

First Sunday of Advent - November 30, 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.

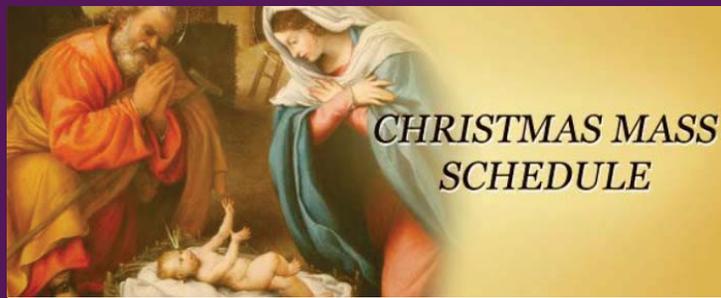
We affirm the dignity and worth of each person regardless of your race, nationality or ethnic group, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, age, socioeconomic class, married, single, divorced, Mass attendance, or anything else. We affirm that we are all God's children and part of the one family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

Mass Intentions

Saturday November 29, 5:00PM
Paul Curran

Sunday November 30, 8:45AM
The Magda Family

Sunday November 30, 10:45AM
James Archer



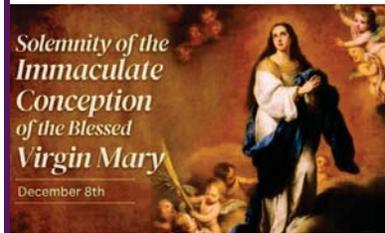
Vigil Mass - December 24
4:00 p.m. St. Elizabeth
6:30 p.m. St. Isidore
Christmas Day - December 25
8:45 a.m. St. Isidore
10:45 a.m. St. Elizabeth

Upcoming Events

December 6 - Breakfast with Santa
at St Elizabeth

December 7 - Children's Mass
at St Isidore

December 8 - Mass Schedule



9:00a - St. Isidore
7:00p - St. Elizabeth

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 - Bambinelli Sunday



Adoration and Confession Christmas Schedule

Wednesday December 3, 3:00p-7:00p -St. Isidore
Wednesday December 17, 3:00p-7:00p-St. Elizabeth



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!

FREE!!

A Night in Bethlehem

Spend the evening with your family experiencing the early life of Jesus. The perfect start to your Advent season.

Sunday, December 14
3:00 - 5:00PM
St. Isidore Church and Hall

THIS EVENT WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- + Carols in the church
- + Create nativity pieces
- + See who was at Jesus' birth - REAL sheep and goats!
- + Try the tastes of Bethlehem
- + Smell Frankincense and Myrrh



All are invited to bring a figurine of the baby Jesus, particularly from their family Nativity Creche to be blessed by Fr. Jeff on the third Sunday of Advent **December 14 - 8:45a & 10:45a Mass.**

A beloved annual tradition at the Basilica of St. Peter's in Rome in preparation for Christmas, the Blessing of the Bambinelli was first instituted by St. John Paul II. On the Third Sunday of Advent, the children of Rome are encouraged to bring the baby Jesus (Bambinelli) from each of their Nativity sets to St. Peter's Square.

Now celebrated in other churches around the world, this Advent tradition is a way for children & adults to connect their Nativity scene at home to the celebration of Christmas at their church.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

DECEMBER 6

All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast, caroling, crafts & pictures with Santa!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY
89 ARLINGTON ST. ACTON
TIMED ENTRY STARTS
9AM & 10AM

Purchase by Dec 1st to receive Early Elf Prices!

Scan here to purchase your tickets today!

First Sunday of Advent - November 30, 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We enter this sacred season of Advent at a time when life feels full, sometimes overwhelmingly so. Many of us are carrying quiet pressures: family responsibilities, financial concerns, work deadlines, holiday preparations, expectations from others, and the weight of trying to “make everything perfect” for Christmas. And in the midst of all that, it is easy for our hearts to slip into spiritual tiredness, distraction, or even numbness.



Yet right here, on this very first Sunday of Advent, the Church gives us a gentle but urgent invitation: Be awake. Christ is near!

Advent doesn't begin with Christmas lights or carols. Advent begins with a call to awaken our hearts. Jesus says in the Gospel, “*Stay awake, for you do not know on which day your Lord will come.*” He is not trying to frighten us, but to awaken us to something beautiful and life-giving.

