

ST. ELIZABETH SETON

2026

GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY



We are Disciples of Jesus
with the Eucharist as our center,
living the Gospel
in joyful service
to God and neighbor.

ST. ELIZABETH SETON

2220 LISSON RD., NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS 60565

Phone: (630) 416-3325

Website: www.sesnaperville.org

Virtual Parish: www.sespastor.org

Email: stelizabethseton@gmail.com

PASTOR

Rev. Scott C. Huggins

DEACONS

Deacon Emmanuel Eklou

Deacon Gerard Erickson

Deacon Matt Napoli

Deacon John Ripoll

Deacon Tom Ross (Retired)

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 P.M.

Sunday: 8:30 A.M., 10:00 A.M., 11:30 A.M.

DAILY MASSES

Monday thru Friday: 8:15 A.M.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 P.M.-4:30 P.M.

PARISH OFFICE

Phone: (630) 416-3325

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

Friday 8:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

STUDENT FAITH FORMATION

Phone: (630) 416-1992

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

Friday 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

PARISH MUSIC OFFICE

(630) 416-3325 x6402

Megan Shirer-Music Director musicministry@sescatholic.org

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*We are Disciples of Jesus,
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living the Gospel
in joyful service
to God and neighbor.*

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Scott HugginsPastor..... 416-3325 x6344
Deacon Emmanuel EklouDeacon..... 416-3325 x6438...DeaconEmmanuel@sescatholic.org
Deacon Gerard Erickson.....Deacon..... 416-3325 x6435DeaconGerard@sescatholic.org
Deacon Matt NapoliDeacon..... 416-3325 x6437 DeaconMatt@sescatholic.org
Deacon John Ripoll..... Director of Parish Faith Formation..... 416-1992 Deacon John@sescatholic.org
Deacon Tom RossDeacon..... Retired
Gloria Kapsa..... Business Manager..... 416-3325 x6341... BusinessManager@sescatholic.org
Jacqueline Skelly..... Director of Family Faith Formation..... 416-1992 x6352 FormationDir@sescatholic.org
Megan Shirer Music Director..... 416-3325 x6402musicministry@sescatholic.org

SUPPORT STAFF

MaryAnn ArmstrongFaith Formation Admin. Asst..... 416-1992 x6354.. FormationOffice@sescatholic.org
Felicia Donofrio..... Parish Secretary..... 416-3325 x6342 Secretary@sescatholic.org
Heladio Kennedy.....Facilities Assistant..... 420-2526 Maintenance@sescatholic.org
Liz KlecklerFaith Formation Admin. Asst..... 416-1992 x6353... FormationTeam@sescatholic.org
Donna Majeski Bulletin Editor/Facilities Coordinator..... 416-3325 x6343 ParishOffice@sescatholic.org
Jim Stueber.....Facilities Assistant..... 420-2526 Maintenance@sescatholic.org

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

(Preschool through 8th Grade)

All Saints Catholic Academy
1115 Aurora Ave., Naperville, IL 60540
Phone: (630) 961-6125
www.ascacademy.org
Mrs. Margie Marshall, Principal
mmarshall@ascacademy.org

OUR PARISH HISTORY

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish founded on July 1, 1986.

Parishioners named St. Elizabeth Seton after America's first native-born Saint. She was the founder of the Sisters of Charity.

Bishop Joseph Imesch celebrated the first Mass at Scott School on July 5, 1986.

Fr. Tony Nugent served as the founding Pastor from 1986 to 1995.

Initially, 228 families were registered.

Masses celebrated at Scott School and the parish offices located at College Square Mall.

Sunday Masses moved to Madison Jr. High School on Easter, 1987, with some summer Sunday Masses celebrated at Kennedy Jr. High School.

Holy Day Masses celebrated at Sacred Heart Convent in Lisle.

Baptisms and First Communions took place at St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle.

Funerals held at St. Margaret Mary Church in Naperville.

In July 1987, Sr. Frances McCarron, IBVM joined the Staff as Pastoral Associate. Sr. Frances was with us from 1989 to 1996 and then again from 2002 to 2006.

Our own Religious Education program began in September 1987 with Sr. Patricia Thompson as Director from 1987 to 2001.

In June 1988, Fr. John Baluff assigned Parochial Vicar. (1988-1993)

Groundbreaking for the current church building occurred on September 17, 1989. The number of registered families had grown to 1130.

December 18, 1990, Bishop Joseph Imesch dedicated the Church and the Worship Space. The Church and Worship Space continued to be a work in progress.

