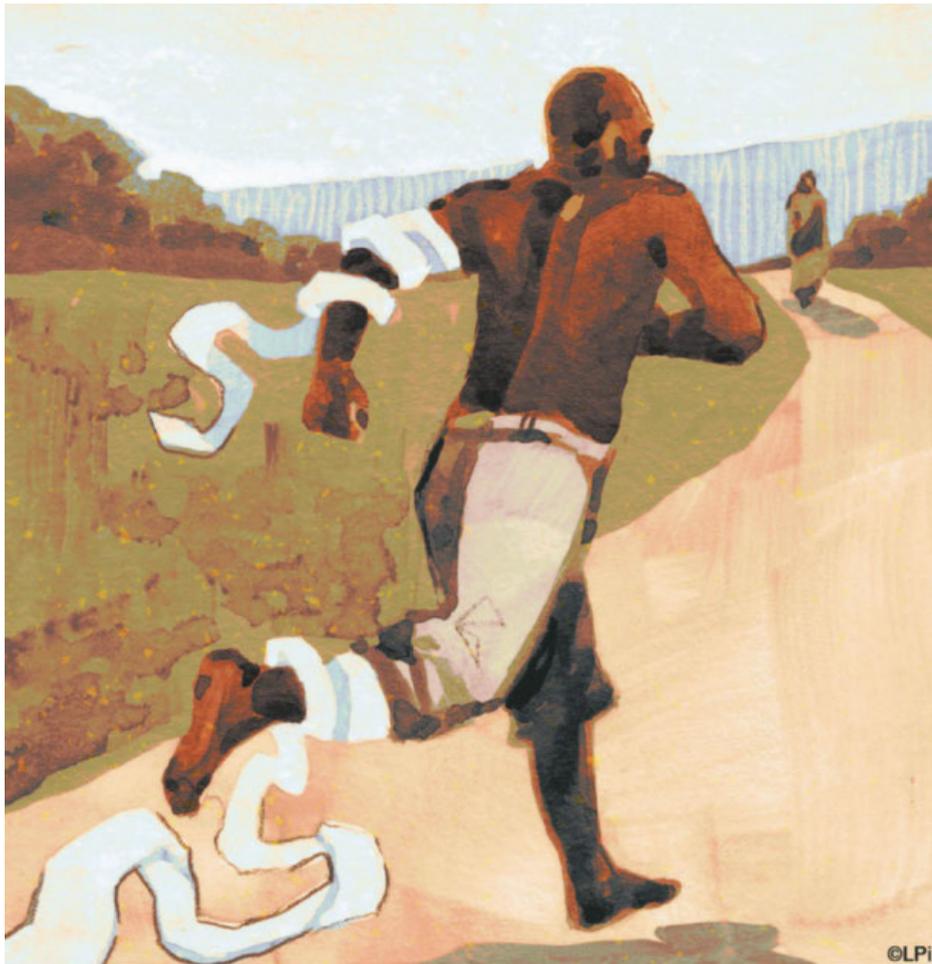




# SS. Isidore and Maria Parish

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



©LPI

October 12, 2025

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Your faith has saved you." - Luke 17:19

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

Expressing gratitude is a sign of a loving heart. When we receive a gracious gesture, the appreciation we experience forms a bond between the giver and the receiver. This can only happen when abundance and kind gestures are seen as gifts and not something to which we are entitled. The power of gratitude is more profound when we realize that all that we are and all we are given do not have a human source but are of God. Walking around believing that our glass is only half-filled leaves us always wanting more. We are never satisfied. We become nothing more than entitled pursuers of whatever we can get. Instead, the one who is eager to count their blessings and appreciate the wonder and beauty of the gift of life itself is at peace. Before they take another step or venture off on another journey, they bow in gratitude to the presence of God himself. They are most keenly aware that all would cease to be without God.

## Oct. 11 & 12: Blood Pressure Screenings

The Parish Wellness Ministry conducts its monthly blood pressure screenings, provided free of charge, after the 4 p.m. Mass on Sat., Oct. 11, and after the 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses on Sun., Oct. 12. Screenings are held in the conference room of the South Wing of St. Paul Church. *All participant names and results are confidential.*



## Oct. 18 & 19: World Mission Sunday

On the weekend of Oct. 18 & 19, our parish will take up a collection in support of missionary efforts around the world in honor of World Mission Sunday.

