

# St. ISIDORE THE FARMER **PASTORATE**

OUR LADY OF FATIMA ST. PHILOMENA Darlington

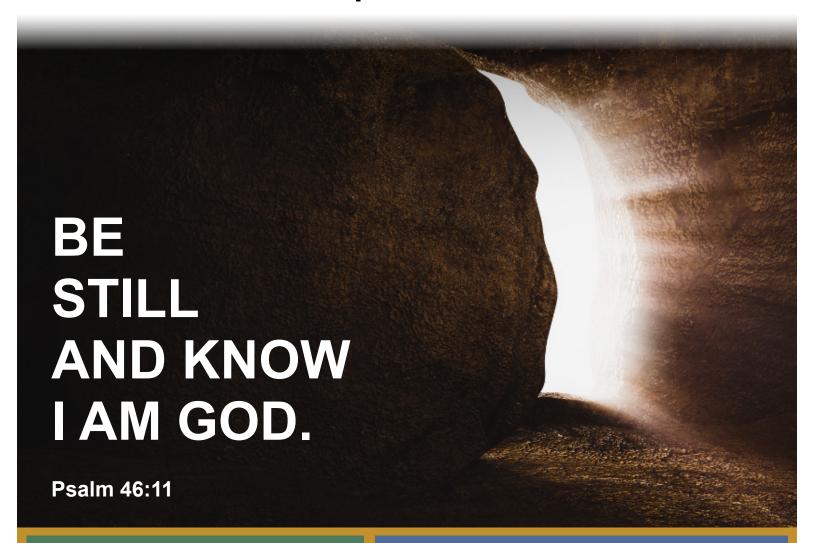
Belmont

St. Matthew Shullsburg

St. Joseph Gratiot

St. John South Wayne

## March 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 | The 1st Sunday of Lent



## PASTORATE OFFICE

(608) 776-4059 | office@stisidorewi.org 206 E. Harriet St., Darlington, WI 53530 www.stisidorewi.org

Darlington Hours: Tues 9:30-1:00, Fri 9:30-1:00

Shullsburg Hours: Wed 9:30-1:00, Thurs 9:30-1:00

Other Hours and Locations by Appointment

## PASTORATE PRIEST CONTACTS

FR. CHRIS GERNETZKE, ADMINISTRATOR (608) 561-7234 | admin@stisidorewi.org

FR. MICHAEL CHIKA, PAROCHIAL VICAR (608) 482-5111 | fr.michael.chika@stisidorewi.org

FR. CRISTIAN VALENZUELA, HISPANIC MINISTRY (608) 370-0629 | fr.cristian.valenzuela@stisidorewi.org

## **MASS SCHEDULE**

The Sacrament of Confession is always offered 30 minutes before every Mass.

#### Saturday, March 8th

8:15 am - Mass at St. Matthew (St. Matthew's Parish Members)

4:30 pm - Mass at St. Philomena (Jamie Yonkie)

5:15 pm - Mass at Holy Rosary (For the People of the Pastorate)

#### Sunday, March 9th

8:00 am - Mass at St. Matthew († Geraldine Ann Byrne)

8:45 am - Mass at St. Philomena († Chuck & Shirley O'Neill)

10:15 am - Mass at Holy Rosary († Edwin Olson)

2:00 pm - Spanish Mass at Holy Rosary (Fr. Faustino Ruiz)

#### Monday, March 10th

8:30 am - Mass at Holy Rosary († Jim Honer)

#### Tuesday, March 11th

8:15 am - Mass at St. Matthew (Fr. Michael Chika)

#### Wednesday, March 12th

8:30 am - School Mass at Holy Rosary (Intention Available)

5:15 pm - Mass at St. Matthew (St. Matthew Parish Members)

#### Thursday, March 13th

8:30 am - Mass at St. Philomena († Ken Dreger)

5:15 pm - Mass at Holy Rosary (Intention Available)

#### Friday, March 14th

8:15 am - Mass at St. Matthew († Deceased & Living Members of the CCW)

8:30 am - Mass at Holy Rosary († Jim Honer)

#### Saturday, March 15th

8:15 am - Mass at St. Matthew († Jeff Jamieson)

4:30 pm - Mass at St. Matthew († Jean Wiederholt)

5:15 pm - Mass at Holy Rosary († For the Living and Deceased Members of the Ernie Rock Family)

#### Sunday, March 16th

8:00 am - Mass at St. Matthew (For the People of the Pastorate)

8:45 am - Mass at St. Philomena († Joan C. Miller)

