



# ST. ISIDORE HARVESTER

Spring 2026

A publication of St. Isidore Church for all registered parishioners, so that they may share in the vitality of our faith community  
stisidoreparish.org



CCW  
Woman of  
the Year

Each year, past St. Isidore CCW Women of the Year come together to recognize a member who has generously dedicated her time and talents.  
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DuPage  
Pads Pillar  
Award

During National Volunteer Appreciation Week, a celebratory day was held at DuPage Pads with the annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.  
continued inside



Father,  
how's your  
day going?

While most of us put in a 40-hour week at our jobs, in fact, it may be a 90-hour week or something in between. Have you ever wondered what does a priest do after they've celebrated Mass?  
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# Canonization

By Michael Fassbender

## THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF A SAINT

*In February of this year, the Bishop of Peoria announced that Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen would be beatified.* Some of you may remember that this was meant to go forward in 2019, but it was paused. The process for naming a saint can be long, but it's an important one. Canonization means that the Church recognizes this person as already being a saint in heaven, but now the Church can give assurance to the faithful that this is the case.

### Servant of God

Normally, the process begins on a local level, with people who are impressed by the deceased person's holiness. These people can petition their local bishop to begin an investigation in the potential saint's virtues. This investigation can only begin after five years have passed since the person's death, although exceptions can be made in the Vatican. Since the real benefit of canonization is for the living, the process can only go forward if there is no evidence of theological error or significant moral lapse. The potential saint is referred to as a 'Servant of God.'

### Venerable

The bishop then presents the case to the Congregation Dicastery (formerly the Congregation) for the Causes of Saints at the Vatican. A relator guides a postulator who reviews the case, and if they judge the person to have shown heroic virtue, the person is described as "Venerable." This means that the person is considered to be worthy of heaven, but falls short of an acknowledgment that the person is already there.

### Blessed

The next step, beatification, waits for the Church to confirm the existence of a miracle attributable to the intercession of the Venerable person. Claims of a miracle are examined rigorously. This miracle is not required in the case of a martyr, but in this case the circumstances of the person's death are examined to confirm that martyrdom truly took place. A successful conclusion to either of these investigations results in the person being named "Blessed." A feast day is named, but is only marked in the initiating diocese or in the religious community of the Blessed.

### Saint

The cause for canonization then waits for another miracle. When this miracle is reported, it undergoes the same level of scrutiny as the first one. If the results are positive, the matter is presented to the Pope for his approval, usually in consultation with the available cardinals in an Ordinary Public Consistory. Following papal approval, a mass is celebrated to solemnize the canonization, and a feast day is assigned.



# Words of Canonization

Celebrate the journey toward sainthood with this word search featuring key terms that highlight the sacred steps of the process

- HOLINESS
- VATICAN
- MIRACLE
- BLESSED
- BEATIFY
- CARDINALS
- CONSECRATE
- CANONIZE
- SACRED
- HEAVEN
- VENERABLE
- SERVANT
- SAINT

Y	N	S	E	L	B	A	R	E	N	E	V
O	A	E	H	E	A	V	E	N	D	B	I
C	T	R	O	A	M	E	E	E	A	E	M
R	L	V	L	E	I	T	R	L	E	A	C
Y	C	A	I	V	R	C	S	E	Z	T	A
B	H	N	N	H	A	S	R	E	I	I	R
E	L	T	E	S	C	T	S	A	N	F	D
N	E	E	S	L	L	V	I	N	O	Y	I
A	C	A	S	S	E	L	I	C	N	E	N
H	E	F	A	S	A	I	N	T	A	A	A
E	T	A	R	C	E	S	N	O	C	N	L
R	A	N	A	S	A	D	D	B	C	I	S

## The Little White Envelope

By Angela Orlando



I am a white envelope in your pew. Occasionally people leave the house and forget to grab the envelope that comes in the mail with their name and number on the face of it. I am here so that you can contribute anyway.

I have a place to write your name, the whole name, not just Smith or Jones. There is a place for the address, which further identifies you. When a family registers they are assigned a number. If you remember that, it will help the office staff.

The envelope has a place for an email address and a phone number. If you are registered and we have your email address you will receive the parish Flocknote which is regularly used to send information about what goes on in the parish.

Please fill in the information, if you know it! And please don't let the little ones draw on me. I, too, cost money as does everything these days. *Thank you.*

# Resources to Help Us in Our Faith

By Penni Canova

*Technology, as we are aware, has brought so many more resources close to our fingertips.*

With the pace of technology vaulting forward, it is easy to wonder if more or further choices are available. Bringing this to our faith life, we at The Harvester felt like it was a good time to brush up on which options are available to us as Catholic Christians—both through our church and also more widely in the Catholic faith community.

We asked Michelle Dellinger, communications coordinator, to walk us through the many rich sources of information and aids to help us grow in our faith.

