



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
Office Hours: Sunday Noon—4 p.m.
Monday—Thursday: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

St. Isidore Parish
429 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775
(978) 897-2710/Fax (978) 461-0577
Office Hours: Sunday 10:00 a.m.—Noon
Monday: 9:00 –3:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m.—Noon

Visit us at <https://applevalleycatholic.org/>



Christmas Eve Masses

4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth*
 6:30 p.m. Mass at St. Isidore
 10:00 p.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth

Christmas Morning Masses

8:45 a.m. Mass at St. Isidore
 10:45 a.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth

*Mass will be live-streamed in the church hall at the 4:00 p.m., with additional seating for 300. There will be a cantor present to lead the music and sung responses and when it comes time for communion, we will have Eucharistic Ministers come to the church hall to distribute communion to everyone in the hall.

Clergy Health and Retirement Trust

Whether they are working to enrich our parishes or seeing to the needs of the broader communities in which they serve, priests have dedicated their lives to helping all of God's children. Each Christmas, we have the opportunity to support our priests through the special collection benefitting the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which offers preventive health and wellness programs, offers one-on-one support and advocacy to priests with health concerns, and operates Regina Cleri, a state-of-the-art facility where senior priests live in community.

Please support our priests, who through their ministry create stronger communities for all, by giving generously to this year's Christmas collection. This special collection is a primary source of funding to care for our priests. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Share The Love Of Christ With Our Visitors!

This Christmas, we invite our parishioners to come to our Masses as a host, ready to welcome all who will be visiting us. Let's make an extra effort to welcome our visitors with a smile, a warm greeting and even a seat during our Christmas Masses. A great sign of welcome is to move to the center of the pew so that others can easily find a place to sit. Also, consider parking farther away in the back parking lot if you are able to walk easily. If you know of a friend, relative or neighbor who may need a ride to Mass, consider offering to drive them. Your kind gestures or words of welcome may be just what someone needs to feel at home here and feel encouraged to come again!

Next GIFT Sessions

Sunday, December 15:
 11:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, December 18, 5:30 p.m.



Bob Mackin engages the children in the Gospel message at Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW).

Apple Valley Catholic Mission Trip Information Summer 2020

Registering Now

AVCC Youth ministry is excited to be able to offer 2 Catholic Heart Work Camp Mission Trips next summer! Catholic Heart is an amazing experience for young people to serve those in need, deepen their faith, and make incredible friends.

Catholic Heart Hartford, CT.

Open to youth currently in grades 8 – 12
Sunday, July 5 – Friday, July 10
Cost \$495

Catholic Heart Boston, MA.

Open to kids currently in grades 7 – 12
Sunday, July 12 – Friday, July 17
Cost \$495

Space is limited. Registrations will be accepted with a \$100 deposit on a first-come, first-served basis.

**St. Elizabeth & St. Isidore
Gift Collections are
Due Today, December 15
Thank You!**

Collaborative Music News

Teen Ensemble Rehearsal— Monday, 6:30-7:45, St. Elizabeth Church.

St. Elizabeth Christmas Mass rehearsal is Tuesday from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall.

St. Isidore Christmas Mass rehearsal is Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in St. Isidore Church.

Young Family Ministry News First Communion Preparation



First Reconciliation Workshop

Thank you to all of the parents who contributed their yummy food dishes at our potluck lunch last Sunday. The workshop featured a talk by Father Jeff who told an engaging story to the children and their parents of the Prodigal Son, followed by a discussion about Jesus' gift of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where we receive God's love and mercy. Thank you Father Jeff! Please Pray for The Children who will receive their Sacrament of First Reconciliation on the following pre-scheduled dates

- Tuesday, December 10
- Wednesday, January 18
- Wednesday, January 22
- Wednesday, January 29

Each of the sessions will take place from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church. Please contact Joan Mattila, our Program Coordinator, with any questions at: joan@applevalleycatholic.org.

December Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) on Sunday the 15th or Wednesday, the 18th. All grade K-4 children and their parent(s) will gather for a meal and then an engaging break-out session about how faith can help us to live in a spirit of generosity during the Christmas Season and throughout the year.



Lizzie Weaver was our big winner at this year's Middle School Service, Social and Swap. Kids donated food and packed bags for Stand Up for Kids which serves homeless kids in Worcester. Then they had a giant Yankee Swap, which Lizzie, all smiles, won!

