

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: Only those who enter the banquet will share the reign of God.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel, the short version

Step One: Listen to the Word

As you listen once again to this familiar parable, what caught your ear in it today? What image lingers in your mind from this reading?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: Why is it important for you to do what Jesus asks of you?

Question for Youth: Each week we are invited to participate in Mass. When you are at Mass, how well do you really participate? How could you be more present in heart, mind, and spirit?

Question for Adults: Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words who will be welcome and why they will be welcome, at the eternal banquet of God.

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
JoAnn Witek
Hayley Reynolds
Carolyn Johnson
David Winders
Corrie Gladyszak
Nick Gladyszak
Maria Mpelkas
Ed Kelly

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
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-Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time
October 15, 2017*

*May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of
our hearts, so that we may know what is the hope
that belongs to our call.*



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).

FALL TEEN ALPHA!



OPEN TO ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUNG PEOPLE

Sunday, October 15 to Sunday, December 17
Immediately following the 5:00 p.m. Mass
until 8:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Parish Center Hall.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Information meeting and initial gathering
for parents and children
Sunday, October 29

10:15—12:00 p.m., St. Isidore church Hall
Or
3:15—4:45 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church Hall

Children who are age 7 or older (typically in second grade) are ready to prepare, with their parents, for the celebration of the sacraments of reconciliation and Eucharist for the first time. Preparation involves an integrated approach to parish and home life, worship and learning. The process includes participation in the GIFT sessions, Children's Liturgy of the Word and specific sacramental formation.

All the details for sacramental preparation will be covered at these meetings. After an opening together, we will do a separate activity just for the children while we meet with the parents to review the program and then bring the families back together to do joint activities to begin our preparation for first Reconciliation. Register your family on the forms found in the Resources for Discipleship Booklet (available in the back of the churches or downloadable from the parish websites, if you do not already have one).

THE INCREASED PARISH SUPPORT CAMPAIGN: MOVING FORWARD

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parishes have launched a campaign to increase the financial support that parishioners extend to their parish. In recent weeks both parishes have recruited volunteer leadership, updated parish records, and produced program materials. Members of St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Parishes will be invited to participate personally in this Campaign. We hope you will respond positively and with generosity.

Soon you will receive a letter from Father Walter that describes this campaign and the benefits it offers to our parishes and to those who participate. It is an opportunity for each of us to take an active role in supporting the good work of his or her parish and expand its ability to share the Lord Jesus with us and others. Fr. Walter will invite each parishioner to do this as a matter of good stewardship, using a portion of our God-given resources to support the mission of Jesus Christ.

On November 19, each parishioner will be asked to make a financial commitment to his or her parish. We respectfully ask those who can to increase their regular contribution as much as they can. Please consider your response prayerfully, in light of your resources, and out of concern for the needs and mission of your parish.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word opened this past weekend at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth. Led by a devoted team of volunteers, our children in grades K – 6 are invited to celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word during the Mass. It is a wonderful experience for the children. CLOW will be celebrated at St. Elizabeth the following dates this year: 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/10 and 12/17.

We are also hoping to build a team at St. Isidore to celebrate CLOW at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. CLOW volunteers must be Virtus and CORI certified. If you are interested in helping out with this important ministry, please contact Barbara Dane at barbara@applevalleycatholic.org or Joan Mattila at joan@applevalleycatholic.org.

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
(andreasg@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 Ministry: Joan Mattila
(joan@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-3205 ext. 17

Pastoral Ministries Administrative Assistant: Judy Richardson
(judy@applevalleycatholic.org), 978 263-4305 ext. 19

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

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

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 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 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

St. Isidore Parish:
Vigil Mass: Saturday 5:00 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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
St. Elizabeth:
Saturdays, 3:00—3:30 p.m.

St. Isidore:
Saturdays, 4:00—4:30 p.m.

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



READINGS THIS SUNDAY— October 15
(Cycle A)

Is 25:6-10a; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— October 22
(Cycle A)

Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21

**APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC
YOUNG ADULT GROUP: Ongoing Events**

Scripture Study

First and Third Sunday of every month until December 3. Join us for a **free** dinner and good conversation about the readings from Mass. Meet us after the 5:00 p.m. Mass at the Parish Center at St. Elizabeth.

