



Fourth Sunday of Easter

By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 2:24-25

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



St. Isidore Parish
429 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775
(978) 897-2710/Fax (978) 461-0577

Office Hours: Suspended during Coronavirus

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

Young Family Ministry News

First Communion Family News



Despite the uncertainty of when our First Communion Masses will be celebrated, our AVCC families have been staying connected using First Communion Preparation in Google Classroom and Zoom! The picture (above) shows last Sunday’s zoom gathering when children shared their “roses and thorns” from the week; their “rose” being something that made them happy and their “thorn” something that made them sad. The children’s “Roses” for this week included: spending time with my baby brother and my family, riding my bike, going for walks outside with my family, playing with my brothers and sisters, watching for our rose bush to bloom, helping my mom cook, walking my dog(s), taking care of our chickens/other animals, seeing and playing with my friend outside but stay-

ing apart in our own driveways. The most common “thorns” were: missing my friends and teachers, not getting along with my brothers and sisters. Our faith take-aways were: knowing that Jesus is with us and feels our roses and thorns, He wants us to share our feelings with one another so that we can support each other because “we’re all in this together”, and, just as Jesus was with the disciples in the Gospel story of The Road to Emmaus, Jesus is with us always!



Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative Online Mass

Until we are able to return to our two Churches, we are celebrating the Mass at St. Elizabeth of Hungary & St. Isidore. Every Sunday the recorded Mass will be posted on our Apple Valley Catholic Community website (www.applevalleycatholic.org) and on our Facebook page (Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative). The recorded online Mass will be posted each Sunday by 9:00 a.m. Please join us online each Sunday for the celebration of Mass.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ELIZABETH**

For the week ending 4/26/20

Mailbacks:	\$ 7,040
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	\$ 322
90-Days NOW!*	\$ -
Online Giving	<u>\$ 2,120</u>
Total Parish Support:	\$ 9,482
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$ 542,404
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2019:**	<u>\$ 579,911</u>
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2019:	\$ (37,507)

*Waiting for data to be reported from the Archdiocese
**Target is \$698,000 for the year ended 6/30/2020

St. Vincent de Paul online giving:	\$
St. Vincent de Paul collection:	\$ 250

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT
ST. ISIDORE**

For the week ending 4/26/20

Mailbacks:	\$ 6,400
Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):	\$ 2,626
90-Days Now!*	\$ -
Online Giving	<u>\$ 195</u>
Total Parish Support:	\$ 9,221
Total Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	\$ 214,342
Target Parish Support since 7/1/2019:	<u>\$ 215,616</u>
Over (Under) Target since 7/1/2019:	\$ (1,274)

Grand Annual (66% of 65K goal) \$ 43,392
* Waiting for data to be reported from the Archdiocese
**Target is \$260,000 for year ended 6/30/2020

St. Vincent de Paul online giving	\$ 310
St. Vincent de Paul collection	\$ 350

While social distancing has limited our assembling in parishes and ministry groups, we can still gather as family—the domestic Church!

Families are already experiencing the stress and strain of this crisis in poignant ways, but this is also an opportunity for us to strengthen our bonds to each other and to God. Let's journey together as a family through these especially difficult times.

Let's reach out in prayer to remain connected with each other, and most importantly connected to Christ. Let's pray as a sign of hope, recognizing our connection in faith, and doing so in love of our neighbor and ourselves.

Please know as a staff we are keeping all of you in our hearts and prayers and wait eagerly the day when we can once again gather together.

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

Prayers for the Departed:

**Margaret Bouvier
Brendan Hueston**

ALPHA

Has this new reality of the pandemic given rise to these questions in a new way? Let's get together and explore Life and the Christian faith in a fun and friendly virtual gathering. We are excited to be able to offer a new season of Alpha, **ONLINE!**

Come and See! Please register on our website, <https://www.applevalleycatholic.org/alpha> or emaavccalpha@gmail.com, to get a Zoom sign in link.

(We started April 28 but It's not too late to join in!)
We hope to see you there!

Thank You to all of you who have been able to send in your offertory, as your means allow. Your continued support through Online Giving, EFT, and within your mailed-in envelopes (complete with cards, stamps, stickers of angels and warm sentiments of your longing to be back together in our Community), all express the deep and profound love you have for our Parishes and our Community. We sincerely appreciate your support always and especially in these difficult times.

THANK YOU! ♥

90-Days Now—For Your Parish

This special initiative is an opportunity, if possible, to rally around and support the ongoing operations of our parishes of St. Isidore or St. Elizabeth of Hungary with a *daily* offertory commitment for the next 90 days. This effort will *supplement* the weekly offertory gifts, given the challenges of the current crisis

Copy & Paste Link to Web Browser:

<https://bcatholic.sites.bostoncatholic.org/form/giving-form?fid=4916>

Donate in 4 Easy Steps

1. Select St. Elizabeth of Hungary or St. Isidore from a drop down menu.
2. Choose \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10 or a custom daily donation amount.
3. Select your payment frequency (weekly, monthly or one-time).



This allows you to make offertory and other contributions (beyond the special 90 Day Now Campaign) throughout the year, without writing checks or worrying about cash donations. This site lets you set up automatic contributions and change the timing or the amount of your gift at any time. Please go on our website page:

<https://22049.sites.ecatholic.com/donate>

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I CAME SO THAT
THEY MIGHT HAVE
LIFE AND HAVE IT
MORE
Abundantly
JOHN 10:10

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To keep up to date on General Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative announcements join our **Constant Contact List** which can be found on our website.

Find us on Facebook: Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative, Apple Valley Catholic Youth Ministry and Apple Valley Catholic Young Adults!