

WHEN YOUR BROTHER OR SISTER DIES

When a brother or sister dies everything changes in your family, in your life, and your dreams. Know you are not alone in your grief and loneliness. A Surviving Sibling Support Group is now offered at Saint John the Evangelist Old Parish Hall, 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, MA on the last Saturday each month for surviving siblings of all ages and for any reason. All are welcome to a safe place to share their story, find comfort, hope and encouragement as you continue a new path in life. Meetings will begin: Saturday, April 30 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and will continue to meet on the last Saturday of each month.

ENRICH YOUR MARRIAGE

What's the most important word in a marriage? What do you wish your spouse knew about you? What are the key ingredients to a healthy and happy marriage? Come listen to Dr. Allen Hunt from Dynamic Catholic answer these questions at the Passion & Purpose for Marriage event on Saturday May 21, 6:00 p.m., Christ the King Parish, Concord, NH. Co-sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. All are welcome! To register contact Debbie and Doug Sousa at 508-646-3902 or by email at enrichment@wmemma.org

THE EMMAUS MINISTRY FOR GRIEVING PARENTS

One Day Retreat

Saturday, April 23, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
St. John the Evangelist Parish, Chelmsford, MA

The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents, a recent Partner in Ministry with the RCAB, is offering a one-day retreat for Catholic grieving parents. The Ministry serves the spiritual needs of grieving parents whose children of any age have died by any cause—no matter how long ago. Overnight a parent's life changes drastically and dramatically. Questions of faith abound. For many parents, focusing on their spiritual grief journeys and the promise of eternal life is the only source of peace and comfort to be found.

The goal of the ministry and the RCAB is to offer one parent-led spiritual retreat for grieving parents in each of the Archdiocese's five regions once a year. To register and to find out details about this retreat and other upcoming retreats please visit <https://www.emfgp.org/registration/>



Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr. Walter Woods
Diahne Goodwin
John Morris
Robin Ulichney

Collaborative Pastoral Council

Fr. Walter Woods
Fr. Paul Sughue
Deacon Charlie Cornell
Diahne Goodwin
Steve Ryan
Paul McMahon
JoAnn Witek
Jan Ketonen
Amy Alexander Jussaume
Dan Armstrong
Janet Moroney

St. Elizabeth Committee Contacts:

Finance Council—John Morris
Building & Grounds—Bill Hart
Liturgy Committee—Mary Ryan
Consolation Ministry—Deb Lundquist
St. Vincent DePaul Society—Barbara Winders

St. Isidore Committee Contacts:

Finance Council—Bill Oberlies
Buildings & Grounds—Robin Ulichney
Liturgical Arts Committee—Alicia Bunnell,
Cathy Rose Hill
Social Committee—Al DeBenedetto
St. Vincent DePaul Society—Rick Connelly



St. Isidore Parish, Stow
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Acton & Boxborough

Celebrating God's love in Jesus Christ. Going forth to share it with all.



Second Sunday of Easter
April 3, 2016

Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.



A warm welcome to our visitors.
We are glad to have you among us!

If you are new to the parish, please let us know so that we can
welcome you personally!

The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach (Pope Francis, *Joy of the Gospel*, 28).

IT'S TIME TO TALK!

You are invited to a "Town Meeting"
of parishioners

The Collaborative Parish Council is hosting two town meeting-style gatherings for parishioners.

- Sunday, April 3, at 11:45 a.m. in St. Elizabeth's church hall.
- Thursday, April 14, at 7:00 p.m. in St. Isidore's church hall. (Handicap accessible)

The principal agenda is the pastoral plan that we are required to submit and the collaborative process in general. Parishioners are welcome to raise other topics as well. Light refreshments will be served.

