

23rd
Sunday
in Ordinary Time



"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." *Luke 14:27*

APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE – TWO PARISHES ONE MISSION

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish
89 Arlington Street, Acton, MA 01720
(978) 263-4305/Fax (978) 263-9014
www.seoh.org

St. Isidore Parish
429 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775
(978) 897-2710/Fax (978) 461-0577
www.stisidorestow.org

Alpha Starts Next Week!
Who do you want to invite?



Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith, in a friendly, open and informal environment.

*Come see for yourself at the first session.
 No upfront commitment necessary!*

**The next "Come and See"
 Evening will be on:**

Sunday, September 15, 6:15-8:45 p.m.
(For both teens and adults)

St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall
 Questions? Contact:

avccalpha@gmail.com

or call Diahne
 978 263-4305 x13.

Hope to see you there!

PRAY FOR OUR GUESTS!

1. Write down the names of three people they would like to see explore faith.
2. Set a daily alarm for 11:02 a.m. as a reminder to pray for their three people.
3. Be open and expectant to see how God might use you. When we spend time with the Living God, we see Him do extraordinary things.

Alpha Invitation
 Prayer Card

My Three names:

Heavenly Father,
 I pray for my community
 and especially for these 3
 people.
 Lord,
 let your kingdom come
 and your will be done
 across this nation.
 Holy Spirit,
 come fill me today, that I
 might share the good news
 of Jesus to those around me.
 Amen



Alpha Food Ministry

Do you have a joy of cooking or baking, or the gift of hospitality? Do you like to have fun with fun people? Then, this may be for you! We have recently formed an Alpha Food Ministry, coordinated by Linda Bertolino, whose mission is to lovingly prepare and serve meals to our Alpha guests. We need entrée cooks, dessert makers and also people to serve and clean up. You are welcome to do one aspect of this ministry or all three; to participate once or twice over an Alpha season, or every week!



Please reach out to Linda if you would like more information or would like to help: lindazen69@gmail.com.

**Growing in Faith Together
 Register Now!**

Information and registration forms are available in both churches, parish offices and online at: <http://www.seoh.org/images/ParishBulletinsEtc/GIFT%20Registration%202019-2020.pdf>. If you have any questions, please to contact us by email, phone, or in person at the Faith Formation Office at St. Elizabeth's. GIFT is for all ages.

Special Collection Next Week

Next week's second collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity. For more information, visit www.clergyfunds.org



Upcoming Youth Ministry Events

Open to all High School Young People

Youth Ministry Night

Sunday, September 8

5:00 p.m. Mass – Pizza Dinner from
different places – Trivia Night

Teen Alpha

Sundays starting with the 5:00 p.m. Mass
until 8:15 p.m.

September 15 to December 15

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

Confirmation Preparation Program Opening Session

Monday, September 30, 7:00 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall

Letters and registration forms for the Confirmation Preparation Program were sent to every 10th grader in our data base for both parishes. Please register for both GIFT and the Confirmation Preparation Program as soon as possible. If you did not receive anything from us, contact Jim Flanagan at jim@applevalleycatholic.org.

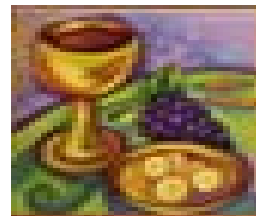
Virtus Training

Tuesday, October 8, 10:30 a.m.
Upstairs Rectory, St. Isidore

Tuesday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.
Upstairs Rectory, St. Isidore

Child Abuse protection (Virtus) training is a one-time course required for all collaborative volunteers who work with or who have the potential to be alone with children, teens, and/or vulnerable adults. At this time of year, we ask that everyone who will be working with Children's Liturgy, Confirmation, or Teen Alpha be certified as soon as possible. Please enter the Rectory at the front door.

First Communion Preparation



Submit GIFT/First Communion Registration by Sunday, September 8

Please complete the Apple Valley Catholic Faith Formation Registration form. Program materials for sacramental preparation will be ordered based on registrations received as of this date. Information and registration forms are available in both churches and parish offices and online at: <http://www.seoh.org/images/ParishBulletinsEtc/GIFT%20Registration%202019-2020.pdf>. If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mattila at: Joan@applevalleycatholic.org, 978 263-4305, or in person at the Faith Formation Office at St. Elizabeth.

Attend Parent Information Session on Sunday, September 8- 9:45 a.m. at St. Isidore in the Church Hall, OR 11:45 a.m. at St. Elizabeth in the Church Hall.

At least one parent from each First Communion family must attend one of these information meetings.

Attend First Communion Parent and Child Kick-Off on Sunday, October 6 at 11:45 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Church Hall.

Parent(s) and First Communion children will gather after the 10:45 a.m. Mass for pizza and our opening session. Please note: each family must be pre-registered for Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) and First Communion sacramental preparation prior to the kick-off.

Mass Intentions

St. Isidore

Saturday, September 7, 5:00 p.m.
Marge Faneuf, Memorial Mass

Sunday, September 8, 8:45 a.m.
Paddy McCarthy, Memorial Mass

Saturday, September 14, 5:00 p.m.
Vito DiBenedetto, Memorial Mass

Sunday, September 15, 8:45 a.m.
Faithful Departed

St. Elizabeth

Sunday, September 8, 10:45 a.m.
Cesario Geronimo, Memorial Mass

Sunday, September 15, 10:45 a.m.
Richard Goodwin, Memorial Mass

Prayers for the Departed: Phillip Murphy

Adult Christian Service Ministry ~ Upcoming Events

Acton Community Supper
Wed., Sept. 18, 4:30—6:00 p.m.

