

The Seton Sentinel

December 3, 2017

First Sunday of Advent

*Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when the time will come.*

Mark 13:33



Join us this Tuesday evening, December 5th at **6:30 pm** in the Parish Hall for an Advent Evening of Reflection to help get us ready for Christmas. Sister Chris Koellhoffer, IHM, author and speaker will be our presenter. All are welcome, bring a friend along too.



The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is this Friday, Dec. 8th

Masses will be celebrated on Thursday, Dec 7th (Vigil) at 5:30 pm and Friday, Dec 8th at 8:00 am, 12:10 pm and 6:30 pm. This is the Patronal Feast Day of America and is always a Holy Day of Obligation.

Also, our Parish Office will be closed on Friday, Dec. 8th, in observance of the Holy Day.



**ADVENT PIROHY SALES
FRIDAY, December 8th**

Cost is \$7.00/dozen. Pick up in school cafeteria from noon to 2pm or 5pm to 6pm. Sign-up sheets are on the tables at the church entrance.

We will need lots of help making the pirohy! Come to the school cafeteria on Friday, Dec. 1st, at 7am if you can help ball potatoes. All others come at 8:30am. Bring a friend along. Lunch will be served!

Next pirohy sale on:
Friday, December 15th.
No phone orders.



Our **Giving Tree** is up and ready with the gift tags for the needy children and families & shut-ins. Please return the gifts with the **TAG ATTACHED**. If for some reason you are unable to get the gift, bring back the tag & place it back on the tree. Please return all gifts as soon as possible, no later than Sunday, December 17th.

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

Office Hours: Monday–
Thursday 8:30 to 5:00

Friday 8:30 to 3:00

Weekends and Evenings by
appointment only

Parish Office is closed for all
Holy Days of Obligation and
Federal Holidays.

Reconciliation Saturdays
3:15pm to 3:45pm or by
appointment

Mission Statement:

*“We are Called.... To act with
Justice, To love Tenderly, To
Serve One Another, To Walk
Humbly with God”*

Paraphrased from Micah 6:8 by David
Haas



**WIN the 2018 MALIBU
or \$15K**

WIN!!!

***Santa’s New Sleigh or
Santa’s Sack of Cash!!!***

Hurry! There’re only about 100 tickets left!

Get yours before they are all gone!

Tickets are available after or before masses this weekend. Only 500 tickets will be sold. The drawing date is coming soon, December 17th!!





OPLATKI AVAILABLE

The Christmas Wafers are available in the vestibule before and after masses today, while supplies last. Donation is \$5 per package of six wafers.



BECOME A "KNIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS" MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus is having a membership drive. Become a "KNIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS". The nearly 2 million members of the Knights of Columbus form the largest Catholic fraternal group in existence. As Knights, we serve our parish & community while working each day to create a better world through charity. If you are looking to live out your faith in the spirit of charity by helping others, our Knights of Columbus Council welcomes you to join us. As a member of our council, you will strengthen your faith & become a better Catholic, husband, & father. Through your support of our parish & community, you will form friendships with fellow Knights that can last a lifetime. We will be conducting an installation ceremony Tuesday, **December 12th, at 6pm in our church hall**. If you are currently a member at another council & wish to transfer here, you can do so by just filling out one of our forms. To sign up or for more information, call or text Mark Perugino, Grand Knight, at 570-262-2896. Thank you.

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

This past weekend, members of our Social Concerns Committee & our Knights of Columbus joined forces at St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen to assist in food preparation, service, & clean up. If you would like to volunteer for a few hours at the soup kitchen, please speak with a member from either of these organizations for details. Thank you!

Knights All-U-Can-East Breakfast Buffet

Today, Sunday, December 3rd,
from 9am to 1pm

downstairs in our church hall.

Donation: \$8.00/adults and
\$4/children 12 and under.

Tickets are available at the door. Santa Claus will be there, so bring your list and your camera!



Decking the Church

On Sunday, December 17th following the 11:30 am Mass, we will begin the monumental task of getting the church ready for the Christmas Celebrations. That means, we need LOTS of help! This is a good chance for service hours for High School, Confirmation, and other students. Also need strong men to carry over trees, nativities, hang wreaths, etc. We can use all the help we can get on the 17th so mark your calendars to join us.



American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

AMERICAN RED CROSS

A Community Blood Drive will be held on **Thursday, December 14**, in our **church hall** from **11am-4pm**. You can schedule your appointment to give blood by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code **SEASP**. Streamline your donation & save up to 15 minutes by visiting redcrossblood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading & health history on the day of your appt. Give the Gift of Life this Season. **Donate Blood.**

YOUR OFFERINGS for November 18/19

Thank You for Your Generosity!