10:15 am - Mass at Holy Rosary († Pat Black)

2:00 pm - Spanish Mass at Holy Rosary (Intention Available)

## **WEEKLY EVENTS**

### Saturday, March 8th

7:30 am - Men's Fraternal Faith Program, Holy Rosary

8:00 am - Women's Bible Study, Holy Rosary

9:00 am - Adoration & Rosary, St. Matthew

9:00 am - Confirmation Retreat, St. Matthew

#### Sunday, March 9th

6:30 pm - St. Izzy Ministries Middle School & High School Nights, Holy Rosary

#### Monday, March 10th

5:30 pm - CCW Meeting, St. Matthew

#### Tuesday, March 11th

### Wednesday, March 12th

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - Lenten Retreat, Holy Rosary 6:30pm - Emmaus Evening Student Night, St. Matthew

#### Thursday, March 13th

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm - Adoration, Holy Rosary

#### Friday, March 14th

9:00 am - Stations of the Cross, St. Matthew

9:15 am - Stations of the Cross, Holy Rosary

5:15 pm - Stations of the Cross, St. Philomena

7:00 pm - Middle School Retreat at Camp Gray, Reedsburg, WI

### Saturday, March 15th

All Day - Middle School Retreat at Camp Gray, Reedsburg, WI

7:30 am - Men's Fraternal Faith Program, Holy Rosary

8:00 am - Women's Bible Study, Holy Rosary

9:00 am - Adoration & Rosary, St. Matthew

5:00 pm - St. Patrick's Shenanigans (Holy Rosary School), Darlington American Legion

#### Sunday, March 16th

Until 2:00 pm - Middle School Retreat at Camp Gray, Reedsburg, WI

## PASTORATE CONTACTS

#### **OFFICE STAFF**

Jamie Dreger, Business Administrator (608) 776-4059 | busadmin@stisidorewi.org

Cheryl Mulcahy, Administrative Assistant (608) 776-4059 | office@stisidorewi.org

#### **CEMETERY SEXTONS**

Holy Rosary - Ted McDermott I (608) 482-1241

St. Philomena - Robert Brania I (608) 732-4021

St. Matthew - Loras Kruser I (608) 482-5054

St. Joseph/St. John - Jim Stietz I (608) 922-3388

I.C., Truman - Tom Kliebenstein | (608) 732-5547

## OFFERTORY REPORT

	Weekly Collection Feb 17-24	Weekly Budgeted	Weekly Difference	YTD Total Collection as of Feb 24	YTD Budgeted	YTD Difference
Our Lady of Fatima	\$5,635	\$4,327	\$1,308	\$122,132	\$155,769	-\$33,638
St. Philomena	\$660	\$1,207	-\$547	\$43,384	\$43,449	-\$65
St. Matthew	\$2,856	\$1,673	\$1,183	\$52,303	\$60,231	-\$7,927
St. John	\$240	\$212	\$28	\$3,384	\$7,615	-\$4,231
St. Joseph	\$200	\$451	-\$251	\$4,904	\$16,235	-\$11,331
PASTORATE TOTALS	\$9,591	\$7,869	\$1,722	\$226,107	\$283,299	-\$57,192

### HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL REPORT

	Monthly Collection Feb 2025	Monthly Goal	Monthly Difference	2025 YTD Collection	2025 YTD Budgeted	2025 YTD Difference
Holy Rosary School	\$667	\$20,000	-\$19,333	\$7,770	\$40,000	-\$32,230

<sup>\*</sup>All one-time donations \$1,000+ included in the annual collection total and spread across 12 months for montly goals.

## PASTORATE SERVICES

SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES - Call (608)-776-4059 and select option 1 from the menu. A priest will answer or will return your message promptly.

COMMUNION VISITS - Fr. Michael Chika coordinates visits with sick or homebound. Contact Fr. Michael to schedule a visit. We try to make visits to each homebound person at least once per month, or more often if possible.

CEMETERY - For information or to purchase plots, contact the respective parish office or cemetery sexton.

BAPTISM & MARRIAGE - We welcome you to prepare for and celebrate a baptism or wedding at any church in St. Isidore the Farmer Pastorate. To submit a request for one of these sacraments, please visit *stisidorewi.org* – go to the "Sacraments" menu, then choose "Baptism" or "Holy Matrimony."

BULLETINS - Articles for the bulletin can be submitted online at *stisidorewi.org* – go to the "Parishioner Resources" menu, then select "Pastorate Office Request Forms" and click the "Bulletin Article" button to submit the online form. Submissions due by noon on Tuesday.

