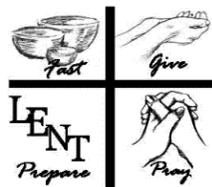


**LENTEN DAILY REFLECTION
RESOURCES**

Dynamic Catholic's "Best Lent Ever" is a free email program <https://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever>, that will guide you on an incredible 40-day journey to become the-best-version-of-yourself, making this a truly life-changing Lent.

Loyola Press' "Living Lent Daily" This Lent, come to know Jesus as a friend, and experience God's unbelievable love and generosity towards us with Living Lent Daily email series: https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/lent/living-lent-daily?utm_source=nonYOCsub&utm_medium=email&utm_content=lld&utm_campaign=lent2018.

Word on Fire's Lenten Gospel Reflections – Daily meditations <http://www.lentreflections.com/> with Bishop Robert Barron. Spend your time with Christ in the Gospel this Lent alongside Bishop Barron and the Word on Fire community.



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)

**Emmaus Ministry Retreat
For Grieving Parents who have Lost a Child
of Any Age by Any Cause**

Saturday, March 10, 9:30 a.m.—7:30 p.m.
St. Anthony Shrine Friary, 100 Arch Street, Boston

Join other parents and the friars for a retreat. Give yourself the gift of getting away for a day to focus on your own individual spiritual journey. Share as much or as little as you like. Experience peace and comfort in a safe, loving place, at least for a time. All are welcome. Dress is casual. Cost for One-Day Retreat: \$25 individuals; \$40 couples. Includes three meals, refreshments, and all retreat materials. Parking nearby is available at \$9 per day. To register or for more information, call Diane, Mother of Paul at 617-542-8057 or dmonaghan@stanthonyshrine.org. Or go to www.emfgp.org. Presented by the Emmaus Ministry at St. Anthony. Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parent.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: We must do what God wants.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's first reading from Exodus, the short version

Step One: Listen to the Word

What in this reading touches you? What line or word in this reading caught your ear?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: Share one way in which you "honor your father and mother."

Question for Youth: Jesus was angry – as we all get at times. When is your anger a good thing? When is it not?

Question for Adults: As you hear the Commandments proclaimed today, which one of them really strikes you?

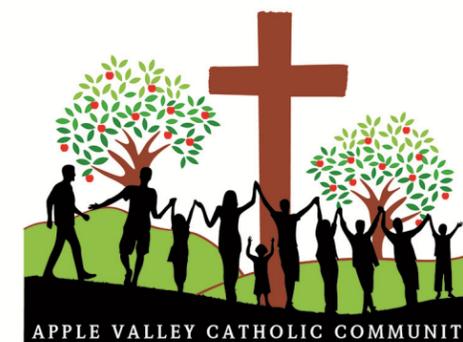
*St. Isidore Parish, Stow
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Acton & Boxborough*

Celebrating God's love in Jesus Christ. Going forth to share it with all.



*Third Sunday of Lent
March 4, 2018*

*Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.*



**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).

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD
Friday, March 9 - Saturday, March 10

The season of Lent is an especially graced opportunity to celebrate and experience God's abundant love and mercy. Since 2015, churches around the world have been offering intentional opportunities for people to come together over a 24 hour period to pray and seek God's mercy. In our collaborative, we too will be embracing this opportunity but in an even more expanded way.

The Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative Staff music ministry, faith formation and youth ministry teams have come together to prepare events that will engage a variety of ages, interests, and spiritual needs. The 24 Hours for the Lord will take place Friday evening March 9 through Saturday evening March 10. Events in both parishes will offer prayer in many forms, reconciliation, adoration, works of mercy, and community. Friday evening events will take place at St. Elizabeth and Saturday events will take place at St. Isidore, with the exception of a couple of off-site opportunities.

24 Hours for the Lord Overnight Vigil

From 11:30 p.m. Friday – 6:00 a.m. Saturday, in the peaceful quiet of the night, at St. Elizabeth Church, all are invited to spend any amount of time in prayer and reflection. Our collaborative youth and young adult ministry teams will be present to guide this retreat-style vigil time. This can be an especially rich time of deep encounter with the Lord. It will include a variety of prayer experiences - silent individual prayer, praying with others, journaling, inspirational music, rosary, meditation, and/or Stations of the Cross may be offered. Come for any amount of time!

