

Seton Sentinel

NEWS

February | 19 | 2023

The Parish of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

116 Hughes Street
Swoyersville, PA
18704
570-287-6624
setonpa.com



Eucharist

Monday—Friday 8:00am
Saturday vigil 4:00pm
Sunday 8:30am, 11:00am &
5:30pm

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:30am to 3:00pm.
Weekends and Evenings
by appointment

ASH WEDNESDAY



Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. Joel 2:12-13

Special Intentions

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS

~In Memory of **Lou Michaels** offered by Michaels Family

~In Memory of **Derzak Family** offered by Jerry & Marion

Flowers this Weekend

~In Honor of the 45th Wedding Anniversary of Patti & Doug Workman

RESTING IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST, THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

~ Patricia Yenchak~~Anna Stefanko~~Joseph T. Hannon~~Phyllis Balberchak~

Today's Music

4:00pm, 8:30am, 11:00am			5:30pm	
Gathering	555 B	Joyful, Joyful	421 B	All Are Welcome
Preparation	654 B	O Breathe on Me	587 B	We Are Many Parts
Communion	139 S	Rejoice, Be Glad	93 S	I Am the Vine
Sending	119 S	Praise the Lord	120 S	God Alone May Lead My Spirit

Daily Eucharist Intentions

Intention

Requested By

Monday, February 20

8:00am Helen Licata Family

Tuesday, February 21

8:00am William Frusciante Family

Wednesday, February 22 *Ash Wednesday*

12:10pm Rosa Sanchez Lillian & Family

Thursday, February 23

8:00am Geraldine Skolnick Husband

Friday, February 24

8:00am Jean Pisaneschi Gene & Lori Raymond & daughters

Saturday, February 25

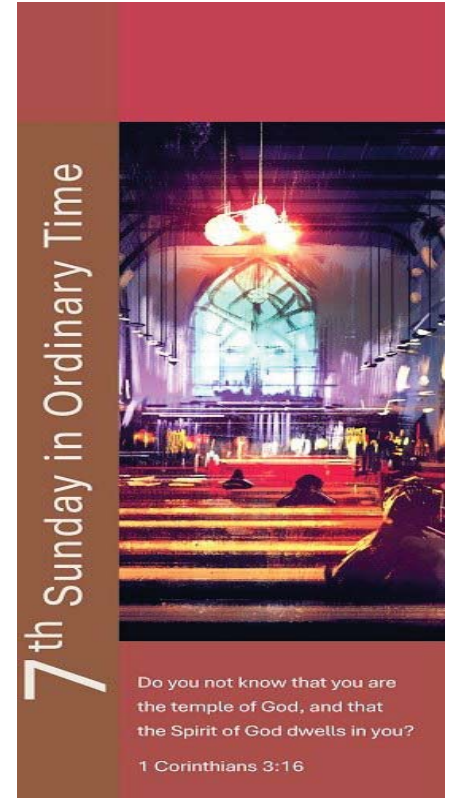
4:00pm Stanley Gavlick Jr. & Edward Gavlick Peggy & Michael Gavlick

Sunday, February 26

8:30am Elizabeth Willard Aunt, Anna Mae Venetz

11:00am Raymond Ripa Children

5:30pm **Pro Populo**



Our Parish Staff

Rev. Joseph J Pisaneschi x105

Pastor

Rev. Anthony Urban

Assisting Celebrant

Deacon John Bankus

Deacon John (Jack) Zeigler

Permanent Deacons

Lori Raymond x100

Pastoral Associate/Director of Religious Education

Sister Mary Beth Makuch, SS.C.M.

Pastoral Outreach Ministry

Music Ministry

Marge Semanek

Director of Liturgical Music

Joseph Sabol

Accompanist

Scott Coates

Accompanist/5:30 p.m. Sunday

Pat Quinn

Office Assistant

Sacristans and Maintenance

Chris Calore

Director of Maintenance

John Sartin

Trudy Brown

Pat Quinn

Betsy Evanoski

Phil Boshia



PRESIDENTS' DAY

Church Offices will be closed Monday, February 20th in commemoration of the President's Day Holiday.

