

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—DECEMBER 21, 2025

ST. ISIDORE R. C. CHURCH

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RIVERHEAD, NY 11901-3038
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OUR NEW WEBSITE: www.stisidoreriverhead.org

REV. KRZYSZTOF DRYBKA, OSPPE, PASTOR
REV. MAKSYMILIAN OGAR, OSPPE, ASSOC.
DEACON MICHAEL A. BONOCORE

REINA BONOCORE, OFFICE
DIANNE MASSIELLO, SPIRITUAL
AND SOCIAL MINISTRIES

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

SECOND & FOURTH
SUNDAYS
1:15 PM ENG
2:15 PM PL

Please arrange the date of baptism through the Rectory office after the birth of your child

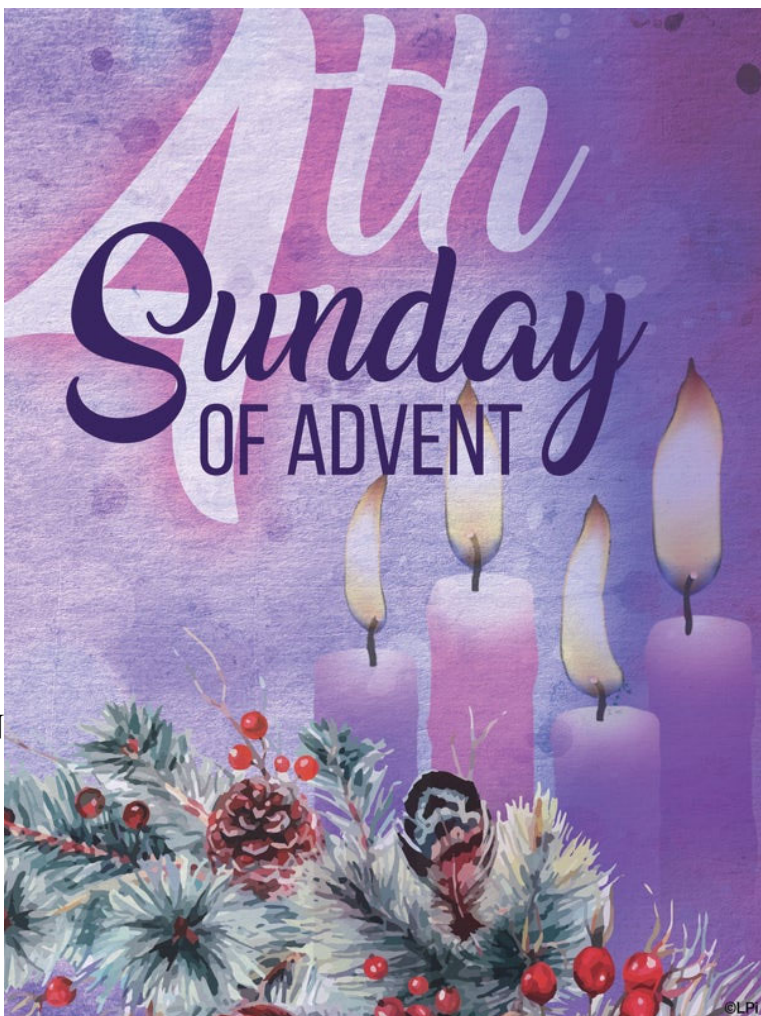
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please call the Rectory for an appointment at least **six months** prior to the desired date.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS
4:00 to 4:45 PM
and
THURSDAYS BEFORE
FIRST FRIDAYS
4:00 to 5:00 PM

Other times by appointment.