Living and Praying the 24 Hours at Home

The 24 Hours for the Lord initiative is a time for *all* parishioners to focus on the Lord. Whether or not you are able to participate in any of the events, we hope that you will use these 24 hours to reflect on God's mercy in your life, rejoice in it, and find ways to extend it to others, especially through inclusion, accompaniment, and service. Not everyone can do every event – that is not the expectation. Some may not be able to leave their homes, even if it is their desire to participate. However, this does not mean we are not together in the journey Friday to Saturday. No matter where we are, we can come together with each other in solidarity through some simple awareness practices and prayer in the home. Some ways to stay connected, even at home might include:

Lighting a Candle. The light is a reminder of Christ's love for us, His presence and mercy in our lives. Let the candle be a reminder to pray and focus on the Lord these 24 hours.

Finding God in Nature. Whether through your window or from your porch or deck, take some time to notice the beauty of God's creation, anticipating the new life that Spring will bring for us all, just as we receive new life in Christ.

Reading the Bible and other spiritual resources. Reflect on the weekend's readings or other favorite passages. Use one of the many Lenten devotional booklets or on-line resources for inspiration. OR reach for a favorite inspirational book.

Praying in many ways. Using your own personal prayer, traditional prayers, the rosary, or simple quiet meditation. Pray alone or with others in your home. Make a point to spend some quality time together with the Lord.

24 Hours for the Lord—Get Your Program Guide Now

All parishioners are invited to participate and journey with one another during this sacred time. A guide will also be available prior to the start so that you can plan how to best spend your 24 hours. It is not necessary to do everything offered! Find a balance of activities that is right for you and your family.

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 : 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.



READING THIS SUNDAY—MARCH 4
(Cycle B)
Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25, Jn 2:13-25

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— MARCH 11
(Cycle B)
2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

**APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC YOUTH
2018 SUMMER MISSION TRIPS**

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

Cost - \$1500.00 (\$1300.00 with support of the Auction)

Open to all Graduating high school seniors, college young people and young adults.

**Our Own Mission Trip
Corpus Christi, Texas**

June 24 to June 30

Cost - \$1000.00 (\$850.00 with support of the Auction)

Open to all young people presently in high school.

**Just5Days - Center for Ministry Development -
Springfield, Massachusetts**

July 16 to July 20

Cost - \$550.00 (\$400.00 with the support of the Auction)

Open to all young people presently in 7 and 8 grade.

**Catholic Heart Workcamp
North Haledon, New Jersey**

July 22 to July 28

Cost - \$800.00 (\$650.00 with the support of the Auction)

Open to all young people entering high school in the Fall of 2018.

**Deadline to register for the Mission trips is
March 20.**

**Questions: please contact
Jim Flanagan - jim@applevalleycatholic.org**

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Elizabeth:

Monday, March 5, 9:00 a.m.
Edith Campbell, Memorial Mass

Wednesday, March 7, 9:00 a.m.
Mary and Frank Nestor, Anniversary Mass

Friday, March 9, 9:00 a.m.
Raymond Geis, Memorial Mass

St. Isidore:

Saturday, March 3, 5:00 p.m.
Stephen Orsatti, Memorial Mass

Sunday, March 4, 9:00 a.m.
Barbara Nevins, Memorial Mass

Tuesday, March 6, 9:00 a.m.
Molly and Eddie Aguilar, Special Intention

Wednesday, March 7, 9:00 a.m.
Vito DiBenedetto, Memorial Mass

Thursday, March 8, 9:00 a.m.
Special Intention



**COLLABORATIVE SERVICE PROJECTS:
HELP NEEDED**

A beautiful way to encounter the Lord is through service. We will be doing a Lenten Food Drive in both churches with the goal of collecting 500 bags of groceries for the Stow and Acton Food Pantries, as well as St. Martha's Food Pantry, which is a part of the Lazarus House Ministries in Lawrence. Thank you so much for bringing your groceries in this weekend. We have one more important job to do.

**Sorting and Delivery help is needed: Meet in the
Church Halls.**

St. Isidore, Saturday, March 10, 1:00 p.m.
for Stow Food Pantry

St. Elizabeth, Saturday March 10, 1:00 p.m.
for Acton and Lawrence

Large cars, vans, or trucks are especially helpful!!!

