

DECEMBER 16, 2018  
Third Sunday of Advent

# Seton Sentinel

A PUBLICATION OF ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON R.C. PARISH

SWOYERSVILLE, PA — DIOCESE OF SCRANTON



## Christmas Masses at Seton

### Monday, December 24 Vigil

- 4:00 pm Youth Choir *upstairs*
- 4:00 pm Cantor *hall*
- 7:00 pm Cantor
- 10:00 pm **Adult Choir**

### Tuesday, December 25 Day

- 12:00 mid Cantor
- 8:30 am Adult Choir
- 11:00 am Cantor



## Giving Tree Presents

All gifts and tags are due back to the Church today for the Giving Tree. If for some reason you did not remember your present today, please drop it off at the rectory tomorrow, Monday morning, December 17th before noon. We will be distributing the gifts early this week. Thank you for all your generous support of this year's Giving Tree!

## Initial Set-up For Christmas

*Help is needed!*

The Art and Environment Team will begin to set-up for Christmas today, Sunday, December 16th after the 11:00 am Mass. There are lots of Greens to hang, trees to put up and light, ladders to climb, nativity figures to carry, light testing, tree fluffing, and lots more. Please consider lending a hand if you can. Thank you! Come by the church about 12 Noon or so...

## Daily Mass

We will begin our winter mass schedule alteration beginning January 2nd. Monday—Friday Liturgy will be celebrated at 12:10 pm for the winter months.

**Oplatki** is available before and after masses this weekend in the vestibule and at the rectory during the week. Cost is \$5/pack of 6 wafers.

## Advent Confessions

Saturday's Confessions are heard from 3:45 to 4:15. In addition, Confessions are scheduled for Saturday, December 22nd from 11:30 am until all are heard. One final opportunity for confession before Christmas will be offered on Sunday, December 23rd from 4:15pm to 5:15pm.

## Grocery Store Gift Cards

Around the Holidays we ask our parishioners to donate Grocery Store Gift Cards in any amount for emergency assistance to the needy that come through our rectory. You may drop them off at the rectory or place them in the collection basket.

## Ushers Help Needed

If you plan on attending any of the masses on Christmas Eve or Day, please offer to help with the collections and seating people. We will especially need lots of help at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Liturgy. If you can help at this Mass, please call the office this week and leave your name so we know there are people to count on for that mass in particular. We do need lots of help so even if you are not a regular volunteer, please consider helping out.

## Holiday Office Hours:

The parish offices will close at Noon this Friday, December 21 and reopen at 8:30 am on Thursday, December 27. Merry Christmas from the parish staff!

## PAROCHIAL STAFF

### Pastoral Ministry

- ◆ Rev. Joseph Pisaneschi, V.F. Pastor
- ◆ Rev. Anthony Urban  
Assisting Celebrant
- ◆ Deacon John Ziegler  
Permanent Deacon
- ◆ Lorraine Raymond  
Pastoral Associate
- ◆ Sister Jane Ellis, IHM  
Pastoral Care Minister
- ◆ Sister Sarah Landis, IHM  
Pastoral Counseling/ Therapy

### Finance Office

- ◆ Monica Salis  
Business Manager

### Religious Education

- ◆ Sister Marion Tarone, IHM  
Director of Religious Education

### Music Ministry

- ◆ Margaret Semanek  
Director of Liturgical Music
- ◆ Joseph Sabol  
Assistant Organist
- ◆ Cora Artim  
Youth Choir Director
- ◆ Scott Coates  
5:30 PM Mass Musician

### Sacristans

- ◆ Christopher Calore
- ◆ Patricia Quinn
- ◆ Betsy Evanoski

### Maintenance and Cleaning

- ◆ Christopher Calore  
Director of Maintenance
- ◆ David Quinn
- ◆ Gertrude Brown
- ◆ Carol Hrobaski
- ◆ Phil Boshia  
St. Mary's Cemetery Maintenance

### Pastoral Council, Chair

- ◆ Ann Marie Aed

### Finance Council, Chair

- ◆ Michael Perhach



*Youth Choir's Christmas Play*

## Annual Christmas Play

*Monday, December 17*

**6:30 p.m.**

Join us Tomorrow evening, December 17th at 6:30p.m. in the Parish Hall for this year's Youth Choir's Play, based on "The Little Drummer Boy." The children have worked hard on this production and it is the perfect way to get into the holiday spirit. See you there!