In light of the **Jubilee Year of Hope**, Pope Leo chose this year's theme, **Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples**. Your gifts support and sustain priests, religious, and lay pastoral leaders in more than 1,150 mission dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin American and Europe as they proclaim the Gospel, build the Church, and serve the poor. Through their work, they reveal the compassionate heart of Jesus by providing food, education, and medical care to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions to these efforts. Make your online donation at <https://give.pontificalmissions.org/donate/give>, or text "missions25" to 53555.

Mon.  
Oct. 13



## Parish Support

### Collections and Parish Finance

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



**Report for the week of 10/5/2025:**

**Weekly collection:** \$ 10,303.02  
**Online Giving:** \$ 6,020.00  
**Total:** \$ 16,323.02

**Parish Appeal** \$ 86,535.00

**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.

SS. Isidore and Maria Parish  
2025 Annual Collection



**NOW UNDERWAY**

**2025 Parish Annual Collection Now Underway**

The 2025 Parish Annual Collection is now underway. Visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/annualcollection25> to make your donation today. Your generosity is appreciated!



### PODCAST: The Gift of Loving Obedience

In a world that prizes independence and self-determination, obedience can sound like a relic from another time. But what if obedience, freely given and rooted in love, is actually a path to deeper faith

and peace? In the latest episode of his podcast, Father Mark reflects on the meaning of obedience in our spiritual and personal lives, drawing from the wisdom of St. Ignatius to show how doing what pleases God can transform our hearts and relationships. Listen now at <https://isidoreandmaria.org/podcasts>



### Branches on the Vine Oct. 11 – 17, 2025

Get a recap of the Archdiocese of Hartford 2025 Men's Conference in the edition of Branches

on the Vine, now available on the parish website: <https://isidoreandmaria.org/category/branches-on-the-vine>.



### UPDATE: Mass RSVPs for Nov. 9 Mass

Just a quick reminder that RSVPs continue to be open for Father Mark's retirement Mass on Sun., Nov. 9 at 11:15 a.m. If you previously encountered issues with this form, please try again.

The RSVP list for his afternoon reception in Bolton is FULL. To get on the waitlist, please email [contact@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:contact@isidoreandmaria.org), or call the office at 860-633-9419.



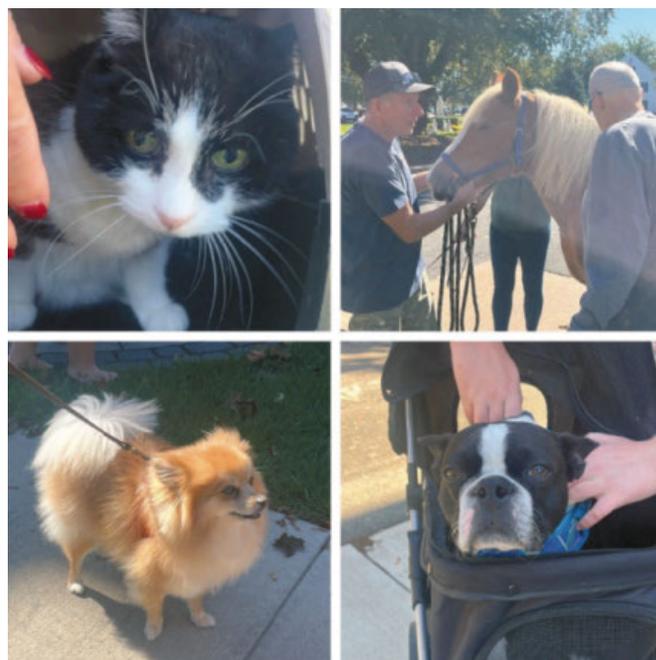
### Oct. 18 & 19: Hospitality Weekend Returns!

