

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: Holy Week — the mystery of our faith.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's 2nd Reading, with an eye to the Passion Narrative.

Step One: Listen to the Word

As you hear Paul's words to the Philippians, what touches your heart?
What phrase from this reading now lingers in your memory?

Step Two: Look into your Life

Question for Children: Share how you sometimes make sacrifices for the good of others.

Question for Youth: Today begins the holiest week of the year. It is a once-a-year opportunity to really reflect on Jesus life, death, and resurrection. How will you enter into this experience?
How will you be open to how you might be changed?

Question for Adults: Name one specific way that you live your baptismal call to enter into the death of the Lord by forgiveness, generosity, hospitality, or other ways.

Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr. Walter Woods
Diahne Goodwin
Deacon Charlie Cornell
Janice Howes

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
Kevin Henry
Carolyn Johnson—Prayer Coordinator
David Winders—Vice Chair
Kim Tocci—Secretary

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

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.



Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

April 9, 2017

*Christ became obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.*



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).

**THE SACRED TRIDUUM AT
ST. ISIDORE & ST. ELIZABETH**

Holy Thursday—April 13

7:30 p.m. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper,
St. Elizabeth.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Night Prayer

11:00 p.m., St. Isidore

Good Friday—April 14

9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer, St. Isidore

4:00 p.m.—Stations of the Cross, St. Isidore

7:30 p.m., Celebration of the Lord's Passion,
St. Isidore

Holy Saturday—April 15

No confessions today

9:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer with Blessing
of Easter Food, St. Elizabeth

8:30 p.m.—Easter Vigil, St. Elizabeth
(Please assemble in the parking lot for the
lighting of the Paschal Candle.)

**Easter Sunday—April 16
(Special Schedule) Masses:**

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m., St. Isidore
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon, St. Elizabeth
(No 5:00 p.m. Mass Today.)

Join us for our celebrations!

**Pray with our parish family. Let us together
recall the blessings and graces God has and will
pour down on us, his children.**

**EASTER COLLECTION
CLERGY HEALTH & RETIREMENT TRUST**

Next week, at all our Easter Masses, our only col-
lection will be to support the retirement, medical
and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of
Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in
advance for your generosity. For more information,
please visit www.clergyfunds.org



EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

The Masses on Easter Sunday are heavily attended,
and all seats are usually taken well before Mass
begins. If you wish a seat, plan to be here at
least 20 minutes early.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU!

This Lenten season, each Catholic parish in the Boston
Archdiocese will have confessions available every
Wednesday from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. If you have been
reluctant to come to the sacrament, have been away for
some time, or just find it difficult to get to a Saturday
afternoon confession time, this is a wonderful oppor-
tunity to reconnect with Christ and his Church. Haven't
been to confession in a while? Interested, but worry
you don't remember how to give a good confession?
No problem. A simple guide is available on the back
cover of our Lenten 24 Hours for the Lord guide or at
[http://www.bustedhalo.com/wp/wp-content/
uploads/2009/02/how-to-confess.pdf](http://www.bustedhalo.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2009/02/how-to-confess.pdf). And, our priests
are always happy to gently guide you through the expe-
rience. Come experience the joy of our Lord's mercy!

The light will be on for you at both parishes from
6:30-8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12.

HOLY THURSDAY SUPPER

Holy Thursday Supper provides the opportunity for all
to come together to begin these most important days
of the church year. The dinner will be served in St.
Elizabeth Parish Center Hall from 6:00-7:00 p.m. on
Thursday, April 13 followed by the Evening Mass of
the Lord's Supper at 7:30 p.m. The full buffet meal
will include ziti and meatballs, salad, bread, dessert
and beverages. The cost of the tickets will be \$8.00/
person, with a cap of \$30 family of 4 or more, children
under 5 free. Tickets can be picked up in the parish
offices or after Masses at St. Elizabeth this weekend.

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

Collaborative Director of Music: Andrea Goodrich
(andrea@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

ST. ELIZABETH HEARING LOOP

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



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

Easter Masses:

See special schedule for this coming weekend.

Daily Eucharist this week:

St. Isidore—9:00 a.m., Tuesday, Wednesday
St. Elizabeth—9:00 a.m., Monday, Wednesday

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

St. Elizabeth:
Wednesday 4/12, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
No confessions on 4/15

St. Isidore:
Wednesday 4/12, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
No confessions on 4/15

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

**READINGS THIS SUNDAY— April 9
(Cycle A)**

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66

**READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— April 16
(Cycle A)**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9



SAVE THE DATE!
Apple Valley Catholic Community
Vacation Bible School

August 7-11, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
 St. Elizabeth Church

Closing service and ice cream social
 August 10, 6:30 p.m., St. Isidore Church

For children age 4 by Sept. 1, 2017 through entering 6th grade. Stay tuned ... Preregistration evening coming soon. Volunteers welcomed: teens entering 7th grade up to adult.

