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

At last, it is the last week of Advent. Only a few more days until Jesus, the Christ, the savior of the world comes to us. This is Christmas. It is not about a day. Christmas is about a person, Christ. We spend four short weeks preparing for this long anticipated birth.

These next few days will be hectic and our thoughts will be concentrated on the preparations for the Christmas holiday. Give yourself the most precious gift of all and take a moment to reflect in silence on this miracle of miracles. Take a moment to listen for the voice of God to speak to your heart. It is in these quiet moments that we can hear Him speak. It is in these quiet moments that we can know His will for our lives. It is in these quiet moments that we can tell Him how much we love Him and thank Him for His love for us. Without that love we are nothing. Without Christmas there can be no Easter, no redemption.

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

Fourth Sunday of Advent - God chose to become man to lead us in a path of righteousness, is God calling you to grow in holiness? He may be inviting you to the priesthood. Please contact the Vocations Office to speak Father Brian Capuano: (804) 359-5661; tions@richmonddiocese.org, or Rev. J. Scott Duarte at (804) 557-3962, sduarte@richmonddiocese.org.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION: GIVE BACK THROUGH YOUR IRA

During this time of giving, a distribution from your IRA is a great way to give back to the Church! Did you know: if you are 72 or older, you can make your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA straight to our parish Giving through your IRA is EASY! To learn how you can make an impact through your IRA right now, contact your financial advisor or Maggie Keenan at the Catholic Community Foundation, (804) 622-5221; email to Maggie at: mkeenan@richmonddiocese.org.

Please make your gift as soon as possible so you can ensure it is received **by December 31st, 2021!**

USCCB PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN CALL FOR PRAYERS, HOPE, AND ASSISTANCE FOLLOWING **DEADLY TORNADOES IN THE SOUTH** AND MIDWEST

December 11, 2021

WASHINGTON - Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman of the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, have issued the following statement after tornadoes tore through multiple states in the South and Midwest late Friday into early Saturday morning.

In their statement, Archbishops Gomez and Coakley call for prayer and assistance for all those who were in the path of the storm: "It is heartbreaking to see the destruction and devastation brought by the tornadoes that tore through the South and Midwest overnight. During this Advent season where we await in joyful anticipation for the birth of our Lord, we pray for those who have been injured, for those who have lost their lives, and for their grieving families and communities. May those who have been impacted by these storms find peace, comfort, and hope in our faith and in God's endless love. We also pray for the emergency responders and those who have begun the work of providing for the needs of the impacted in these communities in the recovery efforts. We entrust all our brothers and sisters in harm's way to our Blessed Mother, and we ask for her continued protection and for her intercession in comforting those who are suffering.

"Catholics and all people of good will may help our brothers and sisters in their recovery by supporting the work of Catholic USA at https:// Charities www.catholiccharities.us/campaign/ ccusa-disaster-relief/c353051."

Parish Staff

Rev. J. Scott Duarte, J.C.D. Pastor: 804-557-3962

Secretary & Bulletin Editor: Rose Reed 804-932-4125

seassecretary@verizon.net

Parish Council Members: Greg Davis, Matt Luther, JoAnne Rial, Ginger Mary and Michelle Boyer

Finance Council Members: Greg Barlage, Harold Wayne, Irma Gregory and Paul Tran

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Sacristan Assistants: Mary Brooks & Iris Davis

Parish Organist (Saturday): Amos Goldie 804-932-4125

amosgold@gmail.com

Parish Organist (Sunday): Position Open 804-932-4125



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

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OFFICE: 804-932-4125 FAX: 804-932-8126 RECTORY: 804-557-3962

Email: secretary@seascatholicchurch.org Website: www.seascatholicchurch.org Facebook: facebook.com/SEASCatholic

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.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent December 19, 2021

Pour forth, we beseech vou, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the **Incarnation of Christ your Son was** made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



The Visitation, 1503 (Mariotto Albertinelli)

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 Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 18—Vigil 5:00 PM—Confessions

5:30 PM—Mass: Special Intention (livestreamed)

Sunday, Dec. 19—Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM—Mass: Special Intention 11:00 AM—Mass: People of the Parish 12:00 PM-Rel. Ed. Christmas Festival

Monday, Dec. 20—Late Advent Weekday

Tuesday, Dec. 21—St. Peter Canisius

Wednesday, Dec. 22—Late Advent Weekday

Thursday, Dec. 23—St. John of Kanty *Office Closed 7:00 PM—Holy Hour

Friday, Dec. 24—Vigil

*Office Closed 2:00 PM—Mass: People of the Parish

Saturday, Dec. 25—The Nativity of the Lord 11:00 AM—Mass: †Fr. James Guttendorf (**there will be no 5:30 PM Vigil Mass)

Sunday, Dec. 26—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30 AM—Mass: †Tom & Eileen Dailey 11:00 AM—Mass: People of the Parish

SEAS Parish Prayer List



Please hold in prayer this week all the sick, suffering and home-bound of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish and the Catholic Diocese of Richmond.

sick person well." James 5:15

"And the prayer | Those who have died are remembered in a special way, especially those who passed aith will make the away due to complications of COVID-19.

