

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: Jesus was speaking about the temple of his body.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel from John

Step One: Listen to the Word

As you listen to this Scripture story today, what is one word or thought that really struck you? What image do you take away from this reading?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: How does the church help "build up" your faith?

Question for Youth: How do your words and actions "build up" or "tear down" the Church?

Question for Adults: What does it mean to you that you have a choice of whether to "build up" or "tear down" the Church? In what way do you have *zeal* for the Church?

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
JoAnn Witek
Hayley Reynolds
Carolyn Johnson
David Winders
Corrie Gladyszak
Nick Gladyszak
Maria Mpelkas
Ed Kelly

St. Elizabeth Committee Contacts

Finance Council—John Morris
Building & Grounds—Bill Hart
Liturgy Committee—Mary Ryan
Consolation Ministry—Deb Lundquist
St. Vincent DePaul Society—Bill McHugh

St. Isidore Committee Contacts

Finance Council—Bill Oberlies
Buildings & Grounds—Robin Ulichney
Liturgical Arts Committee—Alicia Bunnell,
Cathy Rose Hill
St. Vincent DePaul Society—Mary LaPalme

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.



*Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 22, 2018*

*I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.*



**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,



Some weeks ago I noted that we will soon need a new Mass schedule. The principal reason is that our present schedule won't work with only one assigned priest in our collaborative. That will be the case once my successor, Fr. Jeff Archer, assumes office on June 1.

To prepare for that new situation, I assembled a small committee of parishioners to recommend a Mass schedule that would address the need starting in June. Their work has given rise to informal conversations and a discussion at a recent staff meeting. This overall process has surfaced some of the issues, implications, pros, and cons of various suggestions, including the priority of mission for all that we do. It has brought forth a reasonable but not entirely finished proposal.

Now it's time for parishioners to be brought up to date on the process and proposals so far and add their voices to the discussion. To that end, all are invited to a general meeting in St. Isidore church hall on Sunday, April 29 at 7 p.m. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Fr. Walter

EMMAUS WALK Sunday, April 22



Easter Greetings! May the peace of Christ be with you during this beautiful season! You may remember that we had to cancel the Emmaus Walk as part of the 24 Hours for the Lord event due to storm damage. We are happy to announce that the Emmaus Walk has been re-scheduled to a new date and location!

Date: Sunday, April 22, 3:30 p.m.
Location: Acton Arboretum
10 Taylor Rd., Acton
Light refreshments 4:15 p.m.
Mass at 5:00 p.m., St. Elizabeth

Parking is available at the site and across the street at the Acton Library. There is a shorter, accessible route suitable for wheelchairs and strollers--so everyone can participate! Find out more about the Acton Arboretum at: <http://www.actonarboratum.org/> For more information, please contact Barbara Dane at: barbara@applevalleycatholic.org.

THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST TO BE CELEBRATED WITH 55 CHILDREN AT PARISH MASSES

Please pray for the children who will receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist over the next several months at our parish Masses. We are most grateful to all of the parents who have worked with their children at home and accompanied them to the mini lessons and workshops throughout the year. Here is the schedule of the Masses where the sacrament will be celebrated:

- Sunday, April 29 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church
- Sunday, May 6 at 9:00 a.m. at St. Isidore Church
- Saturday, May 12 at 4:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church
- Sunday, June 3 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church

FIRST EUCHARIST FAMILY NEWS

First Eucharist Workshop Make-Up and Banner Making on Sunday, April 22 at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Center Hall. This will be a make-up workshop for those who either missed the entire event or who had to leave early and couldn't complete their child's First Eucharist pew banner. If you cannot make this date, please contact Joan Mattila.

First Eucharist Rehearsal on Thursday, April 24. Children and parents (at least one parent must attend) will attend a rehearsal on Thursday, April 24 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Church for the April 29 First Eucharist Mass.

APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC YOUTH 2018 SUMMER MISSION TRIPS

THERE IS STILL ROOM FOR YOU....

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

Our Own Mission Trip
Corpus Christi, Texas
June 24 to June 30

Catholic Heart Workcamp
North Haledon, New Jersey
July 22 to July 28

For more information, please contact Jim Flanagan
jim@applevalleycatholic.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

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
(andreas@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: 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.



READINGS THIS SUNDAY— APRIL 22
(Cycle B)

Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— APRIL 29
(Cycle B)

Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

PASSION & PURPOSE FOR MARRIAGE IS TAKING PLACE SOON!

Saturday, May 5 from 9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

What are the key ingredients to a happy, healthy marriage? Whether you're dating, engaged or happily married, this event will open your eyes to new and practical ways you can strengthen and enrich your relationship. Join Dr. Allen Hunt for an inspiring event that will resonate with all couples. Through Hunt's humorous commentary and heartfelt real-life stories, you will discover how to fill your relationship with a passion and purpose that will change your life. This half-day event features live music and includes a free bag of Dynamic Catholic resources for every couple. This event is taking place at St. Catherine of Alexandria, 107 N. Main Street, Westford and is being sponsored by the following:

St. John the Evangelist Parish (Townsend)
Our Lady of Grace Catholic Parish (Dunstable, Groton & Pepperell)
St Anne-St. Catherine Collaborative (Littleton & Westford)

Tickets are \$25 per person and are available at the Parish offices of St. Catherine's Westford and St. Anne's Littleton. Tickets may be purchased online at www.dynamiccatholic.com (go to "Events" and select "Passion & Purpose for Marriage").

