

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: We are all called to be children of the light.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel Reading.

Step One: Listen to the Word

What images do the words Light and Salt create in your mind's eye? When you hear and imagine those things, do you use your eyes and your taste buds when you hear them?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: What images do the words Light and Salt create in your mind's eye? When you hear and imagine those things, do you use your eyes and your taste buds when you hear them?

Question for Youth: How do you feel when Jesus says that YOU are the salt of the earth and that YOU are called to be the light for others?

Question for Adults: What specific efforts do you take to maintain your light?

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.



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 5, 2017

Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.



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).

UPDATE ON FR. WALTER

Fr. Walter is out of the hospital and making a positive but slow road to recovery. Thank you for all the prayers. He continues to express his gratitude for all the care and prayer sent his way— it helps! Many people have expressed a desire to send cards and well wishes. These can be mailed/dropped off at either parish and the staff will make sure he gets them.

Updates on his progress will be posted on the Caring Bridge website. If you would like to receive updates on Fr. Walter's health journey, communicate, offer your support and love, go to www.caringbridge.org. There you will be asked to register and type in Friend's name: Walterjwoods.



LIVING THE GOSPEL

Be the change

Gandhi, the great leader of the Indian independence movement, is credited with saying, "You must be the change you want to see in the world." He sought a life free from tyranny and violence and so led a movement of non-violent resistance. It's tempting to think that he may have been influenced by some of the teachings of Jesus because so much of his approach reflected Jesus' call for justice. The charge to be the light of the world that shines in the sight of all and sets an example for all is echoed succinctly in Gandhi's words.

To evangelize, therefore, it is necessary to open ourselves once again to the horizon of God's Spirit, without being afraid of what he asks us or of where he leads us."

EXPERIENCE ALPHA!

**Begins Thursday, March 2
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall
Dinner included and bring a friend!**

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. Over a series of weekly interactive sessions, the Alpha experience includes a meal, a short talk and time where people can share thoughts and questions. It is evangelization based on welcome and hospitality, sharing and prayer – all offered in a gradual, gentle and non-threatening way.

Alpha is for adults and young adults to help learn about and grow in their own faith, and foster an environment of life-long faith formation. In particular, it is attracting many young people who are asking the question, "Is there more to life than this?"

Alpha is great for:

- People who are curious about Christianity
- People who were raised in a church but have drifted away over the years
- Faithful people who want a safe place to talk about their questions and doubts, and grow in their faith
- Parents of all ages, wondering how to keep the faith in turbulent times

Check it out at our "Come and See" night
March 2, 6:30 p.m.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Center

There is no charge for this experience.

Sign up at: avccalpha@gmail.com

More info – alphausa.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
(siryan@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
(andrag@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 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., Wednesday, Thursday
St. Elizabeth—9:00 a.m., Friday

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

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

**READINGS THIS SUNDAY— Feb. 5
(Cycle A)**

Is 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

**READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— Feb. 12
(Cycle A)**

Sir 15:15-20; Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37

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.

DONATIONS NEEDED AT HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Household Goods, 530 Main Street (Rte. 27) in Acton, currently needs donations, especially kitchen/dining room tables, dressers/bureaus, coffee/end tables, countertop microwaves, toasters or toaster ovens, blenders and irons, like-new pillows, Queen-sized bedding: sheet sets, pillowcases, bedspreads and comforters. Donations are gratefully accepted on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon. Financial contributions to support the newly expanded facility are also most welcome. For more information, please visit their website: www.householdgoods.org.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ELIZABETH**

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 1/29/17:	\$ 4,487
Mail backs for Week Ending 1/28/17:	\$ 1,233
EFT for Week Ending 1/28/17:	\$ 713
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 1/28/17:	\$ 6,433
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2016:	\$ 423,994
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2016:	\$ 435,053
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2016:	\$ (11,059)

Preliminary target is \$715,000 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017.

Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Isidore:
Wednesday, February 8, 9:00 a.m.
Jennifer Anne Zupicich, 2nd Anniversary Mass

St. Elizabeth:
Friday, February 10, 9:00 a.m.
William Richards, Jr., Memorial Mass

Prayers for the Departed:
Fred Cavoto
Leo Hood III
Frances McGowan

DAILY MASS THIS WEEK

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



**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE**

Total Offertory Sunday 1/29/17:	\$ 2,364
Total EFT for Week Ending 1/29/17:	\$ 1,713
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 1/29/17:	\$ 4,077
Total Parish Support since 7/1/16:	\$ 143,001
Target Parish Support since 7/1/16:	\$ 147,200
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/16:	\$ (4,199)
St. Vincent DePaul Collection: 1/22/17	\$ 19
Grand Annual (127% of goal)	\$ 43,149

Thank you for your generosity!

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)

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN YOUR FAITH

Cursillo is a short course in Christianity which offers the participants a vibrant experience of the Christian Life and a method for living as an active member of the Church.

Archdiocesan Cursillo at the Campion Center, Weston, MA:

Women's Weekend: March 2-5, 2017
Men's Weekend: March 30-April 2, 2017

For information and registration, please contact Diahne Goodwin or check the Archdiocesan Cursillo Website: www.bostoncursillo.org or call Mrs. Mary Ann McLaughlin at the Office of Spiritual Life at 617-779-3640, or email at: spiritual_development@rcab.org.