3rd Sunday of Advent



## Keeping In-Touch With Seton

116 Hughes Street

Swoyersville, PA 18704

Phone: 570-287-6624

Fax: 570-287-4704

Web: [setonpa.com](http://setonpa.com)

### Extension Numbers:

Ext. 2 Mass Schedule

Ext. 3 Religious Ed

Ext. 100 Lori Raymond  
[setonpa@aol.com](mailto:setonpa@aol.com)

Ext. 105 Fr. Joe  
[fatherjoey@aol.com](mailto:fatherjoey@aol.com)

Ext. 113 Monica Salis  
[seton.swoy@aol.com](mailto:seton.swoy@aol.com)

Ext. 116 Sister Marion  
[sistermarion@setonpa.com](mailto:sistermarion@setonpa.com)

Ext. 117 Sister Jane  
[sisterjane@setonpa.com](mailto:sisterjane@setonpa.com)

Ext. 124 Sister Sarah

Ext. 130 Deacon Jack

VISIT US ONLINE [Setonpa.com](http://Setonpa.com)

## Where Are YOU this Christmas?

Dear Family,

The Faith Hill holiday hit asks, "Where are you, Christmas?" The reality of these Holy Days asks us instead, "Where are YOU, this Christmas?" This is the day we celebrate, rather, we stop our lives as usual and mark time with the day that God came to find us. And so each year while we search for Christmas, Christmas is searching for us.

Each year life's journey takes its toll on you and me. It seems the older we get, Christmas loses its magic, its power, and we indeed ask, "Where are You, Christmas?" The truth is that Christmas is always with us — we don't stop to realize that God is always looking for us. He looks for us in the hills and valleys of life, in our laughter and tears, in our struggles and triumphs. Christmas never ends.

We, on the other hand, get lost from time to time, and Christmas asks us all the question: "Where are You this year?", or "Where are you hiding?" Or are you so far off the track that you are lost on the journey? Be careful of how you answer that.... You may not even realize that you are hiding or lost. In fact, so many of us settle for less than God's incredible love for us that we become comfortable without Christmas, and sometimes we wish it would just pass us by. It doesn't. And it's exactly for these reasons that Jesus comes looking for us. He knows our hiding spots. He knows where we get lost or stuck in life. He comes again this year to find us, to hold us and to love us where we are and calls us to a better life.

So, where are You this Christmas? These remaining days of Advent are a good time to come out of hiding or to throw up the white flag on the path we have veered from this year. Let Jesus find you this year, wherever you are. The annual celebration of Christmas is as if God is saying to each one of us: "I don't care where you are, or where you've been. I am coming to be with you!"

The church is a safe place for you and all others to come to be found by Jesus this year and all years. As your pastor, I call each of you home to celebrate God's Incredible Gift of Love for us in Jesus. Let's invite our friends, neighbors, and family members who have been hiding or lost to come, be with us, as Jesus once again, comes looking for us. Let's answer the question, Where are YOU this Christmas? Together as a faith family and parish community. "Come, O Lord Jesus, open our graves of mourning, our caves of distraction, our tents of addiction and sin, our holes of disappointment, and find us again this year. Your people are so precious in your eyes that you will stop at nothing to find us! Come, Lord Jesus, Come!"

*Father Joe Pisaneschi*

## DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS 2019

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2019 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 30, 2019. The event includes a 2:30pm mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address, should be made by contacting Lori Raymond, in your parish office (570-287-6624, extension 100), before April 2nd.

## COOKIE WALK TODAY

St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church, 205 N. Main St., Pittston, is having a "Cookie Walk" on Sunday, December 16th, in the church hall from 10am to 1pm. All cookies are homemade, and cost \$10/pound. You may choose your own cookies. Everyone is welcome!

## 2019 Religious Art Parish Calendars

Please take your copy of the 2019 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Year Calendar located at the church entrance. Once again, a very special acknowledgement and sincere thanks to **Wroblewski Funeral Home**, 1442 Wyoming Avenue, Forty Fort, for underwriting the expense of the calendars.



