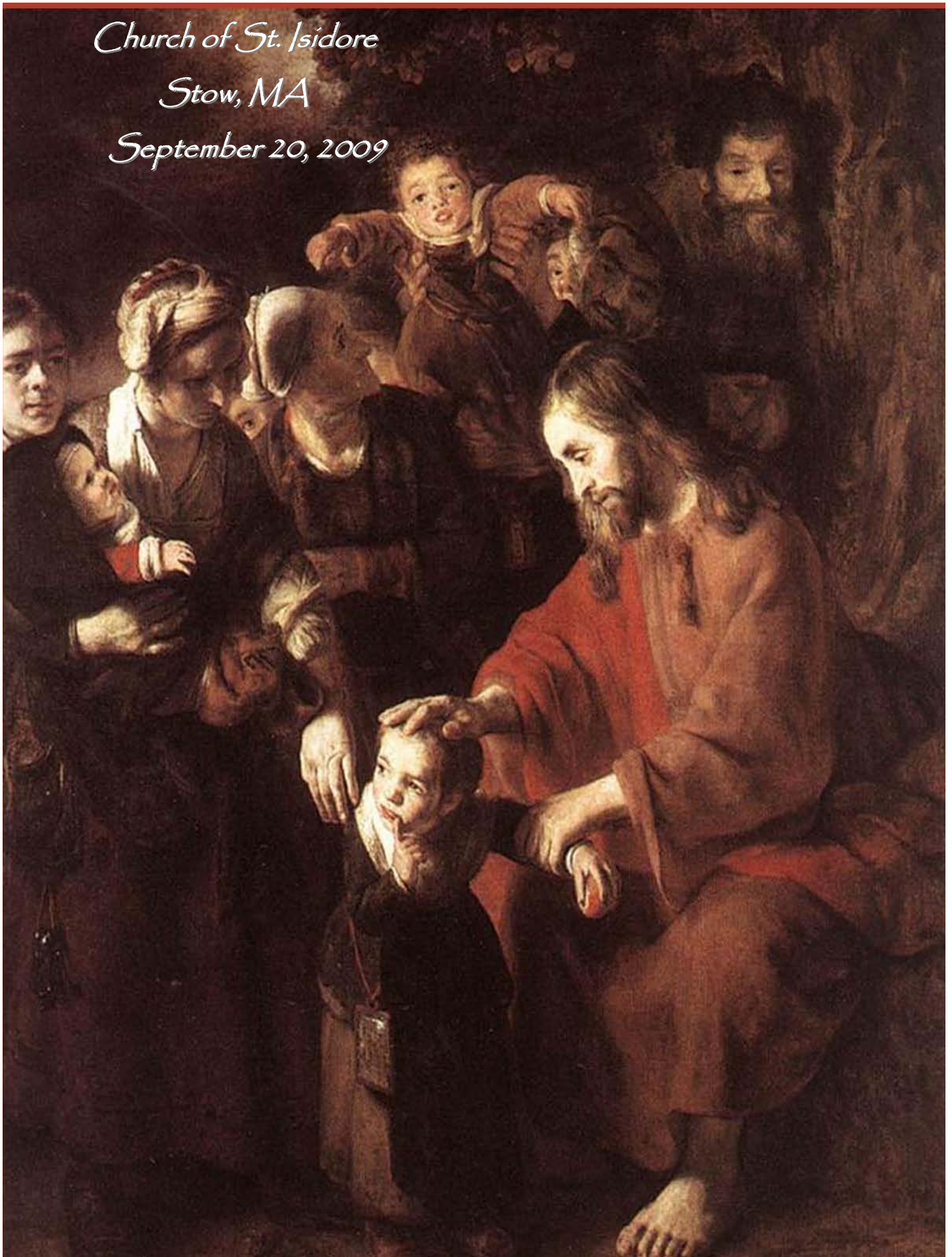


Church of St. Isidore

Stow, MA

September 20, 2009



Parish Finances

Thanks

September 6, 2009

Offertory in envelopes (90) or by checks (21)	\$3,826.00
Offertory in loose cash	\$384.00
Total Offertory	\$4,210.00
Catholic Appeal	\$8,600.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$58.00

September 13, 2009

Offertory in envelopes (95) or by checks (11)	\$3,630.00
Offertory in loose cash	\$256.00
Total Offertory	\$3,886.00
Catholic Appeal	\$9,200.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$91.00

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.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE, RENEWING OUR CHURCH 2009 CATHOLIC APPEAL

Responding to God's Grace, Renewing our Church. Thank you to all supporters of the 2009 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$8,000 from 55 households, reaching 78% of our parish goal of \$10,200. If you have not yet pledged, please consider a gift today and help us meet our goal.

