

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.

ADVENT... A TIME FOR REFLECTION... A TIME OF PROMISE... A TIME FOR HOPE - Third Sunday of Advent

We're almost there! We're 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're 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.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to possess You within my soul. Since I am unable at this moment to receive You Sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

If you have taken a tag from the Angel Tree, please return your wrapped gift, with the Angel tag attached by this **Wednesday, December 16th.**

Gifts will be sorted Wednesday afternoon and pick up and deliveries will take place on Thursday and Friday this week.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

2631 Pocahontas Trail | P.O. Box 648, Quinton, VA 23141
 OFFICE: 804-932-4125 FAX: 804-932-8126 RECTORY: 804-557-3962
 Email: seascatholic@verizon.net; Website: www.seascatholicchurch.org



Facebook: facebook.com/SEASCatholic
 Twitter: twitter.com/SEASQuinton
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 AM-2:30 PM
WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil—5:30 PM
 Sunday—8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered Saturdays at 5:00 PM and by appointment.

*Third Sunday of Advent
 December 13, 2020*

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.



Sermon of Saint John the Baptist, 16th Century

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*

Parish Staff

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	804-932-4125

Parish Schedule

Saturday, December 12—Vigil

5:00 PM—Confessions
5:30 PM—Vigil Mass: John J. Bagley, III

Sunday, December 13—Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM—Mass: †Hubert John
11:00 AM—Mass: People of the Parish

Monday, December 14—St. John of the Cross

Tuesday, December 15—Advent Weekday

Wed., December 16—Advent Weekday

11:00 AM—Mass: Special Intention

Thursday, December 17—Late Advent Weekday

Friday, December 18—Late Advent Weekday

Saturday, December 19—Vigil

5:00 PM—Confessions
5:30 PM—Vigil Mass: Special Intention

Sunday, December 20—Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM—Mass: †Fr. James Guttendorf
11:00 AM—Mass: People of the Parish

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

SEAS Parish Prayer List

Prayer of Pope Francis to Our Lady, Health of the Sick, to implore her protection during the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic:

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas - we who are put to the test - and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Parish Contributions

If you are a registered parishioner and would like contribution info, please contact the parish office at 804-932-4125. We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who are mailing in contributions and utilizing the website for online electronic giving!

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP OPTIONS

The parish budget is 100% dependent on Offertory contributions. Half of the income comes by electronic means and half through the regular weekend collections. If you are able, please continue to support the parish through your donations:

- Sign-up for online e-giving through the parish's website at: seascatholicchurch.org and select the red "Donate Online" button at the top (<https://seascatholicchurch.org/support-your-parish/>).
- Mail your regular contributions to our mailing address: PO Box 648, Quinton, VA 23141.
- Drop your contributions off to the parish office during office hours. Thank you!

DECEMBER OFFICE CLOSINGS

The parish office will be closed for Christmas from December 23-28.

MASS FOR THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Thursday, Dec. 24—Vigil Mass, 2:00 PM & 4:00 PM
Friday, Dec. 25—Mass, 11:00 AM

Scripture Readings

Sunday, December 13 Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a,10-11/Lk 1:46-50,53-54/1 Thes 5:16-24/Is 61:1/Jn 1:6-8,19-28

Monday, December 14 Memorial of St. John of the Cross

Nm 24:2-7,15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab,6-7bc,8-9/Ps 85:8/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday, December 15 Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent

Zep 3:1-2,9-13/Ps 34:2-3,6-7,17-19&23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 16 Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent

Is 45:6c-8,18,21c-25/Ps 85:9ab&10-14/Is 40:9-10/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday, December 17 Thursday of the Third Week of Advent

Gn 49:2,8-10/Ps 72:1-4ab,7-8,17/Mt 1:1-17

Friday, December 18 Friday of the Third Week of Advent

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2,12-13,18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Saturday, December 19 Saturday of the Third Week of Advent

Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a,5-6ab,16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Sunday, December 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16/Ps 89:2-5,27,29/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:38/Lk 1:26-38

Parish News

PUBLIC MASS GUIDELINES Occupancy—50% (70 Individuals)

Guidelines:

Face coverings—All present for the liturgy ages 5 and older must wear a cloth face covering, as recommended by the CDC, WHO and Governor of Virginia when present for any Mass or liturgical celebration.

