

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: We are called to serve others.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel.

Step One: Listen to the Word

As you hear the familiar teaching of Jesus in this Gospel, what word or phrase strikes you?
What image lingers in your heart?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: What are some specific ways in which you can serve your friends or family members?

Question for Youth: Sometimes, when we strive to be first or be the one that wins, we hurt others. When has striving to be first hurt others? What can you do differently in the future to help others to succeed?

Question for Adults: Is the role of being a servant for others easy or difficult for you to embrace?

GENUFLECTION

A genuflection is the action begun from a standing position in which a worshiper moves his or her right foot back a step, drops the right knee briefly to the floor, and then stands upright again. Most people naturally bow their head while performing this action; some make the sign of the cross. Some hold onto a nearby pew for physical support. The purpose of genuflection is for the worshiper to honor Jesus Christ present in the Eucharist.

The priest genuflects three times at Mass. During the Eucharist prayer he genuflects after showing the Eucharistic bread and after showing the cup to the people. He genuflects again before announcing, "This is the Lamb of God." Taken together, his genuflections affirm the central belief about the Mass: During the Eucharistic prayer, the Holy Spirit changes the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ; that food then becomes communion for the faithful.

Additional genuflections should be made in churches where a tabernacle containing the Blessed Sacrament is in the sanctuary. In those cases, the priest genuflects before and after Mass, and anyone passing in front of the tabernacle also genuflects to it. Since a tabernacle containing the Blessed Sacrament is commonly found in sanctuaries of Catholic churches, the faithful typically make a genuflection toward the tabernacle before entering and after leaving their place.

In churches where the tabernacle is not in the sanctuary, the faithful should bow to the altar before and after the service instead. Genuflection is directed not toward the altar, not toward the cross, not toward one's proximity to a pew, but to the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

Formerly it was customary to make a genuflection before a bishop and a double genuflection (both knees to the ground) when the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for adoration. These practices have been eliminated. A single genuflection is always appropriate before the Blessed Sacrament whether it is in the tabernacle or exposed in a monstrance; you may bow to a bishop if you wish.

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*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-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 23, 2018*

*God has called us through the Gospel
to possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*



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!*

**GOT QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE? ABOUT FAITH?
TRY ALPHA!**



Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. No pressure. No charge... Alpha includes a meal, a short talk and time for small group conversation. Typically, Alpha has 10 sessions and an extended day. Come and check it out at one of the next Come & See Sessions **THIS WEEK!**

Wednesday, September 26, 10:00 a.m.
St. Isidore Church Hall

Thursday, September 27, 6:30 p.m.,
St. Elizabeth Parish Center

Teen Alpha offers the same great experience for
high school youth! Check it out!
September 30, 6:00 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish Center

Learn more at: #try Alpha or alphausa.org, or email Diahne at avccalpha@gmail.com

THIS WEEKEND!

2018 COLLABORATIVE KICK OFF!

Sunday, September 23

Don't Miss out! ~ Everyone is invited!

Please join us as we gather as a collaborative community to celebrate a new year of faith formation and Resources for Discipleship! Our Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) Team invites everyone to come together to celebrate our collaborative community; making new friends and reconnecting with old ones. We will gather for lunch, and then participate in a variety of fun activities to connect with each other; get to know our new pastor, Fr. Jeff Archer a little better; and learn about all that is available to help everyone become and grow as disciples: GIFT, Alpha, Sacramental preparation, youth ministry, adult offerings and more!

When: Sunday, **September 23**, After the 10:45 Mass,
lunch included!

Where: St. Elizabeth Church Hall and Parish
Center Hall

**RESOURCES FOR DISCIPLESHIP &
FAITH FORMATION**



Welcome! Whether you have participated in our discipleship and faith formation programs in prior years, or are new to our parish community, we extend a warm welcome to you as we begin this year's journey in faith. Father Jeff, our staff, and our parish ministry teams are eager to accompany and support each of you to grow as disciples and joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ!