Join your fellow parishioners as our all-parish Hospitality Weekends resume. We'll have a wine and cheese social following the 4 p.m. Mass on Sat., Oct. 18, and a noon get-together on Sun., Oct. 19, after the 11:15 a.m. Mass. Both events will be held in the South Wing of St. Paul Church.



### 2025 Parish Pet Blessing

Last Saturday (Oct. 4) was the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. What better day to have parishioners bring their cats, dogs, and horses (okay, one horse) to St. Paul Church for the Annual Pet Blessing! Beautiful weather combined with beloved pets of all shapes and ages make for a great photo gallery! Check it out on the parish website: <http://isidoreandmaria.org/petblessing2025>.



# 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, Oct. 11</b> <i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Amelia & Lucien Daignault	Family
<b>Sunday, Oct. 12</b> <i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	John Atwell Robert Wilde Bernie Sullivan	Wife, Ruth Charlie Ingardia Jane Thomas
<b>Monday, Oct. 13</b> <i>Columbus Day</i> <i>Indigenous Peoples Day</i>	7:30 a.m.	Marie Neuman (living)	Bucior Family
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 14</b> <i>St. Calistus I, Pope &amp; Martyr</i>	7:30 a.m.  7 p.m.	Porfirio Nunes  <b>Pray the Rosary (St. Augustine Church)</b>	Son & Family
<b>Wednesday, Oct. 15</b> <i>St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin &amp; Doctor of the Church</i>	7:30 a.m.	Mark Sabia	Family
<b>Thursday, Oct. 16</b> <i>St. Hedwig Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Virgin</i>	<b>No Mass</b>		
<b>Friday, Oct. 17</b> <i>St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop &amp; Martyr</i>	12:15 p.m. <b>After Mass</b> <b>until 2 p.m.</b>	Thomas Sullivan <b>Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	Parents
<b>Saturday, Oct. 18</b> <i>29th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Hospitality Weekend</i>	4 p.m.	Anna M. Tine	Ron & Lorraine Tine & Family
<b>Sunday, Oct. 19</b> <i>29th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Hospitality Weekend</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	William DiNonno Michael Kelly Kamsi Iloeje ( <i>Birthday</i> )	Family Patrice & Rich Ehrhardt Family

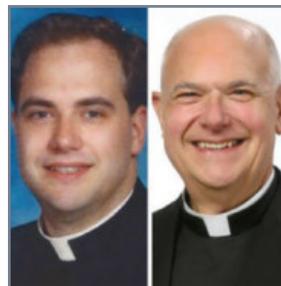
If you are offering a Mass Intention and you and your loved ones would like to bring up the gifts, please see the greeters prior to the start of Mass. One of them will be happy to assist you.



## Remember in Your Prayers

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



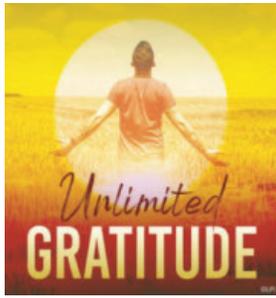
## Who is the other priest in this photo?

They are BOTH Father Mark. At left is a photo of him taken just after his ordination in 1986. At right, is his most recent headshot, taken in 2023.

## Do you have digitized photos of Father Mark you'd like to share

with us? We'll put together a special collage for him based on your contributions. Email them to [carol@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:carol@isidoreandmaria.org) by Oct. 31!

"I used to pray that God would feed the hungry, or do this or that, but now I pray that he will guide me to do whatever I'm supposed to do, what I can do. I used to pray for answers, but now I'm praying for strength. I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us and we change things." ~St. Teresa of Calcutta



Ten lepers were cured. Only one returned to give thanks. When we fall victim to entitlement, we diminish our capacity to love. Never satisfied, we walk around with outstretched arms, eagerly searching for the next thing we want so that we can acquire it ourselves. Very rarely do entitled hands hold anything to give away

to others freely. Entitled hands also find it challenging to reach toward heaven in a gesture of gratitude and praise. We are often more obsessed with celebrating our victories, securing our assets, safeguarding our futures, and stacking the deck of life in our favor rather than relishing and absorbing the gift of the moment and blessings received.