In June 1993, Fr. Mark Jendrysik appointed Parochial Vicar. (1993-1996)

A new Rectory acquired in Bolingbrook in May 1994 to make room for additional office space in the Parish Center.

In June 1995, Fr. Ernest Norbeck named Pastor. (1995-2006)

In February 1996, Fr. James Radek appointed Parochial Vicar. (1996-2002)

Bishop Joseph Imesch consecrated the present altar and re-dedicated the Worship Space in February 1997.

The Saint's mural by artist Lillian Brulc began in March 1997.

The stained-glass windows in the Worship Space installed in the spring of 1998, the Great Hall was completed, and the parish had grown to 2300 registered families.

St. Elizabeth Seton Preschool opened in September 1999. In 2007 it became a satellite location of All Saints Catholic Academy.

Permanent seating in the Worship Space was installed in March 2000.

In the summer of 2001, renovation to the Worship Space occurred which included the Reredos, a new altar platform, and fresh painting. The Crucifix was added and unveiled at the Good Friday Service in April 2002.

Pope John Paul II Perpetual Adoration Chapel opened April 14, 2002. In August 2005, St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, St. Margaret Mary Parish and St. Thomas the Apostle opened All Saints Catholic Academy.

Fr. Thomas Paul appointed as the third Pastor in June 2006.

The 20th Anniversary of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish was celebrated in July 2006.

In 2007, the exterior of the church was resided, with an exterior cross installed. Stations of the Cross were added, the daily Mass Chapel was furnished and implemented, the Reconciliation Room was renovated, and the Holy Family statue was added to the church interior.

In 2008, a new organ was installed and dedicated, the Baptismal font marble liner was installed, along with an Ambre, and a statue of Jesus and the Children was added to the Narthex.

A statue of St. Elizabeth Seton was installed in the church in October 2008. In 2009, the St. Elizabeth Seton Shrine was completed with the addition of a relic case and petition book.

In June 2009, the first parishioner from St. Elizabeth Seton parish, Dindo Billote, was ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Joliet.

Fr. Richard Smith appointed as the fourth Pastor in August 2010.

The 25th Anniversary of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish is celebrated in 2011.

Easter 2013, Sanctus Bells were added to the Liturgies.

May 2013, Strategic Planning process began with a Strategic Plan to take place 2014-2019.

Fr. Scott Huggins appointed as the fifth Pastor in June 2016.

The 35th Anniversary of St Elizabeth Seton is celebrated in 2021. A time capsule was buried in the butterfly garden.

PASTORAL STAFF

The Pastoral Staff is a group of people who are involved in religious ministry on a day-to-day basis. It is composed of priests, deacons, and laity engaged in pastoral work. The staff comes together, utilizing their own area of expertise in exercising their responsibility to the total parish. Through frequent meetings, shared work and prayer, members of the staff develop relationships with one another and with parishioners that are most conducive to fostering growth of the parish community.

The Pastoral Staff is to be of direct service to the Pastoral Council as a resource and to provide assistance whenever necessary to facilitate planning.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council is a community of faith, centered in prayer, discernment and vision and oversees the overall well-being of the parish. Its primary work is strategic pastoral planning. Its secondary work is consultative, proposing practical solutions to the ongoing life of the parish. It is the responsibility of the Council to empower the parish through the various Commissions to assure that the parish mission is accomplished. All parishioners can participate in the religious and secular activities of our faith community through the Pastoral Council and Commissions.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

The Parish Finance Council assists the Pastor in the administration of parish temporal matters. It is a key element for promoting the financial health of a parish, assuring accountability, and assisting the Pastor. This body has both an advisory and consultative role with the Pastor.

The Parish Finance Council plans, provides for and supervises the financial affairs and physical properties of the parish. They collaborate with the Pastor and the parish staff on the inspection, maintenance, and repair of all parish buildings, internal and external. They also give advice on computer, telephone, internet, and audio/visual matters.

The Parish Finance Council provides guidance to the Pastor and the parish staff in the preparation of the parish budget. Throughout the year, they monitor the financial progress of the parish. They continue to explore and develop new and creative ways to fund the parish's capital improvements as well as the Sunday offering. They strive to oversee and be good stewards of the monies entrusted to the parish by parishioners.

Shop-SES

Shop-SES is a stored-valued card program in which the parish is able to purchase stored-value cards from over 500 retailers at a discount. By selling the stored-value cards at face value the parish is able to generate additional funds while providing the parishioners the full value of the cards.

COMMISSIONS

As the arms of the Pastoral Council, they complement and support the work of the Council. Commissions have three purposes: alignment, coordination, and communication. They serve as a conduit between the Council and the ministries. Commissions help define and support Parish goals through their ministries, being fully engaged in the strategic pastoral planning process. They play a vital role in keeping ministries connected and maintaining an integrated presence.

