

*Behold,
the Lamb of God,
who takes away the
sin of the world.*

John 1:29

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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/>

Got Questions about Life?... About Faith? Try Alpha!



What is Alpha?

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith, in a friendly, open and informal environment. A place where you can belong to a group of people exploring these questions.

Alpha is not so much a *course*, but an experience! Gathering once a week over a ten week period, each Alpha brings together people from every walk of life. We begin each Alpha gathering by sharing a meal. We eat together, we listen to a talk and then we gather together in small groups for discussion. Over 29 million people across the globe have experienced Alpha.

We will be offering Winter Alpha Sessions starting on:

Tues., January 21, 9:45 a.m., St. Isidore

**Thurs., January 23, 6:30 p.m., St. Isidore
and**

**Teen Alpha, January 21, 6:30 p.m.,
St. Elizabeth Parish Hall**

In the meantime if you would like to learn more, check out alphausa.org; or contact avccalpha@gmail.com

Helping Hands

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 20, St. Isidore Church Hall

Please join the Confirmation candidates as we package 10,000 emergency meal kits with Helping Hands! This is a great family service activity. This year we are trying something different and only having one large shift. Check-in begins at 9:45 a.m. Please arrive no later than 10:00 a.m. Packaging begins at 10:15 a.m. Event concludes at 12:15 p.m.

Space is limited, so please use the following link to RSVP and make an optional donation: <https://helpinghands.crs.org/events/apple-valley/>. Please email Sheila Bauer with any questions: sheilab@applevalleycatholic.org

*Feel free to join us at the 9:00 a.m. Mass at
St. Isidore first!*

What's Next After Alpha? Connect Groups

A place where people go to connect and grow!

Join a Connect Group! Connect Groups are where Alpha alumni go to connect and grow! They are an opportunity to continue to grow in the relationships that were formed in the Alpha course with each other and with God. They are places where members are known, loved and cared for by one another. We meet in homes, share a meal, have some fun, listen to a short talk by one of its members, have conversation and pray together.

Our first Alpha Connect Group gathering of the year is **Friday Evening January 24** at Sean O'Sullivan's home, 125 Hayward Rd., Acton from 6:30-8 p.m. We will continue every first and third Friday after that. If you would like to join this group that is starting, contact: avccalpha@gmail.com.



Honduras Mission Trip (Graduated Seniors and Adults) June 8-13

Deposit of \$100.00 due by January 31.
Contact Kayla Dee with any questions:
kaylad@applevalleycatholic.org

Apple Valley Catholic Mission Trips Summer 2020



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



Have you ever wondered...
“As my kid is growing up, why does
it feel like we are growing apart?
You are not alone!!!

Keep Connected is a 6 session workshop which gives kids in Grades 6 – 8 and their parents tools, practice, and support in developing communication skills, problem-solving, and conflict resolution. AVCC has been selected to pilot a faith-based version of the program this year. We ran our first group in the fall. And we are looking for 8 – 10 kids and at least one of their parents to join us for our second session this winter.

Want to be part of it?

There will be no cost to families who participate. However, we do need a firm commitment to attend all 6 sessions. Keep connected is designed for students in grades 6 – 8. However, under certain circumstances, applicants in grades 5 or 9 may be considered.

Keep Connected will meet after the Sunday 5:00 PM Mass on the following dates. Supper will be provided.

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Sunday, Feb. 23 | Sunday, March 15 |
| Sunday, March 1 | Sunday, March 22 |
| Sunday, March 8 | Sunday, March 29 |

Please consider taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity to grow your relationship with your child, connect your life in a very meaningful way, and connect with other kids and parents in our community.

Spaces are available on a first come, first served basis. Please register with the name and grade of your child and which parent(s) will attend. You may register at barbara@applevalleycatholic.org.

Collaborative Music News

There will be no Teen Ensemble this week.

Children’s Choir will rehearse on Wednesday from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. in St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall.

Adult Music Ministry will rehearse on Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in St. Elizabeth Parish Center Hall.



Music Ministry—Come and See!

