

To Our Parishioners & Friend

SUPPORT OUR PARISH MINISTRIES

We need your help in service of our parishioners: parents seeking baptism for their children, the homebound, couples preparing for marriage, families celebrating the life of their departed ones, children going through faith formation, congregants at Mass. These days, only 25% of practicing Catholics attend Mass, and the number is sliding since parishes resumed Mass attendance after the lockdown.

However, those who continue to identify with our parishes (St. Isidore) and practice our faith here, have the obligation to become engaged participants in the things we deem central and enduring to our faith. The sacraments of the church are by all means central and enduring for our individual families and our parish family of St. Isidore.

Preparing for a good and meaningful celebration of the sacraments involves the confluence of active faith and ministerial services of many parishioners. Those who regularly come to Mass and understand intimately the value of participation in parish life are also called to recognize our baptismal obligation to invite others to full participation in parish life. And that includes providing a friendly and warm worship atmosphere that allows others to appreciate the value of active and conscious participation in parish life. I invite you to consider participating in some upcoming events in our parish:

1. TIME AND TALENT OPPORTUNITIES

The significance of the sacraments requires of us sufficient preparation for a worthy reception. Whether it is the Baptism of an infant, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, the Mass, Marriage, and even funerals, several parishioners must be involved to celebrate it. Therefore, we need more parishioners to come to Mass regularly, and to sign up for liturgical ministry roles: as Greeters, Mass Servers, Sacristans, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Musicians, Church Environment, and Tech & Social Media ministry (website, YouTube, Facebook, livestream); as well as non-liturgical ministers: Catechists, Money Counters, Bereavement Group, Marriage/Wedding Group, and Baptism Preparation Group. While many parishioners are already involved in parish ministries and our music at Mass has since been given a boost, however, the opportunity is always there for new sign ups.

2. ADVENT PROGRAM

Within the church, the sacraments are the principal paths that lead us to experience genuine encounter with Christ. During this Advent, we have planned Sunday evenings of prayer and discussion on the sacraments as channels to Christ, as we prepare for Christmas. The events will be held in the church on three Sunday evenings: November 28, December 5, and December 12, from 4pm –5pm.

Please prayerfully consider how you can offer your gifts anytime. As a closing reflection, I share the words of renowned priest, author and beloved pastor, Henri Nouwen: “God’s Kingdom is the place of abundance where every generous act overflows its original bounds and becomes part of the unbounded grace of God at work in the world.” **Thank You and Many Blessings!**

Fr. Andrew

