

Church of St. Isidore

Stow, MA

January 3, 2010



*W*E HAVE SEEN

HIS STAR IN THE EAST

AND HAVE COME

WITH GIFTS TO

ADORE THE *Lord.*

ADORE



Parish Finances

Thanks

December 20, 2009

Offertory in envelopes (54) or by checks (5)	\$1,862.00
Offertory in loose cash	\$206.00
Total Offertory	\$2,068.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$40.25
Grand Annual Collection to date	\$15,025.00

****Due to an earlier submission date, offertory information for Dec. 27th will be included in the Jan. 10th bulletin.**

Our thanks to all who have increased their support of the parish. Our hope is that all who can, will heed the invitation given by the parish finance council

- for those who give, to give \$5 extra
- those new to the system to become part of the team.
- for all to give regularly using the weekly envelopes, sending offering by mail, or transferring electronically.



Join Us for
**HOSPITALITY
SUNDAY**
Next week, Jan. 10th!

Please join us in the parish hall for coffee & donuts after the 8:00AM and 10:30AM masses.

From the Pastor...

Today we celebrate the appearance of Jesus on the human scene. For the Greeks the word "Epiphany" was used to describe the appearance or manifestation of God among men. As we celebrate this feast of Epiphany, we celebrate the birth of our King, Jesus, public manifestation to the Magi (wise men from the East).

Our Savior became man and revealed Himself to our world as its light.

Fr. David A. Doucet

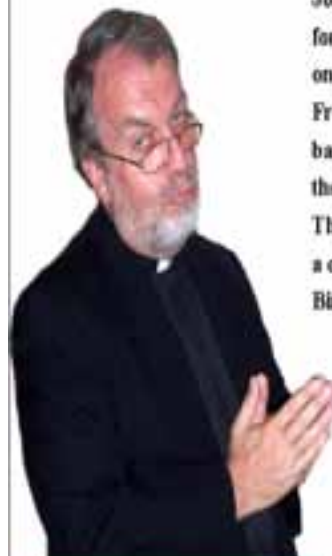
SATURDAY, JANUARY 30TH

St. Isidore's

Proudly presents

MISGIVINGS

A "Divine" Comedy of bellylaughs, blessings, blarney and bingo



Join Father Patrick Aloysius Misgivings for this divine presentation of stories and one liners about growing up Catholic. From miracles and marriage counseling to bazaars and birth control, nothing escapes the good father's razor sharp, Irish wit. This hilarious, interactive comedy includes a collection, a raffle and even an actual Bingo game.

St. Isidore Church Hall

429 Great Road Stow, MA

Doors open: 6:30PM

Showtime: 7PM

\$15

(Senior Citizens \$14)

Tickets available beginning
January 3rd after Mass or at the rectory,
weekdays before noon.

New England's
most entertaining
One Man Show!!

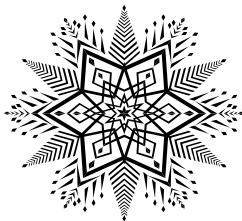
Children's Liturgy of the Word



We will be celebrating Children's Liturgy of the Word each Sunday at the 10:30 AM Mass. The exceptions to this will be most holiday week-ends and school vacation week-ends. CLOW is age

appropriate for children who are already in Kindergarten through Grade 5. Following the Christmas vacation and holiday week-ends CLOW will resume with the following schedule:

January 24 & 31	February 7 & 28
March 7, 14, 21 & 28	April 11



Adult Education/Discussion Program
Vatican II Lecture & Discussion Series

Jan. 7th @ 7:30PM @St. Irene's Parish Hall (Lower Level)

187 East St., Carlisle

Theologian and popular author

Timothy Muldoon, Ph.D.

Presents

"The Nature of the Church"

This session will focus on the two constitutions on the Church, Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church) and Gaudium et Spes (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World). It will raise questions about whether Vatican II represents continuity or a rupture with the Church's history.

The first in a series of six lectures in which the audience is encouraged to ask questions and interact to understand.

This program is open to all who wish to learn more about Catholicism. For additional info

The mission statement of St. Isidore Parish.

St. Isidore Parish is a Catholic faith community committed to helping people deepen their relationship with Christ. The cornerstones of our mission are:

- the celebration of the Eucharist,
- Christian service,
- evangelization, and
- religious education for every person.

