15 p.m.  <b>After Mass</b> <b>until 2 p.m.</b>	Marie Neuman (living)  <b>Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	Bucior Family
<b>Saturday, Sept. 6</b> <i>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Margaret O'Connor	Sally Willard
<b>Sunday, Sept. 7</b> <i>23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	D. Joon Yoo Jeanne Emard Ivani Dozithee; Charles Monroe & Thomas Michael Gean	Family Michael & Linda Emard Vera Monroe

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

## 2025 Backpack Blessing



SS. Isidore and Maria Parish held its first-ever Backpack Blessing on Aug. 23 & 24. More than 140 blessing stickers were handed out during the weekend! May blessings be upon all students of all ages returning to school this month!





People who are concerned with their own advancement and agenda have little room for anyone else. With an almost addictive pursuit of esteem and acknowledgment from others, they become little more than entitled

embodiments of the vice of pride. Public humiliation or embarrassment can hit them hard. While avoiding humiliation and shame may be advantageous to obtaining worldly success, they are much less desirable motivations for entering the Kingdom of God. Avoiding embarrassment is a self-serving motivation. Pride and all its manifestations have no place on God's agenda, neither do worldly success and fulfillment. In fact, we have been clearly told that if we love our lives, we will lose them. Therefore, if you really want to find your actual station in life, learn to give yourself away.

While this may sound foolish to secular ears, it makes perfect sense. God, who is love, makes each of us in His

image. Love, and therefore God, is in our DNA. That being the case, love is never love if it is kept to oneself or hoarded. Love needs to be shared and given away. Therefore, it is the only proper motivation for entering the Kingdom of God. The door to happiness is only opened when we realize that all we are and all we have is due only to God's grace. Without God we are nothing.

Love is the remedy for pride and protects us from ourselves. God asks us to be humble. Only when we are free from the traps of pride and arrogance can we begin to follow the path to true humility. Only one who is humble can rightly love and be of service to God. "God makes use only of the humble as his instruments (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)." The humble one does not need others to give them worth and value. Their self-esteem comes from the much more secure foundation of God. Only those who are entirely free can give themselves freely to others. Love must always be our motivation for doing all things. Be content that God has invited you to the banquet of life. Concern yourself with accepting the invitation, and don't worry about where you will sit.



## Registration open for Walking with Purpose

The women's Bible study,

**Walking with Purpose** (WWP), returns for its sixth season with St. Dunstan and SS. Isidore and Maria Parishes.

For the 2025/2026 year, WWP is offering the following programs:

- Track 1 - **Opening Your Heart** (for new participants): Opening Your Heart is the starting point. It's perfect for a woman new to WWP (with or without Bible study experience). We invite you to come as you are and be amazed at how Scripture applies to your everyday life.
- Track 2 - **Beholding His Glory** paired with **Beholding Your King**, both for returning participants: **Beholding His Glory** shows us how all Scripture points us to our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. We'll learn to recognize and appreciate God's plan for our own lives, His awe-inspiring majesty, and His desire for personal intimacy with each one of us. In **Beholding Your King**, we'll study King David, select psalms, the temple, and many Old Testament prophets and see the ways in which they all point to the coming King of kings, Jesus Christ.

The cost of the program is \$50 per person. Visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/wwp2025> for additional details or to register.



God of all creation, you have given us the responsibility of a steward, one who cares for something. Our stewardship is to care for our common home, the earth.



## 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:

<b>Connor Blomstrom</b>	<b>Kevin Gamache</b>	<b>Samuel MacDonald</b>
<b>Tammy Breiner</b>	<b>Chris Gibb</b>	<b>Alexis Maher</b>
<b>Aaron Bryant</b>	<b>Darius Gittens</b>	<b>Michael Scott Mullin</b>
<b>Beau Douglas</b>	<b>Michael Hitzer</b>	<b>John W. Murphy</b>
<b>Celia Fajardo</b>	<b>Peter Kamianowski</b>	<b>Drew Scarfone</b>
<b>Brandon Farrell</b>	<b>Madeline Lanzi</b>	<b>Timothy Sullivan</b>
<b>Gabe Forthofer</b>	<b>Mark J. Lord</b>	<b>Jack M. Zaremba</b>
	<b>Gannon Lynch</b>	

If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected—the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative. ~ USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

## A New Day Bereavement Program Begins Sept. 9

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.