Over the last 10 months, staff members and parishioners from both St. Elizabeth and St. Isidore Parishes have been developing a pastoral plan to guide the work of our collaborative over the next three years. Required of all collaboratives, the pastoral plan sets specific priorities, goals, activities, and benchmarks to help us stay focused on our mission and use our resources more effectively to accomplish it. Our draft pastoral plan is almost ready for submission to Cardinal Sean for his approval. These town meetings will be an opportunity to hear more about the plan and its importance, and engage in conversation about it. We encourage all to review the draft of the collaborative parish plan prior to the meeting. Hard copies are available in each parish. You can also access it through the parish websites, which also include a feedback form. Questions can also be sent to pastoralplan@applevalleycatholic.org.

THE COLLABORATIVE PASTORAL COUNCIL

At this time we need to replenish the membership of our collaborative pastoral council (CPC). The principal tasks of the CPC are to enhance communication and make suggestions concerning pastoral work; review the draft collaborative pastoral plan and assist with a reconsideration of parish activities in light of the pastoral plan once it becomes official. The normal term of service is 3 years, but a shorter period is possible. Please speak to Deacon Charlie, Diahne Goodwin, or Fr. Walter if you have questions or wish to serve on the council.



St. Elizabeth's Church
Friday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m.
All are welcome!

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Looking for a spiritual home? Do you desire to find meaning and purpose in life? We welcome you! If you have or if you know someone who has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic; has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized; was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, we are here to assist you. Please contact Diahne Goodwin to learn more and explore options.

RECONNECTING ...

Have you felt distant from the church? Are you wrestling with your faith in God? Are you seeking to fill a spiritual hole in your life? We are happy to meet with you to explore your questions and offer support and guidance along your journey of discovery. Please contact Diahne Goodwin at 978 263-4305 x13 or diahneg@applevalleycatholic.org if you would like to begin a conversation or seek more information.

A WONDERFUL WAY TO GET INVOLVED, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, AND SUPPORT YOUR PARISH!

- ♦ Music Ministry – children, youth and adult.
- ♦ Liturgy of the Word for Children.
- ♦ Liturgical Environment & Art Committee.
- ♦ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.
 - ♦ Lectors.
 - ♦ Altar Servers (youth and adult).
 - ♦ Universal Prayer Writing Ministry.
 - ♦ Hospitality Ministry.
 - ♦ Liturgy Committee.
 - ♦ Infant/Child Baptism Ministry.

OUR COLLABORATIVE STAFF:
Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Woods, STD
(wjw@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 15

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Paul Sughrue
(frpaul@applevalleycatholic.org), (781) 718-9433

Deacon: Charles A. Cornell
(cac@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 562-7447

**Personal Assistant to the Pastor/
St. Isidore Business Manager:**
Robin Ulichney
(robin@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 897-2710

Pastoral Associate/Collab. Dir. Pastoral Ministries:
Diahne Goodwin (diahneg@applevalleycatholic.org),
(978) 263-4305 ext.13, (adult formation, pastoral care,
RCIA, pastoral ministries)

Pastoral Associate: Steve Ryan
(sjryan@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305
ext. 21 (Bible Study, Funeral Planning)

Administrative Assistant: Janice Howes
(janice@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 10

Business Manager: John Morris
(john@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 11

Collaborative Director of Music: Andrea Goodrich
(andrag@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 12

Coordinator of Youth Ministries: Jim Flanagan
(jim@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 23
(High school ministry, Confirmation)

Director of Faith Formation: Barbara Dane
(barbara@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 16
(Faith Formation for Grades 5-8 and GIFT)

Coordinator Of Young Family Ministries:
Carmen Giombetti
(carmen@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 17
(Baptism - Grades K-4, First Eucharist)

Liturgical Coordinator: Mary Ryan
(mgr@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 35

Catholic Chaplain - Emerson Hospital
Timothy Duff - 978-287-3015



St. Elizabeth Parish:

ST. ELIZABETH

Hearing Loop Receivers are available for those who wish to listen through the Hearing Loop. Please see Mary Ryan before Mass, if you would like to try one.

