

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**Theme:** God wants us to be just and right.

### Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's second reading, from James

#### Step One: Listen to the Word

As you hear this reading, what words or phrases strike you? What image comes to mind from this reading?

#### Step Two: Look into Your Life

**Question for Children:** In what specific ways do you share with the poor from what you have been given?

**Question for Youth:** Who are the people you have met who are against you? Are there people who persecute you because of your faith? How do you treat these people?

**Question for Adults:** In today's worldwide community, who are the rich and what does God want of them?

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

The introductory rites help the assembly become a worshipping community. They also prepare us to hear God's word and celebrate the Eucharist.

There are several elements to the introductory rites of Mass. The cantor or another minister may introduce the liturgy. We sing the entrance song and make the sign of the cross. The presider greets us. The penitential rite or rite of blessing and sprinkling holy water follow. We sing the Glory to God. Finally, the presider offers the opening prayer. A lot happens in just a few minutes.

The cantor's introduction may tell us about the music, the special nature of the celebration or the ministers of the day. Some communities invite members to greet one another.

The entrance song sets the tone of the celebration. We may sing a seasonal hymn or one that refers to the Scriptures of the day.

We sign ourselves with the cross, and the presider greets us with a phrase like, "The Lord be with you." Christians can trace that gesture and those words to the earliest days of the church.

The penitential rite or the sprinkling rite symbolizes our desire to enter this celebration in purity of heart.

On most Sundays we sing or recite the Glory to God in praise of the Trinity. This hymn comes immediately after the penitential rite, causing us to shift moods rather quickly.

The introductory rites all lead to the opening prayer. When the presider says, "Let us pray," we pause in silence. This prayer explains why we come for this Mass and gives God praise. It brings the introductory rites to a fitting close.

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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-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 30, 2018*

*Your word, O Lord, is truth;  
consecrate us in the truth.*



*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. Beginning **THIS WEEK!**

Wednesday, October 3, 10:00 a.m.  
St. Isidore Church Hall

Thursday, October 4, 6:30 p.m.,  
St. Elizabeth Parish Center

Teen Alpha offers the same great experience for high school youth! Check it out!  
October 7, 6:00 p.m.  
St. Elizabeth Parish Center

Learn more at: #try Alpha or [alphausa.org](http://alphausa.org), or email Diahne at [avccalpha@gmail.com](mailto:avccalpha@gmail.com)

**SPECIAL ROSARY OPPORTUNITY**

Sunday, October 7, 4:00 p.m.  
St. Elizabeth Church

One year after the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima, Americans across the country are invited to pray the Rosary Coast to Coast on Sunday, October 7. In August, all Catholics from the United States and the rest of the world had been asked to unite in praying a 54-day Novena to the Blessed Mother for the conversion of the nation, for the purity and sanctity of the Catholic Church and for a culture of life. This intentional exercise began with the August 15, Feast of the Assumption, and culminates on October 7, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. All are welcome to come pray a Rosary together at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Maria at [reprama@hotmail.com](mailto:reprama@hotmail.com).



**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:

- 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](mailto:joan@applevalleycatholic.org) or 978-263-4305 ext. 17.

**MOMS GROUP ALPHA!**

If you've ever considered Alpha, but prefer a small group with moms, then this is your event! At this meeting, we will be socializing with small appetizers, and viewing and discussing the Alpha course video. We also always have a time of prayer in which we can choose to share our life's concerns in community with one another. If you could not join last time, you are not too late! Please stop in! Don't be intimidated by the Alpha format-- the ladies last week were so impressed with the video that they already want to share it with others!

**Date: October 1, 7-9 p.m.**  
**Location: Virginia Tawa's home: 14 Windemere Drive, Acton**  
**Please RSVP to Hayley at [psychhic04@gmail.com](mailto:psychhic04@gmail.com)**

**OUR COLLABORATIVE STAFF:**

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

**Deacon:** Charles A. Cornell  
([cac@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:cac@applevalleycatholic.org)), (978) 562-7447

**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)),  
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**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  
([jim@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:jim@applevalleycatholic.org)), (978) 263-4305 ext. 23  
(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)

**Coordinator of Young Family Ministries:** Joan Mattila  
([joan@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:joan@applevalleycatholic.org)), (978) 263-4305 ext. 17

**Pastoral Ministries Administrative Assistant:**  
Judy Richardson  
([judy@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:judy@applevalleycatholic.org)), 978 263-4305 ext. 19

**Liturgical Coordinator:** Mary Ryan  
([mgr@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto: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](http://www.seoh.org)

**St. Isidore**  
429 Great Rd.  
Stow, MA 01775  
Phone (978) 897-2710  
Fax: (978) 461-0577  
[www.stisidorestow.org](http://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 30**  
(Cycle B)

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

**READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— October 7**  
(Cycle B)

Gn 2:18-24; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16

**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!

You 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/zrnc9q10wr5cnh/> (also on the websites).