People who are entitled find it challenging to pray properly. When the subject of our prayer is mostly about our needs and wants, we are falling into the trap of deception. We foolishly try to convince God that our tiny worlds are of greater importance than his. In ancient times, people

would offer sacrifices to “the gods” to secure protection and favors. Our God desires mercy, not sacrifice, because he is about love and justice, not simply meeting our agendas.

Every breath is a gift. Prayer, which is a celebration of that gift, acknowledges the Giver. Prayer strengthens the bond between Giver and receiver, creating a deepening awareness that nothing I am or anything I have can exist apart from His Divine Will. It also reminds us that we have done nothing to merit the unconditional love and mercy God showers upon us. Prayer is not just about getting what I need, but also about celebrating who I am.

For St. Therese of Lisieux, prayer is “a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy.” When our hearts “surge” toward God, we rush to the Source of our restoration and wholeness, knowing our longing for God’s Divine embrace. Prayer is a response to God’s graciousness with an act of gratitude returned by us. In prayer, we gaze upon each other in that sacred space where I give myself to God as he is, and God gives himself to me as I am. We cannot take another step without saying thank you.



## ImmaCare Inc.

### UPDATE

ImmaCare has indicated that they are in need of specific items at this time. These include:

- Short-Sleeve T-Shirts
- Long-Sleeve T-Shirts
- Hoodies/Sweatshirts
- White crew and athletic socks
- Cases of bottled water
- Plastic Forks (can be bulk)
- Plastic Spoons (can be bulk)

This is part of ImmaCare’s Outreach Program, which continues throughout the month. To see the full list of items needed (and picked up on the first Thurs. of each month), click the link below. Items collected go to supplement ImmaCare’s 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.

### The schedule of ImmaCare events for Nov. is as follows:

- Thurs., Nov. 6: ImmaCare Outreach Program pickup
- Fri., Nov. 7: ImmaCare Dinner night
- Fri., Nov. 14: 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. To volunteer, please visit <https://isidoreandmaria.org/immacare>.



### Nov. 8: Fall Faith Forum

Join us as we celebrate the Jubilee Year of 2025 as a faith community and honor the great gift of hope. It’s the Fall Faith Forum, happening Sat., Nov. 8 from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at **St. Augustine Church**, 55 Hopewell Road, South Glastonbury.

In declaring this Jubilee Year, Pope Francis wrote, “We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart, and far-sighted vision.”

The day will include moving presentations by **Sr. Joan Curtin, CND**, Vicar for Religious, and **Rev. Joseph Gibino**, Vicar for Evangelization and Catechesis and Pastor, both from the Archdiocese of New York. The day includes lunch, conversation, and a celebration of Mass.

The cost is \$25/person. Registration is required. To register, visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/fallfaithforum2025>

### 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>      |                             |

Pray for peace in the Holy Land





## Oct. 24: Married Couples Date Night

During this Jubilee Year of Hope, married couples of all ages are invited to gather for an evening of a light dinner, fellowship, and inspiration on

Fr.day, October 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the library at St. Paul Church. This relaxing and enjoyable evening provides an opportunity for you to share time with your spouse and other married parishioners. Couples who have been married recently or for many years are cordially invited.

Mrs. Valerie St. Jean from the Archdiocesan Office of Faith Formation and Parish Life, and her husband, will be here to facilitate the evening. Pass the word to your friends and register early, as space is limited to twenty couples. Cost for the evening is \$40.00 per couple.

Register by Oct. 20 at

<http://isidoreandmaria.org/datenightoct2025>.



## Regina's Writings: Planned Mediocrity (or Is It All Downhill After the Wedding)?

True love within a marriage isn't just a feeling - it's a daily choice. Even amid challenges, couples can keep their connection alive through

faith, forgiveness, and small gestures of affection. A lasting marriage takes effort, but it's sacred work. Read how that sacred work influenced Regina's marriage in her latest column, now available on the parish website: <https://isidoreandmaria.org/category/reginas-writings>.



