

Sunday of Divine Mercy-April 12, 2026

Apple Valley Catholic Community Two Parishes - One Mission

2nd Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday



“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

John 20:21

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.

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Mass Intentions

Saturday April 11, 5:00PM
June Hayden

Sunday April 12, 8:45AM
John & Mildred Senna

Sunday April 12, 10:45AM
Paulette Joyal

Upcoming Events

April 18 - Confirmation at St. Elizabeth

May 2 - Living Through Loss Retreat
at St. Elizabeth

May 16 - Italian Night Pot Luck at St. Isidore

Thank You to Our Generous Community



Lenton Food Drive

Thank you to all those who donated food and or time to support the AVCC Lenten food drive. Your contributions were greatly appreciated by the Acton and Stow food pantries.

Thanks go out as well to Jim and Kelley's LIFT group, Mary Amato and both the adult and teen volunteers who sorted and delivered all the donations.

Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you everyone for your generous donations for the Easter Egg Hunt. We had a variety of candy and toys that absolutely delighted the kids. The kids hunted 1427 eggs in the back lawn of the church, followed by fellowship and games. Thank you for all of your support in helping bring this event to life for the kids. I hope the pictures capture the joy, friendship and community the kids felt at this annual event.



Triduum at AVCC




Living Through Loss

2026 Retreat
Peace, Hope and Love

St. Elizabeth of Hungary
89 Arlington St, Acton, MA
Saturday May 2, 11:30a-4:45p

The Living Through Loss Ministry is designed to provide a nurturing and healing space for those who have experienced a recent or past loss.
ALL ARE WELCOME.

Register using the QR code below OR send an email to retreat@avcatholic.org



APPLE VALLEY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Together we are
One

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON | CATHOLIC APPEAL



By participating in the annual Catholic Appeal, you help our Church ensure that the presence and hope of Christ can be felt throughout the 144 communities that comprise our Archdiocese of Boston. 248 parish communities make up the collective fabric of our shared faith. Our ministries help foster vibrant parishes so they can create programs and initiatives uniquely suited to their priorities and the needs of the communities they serve.

**Together We Are One...
in Faith, in Hope, in Christ.**

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or online at <https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate26-01/>



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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In this Easter season, we hear a powerful and somewhat surprising detail in the Gospel from John 20:19–23. When the Risen Jesus appears to His disciples in the upper room for the first time, He does not come without the marks of His suffering. Instead, He shows them His hands, His side, and His wounds.



This moment is deeply important. Jesus has conquered sin and death. He is glorified. And yet, the wounds remain. Why? Because His wounds are no longer signs of defeat, they have become signs of love. They are the visible proof of what He was willing to endure for us. More than that, they reveal something essential about the peace that Jesus offers.

When Jesus says, “*Peace be with you,*” He does not ignore suffering. He does not pretend that the Cross never happened. Instead, He reveals His wounds, showing us that true peace is not the absence of pain, but the **presence of Christ** within it.

This is a message we all need. Each of us carries wounds in our lives. Some are physical, but many are spiritual or emotional:

- the loss of someone we love
- the weight of past mistakes
- strained relationships
- disappointments and struggles we carry quietly

Often, our instinct is to hide these wounds, to move past them, ignore them, or keep them buried. But the Gospel invites us to do something very different. It invites us to bring our wounds to the Risen Lord, Jesus himself.

The Risen Lord does not stand at a distance from our pain. He enters into it. He meets us there. And when He does, something begins to change. The wound may still be present, but it is no longer empty. It becomes a place of grace, healing, and even peace.

The disciples experienced this transformation. They moved from fear in the upper room to joy, not because their past had been erased, but because Christ was alive and present with them in the midst of it all.

The same is true for us. Whatever we carry today, however heavy or hidden it may be, Christ comes to us and speaks the same words: “*Peace be with you.*”

As we continue through this Easter season, I invite you to reflect on where you may need to

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experience that peace more deeply. Do not be afraid to bring your wounds to the Risen Lord, in prayer, in the Eucharist, and especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

It is there that we discover a beautiful truth: what once seemed broken can, by God's grace, become something transformed. Nothing in our lives is beyond His healing. Nothing is beyond His mercy. Nothing is beyond His peace.

May the Risen Christ meet you where you are and fill your heart with His peace.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your families during this blessed Easter season.

Peace be with you.

-Fr. Jeff



We welcome your contribution towards flowers and items that will decorate our churches throughout the Easter Season.

Envelopes are available in the gathering space at each church. Or, you may complete and mail the form below to St. Elizabeth Parish or St. Isidore Parish at 89 Arlington St. Acton MA 01720, or put it in an envelope marked with the name of your Parish and 'Flower Fund' and place it in the collection basket at Mass.

You may also make your donation online using the following links if you would like to make a straight donation to the flower fund of your choice please go to our website or scan the QR codes below.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary



St. Isidore



If your flower donation is in memory of a deceased loved one whose name you wish to have published in our bulletin on Pentecost Sunday, May 24th, please complete the form below.

Contact Mary Ryan at maryr@avcatholic.org if you have questions.

Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ towards the 2026 Easter 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 Pentecost. 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

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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

Deacon: Charles A. Cornell
 charliec@avcatholic.org, (978) 562-7447

Comptroller, Joe Nelson,
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Financial Consultant: Annmarie Mazzucotelli
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Director of Music - Arline Carboneau,
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Director of Religious Education - Youth Ministry:
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Coordinator of Faith Formation K-4: Kelley Christie
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Office Coordinator/Communications:
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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 3/29/26

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 5,661
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 6862
Total Parish Support	\$ 12,523
 St. Vincent de Paul collection:	 \$ 302

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARISH SUPPORT ST. ISIDORE

For the week ending 3/29/26

Cash & Check offertory	\$ 1,658
Electronic offertory (EFT & Online):	\$ 2,468
Total Parish Support	\$ 4,126
 St. Vincent de Paul collection:	 \$ 215

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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ENDS 3/31



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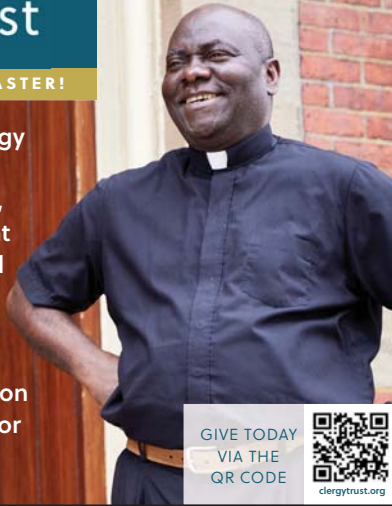
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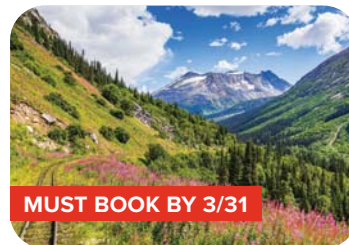
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