Christ comes to us every single day. In the quiet of prayer. In the Eucharist. In the people we love. In the people we struggle with. In the moments we rush through. In the moments we wish were different. But if we move too fast...we will miss Him.

This first week of Advent is the Church's way of gently tapping us on the shoulder and saying: “*Look up. Take a breath. God is closer than you think.*”

The virtue we are invited to focus on this week is **awareness**, the grace to notice God's presence in the ordinary moments of our day. Awareness doesn't require extra time. It simply asks us to pause long enough to say: “*Lord, you are here. Help me see You.*” To be aware is to walk through life with our spiritual eyes open:

- noticing the blessings, we often overlook,
- sensing God's nudge in our conscience or in a moment of kindness,
- hearing His whisper in the middle of busyness or stress,
- remembering that we are loved even on days when we feel overwhelmed.

And here's the truth we often forget: God doesn't wait for us to be ready. He meets us where we are. In the chaos. In the exhaustion. In the pressure. In the imperfect moments of ordinary life.

Once we awaken our hearts during this first week of Advent, we will be ready to go deeper next week as we continue preparing room for Christ, not just in our homes for Christmas, but in the very center of our lives.

My prayer for you this week is simple: **May God help you notice Him.** In your family. In your work. In your worries. In the quiet. In the noise. In the longing of your heart.

Be awake. Christ is near.
Let Him meet you exactly where you are.

With hope and prayer,
Blessings,
Fr. Jeff

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

First Sunday of Advent - November 30, 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:
 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

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 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

"If we are made in God's image, we can only be fulfilled and healed of our brokenness by putting him first in our lives. When we leave out the spiritual component, we are ignoring a very important part of who we are." ~ Teresa Tomeo, *Beyond Me, My Selfie, and I*

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 11/16/25

Cash & Check offertory	\$	6,647
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$	6,010
Total Parish Support	\$	12,657
 St. Vincent de Paul collection:	 \$	 306

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

For the week ending 11/16/25

Cash & Check offertory	\$	1,848
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$	2,447
Total Parish Support	\$	4,295
 St. Vincent de Paul collection:	 \$	 4

Please note that only online donations to Saint Vincent de Paul are recorded. Cash left in the door boxes and checks made out directly to Saint Vincent de Paul are not included in our records.

Pittman & Davis

Farm Fresh Gifts Since 1926



REG. \$29.99

NOW \$19.99

+ \$7.99 SHIPPING

SAVE 32%

CALL 1-833-808-1814

PITTMANDAVIS.COM/P6YG26 USE CODE: P6YG26

Good while supplies last. Some restrictions may apply.
Limit 5 tins per customer.

IC: P6YG26

A Timeless Christmas Is Eternal
www.chateau-de-fanjeau.com



Designed in France • Hand-Crafted in Terracotta • Luxury Heirloom Storage Box



SAINT JOHN'S SEMINARY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



AN ADVENT FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS

Saturday, December 6, 7:00PM
Sunday, December 7, 3:00PM



www.sjs.edu/events



**AD SPACE
AVAILABLE**
617-779-3771

THE THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

of SAINT JOHN'S SEMINARY

Graduate Degree Programs for
Laity, Deacons, and Professed Religious



LEARN MORE

**SPRING COURSES
REGISTRATION OPEN**

Theological Anthropology

Ecclesiology

Liturgy and Sacraments

www.sjs.edu/theological-institute | 617-779-4104



candido's & family
Roofing for every building type
978-804-1521
www.candidosandfamily.com

(978) 263-1403
FAX • (978) 635-9614
EMAIL • WOKINC@AOL.COM

WORLD OF KITCHENS, INC.
CUSTOM AND SEMI-CUSTOM CABINETS FOR EVERY ROOM
WWW.WORLDOFKITCHENSINC.COM
172 GREAT RD P.O. BOX 783
ACTON, MA 01720



H3 HAND HEWN BUILDERS
Quality Craftsmanship You Can Trust
Servicing Concord & Surrounding Communities
- Licensed & Insured -
JOSEPH FEENEY
617-824-4643



