

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**Theme:** God wants us to be just and right.

### Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's second reading, from James

#### Step One: Listen to the Word

As you hear this reading, what words or phrases strike you?  
What image comes to mind from this reading?

#### Step Two: Look into Your Life

**Question for Children:** In what specific ways do you share with the poor from what you have been given?

**Question for Youth:** Who are the people you have met who are against you? Are there people who persecute you because of your faith? How do you treat these people?

**Question for Adults:** In today's worldwide community, who are the rich and what does God want of them?

#### 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  
Carolyn Johnson  
David Winders  
Kim Tocci  
Kevin Henry

#### 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.*



## *Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*September 25, 2016*

*Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor,  
so that by his poverty you might become rich.*



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).

Dear Parishioners,



The major presentation I gave on Sept. 14 continues to prompt discussion and increased interest in the mission of the parish. At the same time, many have asked questions, cited issues, or inquired about next steps. A good number of you have spoken to me personally, promising your support and offering practical assistance. Thank you one and all.

Please be aware that several items from the presentation are now available on the two web sites, namely: the slides used, the contents of the Q&A cards submitted, and (hopefully by the time you read this) also a video recording of the presentation. These materials will be especially helpful to those who were not present, but would like to see and hear for themselves what took place. In addition, our collaborative pastoral council, pastoral leadership team, and the staff are also ready to do their part in this important work.

As I emphasized in the presentation, *it will take a long time* to reorient ourselves, our community, and our two parishes *from maintenance to mission*. So let us be committed, patient, and always resolved to move ahead faithfully and together. As always, I welcome your participation in the process and in the conversation that we have begun. Let us continue to walk together in service of the Lord's mission.

Fr. Walter

### THANK YOU!

On behalf of the priests of the Archdiocese of Boston, thank you to everyone who contributed to the collection last weekend for the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust.

### 2016 CATHOLIC APPEAL – THANK YOU!

Contributions to the 2016 Catholic Appeal have now exceeded both parishes' assessments. St. Elizabeth of Hungary and St. Isidore Parishes now qualify for a rebate equal to 60% of parishioners' contributions over and above their respective assessments. The amount of those rebates will increase as parishioners continue to fulfill their pledges or make new contributions. Thank you to all who support the 2016 Catholic Appeal!

## NEW COLLABORATIVE MASS SCHEDULE (Effective October 1, 2016)

### Daily Mass

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

### Saturday

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3:00-3:30;  
Mass: 4:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth  
  
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:00-4:30;  
Mass: 5:00 p.m. at St. Isidore

### Sunday Eucharist

9:00 a.m. at St. Isidore  
10:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth  
5:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth

### Pastoral Staff Presence

Members of our pastoral staff will now be routinely present and available in church before and after Sunday Mass in both our parishes (Saturday is TBD).

We will be able to connect with parishioners, and take care of routine requests such as Mass cards and registrations. Given this added availability and to be fair to our staff members, both parish offices will be closed on Fridays.

### CALLING TEEN MUSICIANS FROM ST. ISIDORE & ST. ELIZABETH

The Apple Valley Teen Youth Choir welcomes singers and instrumentalists in grades 7 – 12. This vibrant community of students from St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parishes will share their musical talents as leaders of sung prayer at the 5 p.m. Sunday Mass on the first Sunday of the month at St. Elizabeth. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7 – 8:15 p.m. in St. Elizabeth Church. For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich [andrea@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:andrea@applevalleycatholic.org) 978-263-4305, ext.12.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Collaborative Director of Music:** Andrea Goodrich  
[andrea@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:andrea@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 12

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

**Director of Faith Formation:** Barbara Dane  
[barbara@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto: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](mailto:carmen@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 17  
(Baptism - Grades K-4, First Eucharist)

**Liturgical Coordinator:** Mary Ryan  
[mgr@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto: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](http://www.seoh.org)  
[www.stisidorestow.org](http://www.stisidorestow.org)

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

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

**St. Elizabeth Parish:**  
*Starts next weekend 10/1*  
Vigil Mass: Saturday 4 p.m.  
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

**St. Isidore Parish:**  
*Starts next weekend 10/1*  
Vigil Mass: Saturday 5 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 a.m.

**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:  
*Starting next Saturday 10/1*  
3:00-3:30 p.m.—St. Elizabeth  
4:00-4:30 p.m.—St. Isidore

**READINGS THIS SUNDAY— Sept. 11 (Cycle C)**  
Am 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Tim 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31

**READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— Sept. 18 (Cycle C)**  
Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10



**GROWING IN FAITH (GIFT)  
NEXT WEEKEND**

**October 1**

St. Isidore Church Hall  
6:15 a.m.—8:45 p.m.

**October 2**

St. Elizabeth Church Hall  
11:45 a.m.—2:15 p.m.  
6:15 p.m.—8:45 p.m.

**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.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT  
ST. ELIZABETH**

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 9/18/16:	\$	4,350
Mail backs for Week Ending 9/17/16:	\$	1,217
EFT for Week Ending 9/17/16:	\$	711
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/17/16:	\$	6,278
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2016:	\$	140,997
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2016:	\$	145,140
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2016:	\$	(4,142)

Thank you very much!

Last week, parishioners donated \$2,170 towards the Clergy Benefit Trust for the health and retirement of our priests. Thank you.

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:**

**St. Isidore:**

Sunday September 25, 9:30 a.m.  
Robert DeMilia, Memorial Mass

**St. Elizabeth:**

Wednesday, September 28, 9:15 a.m.  
Henry Joseph Wall, Anniversary Mass

Thursday, September 29, 9:15 a.m.  
Miriam Devine, Memorial Mass

Friday, September 30, 9:15 a.m.  
Ross Musick, 15th Anniversary 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](mailto:cac@applevalleycatholic.org).

