



# SS. Isidore and Maria Parish

GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



October 19, 2025

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night?" - Luke 18:7

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

Does God finally answer our persistent prayers to stop us from bothering Him? The thought that constant prayer can be disturbing or upsetting to God does not ring true with our tradition's images of God as compassionate, understanding, merciful, and loving. Yet, Jesus tells his disciples to "pray always without becoming weary." Maybe the type of prayer necessary to endure the trials of discipleship, as well as the challenges and criticisms of Christian teaching, goes beyond words. We need to tend to the realities of human life. The persistent prayer of which Jesus speaks is the prayer of the heart. This contemplative, silent, loving prayer gives us the vision to see God in all things, especially in each human soul. Desiring God alone, not just what we want God to do for us, places this love relationship foremost in our minds, hearts, and souls. As we breathe in and exhale, the Divine Life flows. This alone can provide the strength of endurance to confront anything contrary to the truth of faith.



## 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.



## Thanksgiving Meal Assistance Available

If you or someone you know is having difficulty

providing a Thanksgiving meal this year, please contact Melissa in the Parish Office at 860-633-9419, or by email. Baskets filled with food items will be available for pickup during Thanksgiving week, with specific pick-up details to follow.

## Parish Support

### Collections and Parish Finance

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



#### Report for the week of 10/12/2025:

**Weekly collection:** \$ 6,396.00  
**Online Giving:** \$ 3,501.00  
**Total:** \$ 9,897.00

**Parish Appeal** \$ 87,735.00

**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 Sacred Work of Being

From the moment we enter school, we're taught to measure our worth by what we do: the grades we earn, the jobs we hold, or the tasks we complete. But what if our true value lies not in doing,

but in being? In this episode of Living in Faith, Hope & Love, Father Mark invites us to step away from performance and achievement to rediscover who we are at our core: beloved children of God, created not for productivity, but for relationship. Listen now at <https://isidoreandmaria.org/podcasts>.



### Branches on the Vine

**Oct. 18 – 24, 2025**

More than 800 people representing 12 countries gathered on Oct. 4 at the Shrine of Maria Reina de la

Paz at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church in Hartford for the fourth annual Mary of the Americas celebration, showcasing faith, unity, and cultural pride. Get the full story in the latest edition of Branches on the Vine from the Archdiocese of Hartford: <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.



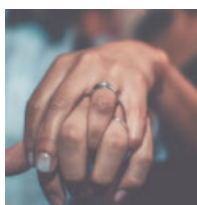
### Oct. 18 & 19: Hospitality Weekend Returns!

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.



### Answering the Call to Serve Monthly Hospitality Socials

These gatherings offer a wonderful opportunity for a few families to come together and host a parish social event. All responsibilities are clearly outlined, and even the youngest parishioners can lend a hand. It's a fun and meaningful way to build community while giving back. For more information, please visit the Hospitality Ministry page on the parish website.



### 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 Friday, 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. 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>.

# 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. 18</b> <i>29th Sunday in Ordinary Time</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
<b>Monday, Oct. 20</b> <i>St. Paul of the Cross, Priest</i>	7:30 a.m.	Sandra Taylor Procaccini	Don Procaccini & Family - Jen, Bo & Greg
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 21</b> <i>Weekday</i>	7:30 a.m. <b>7 p.m.</b>	Maureen Hallisey <b>Pray the Rosary (St. Augustine Church)</b>	Family
<b>Wednesday, Oct. 22</b> <i>St. John Paul II, Pope</i>	7:30 a.m.	Henry M. Barrera (38th Anniv.)	Sister, Pat & Family
<b>Thursday, Oct. 23</b> <i>St. John of Capistrano, Priest</i>	<b>No Mass</b>		
<b>Friday, Oct. 24</b> <i>St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop</i>	12:15 p.m.	Lena Agnew	Family
	<b>After Mass until 2 p.m. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>		
<b>Saturday, Oct. 25</b> <i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	4 p.m.	Anthony P. Pagliughi	Family
<b>Sunday, Oct. 26</b> <i>30th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Sister Theresa Curley Thomas McGrath Marc Pomerleau	Bill Curley Rich & Trish Ehrhardt Wife & Children

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.**

**Pray for peace in the Holy Land**



## 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.

## 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.



Brendan wouldn't stop. He continued nagging his mom to let him have a little more time with his phone. He knew the rules but wanted to finish a game and text a few more

friends. He begged, had a temper tantrum, pleaded, screamed, pouted, and used every means he could think of to get Mom to change her mind. Mom had a busy day and was tired. At first, she held her ground. Then, her son's persistence got the best of her, and she caved. "Brendan, you can have 30 more minutes and no more," she retorted. Brendan's determination paid off. He won.

Is this how it works with God, too? If we want something enough and feel it is our due, does our persistence eventually allow us to get our way? Judging God by human standards, it would seem so. But is this the way God works? It gets a bit confusing when Jesus tells his disciples to "pray always without becoming weary" and then

further tells them how God will "secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night." If we catch God at the right time, when he's having a weak moment, then our tenacity ought to pay off. What we want, we will get. Really? Sadly, the way many approach prayer suggests that this is precisely how it goes.

Good parents set boundaries and offer proper discipline. They learn the art of being steadfast when presented with determined minds and wills. They know what is best and, at times, have to say "no." God is always there with his full attention and unconditional love showering itself upon us. God also knows what is best. And, as with any good parent, the one constant that is always available and never withheld is love. We can be as persistent and determined as we want if what we are seeking is God's love. We are never a bother, and requests for God's love are never denied. This is the prayer of the heart. Desiring God alone, not just what we want God to do for us, places this love relationship foremost in our minds, hearts, and souls. God is never bothered by this prayer. As we breathe in and exhale out, the Divine Life freely flows.



