



MAKE ME A CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE

STEWARDSHIP REPORT | JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026

A NOTE ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

Each time we pray the words traditionally attributed to St. Francis - "Lord, make me a channel of your peace" - we are asking to be transformed into instruments of God's grace in the world. This is the heart of Christian stewardship: to receive God's gifts with gratitude and allow them to flow outward in love and service.

In a world often marked by division, anxiety, and need, Christ continues to call His Church to be a visible sign of His peace. This peace is not merely the absence of conflict, but the fullness of life found in Him - a peace that heals wounds, reconciles hearts, and restores hope. Through your faithful stewardship this past year, that peace has been made present in our family of parishes and beyond.

Nourished by Word and Sacrament, you have responded generously to the call of discipleship. Your prayers, your service, and your financial gifts have supported the mission of the Church: proclaiming the Gospel, caring for those in need, forming disciples, and building up the body of Christ. In countless seen and unseen ways, you have been channels through which God's love has reached others.

This report is both an account of that stewardship and a testimony to God's faithfulness. It reveals how the resources entrusted to this parish have been prayerfully and responsibly used to further Christ's mission - serving the poor, strengthening families, educating our young, and nurturing the spiritual life of our community.

As we continue our journey together, we entrust all that we are and all that we have to the Lord. May He continue to guide us, so that in all things we may echo the prayer: "Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith"

- Stewardship Commission



GOD IS THE SOURCE OF PEACE

Any attempt to cultivate peace on our own, apart from God, will fail. We learn to turn to Him first.

Eucharistic Renewal

Reflecting on the past year, we fondly remember last October's Eucharistic Procession at Holy Rosary as one of the many meaningful events of our Eucharistic Renewal. This renewal called us to turn our hearts toward God in the true Body and Blood of Christ, drawing us ever closer to Him as the true Prince of Peace. Through prayer, reflection, and opportunities to encounter Christ in the Eucharist, we were reminded that this renewal is not limited to a single season, but is an invitation to allow His presence to shape how we live, serve, and encounter others each day.



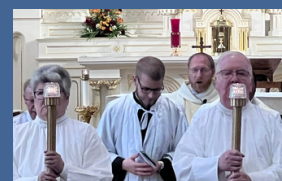
Mass

There is no better place to truly experience the Prince of Peace in our daily lives than at Mass. From now until the end of time, the Mass will remain the foundation of stewardship and growth in our parishes. In the presence of Christ, we are renewed in His peace and strengthened to carry that peace into our homes, our communities, and our daily lives.



Mentor Couples & Godparents

The sacraments bring a special peace and grace into our everyday lives, often through the people who help guide us toward them. Many sacraments require strong leaders to help set others on a good path toward receiving them, with Mentor Couples and Godparents being two notable examples. Like all sacraments, Marriage and Baptism require spiritual preparation, and these leaders offer guidance, encouragement, and a strong example of living out the Catholic faith. Through their support, they help others grow in their faith and better understand the beauty and importance of the sacraments, reminding us of the ways we can help one another grow closer to Christ.



"Always remain close to the Catholic Church, because it alone can give you true peace, since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the true Prince of Peace." - St. Padre Pio



PEACE EMBRACES OTHERS

When we receive Christ's peace in our heart, it quiets us. We are better able to see the needs of our neighbor and respond from God's own love.

St. Johns Builders

St. John's Builders is a local Christian-based group of hardworking individuals who see the needs of our neighbors and respond. While not directly affiliated with St. Isidore the Farmer, the group serves the wider community by providing low-income housing and other needed improvements, such as wheelchair ramps.



Bereavement Ministry

Life has many highs and lows, and one of the most difficult is when the story of a friend or family member comes to a close here on earth. During these difficult moments, our Bereavement Ministry provides comfort, support, and guidance as individuals and families navigate the often unfamiliar territory of grief.



Ignite

Ignite is a multi-day local mission trip where volunteers serve homeowners through a variety of projects while sharing the love of Christ. Although not directly affiliated with St. Isidore the Farmer, Ignite has a mission trip based in St. Marys and provides opportunities to serve many of our parishioners and their neighbors.



*...and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us.
- Romans 5:5*



SEEKING THE PEACE GOD GIVES

God is a Father; he offers His guidance - as long as we are tuned in to His voice. The Bible and other resources train us to recognize how God has worked in the past and how He wants to be at work in our lives now.

A great resource to open the door to seeing God's work in our lives is the Fellowship groups in our Family of Parishes. We have been blessed with gracious leaders who started these groups and grew them into something that allows not only growth in faith but growth in relationships among parishioners.



Men's Fellowship

Men's Fellowship at Holy Rosary is a standout group this year, not only for its commitment to helping men grow as the spiritual foundation of their homes, but also for celebrating its 20th anniversary.



Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship at Holy Rosary, though newer, has already proven to be a much-needed group. It extends the spirit of our Women's Spa for the Soul event into everyday life through book studies, lectio divina, and meaningful conversation. All of which could not be ran without dedicated volunteers.

