

A night sky with the Milky Way galaxy and a desert landscape with camels. The sky is dark blue with many stars and the Milky Way galaxy visible. The desert is a golden-brown color with several camels resting on the sand. The text is written in a white, cursive font.

*I will make your descendants as numerous
as the stars in the sky.*

Exodus 32:13

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

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ;

In June of 2018 I arrived in the Apple Valley Catholic Community. Within weeks I came to realize two very important aspects of this community. The faith and devotion of this community and the dedication of the staff in all they do for our community coupled with their faith and devotion. Imagine that! In just a few short weeks upon my arrival these two valued characteristics of our community came shining through and continue to shine in this wonderful Catholic community of ours.

As I write this letter, I write it with a sadness in my heart. Our Youth Minister Jim Flanagan, who has been with us for many years has decided that it is time for him to move on. I assure you, as Jim has assured me, that his departure is centered around the needs of his family and his continuous growth as a Youth Minister.

As our Youth Minister for the many years, Jim's dedication to the youth and to the entire community has been tremendous and much appreciated. Over the years Jim has led our Confirmation program, organized and participated in Mission Trips, helped to organize our successful Auction Nights, led and participated in our GIFT programs, our spiritual and service event, Teen & Adult Alpha, mentored and guided our youth leaders and has always been a vital member of our community staff. Jim accomplished all of this with his sense of compassion, love and kindness.

I personally would like to thank Jim for all he did while I was here this past year as well as for the years Jim has been part of our community. I know that many parishioners in our community will miss Jim, including the entire staff, and yet I know that we all wish Jim all the best as he moves on. Let us keep Jim in our prayers as he begins his new journey. May God continue to bestow upon Jim many blessings and may Jim continue to be led by the Holy Spirit.

I am yours in Christ,
Fr. Jeff

Special Collection This Week

This 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

*Congratulations to
Mr. and Mrs. Cameron and Allyson
Tieuliwho were united in the
Sacrament of Marriage at St. Elizabeth
parish on September 7th!
May their lives be blessed
with many years of
happiness as husband and wife.*



Alpha Starts This Weekend!

"Come and See"

**Sunday, September 15,
6:15-8:45 p.m.**

(For both teens and adults)
St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall



Who is Jesus?

How can I have faith?

How can I make the most of the rest of my life?

Young Family Ministry News

First Communion Preparation

Submit GIFT/First Communion Registration—Please complete the Faith Formation Registration forms that are available in both churches and parish offices and online at: <http://www.seoh.org/images/ParishBulletinsEtc/GIFT%20Registration%202019-2020.pdf>.

Parent Information – Thank you to the parents who joined us last Sunday for our information meetings. If you missed the meeting or have questions about the program, contact [Joan Mattila](#).



Attend GIFT a (Growing in Faith Together) Session on Wednesday, September 18 OR Sunday, September 22. Parent(s) and First Communion children and their families will gather for our first monthly GIFT session that includes a meal and K-4 breakout session.

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.*

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)



CLOW is offered for children during Sunday morning Masses: St. Isidore - 8:45 a.m. and St. Elizabeth - 10:45 a.m. Children in Grades K-6 are accompanied by our CLOW team to the church hall following the opening prayers and return to Mass prior to the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Parents are always welcome, and are asked to accompany their young children.

If you have any questions about First Communication Preparation, CLOW, or would like to join our ministry team, please contact Joan Mattila at: Joan@applevalleycatholic.org, 978 263-4305, or in person at the Faith Formation Office at St. Elizabeth.

Prayer Line

Prayer makes a difference!

Can you take a few minutes each week to pray for others?

Do you need prayers yourself?

Connect with our email prayer group!
To join the group or to request prayers, please send an email to Cathy Griffin, nushamrockgirl@gmail.com.

For requests, to protect privacy, we only use first names or no name.

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.

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.

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 be certified as soon as possible. Please enter the Rectory at the front door. Register at: barbara@applevalleycatholic.org

St. Vincent de Paul Conferences

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that the shepherd rejoices when he finds one lost sheep. The story tells us that nothing and no one is insignificant to God who is compassionate and loving to all.

Is there a neighbor or friend of yours who is in temporary need because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at St. Isidore (978)897-2710 or (978)263-4305 x14 at St. Elizabeth. We want to help!