Remember, our parish will receive 25 percent of all funds we raise above our goal. Please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Every gift matters. Thank you!

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.

From the Pastor...

Christianity is our way of life. Many object to the way it has been institutionalized over the years. Many manmade details were added through history and very often the church divests the human baggage picked up along the way.

We pray for sound and informed leadership in the church to reinforce the divine elements and divest the human baggage.

Fr. David A. Doucet

VIRTUS TRAINING

The Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team here at St. Isidore's has the goal to create a community of support in our parish in which staff and volunteers work together to provide a safe environment for all of our parishioners. One step in doing this is to provide information through the "Protecting God's Children" (also known as VIRTUS) training sessions. These 2 1/2 hour sessions include discussion of topics focused on keeping our children safe in our parish as well as in our communities. We also discuss how to report suspected abuse.

ATTENDING ONE OF THESE SESSIONS IS REQUIRED FOR ANYONE VOLUNTEERING AT ST. ISIDORE'S BUT THEY ARE ALSO OPEN TO ANYONE WHO WANTS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT KEEPING OUR MOST VULNERABLE SAFER.

The following sessions will be held in the Sacristy at St. Isidore's.

Monday September 21 at 6:30 PM

Wednesday October 14 at 9:30 AM

Wednesday October 14 at 6:30 PM

Tuesday November 17 at 7:00 PM

If you are interested in attending one of these sessions, please call Noelle at (978) 897-3197 or email capteam@stisidorestow.org. We will not hold the session if there are not enough signed up. If you would like to attend, please make sure you contact us. Thanks.

Saint Isidore Parish
429 Great Road
Stow, Massachusetts 01775

September, 2009

Dear Fellow Members of the St. Isidore Community,

As we begin the new fiscal year, our parish is in the midst of a financial crisis. In Fiscal Year 2009 we experienced a \$32,000 shortfall in offertory collections versus our budget. The Parish Finance Council limited the loss to just under \$10,000 by delaying capital projects, reducing spending, and using emergency funds (see the enclosed report). The Finance Council continues to work to control expenses wherever possible. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the projected revenue, expenses, net loss and ways you can further support St. Isidore Parish. The main source of revenue for our parish is the weekly offertory collection. Our parish requires an average weekly collection of \$4,900 to pay its bills. Presently, the average weekly collection is \$3,600. The last Grand Annual collection, intended for capital projects, was reallocated to meet everyday expenses due to the shortfall. We anticipate the same action this year. The Archdiocese expects all parishes to be self-sustaining, and given the indebtedness of the Archdiocese, we cannot count on even short term financial support.

In the current fiscal year (2010), our parish must address a number of significant challenges. We provide salaries and benefits at the levels mandated by the Archdiocese. All parishes are required to pay annual assessments for Catholic schools and the Archdiocese Catholic Appeal. This year our school assessment is \$10,000, and our Catholic Appeal assessment is projected to be \$10,500. Any shortfall in meeting either of these assessments from parishioner contributions will be taken from our weekly offertory receipts by the Archdiocese. Costs to operate and maintain the buildings and grounds are increasing. Delays will most likely add to the ultimate cost of repairs. Most importantly, we must continue to fund the mission of our parish, including the Generations of Faith program. We cannot meet these obligations without an increase in parishioner financial support.

As you know, our parish is a Catholic faith community committed to helping everyone deepen their relationship with Christ. To continue our mission, we request every working family to increase its weekly contribution by \$5.00 or more. We invite any who are not contributing weekly to consider a one-time gift. We thank you for your commitment to our parish and its programs. With your continued support, we look forward to strengthening St. Isidore Parish. Sincerely yours in Christ,