These are the foundations through which we help people to grow and sustain the excitement of their relationship. We are committed, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to welcoming all to our faith community, seeing Christ in one another and growing in our commitment to be more like Christ, especially in our daily prayer life.

Goal 1 - It is the goal of this parish to strengthen the faith commitment of the parishioners, both children and adults, by involving them in opportunities that will allow them to experience a growth in their faith.

Goal 2 - It is the goal of this parish to develop a plan to reach out to other parishes within our cluster. This outreach can be on an informal and/or formal basis.

Attention Families with Children:

We have discontinued the Sunday Family pages typically located on the last page of the bulletin. We are doing this because we distribute a similar set of pages to children attending Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) at the 10:30 Mass. For children not attending CLOW, copies will be available at the three entrances to the church.

Today we begin a family page which will be located in the back of the bulletin and contain reflections, information and prayers designed to help to support you in your role as Catholic parents.

2009 Christmas Flower Offerings

James N. Stronach, Sr.
Ross & Catherine Stronach
James & Adeline Maria



Frank DeMore
Anthony Serra
Josephine Serra

Edward Oster
Peter T. Rooney
Robert L. Ulichney

Corley & Kelly Families

Families of Jon & Betty French

Giuseppa Angelico

The Hall & McCarthy Families

Colosi, Gruppuso Families

William & Maria Palonis

Mary Leone

Mishley-Piecewicz Families

Murphy, Miano, MacPhail & Horgan
Families

Raymond Cacciatore
Joseph & Carmela Cacciatore

Grace Ruth Finnerty

Bud Whitney
James & Adeline Maria

Alice Luskin

James Cogan
Joan Cogan

James Molaskey

Trudeau Family

Catholic Chaplain at Emerson Hospital

Our parish, along with other parishes in our vicariate, provides a Catholic chaplain to meet the pastoral/spiritual needs of any one hospitalized at Emerson Hospital in Concord. Chaplain Georgia Leiner can offer prayer, pastoral counseling, Communion, and if needed, arrange for the Sacrament of the Sick. She also gives support to the family or others involved.

You can call the chaplain before you get to the hospital, or ask for her after you arrive. Georgia works every day and you can reach her at 978-287-3015. She is there for you and will be glad to minister to you.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter of Massachusetts & Rhode Island

Scripture says about married people that "Two shall live as one". How often do you find yourselves living as two? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend can help you get back to basics in this complicated day and age. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in new England are November 6-8, December 4-6 & January 8-10, 2010. For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwmeMA.org

Attention

Priests, Youth Ministers

The Archdiocese of Boston Vocation Office is Sponsoring

ST. ANDREW DINNER

St. Andrew is a gathering of young men in High School and their Parish priest, High School Campus Minister or Youth Minister for an informal dinner with Cardinal Seán. The evening consists of Evening Prayer, dinner, conversation with seminarians and vocation witness stories.

Schedule for 2009

Wednesday, January 27, 2010—5:30—8PM at St. Sebastian High School, Needham, MA

Tuesday, April 13, 2010—St. John's Seminary, Brighton, MA

Welcome New Parishioners

Please introduce yourself to Father Doucet, Deacon Bob or Deacon Charlie. Call or visit the rectory to fill out a registration card to be included in our database.

Marriage

Arrangements should be made at least 6 months before the intended date of the wedding. Please call the Rectory to schedule your date and make an appointment to speak with Father Doucet.

Year for Priests Spiritual Adoption

During this Year for Priests, The Vocation Office is happy to announce that Serra Boston Vocation Club is initiating the "Adopt-a-Priest Apostolate" where parishioners spiritually adopt a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston for one year. Parishioners are given the name of a priest of the Archdiocese, prayer cards and a prayer booklet and asked to pray for the particular intentions and ministry of that priest. If you are interested in more information or being assigned a priest of the Archdiocese to pray for on a daily basis, please call 978-462-1057 or go to www.serraboston.org or <http://www.vocationsboston.org/Resources.aspx>.

Baptism Preparation

Our quarterly Baptismal preparation meeting for parents of children to be baptized will be held on Wednesday January , 2008 at 7:30 P.M.

