

# St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

## Seton Sentinel



"Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 23, 2012

Swoyersville, PA



### MINISTRIES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Attention all CCD Instructors, Choir Members, Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Altar Servers, Ushers, Youth Ministry Adult Volunteers, and anyone else who performs a regular ministry in our parish. Let's get together and celebrate Our Lord's Birth by honoring all of our ministry volunteers. Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 6th, the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord (the 12th Day of Christmas), from 2-6PM for an appreciation party with a catered meal, refreshments, and a little music provided by a DJ. In order to help us properly plan for the party, please RSVP by calling Lori at the rectory by Thursday, December 27th, or leave a message with your name and phone number. We look forward to celebrating the Epiphany with all of you in our parish hall. *Unfortunately*, we cannot accommodate spouses & children who are not in ministries for this party, but all are welcome to our Feast Day Pizza Social.

### ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON FEAST DAY

Friday, January 4, 2013, is our patroness' Feast Day. Since this is the first year we are St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, there is reason to celebrate this day. We would like to gather with everyone for a special mass at 5:30PM with the children from the parish playing a special role in the celebration. Mother Seton is identified with children most often. There will be a blessing with the relic and a medal of Mother Seton distributed at the end of mass. We would also like to share in a little fellowship and refreshment afterwards. We are planning to have homemade pizza following the mass in the parish hall. We ask you to sign-up at the tables at the entrance of the church if you are planning to join us for pizza after mass.



### 2013 PARISH CALENDARS

Pick-up your new Parish Calendars after mass today at the entrance of the Church. Thanks to **Wroblewski Funeral Home** for sponsoring our calendars.

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Tomorrow, Monday is Christmas Eve. We begin our Christmas Celebration with Christmas Masses. Please note that we are expecting a very large crowd at the 4:00 p.m. family mass and ask that if you can attend another mass to please do so. There are only so many pews and parking spaces. We also ask that you extend a warm welcome to all those who are not usually with us for weekend masses this time of year. They may be relatives of regular parishioners who are visiting for the Holidays or perhaps it is someone who only comes once or twice a year. Let's give them a reason to come back, not a reason to stay away.

#### Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24th

4:00 p.m. Family Mass\*

5:30 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass

9:00 p.m. Carol Mass

11:30 p.m. Choir begins singing for Midnight Mass

#### Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25th

12 Midnight Solemn Choral Mass of Christmas

8:30 a.m. Christmas Mass at Dawn

10:30 a.m. Christmas Mass during the Day

#### \*THE 4:00PM FAMILY MASS

There will be a brief Christmas play and the children will lead congregational singing of a few Christmas Carols at 3:30 PM. All are welcome but please keep in mind the availability for seats will be limited due to the large crowd expected to attend this Mass.



### CHRISTMAS MASS REMEMBRANCES

A Christmas Mass Remembrance envelope is enclosed with your envelopes. There will be 9 Masses offered for your intentions.

### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed on Monday, December 24th, Tuesday, December 25th, and Wednesday, December 26th. Please hold off on all business matters on these days. Emergency calls will be answered as soon as possible.



***A VERY MERRY AND BLESSED  
CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR  
PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS***

**OPLATKY**

The *Oplatky* (Christmas Wafers) are still available after masses this weekend and for as long as supplies last. \$2.00 for a pack of 4.

**DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS**

His Excellency, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, & the Office for Parish Life invites couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2013 to a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 16. The event includes a 2:30pm Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Please call Lori at the office to request an invitation, with your name and mailing address, before Feb. 8th.

***SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON, PRAY FOR US!***

**RED CROSS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**

The American Red Cross needs you! Blood Drive Volunteer opportunities: Appointment Manager, Canteen Procedures, and Pre-sign Manager. Please call Pauline Andel, Blood Services Coordinator, at 823-7161, ext 340, or email her at : pauline.schwalm-andel@redcross.org

**COLLECTION REPORTS**

Due to the Christmas and New Year Holidays, we need to send the bulletin to the publisher way in advance. The remaining reports for this year will appear in next year's *Sentinel*. As always, we thank you for your tremendous generosity to your Parish Community.