Christian Formation Commission
 Christian Service Commission
 Parish Life Commission
 Worship Commission

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION

The mission of the Christian Formation Commission is to invite and engage adult members of the parish to participate in faith formation activities. These are tailored towards increasing their knowledge of the faith, calling them into a deeper personal relationship with Christ and inspiring them to put their faith into action.

PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Parish Mission

We offer opportunities to grow deeper in our spiritual lives through our Parish Mission.

The Parish Mission provides extraordinary preaching outside of our Sunday homilies and other instructional courses. It is meant to invigorate our parish community as well as strengthen our bonds with one another. The mission is also intended to renew our commitment and attachment to the Body of Christ present in our faith community.

Formation Resources

The following resources are available for parishioners with a variety of needs: those involved in sacramental preparation, catechists, Small Christian Communities, study groups, or individuals and their families.

- The Parish Library is a collection of faith-based books, DVDs, and CDs that are physically housed in a small room near the Welcome Desk in the Narthex
- Parishioners are invited to check out materials for a period of time and return them, similar to a local public library.
- FORMED/Word on Fire-Engage is a digital platform that gives our parishioners unprecedented access to video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and eBooks from the Church's foremost presenters. Register at www.formed.org using our parish code MHRFR3.

Small Faith Communities

We at St. Elizabeth Seton have the opportunity to experience community in much the same way that early Christians did. Small Faith Communities offers us the chance to meet with others in our parish to pray, reflect on Scripture, and to connect our everyday life with our faith. Many in our parish have experienced small group faith sharing and come to St. Elizabeth looking for a continuation of the positive aspects of such programs. Others find themselves searching for a deeper understanding of their faith which they know can be found by sharing and praying with those who have similar interests. Because of the mobility of many in our parish, some people look to Small Faith Communities as a way to feel part of a small parish "family" within the larger parish family.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (O.C.I.A.)

OCIA is the rite whereby adults inquiring about God and the Catholic faith share with existing parishioners in prayer faith experiences, catechesis, and parish life to discern whether the Lord is leading them to become a Catholic. Through this process, which involves various rituals and parish support, unbaptized adults are added to the faith through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion, or those baptized in another Christian faith are brought into Full Communion with the Catholic Church through a profession of faith and reception of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. Also, adult Catholics who were baptized but not instructed in the faith enter the OCIA to prepare to complete their Rites of Initiation by receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and/or Holy Communion.

Members of St. Elizabeth Seton, willing to share their faith and parish experiences with others, are invited to join the OCIA as team members or sponsors to journey with those seeking the Lord in a new and deeper way. By sharing our faith experiences with others, we experience a deepening of our own relationship with the Holy Trinity, the Catholic Church, and our parish community.

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Matt Grigas, Director of Admissions
mgrigas@benet.org or admissionoffice@benet.org
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ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Bible Study

This Bible Study is a study of Sacred Scripture, both Old and New Testaments. A study guide is used that asks the participant to prepare for each session with a particular focus on the impact of these scripture passages on our lives today. Faith sharing in a group environment is an essential part of the Bible study.

Welcome (formerly CRHP)

Welcome is a day and a half commitment to growing your faith and is given by parishioners for parishioners.

Members of the Giving Team volunteer to present the challenges and successes of their own lives, allowing attendees to introspect their own relationships regardless of where they are in their faith journey. The end result is often a stronger bond with other attendees and a renewed passion for Christ. Saint Elizabeth Seton currently offers a Men's Welcome weekend.

Cursillo

The full name, "Cursillo de Cristiandad," is a Spanish term meaning, "Short course in Christianity," making Cursillo different from a retreat, but complementary to one. It is a lay church movement made up of three parts, the pre-Cursillo, the Cursillo and the post-Cursillo. During the three days of the weekend itself, from Thursday evening to Sunday evening, people from various walks of life and from all over the diocese, will have the opportunity to discover a new understanding of Jesus Christ, hear basic Christian truths, and learn a method of forming and sustaining lay leadership by which ordinary people can grow in the love and service of God and others for the rest of their lives.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter/IMET

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is for any husband and wife or priest/religious interested in a weekend away from the distractions and demands of everyday life, to focus on their marriage and on each other. (Priest/Religious: focus on their service to their spouse, the people of God.) The weekend is designed to deepen and enrich the joys a couple share, whether they have been married only a short time or for many years. It is not a retreat, a clinic, nor a group sensitivity course. You do not talk to other couples about your marriage. You actually give the weekend to each other. Marriage Encounter is open to all married couples/religious regardless of faith expression. The weekends are held several times a year at a local hotel or retreat centers. There are also virtual weekend formats that allow you to attend online from any location.

