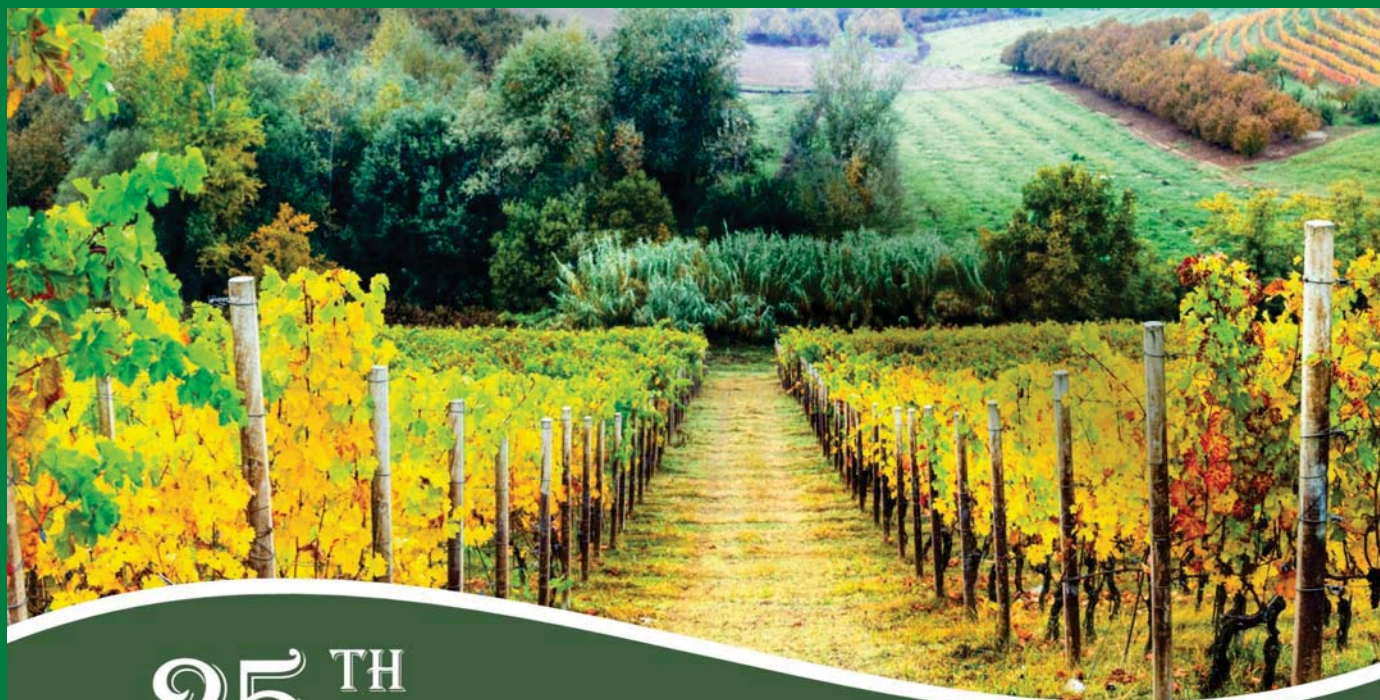


*Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 21, 2025*

# Apple Valley Catholic Community

## Two Parishes - One Mission



**25<sup>TH</sup>**  
**SUNDAY**  
IN ORDINARY TIME

*Matthew 20:8*

THE PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD

“When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.’”

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 September 20, 5:00PM  
Lauren Shelton

Sunday September 21, 8:45AM  
John & Marcia Melone

Sunday September 21, 10:45AM  
Maura Bullock

## Upcoming Events

**September 26** - Confirmation Retreat

**October 4** - Food Truck and Craft Beer Fest  
at St Elizabeth's

**October 5** - Children's Mass  
at St Isidore's

**October 5** - Blessing of the Animals  
at St Isidore's

**October 18** - Family Live Rosary  
at St Elizabeth's

**October 24** Trunk or Treat  
at St Elizabeth's

## Bible Study

As we continue to celebrate the Year of Hope, Apple Valley Catholic will offer a Bible Study on *"Encountering the God of Faith, Hope, and Love in the Bible"* (from Little Rock Scripture Studies). We will meet on the first floor of the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish Center, on seven Tuesday evenings, October 7 – November 18, from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. Please purchase the above text at

<https://litpress.org/products/00511>

Go to [avcatholic.org](http://avcatholic.org) to sign up or contact Cindy Harrington if you have any questions. All are welcome!

**APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

**FAITH FORMATION  
REGISTRATION IS  
OPEN  
FOR  
2025-2026**

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*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](mailto:SHEILAB@AVCATHOLIC.ORG)



Sheila Bauer and Adam Tocci welcoming new confirmation candidates





## Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 21, 2025



### A Beautiful Day for the BBQ!

Over 200 parishioners gathered on Sunday for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual LIFT-OFF BBQ and Fall Kickoff. Thank you to everyone who came out and of course to all of our volunteers who helped make the event happen.

And a special thank you to the family who donated ice cream for all in attendance - God Bless our community!



Our CARES daily Faith Formation program at St. Isidore started on August 27<sup>th</sup>. The children are growing together, and already learning what it means to love their neighbor.

We are always looking for more morning and afternoon volunteers. Please reach out to Tom if you are interested!

[toms@avcatholic.org](mailto:toms@avcatholic.org)







**Bring some friends and join us on Saturday, October 4 for an afternoon filled with delicious eats, local craft brews, live music, children's activities, and more at the first ever Apple Valley Food Truck & Craft Beer Fest.**

**FREE  
LIVE  
MUSIC**



**FOOD & BEER  
AVAILABLE  
FOR PURCHASE**

**ALL  
AGES**



**\$10 ADULTS  
(SUGGESTED  
DONATION)**

**Saturday, October 4, Noon-6pm  
89 Arlington St. Acton**

# Food Truck Festival Volunteers Needed

## Food Truck & Craft Beer Fest – Volunteer Role Guide

Saturday, October 4, 2025 – Noon to 6 PM

We are so excited for our **First Annual Food Truck & Craft Beer Fall Festival on Saturday, October 4, 2025, from Noon–6:00 PM** at St. Elizabeth's! To make this special community event possible, we need the help of many volunteers. If you have some time that day—whether it's an hour or a few—your presence will make a big difference. From welcoming guests and assisting with children's activities to helping with set-up, clean-up, and everything in between, there are plenty of ways to get involved. Please prayerfully consider lending a hand and sign up to be part of this fun and meaningful day of community, food, music, and fellowship!

Use the QR code or go to

[avcatholic.org/volunteer](http://avcatholic.org/volunteer)

to sign up to help



### Guest Check-In Team

- Welcome guest, and collect donations (cash or credit card)
- Verify registration (pre-sales)
- Issue wristbands (different colors for 21+ and minors)
- Maintain a friendly, helpful atmosphere

### Beer Ticket Sales & Distribution

- Check IDs for guests purchasing beer tickets
- Sell tickets according to pricing guidelines
- Handle cash/card payments accurately
- Provide correct tickets and explain where to redeem them
- Politely refuse sales to guests without proper ID or showing visible intoxication

### Carnival Games

- Make and serve popcorn
- Handle sales (tickets only - no money exchanged needed)
- Assist with the Carnival games, face painting, balloon making, etc. helping children/parent

### Parking Lot/Event Monitors

- Managing help to control the parking lot
- Monitoring the perimeter of the event
- Help cover volunteers that need a short break

### Event Setup

- Arrange tables, chairs, tents, signage, and supplies; distribute trash bins; help vendors as needed.
- This will begin on Saturday October 4 at 8:00a
- Cleaning Crew
- Collect and recycle bottles, cans, and cardboard throughout the day
- Remove full trash bags and replace with fresh liners throughout the day
- Pick up litter or debris around entrances, parking lots, and outdoor areas throughout the day
- Make sure event spaces stay neat and organized (e.g., pushing in chairs, folding unused tables)
- End of the event (starting at 6:00p: Break down equipment, remove trash, pack supplies, and restore the site to its original condition. Clean up will begin around 6:00p.

