

# St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

Swoyersville, PA



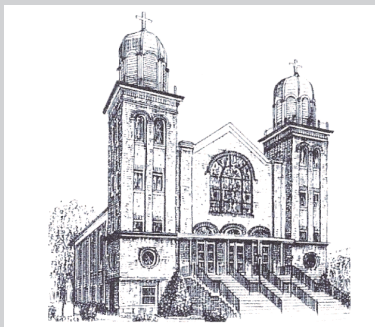
## THE SETON SENTINEL

4th Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2014

**THE SETON SENTINEL**

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish



116 Hughes Street

Swoyersville, PA 18704

Phone 570-287-6624

Fax 570-287-4704

Email: setonpa@aol.com

**setonpa.com****Office Hours:**

Monday– Friday

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Weekends and Evenings  
by appointment onlyParish Office is closed for all  
Holy Days of Obligation and  
Federal Holidays.**WELCOME TO OUR  
PARISH!**

New to the area? Just visiting? You will find a warm welcome here! To become a registered member, please call the parish office during regular business hours.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:****December 24th, Christmas Eve:**4:00 pm *Children's Mass*5:30 pm *Christmas Vigil Mass*9:00 pm *Candlelight Mass***December 25th Christmas Day:****12:00 Midnight Choral Mass,**8:30am *Christmas Mass at Dawn*10:00am *Christmas Mid-Morning Mass*11:30 am *Christmas Mass During the Day*

Please note: The 4:00 pm Children's Liturgy is by far the most attended and overcrowded mass we have on Christmas. May we suggest, if your schedule will allow, to plan on attending at an alternate time? Our services make allowances for several masses Christmas Eve. Please take advantage of our other masses. The Children's Choir will lead the singing at the 4:00 pm Mass and we are told there may even be a special visitor at that mass for the children. This mass will be standing room only. Please move over entirely in the pew so others can find a seat. Seat-saving is not permitted at this or any other time. It is first come, first seated. Thank you for your cooperation.

Our Senior Choir will provide the music for the Midnight Mass. This year they have been laboring especially on the program and it promises to be quite beautiful. Choral preludes begin at 11:30 pm. Please join us for Midnight Mass as we are one of the last parishes that still offer it in our area to keep the tradition.

**Confessions:**

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be celebrated on **Monday, December 22nd 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.**

There is also a **Penance Service tonight, Sunday, December 21st at 7:00 pm at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Kingston.** There will be several priests available at this service to hear your confession.

**CHURCH DECORATING TODAY**

The Art and Environment Committee will be here today, Sunday, at 1:00 pm. Lots of help is needed! Strong backs and ladder climbers are in particular demand. Please come back after masses to help us if you can. It is quite a job to make our Church ready for the Birthday of our King. Many hands working together save precious time.

**LAST DAY FOR OPLATKI SALE**

The Seton Confraternity of Christian Mothers will offer the Christmas Wafers after masses this weekend while supplies last. Offering is \$5.00/pack.

**THE GIVING TREE**

Oh My! What generosity displayed this season of giving! Thanks to your efforts over 450 children and homebound seniors will receive presents this Christmas! Truly an amazing show of the *true spirit* of Christmas giving! Father wishes to thank all of you who participated in this Giving Tree Project! Also, many, many thanks to all who donated grocery store Gift Cards to the needy this season! You have no idea the smiles you have brought to faces this Christmas! God Bless You for your Big-Heartedness! The mighty arm of God's generosity flows so beautifully through your responding to the needs of others in the Seton Parish Family.

## **PARISH MINISTRIES CHRISTMAS PARTY**

On the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, **Sunday, January 4th**, 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 & Environment Committee members are all invited. The party will be held from **2-5pm in the church hall** with a catered dinner & 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 26th, or leave a message with your name & phone number. (Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate spouses & children who are not in ministries for this party.)