OUR PARISHES:

St. Elizabeth of Hungary
89 Arlington St.
Acton, MA 01720
Phone (978) 263-4305
Fax: (978) 263-9014
www.seoh.org

St. Isidore
429 Great Rd.
Stow, MA 01775
Phone (978) 897-2710
Fax: (978) 461-0577
www.stisidorestow.org

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

St. Elizabeth Parish:
Vigil Mass: Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
First Sunday of the Month at 5 p.m. (Oct-April)

St. Isidore Parish:
Vigil Mass: Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Third Sunday of the Month at 5 p.m. (Oct-March)

Daily Eucharist this week:
St. Isidore—9:00 a.m., Wednesday-Friday.
St. Elizabeth—9:15 a.m., Wednesday-Friday.

For current information check the parish website or call the parish telephone number.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday, 4:00-4:30 p.m. (both parishes)

ST. ELIZABETH'S PRAYER LINE

Are you looking for a way to give back? Do you have 10-15 minutes a week to pray? We have an email prayer line that generates a few emails per week requesting prayer. It is amazingly comforting to know that a group of people are praying for you. We would love for you to join us! And, if you need a prayer, you can use the same email. We only use first names, or no name, to protect your privacy. Please email Cathy Griffin at cathleengriffin@comcast.net.

READINGS THIS SUNDAY (Cycle C)
Acts 5:12-16; Rv 1:9-11, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY (Cycle C)
Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19

MISSION TRIPS– SUMMER OF 2016

Olancho Aid Foundation—Juticalpa, Olancho – Honduras

June 13 to June 21—Cost - \$1200

Open to all graduating high school seniors, college young people and young adults.

Our Own Mission Trip Co-Sponsored with Young Neighbors in Action

Omaha, Nebraska

June 26 to July 2—Cost - \$850

Open to all young people presently in high school.

Catholic Heart Workcamp – Next Level Champaign, Illinois

July 3 to July 9—Cost - \$850

Open to all young people entering high school or older in the Fall of 2016.

Just5Days – Center for Ministry Development Springfield, Massachusetts

July 18 to July 22—Cost - \$400

Open to all young people presently in 7th and 8th grade.

Catholic Heart Workcamp N. Arlington, New Jersey

July 24 to July 30—Cost - \$650

Open to all young people entering high school or older in the Fall of 2016.

This trip is now filled. Applications are now waitlisted.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ELIZABETH

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 3/27/16:	\$ 125
Mail backs for Week Ending 3/26/16:	\$ -
EFT for Week Ending 3/26/16:	\$ 23,525
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 3/26/16:	\$ 23,650
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2015:	\$ 552,763
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2015:	\$ 537,505
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2015:	\$ 15,258

*Target is \$705,000 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.
Thank you very much!

During Triduum we collected \$15,053 on Easter towards the Clergy Benefit Trust; \$1,085 on Good Friday towards the maintenance of Holy Land Shrines; \$2,775 on Holy Thursday with more still coming in) in the Rice Bowl collection, going towards poverty, hunger, disease and emergency relief.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Isidore:

Saturday, April 2, 5:00 p.m.
Josephine Angelico

Sunday, April 3, 8:00 a.m.
Olive Dixie Mattina

Sunday, April 3, 10:30 a.m.
For the People of our two Parishes

Thursday, April 7, 9:00 a.m.
Special Intention

Friday, April 8, 9:00 a.m.
George Richard

St. Elizabeth:

Wednesday, April 6, 9:15 a.m.
David Grier, Memorial Mass

Thursday, April 7, 9:15 a.m.
John Howes, Anniversary Mass

Prayers for the Departed: Phyllis Pesare



CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

Total Offertory last Sunday 3/27/16:	\$ 305
Total EFT for week ending 3/27/16:	\$ 1,977
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 3/27/16:	\$ 2,282
Total Parish Support since 7/1/15:	\$ 172,974
Target Parish Support since 7/1/15:	\$ 179,400
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/15:	\$ (6,426)
Easter Clergy Benefit Trust Collection	\$ 5,941
Good Friday-Holy Land Shrines Collection	\$ 694
St. Vincent DePaul collection:	\$ 36

Thank you for your generous support!