Questions? Contact Co-Directors Lisa Lapinski (lisalapinski@verizon.net) or Sarah Burianek (sarahburianek@msn.com)

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

Household Goods, 530 Main St. (Rte. 27) in Acton, needs additional volunteers, especially furniture movers during the week. These volunteers assist both on the road (picking up donations) and at the facility in Acton (moving donations in and client furniture out to waiting vehicles). Must be 18 years or older and must complete a CORI check. Hours and days of the week are flexible. Whether you can spare as little as three hours a month, or a day or more a week, we invite you to join us in our mission to assist those in need in our community. For more information, please call 978-635-1710 x6 or visit their website: www.householdgoods.org.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ELIZABETH	
Total Offertory Last Sunday: 4/2/17:	\$ 4,693
Mail backs for Week Ending 4/1/17:	\$ 1,531
EFT for Week Ending 4/1/17:	\$ 713
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 4/1/17:	\$ 6,937
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2016:	\$ 541,716
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2016:	\$ 558,433
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2016:	\$ (16,717)
Preliminary target is \$715,000 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017.	
Thank you very much!	

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Isidore:

Saturday, April 8, 5:00 p.m.
 Magda Family, Memorial Mass

Sunday, April 9, 9:00 a.m.
 Mary Lou Frates, Memorial Mass

Tuesday, April 11, 9:00 a.m.
 Newton J. Taylor, Memorial Mass

Thursday, April 12, 9:00 a.m.
 Irma Florio, Memorial Mass

St. Elizabeth:

Monday, April 10, 9:00 a.m.
 Guy Balsamo, Memorial Mass

Wednesday April 12, 9:00 a.m.
 Elizabeth Dunne, 12th Anniversary Mass

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." Encourage the Holy Spirit to perfect your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekend is April 22-23 in Brewster, MA. For more information, contact Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963. www.WWMEMA.org.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE	
Total Offertory Sunday 4/2/17:	\$ 3,439
Total EFT for Week Ending 4/2/17:	\$ 1,665
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 4/2/17:	\$ 5,204
Total Parish Support since 7/1/16:	\$ 182,044
Target Parish Support since 7/1/16:	\$ 184,000
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/16:	\$ (1,956)
St. Vincent DePaul Collection:	\$ 46
Grand Annual (128% of goal)	\$ 43,682
Thank you very much!	

SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST TO OUR VISITORS THIS EASTER!

It is a joy to see the church filled with extended families, friends, and neighbors, all gathered together to celebrate the Risen Savior! Please join us in making an extra effort to welcome our visitors with a smile, a warm greeting and even a seat during our Easter Masses. A great sign of welcome is to move to the center of the pew so that others can easily find a place to sit. Your kind gesture or words of welcome may be just what someone needs to feel at home here and feel encouraged to come again.

INVITE A FRIEND TO CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK WITH YOU!

This Triduum and Easter, we invite you to take the opportunity to invite a friend! Is there someone you know who might be curious about these special Holy Days, or may want to come, but need a ride or may not know a lot of people and may not want to attend alone. Reach out and invite them! Share a ride, share your Faith. Make a difference!



BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

Holy Saturday, April 12
During Morning Prayer 9:00-9:30 a.m.
St. Elizabeth Church

We invite you to assemble a basket with eggs, bread, and traditional Easter foods and bring it to Morning Prayer on Holy Saturday morning to be blessed and then shared at your Easter Sunday dinner. In earlier times, meat and dairy products were excluded from the daily diet during the entire season of Lent. As the end of the strict approached, people showed their joy and gratitude by taking their food to church to be blessed to mark the end of the penances of Lent and the celebration of the Resurrection.

PALM SUNDAY
ENCOUNTER OUR NEIGHBORS
Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl

We encounter Jesus this week in Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter into our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, and others who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives? Visit crsrice-bowl.org for more information.

Please bring your Rice Bowl offering to the 7:30 p.m. Mass on Holy Thursday. Coin is accepted, but a check made out to 'SEOH' with 'CRS' in the memo line is preferred. Your offering will be collected and brought forward with the gifts of bread and wine during the Preparation Rite.

CATHOLIC APPEAL

Some great news: both of our parishes have met their goals for the 2017 Catholic Appeal! Many thanks to all of you who have already contributed. If you have not yet contributed, you may now do so online at Donating to Catholic Appeal or by filling out a blue pledge card, available at the rear of our churches, and placing it in the collection basket at any Mass. One significant value of contributions or pledges made after we have met our goals is that 65% of those dollars are returned to the parish.



