

4th

**Sunday
of Advent**



Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Matthew 1:23

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

Each Christmas we have the opportunity to support our priests through the Christmas collection that benefits the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust. With the goal of ensuring the health and well-being of our 564 priests in good standing, the Trust 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 making a gift to the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust at clergytrust.org or 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!



Confirmation Candidate's Day Retreat

There is still time to register for the Confirmation Day Retreat on January 5, 9:30 a.m.—8:00 p.m. All candidates for Confirmation who did not attend a weekend retreat are encouraged to attend. To sign up, please email Sheila Bauer at:

sheilab@applevalleycatholic.org

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.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Maura Pavao at St. Isidore and Lucienne Schmidt at St. Elizabeth of Hungary (shown right and below), engage the children in the Gospel message of the Third Week of Advent. If you have any questions about CLOW, or would like to join our ministry team, please contact Joan Mattila at joan@applevalleycatholic.org.



Young Family Ministry News

December Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) - Finding The Gift of Generosity in Advent!



Grade K-4 children and their parent(s) gathered to sing “Happy Birthday” to Jesus, and then listened to inspiring stories of generosity and the “Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy” that are depicted in the beautiful stained-glass windows in St. Elizabeth Church.

Children and their parents then discussed specific ways that they can be generous to those in need during the Advent and Christmas Seasons, and throughout the year.



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)

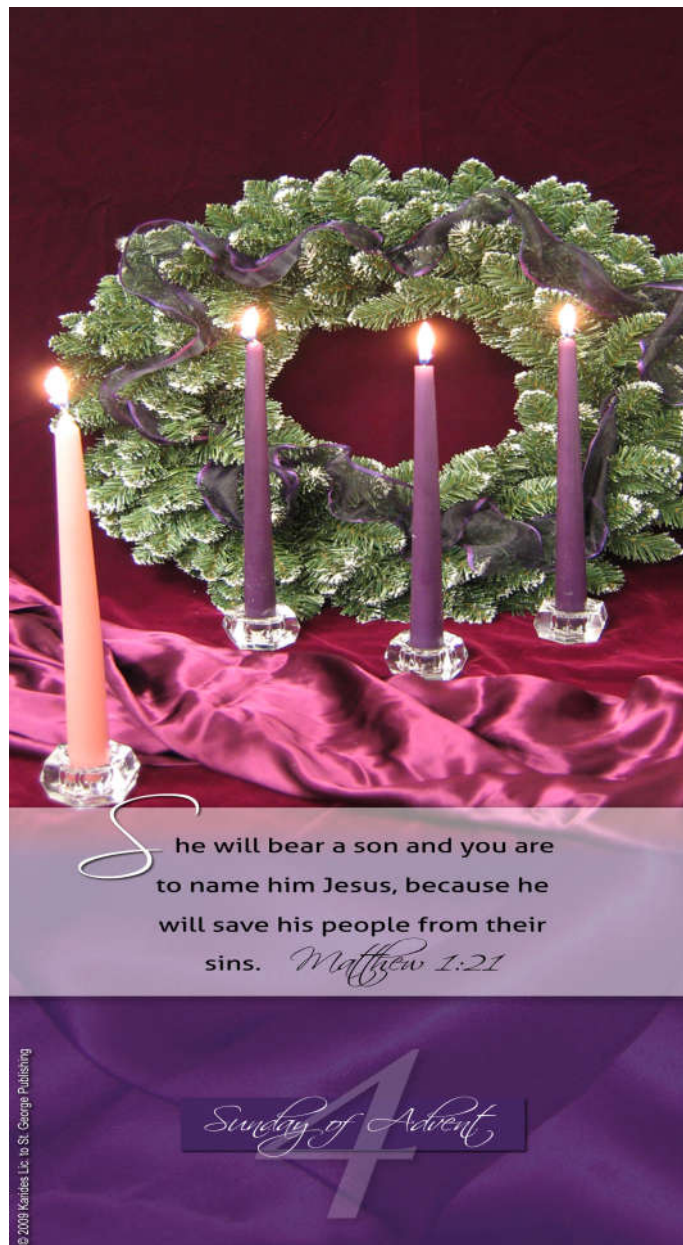
I would like the above name/s published in the bulletin
on the Feast of the Baptism. Yes _____ No _____

My name
is: _____

Thank you!

Thank you all who supported The Giving Tree at St. Elizabeth or to St. Isidore Parish which helped Warm Hearts of Stow and St. Mary of Lynn.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



Scripture for the week of December 22, 2019

- 22 SUN Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
 23 Mon Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
 24 Tue Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79
 25 Wed Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25
 or 1:18-25, Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14,
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20, Day: Is
 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
 26 Thu Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
 27 Fri 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 28 Sat 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18
 29 SUN Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-
 15, 19-23

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.

Welcome Home
— WHERE YOU BELONG —

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.

Wednesday, Jan. 22, 11:00 a.m.,
St. Elizabeth Parish Center, Room 3

Wednesday, Feb. 12, 7:00 p.m.,
St. Elizabeth Parish Center, Room 3

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

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

Mass Intentions

St. Isidore

Saturday, December 21, 5:00 p.m.
Erin Murphy, Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 22, 8:45 a.m.
Peter Rooney, Memorial Mass

St. Elizabeth

Sunday, December 22, 10:45 a.m.
Prayers for the Sick

Sunday, December 29, 10:45 a.m.
Thomas Swick, Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 29, 5:00 p.m.
Joseph Crispino, Memorial Mass

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.



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:
Anmarie 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 week ending 12/15/2019:

Mass Offertory collections:	\$ 3,553
Mailbacks:	1,807
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	<u>753</u>
Total Parish Support:	6,113
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$ 290,154
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	298,649
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2019:	(8,495)

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

Immaculate Conception	997
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 1,179

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE**

For the week ending 12/15/2019:

Mass Offertory collections:	\$ 2,469
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	<u>1,999</u>
Total Parish Support:	4,468
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$112,627
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	<u>120,039</u>
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2019:	(7,411)

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

Grand Annual (39% of 65K goal)	\$ 24,908
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 604