ST. ELIZABETH BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we welcome Brooklyn Grace Jeanson, daughter of Aaron and Kaarin and Keith Esclandor Hazzard, son of Brian and Belkys, in the sacrament of Baptism. Please join us in keeping them in prayer as well as their parents and godparents as they continue to nurture them in a life of faith.



UPCOMING SACRAMENTS AT ST. ELIZABETH'S

- Sunday, April 3, 10:30 a.m. – Baptisms
- Saturday, April 30, 5:00 p.m.— First Communion
- Sunday, May 1, 10:30 a.m.—First Communion
- Sunday, May 8, 2:00 p.m. – Confirmation
- Saturday, May 14, 5:00 p.m.—First Communion
- Sunday, May 15, 10:30 a.m.—First Communion
- Saturday, May 21, 5:00 p.m. – Baptism
- Sunday, May 22, 2:00 p.m. – Confirmation
- Sunday, June 12, 10:30 a.m. – Baptism
- Sunday, June 25, 5:00 p.m.—Baptism

ST. ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

Many thanks to all of you who have contributed to the 2016 Catholic Appeal. Also, we would like to thank in advance all of you who are planning to contribute. Blue Catholic Appeal envelopes are still available at the entrances of the Church. It is also possible to contribute online by going to the web site <http://bostoncatholicappeal.org/> Once there click on the "Donate Now" button at the upper right of the screen. We hope to have reasonably accurate estimates of our progress from the Diocese soon and will publish them here once received. Thank you all again.

ST. ELIZABETH'S EASTER FLOWER FUND

We welcome your contribution toward the flowers and decorations that will adorn our church for the entire Easter Season. Please contact Mary Ryan at mgr@applevalleycatholic.org or at 978-263-4305 X35 if you have any questions.

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ towards the 2016 Easter Season Flower Fund. I am making this donation in memory of _____

(please print clearly)

I would like the above name/s published in the bulletin on the Feast of Pentecost. Yes__ No __

My name is _____

Check here to donate anonymously_____

Mail to: John Morris, 89 Arlington St., Acton, MA. Or, put it in an envelope marked 'Flower Fund' and place it in the collection basket.



YOUTH MINISTRY AUCTION QUILT RAFFLE

The Kentucky Derby Youth Ministry Auction will display a gorgeous multi-colored quilt made with love by the Women's Quilting group at SEOH. This spectacular work of art will be raffled at the Auction as well as after all Masses on the weekends of April 9/10 and April 16/17. Purchase one raffle ticket for \$5 and three tickets for \$10. All proceeds will support the Youth Ministry Auction.

ST. ELIZABETH'S PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held on Friday, April 8 from 10 – 11:30 a.m. in Room 4 of the Parish Center. All are welcome to attend.



THIS WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH:

Sunday, April 3

VBS Preview
9:00-10:30 a.m., Church Hall

Parish General Meeting
11:45 a.m., Church Hall

Youth Ministry Event
6:00-8:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Monday, April 4

Book Discussion Group
9:45-11:30 a.m., Parish Center Hall

Tuesday, April 5

NJ Mission Trip Meeting
7:00-8:30 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Wednesday, April 6

GIFT
5:30 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Thursday, April 7

Youth Choir Pizza, Prayer & Practice
7:00-8:30 p.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Friday, April 8

Prayer Shawl Ministry
10:00-11:30 a.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Taize Prayer
7:30-8:30 p.m., Church

Saturday, April 9

GIFT
6:15 p.m., Church Hall

Welcome

ST. ELIZABETH WELCOME & INFORMATION CENTER

Stop in at our Welcome and Resource center, located to the right of St. Elizabeth Church in the old rectory. It is a staffed place to be after Masses to stay connected, sign up for events, get Mass Cards, find a good book, etc.