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

WEEKDAYS 7:00 AM
SATURDAYS 8:00 AM
SATURDAY EVENINGS
VIGIL MASS 5:00 PM
SUNDAYS 8:00 & 9:15 AM,
10:30 (Polish)
12:00 Noon

RECTORY HOURS WEEKDAYS

9 AM to 12 Noon
& 1 PM to 4 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

TUES. 12 to 1 PM

MILLIONS OF MONICAS
TUESDAY 1 PM to 2 PM

PL PRAYER GROUP W/ ADORATION

2ND THURSDAYS 7 PM

LAY CARMELITES

1ST SAT. AFTER
8 AM MASS

1ST SAT. DEVOTION
AFTER 8:00 AM MASS

ALTAR ROSARY

1ST WED. 6:30 PM
(APRIL, MAY, JUNE,
SEPT., OCT. & NOV.)

Our Mission Statement

*Lord, God, all creation is yours, and you call us to serve you by caring for the gifts that surround us. May the example of St. Isidore urge us to share our food with the hungry and to work for the salvation of mankind. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.
Saint Isidore, Pray for Us.*

ST. JOHN PAUL II REGIONAL SCHOOL

631-727-1650
sjp2regional.org

Mrs. Abby Swiatkowski, Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

631-727-2114
stisidorefaithformation@gmail.com

Mrs. Valerie Schwamborn

MUSIC MINISTRY

631-727-2114

John Dautzenberg
stisidoreriverheadmusic@gmail.com

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—DECEMBER 21, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2025

5:00 pm The People of the Parish, Living and Deceased
+ Nettie, George and Dennis Gayda
+ Cornelius O'Neill, Janet Cox & Lina Guardino
+ Robert Taylor / + John Donohue (1st A)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DEC. 21, 2025

8:00 am + Albin and Carol Okula
9:15 am + Juliana Kulesa (A)
10:30 am + Wieslaw Luniewski i Zofia Alicka
(PL) + Czeslawa Zakrzewska
+ Kamil Wnorowski / + Anna i Stefan Krupa
+ Wladyslaw i Maria Forta
12 Noon + Jadwiga and Vincent Suchta

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025

7:00 am + Jennie Koroleski / + Edward Sujecki

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2025

7:00 am + Sophie Aschenbach

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025

7:00 am + Margaret Robinson / + Mary Niecko (A)
5:00 pm Intentions of the Stepnoski Family
Intentions of the Bonocore Family
Intentions of the Massiello & Mader Families
Intentions of the Mirkow Family
+ Alex Sr. and Edna Sydlowski
10:00 pm + Stasia Grabowski / + Kamil Wnorowski
(PL) + Jan Harasimowicz & + Fam.
+ Jan & Jadwiga Zawadzcy & + Family
12:00 am + Caroline Stepnoski

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25, 2025

8:00 am + Jacob, Mary & Stanley Zielinski & Family
9:15 am + Claire Latour
10:30 am + Jerzy, Irena, Margaret & Zbigniew
(PL) Aleksandrowicz & Family
+ Stanislaw & Jan Andrychowski
+ Teresa Lul / + Zofia Czaplak
+ Marcjanna Stolarzewicz
12 Noon + Jadwiga and Vincent Suchta

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2025

7:00 am + Lucyna, Edmund & Lydia Wojciechowski
& Boleslaw Polak
+ Eugene Lalanne, Jr.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2025

8:00 am + Chester & Louise Leja / + Patryk Rus
5:00 pm + Joseph & Tessie Karpinski
+ John B. & Helen Zilnicki / + Edward Sujecki

THE HOLY FAMILY, DEC. 28, 2025

8:00 am Intentions of the Mader & Massiello Families
9:15 am Living & Deceased Members of the ARS
10:30 am The People of the Parish, Living and Deceased
(PL) + Antoni (A) & Konstynja Pietkun & + Family
+ Czeslawa Zakrzewska / + Kamil Wnorowski
12 Noon + Ed Bilski

IN LOVING MEMORY

Missalettes

Jerzy, Irena, Margaret, Zbigniew,
Bernard, Jan & Aleksandra Aleksandrowicz & Family

Bread & Wine

George and Stella Bixby

Sanctuary Lamp

Frank L., Bertha M. and Frank L. Jr. Ostroski

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/ Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

OUR COLLECTIONS

Today, Dec. 21: Sunday & Christmas Flowers

Thursday, December 25: Christmas Gift

Next Week, Dec. 28: Sunday & Debt Reduction



PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

James Raffel

THANK YOU!