FIVE STAR
SPORTS REHAB & PHYSICAL THERAPY
A TELMWORKS Company
General Orthopedic Rehabilitation
Sports Medicine Rehabilitation
Neurologic Rehabilitation and More!
Kevin Ryan, PT, OCS
Parishioner
978-252-2800 • www.fivestarpt.com

AD SPACE AVAILABLE
617-779-3771



christie
Cooling and Heating
Full Service HVAC Specialists
Have a problem? We'll fix it.
Scan or Call/Text to Contact us Today.
978-881-4242
christiehv.com

Your Beauty Getaway  10% OFF First Service!
(1st Time Customers Only)*
Zina's Day Spa
Lashes, Facials, Nails, Massage Therapy
9-2 Digital Way, Maynard, MA
www.zdayspamaynard.com
978-298-5813

AD SPACE AVAILABLE
617-779-3771

JOSEPH G. PERRY
PLUMBING AND HEATING INC.
Serving the community since 1952
• Bath & Kitchen Remodeling
• Boiler & Heating Systems
• Gas Piping • Frozen Pipes
• Water Heaters
• Drain Cleaning
• New Construction
License #M9389
Residential & Commercial
(978) 263-5595
29 Homestead Street
West Acton, MA.

5% Discount for Veterans, Fire and Police **FOLEY & SONS** 5% Discount for Cash or Checks
FLOOR & TILE
THE FAUCETORIUM
978-897-5698 • 161 Main Street, Maynard • 50 Years in Business
www.foleyandsonsfaucetorium.com

10% OFF SENIORS 
TITANIUM
PAINTING & RENOVATION
Interior/Exterior Painting
978-875-2791
www.titaniumpaintinc.com

NEW ENGLAND
TREE MASTERS
DIVISION OF HIGH QUALITY INC.
TREE REMOVAL • LAND CLEARING
PRUNING • STUMP GRINDING
- FULLY LICENSED AND INSURED -
978-263-8005
www.newenglandtreemasters.com

REMODEL YOUR BATHROOM
One Call Does It All  On Display We Install
Tubs • Toilets • Heated Toilet Seats • Vanities • Sinks • Faucets • Shower Heads
Safety Bars • Ceramic Tiles • Vinyl Floors • Wood Flooring • Wallpaper • Plumbing
Repair Parts • Carpet • Linoleum • Area Rugs • Counter Tops • Regrouting • Tile Repair
Ceramic Tile Repairs

Be prepared before the next power outage.
It's not just a generator. It's a power move.™
Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.
Call 617-841-4985 to schedule your free quote!
*Terms and Conditions apply. **GENERAC**



ACTON Cycles
BIKE & SKI SHOP
340 Great Road, Acton
978-860-2060
www.actoncycles.com

AD SPACE AVAILABLE
617-779-3771

Scheier Katin & Epstein, PC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
MARK L. SCHEIER
mscheier@skactonlaw.com
REGINA H. BUCKLEY
rbuckley@skactonlaw.com
HEATHER L. DUMONT
hdumont@skactonlaw.com
BARBARA J. EPSTEIN
bepstein@skactonlaw.com
FRANCISCO C. MELON
cmelon@skactonlaw.com
www.skactonlaw.com
Tel: 978-264-4655 103 Great Road, Acton, MA 01720 Fax: 978-264-4979
Real Estate • Estate Planning • Estate Administration • Corporate & Business • Probate




SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS THIS CHRISTMAS
Your gift helps care for the health and well-being of priests in good standing.
Give today at **clergytrust.org**
SCAN HERE for Venmo, Google/Apple Pay, PayPal via Givebutler.




Pittman & Davis
Farm Fresh Gifts Since 1926



REG. \$29.99
NOW \$19.99
+\$7.99 SHIPPING

SAVE 32%

CALL 1-833-808-1814

PITTMANDAVIS.COM/P6YG26 USE CODE: P6YG26

Good while supplies last. Some restrictions may apply.
Limit 5 tins per customer.

IC: P6YG26

Hale GROVES



SAVE OVER 52%

REG. \$49.99
NOW \$34.99
+\$7.99 shipping

#483X | HALE SELECT DELUXE GIFT BOX

The ideal gift for fruit and snack lovers alike!