## Scripture Readings for the Week

- SUN 10/12/25** 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19
- MON 10/13/25** Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 11:29-32
- TUES 10/14/25** Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 11:37-41
- WED 10/15/25** Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9/Lk 11:42-46
- THR 10/16/25** Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Lk 11:47-54
- FRI 10/17/25** Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11/Lk 12:1-7
- SAT 10/18/25** 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9
- SUN 10/19/25** Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (see 2)/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-

## UPDATE from the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation



### Advent Happenings!

Advent will be here before you know it, and the SS. Isidore and Maria is offering two different ways to help you prepare your mind and spirit for the birth of Christ:

**Advent Awakenings:** A small, faith-sharing community to reflect on Jesus' presence in your life, deepen your faith, and meet new friends. This Renew International program is being offered on Thursdays at 1 p.m. from Oct 30 – Nov. 20, and again on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. from Nov. 3 – Nov. 24 in the Parish Center. A nominal materials fee of \$10 is being charged.

Registration is required. Please visit:

<http://isidoreandmaria.org/adventawakenings25>.

**Advent Scripture Series:** Similar to the highly successful Lenten Scripture series from earlier this year, parishioner **Walter Twachtman** will help parishioners deepen your understanding of each Sunday reading during Advent. You'll examine the author's intended message, the relationship between the weekly readings, and their meaning for today's spiritual life. This series is being offered FREE on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. from Nov. 20 – Dec. 18 (no meeting on Thanksgiving, Nov. 27) at St. Augustine Church. Registration is requested. To register, visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/adventscriptureseries25>.

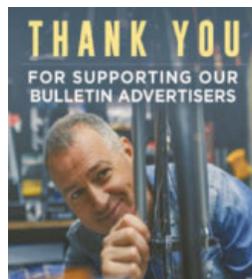
**Questions?** Contact the Office of Lifelong Formation at [faithformation@isidoreandmaria.org](mailto:faithformation@isidoreandmaria.org), or 860-633-9419.

## Donation Bins in the St. Paul Church South Wing

There are **two** donation bins located at the back of the South Wing of St. Paul Church:

- ImmaCare Mobile Outreach Program (Monthly Collection):** This bin is for **new clothing items** and **non-perishable food donations**. A detailed list of requested items is available both on the bin and on the parish website for your convenience.
- Cathedral of St. Joseph:** This bin is designated for **gently used clothes** and **household items**.

Please ensure that donations are placed in the correct bin, as misplacement creates additional work for our volunteers. Your generosity is deeply appreciated, and your cooperation helps us serve those in need more effectively. **Thank you for your continued support!**



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

Our Sponsor Spotlight this week:

**Local Home Care, LLC**  
*Eva Gryczan, Owner, Parishioner*

## Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading:

Naaman was cleansed of leprosy and committed to worshipping no other god except the Lord.

*What might be one commitment you could make to the Lord in the coming days?*

### Second Reading:

Paul teaches Timothy the importance of perseverance in faith.

*What are some obstacles you have had to overcome in life?*

### Gospel:

Jesus praises the cleansed leper who returned to thank him personally.

*Is there someone in your life that you should be thanking?*

## This Day in History — Oct. 17, 1979



### Mother Teresa is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize

"To this love for one another and today when I have received this reward, I personally am most unworthy, and I having avowed poverty to be able to

understand the poor, I choose the poverty of our people. But I am grateful and I am very happy to receive it in the name of the hungry, of the naked, of the homeless, of the crippled, of the blind, of the leprous, of all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared, thrown away of the -society, people who have become a burden to the society, and are ashamed by everybody. In their name I accept the award."

The Nobel Peace Prize 1979 was awarded to Mother Teresa "for her work for bringing help to suffering humanity"

Say Harry, our Dad really loves and admires Mother Teresa. Wait a minute, Oliver - she is now a saint - St. Teresa of Calcutta! We all should try to be like her everyday! Maybe we can share our treats, . . . but maybe not with . . . squirrels!



## Harry & Oliver's Corner

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mother\\_Teresa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mother_Teresa)

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

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### Elizabeth Cafarella

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**Theresa Scalia**, Bulletin Editor

### Carol Vassar

Director of Communications  
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### Lifelong Faith Formation

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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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