From the Parish Social Ministry, a special thank you to Giorgio's Caterers for taking 85 tags off the Giving Tree and returning 85 gifts!

Thank you also to the Knights of Columbus for their recent shop to stock our shelves!

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Zofia Janik * Albert Stepnoski * Richard Abbott * Beverly Bullock * Joseph O'Shea * Baby John Krepps * Dottie Bugdin * Jadwiga Luniewska * Wanda Tuminska * Etta Jean Otis * Richard Anderson * Eric Frak * Andrew * Chris Bonocore * Ethan Donahue * Irene Monahan * Jodi Ponce * Catherine & Charles J. Sehy * Ben G. & Elizabeth * Wm. Snyder * Nancy McDonald * Brendan Gallagher * Kristy West * Josephine Barker * Paul Farber * Nicholas Steinkamp * Teresa Muenkel * Ron Danowski * Peter Kraljic * Carson Whible * Dave Zazeski * Faye Anderson * Hana Cutler * James Gibson * Jim Kenna * Daryl Alec * Paula George * Christina Donovan * Joan Zaleski * Gillen Family * Blythe Fickenwirth * Jody Breitfeller * Benjamin Gonzalez * Dominique Tirado * Diana Perniciaro * Sammy * Brodie * Joseph Stepnoski * James Kenna * Douglas Clark * Jan Suchta * Justin * Dakota Harmon * Cole Faller * Halikias Family * Liana Forstein * Rosemary & Daniel Ambrosini * Thomas Ryall * Anne Marie Donlon * Dorothy Sousa * Thomas McEnany * Mary Khulman * Michael Alperti * Roseanne Murphy * Barbara Kozlowski * James West * Elizabeth Farruggia * Kelly Wine * Mary Van Duesen * Thomas DeGirolamo * William Berenger * Daria Quarlena * Eileen Borchart * Sheila Nolan * Tom Wisniewski III * Jeffrey Clark * James, George & Barbara Jaeger * Ernest & Alex Aponte * Helen Long * Michael Miglionico * Ralph Conforti * The Barauskus Family * Hope & Brittany Williams * John Marion * Emilia Andrychowski * Augie & Georgianna Lucente * Johanna Benthall * Michelle Giaccone * Howard Seifert * Ed Kennedy * Kit Z. * Dolores Contino * Agnes Brown * Anders Ryden * Kevin C. Cook * Anita Costi * Doriane Bay * David Vallone * Brittany Schacor * Karen and Kim Finocchiaro * Grace Mary Schulteis * Victor Sechyshyn * George Angle * Melissa Alexandra * Christian Vidal * Suzanne Thompson * Anna Greffe * Anthony Mannino * Marcella Frisen * Theresa Puglia * Brian Darmody * Leigh Anne Brown * Dan Modjeska * Judy Zakorski * Marie Miley * John Shuot * Patrick Murphy * Brian Crowley * Louise Pampinello * Barbara Fenn

Please keep all those serving in the military and their families in your thoughts and prayers especially:
Nicholas Pelosi, Christopher Drowns, Jeffrey Heppner, James Fleming, Thomas V. D'Auria, Mateusz Marzec, Andre DeRosa, Garrett Bracht and Hunter Bahnke

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5. Click the box to read and accept the terms
6. Find your parish by entering the zip code or name; submit
7. Create your password

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

The Story of Christmas Benjamin Cello Christmas Special

In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.

Christmas | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they look at the painting Adoration of the Shepherds by Gerard van Honthorst to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord. This famous painting reveals the Christ Child as the light that has come into the world and also depicts the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, and the shepherds to be models of adoration to our humble Lord who came as a helpless baby.