## **5:30 pm Contemporary Sunday Eucharist**

Beginning Sunday, February 15, 2015 our parish will offer a 5:30 pm Sunday afternoon mass each week. Although we are especially appealing to the youth of our parish (grades 7-college age), everyone is most welcome to attend, participate, and be part of the ministries of this mass. More information will follow in the coming weeks. This is the answer to many a prayer for a later Sunday mass in the area and in our parish. Spread the word! **Youth Lectors needed:** if you have always wanted to read at mass, now is your chance. Call Lori at the office and give your name. (Open to all ages who would like to read at this mass)

## **DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**

Thank you so much to all who have contributed or pledged so far to the Annual Appeal. If you still wish to contribute to this year's drive, please take an envelope at the church entrance and fill it out and send it in to the diocese or return to the church. Thank you so much for considering this request and may God bless you for your generosity! To date we are \$2,090.00 under our parish goal for the year. Being this close, it would be a shame not to reach our goal. We are making one final appeal. If you have not yet contributed to the appeal, would you please consider doing so now so we can reach our goal? According to the diocesan statistics, only 373 out of 1,022 families have contributed. Let's come together for this final push and make it to 100%. Thank you for considering this request. No gift is too small when helping the needy.

**DIOCESE OF SCRANTON EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER TRAINING AT SETON** Our parish will host training for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on three consecutive Thursday evenings during January: Jan 8, 15, and 22nd beginning at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Attendance at all three sessions is required for certification for ministry in our parishes. If you know of someone who you think would make a good addition to our EM team, please call Lori at the rectory office.

## **RECTORY HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:**

The rectory offices will be closed from 12:00 noon on Tuesday, December 23rd and reopen on Friday, December 26th at 12 noon. Please call Father with emergencies only while the office is closed. No business will be conducted during this time, except urgent sick calls and funeral arrangements. The schedule has been sent home and is in the bulletin. Please keep a copy close so that you know the mass schedules.

# MEMORIAL/DONOR PAVERS

The first order of pavers have arrived! They look beautiful. There is still time to place an order for bricks. Fill out the form below:

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Whether you want to honor a loved one or be a sponsor, this enduring gift will be a lasting memory to all who have sacrificed to build these parishes and for those who are united as one to move into the future.

The pavers are 4 inches by 8 inches and once engraved will be placed randomly on either side of the church. You are limited to 14 characters across (includes punctuation and spaces) for 3 lines. Please begin in the first block of each line (please print clearly), the engraver will center all the lines.

The costs per paver is \$125.00 or you may purchase 2 for \$200.00 (a \$50.00 savings). Please remember pavers will be placed randomly.

Payment must accompany the order, please make checks payable to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Memorial Fund. Please return the entire sheet (1 per order) with your order. Thank you for your generosity.

Name of Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**THE SACRAMENTS****Baptism**

Expecting or new parents are asked to contact the Parish Office as soon as possible to make the arrangements and if necessary, attend the Pre-Baptismal Session. The celebration of the Sacrament is usually held after the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays.

**Confirmation**

The Sacrament is celebrated for 8th grade students each spring semester. This year Bishop Dougherty will be here on Wednesday, May 6, 2015. Students must be consecutively enrolled in our Parish Religious Education Program or in Catholic Schools to be eligible.

**Matrimony**

Couples planning to get married are asked to contact the parish office as soon as possible (no less than 6 months prior) to reserve a date and begin the necessary paper work. The dates at the Church are not guaranteed until an actual meeting with the pastor takes place.

**Reconciliation**

Saturdays: 3:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.  
or anytime by request

**Anointing of the Sick**

To receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please contact the parish Priest, day or night. When someone is very ill please do not wait to call the priest. It is better to have the sacrament of the sick sooner rather than at the last minute.

**For ordinary sick calls****(Non-Emergency):**

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.

**ONLINE GIVING TO ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH**

Many people find it easier to do all or most of their financial business online. Our parish accepts your contributions online now. Go to [setonpa.com](http://setonpa.com) and follow the E-offering link. There you can set-up your online support for our parish. It is easy to do and you can choose how much you would like to give and how often. Everyone's support of our parish is becoming more and more critical to our ability to continue our many ministries and meeting our weekly expenses. Thank you for your continued support either via the collection basket or your online giving!

**END OF THE YEAR GIVING**

As the current calendar year comes to a quick end, a reminder that all contributions received (opened or deposited) after January 1, 2015 will be credited to your 2015 statements. If you would like to catch-up for the current year, please do so now to avoid any confusion. Mail, drop in the collection or stop in the rectory with your 2014 offerings. Statements will be available in the middle of January of 2015. Again, many thanks for your on-going generosity.