For an end to the pandemic:

Let us pray, dearly beloved, for a swift end to the coronavirus pandemic that afflicts our world, that our God and Father, will heal the sick, strengthen those that care for them, and help us all to persevere in faith.

Almighty and merciful God, source of all life, health and healing, look with compassion on our world, brought low by disease; protect us in the midst of the grave challenges that assail us and in your fatherly providence, grant recovery to the stricken, strength to those who care for them, and success to those working to eradicate this scourge. Through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

Parish Contributions

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

Donation options: Sign-up for E-giving on the parish website at seascatholicchurch.org; mail your contributions to our mailing address: PO Box 648, Quinton, VA 23141; drop off contributions at Mass or to the office during office hours, M-F 9am-2:30pm.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

DECEMBER HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Holy Hour

Thursday, December 23 - 7:00pm (with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, ending with Benediction. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during the Holy Hour.)

Christmas

(Holy Day of Obligation) Friday, December 24 - 2:00pm (overflow seating in SEAS Social Hall) Saturday, December 25 - 11:00am (no 5:30pm Mass)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sunday, December 26 - 8:30am & 11:00am

Mary, The Holy Mother of God

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year) Friday, December 31 - 7:00pm

Scripture Readings

Sat., Dec. 18 Saturday of the Third Week of Advent Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2,12-13,18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Sunday, Dec. 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:38/ Lk 1:39-45

Monday, Dec. 20 Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-4ab,5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, Dec. 21 Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent Sg 2:8-14/Ps 33:3,11-12,20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Wed., Dec. 22 Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1,4-7,8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Thurs., Dec. 23 Thursday of the Fourth Week of Advent Mal 3:1-4,23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab,8-10&14/Lk 1:57-66

Friday, Dec. 24 Friday of the Fourth Week of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12/Ps 89:2-5,27&29/Lk 1:67-79

Sat., Dec. 25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) ls 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-3,11-13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:10-11/Lk 2:1-14 Sunday, Dec. 26 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6,12-14/Ps 128:1-5/Col 3:12-21/Col 3:15a,16a/ Lk 2:41-52

Parish News

LIVESTREAMED MASSES

Due to COVID-19, Mass and Holy Days of Obligation are being livestreamed for use on our social media platforms and various Diocesan digital media accounts of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond and The Catholic Virginian. Photography and/or screenshot images may be used for The Catholic Virginian print edition.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE 8:30 AM Mass

In order to continue to schedule the 8:30 AM Mass, volunteers are needed to coordinate: arrive at 8:00 AM to open up, set up the altar, station volunteers as ushers, lectors, etc. Training will be provided. Please contact the parish office if you are able to volunteer for this ministry.

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Robert & Tina Gentry for coming in Friday, December 17th to clean and set up the SEAS Social Hall for overflow seating for our Christmas Masses. Thank you for sharing your time and helping to make SEAS Parish a warm and welcoming community of faith!

CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

All wrapped gifts are due back to the Church by Sunday, Dec. 19th. All gifts will be sorted and deliveries arranged with our sponsored families on Monday, Dec. 20th. We thank you for your support and generosity of this year's program!

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.

SUNDAY ACCOMPANIST Position

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 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 as per the Catholic Diocese of Richmond guidelines.

Interested candidates please send a resume with references to seassecretary@verizon.net; P.O. Box 648, Quinton, VA 23141.

OFFICE CLOSING DATES & **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

The parish office will be closed from Thursday, Dec. 23-Monday, Dec. 27 for Christmas and on Friday, Dec. 31 for the New Year's holiday.

The Christmas bulletin deadline is: Wednesday, Dec. 22 at 12 noon. The New Year's bulletin deadline is Thursday, Dec. 30 at 12 noon.

INCLEMENT WEATHER Policy

When New Kent County public schools are closed due to poor weather conditions, the parish office and Church will be closed. On the weekend, please check the parish website or call the parish office voicemail for any updates or news.

NUN RUN FOOD DONATIONS

The next weekend for our monthly food and nonperishable items to be collected for the Poor Clare nuns and Little Sisters of St. Francis is Jan. 1/2. Please drop off all donations to the collection box in the Commons Area of the Church. We thank you for your support of this ongoing ministry!



Schedule: K of C meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM in the SEAS Social Hall.

March for Life: The 49th March for Life will be held in Washington, D.C. on January 21, 2022. Once again there will be buses provided at no charge to those who wish to attend. Contact Jeffrey Gargiulo at jrgarg55@yahoo.com for more information.

Consecration of the Holy Family: On January 1-2, 2022, there will be a special Mass for the Consecration of the Holy Family where Father Scott will say a special prayer. All are welcome!

Epiphany Celebration: On January 9, 2022, the K of C will hold an Epiphany Celebration event in the SEAS Social Hall. The story of the Epiphany will be told, and refreshments served. Time to be deter-

Prayer Request: Please remember in prayer: the Gillikin family, the Gothreau family, the Cashin family, the Almeida family, the Cason family, and all our military, law enforcement, first responders and their fam-

Membership: To learn more about the Knights of Columbus at St. Elizabeth Ann S Parish and all we do to help our pastor, parish and community, please contact GK Jeffrey Gargiulo at: <u>irgar-</u> g55@yahoo.com. To learn more about the K of C in Virginia, visit kofc.org/joinus.

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.