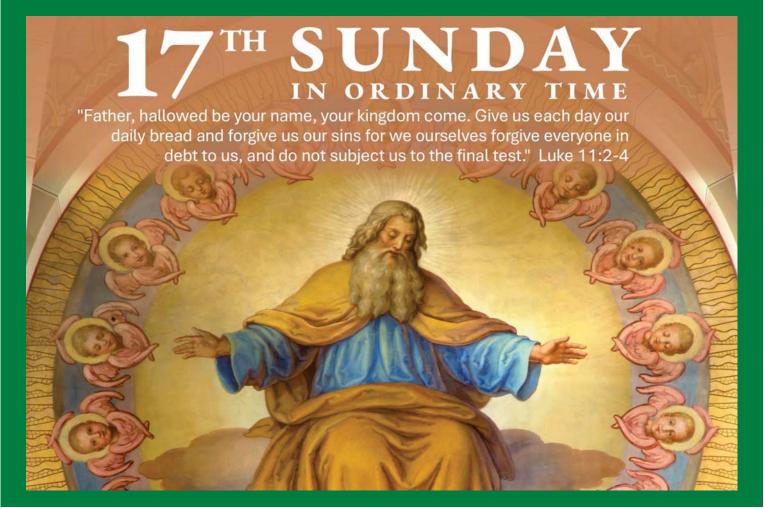
Apple Valley Catholic Community Two Parishes - One Mission



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



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

We Welcome YOU!

At the Apple Valley Catholic Community, we live out the commandment Jesus gave to His disciples when He said "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (John 13:34). We live this commandment by acknowledging we are all, in one way or another, our sister's and brother's keepers.

We affirm the dignity and worth of each person regardless of your race, nationality or ethnic group, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, age, socioeconomic class, married, single, divorced, Mass attendance, or anything else. We affirm that we are all God's children and part of the one family of God and that means We Welcome YOU.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 26, 5:00 pm - Margaret Duato, Memorial Mass

> Sunday, July 27, 8:45 am -Richard & Robert Bryce

Sunday, July 27, 10:45 am - Mark Tawa, Memorial Mass

New CORI Forms Available

In accordance with Archdiocesan guidelines and our own safety policies, ALL volunteers need to have a current fiscal year CORI form on file. The FY 26 CORI forms are now available on our website or in the gathering spaces. If you volunteer in ANY capacity at AVCC, please complete a new CORI and return it to your staff coordinator.

For more information, go to

avcatholic.org/volunteers

LIFT Corner

55 m

This ministry is a wonderful complement to the offerings of our parish community and a way to help members experience their faith as real amidst the busyness of daily life.

Many of our participants say their small group has become a meaningful and enriching part of their week. Want to hear more? Ask someone who's been part of it, or connect with Tom to explore joining a group yourself.



Interested in learning more about Spiritual Direction?

The Franciscan Spiritual Direction Training Program at St. Anthony Shrine is now enrolling its 2025–2027 cohort. If you have 3–5 years of experience receiving spiritual direction, consider applying. Need-based scholarships are available.

Learn more / request an application: stanthonyshrine.org/ministries/spiritualdirection-training-program

Questions? Contact our own Lucretia B. Yaghjian (Teaching Team) at

lucretia.yaghjian@comcast.net or 978-973-0052, or reach Program Director Jennie Isbell Shinn at jshinn@stanthonyshrine.org.



Youth Ministry teens pose with friends from the Christmas in July at Capernaum Place in Lawrence



Pastor's Corner

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

As we reflect on this Sunday's Gospel from Luke 11:1–13, I find myself thinking about prayer—not just the words we say, but what prayer really is. So often, when we speak about prayer, it's easy to think of it as a kind of spiritual transaction: I offer God my needs, my faith, my good behavior—and in return, I expect a certain result. And when that result doesn't come, we're left hurt, confused, even disappointed.

But I believe Jesus is inviting us into something much deeper and more beautiful.

In today's Gospel, the disciples ask Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray." And Jesus responds not with a formula or a secret code, but with a relationship. He tells us to begin with the words "Our Father." Those two words tells us everything: Prayer is not a transaction. Prayer is a relationship.

We don't approach God like someone putting coins into a vending machine, hoping the right combination will give us what we want. We approach God as sons and daughters turning to a loving Father who is already near, who already knows our hearts, and who always, always responds—not with a product, but with His presence.

Jesus teaches us that sometimes we ask and receive, seek and find, knock and the door opens. But other times, we don't get the answer we hoped for. That's part of the mystery of prayer. Still, we are not abandoned. In every prayer, whether answered or not in the way we expect, God gives us Himself. He gives us His Spirit. His love. His strength. His peace.

I know many of us carry deep questions about unanswered prayers—prayers for healing, for reconciliation, for clarity in life. I carry some of those prayers too. But I take comfort in knowing that prayer is not about perfect words or guaranteed results. It is about being with the One who never leaves us, never stops loving us, and always walks with us.

So, I encourage you: Keep praying. Keep knocking. Not because you need to convince God, but because prayer is how we stay close to the One who loves us most. And if you ever feel uncertain or discouraged in prayer, come back to the disciples' simple request: "Lord, teach us to pray." And listen for Jesus' voice in your heart saying "Our Father"

Blessings,

Fr. Jeff

Free lunch for kids!