## **Help Us Pour the Fun | Become a Keg Sponsor!**

As we prepare for our first-ever Food Truck & Craft Beer Fest on October 4, we're inviting parishioners, friends, and local supporters to consider becoming Keg Sponsors. This is a simple and meaningful way to help underwrite the beer we'll have on tap that day. Your support helps cover the cost of kegs from our local brewery partners, allowing more of the proceeds from beer sales to go directly toward supporting parish ministries. Whether you sponsor half a keg or a full one, you'll be helping us raise a glass to community, hospitality, and mission.



**\$250 1/2 Keg Sponsor:** A 1/2 keg sponsor will receive: 2 limited tee shirts (\$40 value), Free entry for 2 (\$20 value), 6 free beer/wine tickets (\$36 value) and sponsorship recognition (Banner, Constant contact, and social media).

**\$125 1/4 Keg Sponsor:** A 1/4 keg sponsor will receive: Free entry for 2 (\$20 value), 4 free beer/wine tickets (\$24 value) and sponsorship recognition (Banner, constant contact, and social media).

Scan the QR code here or go to [avcatholic.org/trucksandbrews](http://avcatholic.org/trucksandbrews) to sponsor a keg



## **Social Justice Ministry Corner**

This fall marks the 6th year of the AVCC Social Justice Ministry! With our loyal group, we've strived to build our understanding of Catholic Social Teaching, focusing each year on one of the 7 themes of CST. This year, we're ready to introduce the important theme of Life & Dignity of the Human Person.

We'll be offering a variety of activities throughout the ministry year to help us examine how all human life is sacred--in all stages and circumstances, within the context of God's creation. As Genesis teaches, we are, one and all, made in the image and likeness of God, and made for relationship with God. From the Gospels we learn that loving one another flows forth from our love of God, who first loved us and who extends us his grace when we fall short. How will our activities help us flesh out this important and complex theme in teaching, prayer, and action? We're inviting a special guest speaker to teach us about the Consistent Ethic of Life, a distinctly Catholic way to view and express the importance of all facets of human life in civic society. We're planning a unique Mass for and with persons with disabilities and special needs. To explore the history of Catholic Social Teaching, we'll host a fun workshop about our new Pope, Leo XIV, and his namesake, Pope Leo XIII. A prayer service for world peace, our ongoing partnership with our refugee family, and family-friendly tips for teaching little ones about how we can love others as Jesus did--these will round out our year.

Curious? Please stay tuned for more information about our events and activities, coming shortly. Want to help? Email [socialjustice@avcatholic.org](mailto:socialjustice@avcatholic.org)  
All are welcome!





## ***Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 21, 2025***

***Dear Parishioners,***

As we turn toward the fall season, I want to share with you an exciting opportunity for spiritual growth and deeper connection within our parish: **LIFT** - our Fall Small Group Rollout.

Over the past few years, I've had the privilege of participating in a small group myself, and it was one of the most meaningful experiences of my ministry. The relationships that developed, the time spent together sharing life experiences, and the confidential environment where we could speak honestly and openly made a deep impact on me. Together, we explored key topics such as forgiveness, God's love, and the teachings of Jesus as we find them in the New Testament. All of these topics as the related to our daily lives as Catholic/Christians.

What struck me most was how much I personally learned from the nine other members of my group. Over the eight weeks we met—every other Thursday for an hour and a half—I saw each person grow in their faith, and I grew right along with them. The time commitment was just right: short enough to fit into our busy lives, but long enough to allow the Spirit to do real work in us before the rush of the holiday season.

Over this past year, I have also had the privilege of visiting many of the ongoing small groups in our parish. What I experienced was truly amazing. These groups of 8–12 people are vibrant, friendly, and deeply rewarding. They gather not only around faith, prayer, and conversation, but also around good food and drinks. The sense of joy, welcome, and genuine Christian fellowship in these groups was inspiring to witness.

Small groups are not new. In fact, they are as old as the Church itself. Before we had large church buildings, the early Christians gathered in homes, taverns, and other simple places. They prayed together, studied the Word of God, and supported one another in faith and love. In a very real way, small groups return us to our roots as Catholic Christians.