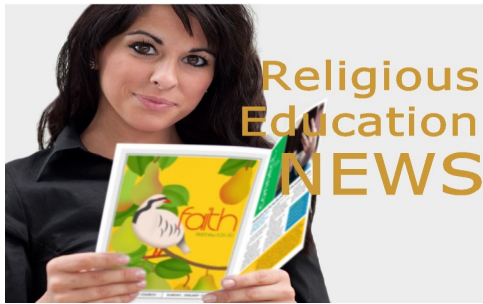
Sunday:	\$ 7096.10
Dues:	\$ 919.00
Loose	\$ 770.62
Holy Day	\$ 10.00
E-Giving:	\$ 280.75
Total:	\$ 9076.47

Diocesan: Care & Education of Priests (Nov): \$153.00

Diocesan Annual Appeal 2017 UPDATE:

Our Parish Goal: \$47,000.00
Total Raised: \$45,946.00
Under: \$1054.00

SO CLOSE! Please consider making your pledge or giving even a small gift today. If just 22 more people give \$50, we will surpass our goal. Thank you to all who have helped us get this far!



Religious Education NEWS

Sunday, December 3rd, 5:30pm: 7th Grade Family Mass & 7th grade Confirmation Enrollment during mass & Confirmation class after mass in church hall

Monday, December 18th, Youth Choir Christmas Play at 6:15 in church hall

A reminder to parents in the event of inclement weather to check the message on the Religious Education Department's Direct Phone Line at 570-287-4587 to see if classes are cancelled.

Classes for December:

Saturday: Dec. 2, 9, & 16

Monday: Dec. 4, 11, & 18 (Christmas Play on the 18th))

No Class: Dec. 23, 25, 30 & Jan 1

Classes resume: Jan. 6 & 8

Sunday, Jan 7th, 11am:

6th Grade Family Mass followed by coffee & donuts

Bereavement Group

For those who are having a hard time with the loss of a loved one. It could be months, or even years since your beloved has gone, but the grief remains. You do not have to be alone in your pain. Call Fr. Joe for more information on this ministry which is done by a licensed Therapist for our parish.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton now has a licensed therapist on our Pastoral Staff. If you think you may benefit from this ministry, please contact Fr. Joe for a referral. All inquiries will be held in the strictest confidences. This is above and beyond what Father can do by himself in spiritual direction or advisement.



Masses for the Christmas Obligation:

Christmas Eve, 4:00, 6:00 and 10:00pm
Christmas Day, 8:30 and 11:00 am.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR CHRISTMAS PLAY

"A Christmas Tale" based on a "Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens
Monday, December 18th
6:30pm in our church hall
Admission is Free
Everyone is welcome!



Parish Staff

Cora Artim
Children's Choir

Phil Bosha
Maintenance

Chris Calore
Maintenance

Scott Coates
Contemporary Mass
Musician

Sister Jane Ellis, IHM
Pastoral Care Minister

Rev. Joseph J. Pisaneschi V.F
Pastor

Lori Raymond
Pastoral Associate

Joseph Sabol
Assistant Organist

Monica Salis
Business Manager

Marge Semanek
Director of Music

Sister Marion Tarone, IHM
Director of Religious
Education

Rev. Anthony Urban
Weekend Celebrant

Deacon Jack Ziegler
Permanent Deacon



CHRISTMAS CAROLING EVENT: The order of Alhambra, an organization of Catholic men & women, dedicated to providing activities & support for special needs children & adults & assisting persons with intellectual disabilities, is planning a holiday Christmas Caroling event. Local chapter, Alhambra Caravan No.4 will sing Christmas carols at St. Joseph's Alhambra house in Scranton & the White Haven Center. Volunteers are welcome to participate in the event at 7pm on Dec. 4 at White Haven Center & Dec. 11 at St. Joseph's Center. We will meet at 6:10pm each time at St. Nicholas Church parking lot in Wilkes-Barre & then carpool to destinations. If interested, call Kathy at 570-825-3272.

Cookie Walk

A "Cookie Walk" for the Christmas holiday will be offered at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 215 Lackawanna Ave, Dupont, on Sun. December 10, from 9am to 1pm in the church hall. Homemade cookies, fudge, & candies, will be offered for \$7/pound. Coffee, tea, & hot chocolate will be available.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sunday, December 10th, 7pm, Shavertown United Methodist Church, 163 N. Pioneer Ave., Shavertown. Put yourself in the Christmas mood! Join us for our annual Carols by Candlelight with some festive carol singing, featuring our SUMC choirs, bells, & guest. The Anthracite Brass will be with us to add their special touch to the evening. Take time out from your Christmas shopping to enjoy a night of music. A Holiday Must!

6th Annual Christmas Cookie Walk will be held on Saturday, December 16, from 10am-1pm. sponsored by the Youth Ministry of Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, 420 Main Rd., Buttonwood, Hanover Twp. Cookie containers may be purchased for \$9 & filled with cookies of one's choice. Cookie platters are available for \$35. For tickets, orders, or more info., call 570-814-6444.