All registered households should have received a copy of the information and registration brochure in the mail. You also may download a copy of the form from each parish website. Online registration and payment in one step is also available at this link: <https://avcc.wufoo.com/forms/zrnc9q10wr5cni/> (also on the websites).

OUR COLLABORATIVE STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Archer
(frjeff@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 15

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
(andreg@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:
Sunday: 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

St. Isidore Parish:
Vigil Mass: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:45 a.m.

Daily Eucharist at St. Isidore this week:
Monday & Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.

Daily Eucharist at St. Elizabeth this week:
Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
St. Isidore
Saturdays, 4:00—4:45 p.m.

St. Elizabeth
Sundays, 4:00-4:45 p.m.



READINGS THIS SUNDAY— September 23
(Cycle B)

Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— September 30
(Cycle B)

Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE NEXT WEEKEND

The Maynard Knights of Columbus will be at both parishes 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.

INTERCHURCH OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Offertory envelopes are available at each church for both St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth. Envelopes are available in the gathering areas of both parishes for parishioners who prefer to send their offertory to a specific parish.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT: ST. ELIZABETH

Total Offertory Sunday 9/16/18:	\$ 3,539
Mailbacks for Week Ending 9/15/18:	\$ 3,382
Total EFT for Week Ending 9/15/18:	\$ 567
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/15/18:	\$ 7,488
Total Parish Support since 7/1/18:	\$ 111,675
Target Parish Support since 7/1/18:	\$ 120,436
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/18:	\$ (8,761)

Thank you very much!

EMMAUS MINISTRY FOR GRIEVING PARENTS FALL RETREATS

The Office of Chaplaincy Programs is now offering the *Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents*, a unique program providing spiritual retreats for grieving parents given by grieving parents. It is a safe place where parents can find peace, comfort, and hope—at least for a time. Currently we are offering One-Day and Weekend Retreats. Parents focus on questions, such as “Where is God in my pain? Where is my child right now? Will I ever see my child again?” “How can I get through this horrific situation? These are for parents of any age who are grieving the loss of a child of any age. Upcoming Retreats: November 2-4 at the Miramar Retreat Center, Duxbury and December 8 in Weymouth. For more details go to www.emfgp.org.

ANNUAL SILVER AND GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY MASS

If you are celebrating your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary this year, please join Cardinal Seán O'Malley on Sunday, Oct. 28 at St. Mary Parish in Waltham at 4:00 p.m. for the annual Anniversary Mass with renewal of vows. Couples can register at bostoncatholic.org/weddinganniversarymass. For more information, contact Kelly Tolman at ktolman@rcab.org or 617-746-5803.



CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 9/16/18:	\$ 2,341
EFT for Week Ending 9/16/18:	\$ 2,391
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/16/18:	\$ 4,732
Actual Parish Support since 7/1/2018:	\$ 58,069
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2018:	\$ 59,656
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2018:	\$ (1,587)
St. Vincent DePaul Collection	\$ 53

Thank you very much!

ALPHA COOKS WANTED

Do you love to cook? We are excited to roll out another season of Alpha in the Collaborative! Part of the success of Alpha is the wonderful hospitality shown by the team and through the meals served! We are seeking a few people who love to cook who could share the volunteer role of cooking for the Thursday evening Alpha sessions. We have help in the serving and clean up, but would like to share the cooking, which requires availability before 6:30 p.m., with a few people, so no one person feels too burdened over the 10 week period (each will be only responsible for a few meals). Alpha meals will be needed 10/4 through 12/12).

Please contact Diahne, diahneg@applevalleycatholic.org, for more details. Remember, a lot of Jesus' best work was around food!

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN: VIRTUS TRAINING AND CORI CHECKS

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. This requirement may include, but is not limited to GIFT and Teen Alpha group leaders, chaperones, Confirmation leaders, Children's Liturgy of the Word ministers, musicians, altar server trainers, EM's for the homebound, etc. You only need to complete this training once.