MASS INTENTIONS - Contact office@stisidorewi.org or 608-776-4059 to request Masses be offered for your intention.

## PASTORATE LOCATIONS

HOLY ROSARY | (608) 776-4059 Church – 104 E. Harriet St, Darlington, WI 53530 School – 744 Wells St, Darlington, WI 53530 Office – 206 E. Harriet St, Darlington, WI 53530

**ST. PHILOMENA** | (608) 762-5446 Church – 338 Chestnut St, Belmont, WI 53510 Mail – P.O. Box 345, Belmont, WI 53510

ST. MATTHEW

Church – 344 N. Judgment St, Shullsburg, WI 53586

ST. JOSEPH, GRATIOT 5695 Main St, Gratiot, WI 53541

**ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE, SOUTH WAYNE** 202 Varnum St, South Wayne, WI 53587

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, TRUMAN** 20984 County Rd Z, Darlington, WI 53530

**ST. MICHAEL, CALAMINE** 17596 Ridge St, Mineral Point, WI 53565

**ST. PETER, ELK GROVE** 26203 St Peter's Rd, Cuba City, WI 53807

OUR LADY OF HOPE, SEYMOUR 10962 County Rd O, Shullsburg, WI 53586

## Fr. Chris' Column

This past week we celebrated Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our Lenten Journey accompanying Christ as he teaches us how to prepare for his passion, death, and resurrection. This can be challenging to us, as so often we desire to live in a mode of comfort, without



suffering, pain, inconvenience, or difficulties. Making this more confusing is the reality that in the United States of America, in the year 2025, we have alleviated quite a bit of the sources of human suffering – medicine, building technologies, mass production, and computers have all addressed quite a few of the longtime sources of human suffering.

The paradox for those who follow God is that we are called **to** suffering with Christ as a means of love. Compassion comes from a latin compound word meaning 'to suffer with'. Jesus teaches us that the 'suffering with' is love – he comes to suffer with us the punishment of sin that is due to man. He takes on what is broken and deserves suffering, to love us, and to find a remedy for our suffering. This teaches us two great lessons:

First, Jesus demonstrates that suffering is an opportunity for love, and that walking with the suffering is an act of love for them.

Second, Jesus shows us that suffering out of love for God and others is redemptive. When Jesus suffers in his passion and death, he rises then to new life – the cross leads to the resurrection.

All of this helps us in the midst of our suffering, and when we walk with others in their suffering. We can see that suffering is not pointless, and while there is some suffering that we should try to alleviate, like diseases, unsafe living conditions, or threats to human health and flourishing, we should also accept that God intentionally allows us to suffer as a gift to us. How so?

God wants us to live for love of him and love of others. We suffer a longing for union with God and the challenges of being faithful to him, and in these challenges we have an opportunity to love him. For others, we suffer with and for them, out of love for them. We have to seek what is good and true, but challenging – instead of what is easy or convenient, but avoids loving others in the places they are hurting. Our love for them is our path to the Kingdom and joy of the Resurrection, and our sufferings have great value. This is why the season of lent holds so much power, freedom, and grace for us by choosing to love God and love our neighbor through intentional suffering, even in small ways, we choose to let God open us to a greater capacity for love, and we make ready in our hearts for the life of God to be in us and shared with others. May you F. Chris have a blessed Lenten journey!

## **COMMUNITY & MISSION**

#### **COUNCILS - Our Lady of Fatima**

Finance Council Contact: Tom Black, Trustee

#### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Our Lady of Fatima - Mike Wedig | (608) 482-1063 St. Philomena - Dan VanNatta | (608) 732-6410

#### ST. PHILOMENA ALTAR SOCIETY

Lori VanBogaert, Co-President 1 | (608) 732-5343 Karla Stoney, Co-President 2 | (608) 778-8710

#### CCW

OLF - Lindsy Wessel, President I (608) 482-2632 St. Matthew - Judy Webster, President I (608) 482-3055

## St. Matthew's CCW Meeting

St. Matthew's CCW will be meeting on Monday, March 10th at 5:30 pm in the hall entrance. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend!



## **MASS INTENTIONS ONLINE**

You can now view the full 2025 Mass Intention schedule for the Pastorate and book Mass Intentions from our website https://stisidorewi.org. You will find the Mass Intention schedule on our welcome page. To schedule a Mass Intention online, navigate to Service > Prayer or go to Parishioner Resources > Pastorate Office Request Forms. Payment can be mailed or dropped off at the pastorate office. You can also continue to schedule Mass Intentions the same way you have in the past by visiting one of our pastorate offices during scheduled office hours, by calling the office at (608) 776-4059, or by email at office@stisidorewi.org.