**A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:**

As we get ready to begin a New Year and we start another set of offertory envelopes, I want to take the opportunity once again to remind you about parish policy. I overheard a conversation in our church a few weeks ago in which an elderly parishioner was explaining that she could not afford something because she "had to pay her dues." I was in the confessional at the time so I could not go out and tell the dear woman what I was thinking. Please, please, if you are a Senior Citizen or anyone else for that matter who struggles with church dues or contributions, you are exempt from that obligation. When it comes to a choice between groceries, medicine, taxes, etc., take care of those needs before you even think of the church. You will not be penalized for not paying dues while you are alive or when you depart this earth. In other words, we will take care of you now and when you die, whether you contribute to the parish or not. No one should ever have to worry about these matters.

I know these times are challenging for all of us, retired, unemployed, working, families, etc., While our parish struggles to pay our monthly bills I know that God will help us make it each month. I say this all the time, "you can only do what you can do. If you do not have it to give, you cannot give it." No one should expect otherwise. I believe this question is the key when it comes to church support: "How do I respond to God for all he has given me?" Honestly answering that question and being realistic in our ability to contribute will satisfy all our needs.

All of you are to be highly commended for your responsiveness to our parish. Your generosity, not only in the collections, but in fundraising efforts and other endeavors such as the summer festival are outstanding! The only thing I dislike about being a pastor is having to deal with money, let alone having to talk about it. But know that I am quite proud of our parish in this area and in so many other ways.

Finally, a very big thank you to the Seton Confraternity of Christian Mothers who have graciously decided to pay the heat bill for our church for the next three months! God bless these women. And God Bless You All -- Always!

Father Joe

**Parish Staff**

Cora Artim  
*Children's & 11:30 Choir*

Phil Bosha  
*Maintenance*

Chris Calore  
*Maintenance*

Sister Jane Ellis, IHM  
*Parish Social Minister*

Terry Jankoviak  
*Director of Faith Formation*

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*

**Direct Contacts**

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

Faith Formation Office:  
570-287-4587

Father Joe's email: [fatherjoey@aol.com](mailto:fatherjoey@aol.com)  
Parish direct email: [setonpa@aol.com](mailto:setonpa@aol.com)

Bulletin deadline: Friday, one week prior  
to the publication week.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,  
pray for us!



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS**

The annual "**Christ is Christmas**" Campaign will be held by Knights of Columbus in the church vestibule after all Masses now through Christmas. We will be selling beautiful Christmas cards, magnets, and pins.



**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Church Hall, **Monday, Dec. 22nd, 12:30-6pm.**

Schedule your appointment today. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and use sponsor code: **SEASP**

**LIFELINE SCREENING AT SEAS**...St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is pleased to offer a preventive health event. LifeLine Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive & painless health screenings on 1/8/2015. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests & osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All 5 screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event & to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners).

The **First Annual Catholic Men's Conference for the Diocese of Scranton** will be held on April 25, 2015, at King's College, Wilkes-Barre. The event will feature 2 nationally known speakers: Fr. Larry Richards, author of "Be a Man", and Damon Owens of the Theology of the Body Institute. There will be opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions, as well as devotional prayers. Please save the date & plan to join Bishop Joseph Bambera, many clergy, & all faithful brothers who will be participating in an effort to build up the Church. For more information, contact Men's Conference co-chairs: Glenn Yanik, at [gmyanik@epix.net](mailto:gmyanik@epix.net) or 570-362-0417, or Michael Kilmer at [michaelkilmer71@gmail.com](mailto:michaelkilmer71@gmail.com) or 570-746-0100.

**DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS & CELEBRATION**

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 2015 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 21, 2015. The event includes a 2:30pm Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation should be made before March 16th, by contacting Father Joe or Lori Raymond, Pastoral Associate, at the rectory. 287-6624

**THANK YOU FROM HOLY NAME SOCIETY**

Our HNS would like to thank everyone who participated in the 50/50 Raffle. Congratulations to our lucky winner, Theresa Mihalek, who won \$750.00!! The raffle was a huge success thanks to everyone's support!!!

