

Second Sunday of Advent
December 8, 2019

Seton Sentinel

A PUBLICATION OF ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH

SWOYERSVILLE, PA — DIOCESE OF SCRANTON



This Weekend:
Bishop Bambera will speak to us at all Masses.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 24th Christmas Eve:

4:00 pm - Children's Mass

*Youth Choir
Church*

4:00 pm—Vigil Mass

*cantor
School gym*

9:00 pm—Choral Mass

Festive preludes begin at 8:30 pm

December 25th Christmas Day:

12 MIDNIGHT - cantor

9:00 am—choir

11:00 am—cantor



VISIT US ONLINE setonpa.com

In Preparation for Christmas

Our Christian Mothers will once again be offering the Christmas Wafers before and after each weekend mass. The *oplatki* is available for an offering of \$5/pack of 6 wafers. You may also stop in the rectory to obtain yours if unable to do so at weekend masses.

Pirohy Making

Dates: Mondays, 9, and 16

Pirohy making takes place on **Mondays** during Advent in our **school cafeteria** beginning at 7:00 am. **Please come this Monday, December 9th**, at 7am if you can help ball the potatoes, and all others come at 8:30am. We have lost many members due to illness over the past several months. We desperately need more help. No experience necessary, we'll train you on the spot. Even if you just have an hour or two to give, we'll take it. Bring your friends! Lunch will be served, too. Thank you.

Orders for December 2nd will be able to be picked up this Monday, December 9th. **Please listen at mass for more information about future sale dates.** Please **do not call the rectory** and try to order pirohy, we are unable to take phone orders under any circumstance.

CCD SCHEDULE

Classes in December:

Saturdays: 14,21 **No Class:** 28
Mondays: 9,16 **No Class:** 23,30

TODAY, Sunday, December 8th: 7th Grade Confirmation students **Enrollment during 5:30pm mass** + extra class after Mass. All students are expected to be present at this Mass for Enrollment.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ALL-U-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST



Sunday, December 15th, from 9am-1pm downstairs in our church hall. Cost is \$8.00/adults and \$4/children 12 and under. Tickets are available at the door. Santa Claus will be there, so bring your list & your camera.

GATHER

Readings at # 994

Second Sunday of
Advent
Cycle A

HYMNS	4,8:30 & 11	5:30 pm Sun
Gathering	G 395	S 6
Preparation	S 7	S 7
Communion	S 2	S 9
Sending Forth	S 5	"Prepare ye the way of the Lord"

PARISH 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
- ◆ Mr. John Bankus Sr.
Deacon Candidate

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
- ◆ Gertrude Brown
- ◆ John Sartin
- ◆ Salvatore Piccillo
Weekend Maintenance
- ◆ Phil Bosha
St. Mary's Cemetery Maintenance

Pastoral Council, Chair

- ◆ Ann Marie Aed

Finance Council, Chair

- ◆ Michael Perhach



SETON VITALS

116 Hughes Street
Swoyersville, PA 18704

Phone: 570-287-6624

Fax: 570-287-4704

Web: setonpa.com

Extension Numbers:

Ext. 2 Mass Schedule

Ext. 3 Religious Ed

Ext. 100 Lori Raymond
setonpa@aol.com

Ext. 105 Fr. Joe
fatherjoey@aol.com

Ext. 113 Monica Salis
seton.swoy@aol.com

Ext. 116 Sister Marion
sistermarion@setonpa.com

Ext. 117 Sister Jane
sisterjane@setonpa.com

Ext. 130 Deacon Jack

Ext. 133 Chris Calore

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday –Thursday:

8:30am-5:00pm

Friday: 8:30am-3:00pm

Weekend and evenings by appointment

The parish offices are closed on all Holy Days of Obligation and Federal Holidays.

RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays

3:30 to 3:50pm or by appointment



Church and Gym Decorating for Christmas

Friday, December 20th 9:00 am Gym Set-up

Sunday, December 22nd, 11:45 am—Church

It's all hands on deck as we need to accomplish a lot in just a few hours.