Cursillo at the St. Basil Salvatoran Center, Methuen MA:

Women's Weekends: March 2-5 & May 4-7
Men's Weekends: April 6-9 & June 1-4

For information please contact stbasilcenter@comcast.net or John Prendeville, john_prendeville@harvard.edu.

COLLABORATIVE MUSIC CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 8:

7:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Collaborative Cantor Rehearsal, St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

7:30 – 9:00 p.m. – Collaborative Music Ministry Rehearsal, St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

Thursday, February 9:

5:45 –6:30 p.m. - St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choirs pizza party and rehearsal, St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

7:00-8:15 p.m.– Collaborative Teen Choir Pizza Prayer and Practice Room 4, St. Elizabeth Parish Center

CANCELLATION OF MASS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

If you don't have internet access, closings can be found on TV on Channel 4, WBZ. The names of closed institutions scroll continuously across the screen. Cancellation of Masses on Saturday evening or Sunday will be posted on the home page of the parish web site <http://www.seoh.org/> or <http://www.stisidorestow.org/> at least one hour before Mass is scheduled to begin.

Weekday morning Masses are canceled whenever the local high school cancels class or has a delayed opening. St. Isidore follows NRHS and St. Elizabeth follows ABRHS.



GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)

Saturday, February 11
St. Isidore Church Hall
6:15 p.m.—8:45 p.m.

Sunday, February 12
St. Elizabeth Church Hall
11:45 a.m.—2:15 p.m.
6:15 p.m.—8:45 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE!

**Collaborative
Annual Youth Ministry Auction**
Saturday, March 25, 2017
6:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.

Our youth mission trips are not possible without the support of our community, our volunteers and the funds raised at our auction. We need help from both St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth of Hungary communities to prepare for the auction and provide donation items. Please let Jo Jo Holton (jholton390@gmail.com) or Cathy Rudolph (rudolphcl@gmail.com) know of your interest.

The Apple Valley Catholic Youth Ministry Auction Committee cordially invite any parishioners who may want to join us to help plan our upcoming auction. "Many hands make light work." Any help, no matter how small, would be appreciated. We will be meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center Hall.



OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

How to get your offertory contribution to St. Isidore's or St. Elizabeth's when you're attending mass at the other church.

If you'd like to make sure your donation hits your home parish in our collaborative when you attend mass at the other parish, there are several ways to do this.

First, and best, sign up for EFT at your home parish. Once you're signed up you will not need to lift a finger regardless of which parish you're at - for one weekend or every weekend. Both SIP and SEOH have successful electronic giving programs. EFT is reliable, convenient and eliminates handling for parishioners, our volunteer offertory counters and our staffs. You can pick up a form in the church entrance before or after Mass.

Second, sign up for and use offertory envelopes from SIP or SEOH. Drop them in the basket and they'll make their way to the correct parish, along with the EFT signup forms.

Third. NEW! We designed special envelopes just for this purpose. They're in the front gathering space of each parish. Grab one or a stack of these, put your donation in the basket and it will make its way to the intended parish. There are pink envelopes (signifying St. Elizabeth's roses) in the lobby of St. Isidore. At St. Elizabeth's there are yellow envelopes for St. Isidore, the farmer (yellow = corn, sunflowers, summer squash, peppers, etc.). However you contribute, we want to honor your intentions and we want to thank you for your support.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH:

Sunday, February 5
Gospel Scripture Reflection
9:15—10:15 a.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Monday, February 6
Book Discussion Group
9:45—11:30 a.m., Parish Center Hall

Tuesday, February 7
Apple Valley Youth Ministry Auction
Planning Meeting
7:00—9:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Wednesday, February 8
Collaborative Pastoral Council Meeting,
7:30—9:00 p.m., Parish Center, Room 1

Thursday, February 9
Confirmation Reconciliation Service
7:00—8:30 p.m., Church

Friday, February 10
Prayer Shawl Meeting
10:00—11:30 a.m., Parish Center, Room 4

ST. ELIZABETH LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

Sunday, March 12, 10:30 a.m. Mass

At the opening of the 10:30 a.m. Mass, the children are invited to the front of the church to proceed to the church hall for the Liturgy of the Word for Children.

To ensure the safety of all children, we ask that parents accompany their children who go to the restrooms during Mass. The and the doors are open during Mass.
Thank you.



Friday, February 10
St. Elizabeth Prayer Shawl Ministry
10:00—11:30 a.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Monday, February 13
St. Isidore Prayer Shawl Ministry
7:00 p.m., Upstairs in the Rectory

GIVE TO THE ST. ISIDORE CHAPTER OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL AT NOT COST

If you buy things on Amazon.com, please now use www.smile.amazon.com so SVDP Isidore gets a cash bonus.

If you choose our charity, Society of Saint Vincent De Paul in the Archdiocese of Boston, we will get .5% of many things you purchase if you log into www.smile.amazon.com instead of www.amazon.com. Our bank account will get this .5% bonus at the end of every quarter.

There is no difference in what you see on amazon.com or the prices you pay on smile.amazon.com. To make it easier to get there log into: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3629339> This will set up your account to us.

PROJECT RACHEL Post-Abortion Healing Retreat

“God’s forgiveness knows no bounds” – Pope Francis.

The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a Come to the Waters of Healing one-day retreat. Winter/spring dates are March 4 and May 20. Location is confidential. Limited to ten participants. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508 651-3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.