For more information, contact John & Betty Schuch at 630-235-3971 or johnwschuch@gmail.com. Applications to attend a weekend can be found at www.wwme-chicagoland.org or call 630-577-0778. You may also call John and Betty if you would like more information about Marriage Encounter Weekends or our marriage enrichment group, the Inter-parish Marriage Enrichment Team (IMET) that St. Elizabeth Seton Parish is part of and supports.

That Man is You! (TMIY)

That Man is You! is a men's group that meets regularly during the school year on Saturday mornings. This interactive men's program combines the best research from science with the teaching of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of a man fully alive.

Walking with Purpose (WWP):

Walking With Purpose is a Women's Bible Study that exists to help all women know Jesus Christ personally by making Scripture and the teachings of the Catholic Church relevant and applicable. By creating communities centered around Catholic-based Bible studies, women deepen their relationships with Jesus Christ, enabling transformation to take place in their hearts - and, by extension - in their families, in their communities, and ultimately, in our world.

Young Adult Community (YAC)

A new group for young adults in their 20s and 30s. We regularly gather for fellowship and social events, give back to our community through service projects, and participate in faith formation activities to grow in our Catholic faith. Whether you are single or part of a couple, have young children or barely manage the care of a plant, we invite you to be a part of our community.

High School Teen Ministry

An opportunity for teens in the parish in 9th-12th grade to meet and form a community. This ministry meets twice per month with meetings centered around social activities, growing in faith, worship, and social justice and service. All are welcome.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

We invite all families to join us on a dynamic journey of faith. Our Family Faith Formation program is designed to form children in the Catholic faith within their family. The foundation of our faith formation is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. All faith flows from the Mass where we encounter Jesus Christ and are filled with grace to be His hands and feet in the world. "The Christian faith is not a theory, philosophy, or idea, but an encounter with the person of Jesus Christ." – *Pope Francis*

Our family program supports and equips our families in their Domestic Church, where parents share the Catholic faith with their children by their living example.

"Catholic parents are called to form their family as a 'domestic church,' a church in the home, where God is honored, His law is respected, prayer is a normal event, virtue is transmitted by word and example, and everyone shares the hopes, problems and sufferings of everyone else. All this is not to advocate a return to some outdated style of living: It is to return to the roots of human development and human happiness!" – *Saint Pope John Paul II*

Families in formation come together, once a month, to grow in faith and friendship with other families. During the meeting, parents are equipped to lead the monthly at-home lessons with their family. Children are introduced to the theme for the month, then families will come together at the end of the meeting for a family activity and hospitality. Families are invited to join us on their journey of faith when their children turn 3 years old. Formation is also provided to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation during a family's journey from preschool through 8th grade.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School at St. Elizabeth Seton is the best week of the summer! At VBS kids learn the many ways Jesus shined hope, love, forgiveness, and joy into the world, and how we can do the same with His power! Kids will experience a week full of faith discoveries, memorable music, and epic adventures that will help them grow in friendship with Jesus and each other. Children entering kindergarten through 5th grade, are invited to participate. Students entering 6th grade through college are invited to join our VBS Leadership team! Parent volunteers are also welcome! Registration begins in early spring.

ASCA (All Saints Catholic Academy)

All Saints Catholic Academy is a regional Catholic elementary school, founded in 2005 by three Naperville parishes: St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, St. Margaret Mary Parish, and St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. ASCA educates children from Pre-school through 8th Grade.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE
COMMISSION

The mission of the Christian Service Commission is to enable the parish community to put into practice the social teaching of the Church. The Commission creates, promotes, facilitates, and serves the ministries that respond to human needs and work for social justice. It is in loving our neighbor that we show our love for the Lord.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Harvest Sunday

This is the largest Christian Service event at St. Elizabeth Seton. The entire parish comes together on the last weekend of October and the first weekend in November to collect food donated from more than 10,000 homes in the local neighborhoods, and unload, sort, pack and load boxes containing more than 30,000 food items to be donated to food banks in Maywood, Naperville and Chicago. Everyone is welcome and needed. More than 500 parish volunteers come together to serve Our Lord by serving those in need.

Hesed House

On the first Monday of every month from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. our parishioners volunteer at the Aurora Hesed House Adult Shelter to serve lunch and assist with various tasks. For more information, contact Heidi Moss at seshesedhouse@gmail.com.