2016 CORI SCHEDULE—ST. ISIDORE

All St. Isidore volunteers must fill out 2016 CORI forms. Personnel will be on hand after every Mass in April, beginning with the 5:00 p.m. Mass on April 9, in the work sacristy with the forms you need to fill out. Please remember to stop by and fill out a new CORI form.

ST. ISIDORE SOCIAL COMMITTEE WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our group of seven parishioners has been together for several years planning activities to bring our parish family together. We love what we do, but need more people to join our committee. We would love to have you join the group, or just consider volunteering for a particular event. We hope to use some of the wonderful ideas suggested in the past, but need more people to make these happen. Please contact any member to find out more or to join in! Thank you. Co-Chairs Al and Lauren DeBenedetto, Robin Ulichney, Marcia Mishley, Bill and Mary Ann Hofmann, and Doug Aylaian.
socialcommittee@stisidorestow.org

COLLABORATIVE VEGETABLE GARDEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Plans are underway for this year's Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative vegetable garden! We need many volunteers to start and maintain it, and then pick and deliver vegetables to the Acton and Stow food pantries. We welcome all from both St. Elizabeth and St. Isidore for both short-term and longer term help. Contact Robin at the St. Isidore office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



CAVE QUEST August 8—12

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Come hang out at VBS this summer at St. Elizabeth of Hungary's church and Parish Center. We've got it all— Games, bible drama, music, dancing and science fun.

ST. ISIDORE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS UPDATE

The Building and Grounds Committee is pleased to report that this has been a busy year of research and accomplishments, from reviewing contract proposals and making recommendations to Fr. Walter, to completing many projects ourselves. Because of, or perhaps inspired by, the storm damage incurred last winter, we contributed over 500 hours of work to restore St. Isidore's exterior, interior and grounds. Major projects completed in 2015 include:

- Removal of asbestos from the rectory.
- Insulation added to the rectory.
- Creating a meeting room in the rectory.
- Cleaning and painting of all rooms on the second floor of the rectory.
- Installing windows inserts in the doors of the rectory and the church.
- Replacing the church's flat roofs.
- Repairing and capping the church chimney.
- Repair of emergency lights in the church.
- Replacement of smoke detectors in the church.
- Removal of broken lights on the grounds.
- Tarring to eliminate tripping hazards on the grounds.
- Restarting the parish vegetable garden, nurtured by dedicated parishioners, and donating vegetables to the Stow and Acton Food Pantries.

Significant work has been accomplished during the past year. The committee continues to actively work on projects, as the parish buildings and grounds are over 50 years old and need similar repairs as one would need for a home. We truly appreciate all your financial support of St. Isidore, as it is this support that provides the foundation for our work. With your continued support, we look forward to keeping the buildings and the grounds of St. Isidore in good condition, as they are our "home" for parish activities, especially our Eucharistic celebration each Sunday.

Building and Grounds Committee: Robin Ulichney (Chair), Charlie Corley, Dave Goulet, Paul McLaughlin, Sandra Morales, Tom Moroney, Michelle Sinopoli and Gary Smith.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ISIDORE:



Sunday, April 3

Sunday Hospitality Today!
After the 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Masses, Parish Hall.

Tuesday, April 5

Choir Practice
6:30 p.m., Church

ST. ISIDORE'S EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL

In Memory of
James H. Molaskey



VIRTUS

There will be a Child Abuse Protection Training (VIRTUS) course offered on Wednesday, April 13, 6:30 p.m. in St. Isidore Rectory. Virtus is a one-time course required for everyone over 18 who registers with children or teens. If you plan to chaperone a mission trip this summer or work with Vacation Bible School and have not taken the class, this is a good opportunity to get that taken care of. Please register with Barbara Dane at barbara@applevalleycatholic.org.

ST. ISIDORE ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP

Saturday, April 9, 9:00 a.m.

Please consider helping us out for at least half the day and bring your garden tools. We'll be cleaning up and raking out gardens and the lawn, picking up leaves and twigs and doing minor pruning of garden bushes and trees. All who are interested in volunteering please contact Robin at the St. Isidore office.



Alleluia
Christ is risen!