

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ELIZABETH

Total Offertory Sunday 12/10/17:	\$ 4,415
Mailbacks for Week Ending 12/9/17:	\$ 7,367
Total EFT for Week Ending 12/9/17:	\$ 4,545
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 12/9/17:	\$ 16,326
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 321,385
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 322,287
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ (902)

Thank you very much!

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 12/10/17:	\$ 2,080
EFT for Week Ending 12/10/17:	\$ 2,064
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 12/10/17:	\$ 4,144
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$107,868
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$110,400
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ (2,532)
St. Vincent DePaul collection	\$ 289
Grand Annual	\$ 17,870

Thank you!

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

St. Elizabeth Parish: 12/23/17
12/23/17—Vigil Mass: Saturday 4:00 p.m.
12/24/17—Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

St. Isidore Parish:
12/23/17—Vigil Mass: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
12/24/17—Sunday 9:00 a.m.

12/25/17 - Christmas Mass Schedule (See inside this bulletin)

Daily Eucharist this week:

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

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Next week, at all of our Christmas Masses, our only collection will be to support the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, please visit www.clergyfunds.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
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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
(andreag@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) 263-4305 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

READINGS THIS SUNDAY— December 17
(Cycle B)

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— December 24
(Cycle B)

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a,16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

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.



The Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2017

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.



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).



Christmas Mass Schedule

St. Elizabeth:
 Christmas Eve—December 24
 4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day—December 25
 10:30 a.m.

St. Isidore:
 Christmas Eve—December 24
 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Day—December 25
 9:00 a.m.

As you would expect, many of our Masses are heavily attended. If you wish to have a seat, please arrive early.

SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST WITH OUR VISITORS THIS CHRISTMAS!

It is a joy to see the church filled with extended families, friends, and neighbors, all gathered together to celebrate the birth of our savior! Please join us in making an extra effort to welcome our visitors with a smile, a warm greeting and even a seat during our Christmas Masses. A great sign of welcome is to move to the center of the pew so that others may easily find a place to sit.

Your kind gesture or words of welcome may be just what someone needs to feel at home here and feel encouraged to come again!

COLLABORATIVE MUSIC NEWS

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choirs (grades 2 – 6) will rehearse Monday December 18, from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. in the Church Hall at St. Isidore. Rehearsals in December will be at St. Isidore.

St. Elizabeth Music Ministers will rehearse this week on Wednesday, December 20 from 7:30—9:00 p.m. in St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall.

Apple Valley Teen Ensemble will rehearse on Wednesday, December 20 from 5:30 – 6:45 p.m. in St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall.

CAROLS & COOKIES THIS WEEKEND Sunday, December 17, 2:00 p.m.



This wonderful parish collaborative event will start in the Church at St. Isidore at 2:00 p.m. where we will begin with a sing-along of Christmas carols and then gather downstairs in the hall for hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. There will be a separate, "nut-free" cookie table. We welcome donations of a dozen Christmas cookies to be dropped off in the hall prior to the caroling.

ALPHA— FOR EVERYONE AND ANYONE!

Alpha is an invitation to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. We come together with one another as we are, free to be ourselves. No pressure! No charge! Alpha runs in churches, homes and community locations all over the world. Alpha has 10 weekly sessions plus a day away and includes food, a short talk and time to discuss and share your thoughts. No need to commit up front—join us for a "Come & See" session and check it out!

Our Next "Come & See" night will be Sunday, January 28, 6:30 p.m., St. Isidore Church Hall.

Curious? Need more information? Contact any staff member, email avccalpha@gmail.com or check out www.alphausa.org.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the parishioners who bought gifts and gift cards for Warm Hearts of Stow and St. Mary's of Lynn. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and makes a big difference for many during this holiday season.

ST. ISIDORE'S CARDS OF CARE

Frank Pinney, father of Joyce Pinney our former Religious Director died on Sunday night. Any parishioners who wish to send a sympathy card can mail it to Joyce in care of the Parish Office at St. Isidore, and we will make sure Joyce receives them.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Elizabeth:

Wednesday, December 20, 9:00 a.m.
 Concetta Iacozzi, Anniversary Mass

Friday, December 22, 9:00 a.m.
 Frances Kelly, Memorial Mass

Prayers for the Departed: Anthony Ferrari, Jr.

St. Isidore:

Saturday, December 16, 5:00 p.m.
 Eugene McCarthy and Family, Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 17, 9:00 a.m.
 Peter T. Rooney, Memorial Mass

FIRST RECONCILIATION—FIRST EUCHARIST PREP. NEWS

Mini-Lesson on Sunday, December 17

We invite our children to work together with their parents on their "Go Seek Find" lessons, Chapters 7 and 8, at home. We will gather as a community and meet for our final mini lesson for First Reconciliation preparation on this Sunday, December 17 at Saint Isidore church hall at 8:30 a.m.

Join us for Carols and Cookies at St. Isidore Church this Sunday, December 17.

Please join us at 2:00 p.m. at St. Isidore Church for our Carols and Cookies event. Donations of a dozen cookies can be dropped off in the hall in the morning at our mini lesson or just prior to the event.

IMPORTANT DATE CHANGE: Our First Reconciliation Workshop and Rehearsal— Moved to Saturday, January 6, 5:00 p.m.

We will gather together after the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass for a wonderful pasta dinner in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall (downstairs from our staff offices). An invite has been sent out asking for your family RSVP and help from those who can bring salads, drinks, and desserts. After dinner we will have our workshop and First Reconciliation rehearsal. We will wrap up by no later than 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation Schedule.

The dates and on-line "doodle" sign-ups have been emailed to families this week. Please contact Joan Mattila: joan@applevalleycatholic.org if you have any questions.



Please take time each week to stop and notice the changes that take place in the stable at St. Elizabeth during our journey through Advent to Christmas!

HELP NEEDED TO PREPARE FOR ST. ELIZABETH CHRISTMAS MASSES

In a very short time period after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on December 24, we need to remove the Advent environment and neaten up and decorate the church for Christmas Masses. We also need people to serve as greeter, gift bearer, or pass baskets at any of our Christmas Masses. If you are able to help, please contact Mary Ryan at 978-263-4305 x35 or mgr@applevalleycatholic.org (preferred).

ST. ELIZABETH PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



St. Elizabeth's Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Tuesday December 19 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. in Room 4, St. Elizabeth Parish Center.

CHRISTMAS SEASON FLOWER FUND

We welcome your contribution towards flowers that will decorate our church for the Christmas Season. Please complete and mail the form below to St. Elizabeth Parish 89 Arlington St. Acton MA 01720 or put it in an envelope marked 'Flower Fund' and place it in the collection basket. 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 the Epiphany, please check off the appropriate box on the form below. Contact Mary Ryan at mgr@applevalleycatholic.org or 978-263-4305 X35 if you have any questions.

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ towards the 2017 Christmas 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 the Epiphany. Yes___ No___

My name is _____

Please check here if you would like your donation to be made anonymously. ___