## Religious Education Classes

### December Classes for Saturdays:

(no classes on Dec. 22 & 29)

### December Classes for Mondays:

Dec. 17th(Christmas Play)

(No classes Dec. 24 & 31)

### January Classes for Saturdays: Jan. 5, 12, & 26

(no class on Jan. 19th)

### January Classes for Mondays: Jan. 7, 14, & 28

(no class on Jan. 21st)

**January 6th, 11:00am:** 6th Grade Family Mass. Social after mass in church hall.

**January 13th,** All 7th Grade Confirmation students...extra class in church hall after 5:30pm mass

## 4 pm Christmas Eve Notice:

Please be advised that once the pews are filled for the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass you will be directed to go downstairs in the hall for a complete live mass. There shall be no standing room permitted in the church vestibule, or choir loft. It makes it impossible to move during the Liturgy and is a violation of the fire code. We ask everyone's cooperation in this matter. Thank you.

## Bulletin Deadlines

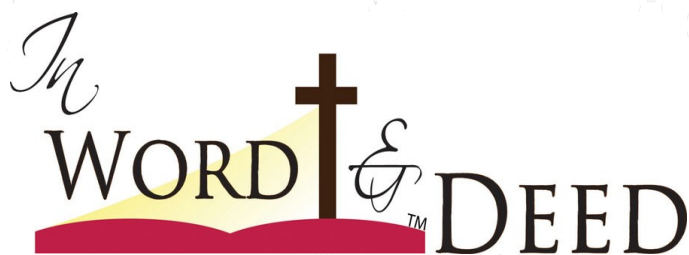
For the next several weeks, we ask that all bulletin announcements be sent to Lori by Thursday, two weeks before the weekend you wish the article to appear in the Sentinel. We will be working on a tight schedule to get the bulletin printed over the Christmas and New Year holidays. Thank you.

## THANK YOU FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our Knights of Columbus send a big "THANK YOU" to everyone who supported our Breakfast Buffet last Sunday. The Breakfast was a great success!

## HOLY REDEEMER "SOUNDS OF THE SEASON"

Today, Sunday, December 16th, at 2pm, Holy Redeemer High School students, under the direction of Miss Ann Manganiello, will present a Choral Concert entitled, "Sounds of the Season." The Royal Singers, Handbell Choir, Soloists, & Instrumentalists will be featured along with an Audience Sing-a Long. Sacred, secular, traditional, & popular works will be performed. Elementary Instrumentalists under the direction of Mr. Mark Stransky will also be featured during the concert. The concert will be held in the Holy Redeemer H. S. McCarthy Auditorium. Ticket donation is \$4/adults and \$3/students & Sr. Citizens. Tickets are available at the door.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

A certain priest, known for his girth, returned to his former parish to visit, minus much of his sizable frame. When asked about his weight loss, he told everyone that chest pains and the fear of a heart attack motivated him to lose weight and take better care of himself. He felt better, had more energy and was more active than he had ever been. Once he made up his mind, he did what was necessary to stay fit.

John's listeners are convinced by the Baptist's message that announced the coming of the Messiah. They want to do something to prepare for the coming of the Lord. It was not possible or practical to become like John. So, John tells them to do what they can. In their jobs, communities and daily lives, they were to live in anticipation of the coming of the Messiah, practicing the virtues of the Kingdom by treating people fairly and with respect.

To prepare once again for the celebration of Christmas, we must root out sin and evil in our lives and renew our commitment to God and holiness. Look for those opportunities everyday and live your life according to your beliefs. Make up your mind that you will do whatever it takes to get right with God and prepare for the coming of Christ.

~James Gaffney, © 2009 Karides Lic. to St. George Publishing  
[jim@stgeorgepublishing.com](mailto:jim@stgeorgepublishing.com)



## MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP



The Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., will be held on Friday, January 18, 2019. Cost is \$50.00, which includes bus and buffet dinner. Make checks out to "PHL" (by January 11th), and mail to Chris Calore, 37 Elder Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702. Bus departs right here from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish at 6:15am, right after 5:50am Mass. We will return home approximately 10:30pm.

## Honoring our Heroes

The Kiwanis Club of Swoyersville is happy to announce a new community program: "Honoring Our Heroes" banners. Banners are available for the purchase price of \$150. These banners are 24"x48" in size and are red and blue in color with American Flag details. Banners are 2 sided and will display a black and white photo of your hero, living or deceased, along with information on their position and dates of serving our country. Banners are available for residents and heroes of all communities, but will be displayed throughout the town of Swoyersville. Your hero banner will be proudly displayed each year from Memorial Day through Veteran's Day.

