

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: I am the vine; you are the branches.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel.

Step One: Listen to the Word

When you hear the word proclaimed today, what phrase or image of the Gospel strikes you?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: How do you keep yourself connected to Jesus in your daily life?

Question for Youth: Jesus is the vine – we are the branches, connected to Him as our life-source. When do you feel most connected to Jesus in your everyday life? How can you go there more often?

Question for Adults: How does your own connection to Christ, the vine, affect your daily life? What image from this reading helps you see the importance of this connection to Christ?

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—Bill McHugh

St. Isidore Committee Contacts

Finance Council—Bill Oberlies
Buildings & Grounds—Robin Ulichney
Liturgical Arts Committee—Alicia Bunnell,
Cathy Rose Hill
St. Vincent DePaul Society—Mary LaPalme

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.



*Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 29, 2018*

*Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit.*



**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).

GENERAL MEETING ON A NEW MASS SCHEDULE

There will be a general meeting of parishioners of both parishes on Sunday, April 29, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Isidore Church Hall. The purpose is to set forth the criteria and goals that bear on a new Mass schedule, review the conversation so far, and gather additional comments and suggestions before a final decision is made.

Please join us.



THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST TO BE CELEBRATED WITH 55 CHILDREN AT PARISH MASSES

Please pray for the children who will receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist over the next several months at our parish Masses. We are most grateful to all of the parents who have worked with their children at home and accompanied them to the mini lessons and workshops throughout the year. Here is the schedule of the Masses where the sacrament will be celebrated:

- Sunday, April 29 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church
- Sunday, May 6 at 9:00 a.m. at St. Isidore Church
- Saturday, May 12 at 4:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church
- Sunday, May 27 at 9:00 a.m. at St. Isidore Church
- Sunday, June 3 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church

FIRST EUCHARIST FAMILY NEWS

First Eucharist Rehearsal on Thursday, May 3 at 5:30 p.m.—Children and parents (at least one parent must attend) will meet at St. Isidore Church to rehearse for the May 6 First Eucharist Mass.

With Gratitude—I would like extend a huge THANK YOU to Susan Giulietti for the many hours that she spent

FR. WALTER & FR. PAUL'S LAST MASS WEEKEND: MAY 26/27

Fr. Walter: St. Isidore Masses
Fr. Paul: St. Elizabeth Masses

Fr. Paul will be available in each parish after Masses to personally connect with people, with a special gathering at the Sunday Café's on the following weekends:

May 12/13 at St. Elizabeth
(Sunday Café at 11:30 a.m. on 5/13)

May 19/20 at St. Isidore
(Sunday Café at 10:00 a.m. on 5/20)

UPCOMING COLLABORATIVE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Confirmations:

May 13, 2:00 p.m. – St. Elizabeth

Baptisms:

June 3 — St. Isidore
June 17 – St. Isidore
June 24 – St. Elizabeth
August 12—St. Elizabeth

First Eucharist:

April 29 - St. Elizabeth
May 6 – St. Isidore
May 12 – St. Elizabeth
May 27 – St. Isidore

APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC YOUTH 2018 SUMMER MISSION TRIPS

THERE IS STILL ROOM FOR YOU....

Olancho Aid Foundation
Juticalpa, Olancho - Honduras
June 14 to June 21

Our Own Mission Trip
Corpus Christi, Texas
June 24 to June 30

Catholic Heart Workcamp
North Haledon, New Jersey
July 22 to July 28

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

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),
(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
(andreas@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: Joan Mattila
(joan@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 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— APRIL 29
(Cycle B)

Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— MAY 6
(Cycle B)

Acts 10:25-26; 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

PASSION & PURPOSE FOR MARRIAGE IS TAKING PLACE SOON!

Saturday, May 5 from 9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

What are the key ingredients to a happy, healthy marriage? Whether you're dating, engaged or happily married, this event will open your eyes to new and practical ways you can strengthen and enrich your relationship.

Join Dr. Allen Hunt for an inspiring event that will resonate with all couples. Through Hunt's humorous commentary and heartfelt real-life stories, you will discover how to fill your relationship with a passion and purpose that will change your life. This half-day event features live music and includes a free bag of Dynamic Catholic resources for every couple.

This event is taking place at St. Catherine of Alexandria, 107 N. Main Street, Westford and is being sponsored by the following:

St. John the Evangelist Parish (Townsend)
Our Lady of Grace Catholic Parish (Dunstable, Groton & Pepperell)
St. Anne-St. Catherine Collaborative (Littleton & Westford)

Tickets are \$25 per person and are available at the Parish offices of St. Catherine's Westford and St. Anne's Littleton. Tickets may be purchased online at www.dynamiccatholic.com (go to "Events" and select "Passion & Purpose for Marriage").