We expect this event to sell out!

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Elizabeth:

Monday, April 23, 9:00 a.m.
Victoria Demers, Anniversary Mass

Wednesday, April 25, 9:00 a.m.
Dorothy Hunt, Memorial Mass

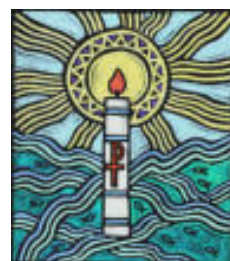
Friday, April 27, 9:00 a.m.
Margarite Scholzen, Memorial Mass

St. Isidore:

Saturday, April 21, 5:00 p.m.
Mary Lou Frates, Memorial Mass

Sunday, April 22, 9:00 a.m.
Marianna & Joseph Melone, Memorial Mass

Wednesday, April 25, 9:00 a.m.
Francisco Rodrigues, Memorial Mass



COLLABORATIVE MUSIC CALENDAR

Monday, April 23

Music Ministers of St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth will rehearse on Monday, April 23 from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Church Hall at St. Isidore's.



LET YOUR OLD CLOTHES FEED THE HUNGRY!

The families at Gates School in Acton have organized a textile collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for OPEN TABLE, a non-profit food based organization dedicated to helping those in need in the local area. Open Table feeds over 425 people per week, including 85 kids.

The following items are being collected: Adults' and children's clothes, shoes and boots (tied together if possible) hats, belts, purses, backpacks, blankets, sheets and towels. ITEMS WITH RIPS, TEARS, AND STAINS are OK, but it MUST BE CLEAN AND DRY. Sorry, we are NOT able to accept stuffed animals, rugs, carpets, pillows, cushions, comforters or drapes. Please bring donations by May 13 to:

- 1) Acton Town Hall
- 2) The Acton Public Safety Department
- 3) Acton Memorial Library
- 4) Gates Elementary School
- 5) The Jr. High on 4/22, 4/29 or 5/6 while Chinese School is in session

For more information, contact konaness11@gmail.com between now and May 13.



Thank you for your support!

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Protecting God's Children is a one time required class for everyone 18 years old and older who volunteers with children, youth, or the homebound. If you plan to chaperone a mission trip, help with Children's Liturgy, or assist at Vacation Bible School, you must be Virtus Certified and have a current CORI form on file. Virtus will be offered at St. Elizabeth's on Tuesday, May 29 At 6:30. Please register with our Child Abuse Protection leader, Jack Deasy at: j.w.deasy@gmail.com. CORI forms are available in the Parish offices Sunday - Thursday.

SAVE THE DATE!!

The Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative is proud to bring Mathias Michael to help us celebrate Pentecost this year in a very special way! On Sunday May 20, Mathias will join us for the Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth. At 7:00 p.m., he will lead us in beautiful praise and worship in the church.

Mathias Michael is a worship leader and singer/songwriter from Cocoa Beach, FL. Influenced by musicians like Matt Maher and John Mayer, Mathias has a relevant sound that appeals across generations. His music encourages listeners to seek a more personal relationship with Christ by recognizing His constant movement in our everyday lives. In the live setting, Mathias seeks to inspire communities to come together in song and worship, so they may experience the liberation and healing that comes from an authentic encounter with the Holy Spirit.

You don't want to miss this special event! For more information about Mathias, you can visit his website at: <http://www.mmichaelmusic.com>.



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

Total Offertory Sunday 4/15/18:	\$ 3,985
Mailbacks for Week Ending 4/14/18:	\$ 1,789
Total EFT for Week Ending 4/14/18:	\$ 567
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 4/14/18:	\$ 6,341
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 593,154
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 586,949
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	\$ 6,205

Thank you very much!

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

Total Offertory Sunday 4/15/18:	\$ 1,816
Total EFT for Week Ending 4/15/18:	\$ 1,922
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 4/15/18:	\$ 3,738
Total Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 201,822
Target Parish Support since 7/1/17:	\$ 217,167
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/17:	(\$ 15,345)
St. Vincent DePaul Collection:	\$ 20

Thank you very much!

GENERAL MEETING ON A NEW MASS SCHEDULE

There will be a general meeting of parishioners of both parishes on Sunday, April 29, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Isidore Church Hall. The purpose is to set forth the criteria and goals that bear on a new Mass schedule, review the conversation so far, and gather additional comments and suggestions before a final decision is made. Please join us.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ELIZABETH

Monday, April 23

Book Discussion

9:45-11:15 a.m., Parish Center Hall

Finance Council

7:00-9:00 p.m., Parish Center Room 1

Tuesday, April 24

Alpha

9:30 a.m.– 12:00 p.m., Parish Center Room 4

New Jersey Pre-Trip Gathering

7:00-9:00 p.m., Parish Center Hall

ST. ELIZABETH MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

Almost every week we hear about one of our fellow parishioners who is not able to get to Mass due to temporary or long-term physical limitations. We miss them and they miss us! They also miss the opportunity to receive Christ in the Eucharist. We have a dedicated group of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who, in teams that rotate, are sent forth from Mass to visit the homebound, sharing the Word, prayers and bringing them Holy Communion. The requests are increasing, but the number of visitors hasn't been able to keep up with demand.