Volunteer at Household Goods

Third Sunday of every month from 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 us if this is our first time volunteering. Meet us at Household Goods at 530 Main Street, Acton. Learn more about Household Goods at <http://householdgoods.org>. Join our Apple Valley Catholic Young Adult Group <http://www.facebook.com/groups/558137624339112/>.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Next week's second collection supports Catholic World Missions. By Baptism, all Catholics are called to participate in the mission of the Church and share their faith as missionaries. World Mission Sunday gathers support for the pastoral and evangelization programs and needs of more than 1,150 mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and remote regions of Latin America. The funds gathered on World Mission Sunday are distributed in the pope's name by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith—a Pontifical Mission Society. Please visit www.propfaithboston.org for more information.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ELIZABETH	
Total Offertory Sunday 10/8/17:	\$ 3,585
Mailbacks for Week Ending 10/7/17:	\$ 1,907
Total EFT for Week Ending 10/7/17:	\$ 4,229
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 10/7/17:	\$ 9,721
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 174,889
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 193,993
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ (19,104)
Thank you!	

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Elizabeth:
Friday, October 20, 9:00 a.m.
Daniel and Lucy Sweeney and
Maureen Sweeney Gallant, Anniversary Mass

St. Isidore
Saturday, October 14, 5:00 p.m.
The Mileski Family, Memorial Mass

**WORKSHOP ON VISITING THE SICK
Saturdays, October 21 & 28**

A workshop on Pastoral Care to the Sick and the homebound will be offered at Holy Family, Concord from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Timothy Duff, a certified chaplain, will teach the course.

The workshop will include a review of communication skills, the basics of pastoral visitation, key illness issues, spiritual needs and concerns, grief, loss and dying, and caregiving issues. Eucharistic ministers, pastoral visitors, parish nurses and others are encouraged to attend. Call 617 746-5843. Pre-registration is required. If there are fewer than 20 participants, the class will be canceled. Please register by October 17.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE	
Total Offertory Last Sunday: 10/8/17:	\$ 4,350
EFT for Week Ending 10/8/17:	\$ 1,680
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 10/8/17:	\$ 6,030
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 65,233
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 69,000
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ (3,766)
Hurricane relief	\$ 100
St. Vincent DePaul collection	\$ 156
Thank you!	

**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE FOR THE
FAITHFUL DEPARTED
Friday, November 3, 7:30 p.m.**

The month of November is a time when we remember those who have died. On Friday, November 3, the St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Communities will gather at 7:30 p.m. in St. Elizabeth's Church to pray with each other as we remember our family members and friends who have passed on to eternal life. This service of scripture readings, music, and reflective silence will offer an opportunity for those present to light a candle for those who are ever present in our hearts and minds. The Cursillo Group will host a reception following the service in the church hall.



COLLABORATIVE MUSIC NEWS

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choirs (grades 2-6) will rehearse Monday October 16, from 5:30—6:15 p.m. in the Church Hall at St. Isidore. Rehearsals in October will be at St. Isidore.

Collaborative Adult Music Ministry of St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Music Ministers will rehearse this week on MONDAY, October 16 from 7:30—9:00 p.m. in St. Isidore Church Hall. Rehearsals in October will be on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at St. Isidore.

Apple Valley Teen Ensemble rehearsal is on Wednesday October 18 from 5:30—6:45 p.m. in the Parish Center Hall at St. Elizabeth.

For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich at andreag@applevalleycatholic.org or 978-263-4305, ext.12.

**ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER (EFT):
EASY FOR YOU AND GOOD
FOR THE PARISH**

Have you ever thought about how difficult it would be to manage your bills if you did not have a predictable and steady income? That is the situation our parish can face when its income fluctuates, sometimes by thousands of dollars, on account of the weather or the impact of long weekends and vacation times.

We are most grateful for any gift that any parishioner gives at any time. However, giving via Electronic Funds Transfer has the virtue of increasing the reliability and predictability of the parish's income. Parishioners currently using EFT say that it is a great help to them as well. It allows them to budget the amount they give back to God and assures that their parish is receiving their support even when they are out of town or unable to attend Mass. In fact, many of you might notice that the parish is one of the few places where you still use cash or write checks. We invite those who are not yet giving via EFT to please consider doing so.

If you would like to learn more about this easy, safe and secure way of giving, please call the office at St. Isidore's (978) 897-2710 or at St. Elizabeth 978 263-4305, X 11.

**VIRTUS TRAINING AND CORI CHECKS
Protecting God's Children**

The Archdiocese of Boston mandates that all volunteers who minister directly to children or elders, or who have the potential for unmonitored access to children and must be Virtus (Child Abuse Protection) trained and must have a CORI check. Please sign up for Virtus training at least one week prior to each session. Register by contacting our CAP Team Leader, Jack Deasy at j.w.deasy@gmail.com or by calling Barbara Dane at 978-263-4305, ext. 16. Please leave your name, parish, the date you wish to attend and your email or cell phone number.

