

THE SETON SENTINEL

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish



“WHEN JOHN THE BAPTIST HEARD IN PRISON OF THE WORKS OF THE CHRIST,
HE SENT HIS DISCIPLES TO JESUS WITH THIS QUESTION,
“ARE YOU THE ONE WHO IS TO COME,
OR SHOULD WE LOOK FOR ANOTHER”

MATTHEW 11:2

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GAUDETE SUNDAY

December 15, 2013

Swoyersville, PA



The Giving Tree All gifts for the Giving Tree should be returned this weekend so we can begin to distribute them. If you have not returned it this weekend, please do so by Monday of this week. You can bring them to the church between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. or drop them off at the rectory. Thank you for your generosity and outreach to others!

Monday Advent Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held each Monday of Advent continuing this Monday, December 16th, from 5:30 p.m. until 6:45 p.m. **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be celebrated each Monday from 5:30-6:45 p.m. Confessions will be also heard on Saturday, December 21st at 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please do not wait until the last minute to make your Christmas confession. There are plenty of times to receive before Christmas here at our Parish and at the Parishes below:



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES IN OUR AREA

All Penance Services start at **7:00PM:**
 Sunday, December 15, St. Ignatius, Kingston
 Tuesday, December 17, All Saints, Plymouth
 Tuesday, December 17, St., Monica's, West Wyoming
 Wednesday, December 18, Holy Family, Luzerne



CHRISTMAS WAFERS-OPLATKY

Christmas Wafers are available after weekend Masses until Christmas in the church vestibule. Donation is \$5.00 for a pack of six wafers. These wafers are sealed in a plastic bag to preserve freshness. Purchases can also be made at the rectory office during office hours.

ADVENT PIROHY SALE

We are having our Final Advent Pirohy Sale for the season on **December 20**. Sign-up sheets are on the tables at the church entrance. We need a **lot of volunteers** to help make them on the days of the sales. If you can help ball potatoes, come at 7:00AM, all others come at 8:30AM. Experienced or not, come out and join in the fun and help out.

SOCIAL CONCERNS MEETING

Thursday, December 19th, at 7PM in the church hall.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

The Schedule for December and January have been sent home. Please check it carefully, especially for Christmas Eve/Day and New Years Eve/Day. If there are any problems let Lori know immediately.

FREE GIFT-WRAPPING

Take advantage of free gift wrapping this Friday, December 20th, from 3pm-7pm in our church hall. Let us do the hard work of wrapping your presents! This is a free service to all of our parishioners. We are accepting donations of wrapping paper, bows, and tape, if anyone would like to donate to help defray cost. A box for these donated items is located near the Food Pantry box.

TO ALL HEADS OF PARISH GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

You must inform us if you are having a meeting or an event **at least 3 weeks before hand** so it can go in the bulletin. If no one tells the office there is a meeting, it can't be published in the bulletin and new members cannot join or even check out the organization or group if they do not know about it. From now on, if a meeting is not in the bulletin it is not going to take place. Email your announcements to setonpa@aol.com or submit a written message to the Parish Office.

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON FEAST DAY

Saturday, January 4th is our Patroness' Feast Day. We will celebrate as a Parish Family on **Friday evening, January 3rd** with a **special mass at 6:00 p.m.** and a light supper to follow in the school cafeteria. Everyone is invited to attend so mark your calendars now. Sign-up sheets are on the tables at the entrance of the Church, if you are planning to join us for pizza after Mass. Hope to see you there as we honor our Patroness and share in a special prayer and fellowship and food.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASSES

The Christmas Mass Schedule is as follows:
 Tuesday, **December 24th**, Masses will be at 4:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m., and 9:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, **December 25th**, Masses will be at 12:00 Mid-night, 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
 Tuesday, **December 31st**, Mass will be at 4:00 p.m. for the Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation, and Wednesday, **January 1st** at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

VATICAN SYNOD SURVEY

You may have heard about the survey the Holy Father is asking people in America to take. It is not necessarily going to change policy, however, it is a chance for us, the regular folks to respond to areas of concern in our world and church. They survey can be done online and you can follow the link on our homepage, setonpa.com. You can answer as much or as little as you like but you are encouraged to give your views on the subject matters presented. **Deadline for survey is December 15th.**

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS and PREPARATION



The Art and Environment Committee is preparing for extra special Christmas Decorations for the Church this year. We will need lots of help getting everything ready. Men will be needed to carry the manger scene and build it in the sanctuary. Trees will also need to be brought into the church and decorated with lights that week as well. **Chris needs male volunteers to come on Tuesday, Dec. 17th, Wednesday, Dec. 18th, and Thursday, Dec. 19th, each day at 9:00AM.**

Also, Art and Environment Committee Members will put the finishing touches on the Church after the 11:30 a.m. Mass on December 22nd. Please remember to come and help out if you are a member of A&E.

