



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons.

Mark 1:34

APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE – TWO PARISHES ONE MISSION

St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish
89 Arlington Street, Acton, MA 01720

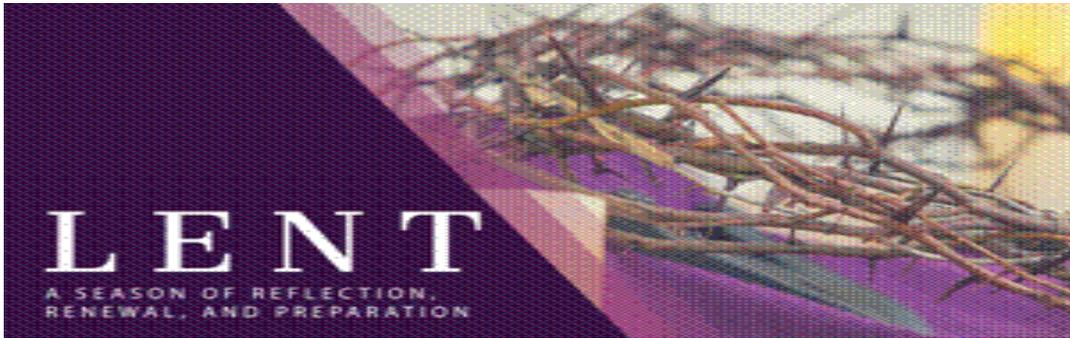


St. Isidore Parish
429 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775

Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative Office:
89 Arlington Street, Acton, MA 01720

Office Hours: Closed due to the pandemic. Reach out to staff by phone or email.
(978) 263-4305/Fax (978) 263-9014

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



Ash Wednesday Mass

As we continue to navigate our way through this Pandemic while dealing with the changes to our lives in so many ways, I share our plans for Ash Wednesday Mass, Ashes and Confessions during Lent. Information will be forthcoming on the Triduum and Easter Sunday.

Since the reopening of our two Churches my goal, and that of the staff and volunteers, has always been on your safety. I am proud of how well we have done these last 8 months since we reopened. The same safety measures will continue until we have conquered this Pandemic.

In discussing with the Liturgy team what to do for Ash Wednesday Mass this year, we took into consideration Ash Wednesday Mass last year, accounting for the length of the Mass, the distribution of ashes and the increase in attendance. The Ash Wednesday liturgy is normally longer than a typical Sunday liturgy with a significant increase in attendance. We did not feel comfortable about having people in Church for a longer period and we are still limited to 25% attendance per Mass. Also, imposing ashes is not allowed in the normal fashion because of the need to maintain the 6+ feet social distancing.

In light of this our community will celebrate with a Live Stream Mass on Ash Wednesday at 7:00p (February 17, 2021). You can access this Mass on our Website at www.applevalleycatholic.org or our Facebook page at Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative. Immediately following the homily during Mass those watching will have the opportunity to trace the sign of the cross on their forehead or that of family or friends present and say "Repent, and believe in the Gospel." Although you won't have the actual ashes please see the current write up from the Archdiocese of Boston.

"Parishioners should be reminded that their own internal disposition and intention to repent and start over is the best fruit of Ash Wednesday, and that the ashes are an external sign of that internal reality. They should be reminded that receiving ashes is not required. They can still enter into Lent with a repentant heart even if they decide that receiving ashes is not the right thing for them this year."

Confessions During Lent

We will have confessions on designated Tuesdays or Wednesdays during Lent. As we do every year we alternate between St. Isidore and St. Elizabeth each year. This year I would like to keep confessions at St. Elizabeth. Next year, if we are cleared of the Pandemic, we will have Confessions during Lent at St. Isidore.

Lent Confession Schedule

Tuesday February 23, 2021 4:00p – 6:00p – St. Elizabeth
Wednesday March 3, 2021 4:00p – 6:00p – St. Elizabeth
Wednesday March 17, 2021 4:00p – 6:00p – St. Elizabeth

Why do Catholics help the poor? What does solidarity mean to me?

Looking for a different yet meaningful Lenten project? Why not learn what our Church says about social justice? The steering committee of the newly-formed AVCC Social Justice Ministry is offering a 6 week "mini-course" on Catholic Social Teaching on Monday evenings during Lent. The Catholic Church has a long tradition of engagement in social justice, and knowledge of this teaching and its roots in Scripture and Tradition is available to all Catholics as a witness to our faith and expression of love of neighbor.

