

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT  
ST. ELIZABETH

Total Offertory Sunday 8/20/17:	\$ 2,851
Mailbacks for Week Ending 8/19/17:	\$ 2,941
Total EFT for Week Ending 8/19/17:	\$ 671
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 8/19/17:	\$ 6,463
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 73,989
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 83,274
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ (9,285)

Through your generosity two weeks ago we collected \$1,221 towards the Catholic Communications Campaign. Thank you very much.

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:

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.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT  
ST. ISIDORE

Updated collection numbers will be posted in the 9/10/17 bulletin.

READINGS THIS SUNDAY— August 20  
(Cycle A)

Is 56: 1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15: 21-28

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— August 27  
(Cycle A)

Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

“Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart.” Help encourage understanding hearts in your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are September 16-17 in Medway and October 21-22 in Contoocook, NH. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit <https://www.mema.org/>.

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

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

**Coordinator of Youth Ministries:** Jim Flanagan  
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(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)

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL  
TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE NEXT WEEKEND

The Maynard Knights of Columbus will be here next weekend as you exit Mass for their annual Tootsie Roll Drive. These donations assist people with intellectual disabilities, regardless of age and children with physical handicaps. All donations will be deeply appreciated.

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-First Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 27, 2017

*“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”*



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).

## COLLABORATIVE TOWN MEETINGS

St. Elizabeth Church, Monday, Sept. 11, 7:00 p.m.  
St. Isidore Church on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Both meetings will present the same content. On one level, it's about our faith formation and worship activities for the coming year. At a deeper level, however, it's about our personal call to become better disciples of the Lord, and the responsibility of the two parishes to reorient all efforts and activities to the mission of making faithful disciples and supporting each one in making the best possible response to the Lord. Parishioners are welcome to attend whichever meeting works better for them. Each will end by 9:00 p.m.

## FALL BIBLE STUDY THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

On September 12, the collaborative will begin a 10 week study of the Gospel of Matthew from the Little Rock Scripture series. Bible study starts at 7:30 pm in room 1 of the Parish Center. If you are interested in participating, please let me know via email by August 28th. Advance enrollment is necessary so I can ensure that sufficient texts are on hand. If you are unfamiliar with Bible study in a Catholic context and have questions, please email me. If a longer conversation than an email is necessary, I'd be happy to discuss with you so include a phone number so your questions can be addressed. Contact: Steve Ryan at 978-263-4305 x21 or via email.

## COLLABORATIVE MUSIC NEWS New days announced for choir rehearsals this fall!

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choirs (grades 2-6) will rehearse together on Mondays from 5:30-6:15 p.m. beginning on September 18.

The Collaborative Teen Choir and Band (grades 7-12) will rehearse on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:45 p.m. beginning on September 13.

Collaborative Adult Music Ministry will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 13 from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

We hope this helps with your fall planning. For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich at 978-263-4305, ext.12 or [andreg@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:andreg@applevalleycatholic.org)

## YOUTH MINISTRY APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY BACK TO SCHOOL COOK-OUT Sunday, August 28, 5:00—8:00 p.m.

We will start with the 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth. It will be a night of great food and fellowship. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

**All High School Youth Welcome!**

St. Isidore Parish Office will be closed  
through September 5.

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

### St. Elizabeth:

Monday, August 28, 9:00 a.m.  
George Sutherland, 13 Anniversary Mass

### St. Isidore:

Saturday, August 26, 5:00 p.m.  
Barbara Nevins, Memorial Mass

Tuesday, August 29, 9:00 a.m.  
Barbara Nevins, Memorial Mass

Prayer for the Deceased: Elizabeth Halvey

## FALL BOOK DISCUSSION

### *Saints Off the Pedestal: Real Saints for Real People* by Amanda Roberts

**Nobody's perfect!** *Saints Off the Pedestal* takes an in-depth look at the struggles of 10 well known saints, making them more relatable to today's audience. Author Amanda Roberts Delves into the real-life struggles and perseverance of saints, including **Saints Augustine, Thérèse of Lisieux, Peter, Francis of Assisi, Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Avila, Aloysius Gonzaga, Martin de Porres, Elizabeth Seton, and Katharine Drexel**, making the saints' stories more accessible and relatable to ordinary people.