First, we have a vibrant and informative St. Isidore website, at <https://stisidoreparish.org/>. The parish website is updated regularly and is the best source for all information regarding the parish and activities. Big events are posted at the top of the home page. A click on “Mass times” will show daily, weekly and holiday Masses. The Harvester encourages you to bookmark the homepage on your favorite browser, so that you can access it easily. You may also add the parish website as an icon to your home screen, whether on your laptop, Android phone or iPhone.

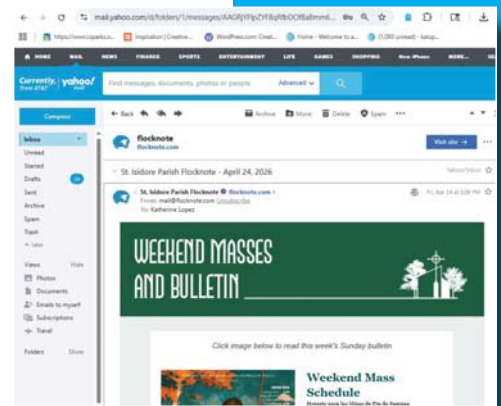
You also may have seen this Flocknote invitation in a weekly bulletin:

An additional helpful resource, **Flocknote** is a messaging service allowing the parish to communicate with its members via text or email, chosen when the person signs up. It is a good way to stay up on Mass times, weekly reconciliation times, weekly bulletins, Eucharistic adoration chapel details, faith formation programs for all ages, events on the parish calendar, prayer and social groups, volunteer opportunities and details about St. Isidore School.

For prayer, Michelle recommends **Hallow**, an international prayer app, which offers a rich trove of resources for all different kinds of faith expression. Hallow offers many kinds of prayer and meditations for all to become more deeply rooted in the Catholic faith. Its offerings are wide, ranging from a variety of music, daily Scripture readings, daily meditations, praying of the Hours, and rosaries. All of the offerings on Hallow may be listened to, with headphones if you like, so that you can partake in your choice of prayer whether commuting, around other people, or working in your yard or around the house.

All parishioners are invited to be a part of St. Isidore’s parish page in the app. To join, visit [hallow.com/parish](http://hallow.com/parish), and search for St. Isidore. Typing in the zip code 60108 is likely the fastest method to find the parish account. Follow the prompts; all new users will be offered a \$1 trial, which gives access to all of the app’s premium content. A registrant may also forego the fee and remain on the free version of the app with much content available.

St. Isidore can also be found on the **MyParish** app for your phone; quickly parishioners may access Mass times, daily readings and learn the goings on of the parish.



## Hallow



*If you enjoy Catholic podcasts, Michelle also recommends these five, which were highlighted in the 2025 Easter bulletin*



“Faith lifts the soul. Hope supports it. Experience says it must. And Love says let it be!”

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

### **The Bible in a Year**

Hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz, this podcast takes you through the Bible with daily episodes and pastoral insights.

### **Abiding Together**

Hosted by Michelle Benzinger, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, and Heather Khym, this podcast inspires women to embrace friendship, healing, and faith.

### **Poco a Poco**

The Poco a Poco Podcast offers “Practical Spirituality.” The friars break open the Gospel in light of their years of prayer, communal life, and work with the poor.

### **Catholic Stuff You Should Know**

Hosted by a group of priests and seminarians, this podcast blends humor and education to explore Catholic theology and culture.

### **The SEEK Podcast**

Hosted by FOCUS, this podcast features dynamic talks and testimonies from the annual SEEK conference, inspiring listeners to grow in their faith.



### **Harvester**

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“Beauty begins the moment you decide to be yourself. Keep it real and never forget. You are God’s handiwork, fearfully and wonderfully made. There ain’t anther one like you. That is cause for celebration.”

Sister Mary Jo Sobieck

# Celebrating WOMAN of the YEAR

Council of Catholic Women



*Each year, past St. Isidore CCW Women of the Year come together to recognize a member who has generously dedicated her time and talents to our CCW, our Church, and our community.*

The woman selected truly embodies outstanding stewardship and makes a meaningful impact on all she serves.

It was our honor this year to select Janet Roman as our Woman of the Year. The ceremony was held on Saturday, April 25, at the Cathedral of St. Raymond and is sponsored by the Joliet Diocese CCW.

Janet currently serves as Vice President and Co-Chair of our Program Commission and has also co-chaired our High Tea. She is an exceptionally talented woman, especially known for creating the beautiful baskets featured at our St. Joseph Table and High Tea. Think making those baskets is an easy job? Just ask Janet. She thoughtfully sorts and prices each donated item, groups them into appealing collections, prepares detailed summaries of each basket, and transforms them into displays that simply can't be ignored.

Janet has also shared her talents through embroidery, creating our CCW aprons with the CCW logo, our blue Lady of Good Counsel tablecloth, and our special red St. Joseph tablecloth.

She is truly a cherished member of our CCW, and we are so grateful for all she does.