February 22nd, Ash Wednesday Schedule

7:30am—Liturgy of the Word and Ash Distribution

12:10pm—Eucharist and Ash Distribution

4:00pm and 6:00pm—Liturgy of the Word and Ash Distribution

Ashes will be imposed with the thumb of the minister on the forehead of the recipient as before COVID-19 restrictions. Please remember that Ashes are a sacramental, not a SACRAMENT. It is not necessary to "get ashes," for salvation. It is simply a reminder that one is entering into the 40 Day Period of Fasting, Prayer and Almsgiving in a serious way.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ASH WEDNESDAY FAMOUS RED CLAM

CHOWDER SALE Please remember to pick up your Clam Chowder orders in the school cafeteria after the 7:30am Ashes, 11am-1pm, or 4pm-6pm. If you didn't place an order, please note that Clam Chowder will also be available at the door while supplies last. Cost is \$10/quart.

Lenten Schedule

Mondays "The Light is On For You" Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunity for Confession from 5:30pm to 7:00pm (This will take the place of Thursday evening adoration.)

Fridays 7:00pm "Stations of the Cross"

Please join us for these and other to be announced opportunities for Lenten prayer and reflection and preparation for the Easter mysteries.

Lenten Pirohy

We'll be making Pirohy Saturdays **Feb. 25 and March 11th** beginning at 8:00am to ball potatoes, 9:00am for everyone else. They will be on Sale on Saturday, March 18th at 11:00am, they will be available on a First Come-First Served basis, no reservations or holds. They will be sold for \$12.00 per dozen. Those who help make the pirohy will be able to buy 2 dozen each time they come to help. So make plans to help us make them so you are guaranteed a taste.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

We Celebrate Confession Saturdays from 3:25pm—3:45pm before the 4:00pm Vigil Mass. You may request confession at any time by calling and making an appointment in the office.

Religious Education for Children

Children in Grades 1-8

Saturday classes: 9:00am-10:15am Monday classes: 6:00pm-7:15pm

February classes:

Saturday: 25 (no classes on Sat., Feb. 18, Presidents' Weekend)

Monday: 27 (no classes on Mon., Feb. 20, Presidents' Weekend)

Confirmation Students: Please hand in paperwork by March 6th.

1st Holy Communion parents: Hand in forms as soon as possible.

2023 Summer Festival

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish is happy to announce the dates of this year's Summer Festival! Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, July 13, 14, and 15! More information in the weeks ahead...

We've Got the Spirit And Are On A Mission!

This week you will receive a brochure introducing our "We've Got the Spirit and are on a Mission" Program. I'm proud to be part of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish community. On Commitment Weekend, February 25 & 26, I invite each of you to participate in this important program and help us respond to God's great gift of love. I ask that you please review this brochure and prayerfully consider how you and your family can help St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish by financially supporting our ministries, furthering our mission, and reinforcing our future.

We ask that all faithful parishioners complete a Commitment Card. A card will be included in the brochure mailing for you to:

mail to the church using the pre-addressed envelope included in this mailing.

or bring your card to Mass next Sunday.

or you may visit our parish website at <https://www.setonpa.com/> and complete an electronic Commitment Card.

The back of the Commitment Card has a place for you to include any prayer intentions you wish to share. We welcome all intentions and they will be prayed for collectively over the next few weeks. If you would like to speak to a priest, please indicate so on your card and we will be in contact with you.

Our goal is 100% participation! Thank you for your generosity and support of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish!



Why Ashes? *By Fr. Larry Rice*

For centuries, Catholic Christians have marked the beginning of the season of Lent by receiving ash on their foreheads on Ash Wednesday. This tradition has its roots in the Old Testament, where wearing ashes was a common sign of repentance for sins, and a sign of one's humility before God. Since Lent is a season of penitential renewal through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, it's appropriate that this ancient sign marks the beginning of the season.

The ashes themselves are usually made by burning the palm fronds from the previous year's Palm Sunday. This symbolically connects the beginning of Lent with its end, connecting our change of heart with Christ's passion, death, and resurrection.