If you’ve wanted to sing with the Collaborative Music Ministry, come try it out on Wednesday, January 22 or 29 at 7 p.m. in St. Elizabeth’s Parish Center Hall. Come meet the friendly members of the music ministry, sing with us, and see if it is good fit for you. There is no obligation. If you have any questions, contact Andrea Goodrich, Music Director:

andreag@applevalleycatholic.org

We hope to see you on Wednesday!

Collaborative Alter Server trainings For Current and New Servers

It has been a goal for both St. Elizabeth and St. Isidore altar server ministries to unite and function as one collaborative ministry. We have worked together to refine and unify the procedures where possible and to unify the scheduling of servers at all four of our weekend Masses. To that end, there will be trainings to review the procedures and bring everyone up to speed. All current servers are being asked to attend. Anyone else who may be interested in serving may also attend.

The training dates are:

St. Isidore Training: (Please RSVP to Marcia Melone, melonem1@gmail.com)

- Sunday Jan 19 at 10:00 a.m.
- Saturday, Jan 25 at 4:15 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan 26 at 10:00 a.m.

St. Elizabeth Training: TBA (Please RSVP to Marianne Sullivan, 8patriots@gmail.com)

**Accompanying others on the
Journey of Faith
Ananias Training 2020
Begins Wednesday, February 19**

Inspired by the important role Ananias played in St. Paul's journey to Christ, Ananias Training **includes five sessions plus an optional retreat day**, and is designed equip people to accompany, or "be Ananias," to one another, within the Church as well as to those in the world. The training will use Scripture reflections, video, and facilitated discussions to help you to:

- Recognize the stages of another's spiritual journey through compassionate listening.
- Listen lovingly to their real questions and opinions God in order to guide the discovery of how God is present and active in a person's life.
- Talk about our relationship with God.
- Share how we came to be a disciple of Jesus.
- Share Jesus' own story in response to the spiritual hunger of another.

Training Schedule: Wednesday Evenings. Sessions build upon one another and completing all sessions bring most value to participation. February 19, March 4, March 18, April 1, April 22, May 6, April 4 (retreat day – highly recommended but not mandatory)

Cost: \$25 per person for the training, (\$30 for those outside St. Elizabeth or St. Isidore) \$12 for a copy of *Forming Intentional Disciples*, if needed. \$15 for retreat day*

*The stand alone retreat is open to the community at large at \$25 per person. Ananias Training participants receive a \$10 discount.

Please be in touch with Diahne Goodwin with questions or to register.

Scripture for the week of January 19, 2020

| | | |
|----|-----|---|
| 19 | SUN | Is 49:3, 5-6/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34 |
| 20 | Mon | 1 Sm 15:16-23/Mk 2:18-22 |
| 21 | Tue | 1 Sm 16:1-13/Mk 2:23-28 |
| 22 | Wed | 1 Sm 17:32-33,37,40-51/Mk 3:1-6 |
| 23 | Thu | 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Mk 3:7-12 |
| 24 | Fri | 1 Sm 24:3-21/Mk 3:13-19 |
| 25 | Sat | Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18 |
| 26 | SUN | Is 8:23—9:3/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17 |

**Young Family Ministry News
Happy New Year!**

**First Communion Preparation Kick-Off
Sunday, January 26
11:45 a.m., St. Elizabeth Church Hall**

Children and their parent(s). The children will receive their new "Go Seek Find" folders for First Communion, and Fr. Jeff will lead a "Walk Through The Mass" upstairs in the church.

**Upcoming Dates for Sacrament of
First Reconciliation**

Please pray for the children who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on these pre-registered dates at St. Elizabeth:

- Wednesday, January 22 at 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 29 at 4:00 p.m.

**Upcoming Programs for
Middle School**

The Archdiocese of Boston offers the following programs for middle school kids.

Keeping Kids Safe for Grades 5 and 6

Sun. Jan. 26, After the 10:45 Mass – 2 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Room 1 and Room 4

Keeping Kids Safe offers ways for early adolescents to protect themselves and stay safe while they are home alone, in public places with friends, and online. Topics such as sexual harassment, sexual abuse, and exploitation will be discussed in an age appropriate manner. Parents are welcome to attend.