# THANK YOU FOR DELIVERING MEALS ON WHEELS!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered in February to literally go the extra mile for our parish to bring smiles to people in our community with your time, kindness, compassion and a hot meal. High 5's to John & Phyllis Sonsalla, Robert Goebel, Tom & Jane Jean, January Meylor, Sherry Crist, Nancy Donahoe, Pam Hinderman, Tom & Rhonda Wonders, Shirley McConnell, Missy Paisley and Mick Wiegel! Thank you, Holy Rollers!

## SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT

This week's bulletin sponsor is Knights of Columbus - Bill Donohoe & Phil Limmex. Please support our sponsors!

## **FORMATION**

#### **FAITH FORMATION STAFF**

Sarah Allen, Director (608) 776-4059 | sarah.allen@stisidorewi.org

Diane Weiskircher, Coordinator in Shullsburg dianeweiskircher@yahoo.com

Jamie Dreger, Coordinator in Darlington (608) 776-4059 | jamie.dreger@stisidorewi.org

# AWESOME OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEENS ACROSS OUR DIOCESE

Many of us can look back on the years that we were young and say, "I wish we had \_\_\_\_\_" or "I didn't have that opportunity when I was a kid." We certainly don't want our own children or grandchildren to wish there was more opportunities for them - we hope and desire to give them what they are longing for! That is why we promote awesome opportunities that our diocese and parish communities have to offer, especially to teens. A vast majority of Catholic youth are disconnecting from the Catholic Church during their teenage years - most by the age of 13. Let's bring them back, pass on the faith to the next generation, and get them engaged into the life-giving hope of the Catholic Church!

We have awesome opportunities for them such as weekend retreats throughout the school year at Camp Gray, week-long summer camps at Camp Gray, summer mission trips to local communities in our own diocese through a program called, "Love Begins Here", a weeklong summer program for kids and teens called "Totus Tuus" at various parishes throughout our local area, and not to mention our own youth groups within St. Isidore the Farmer Pastorate which are designed to engage teens in a fun and faith-filled community.

Help us spread the word to the youth in our parishes. Mention these opportunities to them and invite them to attend with some of their friends! Let us go out and make disciples starting with those in our own community.



Does your teen have a desire to have "fun in the sun" this summer? We have an opportunity that both parents and teens can get on board with! Love Begins Here (LBH) is a summer service program for 6th-12th grade teens in the Diocese of Madison.

LBH is modeled after Saint Mother Teresa and her quote "Love Begins at Home." Love Begins Here aims to serve our neighbors in need each summer. Get your group of friends together and take advantage of this awesome opportunity! Along with service, teens get to head to the pool each day, eat great food, and dive into their faith through prayer, inspiring talks, and fellowship. To learn more about LBH, you can reach out to Sarah Allen or visit the Love Begins Here facebook page.

Registration for Love Begins Here 2025 is open! We already have 200+ teens and adult Lead Missionaries registered for the summer! **Registration will remain open until Thursday, April 17th.** To register, contact Sarah Allen, Director of Faith Formation 608-776-4059 or sarah.allen@stisidorewi.org.



## **HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL**

SCHOOL OFFICE | (608) 776-3710 744 Wells St., Darlington, WI

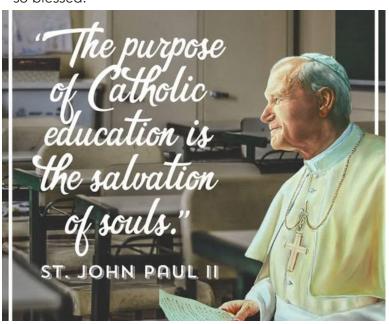
PRINCIPAL - Eric Meyer principal@stisidorewi.org

SCHOOL ADMIN ASSISTANT - Lindsay Winslow schooloffice@stisidorewi.org

# HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL IS PROUD OF THEIR ALUMNI!



Congratulations to Holy Rosary alumni Tanner Boatman, Elliot Meylor, McKenna Roelli, Henry Kleiber, Emilee Acherman, Maggie O'Brien, and Caroline Kleiber for their success at the state competition for Kid Wind! They are ALL headed to Nationals! You make us so proud! Setting a strong foundation in our faith and the public speaking experiences our students receive at Holy Rosary is a testimony to the importance of continuing our school. Please do whatever you can to pray and/or donate to keep our school open. Thank you again for all of our families and parishioners who volunteer their time and talent at school. We are so blessed.