Sunday through the Week: a page for families with children



January 3rd Feast of the Epiphany

Parent Notes:

Today talk with the children about the real value of gifts—that the real worth of a gift is not measured by how expensive it is, but by the giver's love and care and thought of us. We saw that gifts are remembrances that show us we are loved and valued. Apply this to God's great gift to us: Jesus. Talk about the gift we could exchange with God: what can we give God that shows how much we love and value the gift of himself that he gave us in Jesus?

For Children:

- The wise men searched for a king. What do you think they imagined Jesus would be like?
- What did they see when they found Jesus?
- How would you greet Jesus today?



January 3rd—Epiphany of the Lord

by Dianne Bergant CSA



The Christmas season reaches an apex with the Epiphany. In some liturgical traditions, it is the central celebration of Christmas. It commemorates not only the birth of Christ and the visit of the Magi, but also his baptism in the Jordan and the manifestation of his glory at the wedding feast of Cana. In the Roman Catholic tradition, the focus is on the visit of the Magi and the implications of that visit for the glorious manifestation of God to all the peoples of the world.

There is a wonderful summons to alertness and presence of mind and heart, a call for all the nations to witness the marvelous works of God that shine as light in the midst of the surrounding darkness. The light of God is known in the ways in which the most vulnerable in the city are cared for and acknowledged. In just action and righteousness, the city becomes the beacon of God, and all the nations are attracted by this light. The quality of

the light leads the way through the darkness and sustains the world in goodness and peace.

The manifestation of God among us changes the ways in which we perceive each other. Christ's birth provides us with the light by which we see a new criterion for relating. The Magi represent the multi-ethnic and cultural diversity in civic and parish situations, as well as the many religions of the world. All people, regardless of race or ethnic origin, can be co-heirs with Christ.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Thomas More College Winter Open House

On President's Day, Monday, February 15, 2010, Thomas More College is hosting its annual Winter Open House. All high school seniors, juniors, and their families are encouraged to attend classes, have lunch, converse with students, and meet with professors. Located in scenic Merrimack, NH, Thomas More College provides a Great Books education that is firmly rooted in the Catholic tradition. All students learn Iconography in our unique Way of Beauty program and spend a full semester on our Rome campus at no extra cost. Tuition is low and scholarships are available. For more information, and to register, please contact the admissions office at (800) 880-8308 or email us at admissions@ThomasMoreCollege.edu Overnight guests are welcome.



A Prayer for Priests

Gracious God, loving Father,
font of every gift and good,
make of priests for us we pray:

men of faith, men of love,
humble servants of your Word,
prophets of your Spirit's grace;

men of hope, men of peace,
strong defenders of the truth,
heralds of your holy gospel;

men of prayer, men of praise,
guardians of our sacred rites,
of the scriptures and tradition;

men of changelessness and change,
men who follow you each day,
when and where your Spirit leads;

men of tenderness and strength,
comfort for the sick and weary,
shepherds leading home the lost;

men of counsel, men of wisdom,
gentle guides for the confused,
lights along the darkened path;

men of mercy, patient men,
understanding and consoling
of the grieving and abused;

men of justice and compassion,
reconciling and forgiving,
men of healing in your name;

men of sacrifice and honor,
single minded in your service,
set apart to do your will;

men of holiness and joy,
men anointed by your grace,
men ordained to serve as Christ.

Make us one with them in faith
and in Christ your only Son
in whose holy name we pray. Amen.

-Rev Austin Fleming

www.ConcordPastor.blogspot.com

Generations of Faith 2009/2010



Our next session for the 2009/2010 academic year will take place on the weekend of **Friday evening January 8th (6:00-9:00PM) OR Sunday evening January 10th (4:30-7:30 PM)**.

Please RSVP on the parish website no later than Sunday January 3; we need to have an accurate count for seating, supplies and meals.

If you are not yet registered for GOF and would like to receive registration materials please contact Nancy Dome in the Religious Education office 978-897-9790 or nedome@stisidorestow.org

Saint Michael School Open House

Sunday, January 10, 2010 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
and Tuesday, February 2, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Saint Michael School is introducing a new Pre-school three year old program to start the 2010-2011 school year. Saint Michael School has exceptional values - developing students with strong intellect, confidence, and conscience. Please visit us at 198 Main Street, Hudson, stmichaelschoolhudson.org, or call us at 978-562-2917.

