

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time- January 25, 2026

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 January 24, 5:00PM
Phillippu Edmond

Sunday January 25, 10:45AM
Tommy and Paul Hebert



2025 Catholic Appeal
Thank You!

As we bring the 2025 Catholic Appeal to a close, I am grateful to share some wonderful news with our parish community. Both St. Elizabeth of Hungary and St. Isidore have surpassed their Appeal goals, reaching over 100%! Because of your generosity, both parishes will receive a rebate, which will directly support our local ministries and needs.

Your gifts make a real difference. Through the Catholic Appeal, you help strengthen Parish & Operations Support, Vocations to the Priesthood and Diaconate, Faith & Formation, Chaplaincy and Faith Community Nursing, and service to those in need within our communities, and so much more.

Truly, the Apple Valley Catholic Community has shown, through our collective generosity, that we care deeply for our brothers and sisters in Christ. As your Pastor, thank you. You have shown me, and the Archdiocese of Boston, that we are a people ready to lend a hand, serve with compassion, and live our faith in action.

With gratitude and blessings,

Fr. Jeff

Upcoming Events

January 25 - Prayer Service for Peace through Justice at St Elizabeth **New Time-1:00 PM**

February 1 - Children's Mass at St. Isidore

February 7 - Trivia Night to benefit Household Goods at St. Elizabeth

March 7th 6:30PM

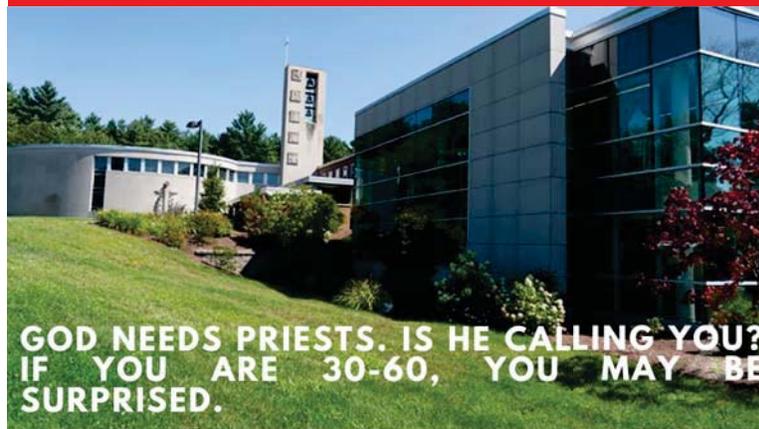


TASTE & SEE

"Taste and see the goodness of the Lord" Psalm 34:8

Do you have a favorite dish that represents your heritage, travels or love of food?

We are seeking volunteers to prepare and share delicious dishes from around the world. email sheilab@avcatholic.org for more info



FIRST FRIDAY VISIT

February 6

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)



www.psjs.edu



APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT

TO BENEFIT
HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Saturday

February 7th

St. Elizabeth Of Hungary
Parish Center Hall
(behind the church)
89 Arlington St., Acton

Doors open at: 6:30pm
Trivia starts at: 7:00pm



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Dear Parish Family,

Isaiah gives us a powerful promise:

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.”

(Isaiah 9)



We often hear that and think simply, “Jesus is the light.” And He is. But Isaiah is saying something even deeper: when God sends light, it means God is acting. God is stepping into human history to rescue His people and to lead them forward.

In Isaiah, “*darkness*” is not only sadness or hardship. It is also disorientation, when people cannot see clearly anymore: what is true, what matters most, where to place their hope, and how to live faithfully.

That is why Jesus is the “*great light*” for us. Christ does not only comfort us, He reveals. He shows us who God truly is. He helps us see our lives clearly again. He exposes what is empty or false, and He guides us back toward what is holy and life-giving.

And that is a word our world needs right now. So many people aren’t just burdened, they are confused, exhausted, and spiritually pulled in too many directions. Christ shines not to shame us, but to save us. His light calls us back to truth, peace, and purpose.

Christ has not stopped shining. The question is whether we are willing to *step into His light*.

This week, I invite you to do one small but real thing: Before you speak to anyone in the morning...before you pick up your phone...before you enter the noise...PRAY: “*Jesus, shine Your light on my life today. Help me see clearly.*”

Because when Christ shines, it’s not just to make us feel better. It’s to lead us to Him who is the *great light* Isaiah was speaking.

With prayer,
Fr. Jeff

NEW TIME

Social Justice Ministry Presents A Prayer Service for Peace through Justice



On **Sunday January 25 at 1 pm**, we invite you to join us for our Prayer Service for Peace through Justice. God's love not only gives us the amazing gift of life, but also the gift of life to the fullest in the Kingdom of God (John 10:10). In our conflict-driven world, peace most often seems defined as the absence of war, but God desires more than that for us.

In Christ, God desires for us love of neighbor, freedom, justice, and flourishing—the things that make for peace (Luke 19:42). God also invites our engagement as peacebuilders: as Pope Leo expressed this January 1, the World Day of Peace, “this is the peace of the risen Christ – a peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. It comes from God who loves us all unconditionally.” This month's Sunday evening prayer service will feature inspiration from Catholic Social Teaching on peacebuilding, prayer with our Youth Ministry team, worship, music, a special message from Fr. Jeff, and an opportunity for prayerful reflection on putting faith into action. Please join us in prayer and practice for peace in our world on Sunday January 25 at 6 pm, at St. Elizabeth's!

Questions? Email socialjustice@avcatholic.org.

LIFT Groups for Lent 2026

Looking for a way to engage more deeply with your faith and our community this Lent?

Our LIFT Small Groups for Adults will soon be open for registration for the Lent 2026 Season. LIFT is all about bringing your life and faith together through small group conversation, prayer, and community. Groups typically meet every other week in parish spaces or homes, and each one is a little different in style and focus.

Lent is a perfect time to recommit to your spiritual life, and joining a LIFT group is a great way to take that step. Several groups still have room for new participants, and as always if you have an idea for a group you'd like to start, we're always open to forming something new.

Visit avcatholic.org/LIFT or email Tom at toms@avcatholic.org



LIVING IN FAITH TOGETHER



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time- January 25, 2026

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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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
 daniel@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 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 1/11/26

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 4,271
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 5,841
Total Parish Support	\$ 10,085
 St. Vincent de Paul collection:	 \$ 132

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

For the week ending 1/11/26

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 6,181
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 2,842
Total Parish Support	\$ 9,023
 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.

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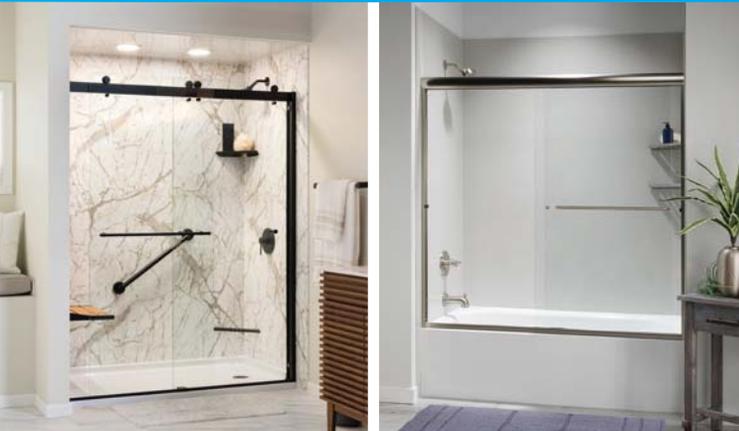
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