Contact John Covert covert@covert.org if
interested in serving dinner.

Archdiocesan Justice Convocation
Sat. Oct. 5, Boston College HS

Habitat for Humanity Service
Sat., Nov. 2, Ashburnham.

Six more volunteers are needed.

Please contact Mary Amato at:
amato.mg@gmail.com for the
October 5 and November 2 opportunities.

Collaborative Music News

St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth **Children's Choir** (grades 2 – 6) will begin rehearsals this Wednesday, September 11, from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. in St Elizabeth's Parish Center Hall.

Collaborative **Adult Choirs** will begin rehearsals this Wednesday, September 11, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in St Elizabeth's Parish Center Hall.

Rehearsal locations for both Children's and Adult Choirs will alternate monthly between the two parishes. Rehearsals in September will be at St. Elizabeth. Rehearsals in October will be at St. Isidore.

Calling teen musicians from St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth... The Apple Valley Teen Ensemble welcomes singers and instrumentalists in grades 7 – 12. This vibrant community of students will share their musical talents as leaders of sung prayer at the 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass once a month beginning October 6. Rehearsals will begin on Monday, September 16 from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. in St. Elizabeth's Parish Center.

We hope you will join us!

For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich: 978-263-4305, ext.12. or
andreag@applevalleycatholic.org.

St. Vincent DePaul

In today's Gospel, Jesus lays out the demands of following him, the great cost of discipleship. The Mission Statement of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul states: "Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice...the Society makes no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ." Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? See the SVdP "Are you a Vincentian" and, if you would like to be involved, send an Email to: SVdP@abrena.com, St. Isidore Conference.

Living at an Intentional Disciple ~ Meet Bob Mackin

Bob Mackin, a long time parishioner at St. Elizabeth. He has literally taken his faith "to the streets," helping the homeless populations in Worcester and Natick in addition to serving his faith community. Barbara asked him to share how he came to living such a life of faith and service.

How did you come to be a man of such deep faith? Faith is a journey. I can't really put my finger on one moment.

How has your faith life evolved through the various stages of your life? I was raised in a Catholic Family, and I went to Catholic School through High School. It was in High School that I really came to own my faith through people who noticed my struggles and offered guidance on the way. Before then it was something my parents owned for me. In high school, I also learned the power of personal prayer as part of my healing journey.

Raising children raised my faith to a whole new level. I learned to rely on God's guidance to help me navigate all of the challenges, and to be grateful for all of the joys. I started helping with CLOW, and still do. I've also led two confirmation small groups, confirmation weekend retreats and I went on mission trips. I've also been a Eucharistic Minister for a few years. Along the way I had the opportunity to share my faith, and learn a whole lot more about faith from the young people I met.

How do you live that faith through worship and service? Mass is the cornerstone of my prayer life. I also like to read and reflect on each day's daily reading, and to pray when I get to work in the morning, mostly for the people I work with.

I also try to share God's love with others through service to the homeless. For the

past 4 years or so I've been an outreach counselor with Stand Up for Kids. I walk the streets of Worcester, looking for homeless to offer food, clothing, information, and to offer whatever help I can. Sometimes I'm able to get people to shelters or other concrete things, but most of the time, the best gift I have to offer is my attention.

I've also been volunteering with Family Promise Network. A group of Churches in the Natick Area host homeless families for meals and provide temporary living spaces for a few months, while the Family Promise Network organization helps them get on their feet. I serve as overnight host a couple of times each month, which means I sleep in the same Churches as they do, and I'm there to help with anything they need. It's a great blessing to get to know them, and to witness their joy as they prepare to move on to permanent homes.

What advice would you give people who are looking for ways to practice their Catholic faith more fully in their daily lives? Pray and read the bible every day, even for a few minutes. Be aware of God's presence. It's there, always. Look for opportunities to help. There is so much need. Never underestimate the power of simply being present to another person. It's really the most powerful way to share Jesus' love.



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(frjeff@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 15

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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)

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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
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Liturgical Coordinator: Mary Ryan
(mgr@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 35

Catholic Chaplain - Emerson Hospital
Timothy Duff - (978) 287-3015

St. Elizabeth's St. Vincent DePaul: (978) 263-4305 ext. 14

Collaborative Worship Schedule

Saturday
5:00 p.m.—St. Isidore

Sunday
8:45 a.m.—St. Isidore
10:45 a.m.—St. Elizabeth
5:00 p.m.—St. Elizabeth

Daily Eucharist
Mon., 9:00 a.m.—St. Isidore
Tues., 9:00 a.m.—St. Isidore
Wed., 9:00 a.m.—St. Elizabeth

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Wednesday of each month
5:00—7:00 p.m.—St. Elizabeth

Apple Valley Catholic Community Office Hours

St. Isidore
Sunday: 10:00 a.m.—Noon
Monday: 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m.—Noon

St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Sunday: Noon—4:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St. Isidore
Saturdays, 4:00—4:45 p.m.

St. Elizabeth
First Wednesday of each month, 5:30—7:00 p.m.



**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ELIZABETH**

For the week ending 9/1/2019:

Mass Offertory collections:	\$ 4,108
Mailbacks:	2,795
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	813
Total Parish Support:	7,716
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$101,942

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE**

For the week ending 9/1/2019:

Mass Offertory collections:	\$ 3,325
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	2,046
Total Parish Support:	5,371
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$33,258
St. Vincent DePaul Collection:	\$ 23