Ashes are usually distributed as part of the Mass on Ash Wednesday, of-



ten after the homily. As people approach the priest or other minister, he presses the ashes to their foreheads, and speaks one of two phrases: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return,"

or "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

In many places, Ash Wednesday services are among the most popular of the whole year—a day that's not even a Holy Day of Obligation. Cynics have suggested that this is because people "get" something, as they do on Palm Sunday. But there's nothing particularly appealing about getting smudged with ashes. Perhaps, the appeal is the ex-pression through a physical sign of a desire for interior conversion.

The Gospel for Ash Wednesday is a reminder that the real purpose of the season of Lent isn't to make public demonstrations of piety—even the wearing of ashes—but to seek conversion of heart.

Fr. Larry Rice is the former vocations director for the Paulist Fathers. Copyright © 2019, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Image: CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz

Welcome to our Parish!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, No matter what your current family or marital situation, No matter what your current personal history, age, income, background, gender, gender identity or orientation, race, ethnicity or spirituality, No matter what your own self-image or holiness or virtue - You belong to Christ and belong to us! You are invited, accepted and respected here at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. We welcome you. We want to share our Roman Catholic way of life with you!

During this season of Lent we invite you to take a breath and a moment and keep these thoughts with you throughout the day. We'll jump start by listing the thoughts for today (Sunday). Check back for next week's thoughts for the day.

Spend a little time each day in devotion in God's unconditional love and mercy.

Sunday - Just for today, I will call upon God's Holy name, God's Light and God's presence in my life.

Monday - Just for today, I will be devoted to identifying and eliminating the situations and people who cause me pain.

Tuesday - Just for today, I will honor those who love me including myself.

Wednesday - Just for today, I will embrace the Holy Spirit. The perfect source of God's light and love.

Thursday - Just for today, I will remind myself of the good you have done and the goodness that you are.

Friday - Just for today, I will attempt to live without judgement. Let things be!

Saturday - Just for today, spend time with God.

+++++

Let Us Pray

During Lent let's find time to grow closer to God. Here's one way you can do this-it's called a FAMILY PRAYER JAR, meant to encourage you and your loved ones to pray, which in turn invites God into our lives more.

Use any kind of jar (i.e., a mason jar). You can label it (i.e., PRAYERS) and decorate it.

On small slips of paper write who/what to pray for; (someone in need, your teacher, peace in the world). The list is endless. If you need some help with your prayer requests here is a chart to guide you.

The PRAYER JAR can be placed in an area that will constantly be seen, and it's a great reminder to pray. Just pull out a prayer request/petition to pray for and begin your prayer.

Paper clip together requests that have been prayed for and place at the bottom of the jar. After all requests have been prayed for, mix them up and begin again or write down new ones.

Your FAMILY PRAYER JAR will be a gentle reminder to pray, not only during Lent, but each and every day.

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS Meeting in the church hall on Sunday Feb. 26th at 2pm. New members are welcome.

Upcoming Fundraisers: HALUSKI SALE: March 10th RUMMAGE SALE: April 17/18 More information to follow.

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE Meeting on Thursday, Feb. 16th at 6:30pm in the church hall. New members are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE! BINGO IS BACK! Our SCC Bingo will be held on Sunday, April 23rd. More info. to follow.



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. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. 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 allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at 570-862-7551.



Fact of Faith

PENITENTIAL PRACTICES FOR LENT

Raise Up. Sacrifice. Offer.

One important way to grow in the Lord is to observe the penitential practices that strengthen us for resisting temptation, allow us to express our sorrow for the sins we have committed, and help to repair the tear caused by our sinning.

Penitential practices take many forms: apologizing to an injured party, healing divisions within our families, fasting during the Lenten season, or graciously accepting the menial tasks of life. The purpose of penance is not to diminish life but to enrich it.

Jesus, in Matthew's Gospel, calls us to pray, to fast, and to give alms: "when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites," "when you fast, do not look gloomy," "when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing" (Mt 6:5, 16, 3, respectively). As a Church, we ponder and pray over this call every Ash Wednesday. In a most profound way, the three spiritual exercises identified by Jesus are directed toward the nurturing of relationships.