David A. Doucet
Pastor

Charlie Corley
Vice-Chair,
Pastoral Council

Bill Oberlies
Vice-Chair,
Finance Council

St. Isidore Parish

Fiscal Year 2009

July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009

Financial Summary - ACTUALS

Income Statement

	2009 Actual	2009 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Income				
Offertory	184,759\$	216,500\$	(31,741)\$	-17%
Grand Annual	27,637\$	26,000\$	1,637\$	6%
Religious Education	23,902\$	26,825\$	(2,923)\$	-12%
Offerings, Gifts and Bequests	12,920\$	10,000\$	2,920\$	23%
Catholic Schools (2nd Collections)	6,482\$	5,344\$	1,138\$	18%
Other Income	1,549\$	2,644\$	(1,095)\$	-71%
Total Income	257,248\$	287,313\$	(30,064)\$	-12%
Expenses				
Compensation & Benefits	140,804\$	150,967\$	(10,163)\$	-7%
Maintenance & Repair	22,549\$	43,900\$	(21,352)\$	-95%
Pastoral & Liturgical	23,282\$	30,040\$	(6,758)\$	-29%
Office Expenses	23,665\$	26,663\$	(2,998)\$	-13%
Utilities	22,089\$	20,376\$	1,713\$	8%
Miscellaneous	14,861\$	16,500\$	(1,639)\$	-11%
Property & Liability Insurance	9,969\$	11,491\$	(1,522)\$	-15%
Debt Repayment	4,076\$	7,600\$	(3,524)\$	0%
Professional Development	1,836\$	4,636\$	(2,800)\$	-152%
Household	3,468\$	2,758\$	711\$	20%
Total Expenses	266,600\$	314,931\$	(48,330)\$	-18%
Net Loss	(9,352)\$	(27,618)\$	(18,266)\$	195%
Balance Sheet				
Jun 30, 2009	Jun 30, 2008	\$ Change	% Change	
ASSETS				
Total Checking/Savings	27,147\$	35,632\$	(8,485)\$	-31%
TOTAL ASSETS	27,147\$	35,632\$	(8,485)\$	-31%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Total Accounts Payable	15,368\$	17,596\$	(2,228)\$	-14%
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,009\$	1,953\$	(943)\$	-93%
Total Long Term Liabilities	52\$	52\$	-\$	0%
Total Liabilities	16,430\$	19,601\$	(3,171)\$	-19%
Equity				
Total Equity	10,717\$	16,030\$	(5,313)\$	-50%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	27,147\$	35,632\$	(8,485)\$	-31%

St. Isidore Parish

Fiscal Year 2010

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

Financial Summary - PROJECTIONS

Income Statement

	2010 Budget	2009 Actual	\$ Change	% Change
Income				
Offertory	184,800\$	184,759\$	41\$	0%
Grand Annual	26,000\$	27,637\$	(1,637)\$	-6%
Religious Education	23,902\$	23,902\$	-\$	0%
Offerings, Gifts and Bequests	10,000\$	12,920\$	(2,920)\$	-29%
Catholic Schools (2nd Collections)	6,500\$	6,482\$	18\$	0%
Other Income	3,725\$	1,549\$	2,176\$	58%
Total Income	254,927\$	257,248\$	(2,321)\$	-1%
Expenses				
Compensation & Benefits	143,013\$	140,804\$	2,210\$	2%
Maintenance & Repair	23,685\$	22,549\$	1,136\$	5%
Pastoral & Liturgical	19,691\$	23,282\$	(3,591)\$	-18%
Office Expenses	23,981\$	23,665\$	316\$	1%
Utilities	22,167\$	22,089\$	78\$	0%
Miscellaneous	13,371\$	14,861\$	(1,490)\$	-11%
Property & Liability Insurance	10,966\$	9,969\$	997\$	9%
Debt Repayment	-\$	4,076\$	(4,076)\$	0%
Professional Development	1,855\$	1,836\$	19\$	1%
Household	3,573\$	3,468\$	104\$	3%
Total Expenses	262,301\$	266,600\$	(4,299)\$	-2%
Net Loss	(7,374)\$	(9,352)\$	(1,977)\$	27%
Balance Sheet				
Jun 30, 2010	Jun 30, 2009	\$ Change	% Change	
ASSETS				
Total Checking/Savings	19,772\$	27,147\$	(7,374)\$	-37%
TOTAL ASSETS	19,772\$	27,147\$	(7,374)\$	-37%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Total Accounts Payable	15,368\$	15,368\$	-\$	0%
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,009\$	1,009\$	-\$	0%
Total Long Term Liabilities	52\$	52\$	-\$	0%
Total Liabilities	16,430\$	16,430\$	-\$	0%
Equity				
Fund Balance	10,717\$	20,069\$	(9,352)\$	-87%
Net Income	(7,374)\$	(9,352)\$	1,977\$	-27%
Total Equity	3,342\$	10,717\$	(7,374)\$	-221%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	19,772\$	27,147\$	(7,374)\$	-37%

*****HELP WANTED********Sponsorship for Special Parish Projects***

The initial sponsorship program of last year was a wonderful success. A number of parish families stepped forward to fund special and unique projects such as our new Parish sign, a replacement lawn tractor mower and upgrades to the church buildings. The entire parish community has benefited from their generosity.

Once again, the parish budget faces constraints. There are several projects that will not get addressed due to higher priorities. However, these projects have great merit and a direct impact on us as parishioners. Therefore, the Finance Council and the Buildings & Grounds Committee would like to again offer the opportunity for fellow parish members to perhaps honor a loved one via a special gift or to have the pleasure of seeing direct evidence of their support each time they attend a service.