Direct Contacts

Office of Pastoral Care (Sr. Jane): 570-763-5160
sisterjane@setonpa.com
Faith Formation Office (Sr. Marion): 570-287-4587
sistermarion@setonpa.com
Father Joe's email: fatherjoey@aol.com
Parish direct email: setonpa@aol.com



ST. PAUL CENTER FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

By *Dr. Scott Hahn*

Watch For Him

First Sunday of Advent (Cycle B)

Readings:

Isaiah 63:16-17, 19

Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:33-37

The new Church year begins with a plea for God's visitation. "Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down," the prophet Isaiah cries in today's First Reading.

In today's Psalm, too, we hear the anguished voice of Israel, imploring God to look down from His heavenly throne - to save and shepherd His people.

Today's readings are relatively brief. Their language and "message" are deceptively simple. But we should take note of the serious mood and penitential aspect of the Liturgy today - as the people of Israel recognize their sinfulness, their failures to keep God's covenant, their inability to save themselves.

And in this Advent season, we should see our own lives in the experience of Israel. As we examine our consciences, can't we, too, find that we often harden our hearts, refuse His rule, wander from His ways, withhold our love from Him?

God is faithful, Paul reminds us in today's Epistle. He is our Father. He has hearkened to the cry of His children, coming down from heaven for Israel's sake and for ours - to redeem us from our exile from God, to restore us to His love.

In Jesus, we have seen the Father (see John 14:8-9). The Father has let His face shine upon us. He is the good shepherd (see John 10:11-15) come to guide us to the heavenly kingdom. No matter how far we have strayed, He will give us new life if we turn to Him, if we call upon His holy name, if we pledge anew never again to withdraw from Him.

As Paul says today, He has given us every spiritual gift - especially the Eucharist and penance - to strengthen us as we await Christ's final coming. He will keep us firm to the end - if we let Him.

So, in this season of repentance, we should heed the warning - repeated three times by our Lord in today's Gospel - to be watchful, for we know not the hour when the Lord of the house will return.

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology
www.SalvationHistory.com*

Prayer Chain Our Prayer Chain meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9am in our church hall. Volunteers are needed to join in the Seton Prayer Chain. To become one of our prayer partners contact Gail at 570-690-7520. If anyone is in need of prayer, contact Gail at that number or call Lori in the parish office. All calls are confidential.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

Daily Eucharist
The Week of November 27-December 1

Offered for:

Mon	Dec. 4	8:00 am	Michael Kayrish	Wife, Rose & Family
Tues	Dec 5	8:00 am	John Bob Hovan	Rosemary Barnie Chimock
Wed	Dec 6	8:00 am	Helen Kiwak	Barbara & Ralph Romanowski Sr.
Thu	Dec 7	8:00 am	Andrew A. Husovaky	Janice Lapsanski
Solemnity of Thu	Immaculate Dec 7	Conception 5:30 pm	Carol Kubasti	Edward Manarski & Family
Friday	Dec 8	8:00 am	Ruth Golias	Sister, Arlene Adamchak & Family
Friday	Dec 8	12:10 pm	Margaret Yadrnak	Confraternity of Christian Mothers
Friday	Dec 8	6:30 pm	Ann Barlko	Bob Popeck



Celebrant

The Weekend of December 9/10 Second Sunday of Advent

Fr. Pisaneschi	Saturday 4:00 pm	John Hovan	Children
Fr. Urban	Saturday 5:30 pm	Dr. Matthew Soranno	Bob & Joanne Kogay
Fr. Pisaneschi	Sunday 8:30 am	Margaret Yadrnak	M/M Dan Miller
Fr, Urban	Sunday 10:00 am	William Galletti	Wife, Irene
Fr. Pisaneschi	Sunday 11:30 am	Helen & Ernest Baldrice	Francis
Fr. Pisaneschi	Sunday 5:30 pm	<i>Pro Populo</i>	

RECENTLY DEPARTED

Susan Kawalkewicz~~ May her soul and all the souls of the Faithful Departed through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



~In Memory of Bette Proleika and Mary Jo Mackavage offered by Edward Proleika & Family
~In Memory of John Bob Hovan offered by Rosemary Barnie Chimock



BAPTISM SUNDAY

CONGRATULATIONS and God's Blessings upon~~**Ilaria Grace Britzke**~~and her family. Ilaria will be baptized by water and the Holy Spirit after the 11:30am mass today.



SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON,
PRAY FOR US!

NEW MASS TIMES

Beginning the weekend of
January 6/7, 2018

- **Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 pm**
- **Sunday Masses 8:30, 11:00 am and 5:30 pm.**
- **Monday-Friday Mass 12:10 pm**

Confessions Saturday 3:45– 4:15 pm

Please make a note of these changes.