Loaves & Fishes (Food Pantry)

St. Elizabeth Seton provides an opportunity for you to participate in helping those in need of basic necessities. We as a church community do this by providing a cart in the lower level of the church building for those who want to donate non-perishable food items, cleaning products, and toiletries. If you wish to donate such items, bring them to the lower level and place them on the cart. Each week a volunteer driver from the parish will bring the donated items from the cart to the Loaves & Fishes Community Pantry.

We are sometimes called upon to provide volunteer support to help out at the Community Pantry. If you wish to help at the Pantry, call the local pantry and make the arrangements directly.

Mana Arts Co-op Advisory Council

This ministry is a group of parishioners who volunteer to assist Mana Arts NFP fulfill their mission by using their professional skills and knowledge to create opportunities for success.

Need You Right Now (NYRN)

Our mission is to build strength and show God’s love to those who struggle with mental health challenges using a Catholic Christian response that is fortified with Christian community support and tolerance. We provide awareness, education, resources, and directed prayer toward those who suffer from this illness, their caregivers and family. We will help a child of God to move out of the dark and into the dawn. Volunteers are always needed to be a friend to those experiencing it and to support their caregivers. Information is found at www.SESCatholicCare.com.

Nourish for Caregivers

Nourish is for anyone juggling the challenges of life, health, career, and caring for an aging parent, grandparent, or spouse, in town or at a distance. Nourish provides family caregivers practical and emotional support, shared experience, and useful tools, all with a Christ-centered view. Join us in the lower level of the church on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Divorce and Beyond

Divorce is painful, filled with stress and loneliness. This ministry is here to offer spiritual growth and a social life! Hope is always found when we tie our suffering to God. The group meets twice per month with one meeting focused on enriching our faith life in the mist of very trying times, and one focused on social activities.

Public Action to Deliver Shelter (P.A.D.S.) Currently Inactive

The mission of DuPage Pads is to end homelessness in DuPage County, Illinois. Our signature year-round programs feed and shelter individuals and families who are homeless, and connect them to case management and other services that can address the underlying cause of their homelessness.

St. Elizabeth Seton supports DuPage Pads. Due to COVID-19, the model for DuPage Pads changed in how they assist the homeless in the county. As DuPage Pads services continue to evolve, SES support will also evolve with our ministry.

Quinn Community Center

Quinn Center Food Ministry-Once a month, SES parishioners prepare and serve a hot dinner to about 50-100 members in the St. Eulalia/Maywood, IL community. Volunteers are welcome to either prepare a food dish or help serve at the center.

Share Christmas

Share Christmas provides parishioners an opportunity to provide a gift for individuals or families who might otherwise receive nothing at Christmas. It is an opportunity for us to educate our children, as well as ourselves, about the Gospel mandate to be concerned about our sisters and brothers. Volunteers are required to staff a table, to distribute gift tags, and to receive the gifts (November and December).

St. Vincent de Paul

The SES conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is an autonomous group of parish volunteers who provide emergency financial assistance and guidance for those within our parish boundaries who are in need. Our trained volunteers do face to face interviews and provide compassionate support during difficult times.

Transitional Housing

This ministry is an outreach program designed to assist homeless families to reach a state of independence and self-subsistence. While in the program, families receive financial support through free housing and other subsidies. This financial support is donated by the parish during this transitional period. To remain in the program, family members (especially the parents) must set and attain goals designed to prepare them for independent living. This transitional housing period is designed to last between 18 and 30 months for a homeless family. While in the care of the parish, the family is under the close care and supervision of two to four trained mentors who act as the parish's support and training arm, preparing the parent(s) to get the job training skills or education necessary to find a level of employment which will allow the family to become self-sufficient.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Earth Care Ministry

We are proactive in caring for and protecting God's creation – Earth, Our Common Home. We are aware of the effect of our actions and inactions that lead to pollution and climate change. We are advocates of living a more eco-conscious spirituality and sustainable lifestyle – to live simply so others can simply live.

Respect Life

Respect Life aims to keep present the truth of the sacredness of all human life. This ministry is in conjunction with our Catholics Care ministry; we proclaim to mobilize our faith community on issues of life, justice, and peace. In the Bible on Day 1 of Creation - God said everything is good! To that end we proclaim that all human life is not to be devalued or violated. We proclaim that the unborn, aged, and dying deserve loving care and concern, as well as our stand against bullying and capital punishment. We also welcome the stranger among us, whether visiting our church or immigrating to safety. In this way, our Catholic community celebrates the gift of human life and witnesses the Good News of Jesus Christ.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care Ministers - Edward Hospital

“For I was ... ill and you cared for me.” The Pastoral Care Ministry is intended to spiritually support those in special times of need. Pastoral Care Ministers offer compassion, a listening presence, prayer and the Eucharist. Each Wednesday, Pastoral Care Ministers from St. Elizabeth Seton bring Holy Communion to eleven different areas of Edward Hospital. The ministers are placed on a rotating schedule so that they visit the hospital once every five to six weeks.