**COLLECTION REPORT  
December 6/7, 2014**

SUNDAY: \$7338.60	DUES: \$649.00
LOOSE: \$ 298.81	HOL Y DAYS:\$22.00
<b>TOTAL: \$8308.41</b>	

**Diocesan-Care & Education of Priests: \$1057.00**

*Christmas Decoration Donors*

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Mrs. Jenny Alfano	Mr. Joseph Cheskiewicz	Mrs. Helen Gaydos
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Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mahavits  
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Mr. & Mrs. Walter Malyndziak  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Manfre  
Mrs. Colleen Mattey  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Matthews  
Miss Rosemarie Mattie  
Mr. & Mrs. John Matukonis  
Mr. & Mrs. John Matusek  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mayerski  
Dr. & Mrs. Paul McCabe  
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Mr. & Mrs. Adam Mihalek  
Mrs. Elaine Mikolosko  
Mr. Lawrence Milunic  
Mrs. Marie Mishkel  
Mrs. Gloria Mizenko  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Monko  
Mrs. George Monto  
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Joanne Podwika  
Miss Margaret Pointek  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pointon  
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Laura Prushinski  
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Mr. Thomas Sartin  
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Mrs. Margaret Sharisky  
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Mrs. Margaret Shulo  
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#### HOW DOES IT HELP?

Online giving is the future. In the lifetime of our young people, we will see electronic payments overshadow traditional methods of paper payments. In order to position ourselves to continue doing the work of God in the future and to make it as convenient as possible to be a cheerful giver to God's work, we have decided to offer online giving to you. In addition to easier access to giving and more engagement with young stewards, online offering has many benefits for the church. It allows us to more easily track contributions for budgeting. It saves us from manually tracking those contributions every week. It saves us from large fees on check processing and allows us to more accurately forecast expenditures and needs.

#### HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Signing up is as simple as going to our church website listed above and look for the green computer mouse icon. That button will take you to the myEoffering page for our church. Simply sign up and begin giving online today! Or scan the code to the right with your mobile device to get started now.



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## Holy Eucharist Schedule and Intentions for the Coming Week

### Monday, December 22

8:00 a.m. (Father Joe)                      Special Intention

### Tuesday, December 23

8:00 a.m. (Father Joe)                      Ronald Gibbons                              Sister, Pat Quinn & Family

*In anticipation of Christmas Eve Masses, there will be no 8:00 am Mass on Wednesday, December 24*

### Wednesday, December 24

#### Vigil of Christmas

4:00 p.m. (Father Joe)                      Christmas Mass Intentions

5:30 p.m. (Father Urban)                      Pro Populo

9:00 p.m. (Father Urban)                      Presider's Intentions

### Thursday, December 25

#### The Birth of Our Savior Jesus Christ

12:00 a.m. (Father Joe)                      Christmas Mass Intentions

8:30 a.m. (Father Joe)                      Christmas Mass Intentions

10:00 a.m. (Father Urban)                      **Pro Populo**

11:30 a.m. (Father Joe)                      Christmas Mass Intentions

### Friday, December 26

8:00 a.m. (Father Joe)                      Angela Douglas                              Monday Morning Counters

### Saturday, December 27

(vigil: Holy Family)

4:00 p.m. (Father Joe)                      Mary Lou Tobias                              Family

5:30 p.m. (Father Urban)                      Rosarii Rosentel                              Sons & Families

### Sunday, December 28

#### Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30 a.m. (Father Joe)                      Stanley Kudey                              M/M Edward Chacko

10:00 a.m. (Father Urban)                      Michael Ritondo                              Daughter, Josie Kandrac & Family

11:30 a.m. (Father Joe)                      Christmas Mass Intentions



**BAPTISM SUNDAY** Congratulations and God's Blessings upon the families of **Celia Ann Meyer**, who will be baptized by water and the Holy Spirit after the 11:30am Mass today.



**SANCTUARY LIGHT INTENTIONS**

~In Memory of Leo Venetz offered by wife, Anna Mae  
 ~In Memory of Anna Duzen offered by daughters, Paula Matthews & Donna Gustave



Eternal Rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon him~~**William Galletti**~~  
 May his soul and all the souls of the Faithful Departed rest In peace. Amen.

**CELEBRANTS SCHEDULE** are indicated next to the mass time above.