Mass Intentions

St. Isidore

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

Sunday, September 8, 8:45 a.m.
The Duato Family, Memorial Mass

St. Elizabeth

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

Sunday, September 22, 10:45 a.m.
Gregory Graziano, 1st Anniversary Mass

Sunday, September 22, 5:00 p.m.
Regina Johnson, Memorial Mass

Special Collection -Sept. 21-22 Impact of Hurricane Dorian

Our hearts and prayers go out to the families that have lost loved ones and to all who have lost homes and businesses along with their sense of normalcy. We will be having a special collection for the (arch)dioceses of the Bahamas and the United States that have been ravaged by the destruction of Hurricane Dorian. We have all seen the devastation caused by this severe storm. The emergency needs of the local Church in these areas are great.

Checks should be made out to either "St. Elizabeth" or "St. Isidore" and clearly marked on the memo line "Hurricane Dorian Relief". They are working in collaboration with Catholic Relief Services for the Bahamas and Catholic Charities USA for any US diocese that has emergency needs. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

**GROWING IN FAITH
TOGETHER (GIFT)
Sessions begin this week!**

Collaborative Music News

Teen Ensemble begins on Monday

The first rehearsal of the Apple Valley Teen Ensemble is this Monday from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. in St. Elizabeth's Parish Center, Room 1 (upstairs). All singers and instrumentalists in grades 7 – 12 are welcome. Come join the fun!

No rehearsal for Children's Choir and Adult Choir this week due to the GIFT session. Rehearsals will resume next Wed., September 25. Children's Choir from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. and Adult Choir from 7 – 8:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Andrea Goodrich: 978-263-4305, ext.12. or andrag@applevalleycatholic.org. We hope you can join us!

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.

Scripture for the week of September 15, 2019

15	SUN	Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10
16	Mon	1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 7:1-10
17	Tue	1 Tm 3:1-13/Lk 7:11-17
18	Wed	1 Tm 3:14-16/Lk 7:31-35
19	Thu	1 Tm 4:12-16/Lk 7:36-50
20	Fri	1 Tm 6:2c-12/Lk 8:1-3
21	Sat	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13
22	SUN	Am 8:4-7/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

Wondering about Serving the Church as a Deacon?

If you are single or sacramentally married, and discerning God's possible call to serve the Church as a minister of Charity, Word, and Sacrament as an ordained deacon in the Archdiocese of Boston you and your wife (for those who are married) are invited to take part in the upcoming Inquirer Program.

The program consists of 3 meetings:

Meeting One:

Who is the Deacon and Am I One Who is Called?

Meeting Two:

Application Process, Canon Law, Formation from Wives' Perspective

Meeting Three:

Half-Day Discernment Retreat

The Diaconate Formation Program is four years in length and is open to single and sacramentally married men who will be between the ages of 35-65 at the time of ordination. Reflecting the global and multicultural nature of the Church, the diaconate program actively seeks candidates from the many cultural communities in the archdiocese. Academic classes are offered in English, however the program is committed to offering support for those for whom English is not their primary language.

Those who are interested in the diaconate are strongly encouraged to attend all three sessions of the Inquirer Program, along with their wives.

Please email Deacon Christopher Connelly at deacon_vocations@rcab.org to sign up or to receive more information, or call the office at 617-746-5649. The next group to be admitted into formation will begin classes in Sept. 2020.

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)

Administrative Assistant: Janice Howes
(janice@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 10

Director of Finance & Operations: Annmarie Mazzucotelli,
(annmarie@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 11

Collaborative Director of Music: Andrea Goodrich
(andreag@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's St. Vincent DePaul: (978) 263-4305 ext. 14

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.

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

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.

Collaborative Pastoral Council:

Edward Kelly
Maria Mpelkas
Hayley Reynolds
Valerie Pietry
David Winders
Steve Ryan
Diahne Goodwin - ex officio
Deacon Charlie Cornell - ex officio
Fr. Jeffrey Archer - ex officio

Parish Finance Council:
Annmarie Mazzucotelli - ex officio
Fr. Jeffrey Archer - ex officio

St. Isidore:

Bill Oberlies - Vice-Chair
Charlie Corley
Dave Goulet
Glenn Brunnell
Rosario Rizzo
Tom Moroney

St. Elizabeth:

Christopher Brolin - Vice-Chair
Dawn Gomez
Don Armstrong



**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ELIZABETH**

For the week ending 9/8/2019:

Mass Offertory collections:	\$ 3,310
Mailbacks:	1,014
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	<u>2,414</u>
Total Parish Support:	6,738
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$108,680

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE**

For the week ending 9/8/2019:

Mass Offertory collections:	\$ 1,090
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	<u>2,046</u>
Total Parish Support:	3,955
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$45,926
St. Vincent DePaul Collection:	\$ 146