

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: Faith is the anchor and force of life.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's 2nd Reading.

Step One: Listen to the Word

As you hear the words of St. Paul proclaimed in this reading, what strikes you most?
What word or phrase caught your ear?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: Jesus teaches us that our faith is powerful and with it, we can do great things. We can forgive, love, and share with others. Which of these do you do most often?

Question for Youth: The Gospel tells us even a little bit of faith is enough to make amazing things happen. How are you keeping your faith alive and growing? What good things happen in your life because of your faith?

Question for Adults: Being "in Christ" means living as Christ teaches. What signs do you see in your life of generosity, forgiveness, hospitality, or any other of Jesus' teachings?

Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr. Walter Woods
Diahne Goodwin
Deacon Charlie Cornell
Janice Howes

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

Collaborative Pastoral Council

Fr. Walter Woods
Fr. Paul Sughrue
Deacon Charlie Cornell
Diahne Goodwin
Steve Ryan
Paul McMahan
JoAnn Witek
Hayley Reynolds
Dan Armstrong
Janet Moroney
Carolyn Johnson
David Winders
Kim Tocci
Kevin Henry

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

Collaborative CAP Team Leader

(Child Abuse Protection)
Jack Deasy

*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.



Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 2, 2016

"Increase our faith."



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).

**Above all, trust in the slow work of God.
We are quite naturally impatient in everything
to reach the end without delay.
We should like to skip the intermediate stages.
We are impatient of being on the way
to something unknown, something new.
Yet it is the law of all progress that is made by
passing through some stages of instability and
that may take a very long time.**

**And so I think it is with you;
Your ideas mature gradually—let them grow,
let them shape themselves, without undue haste.
Do not try to force them on,
as though you could be today what time
(that is to say, grace and circumstances
acting on your own good will)
will make you tomorrow.**

**Only God could say what this new Spirit
gradually forming in you will be.
Give our Lord the benefit of believing
that his hand is leading you,
and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself
in suspense and incomplete.**

**Above all, trust in the slow work of God,
our loving vine-dresser. Amen.**

—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ
excerpted from [Hearts on Fire](#)



VIDEOS OF PRESENTATION NOW AVAILABLE

Videos of Fr. Walter's presentation to parishioners on Sept. 14 are now available on both parish web sites. A single video file (about 800 MB), suitable for viewing on a larger screen, contains the entire presentation. It has also been divided into six segments of about 15 minutes each. These lower resolution YouTube files (about 75 MB each) might appeal to viewers concerned about their data usage.

FALL BOOK DISCUSSION **Grace: God's Greatest Gift** by Bill Huebsch

In this powerful yet simple volume, Bill Huebsch leads readers to a deeper understanding of the theology of grace as it was articulated at Vatican II by Karl Rahner, S.J. Through his distinctive images and storytelling, Bill creates an unforgettable journey to the mystery and wonder of the divine heart rooted in everyday experiences. Grace, he affirms, is indeed God's greatest give to us. It is written with power, enthusiasm, depth, and disarming simplicity.

St. Elizabeth Parish Center
Monday Mornings 10 – 11:30 a.m.: Oct 17, 24, 31,
Nov 7, 14, 21, 28, Dec 5, 12 & 19

While an initial order has been placed, a second and final order will be placed on October 3. Please reserve your copy (for \$11) by October 2.

WANTED SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS



Come join the new contemporary group that will lead the musical prayer at the weekly Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass. Do you play drums? ...guitar? ...other instruments? Adults and high school students from both parishes are invited to join this new group with contemporary repertoire. Rehearsals are on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. Contact Andrea Goodrich andreag@applevalleycatholic.org 978-263-4305, ext.12 for more information.

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
(siryan@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
(andreag@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
www.stisidorestow.org

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

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

St. Elizabeth Parish:
Vigil Mass: Saturday 4 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

St. Isidore Parish:
Vigil Mass: Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Daily Eucharist this week:
St. Isidore—9:00 a.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
St. Elizabeth—9:00 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
3:00-3:30 p.m.—St. Elizabeth
4:00-4:30 p.m.—St. Isidore

READINGS THIS SUNDAY— Oct. 2 (Cycle C)
Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— Oct. 9 (Cycle C)
2 Kings 5:14-17; 2 Tim 2:8-13; Lk 17:11-19

ST. ELIZABETH 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 that are requests for prayer. It is amazingly comforting to know that a group of people are praying for you. Please email Cathy Griffin at cathleengriffin@comcast.net. 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.