Please consider one of these needed projects:

1. Staining of the front church doors. (Estimated cost is \$300). ***We have a parish family who has generously funded this project. Our sincere thanks for their gift.***
2. Roof flashing. This past winter we had water leaks in both sacristies and we need to prevent further water damage. Not a glamorous project but we all know that such maintenance is necessary. (Estimated cost is \$600.)
3. Replacement of stoop at back kitchen entrance to the rectory. It's a well used entrance by employees, volunteers and parishioners. (Estimated cost is \$400 for a new granite step.) **"A donation has been made by parishioners in the Butera-Moncreaff family, in honor of their daughter Emma Rose. This charitable donation will enable St. Isidore's to complete the repairs needed to replace the stairs/stoop to the back kitchen entrance of the rectory. Having compassion and performing charitable acts are of the utmost importance in teaching their daughter humanity, as well as the importance of giving back to her community."**
4. Thermal crack sealing of parking lot. (Estimated cost is \$780). ***Another parish family has offered to contribute \$350 towards this project. Are there any other families willing to contribute to this effort and get us closer to the total funding?***
5. Painting of high fascia boards of church, which includes the rental of a 60 ft ladder to get at the peak. (Estimated cost is \$1,660).

If you would like to financially support one of these projects in either a full or partial capacity, please contact Father Doucet or Dave Goulet (Buildings & Grounds Committee).

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

by Dianne Bergant CSA .



Who are the righteous? This is a question that holds little interest today. We are more concerned with the successful and the famous. We want people to be honest, at least in their dealings with us, but we are more apt to applaud those who are clever. We commend people for making a good deal, for knowing how to get ahead or striking it rich. We extol the beautiful, the strong, the self-assured, those who have made a name for themselves, those who entertain us. We encourage people to be ambitious. Seldom is popularity based on righteousness.

Yet righteousness is a pillar of the reign of God. Those who would enter that reign must be gentle and merciful, faithful and sincere, lovers of peace. They must be willing to take the last place, to be the servant of all. The righteous are not often held in high regard. They are often ridiculed and even persecuted. When they are considered a reproach to the standards of society, they may even be put to death.

There are times when we might be inclined to envy and resentment, not wanting to feel morally inferior, and we might relish the opportunity of putting the virtue of others

to the test. We may say that we want to draw forth their strengths, when we really hope their weaknesses will be revealed and they will prove to be no better than we are. Sometimes the righteous have nowhere else to turn but to Jesus, whose life they are following and into whose death they have been plunged.

© Dianne Bergant CSA www.liturgyhelp.com



SAVE THE DATE!!
Sunday, October 18th
11:30-1:00PM

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, Ice Cream and more will be available for purchase from vendors.

Activities will be announced in a later bulletin.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Please call Al DeBenedetto if you can help. (978)760-0309 or EMAIL at:

Powercut@comcast.net

LIFT-Catholic Worship for a new Generation

Join us for LIFT—an exciting monthly worship event which includes vibrant praise and worship music, dynamic, challenging speakers and Eucharistic Adoration. LIFT is for all ages—from young adults to teens to entire families. Be with us on Tuesday, September 22nd as we welcome Artie Boyle as our guest speaker. The evening runs from 7-9PM at Fontbonne Academy, 930 Brook Road, Milton, MA Directions and a downloadable flyer, along with more information about LIFT, can be found on our website at www.liftedhigher.com. Come join in worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!

ONE CLICK...



Go To:

www.askacatholic.com

AskACatholic.com is a Catholic support group of orthodox lay Catholics loyal to the Holy See and the Church's magisterium whose primary interest is Catholic apologetics and evangelization. The website answers questions and clarifies issues about what the Church teaches. Of special interest might be the article "12 Reasons I Enjoy Being Catholic".

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.

Altar Server Appreciation Mass

The Vocation Office will sponsor an Altar Server Appreciation mass for youth altar servers with

Cardinal Seán O'Malley

Saturday, October 31, 2009

11:00am

Cathedral of the Holy Cross

A "Make Your Own Sundae" social time with various religious orders will follow at the Cathedral High School Gymnasium.

Go to www.vocationsboston.org for more information and to register:

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.

"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.



**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 September 11-13, 18-20, 25-27 and October 23-25. For more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwmeMA.org



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 first session for the 2009/2010 academic year will take place on **Friday evening September 25 (6:00-9:00PM) OR Sunday evening September 27th (4:30-7:30 PM)**. Our topic for this month will be :

Caring for God's Creation

This year we will be exploring the many dimensions of *Catholic Social Teaching*.

Please be certain to RSVP on the parish website:

www.stisidorestow.org

If you are not 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