

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 26, 2025

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 October 25, 5:00PM
Mileski Family

Sunday October 26, 8:45AM
William & Elsie Monahan

Sunday October 26, 10:45AM
Soosai Thangiah

Upcoming Events

November 1 - Trivia Night
at St Isidore

November 1 - Middle School Cradles to Crayons
Event

November 2 -Children’s Mass
at St Elizabeth

November 7 - Remembrance Service
at St Elizabeth

November 12- Social Justice Ministry
presentation of “The Two Leos”

November 16 - Feast of St Elizabeth of Hungary
at St Elizabeth

November 30- Family Advent Wreath Workshop
and Potluck (RSVP by Nov 10)
at St Elizabeth

November ~ The Month of All Souls



Throughout November all are invited to write the names of deceased family members and friends in our Book of the Names of the Dead and place their pictures on the wall in the St. Elizabeth or St. Isidore Alcove. Please write your loved one’s name on the back of the picture before placing it on the wall. At the end of November, you may either leave the picture with us to keep for next year or arrange to pick it up after Mass on one of the following weekends.

During this month we invite everyone to please make time to stop and read the names in the Book, look at the pictures in the Alcove, and say a prayer for those who have gone before us in faith.

“The Two Leos”

Interested in learning more about the backgrounds of Popes Leo XIII and XIV?

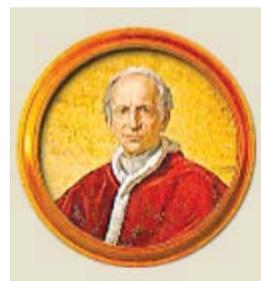
Most of us know that Leo XIV is the first American Pope, born in Chicago, but do you know why he took the name Leo?

Find out what the two Leo's have in common at a Social Justice workshop / quiz show on **Wednesday, November 12 at 7 PM** Parish Center, first floor, room 1. Prizes for best answers!

For questions or further information, please email socialjustice@avcatholic.org. Hope to see you there!



Middle schoolers volunteering at Cradles to Crayons last year - they return Nov 1 for another service trip



AVCC PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT

Prizes for the 1st & 2nd Place Teams!

Saturday

November 1st

St. Isidore Church Hall
429 Great Road Stow,

Food truck at 5:00pm
Doors open at: 6:30pm
Trivia starts at: 7:00pm

\$20
per person

Cash Bar +
Snacks Available

Featuring food from:



Form teams of up to 8 people to
get the competitive edge!

Tickets available at avcatholic.org



FAMILY ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP AND POTLUCK

NOVEMBER 30, 12 - 2PM
PARISH CENTER HALL

RSVP TO: [KELLEYC@AVCATHOLIC.ORG](mailto:kelleyc@avcatholic.org) BY
NOVEMBER 10.
THIS DEADLINE IS IMPORTANT TO GET SUPPLIES
IN TIME FOR THE EVENT
COST: \$23 FOR WREATH SUPPLIES

Are you in need of an Advent Wreath for your family table?

The cost of \$23 supplies the oasis ring, candles, and candle holders. We'll have a supply of greens, but if you can, please bring some greens and clippings to add to the bundle. In years past, we've had a bountiful supply of boxwood, varieties of pine, holly bush, beautiful pine cones and much more. Bring a dish to share for the potluck. All are welcome. Kids should be accompanied by adults.

Craft a festive Advent Wreath for your family table by submitting your **RSVP** by **November 10**. Unfortunately, since we preorder all materials we won't be able to accommodate last-minute signups.

Texas Smoke Shack Returns

Our friends from The Texas Smoke Shack had such a great time at the Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival that they're coming back.

Find them at **Trivia Night** on **Saturday, November 1**. Bring your appetite and enjoy authentic Texas-style barbecue while you're here with us!



Remembrance Service



We invite you to join us for our annual Apple Valley Catholic Community Remembrance Service on **Friday, November 7 at 7 pm**, held at St. Elizabeth's. This special service offers a time for reflection and prayer as we honor and remember loved ones who have passed.

Whether you are grieving a recent loss or simply wish to spend time in quiet remembrance, we welcome you as we come together to find comfort, hope and peace in God's presence.



Photos from the Family Rosary at St Elizabeth and Altar Server training at St Isidore last weekend.



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Luke 18:9-14

Parable of the Pharisee & The Tax Collector

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

One of the greatest challenges in the spiritual life is finding the courage to come before God just as we are. So often, we think we must have everything together before approaching Him – that we need to fix our mistakes, hide our flaws, or somehow “earn” His love. But today’s Gospel reminds us that God’s mercy is not for those who appear perfect, but for those who are humble enough to come before Him with open hearts.

In the parable, the tax collector stands far off, his head bowed, unable to even look up to heaven. Yet in that moment of honesty and humility, he does the most important thing anyone can ever do: he turns toward God. He goes before the Lord not with pride, but with trust. His simple, heartfelt prayer “*O God, be merciful to me, a sinner*” becomes a doorway to grace.

That is what God desires most, that we come to Him. He already knows our sins, our failures, and our pain, yet He waits for us to draw near. And when we do, His mercy overflows. As St. Paul reminds us, “*But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love He had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ – by grace you have been saved*” (Ephesians 2:4–5).

Notice what Paul says: *God is rich in mercy*. His mercy is not small or limited – it is abundant, deep, and unending. We do not have to earn it; we simply need to be willing to receive it. The moment we step before God in humility, like the tax collector, His mercy begins its healing work within us.

This week, I invite you to spend a few quiet moments before God – maybe in the church, maybe in your home, maybe during a quiet drive. Simply go before Him as you are, without pretense or fear. Tell Him what is in your heart, and ask for His mercy. You’ll find that the God who welcomes sinners is not waiting to condemn, but to *embrace*, to *restore*, and to bring *new life*.

Let us never be afraid to approach the Lord. His mercy is our refuge, and His grace our hope.

With peace and prayer,
Fr. Jeff

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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

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Collaborative Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
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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

"The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds; it does not rest till it reaches its goal, nor will it withdraw till the Most High responds, judges justly and affirms the right." ~ Sirach 35: 21-22

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 10/12/25

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 3,107
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 6,200
Total Parish Support	\$ 9,307
 St. Vincent de Paul collection:	 \$ 256

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

For the week ending 10/12/25

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 1,334
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 3,060
Total Parish Support	\$ 4,394
 St. Vincent de Paul collection:	 \$ 4

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Ivan Dragicevic

Immaculee Ilibagiza

Fr. Leo Patalinghug

and also...

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COMMENTS from past conferences....

- “ I never felt so renewed in my spirit - I'm glad I came”
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