Sat., Oct. 21, 10:00 a.m., St. Isidore Rectory
Upstairs
Sat., Nov. 4, 10:00 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Parish
Center, Rm. 3

**APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC
YOUTH MINISTRY**

Serving Acton, Boxboro, Stow and Beyond

UPCOMING YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS

Teen ALPHA

Sundays starting on October 15 to December 17
5:00 p.m. Mass until 8:30 p.m.

Annual Mystery All-Nighter

Saturday, November 4 to Sunday, November 5
Cost - \$100.00 (Cost includes all activities –
transportation – food)

Friend's Thanksgiving Dinner

Monday, November 20
Starting at 6:30 p.m.

Serving Dinner at Cor Unum in Lawrence

Saturday, December 9
3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Advent Prayer

Wednesdays from November 29 to December 20
7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Christmas in the City

Set-up Day - Saturday, December 16
8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Party Day - Sunday, December 17
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Youth Ministry Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 27
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Apple Valley Catholic Youth Ministry



To ensure the safety of all children, we ask that parents accompany their children who go to the restrooms during Mass. The parish hall is used by the community at large and the doors are open during Mass. Thank you.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH

Sunday, October 15

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

Children's Liturgy of the Word
During the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Middle School Ministry
12:00—1:30 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Teen Alpha
6:30-9:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Monday, October 16

Morning Alpha
9:45 a.m.—12:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Finance Council
7:00—9:00 p.m., Parish Center, Room 1

Wednesday, October 18

Book Discussion Group
9:45—11:15 a.m., Parish Center Hall

Apple Valley Teen Ensemble
5:30—6:45 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Thursday, October 19

Evening Alpha
6:30—9:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

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 catheengriffin@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.



CURSILLO

More than just a retreat, a Cursillo (pronounced Cur-see-yo) weekend is a "Short Course" that lasts a lifetime, enriching your relationship with God, your family, and your community. It is a movement of the Church that promotes Catholic ideals, fellowship, and spiritual growth in daily living. Cursillo is an encounter with Christ. You won't see Him with your eyes, but you will come to know Him in a deeper way and become very much aware of his presence and His love for you. Talk to anyone who has made a Cursillo, they cannot really explain why they are so enthusiastic about it. They will tell you it is wonderful, it is the greatest experience of their lives—something they will never forget. They will tell you that you have to go through it to understand it, but they cannot tell you what it is. Why? Because it is a *living experience* and we all fall short in adequately explaining a living experience. For more information please contact Diahne Goodwin or Anita Sutherland (anitasuth@verizon.net).

*Upcoming Weekends at
Campion Center, Weston, MA*
October 26-29—Women
November 30-December 3—Men

Upcoming Weekends at St. Basil, Methuen, MA
November 2-5—Women
December 7-10—Men
January 4-7 2018—Women

ST. ELIZABETH SUNDAY CAFÉ
More volunteers needed!

It has been wonderful having the opportunity to linger and connect with each other after Sunday morning Mass! This is such an important part of building community and creating a welcoming place for both parishioners and visitors. We have many volunteers already committed to making this possible, but we **need more setup volunteers!** Currently there are not enough volunteers to continue having Sunday Cafe weekly. Set up occurs at 9:30 a.m. before Sunday mass and involves brewing coffee and putting out supplies. If you can commit to helping set up once a month, (or less if there are more volunteers!), please contact Carol Guerrero at cbrewer@rocketmail.com or 978 846-5972. Many hands make light work!

THIS WEEK AT ST. ISIDORE

Monday, October 16

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choirs
5:30—6:15 p.m., Church Hall

Collaborative Adult Music Ministry of St. Isidore and
St. Elizabeth Music Ministers
7:30—9:00 p.m., Church Hall

**ST. ISIDORE FAMILY ITALIAN NIGHT
& SILENT AUCTION EXTRAVAGANZA**
St. Isidore Hall

Saturday, November 18, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Enjoy an evening listening to Italian music while browsing our many Silent Auction items followed by a delicious homemade Italian dinner of Italian pasta, meatballs & vegetarian ziti. Gluten free will be available as well. Then enjoy a warm cup of coffee with a yummy dessert while listening for your name to be called as a winning bidder!

Reservations will be taken beginning the weekend of October 28 at St. Isidore after all Masses or by calling Lauren (see below).



Adults-\$7.50 • Seniors (60+)-\$6.00 • Children 5 to 18-\$5.00 • Under 5 FREE

WE NEED HELP! We need help serving dinner that night. Please consider volunteering to help us. We need four servers. Please get in touch with Lauren, 978 897-2599. All are welcome!

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