Come and help us set up the Church for Christmas. Trees to be set-up, wreaths to hang, nativity figures to move, ladders to climb, etc., Join us between the masses Sun., Dec 22nd beginning at 11:45 am.



Christmas Giving Tree



Our Giving Tree is up and ready with the gift tags for the needy children and families and shut-ins. Please **WRAP** the gifts and return the gifts with the **TAG ATTACHED** by **December 16th**. If for some reason you are unable to get the gift, please bring back the tag & place it back on the tree. We always have a very successful drive, THANKS to our parish's tremendous generosity. ***We thank you in advance for your participation in this year's gift drive.***

Holy Redeemer High School

"Sounds of the Season", Choral Concert featuring the Royal Singers, Handbell Choir, Soloists, & Instrumentalists. Sunday, December 15th at 2pm. Holy Redeemer McCarthy Auditorium. Ticket donation is \$3 for adults & \$2 for students & Senior Citizens. Ticket purchase at the door.

Wyoming Valley Harmony Chorus...

Now including female members, will be presenting "Holidays, Holly and Harmony, Sunday, Dec. 15th, at 2pm, at the Church of St. Benedict, 155 Austin Ave., in the Parsons section of Wilkes-barre. Includes secular & religious favorites. Santa Claus has been invited & has confirmed his visit. Tickets are \$5 each & will be sold at the door, and in advance at 570-285-4810.

MEN, SAVE THE DATE!

The 6th Annual Diocese of Scranton Men's Conference will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre. More information will be coming as it comes available, but please know this conference will support, challenge, & affirm all attendee's call as sons of God and brothers of Christ. Your help to get more men engaged would be greatly appreciated.

JMJ CATHOLIC RADIO

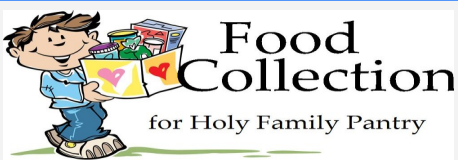


Having begun Advent JMJ Catholic Radio, Wilkes-Barre/Scranton at 98.9fm & 750AM, Hazleton at 1490AM & 100.1FM, and Dushore at 91.7FM, invites you to listen to our special Advent and Christmas programming. Each day you can tune into "Catholic Answers" daily from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, and weekends at 6:00pm to 7:00pm. In addition to this apologetic outreach, Father Leo McKernan and Father David Cramer explore the Sunday Readings on Tuesdays at 3:00pm, Thursdays at 6:00pm, and Saturdays at 9:00pm.



**Weekly Offering
November 23-24, 2019
\$7613.64**

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 to do God's work here at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.



ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE FOOD PANTRY:

- ~~Jelly~~Rice~~Instant Potatoes~~
- ~~Canned Fruit~~Canned Chicken~~

Donation boxes are located in the vestibule next to the statues of our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph.

WITH APPRECIATION

“Dear Friends,

Praying that God brings you many blessings for your kindness. Just a note to thank you for your continued donations of food to our pantry. Your support is so important to us & we appreciate all of your kindness.

Lou & Carol Cardoni
Holy Family Food Pantry Coordinators”

Diocese of Scranton
2019 **DIOCESAN**
ANNUAL APPEAL

SERVING IN *faith* WITH HOPE
AND GRATITUDE

Thank You to all who have pledged or given so far this year! We are still quite a bit behind in our goal.

Please consider making a pledge or giving a gift today. Even a small offering will help us reach our goal. Envelopes are at the church entrances.

PLEASE, help us reach our goal this year!