# Father, Do You Work?

By Angela Orlando

## The Daily Life of a Parish Priest

*Have you ever wondered? What does a priest do all day?*

*After they've celebrated Mass, do they do anything else?*

While most of us put in a 40-hour week at our jobs, our priests don't have a 40-hour week; in fact, it may be a 90-hour week or something in between. Most of us see the priest on Sunday and then never think about what else is going on in their lives.

For one thing, that Sunday morning Mass was prepped by working on a homily that coincides with the scripture readings. Then, each of our priests celebrate four or five weekday Masses at 7:00 am and 12:05 pm plus a school Mass each week day for which a quick homily is also prepared. Don't forget the marathon of extra Masses at Christmas and Easter.

Funerals occur almost every week and sometimes two or three. For a funeral, our priests will attend the visitation at the funeral home and if not familiar with the deceased, will learn the person's background and prepare a homily for the funeral Mass. An evening gone. They will not only celebrate the Mass but also go to the cemetery which might even be in Chicago. More time travelling.

Pages go off night or day summoning them to a home, nursing home, hospital or hospice when someone is dying. One of our priests will go to offer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, what used to be called Extreme Unction.

Weddings take place almost weekly and those involve meeting with the happy couple several times before the wedding to counsel them and prepare the liturgy. One or more evenings gone.

Do you know that Saturday mornings and First Fridays, our priests spend hours celebrating reconciliation? Also,

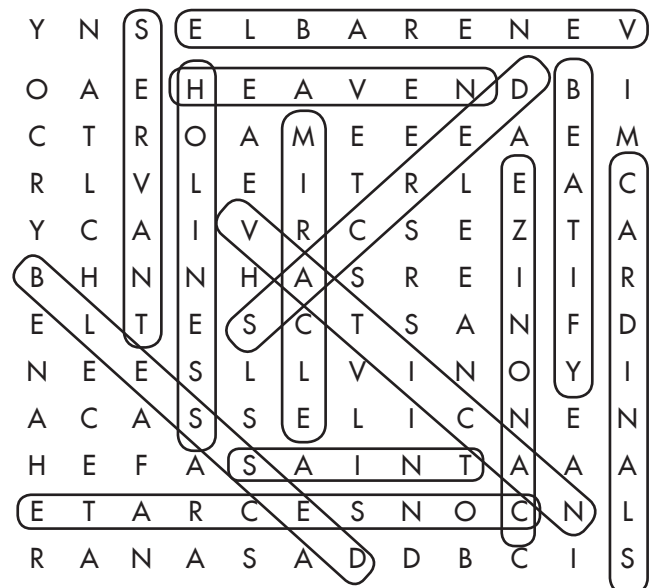
a couple of times a year in Advent and Lent, we do Group Reconciliation. Another couple of evenings gone. And since we "borrow" priests from other parishes to accommodate our parish reconciliation, we also "lend" ours to other parishes. Several times a year, the school schedules reconciliation services and the Religious Education program does likewise.

Is there more? You betcha! There are the many meetings during the week with parish committees and other parishes and the diocese and the school and occasionally with the village.

When does Father get a break? Almost never, they signed up for this life but occasionally, it gets to be too much. That's when they make time to pray for peace and patience. Each priest only has one scheduled day off per week.

If you've read this far, pray for our hard-working priests who administer our parish and keep us on the path to heaven.

## Words of Canonization





*Rosemary and Bob Smylie, were recognized with the initial DuPage PADS Pillar Award for their endless time/talent/treasure extended to DuPage PADS for more than 15 years as St. Isidore's Coordinators.*

A celebratory day was held at DuPage Pads during National Volunteer Appreciation Week, when the annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was hosted. Unfortunately, Bob and Rosemary Smylie were unable to attend this year, as they have in years past, but their presence was still very much felt.

DuPagePads presented three inaugural awards recognizing a newer volunteer, a quiet volunteer who often works behind the scenes, and a Pillar volunteer who represents everything great about service to humanity and the significant role volunteers play in the lives of DuPagePads guests. These awards were both staff- and peer-nominated, and it will come as no surprise that Bob and Rosemary received multiple nominations, both individually and together.

They were honored with the award prior to the luncheon and celebrated among a room full of their peers.

The many ways Bob and Rosemary go above and beyond are well known—both with fellow St. Isidore volunteers supporting DuPagePads and through their personal efforts—to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others, living out Scripture through their actions and boundless compassion.

This recognition serves as a small token of appreciation for what will now be an annual award, honoring two individuals who are among the very best role models.



By Don Lively, contributor



On Saturday morning March 28, 2026, 28 volunteers from our Knights of Columbus council and St. Isidore Parish arrived at the (FMSC) facility in Schaumburg to package food for needy people. In total 168 volunteers packed 215 cases which contained 46,640 meals (this will feed 127 children with 3 meals a day for one year.)