**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](http://bostoncatholic.org/weddinganniversarymass). For more information, contact Kelly Tolman at [ktolman@rcab.org](mailto:ktolman@rcab.org) or 617-746-5803.

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

Total Offertory Sunday 9/23/18:	\$ 3,198
Mailbacks for Week Ending 9/22/18:	\$ 2,075
Total EFT for Week Ending 9/22/18:	\$ 27,222
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/22/18:	\$ 32,495
Total Parish Support since 7/1/18:	\$ 157,539
Target Parish Support since 7/1/18:	\$ 171,322
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/18:	\$ (13,783)

Thank you very much!

**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](mailto: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.



**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. ISIDORE**

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 9/23/18:	\$ 2,168
EFT for Week Ending 9/23/18:	\$ 2,391
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/23/18:	\$ 4,559
Actual Parish Support since 7/1/2018:	\$ 62,628
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2018:	\$ 64,544
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2018:	\$ (1,916)
St. Vincent DePaul Collection	\$ 39

Thank you very much!

**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. in St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall.

Collaborative Adult Music Ministry Choirs will rehearse on Wednesdays from 7:30 – 9 p.m. 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. at St. Elizabeth.

New members are welcome in all music groups. For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich at [andre-ag@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:andre-ag@applevalleycatholic.org) or 978-263-4305, ext.12.

**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. Contact Laureen, [debenedetto6@gmail.com](mailto:debenedetto6@gmail.com), 978-897-2599. All are welcome!

**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 Barbara Dane at [barbara@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:barbara@applevalleycatholic.org) or 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.

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.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE THIS WEEKEND**

The Maynard Knights of Columbus will be at both parishes this 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.

*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.*

## CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

For St. Elizabeth of Hungary 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Parishioners:  
Confirmation Preparation Program  
Opening Session – Monday, October 1  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Center Hall

For St. Isidore 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Parishioners:  
**Due to a vital town meeting on Monday evening – we will have a separate Confirmation Preparation Program Opening Session**

Confirmation Preparation Program  
Opening Session – Wednesday, October 3  
7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
St. Isidore Church

## LIVING THE GOSPEL

### Cut it out!

*The thought of cutting off a hand or foot or tearing out an eye all seem a bit extreme if taken literally. Whilst Jesus didn't mean for us to do a bit of self-surgery, if we find ourselves caught in behavior that is self-destructive or hurtful to others, the only solution is quite literally to 'cut it out'. We know within ourselves when our actions are life-giving or life-harming. Surprisingly we often persist with harmful behavior even when we know it's harmful. Jesus' solution is simple: cut out the negative behavior and get back on track. That's the principle behind Reconciliation.*



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

October –November Events:

### 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. Dinner 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>

### 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/>

#### Get in touch! Contact us!

For more information on all our young adult Programs; [youngadults@applevalleycatholic.org](mailto:youngadults@applevalleycatholic.org)

## 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](mailto:jim@applevalleycatholic.org) for the forms.

ALL EVENTS ARE ON FACEBOOK AND PARISH BULLETIN  
Facebook - Apple Valley Catholic Youth Ministry



## Have you thought? Jealousy

*The disciples are portrayed as being jealous of someone healing in the name of Jesus. It is almost an intellectual property argument – you can't use Jesus' name to heal, only we can 'cause we're with Jesus. Their attitude sounds quite childish but it is an attitude we encounter all the time – and are perhaps guilty of ourselves at times. In our world that encourages competitive behavior at every turn, Jesus' attitude is a challenging one – if good is being done, why care who gets the credit for it? Perhaps politicians would get more done if they weren't concerned about getting credit for what they do.*

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

### St. Isidore:

Tuesday, October 2, 9:00 a.m.  
Dorothy Cross-Sevon



### St. Elizabeth:

Wednesday, October 3, 9:00 a.m.  
Judith Connelly, Memorial Mass

**Prayers for the Deported:** Paul Jaehnig

## PRESENTATION ON PALLIATIVE CARE

St. Irene Parish, Carlisle – Parish Hall  
Sunday, October 14 from Noon – 1:30  
Light luncheon to be served

Are you concerned about aging relatives? Have you or someone you know been diagnosed with a serious illness? Come hear a presentation and join in discussion about palliative care, a way for people to live better with serious illness that offers support for loved ones as well. Palliative care is often confused with hospice care, which is different. Presented by Diane McCarthy, Coordinator for the Archdiocesan *Initiative for Palliative Care and Advance Care Planning*.

A light luncheon will be served at noon in the church hall, followed by the presentation and discussion. All are welcome.

## PLEASE JOIN THE CURSILLO COMMUNITY AT ULTREYA

Ultreya will be held this Friday evening, October 5 at 7:30 p.m, in the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Center, Room 4 for scripture, prayer, sharing and fellowship.

All are welcome.