## ImmaCare Inc. UPDATE

The parish ImmaCare ministry thanks everyone for their support of our efforts during the month of October. Please remember that ImmaCare has indicated that they need specific items currently. 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:

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	

## Serving Others

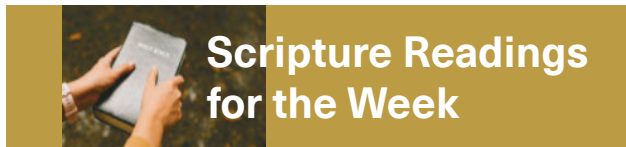
**Question:** I volunteer every once in a while. How can I incorporate serving the poor in my everyday life?

**Answer:** In the Gospels, Jesus is very clear about emphasizing outreach to vulnerable persons on the margins of society. These may be the materially poor, the disabled, the lonely, or any others whose circumstances drive them from mainstream society. We can all respond to Christ's call to love by incorporating direct service into our regular life routine. Here are some ideas to find your niche:

**Consider your life.** Before you look for direct service opportunities, consider your schedule, commitment levels, and personal gifts. When can you help out and how regularly? Where have you volunteered in the past that has felt like a good fit? Do you have any particular skills or personality traits that lend you to particular work?

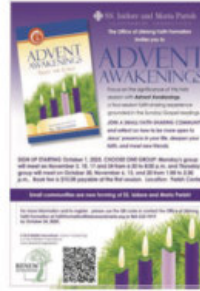
**Do some research.** There are a lot of structured ways you can get involved in your community. Your parish might have a social concerns outreach program. If not, ask friends and family. A simple online search for local nonprofits can also expose you to new opportunities.

**Be open to God's invitation.** The chance to serve may be closer than you think. Befriending an elderly neighbor, widowed and far from children, is an act of serving the poor. Keep your eyes and heart open!



<b>SUN 10/19/25</b>	Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (see 2)/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8
<b>MON 10/20/25</b>	Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 12:13-21
<b>TUES 10/21/25</b>	Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40: 7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 12:35-38
<b>WED 10/22/25</b>	Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/ Lk 12:39-48
<b>THR 10/23/25</b>	Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/ Lk 12:49-53
<b>FRI 10/24/25</b>	Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94/Lk 12:54-59
<b>SAT 10/25/25</b>	Rom 8:1-11/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/ Lk 13:1-9
<b>SUN 10/26/25</b>	Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 (7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/ Lk 18:9-14

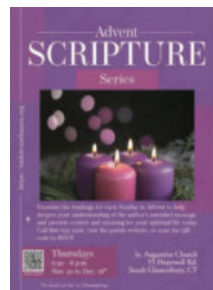
## UPDATE from the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation



### Advent Awakenings Small Faith Sharing Groups Begin Oct. 30 and Nov. 3

Advent Awakenings is 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. For more info or to register visit <http://isidoreandmaria.org/adventawakenings25>



### Nov. 20: Advent Scripture Series Begins

Similar to the highly successful Lenten Scripture series from earlier this year, parishioner Walter Twachtman will lead an Advent Scripture Series designed to help parishioners deepen their 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 at <http://isidoreandmaria.org/adventscriptureseries25>.

## 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:

1. **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.
2. **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 whose generosity makes our bulletin possible.



Our Sponsor Spotlight this week:  
**Mulryan Funeral Home**  
860-652-4436

## Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading:

Moses needed to rely on his brother (Aaron) and his friend (Hur) to assist him in defeating the Amalekites.

*Can you think of a time when you really needed the support of your family or friends?*

### Second Reading:

Paul instructs Timothy to be persistent in relying on what Sacred Scripture teaches us. *How do you use Scripture as a guide for your life?*

### Gospel:

With the parable of the persistent widow, Jesus teaches the disciples about the importance of praying often to God. *When do you find yourself praying?*



## This Day in History — The Ball Point Pen



**László József Bíró** Sept. 29, 1899 - October 24, 1985  
Hungarian-Argentine inventor. He patented the first successful ballpoint pen (1943).

While working as a journalist, Bíró noticed that the ink used in newspaper printing dried quickly, leaving the paper dry and smudge-free. He tried using the same ink in a fountain pen, but found that it would not flow into the tip, as it was too viscous. In 1930 he observed children playing with marbles in a puddle, noticing that the marbles left a trail of water in their wake. This gave him an idea: Why not use a ball-shaped metal nib for writing, which became the initial design idea for the ball pen. He originally patented his pen in Paris in 1938, but had to flee to Argentina due to the Nazis.



Say Oliver, the evangelists didn't have ball point pens to record the scriptures! Our Dad must have a favorite pen, to write out ideas for beautiful homilies and to compose his reflections.

Can you imagine the evangelists making sharpened reeds as pens & ink from lamp-black and gum dissolved in water.



## Harry & Oliver's Corner

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lazlo\\_Biro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lazlo_Biro)

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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### Mary Helmlinger

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### Melissa Lacafta

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**Theresa Scalia**, Bulletin Editor

### Carol Vassar

Director of Communications  
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### 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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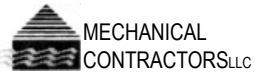
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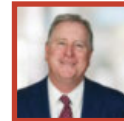
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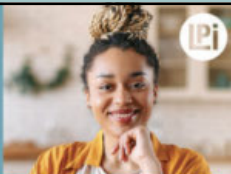
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