DAA 2019 Goal: \$47,000.00

Total Raised: \$31,723.00

Under: \$15,277.00

IN SEARCH OF.....

~~~~an up-to-date Recumbant Bike to either donate or sell at a bargain price.



Please call Lori at the parish office for more details.

**NOTICE REGARDING REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR**

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegations of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at 570-862-7551.

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

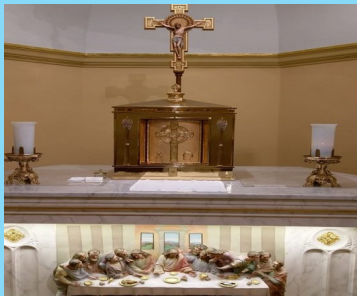
116 Hughes Street  
Swoyersville, PA  
Phone: (570) 287-6624  
www.setonpa.com



# Remembering

Monday—Friday Masses are now at 8:30 am

### Sanctuary Candles



~In Memory of Arlene  
Skiengel offered by sisters,  
Alice, Sr. Cynthia, & Sr. Melita

~Health & Blessings for  
Remakus Family

#### Monday, December 9th

8:30 am Edward Harkins III

M/M Steve Urban

#### Tuesday, December 10th

8:30 am Margaret Kadish

Ron Kadish

#### Wednesday, December 11th

8:30 am Eleanor Banyar

Sr. Dolores M. Filicko, IHM

#### Thursday, December 12th

8:30 am Bernard Petrasek

M/M Bernard Leandri

#### Friday, December 13th

8:30 am Helen Kiwak

Daughter & Family

#### Saturday, December 14th

4:00 pm William Coniglio

Rom & Rita Zukosky

#### Sunday, December 15th

8:30 am Louise Megatulski

Husband, Robert

11:00 am Carl Zukosky

Gerry Rish & Gloria Cywinski

5:30 pm *Pro Populo*

### Liturgical Observance of the Immaculate Conception for 2019 from the Vicar General

In this calendar year of 2019, December 8—normally the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—falls on the Second Sunday of Advent. Because the Sundays of Advent rank higher on the liturgical calendar, the observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9. The obligation of the faithful to attend Mass remains attached to the day itself (December 8) and does not transfer with the liturgical observance. Therefore, there is no obligation to participate at Mass this year on the Solemnity of Immaculate Conception which will be observed on December 9, 2019. There shall be one Mass here at Seton will be at 8:30 am.



### In Dying that We Are Born to Eternal Life...

~~Mario Zucca~~

~~Karl W. Davis~~

~~Paul Blaski~~

May the Lord grant them Eternal Rest.

### Sick, Hospitalized, Homebound?

Please contact Lori at the parish office if you or someone you know is homebound, hospitalized or in a long term or short term care facility. We want to keep track of all our parishioners and minister to the sick and aging the best we can, and we need to know their location to do that. Thank You.





# Vision 2020

## Seeing a Future Full of Hope

DECEMBER 2019

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

• **Is 11:1-10**

*The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD.*

• **Psalms 72**

*Justice shall flourish in his time and the fullness of peace forever.*

• **Romans 15:4-9**

*May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another. Welcome one another, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.*

• **Mt 3:1-12**

*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.*

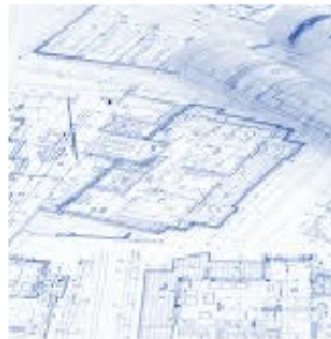
## Shaping a Blueprint for the Future of the Diocese

In today's homily for the Second Sunday of Advent, Bishop Bambera explained to us that it is time for the whole Church of Scranton to take a good look at the life of our parishes and to project a future vision in response to God's call today.

Your Pastors have taken first steps in this conversation in recent deanery meetings, and now it is essential to broaden this conversation to include all of the faithful.

Bishop Bambera pointed out to us the reality of change in our world and in our local communities, and so we know that we will continue to face and

respond to change within the church. "I'm inviting all of the faithful," he said, "to simply focus on how we best engage the mission of



the gospel in these changing times." Some of these changes include shifting demographics, differing attitudes about formal church participation, and diminishment in numbers of ordained priests

available to serve as full-time pastors.

In the coming year, then, Bishop Bambera is asking us to continue working together to fashion a "blueprint" if you will—a pathway for our local Church, tailored to each deanery and to each parish—for how we will meet both the challenges and the opportunities we will face in the next ten year period.

In his homily he stressed that, "while every parish is similar in what it is being asked to do and to be, each parish will respond to this process in ways that are unique to its situation and circumstances."

