

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: Fidelity in marriage reflects God's fidelity to us.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel, the short version

Step One: Listen to the Word

Listening now to this reading, what strikes you in particular about Jesus' teaching?
What image do you take away from this?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: When you make a promise, why is it important to keep it?

Question for Youth: What has your family taught you about God and living a faithful life?
How do you show your family what they mean to you?

Question for Adults: How is God's fidelity reflected in human marriage? To whom are you committed like this?

SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

Discipleship

This section of Mark's Gospel explores what it means to be a disciple. While this particular passage may seem to be a bit out of place, Jesus seems to be stressing to the disciples that there are some bottom lines – some non-negotiables – when it comes to being a disciple. Unlike the Pharisees who are preoccupied with the letter of the Law, Jesus encourages his disciples to get beyond that and understand the spirit of the Law – God's dream for humankind. The shift in the passage to the focus on children seems a little disconnected but the whole passage is about living in the kingdom with the right attitude.

GOSPEL FOCUS

Like a little child

Most of us at some time or another have been told to 'grow up'; 'stop acting like a child'; or to 'act your age'. It implies that, as we grow older, we have to behave in a more 'responsible' or 'mature' way than when we were children. Jesus turns this on its head and tells us that unless we 'welcome the kingdom like a little child' we will never enter it. The gospels are full of stories about people who call on God's mercy because they recognise that without God they are nothing. When they subsequently receive God's mercy or healing they welcome it all the more – like a little child.

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-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 7, 2018*

*If we love one another, God remains in us;
and his love is brought to perfection in us.*



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!*

BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND AT ST. ELIZABETH

We welcome a new member to our Christian community in the sacrament of baptism:

Andrew Callahan, son of Michael and Kristen Callahan. Please join us in holding Andrew, his parents and godparents in prayer as they continue to grow in faith together.



STAFF CHANGES

After 12 years of serving the St. Elizabeth community, John Morris, will be retiring. We thank John for his years of dedication and service and wish him many blessings as he enters this new phase of life. Please join us in thanking John for these last 12 years of dedication and service to St. Elizabeth.

On October 22nd, Annemarie Mazzucotelli will be joining the collaborative staff as the Collaborative **Director of Finance and Operations**. Please join us in welcoming Annemarie to the collaborative staff!

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.

YOUNG FAMILY MINISTRIES NEWS

First Communion Sacramental Preparation

We had a wonderful first mini-lesson last weekend. Thank you to all of our parents and children who attended. If you were unable to join us, please reach out to Joan Mattila and she will be happy to send you highlights of our time together. Here's our upcoming schedule of events:

- Mini-Lesson #2 for children and parent(s) is on Sunday, October 14 at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church Hall at 10:00 a.m. (parent and child complete Go Seek Find lessons 3-4 beforehand).
- GIFT Weekend – Families choose one of three sessions during the weekend. Our First Communion children and parent(s) attend the K-4 breakout session with Joan Mattila.

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.

Saints Pageant for Children in Grades K-4

Save the date for Thursday, November 1 for our pizza and Saints pageant planning party that will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the St. Elizabeth Parish Church Hall, followed by Mass that will include a Saints pageant. Please contact Joan Mattila for more information.

Children's Liturgy Of the Word (CLOW)

This is a volunteer ministry offered most Sundays at both St. Isidore 8:45 a.m. and St. Elizabeth 10:45 a.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 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.

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
(andreasg@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— October 7
(Cycle B)

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

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY— October 14
(Cycle B)

Wis 7:7-11; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30

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/zmc9q10wr5cnh/> (also on the websites).

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 9/30/18:	\$ 4,195
Mailbacks for Week Ending 9/29/18:	\$ 3,896
Total EFT for Week Ending 9/29/18:	\$ 567
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/29/18:	\$ 8,658
Total Parish Support since 7/1/18:	\$ 166,197
Target Parish Support since 7/1/18:	\$ 176,384
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/18:	\$ (10,187)

In the past few weeks, parishioners donated \$2,743 to the Clergy Health & Retirement Trust in support of our past and present priests, starting with our own Fathers Walter, Paul and Jeff.
Thank you very much!

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES OFFERING SOLIDARITY RETREAT

October 27

Catholic Relief Services carries out the commitment of the Bishops of the United States to assist the poor and vulnerable overseas and throughout the US. If you have a passion for global solidarity and are interested in learning more about getting involved and making a difference, then this retreat is for you. There is no pressure for commitment to anything specific. It is a time to learn and discern.



The Fall Retreat will be held on October 27 at the Pastoral Center in Braintree. Please contact Danielle Corea-Smith, Regional Relationship Manager, at 973 255-6502 or danielle.corea-smith@crs.org for details.

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.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

Total Offertory Last Sunday: 9/30/18:	\$ 2,169
EFT for Week Ending 9/30/18:	\$ 2,391
Total Parish Support for Week Ending 9/30/18:	\$ 4,560
Actual Parish Support since 7/1/2018:	\$ 67,188
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2018:	\$ 69,344
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2018:	\$ (2,156)
St. Vincent DePaul Collection	\$ 32

Thank you very much!

ALPHA UPDATE!