Vulnerable category—Those in the vulnerable category (65+ adults, people who are immunocompromised) are encouraged to remain home as per CDC and the governor recommendations.

Dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass—Due to the capacity limit for liturgies which limits the number of faithful who can attend Mass and recognizing that those in the vulnerable category should remain home, Bishop Knestout dispenses all of the faithful of the Diocese of Richmond from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days until further notice.

Recorded Mass—will continue to be offered on our Facebook and web page for the present time.

The **5:30 PM Saturday Vigil Mass** is being recorded for use on SEAS and various Diocesan digital media accounts of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, including, but not limited to, the websites of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond and *The Catholic Virginian*, and social media platforms of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond. Photography and/or screenshot images from the livestream may be used for *The Catholic Virginian* print edition.

If you do not wish to be captured by recordings, please refrain from attending the 5:30 PM Saturday Vigil Mass.

Additional Considerations:

Seating—Families/households will be seated on one side and individuals on the other, every other pew to maintain distancing.

Communion—Sanitize hands when entering/leaving Church. Bring personal supply to use before receiving Communion if possible. Consider receiving Holy Communion in the hand. After receiving Communion, step 6 feet to the side, lower/lift mask, consume the host, put mask back in place and return to your seat.

Current Mass times are:
Saturday Vigil Mass, 5:30 PM;
Sundays, 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM.

We ask that you arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass to allow time to be seated.

Church Entrance Questions (Updated):

- Do you or anyone in your household have a fever (temperature is 100.4 degrees or higher)?
- In the past two (2) weeks, have you or anyone in your household presented symptoms of COVID-19, such as a fever, chills, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, muscle pain, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, with no alternative diagnosis?
- Have you had a positive diagnostic test for the virus that causes COVID-19 in the prior 10 days?
- In the past two (2) weeks, have you or anyone in your household been exposed—less than six (6) feet for a cumulative 15 minutes over a 24 hour period—to anyone who has tested positive for or exhibited symptoms of COVID-19 (with no alternative diagnosis) without wearing the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention?

If any individual or household responds "yes" to any question or are not wearing a cloth face covering (if they are age 5 and older), they are not permitted to enter the Church.

Please take a few minutes to review these questions prior to entering the Church.

Questions regarding public Mass should be directed to the SEAS Parish Office: 804-932-4125.



Schedule: Meetings have resumed virtually only, until further notice.

Prayer Request: Please remember in prayer: Jeffrey & Roberta Gargiulo, Levie Edmond, Leonard R. Rapozo, Cherie Gothreau & Wanda Pleva, Carol Trent, John (Jackie) J. Gothreau, Fred Graf, Joshua C. Gothreau, Cathy Iwaskey, Al Polson, Kate Nixon, Elizabeth Robertson, Tony Martinez, our law enforcement, military families, and those not known to us in need of prayers.

Family of the Month: The K of C November Family of the Month is parish secretary Rose Reed & family. Congratulations!

Membership: To learn more about the Knights of Columbus at SEAS Parish, please contact Membership Director, Tony Cassano; tony@gobucketlisttravel.com.

To learn more about the Knights of Columbus in Virginia, visit kofc.org/joinus.

SPECIAL REQUEST

A parish family that is new to the area is in search of someone to assist with staying with a disabled relative while they run errands a few times a week.

Residence is located past the New Kent Winery near Mt. Olivet Road. Compensation would be \$15 per hour. If interested, please contact the parish office at 932-4125 for further details and contact info.

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 confidential Victim Assistance Reporting 24-Hour Number at 1-877-887-9603.