Created for Love for Grades 7 and 8

Fri. Jan. 31, 6:00 p.m., St. Elizabeth Room 1 and Room 4

Created for Love presents the Church's teaching on Love, Marriage, and Chastity. Kids will learn about the importance of developing positive relationships in their lives, the sacrament of Marriage, and why the Church promotes chastity. Parents are welcome to attend. For both programs, please register with Barbara Dane at barbara@applevalleycatholic.org no later than January 21.

St. Isidore Grand Annual

Dear St. Isidore Parishioners,

As you know we are in the midst of our Grand Annual Collection. If you didn't receive a mailing regarding this collection, copies are at the entryways of the church. We are grateful to everyone who has already given.

We want to point out you can donate **appreciated stock** or **mutual fund units** as part your contribution to the Grand Annual. Donating some of those securities to St. Isidore's Grand Annual Collection helps reduce your capital gains tax.

As you plan for the upcoming year, you may want to consider donating a portion of your IRA Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) to St. Isidore, and if you are over 70 and 1/2 years old, you can use a tax efficient tool called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) that counts toward your RMD, but is not considered taxable income. There are three simple steps involved in making a QCD:

1. Contact your IRA Company or Advisor and tell them you'd like to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to St. Isidore Parish.
2. Your IRA company will send a check directly to St. Isidore Parish.
3. St. Isidore Parish receives your gift and the amount is excluded from your income.

You should consult with a tax or financial advisor regarding your specific situation and other potential tools that are available to you for planned giving. Please let Robin know if you plan on using one of these methods.

In closing, we thank you for your past financial support of the parish and we hope you will continue this support during this time.

Sincerely,
St. Isidore's Parish Finance Council

Collaborative Website!

<https://applevalleycatholic.org/>

Mass Intentions

St. Elizabeth

Sunday, January 19, 10:45 a.m.
Gerald and Joan McCarville, Memorial Mass

Sunday, January 19, 5:00 p.m.
Brian Weaver, Memorial Mass

St. Vincent de Paul Conferences

In the Gospel after Jesus was baptized, John testified saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove...and remain upon him." Have you considered joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that you can live your Baptism more fully?

For more information, check the brochure at the entrance of the Church "You a Vincen-tian", call the rectory 978-897-2710 or Email svdp@abrena.com at St. Isidore or leave a message on the St. Elizabeth SVDP phone, 978 263-4305 x14

Sunday Café at St. Isidore

The Café Volunteers need more people to join their team to set up, make coffee and clean up at the Café on Sundays after the 8:45 a.m. mass. Please consider joining this wonderful group and help us keep this ministry going. For more information or to sign up contact Robin in the office or Jill Smith at Jillian Smith: jillian_k_smith@yahoo.com.

Special Collection Next Week

Next week's second collection supports the Church in Latin America (CLA). The CLA provides support for pastoral projects in financially poorer dioceses in Latin America and the Caribbean. CLA funds catechetical and lay leadership programs, youth ministry, evangelization programs, and formation programs for religious, priests, and deacons. CLA is making it possible for the Catholic faithful in the Western hemisphere to help each other. Please visit www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/latin-america/index.cfm for more information.

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 week ending 12/29/2019:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Mass Offertory collections: | \$ 3,155 |
| Mailbacks: | 879 |
| Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT): | <u>756</u> |
| Total Parish Support: | 4,790 |
| Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019: | \$ 356,290 |
| Target Parish Support since 7/1/2019: | 366,804 |
| Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2019: | (10,514) |

St. Vincent de Paul \$ 182

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

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE**

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Mass Offertory collections: | \$ 2,279 |
| Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT): | <u>2,500</u> |
| Total Parish Support: | 4,779 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019: | \$133,937 |
| Target Parish Support since 7/1/2019: | <u>139,882</u> |
| Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2019: | (5,946) |

Grand Annual (54% of 65K goal) \$ 37,158

St. Vincent de Paul \$ 89

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