This ministry is perfect for those who enjoy interacting with people and would like to bring the Eucharist to those who are in the hospital. Those interested in participating in this ministry need to be Confirmed Catholics who are 18 or older.

Pastoral Care Ministers - Homebound

This ministry is intended to spiritually support those in special time of need. Ministers take Holy Communion to the sick and homebound of our parish. This is for short term as well as long term illnesses. Days and times are based upon need.

Pastoral Care Ministers - Senior Living

When requested this ministry will provide a Communion Service and recite the rosary to residents of the local nursing home.

Caring Cards Ministry

This ministry serves those in need of regular prayer and encouragement by sending home-made cards each month to parishioners and/or their loved ones. Card recipients may include: the chronically ill, elderly, lonely, widowed, as well as others.

Catholics Care

Catholic Care incorporates a wholistic view in care and management of health and those things that disrupt our peace of mind as it affects daily life as well as our church community. We acknowledge the individual dignity each person has and we work to provide a safe, open and dignified way to care, support and defend life from conception to natural death! We provide means to care not only for the sick and forgotten but for those who are responsible to give the care! As a church community we reach out and extend an arm of mercy to those who care, those who need care, and those seeking peace of mind.

Funeral Luncheon Committee

Luncheons are often provided to family and friends after a Funeral Mass. The committee provides food and acts as hostesses. We are always in need of additional people to prepare a side dish or dessert or help as a hostess.

Helping Hands

Parishioners who are willing to respond to requests for interim assistance with services that for one reason or another fellow parishioners are unable to perform themselves.

Helping Hands provides temporary services, which typically take 1 to 2 hours and might include:

- Meals - preparation and delivery
- Light housework - vacuuming, dusting, washing dishes, laundry
- Visiting the homebound person while caregiver runs errands
- Light maintenance - changing light bulbs, furnace filters
- Walking or feeding pets

Helping Hands ministry does not provide financial or medical assistance. If those resources are needed please contact the SES Parish Office.

Prayer Quilt Ministry

An interfaith outreach ministry that combines the gift of a hand-tied quilt with the gift of prayer for someone in need. The essence of this ministry is in the prayers offered for the recipient. For more information, contact sesprayerquilt@gmail.com.



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Turn to the experts

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION

The mission of the Parish Life Commission is to help create and encourage an environment for the people of St. Elizabeth Seton to build connections to the parish community outside of the traditional worship services. The role of the Commission is to assist in making the parish a center for each person to share their talents in both social and spiritual activities, while keeping God as their focus.

HOSPITALITY

Welcome Center

This Center provides information on parish life for parishioners and visitors. Located here are handouts, forms, references and referrals on the whole range of parish and Catholic life items and issues. It is located in the upper level narthex and is designed to echo our commitment to be a welcoming and informative parish.

Sunday Coffee and Donuts

One of our ministries is scheduled each month and is responsible for providing and serving donuts, juice and coffee after the Sunday Masses. The service has become a special tradition at St. Elizabeth Seton, giving us another affectionate title, "The Donut Church," from some of our youth! It is a vital expression of our claim to be a welcoming, hospitable, faith community. The ministry scheduled for the current month coordinates the ordering and pick-up of the refreshments and schedules servers and clean-up crews.

Social Gatherings

St. Elizabeth Seton has a rich tradition of warm and welcoming social activities. Many of these activities are sponsored by other parish organizations. The Parish Life Commission supports these activities and facilitates additional parish wide social gatherings. This Commission initiates social events such as the Fish Fry, Parish Picnic, and Trivia Night. They are always looking for clever, creative, and enthusiastic helpers for their events!!

WORSHIP COMMISSION

The mission of the Worship Commission is to provide meaningful, communal prayer experiences. It promotes continuous liturgical and spiritual renewal of the parish community. The Commission is to pray, affirm, educate, and build a spiritual community with the parish.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers

St. Elizabeth Seton's altar servers are comprised of youth who take part in a very special way assisting the Priest and Deacon in celebrating and presenting the rich treasures of the Mass's sacred ceremonies. A server must have received the Sacraments of Baptism and 1st Communion, must be in 5th grade or beyond, and the family must be registered parishioners. Training is provided.