Acton-Boxborough Food and Nutrition Services is excited to offer **FREE lunches** for all kids and teens 18 years old and under this summer! No sign-up or ID required!

Open to all — students do not need to live in Acton or Boxborough

When: Monday-Friday, June 30 to August 8 (except July 4)

Time: 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Where: Coach Estates, 53-55 Brook St, Acton, MA (across from Donelan's)

How: Meals must be eaten on site with the child present

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INCLUDES REGISTRATION FOR
FIRST COMMUNION &
CONFIRMATION (NOW OFFERED TO 8TH GRADERS)

All young people are encouraged to continue learning about their faith even if not preparing for a sacrament!





Follow me to register today!



QUESTIONS?
PLEASE EMAIL SHEILA BAUER AT SHEILAB@AVCATHOLIC.ORG





YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES AT AVCC

JULY 28-AUG 1

VOLUNTEER AT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Volunteer one day or all week with our littlest parishioners. Separate signup on avcatholic.org!

AUGUST 26 6PM-

OUTDOOR GAME NIGHT

8 P M

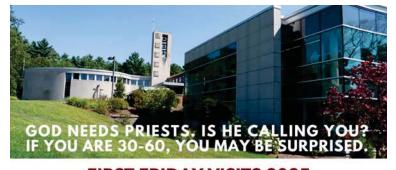
Cornhole, Spikeball, Capture the Flag and More! Prizes galore. Dinner & Dessert!

All activities open to incoming 9th-12th grade.

Friends are always welcome!

Email Sheila at sheilab@avcatholic.org to RSVP for any events or with ideas for future events!

Chaperones are always needed!



FIRST FRIDAY VISITS 2025

September 5th October 3rd November 7th December 5th

5:00 PM EST Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary

HOLY HOUR AND EVENING PRAYER

In-Person Visit: Includes Dinner with seminarians and tour of the Seminary

Register: Contact Msgr. William Fay 781-899-5500 ext. 134 firstfriday@psjs.edu

Virtual Visit: Live-stream Holy Hour followed by a Zoom visit (Zoom link provided at registration)

POPE ST. JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY Memory about 1 Findable 1844 www.psjs.edu

POPE ST. JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY | 558 SOUTH AVE, WESTON, MA | 781.899.5500

Volunteers Needed for Children's Liturgy of the Word



We are currently seeking volunteers to help lead or assist with Children's Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Masses.

What's Involved?

- Leading children in understanding the Gospel message in a fun, age-appropriate way
- No teaching experience required—just a love for children and God's Word!
- Materials and support provided

Please contact Kelley Christie at kelleyc@avcatholic.org if you're interested

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Mass, 5:00 p.m.— St. Elizabeth Sunday Mass, 8:45 a.m.— St. Isidore Sunday Mass, 10:45 a.m.— St. Elizabeth

Weekday Mass Times

Monday Mass 9:00 a.m.— St. Elizabeth Tuesday Mass 9:00 a.m.— St. Isidore

Confessions: Saturday, 4:00-4:45 p.m., St. Elizabeth 1st Wednesday of the Month: St. Isidore 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Apple Valley Catholic Parish Team

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey Archer frjeff@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 115

Weekend Presider & Prof. of Philosophy and Theology at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary: Msgr. Fay

Deacon: Charles A. Cornell charliec@avcatholic.org, (978) 562-7447

Comptroller, Joe Nelson, joen@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 111

Financial Consultant: Annmarie Mazzucotelli annmariem@avcatholic.org

Director of Evangelization - Baptism, LIFT, Communications: Tom Spataro toms@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 113

Director of Music - Arline Carboneau, arlinec@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 112

Director of Religious Education - Youth Ministry: Sheila Bauer, sheilab@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 123 Coordinator of Faith Formation Grades 5-7: Adam Tocci adamt@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 116

Coordinator of Faith Formation K-4: Kelley Christie kelleyc@avcatholic.org, (978) 26-4305 ext. 117

Finance & Operations Administrative Assistant: Judy Richardson judyr@avcatholic.org, 978 263-4305 ext. 119

Liturgical Coordinator: Mary Ryan maryr@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 135

Collaborative Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults ("RCIA") Trina Toups trinat@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 122

Alpha Coordinator: Bernice Higdon alpha@avcatholic.org, (978) 263-4305 ext. 124

Custodian: Daniel Farah danielf@avcatholic.org

St. Elizabeth's St. Vincent DePaul Conference of Acton/Boxborough: (978) 263-4305 ext.114

> St. Isidore's St. Vincent De Paul Conference of Stow: (978) 263-4305 ext.121

Thank You

"[Jesus said] 'And I tell you, ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, received; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.'" ~ Luke 11: 9-10

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. Your support of our parishes is a reflection of your faith that Jesus Christ is Lord, and your desire that our generation and following generations come to know this. Our faith in action is life changing for ourselves and for those who encounter us. Thank You for your continued engagement and support!

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ELIZABETH

For the two weeks ending 7/13/25

Cash & Check offertory \$ 5,313 Electronic offertory (EFT & Online): \$ 6,076 Total Parish Support \$ 11,389 St. Vincent de Paul collection: \$ 230

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

For the two weeks ending 7/13/25

Cash & Check offertory \$ 2,988 Electronic offertory (EFT & Online): \$ 3,470 Total Parish Support \$ 6,458

St. Vincent de Paul collection: \$ 59

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