Please let me know how you would like to participate, if you can drive, and what kind of vehicle you have. Thank you! barbara@applevalleycatholic.org.

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

What is the Emmaus Walk?

For many people, one of the best ways to encounter the Lord is through nature. The order of God's creation makes us keenly aware of His love and purpose. An Emmaus Walk invites you to not only appreciate the beauty of God's creation, but also to share your faith with a friend or two as you hike through a path together.

During 24 Hours for the Lord, we will gather in a beautiful conservation area, pray together, and share our faith. Each small group will be given a few questions to discuss along the way. We will close with a group reflection on the experience. We'd love to have you join us.

Where: Heath Hen Meadow Brook Woodland Conservation Area, Stow, MA. Trailhead Location: East side of Boxborough Road, just north of its junction with Packard Road.

When: Saturday, March 10, 7:00 a.m. Breakfast to follow at St. Isidore Church Hall at 8 a.m.

Dress: Warmly and with good boots. It is likely to be muddy.

Questions? Contact Barbara Dane, barbara@applevalleycatholic.org

POT LUCK DINNER—PLEASE JOIN US!

At the conclusion of the 24 Hours for the Lord on Saturday, March 10, we invite you to join us and bring your favorite dish for a pot luck dinner after Mass in the Parish Hall at St. Isidore. Volunteers are also needed to help set up before and/or clean up after the dinner. Sign up sheets to note what dish you will bring and whether you can help are in the gathering areas of both Parishes. If you have any questions, please contact Robin at St. Isidore - robin@applevalleycatholic.org or 978-897-2710.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU!

This Lenten season, each Catholic parish in the Boston Archdiocese will have confessions available every Wednesday from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. If you have been reluctant to come to the sacrament, have been away for some time, or just find it difficult to get to a Saturday afternoon time, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and his Church. Haven't been to confession in a while? Interested, but worry you don't remember how to give a good confession? No problem. A simple guide is available on the back cover of our Lenten 24 Hours for the Lord guide or at: <http://www.bustedhalo.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2009/02/how-to-confess.pdf>, and our priests are always happy to gently guide you through the experience. The light will be on at both Parishes on Wednesdays, March 7, 14, 21 & 28.



RICE BOWLS

Third Week of Lent—Encounter Safiata

In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more. Rice Bowls are available in the gathering space at each Parish.

**Your Rice Bowl offering will be collected
at our Holy Thursday Mass.**

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

Total Offertory Sunday 2/25/18:	\$ 4,405
Mailbacks for Week Ending 2/24/18:	\$ 921
Total EFT for Week Ending 2/24/18:	\$ 26,132
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 2/24/18:	\$ 31,458
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 514,235
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 513,947
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ (288)

Thank you very much!

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE**

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 2/25/18:	\$ 3,053
EFT for Week Ending 2/25/18:	\$ 2,127
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 2/25/18:	\$ 5,180
Actual Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 165,537
Budget Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 184,392
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ (18,855)
Grant Annual Actual Year-To-Date	\$ 27,365
Grand Annual Budget	\$ 45,000
Over (Under) Budget	\$ (17,635)
St. Vincent DePaul	\$ 25

Thank you very much!

COLLABORATIVE MUSIC NEWS

New - Morning rehearsal beginning on Tuesday, March 6!

This group welcomes parents from both parishes with young children who would like to sing with one of the choirs on the weekend, but cannot attend evening rehearsals. Babies and children are welcome to attend a Tuesday morning rehearsal from 10 – 11 a.m. with their parents. This rehearsal is also open to those who don't like to drive at night. We will meet in St. Isidore Church Hall. Contact Andrea Goodrich at andrag@applevalleycatholic.org for more information.

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choirs will rehearse Monday, March 5 from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. in the Parish Center Hall at St. Elizabeth. Rehearsals during the month of March will be at St. Elizabeth.

Collaborative Adult Music Ministers of St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth will rehearse on Wednesday, March 7 from 7:00—8:30 p.m. in the Church Hall at St. Isidore.

Apple Valley Teen Ensemble—Pizza Prayer and Practice—will rehearse on Wednesday, March 7 from 6:00 – 7 p.m. in Room 4 in St. Elizabeth's Parish Center Hall.