Art and Environment Ministry

Our Art and Environment Ministry is a group of creative people who use their talents to enhance and support the worship space. Our goal is to provide a hospitable environment of prayerful participation. This is done to create appropriate surroundings and rich symbolic representation in keeping with the liturgical season. We are responsible for seasonal environment, flowers, furnishings, and objects used in liturgical celebrations. Art and environment work is often sporadic and seasonal, but the committee is always interested in recruiting artists, seamstresses, crafters, interior and floral designers.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Small group leaders for children's "Liturgy of the Word" facilitate understanding of the scripture for grades Kindergarten through pre-Communion Second Grade during the 10:00 A.M. Mass. The children are dismissed during the Mass as the rest of the assembly prepares to listen to the Word of God. The children and facilitators break open the Word of God in one of the lower level rooms and return to the church immediately after the homily. Small group leaders are needed to teach the lessons each week. Materials are provided.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Extraordinary Ministers are called to assist with the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ at parish liturgies. Extraordinary Ministers are practicing Catholics who have received the sacrament of Confirmation. Each minister is scheduled three to four times in a three-month period. Training is provided. Appropriate dress is required for all Ministers (i.e., no shorts or flip-flops during the summer months).

Sacrament Laundry Ministry

The Sacrament Laundry Ministry involves washing and ironing of the various sacramental linens. This ministry is made up of a group of ladies who, behind the scenes, reverently launder and iron the purificators and corporals used on the altar at Mass. We follow a rotating schedule, with the goal of having everyone commit to the ministry one weekend every month or two. The work is done in your own home at a time that is convenient to you. The linens are collected after the Sunday Masses and then returned to the sacristy by mid-week. Training will be provided on how to properly care for the linens and the overall process only takes 2-3 hours. If you enjoy or have a talent for laundry, please consider becoming a member of this important team!

Greeters

A greeter is someone who can reach out to others with ease, has a presence of warmth, and truly cares about the assembly being at home in the worship space. Greeters are called to the task of hospitality as the assembly gathers for worship, especially reaching out to newcomers. They maintain comfort and order, tending to those who need special attention. Training is provided.

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of God by reading the Scriptures at Mass and related services. They might be better termed “communicators.” For a few brief moments, lectors bring alive the scripture passage to the assembly. While our lectors’ readings are not theatrical, and they are careful not to bring attention to themselves, they help the assembly connect with the day’s readings. They use tone of voice and cadence to appropriately reflect the intent of the passage—whether it is the vision of a prophet, a stern warning, a message of joy or of profound sadness. Lectors are provided workbooks each year with the readings for each Mass, along with helpful context and explanation, as well as pronunciation tips. Lectors use these workbooks to familiarize themselves with their readings to properly prepare for this important ministry.

Lectors proclaim the Scriptures and welcome the assembly at all the Masses. They will typically proclaim at one Mass every three to four weeks.

Music Ministry

Liturgical music plays a vital role in the prayer life of the parish community of St. Elizabeth Seton. Music ministers help to create and enhance the spirit of prayer and celebration as Choir Members, Cantors, and Instrumentalists. Parishioners are invited to participate in the:

- Adult Choir (college age and older) as a choir member or instrumentalist
- Instrumental Ensemble (college age and older—guitar, violin, flute, oboe, trumpet, trombone, cello, string, bass, percussion, timpani)
- Young Adult Choir (grades 7 through 12) as a choir member or instrumentalist (flute, violin, oboe, clarinet, cello, guitar, percussion, trumpet, trombone)
- Youth Choir (boys and girls in grades 3 through 6) who enjoy singing

All parishioners are strongly encouraged to consider sharing their musical gifts and joining our Music Ministry.

Wedding Hostess Ministry

- The Wedding Hostess’s main focus is to guide the Bride and Groom and their families through the rehearsal and to assure the wedding runs smoothly.
- A Wedding Hostess is representing the community of St. Elizabeth Seton Church and therefore shows hospitality, helpfulness, compassion, and the ability to deal with any situation that may arise.

PRAYER EXPERIENCES**Eucharistic Adoration**

“The closest thing to heaven on earth,” that is what Mother Teresa said of visiting Jesus in Adoration. You will experience this heaven on earth in our John Paul II Eucharistic Adoration Chapel. Please consider choosing an hour and becoming a committed adorer. Our very own Adoration Chapel provides the ability to come and pray before Jesus and listen to HIS answers. Our chapel is open 24 hours a day/7 days a week. If you’re interested, please call (630) 335-7704 or email pjpchapel@gmail.com to answer any questions or commit to adoring at the same hour each week.