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT:
ST. ELIZABETH**

Total Offertory Sunday 4/22/18:	\$ 4,351
Mailbacks for Week Ending 4/21/18:	\$ 2,258
Total EFT for Week Ending 4/21/18:	\$ 27,497
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 4/14/18:	\$ 34,106
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 626,640
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 619,233
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ 7,408

Thank you very much!

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Elizabeth:

Monday, April 30, 9:00 a.m.
Norman Houle, Memorial Mass

Wednesday, May 2, 9:00 a.m.
Lee Schober, Memorial Mass

St. Isidore:

Saturday, April 28, 5:00 p.m.
Dick Quinn, Memorial Mass

Sunday, April 29, 9:00 a.m.
Robert Quinn, Memorial Mass

Tuesday, May 1, 9:00 a.m.
Mike McGonegal, Memorial Mass

Wednesday, May 2, 9:00 a.m.
Harry Farrell, Memorial Mass

Thursday, May 3, 9:00 a.m.
Mary Stronach, Memorial Mass

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

If you would like to have our weekly bulletin electronically sent to you, please email your request to: janice@applevalleycatholic.org



**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT:
ST. ISIDORE**

Updated collection numbers will be posted in next Week's bulletin.

COLLABORATIVE MUSIC CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 2

Music Ministers of St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth will rehearse on Wednesday, May 2 from 7:30–9:00 p.m. in the Parish Center Hall at St. Elizabeth.



LET YOUR OLD CLOTHES FEED THE HUNGRY!

The families at Gates School in Acton have organized a textile collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for OPEN TABLE, a non-profit food based organization dedicated to helping those in need in the local area. Open Table feeds over 425 people per week, including 85 kids.

The following items are being collected: Adults' and children's clothes, shoes and boots (tied together if possible) hats, belts, purses, backpacks, blankets, sheets and towels. ITEMS WITH RIPS, TEARS, AND STAINS are OK, but it MUST BE CLEAN AND DRY. Sorry, we are NOT able to accept stuffed animals, rugs, carpets, pillows, cushions, comforters or drapes. Please bring donations by May 13 to:

- 1) Acton Town Hall
- 2) The Acton Public Safety Department
- 3) Acton Memorial Library
- 4) Gates Elementary School
- 5) The Jr. High on 4/22, 4/29 or 5/6 while Chinese School is in session



For more information, contact konaness11@gmail.com between now and May 13.

There will be no Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass celebrated on May 13 at St. Elizabeth. There is a Confirmation Mass that afternoon.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Protecting God's Children is a one-time required class for everyone 18 years old and older who volunteers with children, youth, or the homebound. If you plan to chaperone a mission trip, help with Children's Liturgy, or assist at Vacation Bible School, you must be Virtus Certified and have a current CORI form on file. Virtus will be offered at St. Elizabeth on Tuesday, May 29 at 6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, June 12 at 7:00 p.m. Please register with our Child Abuse Protection leader, Jack Deasy at: j.w.deasy@gmail.com. CORI forms are available in the Parish offices Sunday - Thursday.

SAVE THE DATE!!

The Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative is proud to bring Mathias Michael to help us celebrate Pentecost this year in a very special way! On Sunday May 20, Mathias will join us for the Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth. At 7:00 p.m., he will lead us in beautiful praise and worship in the church.

Mathias Michael is a worship leader and singer/songwriter from Cocoa Beach, FL. Influenced by musicians like Matt Maher and John Mayer, Mathias has a relevant sound that appeals across generations. His music encourages listeners to seek a more personal relationship with Christ by recognizing His constant movement in our everyday lives. In the live setting, Mathias seeks to inspire communities to come together in song and worship, so they may experience the liberation and healing that comes from an authentic encounter with the Holy Spirit.

You don't want to miss this special event! For more information about Mathias, you can visit his website at:



<http://www.mmichaelmusic.com>

THIS WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH

Sunday, April 29

Texas Mission Trip Gathering
6:00-8:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Monday, April 30

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

Tuesday, May 1

Alpha
9:30 a.m.– 12:00 p.m., Parish Center Room 1

Wednesday, May 2

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

Music Ministers of St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth
7:30-9:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Thursday, May 3

First Communion Rehearsal
5:30-7:00 p.m., Church Hall

Alpha Connect Group
7:00-8:30 p.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Friday, May 4

First Communion Pot Luck and Rehearsal
5:30-7:00 p.m., Church Hall

PLEASE JOIN US AT ULTREYA

Ultreya will be held Friday evening, May 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Center with scripture, prayer, sharing and fellowship. All are welcome.

ST. ELIZABETH EASTER FLOWERS

Your contribution helps us provide the flowers and decorations that will adorn St. Elizabeth church for the *entire* Easter Season. Please complete the form below and mail it to the parish office at 89 Arlington St. Acton MA 01720 Attn: John Morris. You may also put it in an envelope marked 'SEOH Flower Fund' and place it in the collection basket at either parish. If your donation is in memory of a deceased loved one and you 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@applevalleycatholic.org or at 978-263-4305 X35 if you have any questions.