PARISH MINISTRIES CHRISTMAS PARTY

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, **Sunday, January 5th** all ministers are cordially invited to attend the Annual Christmas Appreciation Party to be held in your honor. Altar Servers, Ushers, Choir Members, Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Cantors, Lectors, CCD instructors, Art and Environment Committee members are all invited. The party will be from 2-5PM in the church hall with a catered dinner and refreshments. In order to help us properly plan for the party, please RSVP by signing the sheet on the tables at the church entrance, or call Lori at the rectory by Friday, December 27th, or leave a message with your name & phone number. (*Unfortunately*, we cannot accommodate spouses & children who are not in ministries for this party.)



LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

Celiac disease affects many people. People with this disease are allergic to wheat and prevents them from receiving Holy Communion. Our parish offers low gluten hosts to those who need them. To make arrangements, call the rectory and make sure the priest knows what mass you will be attending. We ask those who are to receive the gluten-free hosts to come to Communion first, so that the hands of the minister do not contaminate the special host.

PASTORAL COUNCIL QUESTION: In the coming months, all parishioners will be asked to respond to this question: *"Looking to the coming years, if you could imagine or transform our parish in any way you wished, what 3 things would you do to enhance its life and vitality?"*



"KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" CAMPAIGN



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus are running a "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" Campaign. We will be selling magnets, pins, and Christmas cards every weekend after all masses until Christmas at the church entrance.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA THIS WEEKEND!

Our Knights of Columbus is having an All-U-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet with Santa this **Sunday, December 15th from 9am-1pm, in the school cafeteria.** Cost is \$7.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children 7-12, and children 6 and under are free. Tickets will be sold at the door. Bring your camera and get your child's picture taken with Santa. Also, a **raffle will be held at the Breakfast for 4 tickets to "Disney on Ice"** (donated by our Social Concerns Committee). For more information, call Mark Perugino at 570-262-2896 or Mike Kopec at 570-714-2924.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Our Knights of Columbus has formed a First Degree Team. The First Degree installation will take place the middle of January. We are looking for new members. Please call Mike Kopec at 570-714-2924 or Mark Perugino at 570-262-2896 for more information.



Collections

December 7-8

SUNDAY: \$6401.52 DUES: \$4257.00
LOOSE: \$432.76 TOTAL: **\$11,091.28**
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: \$1256.00
DIOCESAN: CARE & EDUCATION: \$239.00
RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: \$792.80

Thank You for all you do for our Parish Community!



DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

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 2014 to a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 22nd.** The event includes a 2:30PM mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. To request an invitation, please call Lori at the office, with your name and mailing address, **before February 14th.**

NOTE ABOUT THE 4:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Many, many people want to attend the 4:00 p.m. Mass on December 24th. Our church holds a maximum of 425 people and we regularly surpass that on any given regular Saturday. While this is the ideal time for so many folks to attend Christmas Mass, it can be very problematic from a safety standpoint. Blocking entrances, doorways, stairs, etc., is against the fire code and will make it impossible for the Eucharistic Ministers to get to their places. So please do not do block the aisles, doors and stairways.

The 4:00 p.m. mass is "the children's Mass," meaning there will be many children and their parents attending. Some are regulars, and some we unfortunately only see at Christmas and perhaps Easter. Regardless, we treat everyone with the same respect we would extend to Jesus himself if He were sitting in the pew. There cannot be any "saved seats," it's first come, first seated.

Considering all of the factors involved, I am appealing to you to look at all of the masses we are having this year and pick a mass other than the 4:00 p.m. We will watch the attendance at each mass this year and make alterations necessary to the schedule for next year. One possibility is that if the 4:00 p.m. mass is too chaotic and unmanageable for the church we may move it to the gym next year to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend.

KNOW A MARRIAGE THAT NEEDS HELP? Throw them a lifeline and tell them about *Retrouvaille*, an international program that helps couples who are experiencing marital difficulties. This program is for all couples, at any stage of marriage, that need help to communicate with each other in a more attentive and loving manner. The next program in the Diocese of Scranton is February 14-16 at Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton. Please call 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.retrouvaille.org for more information or to register.

THE TRIUMPH-The Battle Has Begun

A film about Mary, our world, and Miracles of Medjugorje! This is a life-changing event for people of all ages: Saturday, January 11, 2014, 2:00PM, at R/C Movies 14, 24 E. Northampton St., Wilkes-Barre. Tickets: \$15.00 for Adults, \$12.50 for Seniors. Tickets are limited! All proceeds from ticket sales go towards the Jerry Cebulski African Disability Foundation (JCADF) which continues the vision of Sister Sponsa Beltran, OSF, a native of Wilkes-Barre & Misericordia graduate, in caring for the poor and disabled of Liberia, West Africa. For tickets, contact Eileen Rockensies (JCADF President) at 570-675-3397 or email at: erockensies@epix.net

The Seton Sentinel needs Your help!

As we prepare for a New Year...