COLLABORATIVE MUSIC CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 11

Collaborative Music Ministry Rehearsal,
7:00--9:00 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church

Wednesday, April 12

St. Isidore Children's Choir Rehearsal
4:00—4:45 p.m., St. Isidore Church

St. Elizabeth Children's Choir Rehearsal
5:45-6:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church

**SPRING BIBLE STUDY
PANORAMA OF THE NEW TESTAMENT**

The next Bible study offering in the collaborative is an overview of the whole New Testament focusing on how God's plan of salvation unfolds in Jesus. This study begins on Tuesday evening April 25 at the SEOH parish center and continues for four Tuesday evenings. Participation is open to all members of the collaborative. This study will provide a useful overview for newcomers to Bible study as well as people with experience. The cost for books is expected to be \$16-18. See the website for additional information on Bible study. Enrollment deadline is April 12. To enroll or ask questions, contact Steve Ryan sjryan@applevalleycollaborative.org or 978-263-4305 x21).

SPRING BOOK DISCUSSION

Between Heaven and Mirth

By Fr. James Martin, SJ
Beginning May 1

Mondays at 9:45 a.m., St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall
(May 1,7,14,21, June 5, 12,19)

TBD Thursdays at 9:45 a.m., Isidore Rectory

Father Martin reminds us that happiness is God's own goal for us. His book takes a look at how joy, humor, and laughter can change our lives and save our spirits. See Diahne Goodwin with Questions. All are welcome.



IMPORTANT MASS TIME NOTICE

In light of the 2:00 PM celebration of Confirmation Masses, there will be no Sunday 5:00 p.m. Masses at St. Elizabeth on May 7 & May 21. This will relieve additional stress on the presiders and ministers needed. Thank you for your understanding and patience with any inconvenience!

**ST. ELIZABETH
FUNERAL RECEPTION MINISTRY
ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Funeral Reception Ministry provides the opportunity for family and friends time to gather, share a meal and the gift of time together after the funeral or memorial Mass of a loved one without the worry of all the details involved. A team of a few volunteers welcome guests and serve the buffet meal provided by the family. Responsibilities include: set tables, put our food that family provides, arrange flowers, meet and greet and cleanup. Volunteers serve on their availability. No experience required only a desire to offer this compassionate service to those experiencing loss. To help with the Funeral Reception Ministry, please contact Janice, 978 263-4305 x10 or email janice@applevalleycatholic.org.

SUMMER 2017 MISSION TRIPS!

**Olancho Aid Foundation
Juticalpa, Olancho— Honduras
June 12— June 20**

**Our Own Mission Trip
Tuscaloosa, Alabama
June 26—July 2**

**Just5Days— Center for Ministry Development
Springfield, Massachusetts
July 17—July 23**

**Catholic Heart Workcamp
N. Arlington, New Jersey
July 23—July 29**



**ST. ELIZABETH
EASTER SEASON FLOWER FUND**

We welcome your contribution towards the flowers and decorations that will adorn our church for the Easter Season. Please complete the form below and mail it to the parish office at 89 Arlington St. Acton MA 01720 Attn: John Morris or put it in an envelope marked 'Flower Fund' and place it in the collection basket.



If you are making your donation in memory of a deceased loved one and wish to have his/her name published in our bulletin on the Feast of Pentecost, the end of the Easter Season, please check off the appropriate box on the form below. Contact Mary Ryan at mgr@seoh.org or at 978-263-4305 X35 if you have any questions.

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____
towards the 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 _____

Please check here if you would like your donation to be made anonymously.

**ST. ISIDORE
PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

The next Prayer Shawl Meeting will be on Monday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory.

ST. ISIDORE EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS



Envelopes are available at the church entrances for all who wish to make a donation for Easter Flowers as a memorial for a loved one. Memorial information MUST be submitted to the parish office no later than April 10 to be included in the Easter bulletin.

**TO BENEFIT ST. ISIDORE—
Maynard Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Dinner
Wednesday, April 19
7:00 p.m., St. Isidore Hall**

Maynard Council 2121, Knights of Columbus will host a pasta and meatballs dinner to benefit St. Isidore Parish. The meal will be catered by Flo's Catering. Admission is \$12 per person. Please contact Richard Horst at rsprtdwlf@aol.com or 978-201-3660 for information and tickets.

ST. ISIDORE CORI FORMS

For all who need to fill out CORI forms (new or renewal), volunteers will be available in the work sacristy after the 5:00 p.m. mass and in the church hall after the 9:00 a.m. Mass every weekend through the end of April (excluding Easter weekend).

SUNDAY CAFÉ

Please join us every Sunday for coffee and refreshments, time to catch up with friends & meet new friends!



St. Isidore after the 9:00 a.m. Mass

St. Elizabeth after the 10:30 a.m. Mass (except GIFT weekends)