ST. ELIZABETH & ST. ISIDORE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Our parishes St. Vincent de Paul Conference assists needy persons in our community by providing food vouchers, household goods, or other necessary help. The local Conference has been able to carry out its work of person-to-person charitable assistance only because of your generous support and it is more grateful for it. You can continue to help by placing your donations in the SVDP Offering box at the rear of the church, or sending them to the parish office.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ELIZABETH

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 9/25/16:	\$	4,825
Mail backs for Week Ending 9/24/16:	\$	1,866
EFT for Week Ending 9/24/16:	\$	23,657
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/24/16:	\$	30,348
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2016:	\$	171,345
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2016:	\$	174,810
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2016:	\$	(3,464)

Thank you very much!

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Isidore:

Sunday October 2, 9:00 a.m.
Raymond Goulet, Memorial Mass

St. Elizabeth:

Wednesday, October 5, 9:00 a.m.
Denis Androulakis, Memorial Mass

Friday, October 7, 9:00 a.m.
Betty and John Saganich, Memorial Mass

PERMANENT DIOCONATE INQUIRERS PROGRAM IS CHRIST CALLING YOU?

If you are discerning God's possible call to serve the Church as a minister of Charity, Word, and Sacrament as an ordained deacon in the Archdiocese of Boston, you and your wife are invited to take part in the upcoming Inquirer program. For more information go to <http://bostondiaconate.org/news.html> or contact Deacon Charlie at cac@applevalleycatholic.org.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

Total Offertory Last Sunday 9/25/16:	\$	2,225
Total EFT for Week Ending 9/25/16:	\$	1,983
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/25/16:	\$	4,208
Total Parish Support since 7/1/16:	\$	54,913
Target Parish Support since 7/1/16:	\$	59,800
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/16:	\$	(4,887)
Clergy Health and Retirement Trust Collection:	\$	25
St. Vincent DePaul Collection:	\$	105

Thank you for your generosity.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETING

Thursday, October 6, 7:00 p.m., St. Isidore
Thursday, October 20, 7:00 p.m., St. Elizabeth

Please join us for our Information Meeting for Reconciliation (confession) Preparation. The meetings will be identical in content and you are welcome to come to either meeting. We will discuss what is involved in the preparation process, and distribute informative materials.



FORMING DISCIPLES IN MISSION

A workshop in Parish-Based Evangelization
Coming to St. Elizabeth!

One-day workshop: Saturday, November 5
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

OR

Two evening workshops, dates to be confirmed in
late November (possibly 11/30-12/1).

Through discussions, presentation and Prayer, this workshop is designed to help participants:

- Grow in understanding of the new evangelization.
- Embrace living as an intentional disciple.
- Become comfortable in sharing your personal witness.
- Learn how to form disciples in your parish, and more.

This workshop is required for all staff, finance and pastoral council members and those who are involved in the various parish ministries. The Pastoral center has graciously offered to present this workshop locally, saving you a trip to Braintree or other possibly distant parishes. Register at <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=k5v4kyfab&oeidk=a07ed9m5rblfea241c5>

APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS IN THEIR 20'S & 30'S

Distributing Food on the Commons
Monday, October 10 (Columbus Day)

We will prepare and give lunches to people at Boston Commons. Meet us at 10:00 a.m. at St. Elizabeth to make sandwiches and carpool.

Women's Group: Paint Nite
Monday, October 17, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun evening of dinner and Painting! Sign-up through Paint Nite in advance in required. Contact Marie Hoff for more information. Meet us at 6:00 for dinner beforehand or come at 7:00 for the painting. We will paint at the British Beer Company at 149 Littleton Rd., Westford, MA.

A Night with Faith, Food, and Friends
Wednesday, October 19, 7:00 p.m.

Join us for dinner and faith conversation. Pay your own way. Meet us at The Halfway Café at 51 Main St., Maynard.

ONGOING EVENTS

**Scripture Study: First and third Sunday
of every month. Next date is:**
Sunday, October 2, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a free dinner and good conversation about the readings from mass. Meet us at the Parish Center at St. Elizabeth.

**Volunteer at Household Goods: First Sunday
of every month. Next date is:**
Sunday, October 2, 12:45—4:00 p.m.

Household Goods provides families with donated furniture and appliances to help them furnish their homes. Volunteers can either help families pick out goods or load their vans. Please contact Alicia Giannotti if this is your first time volunteering. Meet us at Household Goods at 530 Main St., Acton, MA Learn more about Household Goods here: <http://householdgoods.org/>

Get in touch! Contact us:

Alicia Giannotti—alicia.giannotti@verizon.net
Allan Jussaume—allanpauljussaume@gmail.com
Marie Hoff—mnhoff@bu.edu
Jim Flanagan—youngadults@applevalleycatholic.org

CORI DRIVE WEEKEND

October 22 and 23

Everyone who serves in ministries serving children or vulnerable adults must complete a Massachusetts CORI form each year. If you are new to either St. Elizabeth or St. Isidore, you must complete a CORI form before beginning any ministry that involves children or vulnerable adults.