Weekend worship at Mass is the heart of our faith, but small groups take us one step further. They give us a place to share life, faith, and love with one another in a more personal way. In small groups, we come to see Christ not only in the Eucharist, but also in the stories, struggles, and joys of those who sit beside us.

This fall, I encourage you to prayerfully consider joining one of our parish small groups. You may be surprised by how much you will learn, how your faith will deepen, and how the simple act of sharing time and conversation can strengthen both your spiritual life and our parish community as a whole. I encourage you to read up on our 2025 fall rollout in the bullet and our weekly Constant Contact email. Questions, you can reach out to Tom Spataro at [toms@avcatholic.org](mailto:toms@avcatholic.org).

Let us remember that Jesus tells us: “**Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them**” (Matthew 18:20). May we step forward this fall to gather in His name, to grow together, and to strengthen the bonds of faith that unite us.

With gratitude and hope,

-Fr. Jeff

Since last week, we have received enough preliminary interest for all of our three new LIFT groups to run this Fall. They will be open for official registration soon. Learn more here and view other open groups at [avcatholic.org](http://avcatholic.org)

If you see a group that you are interested in is full, please reach out to Tom at [toms@avcatholic.org](mailto:toms@avcatholic.org)

## EMMAUS GROUP STROLLING IN FAITH TOGETHER (SIFT)

**HOSTED BY BARBARA AND  
KELLY**

**MEETS WEDNESDAYS  
9:30AM - 11:00AM**

JOIN VETERAN LIFT LEADERS BARBARA DANE AND KELLY FAVILLE FOR THIS OUTDOOR WALKING LIFT GROUP THAT WILL MEET AT THE ACTON ARBORETUM. TOPICS WILL INCLUDE: GOD, JESUS, HOLY SPIRIT, CHURCH, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND LIVING A CHRISTIAN LIFE IN 2025. WE WILL GATHER AT THE ACTON ARBORETUM AND EACH SESSION WILL INCLUDE GATHERING SOCIALLY, FAITH BASED CONVERSATION WHILE WALKING WITH 2-3 PEOPLE, SHARED GROUP DISCUSSION AFTER THE WALKS, AND COMMUNAL PRAYER.

TIME: WEDNESDAYS, 9:30AM - 11:00AM  
DATES: 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12, 11/19  
(SPECIAL TIME 12:00 PM), 12/10  
LOCATION: ACTON ARBORETUM



**LIVING IN FAITH TOGETHER**

## PRAYING THE ROSARY

**HOSTED BY KATHY  
MEETS EVERY MONDAY IN OCTOBER  
7PM - 8:30**

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY, AND WE'RE OFFERING A SHORT-TERM LIFT GROUP TO PRAY AND REFLECT TOGETHER. LED BY KATHY TAYLOR, THIS GROUP WILL MEET WEEKLY IN THE EVENING THROUGHOUT OCTOBER FOR ABOUT AN HOUR. EACH WEEK, WE'LL FOCUS ON ONE SET OF MYSTERIES—JOYFUL, LUMINOUS, SORROWFUL, AND GLORIOUS—AND EXPLORE HOW THEY SPEAK TO OUR LIVES TODAY.

TIME: 7PM - 8:30  
DATES: 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27  
LOCATION: ST. ELIZABETH CAMPUS

## PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

**HOSTED BY JOYCE  
MEETS WEDNESDAY EVENINGS  
7PM-8:30**

THIS FALL, JOYCE PINNEY WILL RE-ESTABLISH THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP AS A LIFT GROUP IN OCTOBER. PARTICIPANTS WILL GATHER AT THE ST. ISIDORE RECTORY TO TALK ABOUT LIFE AND FAITH WHILE ALSO MAKING PRAYER SHAWLS AND OTHER COMFORT ITEMS FOR THOSE IN NEED. NO PRIOR KNITTING OR CROCHETING EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

TIME: WEDNESDAYS 7PM-8:30PM  
DATES: TBD  
LOCATION: SAINT ISIDORE RECTORY

Sign up or view more groups  
at [avcatholic.org](http://avcatholic.org)!