What Catholics Believe About Christmas: Traditions, Santa Claus & the 12 Days

Join Dr. Michael Barber as he answers some of the Internet's most popular questions about Christmas. What are the 12 days of Christmas? Was Santa Claus a real person? What is Advent?

THE WEEK AHEAD

Saturday, December 20, 2025

Confessions 6 to 8 PM

Monday, December 22, 2025

Christmas Flower Setup 1 PM

(Last chance) Confessions: 3:00 PM—5:00 PM and 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

Adoration 12 to 1 PM * Millions of Monicas 1 to 2 PM

Wednesday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025

Masses: 5 PM (English) 10 PM (Polish) 12 Midnight (English)

Thursday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2025

Masses: 8 AM & 9:15 AM (English) 10:30 AM (Polish) 12 Noon (English)

The office will be closed Wednesday (12/24), Thursday (12/25) and Friday (12/26)

The Season of Christmas

The True Light Has Come

As the familiar 18th century English Christmas carol reminds us, the Christmas Season, also known as *Christmastide*, is not just one day, but a 12-day celebration. In the Church's liturgical year, Christmas day was the first of the 12 days. The last night, twelfth night, is January 5, the eve of the feast of the Epiphany, celebrated on January 6. The final Sunday of the Christmas Season celebrates the Baptism of Jesus. Clearly, Christmas is meant to be not just a celebration of the baby Jesus or Jesus' birthday, but a summary of our lives in relation to God's intimate, incarnate presence with us today.

The Christmas season draws our attention to the ever present need for hope—hope rooted not in wishful thinking, but in the reality of God's transformative presence among us. The story of God and humanity, both in the Bible and in our everyday lives, unfolds in the surprising moments when divine holiness breaks into our world and changes everything.

Into the world's darkness, the Christmas proclamation resounds with power: "The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through time; yet the world did not know him" (John 1:9-10). In this Light, we encounter the invincible power of God's love and his decision to draw near—not from a distance but from within history itself.

God chooses to be with us—not merely as a distant companion, but as one who indwells our very being. This is the heart of sanctifying grace: God's own life pulsing within us through the Holy Spirit, enlivening us now and preparing us for eternal communion.

The New Testament echoes this truth in many voices. Matthew proclaims Jesus as "Emanuel, God with us" (Mt 1:23), and affirms his presence whenever we gather in his name (Mt 18:20) or recall his promise to remain with us always (Mt 28:20). Luke reveals the risen Christ in mystery, walking unrecognized with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, revealing himself in Scripture and in the breaking of bread (Lk 24:13-36). John speaks of Christ's enduring presence through the Advocate—the Holy Spirit—who continues Jesus' presence within us (Lk 14:26). Paul describes the Church as the Body of Christ (Romans 12:5; 1 Cor 10:17, 12:12-27), a living community called to carry forward Christ's mission: to transform the world from disorder and evil into a realm marked by God's justice, peace, and love.

This is the enduring hope of Christmas. That God is not only with us, but within us, inviting us to become light in a darkened world.

The Christmas Story in the Gospels

After centuries of preparation, at God's appointed time (around 4 BC), the drama of Christ's incarnation began to unfold in the tiny, out of the way village of Nazareth in the hilly northern part of the Holy Land called Galilee.

The accounts of Jesus' birth are found in chapters 1-2 of the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Although they relate the story in different ways, Matthew concentrating on Joseph and his dilemma about accepting Jesus as his son and Luke concentrating on Mary and her willing participation in God's plan for salvation, both Gospel writers stress that Jesus was not just another human child born to human parents, but the unique son of God born through the agency of God's active power, the Holy Spirit.

Both Gospel writers stress that the infancy story of Jesus is really a miniature version of the rest of the Gospel: Jesus comes into our world and into each person's life—and each one must then decide to respond either positively with acceptance or negatively with hostility. So Joseph and Mary, their relatives Elizabeth and Zachariah, the Shepherds and the Magi recognize Jesus as God's son sent for salvation. But threatened by this newborn king, King Herod and the Judean Jewish leaders respond with hatred and try to murder him. Similarly, each of us must also decide how we will respond to Christ's presence in our daily lives.