Adult Christian Service Ministry Volunteer Opportunities



Cor Unum: Sat., December 21, 4:00—7:00 p.m. Contact Melissa Hatanaka at melissahatanaka@gmail.com

Acton Community Supper: Wed., January 15, 4:30—6:00 p.m. Contact John Covert at Covert@covert.org

Habitat for Humanity- TBD

Contact Mary Amato for more information.
amato.mg@gmail.com

St. Elizabeth Christmas Season Flower Fund

We welcome your contribution towards flowers and items that will decorate our church for the Christmas Season. Please complete and mail the form below to St. Elizabeth Parish 89 Arlington St. Acton MA 01720 or put it in an envelope marked '**SEoH Flower Fund**' and place it in the collection basket. If your donation is in memory of a deceased loved one and you wish to have his/her name published in our bulletin on January 12, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, please check off the appropriate box on the form below. Contact Mary Ryan at mgr@applevalleycatholic.org or 978-263-4305 X35 if you have questions.

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ towards the SEoH
2019 Christmas Season Flower Fund.

I am making this donation in memory of:

_____ *(please print clearly)*

I would like the above name/s published in the bulletin on
the Feast of the Baptism. Yes _____ No _____

My name is: _____

Please check here if you would like your donation to be
made anonymously. _____



Virtus Training Sessions

Please sign up for Virtus training at least one week prior to each session. You may register with Barbara at:

barbara@applevalleycatholic.org or by calling 978-263-4305, ext. 16.

Wed., Jan. 22, 11:00 a.m., St. Elizabeth, Room 3

Wed., Feb. 12, 7:00 St. Elizabeth Parish Center Room 3

Sat., March 21, 10:00 a.m., St. Isidore, Upstairs Rectory

Thurs., April 23, 7:00 p.m., St. Elizabeth Parish Center Room 3.

Preparing for Christmas at St. Elizabeth of Hungary

We need your help at Christmas Masses and to prepare our church for the Christmas Season.

On December 22, after the 5 p.m. Mass we will remove the Advent environment and begin to decorate for Christmas. On December 23 we will complete the transition.

Gift bearers, basket passers, and greeters are needed at the 4 p.m., 10 p.m., and 10:45 a.m. Masses. There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering space after Mass.

Contact Mary Ryan

mgr@applevalleycatholic.org if you have questions or to help out.

Scripture for the week of December 15, 2019

15 SUN Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
 16 Mon Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
 17 Tue Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
 18 Wed Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
 19 Thu Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
 20 Fri Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
 21 Sat Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
 22 SUN Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Mass Intentions

St. Isidore

Saturday, December 14, 5:00 p.m.
William Murphy, Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 15, 8:45 a.m.
Diane Romano, Memorial Mass

St. Elizabeth

Sunday, December 15, 10:45 a.m.
Josephine Horne, Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 15, 5:00 p.m.
James Archer, Memorial Mass

St. Isidore Christmas Flower Memorials

Envelopes for Christmas flower memorials can be found at all entrances. These envelopes can be passed in with the offertory or mailed to the parish office and all names listed on the memorial envelopes will be posted on a special insert page of the Christmas bulletin.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that the good news can be seen, touched felt and heard through the lives of God's people. We are now charged to take up the ministry of Jesus's, but we can't just ask people to take our word for it; our actions must speak for us.

As you heard from our speeches last weekend, we are in need of new younger members. Please call St. Isidore office at 978 897-2710 or email svdp@abrena.com for St. Isidore Conference or for St. Elizabeth Conference call 978 263-4305 x14 to become involved or for further information. Thank you.

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

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

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

Manager of Finance & Operations
Robin Ulichney
(robin@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 897-2710

Collaborative Director of Music: Andrea Goodrich
(andreag@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 12

Interim Coordinator of High School Faith formation:
Sheila Bauer, (sheilab@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305
ext. 23

Interim Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Kayla Dee,
(kaylad@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 23

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

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
Glen Bunnell
Rosario Rizzo
Tom Moroney

St. Elizabeth:

Christopher Brolin - Vice-Chair
Dawn Gomez
Don Armstrong

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ELIZABETH**

For the two weeks ending 12/8/2019:

Mass Offertory collections:	\$ 5,322
Mailbacks:	5,782
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	<u>2,114</u>
Total Parish Support:	13,218
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$ 284,041
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	290,096
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2019:	(6,055)

*Preliminary target is \$698,000 for the year ended 6/30/2020

St. Vincent de Paul \$ 832

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE**

For the two weeks ending 12/8/2019:

Mass Offertory collections:	\$ 2,632
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	<u>1,964</u>
Total Parish Support:	4,596
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$108,159
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	<u>115,342</u>
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2019:	(7,182)

Preliminary target is \$260,000 for the year ended 6/30/2020

Grand Annual (29% of 65K goal) \$ 18,908
St. Vincent de Paul \$ 453