

ADVENT... A TIME FOR REFLECTION... A TIME OF PROMISE... A TIME FOR HOPE AND FAITH—Third Sunday of Advent

We are almost there! We are getting closer to that wondrous day of our Lord's birth. Advent, the time of longing for the Savior, the time of anticipation is nearly over. The Church is a refuge during this time of preparation. Catholic churches look and feel different during Advent. We are reminded of Lent, only shorter, with the purple vestments and the absence of the Gloria, that Christmas song sung by the angels at Bethlehem so long ago. Today's pink vestments reassure us the wondrous birth is fast approaching. Are we ready? Are we ready to greet the Light of the world? How have we prepared for this long awaited event? That event the prophets foretold and we experience, in a special way, during the Mass when Christ, the Son of God, comes to us completely and whole in the Eucharist.

The Christmas lights that are all around us serve as a reminder that Jesus Christ the light of the world is coming to fulfill the prophesies of old and to reassure us that salvation is near. Take a moment in your busy preparation for Christmas and once again reflect on today's readings.

Take a moment for quiet reflection and listen for the voice of God to speak to your heart.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION—FAQS

Why do Catholics keep silent inside of the Church?

Catholics keep silent or speak very softly inside of the Church to allow others to pray. Think about it. If Jesus Christ was standing at the front of the Church would you be chattering away or kneeling in silence waiting to hear Him speak? Jesus speaks to us in prayer and solitude. Keeping silent or speaking softly is respectful of Jesus and our fellow parishioners.

Why do Catholics make the sign of the cross?

The Sign of the Cross is a profession of faith in God as he revealed himself. There are three persons in God. All distinct. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. When we make the Sign of the Cross we should keep this in mind and the action becomes a prayer. The Sign of the Cross is a profession of faith and belief in the Holy Trinity.

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas, put into our hearts this peace for which we sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give us.

Help us know one another better, and live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father.

Reveal to us also your beauty, holiness and purity.

Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.

Join us all together in your love, and give us your heavenly peace. Amen.

Pope St. John XXIII



Madonna and Child
Marianne Stokes (1905)



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Email: seascatholic@verizon.net; Website: www.seascatholicchurch.org



Facebook: facebook.com/SEASCatholic
Twitter: twitter.com/SEASQuinton

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-2:30 PM

Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2019



SEAS New Church Exterior

<i>Parish Staff</i>		
Pastor:	Rev. J. Scott Duarte, J.C.D.	804-557-3962
Secretary & Bulletin Editor:	Rose Reed seassecretary@verizon.net	804-932-4125
Parish Council Chairman:	Greg Davis pcchair@seascatholicchurch.org	804-932-4125
Parish Council Members:	Greg Davis, Matt Luther, JoAnne Rial, Ginger Mary and Michelle Boyer	
Finance Council Chairman:	Greg Barlage	804-519-3276
Finance Council Members:	Greg Barlage, Harold Wayne, Irma Gregory and Paul Tran	
Sacristan & Altar Guild Coordinator:	Irma Gregory	804-932-8298
Parish Organist (Saturday):	Amos Goldie amosgold@gmail.com	804-932-4125
Parish Organist (Sunday):	Position Open	

On the mission of the Church...

“The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God’s word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelisers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach... to make them environments of living communion and participation, and to make them completely mission-oriented.”

From Pope Francis’ *Evangelii Gaudium*

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord’s Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Weekend Mass Schedule:
Saturday Vigil.....5:30pm
Sunday.....8:30 & 10:45am

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered each Saturday at 5:00 PM and by appointment.

Parish Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 14—Vigil Mass
5:00 PM—Confessions
5:30 PM—Mass: †Deacon William R. Hunt

Sunday, Dec. 15—Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM—Mass: People of the Parish
9:30 AM—Rel. Ed. Classes Grades K-9
10:45 AM—Mass: Special Intention
11:45 AM—Rel. Ed. Classes Grades 10-12

Monday, Dec. 16—Advent Weekday

Tuesday, Dec. 17—Late Advent Weekday

Wednesday, Dec. 18—Late Advent Weekday
11:00 AM—Mass: Special Intention
11:30 AM—Ladies' Bible Study

Thursday, Dec. 19—Late Advent Weekday
1:30 PM—SEAS Knitting Group (Web of Hope)
7:00 PM—K of C General Mtg.

Friday, Dec. 20—Late Advent Weekday

Saturday, Dec. 21—Vigil Mass
5:00 PM—Confessions
5:30 PM—Mass: †Richard Brooks

Sunday, Dec. 22—Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM—Mass: People of the Parish
9:30 AM—Rel. Ed. Grades K-9 NO CLASSES
10:45 AM—Mass: Special Intention
11:45 AM—Rel. Ed. Grades 10-12 NO CLASSES

****Daily Mass will be on Wednesday at 11:00 AM.**

SEAS Parish Prayer List



Please hold in prayer this week all of our sick, homebound, public servants and service members.

Please keep everyone who is serving in Iraq and Afghanistan and their family members in your prayers.

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.

And for all our dearly departed: May all those who have died rest in the Lord's eternal peace. Amen.

Parish Contributions

If you are a registered parishioner and would like contribution information, please contact the parish office at 804-932-4125. Thank you.



Commemorating the Bicentennial of the Founding of the Diocese of Richmond.

For more information, please visit www.2020.richmonddiocese.org.

OFFICE CLOSING

The parish office will be closed for Christmas on Tuesday, Dec. 24th-Friday, Dec. 27th and for New Year's on Dec. 31-Jan. 1, 2020.