### 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>.



### Oct. 16: Parish Book Club Meeting

The next Parish Book Club meeting will be on Thurs., Oct. 16, at 1 p.m., in the education wing of the St. Paul campus. The book selection is "This is Happiness," by Niall Williams.

For more information or to register, please visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/bookcluboct2025>.



<b>SUN 8/31/25</b>	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
<b>MON 9/1/25</b>	1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30
<b>TUES 9/2/25</b>	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37
<b>WED 9/3/25</b>	Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44
<b>THR 9/4/25</b>	Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
<b>FRI 9/5/25</b>	Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 5:33-39
<b>SAT 9/6/25</b>	Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5
<b>SUN 9/7/25</b>	Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

## UPDATES from the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation

- **PARENTS:** Please be reminded that the **All-Parent Meeting for Family Faith Formation (Grades 1-10)** will be held on Tues., Sept. 16 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the St. Paul Church. Please be sure your family is represented by at least one parent (or guardian). *If you have not yet registered your child/children for the 2025/26 Faith Formation program, please call the Office of Lifelong Formation at 860-633-9419 and ask for Ann Poker.*
- **All newly Confirmed and their parents** are invited to attend a short but informative meeting on **Wed., Oct. 1** from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the St. Paul Church Library (Faith Formation Center) to hear some ideas about **forming a parish Youth Group** and most importantly to share some thoughts on what you would find helpful as you continue your Faith journey, especially now that you have been Confirmed. Key goals for a Youth Ministry include:
  - ~ fostering personal and spiritual growth
  - ~ encouraging active involvement in the life of the Church
  - ~ actively serving others
 Light refreshments will be served. So we can plan accordingly, to register and for more information, please email [TMusco@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:TMusco@isidoreandmaria.org), Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, *by Sept. 25*. We are looking forward to a great turnout and beginning this new adventure with you.

**Sept. 21: Catechetical Sunday** - Catechetical Sunday is celebrated nationwide on Sept. 21 and takes place this year during the Jubilee of Hope. The theme this year is "Always be ready to give an explanation...for a reason for your hope" 1 Pet 3:15.

**All parents along with their family members are invited to join us on Sept. 21 for the 9:30 a.m. Mass to be recognized and blessed along with our parish catechists and aides.**



### Join the Hospitality Ministry – Help Host Monthly Parish Receptions!

We are looking for teams of 3 to 4 people to help host monthly receptions following parish services. This is a wonderful opportunity for individuals, families, and children to live out our call to service and strengthen the bonds of our faith community. Hosting a reception requires a 2–3 hour

commitment, which includes time spent at the event.

The Hospitality Ministry Coordinators are available to provide guidance and walk your team through all the details — no experience necessary! If we receive enough interest, each team would be asked to host just one reception over the course of the upcoming year. Fellowship is a vital part of our parish life, and with your support, we look forward to continuing these joyful gatherings. Sign up on our website: <http://isidoreandmaria.org/hospitality>, or contact Donna Berger at [donna@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:donna@isidoreandmaria.org) with any questions.



# 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 — Sept. 1, 2025

**Labor Day** is a federal holiday in the United States celebrated on the first Monday of September to honor and recognize the American labor movement and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements in the United States.

Beginning in the late 19th century, as the trade union and labor movements grew, trade unionists proposed that a day be set aside to celebrate labor. "Labor Day" was promoted by the Central Labor Union and the Knights of Labor, which organized the first parade in New York City. In 1887, Oregon was the first state of the United States to make it an official public holiday. By the time it became an official federal holiday in 1894, thirty states in the U.S. officially celebrated Labor Day.



So, we are celebrating in the true spirit of the holiday. Oliver and I are not going to "labor" today! I don't think our Dad will be grilling a hot dog or hamburger either. . . maybe he will have a Trout Burger! Wishing a safe and happy Labor Day to all our friends!



## Harry & Oliver's Corner

<https://www.thisdaytrivia.com/trivia/august-28>

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  
[elizabeth@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:elizabeth@isidoreandmaria.org)

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

**Mary Helmlinger**  
Director of Social Justice  
[mary@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:mary@isidoreandmaria.org)

**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)



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handy QR code to begin the process.

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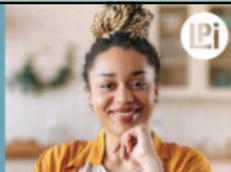
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