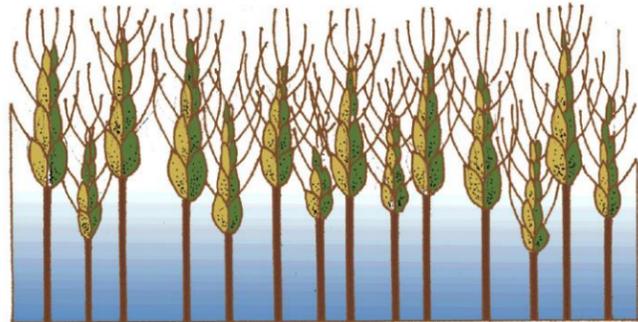


**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 16, 2017**

You have crowned the year with your bounty,  
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest.  
— *Psalm 65:12*



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**FRUIT OF THE WORD**

The seed is the word of God. The agricultural metaphors in all of today's readings give richness to the message that the word of God, cultivated in our hearts, bears much fruit in our lives. Creation itself awaits the redemption of all, even as our bodies await the resurrection. Just as we will rejoice in the fulfillment of God's word, so will all of creation sing for joy in the Reign of God. The word of God is effective and holy; it brings about exactly what it says. It is not futile or empty, but rich in meaning for those who hear and are healed. Those who hear the word of God and keep it will, with all creation, bear much fruit and sing for joy.

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**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — My word will achieve the end for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:10-11).

**Psalm** — The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest (Psalm 65).

**Second Reading** — We, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:18-23).

**Gospel** — Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit (Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>July 17</b>
8:00 am	Aleja Mandani (L)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>July 18</b>
8:00 am	† Arthur Ghiglieri † George Aquilina
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>July 19</b>
8:00 am	† Felisa Ouano
7:00 pm	† Simeon Santos † Josephine and † John O'Connell
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>July 20</b>
8:00 am	† Leo Bragagnolo
<b>Friday</b>	<b>July 21</b>
8:00 am	† Carol Egger
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>July 22</b>
8:00 am	† Coke Vannucchi
4:30 pm	† Prusso Family
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>July 23</b>
7:30 am	People of the Parish † Tessie, † Joseph and † Saviour Schembri
9:30 am	Italian Catholic Federation
11:30 am	Vassallo Family (L) Intentions
5:00 pm	

† Denotes deceased – (L) Living

**Sunday Collection July 9, 2017**

<b>Weekly Need:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>Sunday Collection</b>	<b>\$ 4,051.00</b>
<b>Over/Under</b>	<b>\$ 949.00</b>
<b>Archdiocesan Appeal</b>	<b>\$ 814.00</b>

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the "memo" section of the check. This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system. **We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**

**2017 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal**- our goal is \$48,470.00. To date our generous parishioners have pledged **\$34,225.00** leaving a balance of **\$14,215.00**.

**2018 Mass Intentions Now Available!**

**Please follow the guidelines below when sending in your Mass requests.**

Due to the large volume of Mass requests and in order to be fair to the needs of all our parishioners, the following is the Mass Book policy as set by Father Charito Suan, Pastor:

Initially, each parishioner can request up to **12 Masses per year. Only 4 of those Masses may be on weekends depending on availability. When requesting Masses please note: There is no longer a 5:30 pm weekday Mass or Holy Hour on the First Monday. There will no longer be a 8:00 am Mass on Wednesdays beginning January 2018.**

**We are no longer accepting individual Mass Intentions for the following days : Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, All Souls, Thanksgiving , Christmas Eve and Christmas. The intentions will be for the entire St. Elizabeth Community.**

Due to the volume of requests, **Masses cannot be reserved by phone or in person.** Requests must be submitted in writing.

Not all dates are available for Mass Intentions,so we ask that you be prepared with alternate dates and times. Wednesdays at 7:00 pm are available for multiple intentions. Any requests not following these guidelines will be returned to you.

**Once you receive your confirmation letter with your schedule of Masses, please make your check payable to St. Elizabeth Church. Please do not send payment with your request. Please allow time for processing. The monetary gift that has been suggested by our Archdiocese is \$10.00 per mass.**

**Thank you for your cooperation.**

**Bethlehem Art Works**

**Beautiful hand-made olive wood religious articles made by Catholic families in Bethlehem and Jerusalem will be on sale the weekend of July 22nd and 23rd after all Masses.**

[www.bethlehemartworks.com](http://www.bethlehemartworks.com)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Our parish program is for the religious instruction of children who attend public schools. Since religion is not allowed to be taught in public schools, where will these children go to learn about our Catholic faith? First and foremost, they are taught the Catholic faith by their parents. In partnership with parents, our program continues the mission of Jesus Christ, through faith formation of the students in the areas of prayer, scripture, sacraments, Church history, Church traditions, Church doctrines and ethical issues in a way that is understandable and meaningful to these young children.

The students are also prepared to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Our students participate in our monthly Family Masses, the Christmas children's Mass, the Feast of St. Elizabeth, the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz, Flores de Mayo and Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrations.

We have classes beginning in K all the way to 8th grade (English & Spanish) at which time they are ready to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Our classes are held every Saturday morning in Cantwell Hall beginning on September 9, 2017 until May 19, 2018. Our doors open at 8:30am to 10:30am (English) and 11:30am to 1:00pm (Spanish). Our fee is \$45.00/child which covers all books, all learning materials, sacrament receptions, sacrament gifts and many other things.

Registration forms and Family Handbooks are available at [www.stelizabethsf.org](http://www.stelizabethsf.org) or you can pick up a form at the Parish Office at 449 Holyoke Street, SF from 9:00am to 3:30pm, Monday to Thursday (closed on Fridays.)

We the teachers, parents and students, would also, like to thank all of you for your continued support of our parish religious program through the first Sunday of the month 2nd collection. Your generosity has helped tremendously to purchase the necessities to educate these children who are the future of our parish.

Thank you,  
Tessie Alano  
Religious Education Director