CALL 866-262-6113

HaleGroves.com/H6YG45 Use Code H6YG45

*\$7.99 shipping & handling. Satisfaction completely guaranteed.
This gift ships in December at the peak of freshness.

IC: H6YG45

TRUGREEN

Don't wait until spring to get a lawn you love

Get **50% OFF**
One Application*



Experience the TruGreen Difference



Satisfaction Guarantee
We'll gladly visit your property as needed between scheduled visits to ensure your satisfaction*



Certified Specialists
Our extensively trained and licensed specialists use their expertise to maximize your lawn's potential.



Local Lawn Plans
We understand no two lawns are alike, which is why we customize our plans to your specific region.

Call for your **FREE**, no-obligation quote today!

1-855-614-6526

*Special price is for first Lawn service only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services and/or products may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales tax.
*Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. TruGreen will gladly visit your property as needed between scheduled visits to ensure your satisfaction. BBB accredited since 07/01/2012. In Connecticut, B-0153, B-1380, B-0127, B-0200, B-0151.

**Better Shelves.
Custom Solutions.**

Say goodbye to clutter and frustration—wherever it lives. From kitchens and pantries to bathrooms and laundry rooms, **ShelfGenie® custom pull-out shelves** bring smart, accessible storage to every space in your home.

FREE EXPERT
DESIGN CONSULTATION

A **\$250** VALUE

ShelfGenie®
EVERYTHING WITHIN REACH™
a neighborly company



**Schedule Now by Calling
1-855-625-9032**

© 2025 ShelfGenie SPC LLC. All rights reserved. Locally owned and operated franchise. Offer valid at participating locations only. Limit one offer per household. *Applies to Classic and Designer line. EXP 1/31/2026. MA HIC License #165040

5% Discount for Veterans, Fire and Police

FOLEY & SONS

FLOOR & TILE
THE FAUCETORIUM

5% Discount for Cash or Checks

978-897-5698 • 161 Main Street, Maynard • 50 Years in Business
www.foleyandsonsfaucetorium.com



FIVE STAR
SPORTS REHAB & PHYSICAL THERAPY
A TETIMWORKS Company

General Orthopedic Rehabilitation
Sports Medicine Rehabilitation
Neurologic Rehabilitation and More!

Kevin Ryan, PT, OCS
Parishioner
978-252-2800 • www.fivestarpt.com

CARLISLE TRASH COLLECTION
Trash • Recycling • Compost
COLLECTION SERVICE

REQUEST A QUOTE TODAY!
Better than curbside pickup, we come up your driveway to collect your trash right outside your door.

978-852-9191
www.carlisletrashcollection.com

"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

ANNUALS & PERENNIALS
Landscape Services
978-897-7498



STOW GARDEN CENTER
BY MONTENEGRO LANDSCAPE CORP.

575 Great Road, Stow MA • www.stowgardencenter.com



REMODEL YOUR BATHROOM

One Call Does It All



On Display We Install

Tubs • Toilets • Heated Toilet Seats • Vanities • Sinks • Faucets • Shower Heads
Safety Bars • Ceramic Tiles • Vinyl Floors • Wood Flooring • Wallpaper • Plumbing
Repair Parts • Carpet • Linoleum • Area Rugs • Counter Tops • Regrouting • Tile Repair

Ceramic Tile Repairs



SAINT JOHN'S SEMINARY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



AN ADVENT FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS

Saturday, December 6, 7:00PM
Sunday, December 7, 3:00PM



www.sjs.edu/events





SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS THIS CHRISTMAS

Your gift helps care for the health and well-being of priests in good standing.

Give today at clergytrust.org

SCAN HERE for Venmo, Google/Apple Pay, PayPal via Givebutter.




Barbara Grande Bennett
Realtor®
508-380-4187 ~ bbennett@barrettsir.com
barbarabennett.agent.barrettsothebysrealty.com

Experience the Hallmark of Real Estate Excellence!



Barrett | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Be prepared before the next power outage.

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.™

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 617-841-4985 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply.



GENERAC

THE THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
of SAINT JOHN'S SEMINARY



SCAN ME

LEARN MORE

SPRING COURSES REGISTRATION OPEN

Theological Anthropology
Ecclesiology
Liturgy and Sacraments

www.sjs.edu/theological-institute | 617-779-4104