If you're interested in learning more, or in planning future social justice projects, please join our weekly course on Zoom starting on Feb. 22, 7 pm. All are welcome, but class size is limited, so sign up early! Email sheilab@avcatholic.org to register.

Mass Schedule Change Weekend of February 6 -7 **ONLY**



Saturday February 6 – 4:00 p.m.
Live Stream Mass – Closed to Public

Sunday February 7 - 8:45 a.m. Mass
St. Isidore – 65 parishioners – pre-registration

Sunday February 7 – 10:45 a.m. Mass
St. Elizabeth – 90 parishioners – pre-registration

Sunday February 7 – 5:00 p.m.
No Mass Scheduled – **THIS WEEKEND ONLY**

Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday and closes at noon on Saturday, or when full.

An Eventbrite invitation, and instructions, are available on our website.

Mass Intentions

February 6, 4:00 p.m.— Mary Stronach,
3rd Anniversary Mass

February 7, 8:45 a.m.—Mary Swiontek,
Memorial Mass

February 7, 10:45 a.m.—John F. Ciampa,
Anniversary Mass

AVCC welcomed Maria and Felipe Paes,
and Nico and Rafael Chavez to the Table of the Lord
on Sunday, January 31.
We celebrate their First Holy Communions with joy!



After Divorce: Healing From Inside Out

**A Virtual Seminar with author
Rose Sweet, February 10, 7:00--9:00 PM**

Register Here: <http://bit.ly/2XfqwJE>

Are you newly divorced? Maybe it's been a while and you're still struggling. Regardless, when the trauma of divorce hits, or its residual pain lingers for years, true healing must begin deep within. The ministry of Family Life & Ecclesial Movements of the Archdiocese of Boston will host a seminar in support of Catholics who are experiencing divorce or separation.

Rose Sweet, host of the Ascension Press program, *Surviving Divorce*, will guide participants into that place in the heart where fears, and anxieties, hopes and dreams co-exist. Drawing from the healing touch of Christ, you'll learn four simple steps to breaking free and living that abundant life for which you were made! Join us for this special event, featuring prayer, a personal witness testimony on overcoming the pain of divorce, Rose's keynote address, and Q&A following the presentation.

**National Marriage Week
February 7-14
World Marriage Sunday
Valentine's Day—February 14**

WHY SACRAMENTAL MARRIAGE MATTERS
Monday, Feb. 8th | 8-9:00 PM Facebook live -
[https://www.facebook.com/
DomesticChurchPodcastRaising8s](https://www.facebook.com/DomesticChurchPodcastRaising8s)

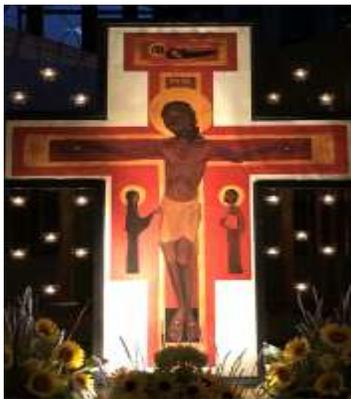
Michael and Lori Lavigne have been married almost 17 years and have 8 children. The grace available through the Sacrament of Marriage has helped them through the good and the bad. Join them as they talk honestly about marriage and the importance of sacramental grace.

**LOVE IN A LOCKDOWN: COMMUNICATION &
CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Tuesday, Feb. 9th
7:30-9:00 PM Zoom - <http://bit.ly/3qitQjI>

Dr. Greg Kolodziejczak is an accomplished clinical psychologist in Cambridge who will provide listeners with tools to improve their communication and conflict resolution skills especially while we're so lockdown. Activity and Q & A will be included.

Taizé Prayer for Healing



A special Taizé Prayer for healing will be livestreamed this Friday, February 12 at 7 p.m. Follow the link on our website. If you are not able to pray with us at 7 p.m. on Friday, the service will be available on the Apple Valley Catholic YouTube Channel. We hope you will join us.