CHRISTMAS

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Tuesday, Dec. 24—Vigil Mass, 3:00 PM & 5:30 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 25—Mass, 10:45 AM

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Tuesday, Dec. 31—Vigil Mass, 5:30 PM
Wednesday, Jan. 1—Mass, 11:00 AM

Scripture Readings

Sunday, Dec. 15 Third Sunday of Advent
Is 35:1-6a,10/Ps 146:6-10/Jas 5:7-10/Is 61:1/Mt 11:2-11
Monday, Dec. 16 Monday of the Third Week of Advent
Nm 24:2-7,15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab,6-7bc,8-9/Ps 85:8/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday, Dec. 17 Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent
Gn 49:2,8-10/Ps 72:1-4ab,7-8,17/Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday, Dec. 18 Wed. of the Third Week of Advent
Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2,12-13,18-19/Mt 1:18-25
Thursday, Dec. 19 Thursday of the Third Week of Advent
Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a,5-6ab,16-17/Lk 1:5-25
Friday, Dec. 20 Friday of the Third Week of Advent
Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-4ab,5-6/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday, Dec. 21 Saturday of the Third Week of Advent
Sg 2:8-14/Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21/Lk 1:39-45
Sunday, Dec. 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent
Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-6/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:23/Mt 1:18-24

Parish News

ACCOMPANIST POSITION

SEAS Parish seeks an enthusiastic individual to accompany on piano or organ our two Sunday Masses and various Holy Days. Applicant should possess a strong knowledge and appreciation of Roman Catholic Liturgy and a thorough knowledge of the principles related to service playing. The ability to work with various ages and musical abilities is also preferred. Compensation will be commensurate with experience per the Diocese of Richmond guidelines. Interested candidates please send a resume with references to: seassecretary@verizon.net; or P.O. Box 648, Quinton, VA 23141.

USHERS NEEDED AT ALL WEEKEND MASSES

Ushers are needed at all Masses. Duties include: greeting worshipers, helping with seating, collections, communion flow and distributing the weekly bulletin after Mass finishes. Please contact the parish office at 932-4125 if you would like to help out.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the Critz family who are mourning the loss of Tom's mother, Elizabeth "Betsy" L. Critz who passed away peacefully on December 5, 2019. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Paul Catholic Church in Richmond on Friday, December 13, 2019, followed by interment at Holy Cross Cemetery. Please pray for the happy repose of Betsy's soul as we continue to keep Tom, Teresa, Otto, Samantha, Lisa, Mary, A.J., Jennifer and the entire Critz family in our prayers.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE GIFTS

Christmas Angel Tree gifts, wrapped with tags attached, are due back to the Church this **Sunday, Dec. 15th**.

All gifts will be sorted and deliveries arranged with our sponsored families on Monday, Dec. 16th.

We thank you for your support and generosity of this year's program!

LIVING OUR MISSION PLEDGES

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish has received a check from the Diocese for the third quarter, July-Sept. 2019, in the amount of \$8,240.84 from the Living Our Mission Capital Campaign. This has been added to the New Church Fund and the new total is listed in the "Contributions" section. Many thanks to all those paying on their LOM pledges for their continued generosity and support!

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND BICENTENNIAL

Greg Davis has been selected to represent St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish as our Bicentennial Parish Liaison to the Diocese of Richmond for the 2020 Bicentennial year, which celebrates the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Richmond. There are many exciting activities planned in the commemorative year ahead, including special, diocesan-wide Masses; pilgrimages to historic churches; service opportunities; and a monumental celebration of the Eucharist never before held in Virginia called a Eucharistic Congress. Thank you, Greg Davis, for keeping us informed on the exciting activities in the year ahead! Visit the special bicentennial website: 2020.richmonddiocese.org for more information.

FROM THE MARY FAMILY...

Thank you all for the prayers for Paul and our family during this most difficult time. Your expressions of sympathy will always be remembered.

Rosemary Mary and Family

FROM THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Bishop Knestout encourages anyone aware of sexual abuse of minors on the part of clergy or staff of our diocese to notify civil authorities, call the Attorney General's Clergy Abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064, and reach out to the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Jennifer Sloan at 1-877-887-9603.



Meeting Schedule: K of C Council 14034 meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:00 PM in the SEAS Social Hall. **Next meeting: Dec. 19th, General Meeting.** **Fellow Brother Knights, dinner will be served at each meeting so please consider coming to the council meetings. We appreciate your support!

Prayer Request: Please remember in your prayers Cathy Iwaskey, Kevin Almeida, Greg Davis, Iris Davis, Al Polson, Kate Nixon, Eileen Simzak, parents of Roberta Gargiulo, Fr. R. Smith, John Brazier's Family, Adell Clark, Howard Mikytuck, Eddie Baird, John (Jackie) J. Gothreau, Fred Graf, Joshua C. Gothreau, Elizabeth Robertson, Ann Gillikin, Ed Gillikin, our law enforcement, military families, and those not known to us in need of prayers.

Knight of the Month: K of C Council 14034 recognizes Jack Simzak as Knight of the Month for November *Congratulations Jack!*

Family of the Month: Congratulations to the November Family of the Month, Kevin, Lynette & Talon Almeida. *Thank you for all you do!*

Current Activities/Events: Helping Hands at New Kent Senior Food Pantry, Food for Families Drive, Nun Support Purchases, Knights in Action Parish Support and Nun Travel Support. KCIC Christmas cards are also available. Please contact Talon Almeida or GK Mark Kulick for ordering information.

Membership: To learn more about the K of C at SEAS Parish, please contact Membership Director, Jack Simzak; jrsimzak@aol.com. To learn more about the K of C in Virginia, visit the Knights of Columbus website at: kofc.org/joinus.

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

"I send my messenger ahead of you to prepare your way before you." Are you called to be sent by Jesus as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Please contact the Vocations Office to speak with Fr. Michael Boehling or Fr. Brian Capuano at: 804-359-5661; vocations@richmonddiocese.org.