For information & order forms, call or text Hero Chairperson Jean Marie at 570-479-0850 or email: [jmsswoykiwanis1@gmail.com](mailto:jmsswoykiwanis1@gmail.com). Deadline for orders is March 2, 2019.

## When the Snow Falls

Our Parish is looking for a few good shovels and people behind them. When it snows, digging our campus out can be a real challenge that often left to one of two people. We are asking for help when it snows if we could get a team together to help Chris take care of our properties. The more help we get the easier and quicker it will get done. It has to be done before masses on the weekend and before Funerals and the 12:10 mass during the week. If you can help, please call Chris Calore at the office 287-6624, ext 133 and leave your name. Our neighborhood youth is encouraged to get involved. Please be healthy and agile enough to shovel snow.

## 2018 Diocesan Annual Appeal

Our response to the Diocesan Appeal to date has been that 16.43% of our parishioners or 182 families have gave or pledged. Our 2018 Goal is \$47,000.00  
Total Raised: \$24,982.00  
We are Under: **\$22,018.00**

Anything that you are able to do to help us make up this deficit would be greatly appreciated as the Diocese has decided to extend the Appeal into early 2019 to allow parishes to make their much needed goals for the Appeal. Without your support many of the ministries of the Dioceses will not be able to be funded. That includes Outreach to the Poor, Catholic Education, Seminarians, Retired Priests, and many Parish Life facets. These ministries will be in jeopardy if the DAA is not successful this year.

Envelopes are located on the tables at the Church entrance or visit: [annualappeal.org](http://annualappeal.org) and give online to the Appeal.



## Weekly Offering for the Weekend of December 1/2, 2018

**\$ 10,947.62**

Love and generosity start here at home. We are grateful for your faithful stewardship which sustains the life of our parish, supports our outreach and ministries, as well as maintains the level of staffing needed to put our mission into action. Thank you for your gift of treasure and commitment do God's work here at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

## Counseling Ministry Offered

Sister Sarah Landis, IHM, a licensed certified therapist and counselor addresses problems with depression, anxiety, grieving, relationship issues, and many other mental health concerns. Sister's office is located at the former Holy Trinity Convent, across from the rectory on Hughes Street. For more information or to contact Sister Sarah directly, call the main office and dial extension 124 when prompted.

### Other Collection Totals:

Campaign for Human Development: \$752.66

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

116 Hughes Street  
 Swoyersville, PA 18704  
 Phone: (570) 287-6624  
 www.setonpa.com



### Third Week of Advent Liturgical Schedule and Intentions

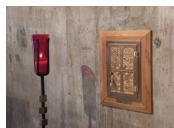
Intention	Requested by
<b>Monday, December 17</b>	
8:00 am Carol Lewis	Richard Adams
<b>Tuesday, December 18</b>	
8:00 am William & Mary Sheehan	Daughter, Mary
<b>Wednesday, December 19</b>	
8:00 am Joseph Gibbons	Sister, Pat Quinn & Family
<b>Thursday, December 20</b>	
8:00 am Robert & Joseph Brennan & Jerome Skiengel	Aunt Irene Gulla
<b>Friday, December 21</b>	
8:00 am Walter Gabe Gavlick	Ralph & Barbara Romanowski
<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>Saturday, December 22</b>	
<b>Vigil, 4:30 pm</b> Rosarii Rosentel	Sons & Families
<b>Sunday, December 23</b>	
<b>8:30 am</b> Joseph & Lois Koval	Daughter, Lois
<b>11:00 am</b> Richard Mizenko	Wife & Family
<b>5:30 pm</b> <i>Pro Populo</i>	

### Monday, December 24

- 4:00 PM (Church) *Intention of the Presider (Fr. Louis Grippe)*
- 4:00 PM (Hall) *Intention of the Presider (Fr. Joe Pisaneschi)*
- 7:00 PM *Intention of the Presider (Fr. Anthony Urban)*
- 10:00 PM *Intention of the Presider (Fr. Joe Pisaneschi)*

### Tuesday, December 25

- 12:00 AM Midnight *Intention of Presider (Fr. Joe Pisaneschi)*
- 8:30 AM *Intention of the Presider (Fr. Joe Pisaneschi)*
- 11:00 AM *Intention of the Presider (Fr. Joe Pisaneschi)*



### Vigil Candles This Week

- In Memory of Beatrice Skiengel offered by Husband & Family
- Wedding Anniversary Blessings for Bob & Terry Jankoviak