**The Diocesan Annual Appeal**

A big Thank You to all who have contributed to this year's Appeal. We are very close to reaching our Parish Goal but we need your help. If you have not yet given, please consider a Christmas gift this week to the Diocesan Annual Appeal. Help the Diocese Help those in need!

Here are the latest numbers:

29.70%(400 out of 1,347) gave/pledged

DAA 2012 Goal: \$45,000.00

Total Raised: \$43,635.00

(Under): (\$1,365.00)

**REGIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY**

**TEEN MASS CHANGE OF SCHEDULE.** The Jan.13th Regional Mass will be re-scheduled. Sorry for any inconvenience.

**Sunday, January 27th**

Regional Rec Room OPEN & INFO NIGHT hosted by St. Ignatius Leadership Team. 6:00 pm -7:00 pm 6th, 7th & 8th graders AND 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm (High School)

**Sunday, February 10th**

5pm, Regional Teen Mass, Social & Speaker Series (St. Ignatius)

***Scripture for the week of December 23, 2012***

23	SUN	Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
24	Mon	Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a 16/Lk 1:67-79
25	Tue	Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18or1:1-5, 9-14
26	Wed	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
27	Thu	1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
28	Fri	1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18
29	Sat	1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35



Dear Parishioners,

A few weeks ago Marie Gould came to a Parish Pastoral Council Meeting with a plaque that she got last Christmas. It read:

**“The beauty of Christmas is not in the presents  
but in His Presence.”**

I cannot help but reflect this season on all of the ways “His Presence,” has been made real in our community.

I want to acknowledge that this has been a difficult year for everyone. We experienced the loss of a church and the loss of two parishes. Indeed, together, we started from the ground floor and began to shape and form the new parish and parish church. It is never easy to start over, as so many of us are called to do at different times in our own lives. However, in the tearing down and building up His Presence has been felt.

As is so many time the case in life, grace comes to us from our trials and struggles. As one theologian put it, “there is no such thing as cheap grace.” In letting go of the past and embracing an unknown and uncharted future we experience The Lord’s Presence in our mourning, in our doubts, fears, frustrations and in our strong belief that despite the troubled waters we are experiencing, His hand is leading and guiding us to a safe harbor.

As a Brand New Parish Community the Presence of Jesus is undeniably with us. The successful transitions we have made over the past six months is proof of the Divine at work even in our time of searching for new life.

In a thumbnail sketch, Christ has been behind all of our successful endeavors and triumphs as evident in the very beginning of our new community when we came to together for the Inaugural Mass and Picnic our first weekend. It was amazing the number of people who were in attendance and helped out in the mass and picnic. Remember the mountain of desserts? It signified everyone’s goodwill and hopes for a successful transformation.

Our Annual Summer Festival was the most successful in the history. It was truly an amazing accomplishment by all who were involved. (We can always use more folks to help us).

We held our first Vacation Bible School in the summer and our combined Religious Education Formation Program for the Children is up and running. Adult Continuing Education Programs have been started and will continue this spring.

We asked for more Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and we received the help as well as with all other ministries. Our choirs, adult, contemporary and children’s are making beautiful music. The Knights of Columbus, The Confraternity of Christmas Women and Holy Name Society have all been successfully integrated into the new parish.

We have begun the Parish Pastoral Council which continues to be built-up. Social Concerns, which is an offshoot of the Pastoral Council and exacted by Bishop Bambera’s Pastoral Letter is up and running quite well. We have a stable Finance Council and our offices have been successfully consolidated.

The Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion have taken on more home Communion calls to bring Jesus to the homebound and sick.

Improvements to the church property inside and out continue to be made so that everyone’s worship may be enhanced.

All this is just in the past six months! We still have much work to do so hang on to your hat!

***“that they may all be one, just as you,  
Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be  
in us, so that the world may believe  
that you have sent me.”***

*John 17:21*

This is my vision statement for our parish. The very words of Jesus at the Last Supper must be ever in our minds and in our hearts as we move forward.

Let’s all make a New Year’s Resolution: Pray every day that the unity that Jesus prayed for will be achieved in our own parish. Let’s stop saying things like, “you are a member of \_\_\_\_\_.” or “this is how we did it in *our* church.” Let’s turn the page on all that language and more importantly the attitudes that keep walls up between us.