CORI forms are available in the offices of St. Elizabeth and St. Isidore during regular office hours. However, we will also be offering an opportunity to complete forms after all masses at St. Elizabeth on the weekend of Oct. 22-23. Parishioners from both parishes may complete forms at that time. Please bring your license. If you have any questions, please contact our Child Abuse Protection Leader, Jack Deasy at jw.deasy@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH:

Sunday, October 2

GIFT

11:45 a.m.—2:15 p.m., Church Hall

GIFT

6:15—8:45 p.m., Church Hall

Gospel Scripture Reflection

9:15—10:15 a.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Monday, October 3

Book Discussion Group

10:00—11:30 a.m., Parish Center Hall

Wednesday, October 5

Cantor Rehearsal

7:00—7:30 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Music Ministry Rehearsal

7:30—9:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Thursday, October 6

Children's Choir Rehearsal

5:45—6:30 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Apple Valley Teen Choir Rehearsal

7:00—8:15 p.m., Church

ST. ELIZABETH "SUNDAY CAFÉ" NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We are thrilled and grateful to those who have signed up to help with our Sunday morning gatherings after Mass, newly dubbed, "Sunday Café." Our goal is to be able to begin this on a regular basis beginning October 9 and be able to offer this time every week, (except those weeks there are GIFT programs running). **We cannot kick this off until we have a chairperson or two willing to take on the coordination of the volunteers.** The chairperson/people coordinates and schedules volunteers, makes sure enough food and supplies are on hand and is the general liaison with staff. Once things are up and rolling, and a schedule in place, this should not take up too much time. With enough volunteers in place, the chair person will not have to attend every "Sunday Café." This could be a great role for a couple or a family looking to get involved. Please contact Diahne Goodwin or Janice Howes if you can help. Thank you!!

ST. ELIZABETH BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

A way serve to God and your Parish?

The St. E's Buildings and Grounds Committee is always looking for help in keeping the place running and orderly. If you have some small degree of expertise, like from doing B&G tasks in your own home for years, we will welcome and put your experience to good work here - small painting jobs, small plumbing jobs (replace a faucet, a washer, a flushometer), replacing a light switch, calling a few contractors for small repairs, etc. A small one time task, short term or longer term timeframes all welcome and appreciated. Please feel free to call, email or talk to John Morris, Business Manager (contact info in bulletin) or talk to another member of the B&G - Bill Hart, Kevin Burns, David Winders or Owen Neville. We have a good time. We do some good work. We welcome your help. Thank you.

ST. ELIZABETH AV MINISTRY

An Audio/Video minister is present at each Mass. He or she sits in the congregation and uses a mobile device to ensure that the sound quality is the best it can be. *We need more volunteers to serve about once a month.* Training is provided.

If you have any questions about the above or about our Hearing Loop, please see Mary Ryan (mgr@applevalleycatholic.org) before or after Mass or contact Dave Sacra (dsacra@verizon.net).

ST. ELIZABETH BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we welcome Susannah Grace Dailey, daughter of John and Kathryn in the sacrament of Baptism.

Please join us in keeping her in prayer as well as her parents and godparents as they continue to nurture her in a life of faith.



ST. ELIZABETH NEW CHILDREN'S ROOM NOW OPEN

It is a joy to see all our parishioners from youngest through the most senior members pray and celebrate together each week. It is especially inspiring to see young families doing their best to nurture the faith of the next generation. We also recognize that sometimes small children may need a break and infants have their own schedules! To that end we are happy to announce that The Children's Room, located downstairs in the room directly below the gathering space, is now equipped with live stream video and sound. This will provide a child friendly spot for parents and their young children to take those breaks, but also stay tuned into the Mass.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ISIDORE:

Wednesday, October 5

Children's Choir Rehearsal
3:30—4:15 p.m., Parish Hall

Cantor Rehearsal

7:00—7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

Music Ministry Rehearsal

7:30—8:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

Thursday, October 6

Apple Valley Teen Choir Rehearsal
7:00—8:15 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting
7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

ST. ISIDORE COFFEE AND DONUTS

Please join us for coffee and donuts following the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the St. Isidore Parish Hall. It is our goal to offer this community time every Sunday. However, volunteers are still needed to help. A sign-up sheet will be available on October 2 for all who can help. Or, call the Parish Office at 978-897-2710.



ST. ISIDORE BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Our next quarterly Baptismal Preparation meeting for parents of children to be baptized will be held in the work sacristy on Sunday October 16 following the 9:00 a.m. Mass.