“Helping Children Cope When a Parent Has Cancer”

The Bethke Cancer Center at Emerson Hospital is pleased to offer a workshop for children whose parent has a diagnosis of cancer. This three session program is for children ages 3-15 and their parents. The program includes a Saturday morning family workshop as well as a brief introductory and follow-up meeting for parents only. All three sessions will be held at Emerson Hospital. This workshop has been generously funded by donations to the Bethke Cancer Center and is provided at no cost to participants.

Parents are asked to call 978-287-3422 to register.



St. Isidore Parish

VBS... *it's back!*

SAVE THE DATE.....

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RETURNS

2010

AUGUST 16TH - 19TH

This year we leave dry land. It's time to explore Gods word on the open seas. Join us as we sail, dive, map and explore all God's love while getting silly, loud and *WET!*

Project Bread's Food Source Hotline

1-800-645-8333 TTY: 1-800-377-1292

With the high cost of living in the Commonwealth and more than 522,000 people across the state struggling to put food on the table, chances are that a friend or neighbor of yours is having difficulty making ends meet this winter. Project Bread's Food Source Hotline can help. The Food Source Hotline is the only comprehensive information and referral service for the hungry in Massachusetts. Counselors can provide information and screen callers for food stamp eligibility, connect them to school meal programs, and direct them to emergency food resources right in their neighborhood. Counselors can assist callers in 160 languages and the calls are both personalized and confidential. Extend your goodwill and reach out to those in need. A call to Project Bread's Food Source Hotline may be all it takes to provide comfort to someone who is struggling.

In response to the increased demand for help, Project Bread's Food Source Hotline has extended its hours to:

Monday – Friday: 8:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Saturday: 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

ONE CLICK...



Go To:

www.catholictv.com

CatholicTV is a 24/7 television network that broadcasts local and national religious programming and live events for the Catholic church in America. Heeding Pope Benedict XVI's call to greater utilize the power of television and new media to reach Christians, the network features CatholicTV, their Catholic web site, mobile apps and widget. Celebrate online mass; pray The Rosary; enjoy programs on prayer, the saints, the bible and the Catholic church on America's Catholic Television Network.

FLU SEASON PRACTICES

In response to the concern about the H1N1 flu pandemic, in addition to practicing good hygiene, the Cardinal directs the following for the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy and for flu prevention:

- The Holy Water fonts are to be drained, cleaned with a disinfecting soap, and re-filled with holy water on a regular basis. Please note that old holy water should be disposed of in the sacarium.
- The distribution of the Precious Blood for the faithful is suspended, with the exception of those who must receive from the cup due to medical reasons. The faith of the Church teaches that Christ, whole and entire, is received even under only one species.
- The exchange of the Sign of Peace is to be offered without any physical contact. If the priest celebrant chooses to extend the invitation for the sign of peace, the faithful, instead of a handshake, may bow to the persons nearby.
- While the faithful retain the option of receiving Holy Communion on the tongue or in the hand, all ministers of Holy Communion are advised to distribute the consecrated hosts with care, being cautious not to touch the tongue or the hand of the communicant.
- Parishioners should be reminded that if they are ill or suspect they are ill with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation. They should remain at home and return to church when they are well.
- These directives are effective Saturday, October 31, 2009

At St. Isidore Parish, our compliance with these directives means:

- The glass dishes with holy water at the front entrances will be washed and sanitized regularly. The baptismal font is sanitized on a regular basis and that schedule of treatment will be increased.
- Communion will be offered under the species of bread only. Only a total of 4 ministers of communion are needed. If there is no deacon present, this requires 3 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; if a deacon is present, only 2 are required. We will not change the schedule but request that EMs decide who will serve at the time of the mass. EMs are directed to use the hand sanitizer in the first pew before coming up to distribute communion.
- If there is anyone who cannot receive the consecrated bread (those with Celiac disease, for example) he or she should speak with the priest or deacon before mass so they may be offered the cup.
- The priest or deacon will extend the invitation for the sign of peace. People should extend that sign without contact. Obviously family members may continue to express the sign of peace as they choose.

Please let us know if you have any questions about this by calling the rectory or emailing the question to info@stisidorestow.org.

Thank you.