Morning Choir will rehearse on Tuesday, March 6 from 10:00—11:00 a.m. in St. Isidore Church Hall.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please come to St. Elizabeth on Wednesday, March 21, from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. for a half hour of Eucharistic Adoration for the intention of an increase in vocations. We will be asking God to inspire more people to serve as sisters, priests, brothers, deacons and lay ministers.

CAN YOU HELP WITH HOLY THURSDAY SUPPER?

On Holy Thursday, March 29, from 6—7 p.m., at St. Elizabeth Parish Center, we will provide the opportunity for all to come together to begin these most important days of the church year with a spaghetti supper. The Mass of the Lords Supper follows right after at 7:30 p.m. in the church.

We are in need of volunteers to help sell tickets at both parishes after Masses on March 17, 18, 24, 25 as well as volunteers to help serve at the dinner. Please call Janice in the office or email Janice@applevalleycatholic.org if you can help. Thank you!

APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY AUCTION 2018

Back to the 80's – The Totally Awesome Auction



Saturday, March 17, 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Tickets are on sale after all Masses.

Auction Tickets are \$25 per person and available after all Masses beginning this weekend. The auction is a fun night out for adults featuring a cash bar, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts. See your friends, meet some new ones, bid on “totally awesome” items and support our youth! Please consider supporting the auction:

Purchase Event ticket: \$25/person

Purchase Raffle tickets: \$5/1 ticket, \$10/5 tickets, \$20/20 tickets.

Sponsor an ad: \$50/quarter page, \$75/half page, or \$150/full page.

Donate an item: Vacation homes, tickets to a sporting event, gift certificates to a local restaurant, homemade items, a ride on your boat, etc.

For more information, contact
Cathy Rudolph at rudolphcl@gmail.com or
Sandra Fallica at iam12go@hotmail.com

AN EVENING FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Dinner from Chipotle and Ping Pong Tournament
Monday, March 12, 6:30—8:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

Open to 11th and 12th grade young people from St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parishes.

Sponsored by the Apple Valley Catholic Youth Ministry Community.



THIS WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH

Sunday, March 4

Gospel Scripture Reflection

9:15—10:15 a.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Youth Ministry Auction Planning Meeting

7:00—9:00 p.m., Parish Center, Room 1

Monday, March 5

Book Discussion

9:45—11:15 a.m., Parish Center Hall

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choir

5:30—6:15 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Overview of Catholicism

7:00—9:00 p.m., Parish Center Room 1

Tuesday, March 6

Alpha

9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m., Parish Center, Room 1

Winter Teen Alpha

6:30—9:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Wednesday, March 7

Apple Valley Teen Ensemble-Pizza Prayer and Practice

6:00—7:00 p.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Collaborative Adult Music Ministers of St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth

7:00—8:30 p.m., Parish Center Hall

Thursday, March 8

Writing in Faith

9:30—11:30 a.m., Parish Center, Room 2

Alpha Connect Group

7:00—8:30 p.m., Parish Center, Room 4

Friday March 9—Saturday March 10

24 Hours for the Lord

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

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



FIRST EUCHARIST AND K-4 FAMILY NEWS

Please Join Us for Our “24-Hours for The Lord” Event!

There will be some wonderful family activities that are offered to enrich your Lent experience. Here are some highlights of family-friendly events. A complete schedule will be distributed at the Masses and is posted on our parish website.

Friday Evening (St. Elizabeth): Simple supper followed by quiet prayer, Taizé Prayer, and Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered until 10:00 p.m.

Saturday (St. Isidore): Emmaus Walk at Heath Hen Meadow in Stow, Coffee and Donuts, Family Stations of the Cross, Food Pantry Service Project (children and parents will sort collected items).

Next First Eucharist Mini-Lesson

We will meet with parent(s) and children on Sunday, March 18 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Church Hall. Parents are asked to review chapters 5-6 with their child before this session.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ISIDORE

Sunday, March 4

Alpha

6:30 p.m.

Monday, March 5

Building and Grounds Committee Meeting

7:00 p.m., Rectory

Tuesday, March 6

Morning Choir

10:00—11:00 a.m., Church Hall

Friday March 9—Saturday March 10

24 Hours for the Lord

To ensure the safety of all children,
we ask that parents accompany their children who go to the restrooms during Mass.
The parish hall is used by the community at large and the doors remain open during Mass.
Thank you.