Prayer, that process of listening to and responding to God's daily call, sustains and nurtures our relationship with our triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Without prayer, personal and communal, this relationship is diminished, sometimes to the point of complete silence on our part. Every day the Spirit of Jesus invites us to enter into that serious conversion that leads to blessed communion.

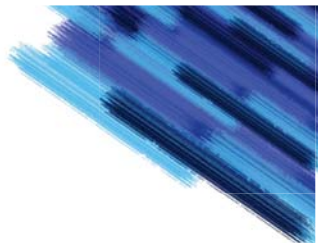
Fasting, a very special form of penance, and Jesus' second call, has been a consistent part of our Catholic tradition. Fasting assists us in getting our own house in order. All of us have to deal with areas of servitude, whether in regard to smoking or alcohol consumption, misused sexuality, uncontrolled gambling, psychological hang-ups, spiritual obsessions, use of stimulants, immoderate use of the Internet, excessive amounts of television watching, or preoccupations with other forms of entertainment. By fasting and self-denial, by

living lives of moderation, we have more energy to devote to God's purposes and a better self-esteem that helps us to be more concerned with the well-being of others.

The third call of the Lord is to **give alms**. Jesus was always concerned about those who were poor and in need. He was impressed by the widow who, though having so little, shared her resources with others: "I tell you truly, this poor widow put in more than all the rest; for those others have all made offerings from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood" (Lk 21:3-4). To be a disciple of Christ means to live a life of charity. To be a disciple of Jesus is to live a life of stewardship, generously giving of our time, talent, and treasure.

At the heart of all penance is the call to conversion. Jesus' imperative "Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mk 1:15) makes explicit this connection between authentic discipleship and penitential discipline. Discipleship, our following of Jesus, embraces discipline, a firm commitment to do whatever is demanded in furthering God's kingdom. Viewed in this way, the virtue of penance is not optional, just as weeding a garden is not optional for a responsible caretaker. The gardener is concerned with a bountiful harvest; the disciple is concerned about greater conformity to the person of Jesus.

If we are serious about embracing the penitential discipline that is rooted in the call to discipleship, then we will identify specific times and places for prayer, penance, and works of charity. Growth in spiritual maturity demands a certain level of specificity, for it shows that we take seriously God's call to discipline and are willing to hold ourselves accountable. In our Catholic tradition we specify certain days and seasons for special works of penance: Fridays, on which we commemorate the death of the Lord, and Lent, our forty days of preparation for the Easter mysteries.



LENTEN FASTING & ABSTINENCE



Fasting	Abstinence
Ash Wednesday Good Friday	Every Friday during Lent
Ages 18-59	Ages 14+

How do we fast?

When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

Am I excused from fasting and abstinence?

Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women.

For more information on fasting and abstinence, visit uscgb.org.



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Collection Report

Weekend of February 5, 2023

- Regular: \$8905.25
- Dues: \$4492.00
- Assessment: \$85.00
- Christmas (additional): \$5.00
- Holy Days: \$21.00

Diocesan: Care & Educ. of Priests: \$17.00

Ways to Give:



Online @ setonpa.com



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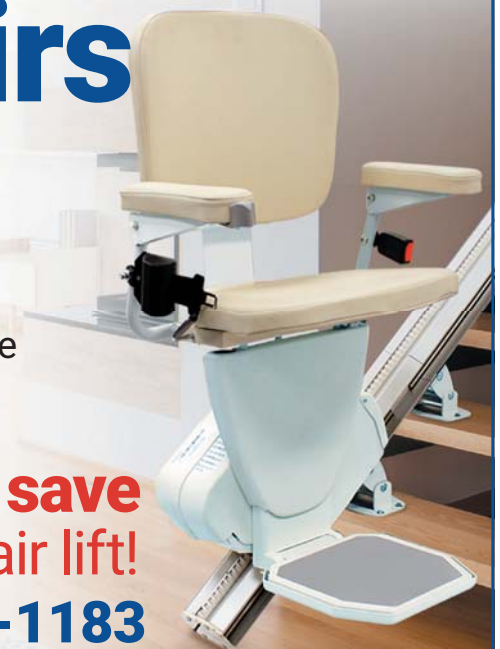
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