St. Elizabeth Flower Fund Donation

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. ELIZABETH MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

Almost every week we hear about one of our fellow parishioners who is not able to get to Mass due to temporary or long-term physical limitations. We miss them and they miss us! They also miss the opportunity to receive Christ in the Eucharist. We have a dedicated group of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who, in teams that rotate, are sent forth from Mass to visit the homebound, sharing the Word, prayers and bringing them Holy Communion. The requests are increasing, but the number of visitors hasn't been able to keep up with demand. We invite all who are curious about this ministry to be in touch with Mary Parrella, the coordinator, at yparrella@comcast.net. A great way to explore this ministry is to accompany a current minister on some visits to get a sense of what happens and to discern if you may be called to this ministry. We make visits after weekend Masses and also after weekday morning Masses. All Eucharistic Ministers need to be affirmed and commissioned by the pastor, but anyone can accompany a minister on a visit. Just 45 minutes of time can make a huge and positive difference in someone's week.

26th ANNUAL POPE ST. JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, May 21 at The Weston Golf Club

This premier charity event is held to benefit the educational program for the seminarians. Tuition covers only half the cost of educating a seminarian and the proceeds from this tournament will help bridge the gap and keep the cost of educating them affordable. The \$250 player entry includes lunch at the Club, 18 holes of golf with cart, and door prizes; followed by a social hour, silent auction and dinner at the Seminary for each golfer and a guest. To register, call Kate Folan at 781-899-5500 or visit www.psjs.edu/golf-tournament.



ROSARY AND COMMUNION VISITS TO THE NURSING HOMES

A very small team of very dedicated volunteers visit the residents at Life Care Center of Acton on the first and third Wednesday mornings of each a month and Robbins Brook on the third Tuesday morning of each month. During the visit, volunteers begin with leading residents in praying the Rosary. This is then followed by a Communion Service, led by trained Extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. After that, the EMs visit those residents who are unable to attend the gathering to provide them with Holy Communion (room visits occur at Life Care Center only). The volunteer ministers are sent forth from weekday morning Mass, just as the Homebound ministers are sent forth from Mass. For many who benefit from these visits, it is their only connection with the church and church community. The chance to pray and receive the Eucharist brings great comfort and peace. For those who have been visiting, often for many years, find the bonds and community shared truly a gift! This ministry is at risk of ending unless we get more volunteers - both Rosary leaders and Eucharistic Ministers. Our current team is small and is often challenged with scheduling issues related to illness, retirement, and other life commitments that pop up. Please prayerfully consider the possibility. Could you spare 30 – 60 minutes once a month to share your faith and prayers with these often forgotten members of our community?? We are looking for people to serve as Eucharistic Ministers or Rosary leaders (or both!). Please contact Diahne Goodwin if you have questions or you think you may be called to this beautiful ministry. We can also arrange a "job shadow" – you can come observe without commitment.

FUNERAL HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ST. ISIDORE

The funeral hospitality ministry is in dire need of bakers and servers. Serving involves a group of volunteers to set up tables/chairs, make coffee and set up donated baked goods and catered food on serving tables. This would not require a lot of your time but offers so much comfort to families experiencing the loss of a loved one. Please consider joining this wonderful ministry and contact Robin in the St. Isidore office to sign up.

EXTRA PARKING FOR ST. ISIDORE

Please note that there is extra parking space at the Center Elementary School (2 doors east of St. Isidore on Rt. 117). If all spaces are taken in the St. Isidore parking lot and on the street, please park at Center Elementary. We ask that you do not park on the grass or block the driveway and fire lanes in front of the church. Thank you.

CORI—ST. ISIDORE

All volunteers at St. Isidore must have a current CORI. For the month of April, after all Masses, volunteers can fill out new or renewed CORI forms in the Work Sacristy on Saturdays and the Church Hall on Sundays.

SUNDAY CAFÉ NEEDS YOU!

It is wonderful to have the opportunity to gather after Mass as a community to socialize and get to know each other better! Thank you to all who have made this possible! Can you shop? Can you make coffee and set up refreshments? Can you tidy up? Are you looking for a simple way to get involved in the community? It does not take too much to make any particular Sunday Café possible. However, it takes a team of people committed to helping to sustain it every week. Family groups, friends and individuals can sign up to help with any or all parts of Sunday Café. Many hands make light work. The more teams we have the fewer times each team needs to be assigned! Please contact the following coordinators if you would like to join these awesome groups!

For St. Isidore: Jill Smith
jillian_k_smith@yahoo.com
For St. Elizabeth: Carol Guerrero
cbrewer@rocketmail.com