## Rooted in the Vision of Servant Leadership

*Excerpted from Bishop Bambera's 2011 Pastoral Letter, Wounded and Loved, Regathering the Scattered*

When we assume that our journey of faith is just about personal holiness and generosity alone, we forget that the mission of Jesus is to bring the good news of salvation to the ends of the earth. We forget that there is one God and Father of us all. We neglect a critical mystery of faith that in giving we receive; that in dying to self we are born to eternal life. We need to **return ourselves to this larger view of our communion and mission**: a vision of life together that restores our sense of being part of something larger than ourselves and greater than our personal inadequacies. Let us together serve the mission of Jesus Christ to gather the scattered back into God's loving embrace. This mission is not our own, nor is the power to achieve it. Let us rely on the power and grace of the promised Spirit of Jesus! My brothers and sisters, once we begin to appreciate that we are loved by God, the desire to embrace the life of the One who loves us also begins to grow. The Lord's challenge to us who receive His very body and blood is that we allow our lives also to be broken and poured forth in loving service of our sisters and brothers.



The Lord's challenge to us who receive His very body and blood is that we allow our lives also to be broken and poured forth in loving service of our sisters and brothers.



# Planning Guidance for Each Deanery

Guiding the overall process are these planning assumptions as common elements across the Diocese:

- The benchmarks for vibrant parishes are in accord with the vision expressed in Bishop Bambera’s Pastoral Letter, especially pages 7-13;
- In every local circumstance, efforts are made to best utilize the particular ministry gifts of the clergy and, at the same time, to mobilize the gifts of all the baptized;
- Each deanery blueprint implementation is unique, and may consider such questions as: number of worship sites, Mass schedules and wise investment of resources;
- No deanery is planning in isolation – the circumstances in one may occasion change in another;
- Parish pastoral plans are respected and help to inform deanery level plans;
- Recommendations from deaneries or parishes are brought to Diocesan review;
- Parishes in linked relationship, sharing a Pastor, will be given additional planning support to evaluate and craft the best path forward;
- Every parish calls forth those individuals whose capacity for pastoral leadership could be developed through vocational discernment for priesthood, religious life, lay ministry or permanent diaconate.



*We, the Catholic community of the Diocese of Scranton, are called through Baptism to imitate the servant leadership of Jesus Christ. In union with our Holy Father, the Pope, we proclaim the Gospel faithfully, celebrate the sacraments joyfully, and boldly promote life, justice and peace in northeastern and north central Pennsylvania.*

## Questions for Reflection and Dialogue

1. Bishop’s pastoral letter, quoted on reverse side, says parishes need to “return to a larger view of our communion and mission.” What would this look like for us? What would we be doing differently? How would this help us respond to the kind of changes in church and society which Bishop mentioned in his homily?
2. The Advent gospels challenge us to keep our eyes on the goal of our journey — to make God’s vision of a world of peace and justice even more true and visible in our part of the world. What will happen to this mission of the church as we have fewer priests to serve as full-time Pastors?
3. What could the members of our parish do to prepare for the reality of additional change in pastoral leadership in the coming years? How can we work with neighboring parishes to sustain the life and mission for which we are baptized?

### What is a Deanery?



The Diocese of Scranton includes 118 parishes in 11 counties of northeastern and north central Pennsylvania. These parishes are grouped geographically, for collaboration and mission effectiveness, into 12 Deaneries. Each deanery may have 8-12 parishes. The Pastors and PLCs serving in a given Deanery select one from among themselves to serve as the local leader, or Dean. In the Diocese at present, the Deaneries are:

|            |               |              |          |
|------------|---------------|--------------|----------|
| Carbondale | Honesdale     | Stroudsburg  | Scranton |
| Sayre      | WilliamSPORT  | Wilkes-Barre | Hazleton |
| Pittston   | Clarks Summit | Dunmore      | Kingston |