Our weekly bulletin is published each week by Pilot Bulletins. I think you would agree that it is a colorful and attractive way to distribute the "news" to our Parish Family each week. If you notice the back page, there are only about 8 paid sponsors for our bulletin. We are very grateful for their support of our parish. However, **8 ads do not cover the costs of printing and shipping the bulletin each week.** As we prepare to enter a New Year in a few weeks, we are making a special appeal to business owners to **consider placing an ad in the Seton Sentinel.** This is a very cost effective way to advertise. We print 850 copies a week. That's a lot of potential customers' eyes looking at your ad! Rates are very reasonable and you will have the gratitude of the parish for your support of our outreach efforts. We could really use a larger bulletin each week, as we have so many activities in our parish, but once again, we need the community's support for advertising. Consider giving it a shot at the start of 2014. Call 617-779-3771 for a price quote this week! Nearly every parish needs sponsors for their bulletin, we do too. Help us out if you can. Thank you for considering this special request.



Goal:	\$45,000.00
So far raised:	\$43,770.00
Under:	-\$1,230.00

We're almost there! We are making one more request of everyone who has not yet responded to this year's appeal. If you are at all able to help, even with a small donation, please do so now so we can achieve our goal. Envelopes are on the tables at the entrance of the Church or at the Rectory Office.

BINGO

St. Faustina Kowalska Parish, Sunday, January 5, 2014, at 1010 Hanover St., Nanticoke. Doors open 12:30pm, Early Birds: 1/45PM, Regular Games; 2/00PM





Monday, December 16

8:00 a.m. Joseph & Mary Ryan, & Catherine Durkin Joe & Kate Ryan

Tuesday, December 17 "O Antiphons" begin at Evening Prayer

8:00 a.m. William & Mary Sheehan Daughter, Mary

Wednesday, December 18

8:00 a.m. Michael S. Kaschak, Sr. M/M Leo Polney & Family

Thursday, December 19

8:00 a.m. Joseph Gibbons Sister, Pat Quinn & Family

Friday, December 20

8:00 a.m. Richard Mizenko M/M George Artim & Son

Saturday, December 21 (Vigil: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT)

4:00 p.m. Harry D. Sorber Dale & Joyce Evans

5:30 p.m. *Pro Populo*

Sunday, December 22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 a.m. Dorothy Bednar Grycko Husband, Walter

10:00 a.m. Joseph E. Barush Janice Quinn & Family

11:30 a.m. Chester Stanishefski Wife & Son



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord, And Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them...

~Stella Lubash~Edward J. Kruzlik~Leona Koschella~James J. Alba

May their Souls, and the Souls of all the Faithful Departed Rest in Peace, Amen.



-In Memory of Helen Bovino

-In Memory of Rita Mesaros

Presider's Schedule Dec 21-22

4:00 p.m. Urban
5:30 p.m. Pisaneschi
8:30 a.m. Pisaneschi
10:00 a.m. Urban
11:30 a.m. Pisaneschi

Scripture for the week of December 15, 2013

15 SUN Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
16 Mon Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
17 Tue Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
18 Wed Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
19 Thu Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
20 Fri Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
21 Sat Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
22 SUN Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

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116 Hughes Street
Swoyersville, PA 18704
Phone: 570-287-6624
Fax: 570-287-4704
Email: setonpa@aol.com

setonpa.com



IMPORTANT NOTICE, PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Please notify the **Parish Social Ministry Office** at (570) 763-5160 if you would like a parish representative to visit a family member who is **hospitalized, homebound, or in a nursing home**. In compliance with **HIPAA regulations** (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), health care facilities are required to protect the confidentiality and security of health data. Therefore, the only way that the parish can be informed of someone needing assistance is through notification by a family member or friend.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENTS

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

- Cora Artim Children's and Contemporary Groups
- Phil Boshia Maintenance
- Chris Calore Maintenance
- Sister Jane Ellis, IHM Parish Social Minister
- Terry Jankoviak Director of Faith Formation
- Rev. Mr. George Mochin Jr. Deacon
- Rev. Joseph J. Pisaneschi Pastor
- Lori Raymond Pastoral Associate
- Joseph Sabol Assistant Organist
- Monica Salis Business Manager
- Marge Semanek Director of Music
- Rev. Anthony Urban Weekend Celebrant



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 celebration of the Sacrament is held after the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays.

Confirmation

The Sacrament will be celebrated for 8th Grade Students on Thursday, March 27, 2014 by Bishop Bambara.

Matrimony

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

Holy Orders

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

Penance

Mondays of Advent, 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.
Saturdays 3:15-3:45, other times by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick

To receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Parish Priest, day or night.

Direct Contacts

Parish Hall: 570-287-2684

Office of Social Ministry (Sr. Jane) 570-763-5160

Faith Formation Office: 570-287-4587

Father Joe's email: fatherjoey@aol.com

Bulletin Deadline: Friday, for the next week at 1:00 p.m.