## SPIRITUAL LIFE

## Prayer List

Please pray for the sick: Jerome Bahr, Ed Blaine, Ellen Boatman, Tucker Brugger, Brad Crist, Corey Cullen, Christina Gobrecht, Valerie Gobrecht, Michelle Grinnell, Bob Kendall, Lexi Kinch, Jacob Kobylarczyk, Kathy Mueller, Pete Pivet, Tom Schoenmann, Joan Schraepfer, Jerry Smith, John Stietz, Tom White, and Stella Maris.

If you know of someone seriously ill and in need of community prayers, please submit a prayer request or contact the Prayer Warriors or pastorate office. If any names need to be removed from this list, please contact the pastorate office.

# JOURNEY OF PRAYER HEADS TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

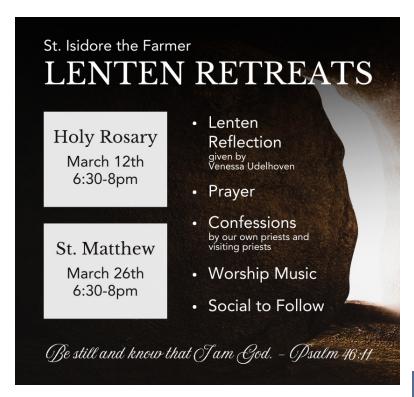
Join us at Immaculate Conception in Truman on Thursday, March 20th as we continue our Journey of Prayer with St. Isidore the Farmer.

Let us Pray: Lord Jesus Christ, we come to you in humble adoration seeking your divine intercession and the intercession of Saint Isidore the Farmer as we pray for the spiritual needs of all the people who live in St. Isidore the Farmer Pastorate. Lord, you know the needs of your people. Please continue to lead our hearts in prayer and meditation this month as we pray for everyone in our pastorate community. Call to our minds all the ways in which you wish for us to pray for and support your people. Give us opportunities to grow in relationship with each other and share our love for you with everyone we meet. Amen.



Come Pray with Us!
Thursday, March 20
7:00 PM
Immaculate Conception, Truman

Refreshments Provided after Adoration



# YOU ARE INVITED TO COME AND ADORE CHRIST!

Our pastorate has opportunities for you to spend time with the Lord in Adoration. Adoration is the act of worshiping God while He is present in the Eucharist. It is a time of prayer and devotion before the Blessed Sacrament which is placed before us, in a monstrance, on the altar. You can come and pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament during the times of adoration for a few minutes, or a few hours. Come and spend some time each week with our Lord, present in the Eucharist!

"Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth!"

- St. Teresa of Calcutta

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Matthew Catholic Church - Shullsburg -

> Every Saturday 9:00am - 9:45am

Holy Rosary Catholic Church - Darlington -

> Every Thursday 6:00pm - 9:00pm



## TEC RETREAT MARCH 21-23

Join us for a TEC Retreat at St. Jerome's in Columbus March 21-23. The retreat begins at noon on Friday, March 21st and ends at 3:30 pm on Sunday, March 23rd. TEC (Together Encountering Christ) is centered on the Paschal Mystery of Christ. Our Shepherd, Bishop Donald Hying, has also centered his 'Go Make Disciples' initiative on that same theme. TEC is especially designed to help us grow in our love for Christ and our Holy Catholic Church. It is an amazing experience for the young at heart who are 15 years of age or older. Regardless of your present walk in our Catholic Faith, you will be rejuvenated. This is also a 'shout out' to those of you who have already experienced a TEC retreat and would like to help out. Steve Davies the lay Director and can be reached at 608.220.2088 Or steve.davies@ divinemercymadison.org. More information about TEC can be found at www.MadisonDiocese.org/TEC or by contacting Marie Lins at the OEC at 608.821.3135.

## RETREAT COMING UP IN MARCH!

Whether recent or long ago, the decision and experience maybe haunting your mind and heart. Find hope and healing by contacting Project Rachel for private consultation or by attending a Rachel's Vineyard retreat. You don't have to suffer anymore. Contact Mary 608-821-3177, rachel@madisondiocese.org or visit madisondiocese.org/rachel.

Confidentiality is assured.



Hurting from abortion?
Find hope, healing, and mercy at a Rachel's Vineyard retreat.

No matter how long it's been, Rachel's Vineyard retreats offer hope and peace for anyone, women or men, who have struggled with emotional or spiritual pain after abortion.

> Our 2025 retreats are: March 28-30 November 7-9

Register at madisondiocese.org/rachel



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