CHAPEL HOURS: Sunday-Saturday: 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. no code needed to enter. (Code necessary all remaining hours of the day/night.)

Our Chapel is located on the southwest corner of the front parking lot; enter between the 2 garages in the parking lot near the big Pope John Paul II Adoration Chapel sign. An offering of \$10 for 7-day candles can be obtained at the Parish Office.

Martha’s Ministry

This ministry is responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of the Adoration Chapel. Depending on the number of volunteers for this ministry you may be asked to help only once per month or less.

Prayer Chain

There is a prayer chain available within St. Elizabeth Seton for all parishioners who may be in need of prayer or know of someone in need of prayer. Call us if you would like a particular intention offered for prayer. If you would like to be a part of this prayer chain, please feel free to call us at the Parish Office. Parishioners are also welcome to come and add petitions to the book of prayer at the Perpetual Adoration Chapel for all adorers to include in their prayers.

Rosary Prayer Group

Meets weekdays at 7:45 A.M. before the 8:15 A.M. Mass to pray for the needs of the parish family especially our Holy Father’s intentions, for all clergy, for our ill parishioners, for an end to abortion, for world peace and the safe return of our troops, and for all who are in need of prayer.

St. Peregrine/St. Dymphna Prayers

Prayers are offered every Wednesday morning immediately following the 8:15 A.M. Mass for those with mental illness or cancer. Join us for prayers asking intercession from St. Dymphna and St. Peregrine.

Vocations Ministry

Vocations Awareness Ministry works with the Diocesan vocations director to share information through Faith Formation and the parish bulletin about upcoming Diocesan vocation events. DRE’s are given information about vocation/discernment events in the Diocese that could be of interest to young men & women. We pray daily for vocations at Mass and with our rosary before daily Mass.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Baptism Preparation

Baptism is the invitation our Church offers to its newest members. A monthly Baptism workshop is provided to new parents before the sacrament is celebrated. This is an invitation to those parents to take part in the new life they are bringing into the Church. The pre-baptismal time is one of welcome for the child and their parents. It is also a time of discernment for parents as they come forward to the Church requesting Baptism for their child. Such sacramental preparation is one of the ways our Church continually reaches out to its members. This workshop is a must for new parents and those couples new to our parish.

Marriage Preparation Program

The focus for the Marriage Preparation Program is to provide engaged couples being married from our parish with an opportunity to discuss issues that are important to a healthy loving relationship. FOCCUS (Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding and Study) is taken by the engaged couple and the results are then used as a discussion tool during four meetings with a married sponsor couple. Topics covered in the discussion include expectations of marriage, communication, marriage as a sacrament and finally growth and change in marriage. Married couples from our parish serve as the sponsor couples for this ministry. New couples interested in joining our ministry are welcome.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Elizabeth Seton Council #10025 was established in 1989 for the men in the parish. Following the spiritual guidance of the parish priests, our goal is to work with the leaders of the parish to enhance the community through service projects and works of mercy. The Knights of Columbus are probably most recognized for the annual Tootsie Roll Drive to benefit people with intellectual disabilities. Other events that the Knights have either assisted with or sponsored are: SHOP-SES, Community Blood Drives, Fish Fry, Pancake Breakfasts, Coats for Kids, Good Friday Stations, Corpus Christi, and the Easter Egg Hunt. Many of the Knights also serve as Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, Lectors, members of the Adult choir, and have helped with Bible Studies, Welcome (formerly CRHP), That Man is You (TMIY), and many other parish ministries. The Knights of Columbus is a Worldwide, Catholic, family fraternal service organization. Membership is open to all Catholic men, age 18 years or older. To join the SES Knights of Columbus, email jimkoller007@gmail.com.

COUNCIL/COMMISSIONS

Pastoral Council

Terry Klatt..... (331) 313-6871
 tklatt01@gmail.com

Parish Finance Council

Denise Turek..... (630) 561-9899
 dturek924@gmail.com

Christian Formation Commission

Sara Biagioni (414) 708-9153
 sebiag19@gmail.com

Christian Service Commission

Marilyn Kurowski (630) 927-1378
 marilyn.kurowski@yahoo.com
 Heladio Kennedy (co-chair)..... 331-238-8234
 ladiok9@gmail.com

Parish Life Commission

Alicia Napoli (630) 674-8550
 alicianap@aol.com

Worship Commission

Mark Kosmach (630) 730-0156
 mjkosmach@gmail.com

If you would like more information about any of the volunteer opportunities described in the previous pages, please contact the appropriate Council/Commission Chairperson.