Blessing Before a Christmas Stable

(by Fr. Peter John Cameron, O.P.)

No one, whether shepherd or wise man, can approach God here below except by kneeling before the manger at Bethlehem and adoring him hidden in the weakness of a new-born child. (CCC 563)

Lord Jesus, as I kneel before your major in adoration, let my first Christmas word be: Thank you, gift of the Father, for coming to save me from my sins.

Without you I do not know even how to be human. The characteristics of your human body express the divine Person of God's Son. And in that wondrous expression, Lord, you reveal me to myself. Thank you for that saving revelation in your sacred humanity. As the Christmas liturgy proclaims, "For through him the holy exchange that restores our life has shown for the day in splendor." Thank you for coming as one like me to save me from myself.

You come as a baby because babies are irresistible and adorable. You come as a baby because you want our first impression of God incarnate to be that of one who does not judge. How long to be united with you in every way. May I never be attracted to the allurements and charms of the world. May I love you always, at every moment, with all my heart, soul, and strength. May the tenderness, the dependency, and the mercy that you reveal in your infancy become the hallmarks of my life.

Newborn Savior, the very silence of your Incarnation proclaims that the answer to the misery, the strife, and the meaninglessness we often experience in life cannot be found within us. You alone are the Answer. As I may before you, eternal King, I surrender to you all selfishness, self-absorption, self-indulgence, self-righteousness, self-assertion, and self-exaltation. Even as I adore you on this night of your birth, rid me of the nagging desire to be adored.

Word became flesh, you make your dwelling among us. You do not live your life for yourself, but for us. And you enable us to live in you all that you yourself lived. Help me to embrace this truth with all my heart and mind come and live your life in me. Empty me of my willfulness, my petulance, my hardness, my cynicism, my contemptuousness. Fill me with your truth, your strength, your fortitude, your purity, your gentleness, your generosity, your wisdom, your heart, and your grace.

O Emmanuel, may the assurance of your unfailing presence be for me the source of an ending peace. May I never fear my weakness, my inadequacy, or my imperfection. Rather, as I gaze with faith, hope, and love upon your incarnate littleness, may I love my own littleness, for God is with us. Endow my life with a holy wonder that leads me ever more deeply into the Mystery of Redemption and the meaning of my vocation and destiny.

Longed-for Messiah, your servant Saint Leo the Great well wrote that in the very act of referencing the birth of our Savior, we are also celebrating our own new birth. From this night on may my life be a dedicated life of faith marked by holy reliance, receptivity, and resoluteness. May I make of my life a total gift of self. May my humble worship of your Nativity manifest how much I seek the Father's kingship and his way of holiness. The beauty of your holy face bears the promise that your Father will provide for us in all things. This Christmas I renew my trust in God's goodness, compassion, and providence. Long for the day when you will teach us to pray "Our Father."

May your presence, Prince of Peace, bless the world with peace, the poor with care and prosperity, the despairing with hope and confidence, the grieving with comfort and gladness, the oppressed with freedom and deliverance, the suffering with solace and relief. Loving Jesus, you are the only real joy of every human heart. I placed my trust in you.

Oh, divine fruit of Mary's womb, may I love you in union with the holy Mother of God. May my life be filled with the obedience of Saint Joseph and the missionary fervor of the shepherds, so that the witness of my life may shine like the star that leads the Magi to your manger. I ask all this with great confidence in your Holy Name. Amen.

Save the Date



St. Isidore School

'An Extension of Your Family'



Help us kick off Catholic Schools Week:
St. Isidore Alumni Cocktail Party

01 . 24 . 2026

4pm

515 Marcy Avenue, Riverhead NY 11901

Join us for wine, appetizers and see what
our Catholic school is up to now. RSVP to
alumni@sjp2regional.org

*Please send us old pictures, memories
you may have.