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT  
ST. ISIDORE**

Total Offertory Last Sunday 9/18/16:	\$	2,325
Total EFT for Week Ending 9/18/16:	\$	1,983
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/18/16:	\$	4,308
Total Parish Support since 7/1/16:	\$	50,705
Target Parish Support since 7/1/16:	\$	55,200
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/16:	\$	(4,495)
Clergy Health and Retirement Trust Collection:	\$	1,073
St. Vincent DePaul Collection:	\$	31

Thank you for your generosity.

**FALL BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS**

**Beautiful Mercy:**

*Experiencing God's Unconditional Love  
so we can Share it with Others*

Dynamic Catholic and Matthew Kelly have enlisted the help of twenty-six incredible authors who witness to the power of God's mercy, provide simple, practical tips on how to be an instrument of that mercy, and bring hope to anyone searching for deeper meaning in life. Free copies available.

Please Contact Diahne Goodwin,  
[diahneg@applevalleyCatholic.org](mailto:diahneg@applevalleyCatholic.org)  
if you would like to participate.

**St. Elizabeth Parish Center**

Monday Mornings 10 – 11:30 a.m.:  
Sept. 26 & Oct 3

OR

Sunday Evenings 7 – 8:30 p.m.:  
Sept. 25, Oct. 9 & 1

OR

**St. Isidore Rectory**

Thursday Mornings 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.:  
Sept. 29 & Oct 6

**COMING IN OCTOBER....**

**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

*Copies of the book can be reserved for \$10.50  
by September 30.*

**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.

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.

Get in touch! Contact us:

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

Check us out on Facebook! Join our Apple Valley Catholic Young Adult group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/558137624339112>

**CHILD ABUSE PROTECTION TRAINING**

Child Abuse Protection (Virtus) training is required for all volunteers, staff, and ministers 18 and older who will have direct contact with children or teens in the collaborative. You only need to take Virtus once and it can be completed in a single 2 ½ hour class. This year's Virtus sessions will be offered on a bi-monthly basis. The next session will be on Tuesday, September 27, 6:30 p.m., St. Isidore, Rosemary Corley. To register contact Jack Deasy at [jw.deasy@gmail.com](mailto:jw.deasy@gmail.com)

**APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
CONFIRMATION PREPARATION  
PROGRAM GATHERING**

**Sunday, September 25**  
7:00-8:30 p.m.,  
St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

### THIS WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH:

#### Sunday, September 25

Confirmation Preparation Program  
7:00—8:30 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Beautiful Mercy Book Discussion  
7:00—8:30 p.m., Parish Center Room 3

#### Monday, September 26

Beautiful Mercy Book Discussion  
9:45—11:30 a.m., Parish Center Hall

#### Wednesday, September 28

Music Ministry Rehearsal  
7:30—9:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

#### Thursday, September 29

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

Children's Choir Rehearsal  
5:45—6:30 p.m., Parish Center Hall

### ST. ELIZABETH BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we welcome Brendan Robert Riese, son of Christopher and Marie in the sacrament of Baptism.



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

### UPCOMING BAPTISM AT ST. ELIZABETH

Sunday, October 2, 10:30 a.m.

### ST. ELIZABETH COFFEE & COMMUNITY —“SUNDAY CAFÉ”

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 OF HUNGARY CHILDREN'S CHOIR BEGINS ON THURSDAY!

Children in grades 2 – 6 are invited to join this choir that will sing once a month at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 5:45 –6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center Hall. Come join the fun! For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich [andreag@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:andreag@applevalleycatholic.org) 978-263-4305, ext.12.

### 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](mailto:mgr@applevalleycatholic.org)) before or after Mass or contact Dave Sacra ([dsacra@verizon.net](mailto:dsacra@verizon.net)).

### 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.

Thank you to all who made this possible!



### AN IMPORTANT NOTE TO ST. ELIZABETH PARISHIONERS

The combined Mass schedule to begin in October requires us to resolve an inconsistency in liturgical posture, one that occurs during the Rite of Communion. When St. E's implemented the new Instruction for the celebration of Mass some years ago, it did not include a change in the assembly's posture during the prayer, “Behold the lamb of God ...”

The assembly at St. Isidore's has been following the correct posture all along, and now St. Elizabeth's needs to do so as well. Following the same correct posture will avoid the awkwardness that occurs when worshipers do different things at the same time. To be specific: the assembly kneels right after the words “... Grant us peace” and remains kneeling until the priest receives holy communion. Then everyone stands for the reception of holy communion—as both parishes have correctly been doing all along. We normally remain on our feet until the last person to receive holy communion has finished receiving. We'll make the changeover on October 1.

### THIS WEEK AT ST. ISIDORE:

#### Wednesday, September 28

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

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

#### Thursday, September 29

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

#### Saturday, October 1

GIFT  
6:15 p.m., Parish Hall

### ST. ISIDORE

October 2 following the 9:30 a.m. Mass  
Please join us for coffee and donuts  
in the St. Isidore Parish Hall.

Volunteers are still needed to help with Hospitality Sundays. A sign up sheet will be available on October 2 for all who are interested. Or, call the Parish Office at 978-897-2710.



### ST. ISIDORE CHILDREN'S CHOIR BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY!

Children in grades 2 – 6 are invited to join this group that will sing once a month at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. Rehearsals are Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall. A snack will be provided after school. Come join the fun! For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich [andreag@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:andreag@applevalleycatholic.org) 978-263-4305, ext.12.

### 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.