Criminal Offender (CORI) checks *must be completed on a yearly basis* and are submitted for each organization in which one volunteers. (A school CORI check, for example, will not be acceptable for church.) CORI forms must be completed and returned to a staff member by Oct. 1. CORI forms are available in the collaborative offices and after Masses.

Virtus Training Sessions

Please sign up for Virtus training at least one week prior to each session. You may register by contacting by contacting Barbara Dane at barbara@applevalleycatholic.org or at 978-263-4305, ext. 16. Please leave your name, parish, the date you wish to attend, and an email or cell phone number where you can be reached.

Thurs, Sept. 27, 7:00 p.m., St. Isidore, Upstairs Rectory.
Mon., Oct. 1, 7:00 p.m., St. Elizabeth Parish Center, Rm 3.
Tues., Oct. 9, 12:30 p.m., St. Isidore, Upstairs Rectory.
Sat., Nov. 10, 10:00 a.m., St. Elizabeth Parish Center, Rm 3.

COLLABORATIVE MUSIC NEWS

Music Ministry rehearsals begin next week! Please note the new rehearsal days and times.

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choirs (grades 2 – 6) will rehearse on Wednesdays from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. beginning on September 26 in St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall.

Collaborative Adult Music Ministry Choirs will rehearse on Wednesdays from 7:30 – 9 p.m. beginning September 26 in St. Elizabeth's Parish Center Hall.

Children's Choir and Adult Choirs will alternate rehearsal space monthly:

Rehearsals will be at St. Elizabeth during September, November, January, and March.
Rehearsals will be held at St. Isidore during October, December, February, and April.

The Collaborative Teen Ensemble (grades 7 – 12) will rehearse on Mondays from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. beginning on September 24 at St. Elizabeth.

New members are welcome in all music groups. For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich at andreas@applevalleycatholic.org, 978-263-4305, X12.

ST. ISIDORE FAMILY ITALIAN NIGHT & SILENT AUCTION EXTRAVAGANZA St. Isidore Hall Saturday, November 3, 6:00—9:00 p.m.

Enjoy an evening listening to Italian music while browsing our many Silent Auction items followed by a delicious homemade Italian dinner of Italian pasta, meatballs & vegetarian ziti. Gluten free will be available as well. Then enjoy a warm cup of coffee with a yummy dessert while listening for your name to be called as a winning bidder!

Reservations will be taken the weekends of October 20 & 27 at St. Isidore after all Masses. You may also request via email to Laureen at email address below. Adults-\$7.50 • Seniors (60+)-\$6.00 • Children 5to18-\$5.00 • Under 5 FREE.

WE NEED HELP! We need help serving dinner that night. Please consider volunteering to help us. We need four servers. Please get in touch with Laureen, debenedetto6@gmail.com, 978-897-2599.

All are welcome!

**APPLE VALEY CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT GROUP
ATTENTION ALL YOUNG ADULTS (20s—30s)**

September—December Events:

Mega Corn Maze

Sunday, September 23, 2:30 p.m.

We will be joining the whole community at St. Elizabeth at 12:00 p.m. for a Collaborative Kick-Off Event that will include lunch. Then, at 2:30, we will convene in the parking lot and head over together to do the corn maze at Davis Farmland! Pay your own way. Learn more at: <https://davisfarmfestival.com/mega-maze>

Prisoner Book Program

Saturday, October 13, 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

We will be responding to and fulfilling prisoner requests for books by picking, invoicing and packing them. Please RSVP by October 1. Meet at St. Elizabeth Parish to carpool. Learn more about the Prisoner Book Program here: <https://prisonbookprogram.org>

A Night with Faith, Food and Friends

Wednesday, October 24, 7:00 p.m.

Join us for dinner and faith conversation with our pastor, Father Jeff. This is always a fun night to talk about our faith and meet new people. Pay your own way. Location: Yangtze River Restaurant at 584 King Street, Littleton.

Volunteer at Cor Unum Meal Center

Saturday, November 17, 3:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

We will serve dinner at Cor Unum Meal Center in Lawrence. Diner is provided there. Please RSVP by November 1. Meet us at St. Elizabeth Parish to carpool. Learn more about Cor Unum here: <http://www.corunummealcenter.org>.

