

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

Advent is not only a time of preparation and anticipation, but a time for reflection. In our busy lives the period before Christmas is a time for buying just the right gifts for our loved ones and friends. We plan the celebratory meals in great detail. Children are so excited and eagerly anticipating the jolly old elf and the wonderful things under the tree. These are the days when we're so busy decorating for the Christmas season that we hardly think about the coming of the Savior, let alone consider where we are in the Liturgical year. Isn't there more to Christmas? Something more than decorations? More than gifts under the tree? Stop for just a moment and think about what Christmas is all about. Yes, it is a time for giving. God gave us His Son. Mary generously gave herself to the will of God.

In Advent the Liturgy bids us to recall the period of expectation when the faithful awaited a Savior. With the birth of Jesus came the fulfillment of all of the desires of all of those centuries of anticipation and longing. This is the joy we mark at Christmas. The Church leads us through a period of longing for the Savior. This is the time we reflect on a world without Jesus. A time of longing for and lovingly anticipating His birth.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION—FAQS

Why is there a lighted candle near the altar in Catholic churches?

When you enter a Catholic church you will see a lighted candle in a red glass near the altar. Catholics believe that the consecrated bread and wine from the holy sacrifice of the Mass is truly the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Some of the consecrated hosts (Blessed Sacrament) are kept in a ciborium inside of the tabernacle. The tabernacle is the small cabinet with a drape the same color as the vestments the priest wears. The lighted candle is a reminder to us that Christ, the light of the world, is present.

Why do Catholics genuflect before the tabernacle?

Catholics believe that Christ, in the form of the consecrated bread (the Blessed Sacrament), resides within the tabernacle. We express this belief by honoring His presence when we genuflect. Catholics genuflect by bending their right knee to the floor. If one is not physically able to genuflect he/she may simply bow as a recognition of the Lord's presence.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America

Few doctrines of the Catholic Church are as misunderstood as the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. Many people, including many Catholics, think that it refers to the conception of Christ through the action of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That event, though, is celebrated at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25, nine months before Christmas).

What is the Immaculate Conception?

The Immaculate Conception refers to the condition that the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from Original Sin from the very moment of her conception in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne.

Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us.

Reading I: Genesis 3:9-15,20 (the fall)

Reading II: Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12 (the Father's plan for salvation)

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38 (announcement of the birth of Jesus)

Key Passage: Luke 1:38 (Mary consents to the angel's announcement)

When has it been hard to say yes to God when faced with a difficult challenge?

Be still and hear the voice of God.



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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

*Second Sunday of Advent
 December 8, 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*

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. 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. 7—Vigil Mass

5:00 PM—Confessions
5:30 PM—Mass: †Gary Doverspike

Sunday, Dec. 8—Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM—Mass: People of the Parish
9:30 AM—Rel. Ed. Classes Grades K-9
10:45 AM—Mass: †Paul Robert Mary
11:45 AM—Rel. Ed. Classes Grades 10-12

Monday, Dec. 9—Immaculate Conception

12:00 PM—Mass: Pastor's Intention

Tuesday, Dec. 10—Advent Weekday

Wednesday, Dec. 11—St. Damasus I

11:00 AM—Mass: Special Intention
11:30 AM—Ladies' Bible Study

Thursday, Dec. 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe

Friday, Dec. 13—St. Lucy

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

***Mass for the Immaculate Conception will be on Monday at 12 noon and 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.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

(NOT a Holy Day of Obligation in 2019)
Monday, December 9—Mass, 12:00 PM

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. 8 Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17/Rom 15:4-9/Lk 3:4,6/
Mt 3:1-12

Monday, Dec. 9 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15,20/Ps 98:1-3ab,3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6,11-12/Lk 1:28/
Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, Dec. 10 Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent

Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-3&10ac-13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday, Dec. 11 Wed. of the Second Week of Advent

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-4,8&10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, Dec. 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14-17/Jd 13:18bcde,19/Lk 1:26-38

Friday, Dec. 13 Memorial of St. Lucy

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-4&6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, Dec. 14 Memorial of St. John of the Cross

Sir 48:1-4,9-11/Ps 80:2ac&3b,15-16,18-19/Lk 3:4,6/Mt 17:9a,
10-13

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

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.

DECEMBER WOMEN'S SOCIAL

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, Dec. 14th, 12-2 PM

Ladies, we will be hosting a December Women's Social in the SEAS conference room. Please plan to join us for this time of celebration and fellowship as we joyfully embrace all that Advent holds in store for us. Everyone is invited to bring a covered dish, festive appetizer or dessert to share and join us for a festive gathering of friends.



CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

All wrapped gifts, with Angel tag attached, are due back to the Church next Sunday, **December 15th**.

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.

#IGIVECATHOLIC GIVING DAY—THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all those who contributed to our first #iGiveCatholic Giving Tuesday. What an amazing job everyone did on our first effort this past Tuesday, Dec. 3rd. Here are the final numbers as of print time—SEAS Parish raised \$800 for our debt reduction and new church funds and for the diocese, 79 parishes, schools and ministries raised \$209,790. The complete list is available at: <https://richmond.iGiveCatholic.org>.

BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICK SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, Dec. 14th at 8:30 AM

The Knights of Columbus invite you to a family "Breakfast with St. Nicholas" on Saturday, Dec. 14th in the SEAS Social Hall beginning at 8:30 AM. All families young and old are welcome to attend this savory pancake breakfast and then greet St. Nicholas as he makes a special visit to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. Don't miss this great opportunity to visit with St. Nick so please make plans to attend.

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!

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 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The K of C are selling Keep Christ in Christmas cards over the next few weeks. Please see your local council Knights for details. Also, Christmas cards for Seminarian Patrick Walsh would be greatly appreciated and can be given to any active Knight to send to Patrick.