We invite all who are curious about his ministry to be in touch with Mary Parrella, the coordinator, at vparrella@comcast.net. A great way to explore this ministry is to accompany a current minister on some visits to get a sense of what happens and to discern if you may be called to this ministry. We make visits after weekend Masses and also after weekday morning Masses. All Eucharistic Ministers need to be affirmed and commissioned by the pastor, but anyone can accompany a minister on a visit. Just 45 minutes of time can make a huge and positive difference in someone's week.

ST. ELIZABETH EASTER FLOWERS

Your contribution helps us provide the flowers and decorations that will adorn St. Elizabeth church for the *entire* Easter Season. Please complete the form below and mail it to the parish office at 89 Arlington St. Acton MA 01720 Attn: John Morris. You may also put it in an envelope marked 'SEOH Flower Fund' and place it in the collection basket at either parish. 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 Pentecost, the end of the Easter Season, please check off the appropriate box on the form below. Contact Mary Ryan at mgr@applevalleycatholic.org or at 978-263-4305 X35 if you have any questions.

St. Elizabeth Flower Fund Donation

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ towards the Easter 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 Pentecost. Yes____ No____.

My name is _____

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

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.

ROSARY AND COMMUNION VISITS TO THE NURSING HOMES

A very small team of very dedicated volunteers visit the residents at Life Care Center of Acton on the first and third Wednesday mornings of each a month and Robbins Brook on the third Tuesday morning of each month. During the visit, volunteers begin with leading residents in praying the Rosary. This is then followed by a Communion Service, led by trained Extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. After that, the EMs visit those residents who are unable to attend the gathering to provide them with Holy Communion (room visits occur at Life Care Center only). The volunteer ministers are sent forth from weekday morning Mass, just as the Homebound ministers are sent forth from Mass. For many who benefit from these visits, it is their only connection with the church and church community. The chance to pray and receive the Eucharist brings great comfort and peace. For those who have been visiting, often for many years, find the bonds and community shared truly a gift! This ministry is at risk of ending unless we get more volunteers - both Rosary leaders and Eucharistic Ministers. Our current team is small and is often challenged with scheduling issues related to illness, retirement, and other life commitments that pop up. Please prayerfully consider the possibility. Could you spare 30 – 60 minutes once a month to share your faith and prayers with these often forgotten members of our community?? We are looking for people to serve as Eucharistic Ministers or Rosary leaders (or both!). Please contact Diahne Goodwin if you have questions or you think you may be called to this beautiful ministry. We can also arrange a "job shadow" – you can come observe without commitment.

SUNDAY CAFÉ NEEDS YOU!

It is wonderful to have the opportunity to gather after Mass as a community to socialize and get to know each other better! Thank you to all who have made this possible! Can you shop? Can you make coffee and set up refreshments? Can you tidy up? Are you looking for a simple way to get involved in the community? It does not take too much to make any particular Sunday Café possible. However, it takes a team of people committed to helping to sustain it every week. Family groups, friends and individuals can sign up to help with any or all parts of Sunday Café. Many hands make light work. The more teams we have the fewer times each team needs to be assigned! Please contact the following coordinators if you would like to join these awesome groups!

For St. Isidore: Jill Smith:

jillian_k_smith@yahoo.com

For St. Elizabeth:

Carol Guerrero: cbrewer@rocketmail.com

FUNERAL HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ST. ISIDORE

The funeral hospitality ministry is in dire need of bakers and servers. Serving involves a group of volunteers to set up tables/chairs, make coffee and set up donated baked goods and catered food on serving tables. This would not require a lot of your time but offers so much comfort to families experiencing the loss of a loved one. Please consider joining this wonderful ministry and contact Robin in the St. Isidore office to sign up.

FUNERAL FOR MARIA OLOHAN FLANDERS

The funeral for Maria Olohan Flanders will be held at St. Bridgets Parish, Maynard, on Monday, April 23 at 10:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to your favorite charity in Maria's name. For those who are interested in helping the family directly, you can go to <https://www.youcaring.com/mariamaeveolohanflanders-680591>.

CORI—ST. ISIDORE

All volunteers at St. Isidore must have a current CORI. For the month of April, after all Masses, volunteers can fill out new or renewed CORI forms in the Work Sacristy on Saturdays and the Church Hall on Sundays.

EXTRA PARKING FOR ST. ISIDORE

Please note that there is extra parking space at the Center Elementary School (2 doors east of St. Isidore on Rt. 117). If all spaces are taken in the St. Isidore parking lot and on the street, please park at Center Elementary. We ask that you do not park on the grass or block the driveway and fire lanes in front of the church. Thank you.

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

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