5th Annual Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Taco Night

Friday, December 14, 6:00 p.m.

Join us at the St. Isidore rectory to celebrate this feast day with a *free* taco dinner and conversation! Bring friends!

Christmas in the City

Sunday, December 16, 9:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Volunteer at a giant Christmas party for children who live in homeless shelters with their families! Help provide a meal, take children on rides, and see the joy that this event brings them and their family. For more information, contact us.

Ongoing Events:

Scripture Study every First and Third Sunday

(through December 2)

Join us for a *free* dinner and good conversation about the readings from Mass. Meet us after the 5:00 p.m. Mass at the parish center at St. Elizabeth Parish.

Volunteer at Household Goods

Third Sunday of every month 12:45 —4:00 p.m.

Household Goods provides families with donated furniture and appliances to help them furnish their homes. Volunteers can either help families pick our goods or load their vans. Please contact us if this is your first time volunteering. Meet us at Household Goods at 530 Main Street, Acton. Learn more at <http://householdgoods.org>.

Check out the Apple Valley Catholic Young Adult Group Facebook group for the most up-to-date events:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/558137624339112/>

YOUNG FAMILY MINISTRIES NEWS

First Communion Sacramental Preparation

It has been so wonderful to welcome our 50 children and their parents to our First Communion preparation kick-off sessions! Here's our upcoming schedule of events:

- All Parish families – Fall Collaborative Kick-off on Sunday, September 23. (See bulletin for details.)
- First Mini-Lesson for children and parent(s) is on Sunday, September 30 at St. Isidore Church Hall at 8:00 a.m. (parent and child complete Go Seek Find lessons 1-2 beforehand).

If you have not registered yet, it's not too late! Please contact Joan Mattila with any questions about our sacramental preparation program for First Communion.

Children's Liturgy Of the Word (CLOW)

This is a volunteer ministry offered most Sundays at both St. Isidore 8:45a.m. and St. Elizabeth 10:45a.m. Masses. Children in grades K-6 are accompanied by our CLOW team to the church hall following the opening prayers and they return to Mass prior to the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Parents are welcome to accompany their young children as well. This is an amazing opportunity for the young children of our collaborative to hear the Word of God proclaimed and then reflected upon in a format that upholds the sanctity of this portion of the Mass, yet simplifies the language and message so that our young children can celebrate the Eucharist with "full, conscious and active participation." (Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy #14). If you have any questions about CLOW, or would like to join our ministry team, please contact Joan Mattila at joan@applevalleycatholic.org or 978-263-4305 ext. 17.



Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone wants to be first, they must make themselves last of all and servant of all. This is as challenging to us today as it was to the disciples and early Christians. Our world seems to revolve around position, status and power – whoever has the most toys wins! But what Jesus advocated was a leadership based on being of service to others. Being powerful simply means you are in a position to help even more people. By putting yourself last, instead of first, gives respect, dignity and power to others rather than to yourself.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Isidore:

Sunday, September 23, 8:45 a.m.
Charles Margiotta, Sr., Memorial Mass



St. Elizabeth:

Wednesday, September 26, 9:00 a.m.
Phil Coffarn, Memorial Mass

Prayers for the Departed:

Gregory Scott Graziano

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS

(Open to incoming Freshman to Graduating Seniors)

New - Youth Ministry Night!

Second Sunday of every Month after the 5:00 p.m. Mass

Teen Alpha

Sunday, September 30 —Sunday, December 16
Starting with the 5:00 p.m. Mass
(no registration required)

Confirmation Preparation Program

Opening Session

Monday, October 1, 7:00—8:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

If your 10th grader has not registered for the Confirmation Preparation Program and/or Growing in Faith Together – please contact Jim Flanagan at jim@applevalleycatholic.org for the forms.

ALL EVENTS ARE ON FACEBOOK AND
PARISH BULLETIN

Facebook - Apple Valley Catholic Youth Ministry

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 are open during Mass. Thank you.