COR Men's Fellowship

COR Men's Fellowship is a formation and fraternal opportunity for men throughout the St. Isidore Family of Parishes. Based at Immaculate Conception, the group explores a variety of video series and books throughout the year, pairing each with opportunities for discussion and fellowship.



"A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in."

PEACE INVESTS IN THE FUTURE

Jesus calls us to go forth as people of hope. Hope gives us the courage to choose reconciliation and forbearance over insisting on our own way.



Investing in the future often begins by giving the youth in our area the attention and opportunities they need to grow. We are blessed with many ways for young people to engage with and deepen their Catholic faith, made possible through the generosity of adult volunteers who give their time and talents as an act of stewardship.

- CCD
- LifeTeen
- Edge
- Youth Ministry
- Servers
- Our Schools



We are also investing in the future in a more tangible way through the new Parish Life Center at St. Patrick. Fundraising for the project began in spring 2026, and planning is now in its final stages before construction begins. We look forward to the many new opportunities this space will provide for our parish family to gather, grow, and live out our mission together.



2026-2027 SPOTLIGHT

Welcome.

Welcome. is the new name for CHRP (Christ Renews His Parish). They provide an opportunity for deeper spiritual contemplation and discovery. Holding weekend retreats for those who feel something is missing in their lives and want to work it out, but they have no idea how or even where to start. Retreats consist of adoration, Mass, small groups, confession, individual prayer, and group activities

Our first Welcome. Retreat is on March 6 & 7. It will be held at Holy Rosary, starting at 9AM on Saturday and ending at noon on Sunday.



SACRAMENTAL STATISTICS

The Sacraments are the manifestation of the Father's tenderness and love towards each of us.

- Pope Francis

17 people became Catholic through OCIA

112 teachers & aides instructed **526** students in Religious Education and Sunday morning preschool

Bereavement and funeral ministry for **64** funerals

Marriage and wedding preparation for **26** weddings

60 infant baptisms

66 children received the sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Communion

65 young adults received Confirmation

Hundreds of visits to homebound, local nursing homes, and Communion Services

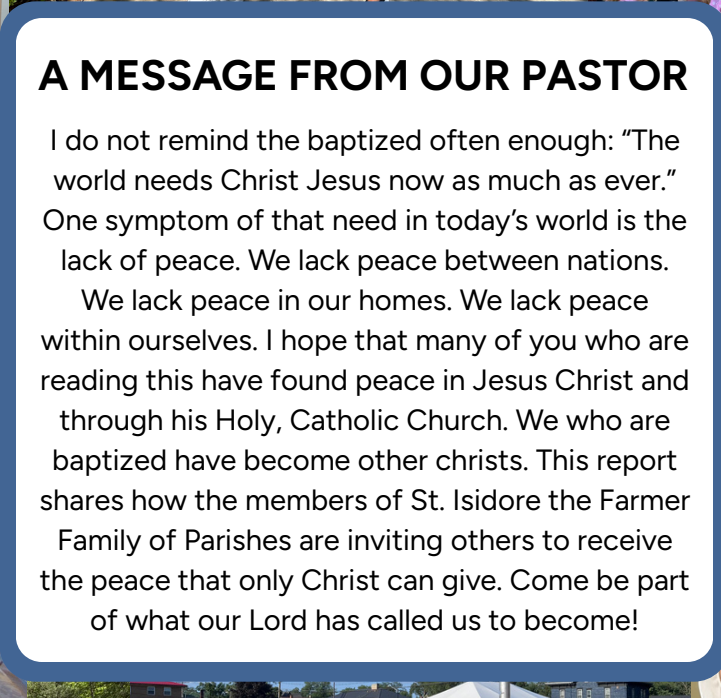
Thousands of hours by hundreds of volunteers for the IC Festival, St. Patrick's Day Celebration, Vacation Bible Schools, Parish Life Ministries, Welcome Visitations, and the many prayer ministries within the St. Isidore Farmer Family

Incredible support in community outreach through St. Nicholas, CALL Ministry, Rockford Community Days, Henderson Settlement, Elizabeth Pregnancy Center, Rustic Hope, Agape, Mission Breakfasts, Christian Mothers Sodality, Giving Trees, and St. John's Builders.

Countless prayers offered by parishioners



St. Isidore the Farmer, Family of Parishes



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

I do not remind the baptized often enough: "The world needs Christ Jesus now as much as ever." One symptom of that need in today's world is the lack of peace. We lack peace between nations. We lack peace in our homes. We lack peace within ourselves. I hope that many of you who are reading this have found peace in Jesus Christ and through his Holy, Catholic Church. We who are baptized have become other christs. This report shares how the members of St. Isidore the Farmer Family of Parishes are inviting others to receive the peace that only Christ can give. Come be part of what our Lord has called us to become!

WE ARE CALLED TO BE STEWARDS!

All groups mentioned in this report and many others in our Family of Parishes need your help! If interested in any please call either office for more information.