**Year End Contributions
St. Elizabeth & St. Isidore**

For tax purposes, parishioners often seek to document their contributions to St. Elizabeth and St. Isidore. Your bank statement constitutes acceptable IRS documentation for donations by check or EFT. For your donations made through Online Giving you should have received a confirmation email at the time of each donation and if you established a user account you can access your giving history at any time. Please contact Annmarie at 978 263-4305 ext. 11 should you have questions.

Each parish can also supply a statement for offertory donations provided they were made by means of donation envelopes, EFT, Online or contributions of \$250 or more on a single day. The following types of donations would be included on that statement: Offertory, Special Collections, 90-Days Now, EFT and Online Giving.

Please note that for contributions made directly to St. Vincent DePaul, the respective conference will be sending you acknowledgement of your contribution.

If you would like a statement, please fill out the form below.

Year End Contributions Statement Request

Parish
Name: _____

Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Telephone Number (in case we have questions)

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

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

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
 (andrea@applevalleycatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 12

Coordinator of High School Youth Ministry:
 Sheila Bauer, (sheilab@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)

Coordinator of Young Family Ministries: Tom Spataro
 (Toms@avcatholic.org), (978) 263-4305 ext. 17

Operations & Finance Administrative Assistant: Judy Richardson
 (judy@applevalleycatholic.org), 978 263-4305 ext. 19

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

St. Elizabeth's St. Vincent DePaul: Conference of Acton/Boxborough
 (978) 263-4305 ext. 14

St. Isidore's St. Vincent De Paul Conference of Stow,
 (978) 263-4305 ext. 21

Thank You

Jesus Christ seeks to be in relationship with each and everyone one of us. To encounter Jesus is to experience his love in a meaningful and life transforming way. Christ is alive! Even during this darkest of times during the Pandemic. Thank You for your continued support of our Collaborative, as a witness to your faith and expression of love of your neighbors ... making the world a better place.

To the servant of God ... every place is the right place, and every time is the right time. - Saint Catherine of Sienna

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
 ST. ELIZABETH**

For the week ending 1/24/21

Cash & Check Offertory	\$	11,116
Electronic Offertory (EFT & Online):	\$	<u>6,003</u>
Total Parish Support:	\$	17,119

Offertory since 7/1/2020:		
Total Collected Offertory:	\$	368,864
Total Budgeted Offertory: (1)	\$	<u>274,442</u>
Over (Under) Budget	\$	94,421

Budgeted loss for the year ended 6/30/2021 (2)	\$	(79,603)
Offertory Over (Under) Budget since 7/1/2020	\$	<u>94,421</u>
Revised Budgeted income for the year ended 6/30/2021	\$	14,818

(1) Budgeted offertory for the year ended 6/30/2021 is \$475,200. This estimate was calculated based on the actual offertory received during April of 2020, as instructed by the Archdiocese. This is approximately 30% less then what we have received in past years, which reflects the uncertainty of the economic impact of the Pandemic.

(2) Budgeted loss primarily due to the uncertainty of offertory collections related to the Pandemic. Payroll expenses have been reduced through layoffs and reduction in employee salaries and hours. Other expenses have also been reduced accordingly.

St. Vincent de Paul collection: \$ 150

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
 ST. ISIDORE**

For the week ending 1/24/21

Cash & Check Offertory	\$	915
Electronic Offertory (EFT & Online):	\$	<u>2,210</u>
Total Parish Support:	\$	3,125

Offertory since 7/1/2020:		
Total Collected Offertory:	\$	121,570
Total Budgeted Offertory: (1)	\$	<u>99,852</u>
Over (Under) Budget	\$	21,718

Budgeted loss for the year ended 6/30/2021 (2)	\$	(39,242)
Offertory Over (Under) Budget since 7/1/2020	\$	21,718
Grand Annual Over (Under) Budget since 7/1/2020	\$	10,197
Revised Budgeted loss for the year ended 6/30/2021	\$	(7,327)

(1) Budgeted offertory for the year ended 6/30/2021 is \$171,746. This estimate was calculated based on the actual offertory received during April of 2020, as instructed by the Archdiocese. This is approximately 30% less then what we have received in past years, which reflects the uncertainty of the economic impact of the Pandemic.

(2) Budgeted loss primarily due to the uncertainty of offertory collections related to the Pandemic. Payroll expenses have been reduced through layoffs and reduction in employee salaries and hours. Other expenses have also been reduced accordingly.

Grand Annual Collection: \$ 32,569
 St. Vincent de Paul collection: \$ -