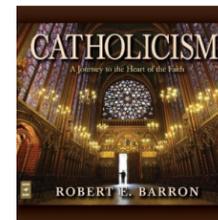
Please join us in praying for our Alpha participants and team in our 4 Alpha sessions that are taking place this fall:

- Teen Alpha on Sunday evenings
- Mom's Alpha on Monday evenings
- AM Alpha on Wednesday mornings
- PM Alpha on Thursday evenings
-

May the Holy Spirit fill each and every one and may they encounter Christ on this journey.

CATHOLICISM SERIES—PART 1

To begin November 5, 9:45 – 11:45 a.m.
St. Isidore Church Hall



Join us for a journey around the world and deep into the Faith! Acclaimed author, speaker and theologian Bishop Robert Barron delves into the fullness of Catholicism as he takes us to more than 50 locations throughout 15 countries. This program offers a thematic presentation of what Catholics believe and why, so all adults can come to a deeper understanding of the Catholic Faith. Bishop Barron uses the art, architecture, literature, music and all the treasures of the Catholic tradition to illuminate the timeless teachings of the Church.

Each session will have a video presentation and small group discussion time. There is a charge of \$25 to cover the cost of the participant guides. *Pre-registration by no later than October 22 is required so that participant materials can be ordered in time. Please Contact Diahne at diahneg@applevalleycatholic.org or 978 263-4305 X13.*

COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND FOR THE HOLY FATHER AND MISSIONARY EFFORTS

Next week's second collection will support the Holy Father's "Peter's Pence" Collection that provides funds for emergency and disaster relief and for Catholic World Missions that support pastoral and evangelization efforts in mission dioceses. This collection will also provide support to The Catholic University of America (CUA) that educates priests and lay people for ministry and for the Inner City Parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston. Your generosity will assist the Holy Father as well as the various missionary efforts at home and abroad. For information on these Collections, go to:

1. www.usccb.org/ppc
2. www.propfaithboston.org
3. www.cua.edu
4. www.BostonCatholic.org

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



COLLABORATIVE MUSIC NEWS

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth Children's Choirs (grades 2 – 6) will rehearse on Wednesday from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. in St. Isidore Church Hall.

Collaborative Adult Music Ministry Choirs will rehearse on Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in St. Isidore Church Hall.

No rehearsal for the Collaborative Teen Ensemble this week because of the holiday.

New members are welcome in all music groups. For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich at andreg@applevalleycatholic.org or 978-263-4305, ext.12.



**SAVE THE DATE
MINISTRY RENEWAL DAY**

Saturday, November 17
9-3 p.m., St. Isidore Hall

All involved in **any ministry** are invited and encouraged to attend. Details coming.

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
Sundays thru December 16
Starting with the 5:00 p.m. Mass
(no registration required)

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

**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 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, chaper-
ones, 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 mem-
ber. CORI forms are available in the collaborative of-
fices 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 Barba-
ra 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.

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

**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 re-
quests for books by picking, invoicing and packing
them. Meet at St. Elizabeth Parish to carpool. Learn
more about the Prisoner Book Program here: [https://
prisonbookprogram.org](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 pas-
tor, 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 Law-
rence. Dinner is provided there. Please RSVP by No-
vember 1. Meet us at St. Elizabeth Parish to carpool.
Learn more about Cor Unum here: [http://
www.corunummealcenter.org](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 furni-
ture 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](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

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Tuesday, October 9, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
St. Elizabeth's Parish Center, Room 4
All are welcome!

JANUARY MINISTRY SHOWCASE

~ Seeking Organizing Help! ~

Periodically it is helpful to showcase all parish ministries.
This helps to let everyone know what ministries are avail-
able and is also a time to invite new participation. We
hope to plan and offer a collaborative wide Ministry
Showcase after all Masses on the weekend of January
12/13. We need a small team of 2-4 people to help coordi-
nate the details to make this possible. This involves com-
municating with ministries and organizing the set up and
presentation in each of the Church halls. Please contact
Diahne Goodwin for more information or if you can help,
diahneg@applevalleycatholic.org

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 ill-
ness? 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, Coordi-
nator 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 presen-
tation and discussion. All are welcome.

SUNDAY CAFÉ

Please join us every Sunday for coffee and refreshments,
time to catch up with friends & meet new friends!

St. Isidore after the 8:45 a.m. Mass
St. Elizabeth after the 10:45 a.m. Mass

**ST. ELIZABETH SUNDAY CAFÉ
NEEDS YOU!**

We are in need of more volunteers to keep this running.
Please contact the parish office if you are able to
help in any way.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

St. Isidore:
Saturday, October 6, 5:00 p.m.
Jim Murphy, Memorial Mass



St. Elizabeth:
Wednesday, October 10, 9:00 a.m.
Special Intention

**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 brows-
ing our many Silent Auction items followed by a deli-
cious homemade Italian dinner of Italian pasta, meat-
balls & 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 re-
quest via email to Laureen at email address below.
Adults-\$7.50 • Seniors (60+)-\$6.00 • Children 5 to 18-
\$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, [debene-
detto6@gmail.com](mailto:debenedetto6@gmail.com), 978-897-2599. All are welcome!

*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.