# FOR PARENTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

**HOSTED BY JUDI AND PAM**

**MEETS EVERY OTHER MONDAY  
7PM-8:30PM**

THIS GROUP IS FOR CAREGIVERS OF PEOPLE (OF ANY AGE) WITH DISABILITIES. LED BY JUDI AND PAM, BOTH PARENTS OF SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN, THIS GROUP WILL USE VARIOUS MATERIALS TO PROVIDE A STARTING POINT FOR PARTICIPANTS TO SHARE THE SUCCESSES AND STRUGGLES OF THEIR DAILY LIVES AS CAREGIVERS.

TIME: MONDAYS, 7PM - 830PM

DATES: 9/15, 9/29, 10/20, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/8

LOCATION: ST. ELIZABETH PARISH CENTER

# FAITH AND THE BUSY LIFE (FOR WOMEN ONLY)

**HOSTED BY SHARON AND  
MARIANNE**

**MEETS FIRST MONDAY OF EACH  
MONTH  
7:30-9PM**

OPEN TO ALL WOMEN LOOKING TO FIT AND PRIORITIZE THEIR FAITH IN THEIR BUSY LIVES. THIS YEAR WE MAY INTRODUCE THE " 8 UNNAMED WOMEN IN SCRIPTURE AND THEIR ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS" AS A STARTING POINT.

\*\*\*THIS GROUP WILL MEET ONCE A MONTH ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:30

TIME: MONDAYS, 7:30PM - 9PM

DATES: 10/6, 11/3, 12/1, 1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6 AND 5/4

LOCATION: ST. ELIZABETH PARISH CENTER

# MARIA AND RACHELLE'S GROUP

**HOSTED BY MARIA AND  
RACHELLE**

**MEETS EVERY OTHER SUNDAY  
12-1:30PM**

CHOIR MEMBERS MARIA AND RACHELLE CO-HOST THIS GROUP THAT IS NOT LIMITED TO JUST MEMBERS OF THE CHOIR! ALL ARE WELCOME FOR SPIRITED DISCUSSION AND FELLOWSHIP ROOTED IN THE JUBILEEE YEAR OF HOPE. OTHER THEMES FOR OUR DISCUSSIONS INCLUDE THE MYSTERIES OF THE HOLY ROSARY AND OTHER IDEAS FROM THE GROUP

TIME: SUNDAYS, 12PM - 1:30PM

DATES: 9/28, 10/5, 10/19, 11/16, 11/30, 12/14

LOCATION: ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH  
POPE FRANCIS ROOM

# MEN'S GROUP

**HOSTED BY  
ODEVIZ AND JIM**

**THURSDAYS ONCE A MONTH**

THIS GROUP WILL FOCUS ON GATHERING MEN OF ALL DIFFERENT STAGES IN THEIR LIVES TO GROW IN FRIENDSHIP WITH CHRIST TOGETHER. WE WILL MEET MONTHLY FOR PRAYER, SCRIPTURE READING, AND FELLOWSHIP AS WE EXPLORE THE DIFFERENT WAYS WE CONTINUE BECOMING THE MEN GOD HAS CALLED US TO BE THROUGH OUR DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIPS AND IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

TIME: THURSDAYS, 7:30PM-9PM

DATES: 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4, 12/18, 1/15, 1/29, 2/12, 2/26, 3/12, 3/26, 4/9, 4/30, 5/14, 5/28, 6/11

MEETING LOCATION: SAINT ELIZABETH PARISH CENTER

# Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 21, 2025

## 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:  
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(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  
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Finance & Operations Administrative Assistant:  
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Office Coordinator/Communications:  
Kaitie Duhamel  
kaitied@avcatholic.org, 978-263-4305 ext. 110

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

Collaborative Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults  
("RCIA") Trina Touns 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

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." ~ John 3: 16-17

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 week ending 9/7/25

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 3,404
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 8,118
Total Parish Support	\$ 11,522

St. Vincent de Paul collection:	\$ 200
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### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

For the week ending 9/7/25

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 1,476
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 1,199
Total Parish Support	\$ 2,675

St. Vincent de Paul collection:	\$ 29
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