We are all now members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. We all love Jesus and His Mother with all our hearts. We all want to be the best Roman Catholic we can be. Isn’t that enough to unify us in mind, heart and action? What more do we need when we have the Real Presence of Jesus in our midst.

My Christmas wish is that everyone approach this new parish with open eyes and see HIS PRESENCE is with us.  
*Father Joe*

**THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, December 24th** (Vigil: The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord) "*O Emmanuel*"

***No Morning Mass***

4:00 p.m. (P) Christmas Intentions

5:30 p.m. (P) Christmas Intentions

9:00 p.m. (U) *Pro Populo*

**Tuesday, December 25th** Christmas Day

12:00 a.m. (P) Christmas Intentions

8:30 a.m. (P) Christmas Intentions

10:00 a.m. (U) Christmas Intentions

**Wednesday, December 26th** St. Steven

8:00 a.m. (P) Mary L Tobias John Tobias

**Thursday, December 27th** St. John the Evangelist

8:00 a.m. (P) Dorothy Wardzel

**Friday, December 28th** The Holy Innocents

8:00 a.m. (P) Stephen Galanda Grandchildren

**Saturday, December 29th** (Vigil: The Holy Family)

4:00 p.m. (U) Jenny Tibus Joan & Ray

5:30 p.m. (P) Edward & Frances Krull Children

**Sunday, December 30th** The Feast of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30 a.m. (P) Stanley Kudey Wife & Children

10:00 a.m. (U) *Pro Populo*

11:30 a.m. (P) Michael Ritondo Sr. & Michael Ritondo Jr. Daughter & Sister, Josie Kandrac

**Presiders Schedule** as listed above: (P)= Father Joe Pisaneschi, (U)= Father Anthony Urban

**IN MEMORIAM** Eternal Rest Grant unto them, O Lord...~Kathy Mochin

**SANCTUARY LIGHT**

~In Memory of Leo Venetz

~ In Memory of Susan Cardoni

# THE SETON SENTINEL

The Parish of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
116 Hughes Street  
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setonpa@aol.com  
setonpa.com

## Weekend Eucharist

Saturday 4:00 and 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 a.m.

## Weekday Eucharist

8:00 a.m.

## Parish Staff

- Rev. Joe Pisaneschi Pastor
- Rev. Mr. George Mochin Jr. Deacon
- Brian Williams Regional Youth Minister
- Monica Salis Business Manager
- Lori Raymond Pastoral Associate
- Terry Jankoviak Director of Faith Formation
- Marge Semanek Director of Music
- Cora Artim Children's and Contemporary Groups
- Joseph Sabol Assistant Organist
- Phil Bosha Maintenance
- Chris Calore Maintenance

### Baptism

Expecting parents are asked to contact the Parish Office as soon as possible to register for a short session in preparation for their child's Baptism. The Sacrament is celebrated bi-monthly after the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays.

### Confirmation

The Sacrament will be celebrated in 2014 by one of the Diocesan Bishops. Children must be consecutively registered in our Religious Education Program to be eligible to receive.

### Matrimony

Couples planning to get married are asked to contact the parish office as soon as possible to reserve a date and begin the paper work necessary.

### Holy Orders

Any man who feels called to Ordained Ministry of the Church, either Priesthood or Diaconate is asked to contact one of the Priests or the Deacon.

### Penance

Is celebrated Saturday from 3:15 p.m.-3:50 p.m.  
Other times by request.

### Anointing of the Sick

To receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Parish Office.

If you or a relative or friend is admitted to a hospital, nursing home, or is homebound. Please contact the Parish Office for a Pastoral Visit. Holy Communion is brought to those who request it on First Fridays.

### **Office Hours:**

Monday—Friday 8:30-4:00  
Closed Holidays and Holy Days

### **Direct Contacts**

Parish Hall: 570-287-2684

Regional Youth Ministry Office: 570-288-6446

Faith Formation Office: 570-287-4587

Father Joe's email: fatherjoey@aol.com

Youth Ministry email: SJBrian2aol.com