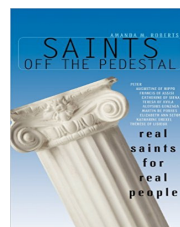
### Wednesday Mornings:

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Center, 9:54-11:15 a.m.,  
September 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25  
Sign up with Diahne Goodwin,  
[diahneg@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:diahneg@applevalleycatholic.org)

OR

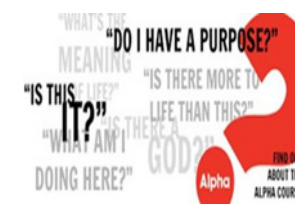
### Thursday Mornings:

St. Isidore Parish Rectory, 9:54-11:15 a.m.,  
September 28, Oct 5, 12, 19, 26  
Sign up with Anita Sutherland at [anitasuth@verizon.net](mailto:anitasuth@verizon.net)



The first session begins with discussion of introduction and chapters 1 & 2. If you would like a book ordered for you, for \$15 each, please reserve your copy with Diahne *no later* than September 6.

## ALPHA IS COMING!



**Alpha is a 10-week experience** that provides an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.

**Alpha is for everyone and anyone.** Alpha is a great introduction to the Christian faith, but also offers practicing Catholics an opportunity to grow and strengthen their relationship to the Lord. We come together with one another as we are, free to be ourselves. At each session we share a meal, we listen to a talk and then we gather in small groups for discussion. The Alpha course will be offered at a variety of times throughout the year.

**Come and See** what it is all about and sample the Alpha experience on **September 21 at 6:30 p.m.** in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall.

Fall Alpha for Adults: Monday mornings, 9/25—12/4 at 9:45 a.m. OR Thursday evenings 9/28-12/14, 6:30 p.m. Contact Barbara, Diahne or Jim, with questions or to sign up for the Come & See night, or [avccalpha@gmail.com](mailto:avccalpha@gmail.com). Preregistration is helpful but not required.

### NEW THIS YEAR~ TEEN ALPHA !!!

**Teen Alpha** is offered to all young people in Grade 9 and above. **Completion of a Teen Alpha is required for all Confirmation candidates in Grade 10 this year.** Teen Alpha will be offered at a variety of formats/times during the year - fall, winter and spring evenings.

### ALPHA HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for people to help with the hospitality component of our Alpha programs. This involves preparing and serving food and set up and clean up for the meals. The morning alpha will have light breakfast snacks, the evening Alphas will have meals. Please contact Barbara, Jim or Diahne if you can help!

## CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

Next week's second collection supports The Catholic University of America (CUA) and its scholarship fund for needy students. CUA, located in Washington, D.C., is the national university of the Catholic Church. Many priests and professional lay ministers throughout the US obtain their education from CUA. For more information, please visit [www.cua.edu](http://www.cua.edu).

## MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSIONARIES CONTINUE THEIR WORK LOCALLY - YOU CAN HELP!

Some of our middle school students attended the *Just 5 Days* Mission trip in Springfield, MA where they served at the Soldier's Home, a skilled nursing facility for veterans, in Holyoke for the week. So moved by their experience they came home inspired, committed, and dedicated in furthering their service to our veterans. To this end they have committed to work with Project 351, and assist the Massachusetts Military Heroes Fund by creating care packages for troops serving abroad and local veterans struggling with homelessness. This effort will be coordinated by 8th grader Michael Grega, the local rep. for P351. You can help by donating the following *travel size or single serve* items: Instant powdered drink mixes, Instant coffee (no decaf), instant powdered creamer, Lemonade powder, Gatorade powder, Bubble/chewing gum. There will be boxes in the back of St. I's and St. E's starting this weekend, ending August 27 for any donations you'd like to make. They are graciously welcomed and accepted with gratitude. All donations will be put to good use and used by the soldiers. If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask Michael at [mjg090502@gmail.com](mailto:mjg090502@gmail.com)! Thank you!

## 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](mailto: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.

Tues., Sept. 12, 10:00 a.m., St. Elizabeth Parish Center, Rm. 3  
Tues., Sept. 19, 7:00 p.m., St. Isidore rectory upstairs  
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

## LIVING THE GOSPEL

### Who do YOU say I am?

The question that Jesus asks the disciples is a question he asks of all of us. How we answer that question reflects our relationship with Jesus. But more importantly, how we answer that question reflects the way we live our life in response to who we believe Jesus to be. If we truly say that we believe in Jesus as the son of God, then how do we live our lives in such a way that we act on that belief? The gospel shows us that an inadequate answer to that question leads to missing the point of all that Jesus is.