

Christ the King Sunday - November 23, 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 November 22, 5:00PM
Rosemary Eide

Sunday November 23, 8:45AM
Robert Pessolano

Sunday November 23, 10:45AM
Marguerite McCafferty

Upcoming Events

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

December 3 - Eucharistic Adoration & Confession at St Isidore

December 6 - Breakfast with Santa at St Elizabeth

December 7 - Children's Mass at St Isidore

December 13 - Middle School Christmas Party at St Elizabeth

December 13 - Family Movie Night and Pizza Party at St Elizabeth

December 14 - A Night in Bethlehem at St Isidore

December 14 - Baminelli Sunday

December 17 - Youth Ministry Christmas Party at St Elizabeth



November - The Month of All Souls



At the end of November the pictures of loved ones will be removed from the St. Elizabeth or St. Isidore Alcove. You are welcome to leave them with us to keep for next year. If you wish to make arrangements to take yours home, please contact the parish office for assistance.



St. Elizabeth and St. Isidore Giving Trees

Every year our parishes generously support our neighbors in need through donations to the Giving Trees. This year we will be donating gifts/gift cards to the following organizations: Bellesini Academy in Lawrence, Lynn Catholic Collaborative/St. Mary's, Acton Housing Authority, Lazarus House in Lawrence, students in the Community Group Enrichment Program in Lawrence, Warm Hearts of Stow and St. Vincent de Paul. The Giving Trees with tags will be placed in the entryways beginning the weekend of November 22-23. Please take as many tags as you can fulfill, purchase the suggested gift or gift card, and place your gift under the tree with the tag attached no later than the weekend of **December 6-7**.

Please note, some tags will indicate the gift to be wrapped or placed in a gift bag, others will indicate to leave the gift unwrapped. Thank you in advance for helping these organizations!

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Wedding Banns



Please pray for Ms. Alisha Geraldine Lewis and Mr. Robin Gerard Lobo, who intend to enter the Sacrament of Matrimony in December 2025.

If anyone knows of a canonical impediment to this marriage, please contact Fr. Jeff Archer at the Apple Valley Catholic Community (St. Elizabeth of Hungary & St. Isidore) parish office as soon as possible.

We rejoice with Alisha and Robin and ask God to bless their preparation for this holy sacrament.

Christmas Season Flower Fund

We welcome your contribution towards flowers and items that will decorate our church for the Christmas Season. Please complete and mail the form below to AVCC 89 Arlington St. Acton MA 01720 or put it in an envelope marked 'SEoH or St. I Flower Fund' and place it in the collection basket at Mass. Envelopes are also available at each church.



Or you may also make your donation on line:

St Elizabeth Christmas Flowers

St Isidore Christmas Flowers



If your donation is in memory of a deceased loved one whose name you wish to have published in our bulletin on January 6th , the Feast of the Epiphany, please complete the form below. Contact Mary Ryan at maryr@avcatholic.org 978-263-4305 X135 if you have questions.

.....
Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ towards the 2025 Christmas Season Flower Fund.

I am making this donation in memory of _____.

(please print clearly)

I would like the above name/s published in the bulletin on the Feast of the Epiphany. Yes__No __.

My name is _____.

Please check here if you would like your donation to be made anonymously. ___

My donation is to (please check one) ___ St. Elizabeth Church ___ St. Isidore Church

Christ the King Sunday - November 23, 2025



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend, we celebrate the final Sunday of the liturgical year—the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. It is a feast that stands as both a conclusion and a beginning. It closes one Church year and prepares our hearts for Advent, when we once again await the coming of our Savior. But the Gospel chosen for this feast may surprise us. Instead of seeing Jesus enthroned in glory or surrounded by angels, we see Him crucified—nailed to a cross between two criminals.

At first, that doesn't look like a king. There is no crown of gold, no throne, no royal robes—only suffering, mockery, and pain. Yet this is the very image the Church gives us to proclaim Christ as King. Why? Because this is the moment when the true nature of His kingship is revealed. Jesus reigns not by domination, but by **love**. He conquers not by force, but by **mercy**. He does not save Himself, but gives Himself completely **for us**.

In this Gospel, one of the criminals turns to Him and says, “*Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*” And with words of unimaginable grace, Jesus replies, “*Today you will be with me in Paradise.*” This is the heart of our faith: that Jesus is a King of **mercy**, **compassion**, and **forgiveness**. Even in His final moments, Jesus reaches out to the lost, the broken, the forgotten—and welcomes them home.

That's why this passage is so important. It reminds us that Christ's kingdom is not built on power or privilege, but on love that never ends. On the cross, Jesus shows us what true authority looks like: service, sacrifice, and forgive. The world often measures greatness by success or control; Jesus measures it by compassion and self-giving. His throne is the cross, His crown is made of thorns, and His victory is love stronger than death.

As we end this Church year and look toward Advent, we are invited to ask ourselves: *Is Christ truly the King of my life?* Do I allow His mercy to reign in my heart, His peace to shape my words, His compassion to guide my actions?

When we live with Jesus as our King, we begin to see the world differently. We forgive where others hold grudges. We serve rather than seek to be served. We reach out in love, even when it's not easy. In doing so, we help build His kingdom—right here in our homes, our community, and our parish.

Christ is our King—of **mercy**, of **peace**, and of **love**.

With every blessing,
+Fr. Jeff



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday, December 3 - St. Isidore 4:00–7:00p (with Adoration)
Wednesday, December 17 - St. Elizabeth 4:00-7:00p (with Adoration)

As we enter this holy season of Advent, we are reminded that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the most beautiful gifts Jesus has given us. Confession is not about judgment—it is about forgiveness. It is not about shame—it is about grace. It is not a place of fear—it is a place of healing.

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we do not stand before a harsh judge we stand before a merciful and loving Father. God delights in forgiving His children. He wants to lift our burdens, restore our hearts, and give us a fresh start. Advent is the perfect time to return to this powerful sacrament and allow God’s grace to renew your soul.

If it has been a little while, or even a long while, know this: Jesus welcomes you with open arms. Come experience the peace only Christ can give. Take this opportunity to experience the grace of Reconciliation this Advent.



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Christ the King Sunday - November 23, 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
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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

"Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.'" ~ Luke 23: 42

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 11/9/25

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 3,436
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 5,050
Total Parish Support	\$ 8,486
St. Vincent de Paul collection:	\$ 130

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

For the week ending 11/9/25

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 2,012
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 3,570
Total Parish Support	\$ 5,582
St. Vincent de Paul collection:	\$ 4

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Sunday, December 7, 3:00PM



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