

ADVENT... A TIME FOR REFLECTION... A TIME OF PROMISE... A TIME FOR HOPE

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.

How will you prepare for Christmas this year?

Take a few moments in your busy life this week to read again the words of the Old and New Testament in today's Liturgy. Then be still and listen for the voice of God to speak to your heart.

**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.

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

Be still and hear the voice of God.

**OFFICE OF VOCATIONS
Is the Holy Spirit asking you to be
"a shepherd who feeds his flock"
in the priesthood?**

Please contact the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661; email to: vocations@richmonddiocese.org or contact Fr. J. Scott Duarte, (804) 557-3962, email: sduarte@richmonddiocese.org.



IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION

A Gift Anyone Can Make: Want to support your parish but think you cannot afford to give? There are ways to give today while still preserving your retirement assets. If you are 72 or over, a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA directly to the parish helps the parish and provides you with tax benefits. 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.



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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.

*Second Sunday of Advent
December 4, 2022*

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.**



Saint John the Baptist Pointing to Christ
Bartolomé Estéban Murillo 1655

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 secretary@seascatholicchurch.org	804-932-4125
Bookkeeper:	Cheryl Rosser bookkeeper@seascatholicchurch.org	804-932-4125
Pastoral Council Members:	Matt Luther, Ginger Mary and Michelle Boyer	
Finance Council Members:	Greg Barlage, Harold Wayne and Paul Tran	
Sacristan:	Mary Brooks	804-932-4125
Parish Musicians:	Elisabeth Satterley and Michael Horvath	804-932-4125

Parish Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 3—Vigil

5:00 PM—Confessions
5:30 PM—Mass: †Gertrude Langford

Sun., Dec. 4—Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM—Mass: Donna & Angelo Gray
9:30 AM—Rel. Ed. Classes K-8
11:00 AM—Mass: People of the Parish

Mon., Dec. 5—Advent Weekday

Tuesday, Dec. 6—St. Nicholas

Wednesday, Dec. 7—St. Ambrose

6:30 PM—Advent Penance Service

Thursday, Dec. 8—Immaculate Conception

12:00 PM—Mass: †Dawn Marek
7:00 PM—Mass: People of the Parish

Friday, Dec. 9—St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

Saturday, Dec. 10—Vigil

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

Sun., Dec. 11—Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM—Mass: The Harshbarger Family
9:30 AM—Rel. Ed. Classes K-8
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 Catholic Church, our local community and the Catholic Diocese of Richmond.

“And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well.”

James 5:15

PRAYER FOR THE SICK:

Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless your friends who are sick.

Give them the strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain.

Let them recover their health, so that, restored to the Christian community, they may joyfully praise your name, for you live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Those who have died are remembered in a special way.

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 parish office during office hours, M-F 9:00am-2:30pm.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

During Advent the faithful are urged to take a greater and more fruitful share in the Advent liturgy by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Please join us on Wednesday, Dec. 7th at 6:30 PM for an Advent Penance Service with three confessors available. Joining Father Scott will be Father Jay Wagner and Father Nick Redmond from our Deanery.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Masses for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation on Thursday, Dec. 8th, will be at **12:00 PM and 7:00 PM.**

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Masses for Christmas, a Holy Day of Obligation will be on Saturday, Dec. 24th at **3:00 PM and 5:30 PM** and on Sunday, Dec. 25th at **11:00 AM only.** There will be no 8:30 AM Mass on Christmas Day.

Scripture Readings

Dec. 3 Memorial of St. Francis Xavier

Is 30:19-21,23-26/Ps 147:1-6/Is 33:22/Mt 9:35—10:1,5a,6-8

Dec. 4 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

Dec. 5 Mon. of the Second Week of Advent

Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab&10-14/Lk 5:17-26

Dec. 6 Tues. of the Second Week of Advent

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

Dec. 7 Memorial of St. Ambrose

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

Dec. 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15,20/Ps 9b:1,2-3abcd,4/Eph 1:3-6,11-12/Lk 1:28/Lk 1:26-38

Dec. 9 Fri. of the Second Week of Advent

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

Dec. 10 Sat. of the Second Week of Advent

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

Dec. 11 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

8:30 AM LECTORS NEEDED

Additional dedicated lectors are needed at the 8:30 AM Mass. We are down to a small group who are stretched very thin. Please call the parish office at 804-932-4125 if you are able to help out.

2022 CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

This year SEAS Parish is sponsoring 10 children and 2 elderly at-home parishioners. All wrapped gifts, with Angel Tag attached, are due back by Sunday, Dec. 18th. Our delivery and pick-up date will be Monday, Dec. 19th.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of study and prayer for adults who wish to join the Catholic Church, were baptized Catholic but never received the Sacraments of Penance, Holy Eucharist or Confirmation, are interested in exploring the Faith but are unsure about joining, or practicing Catholics who wish to learn a bit more about their Faith.

For more information about our program at SEAS Parish, please contact the parish office at 932-4125.

OFFICE CLOSINGS FOR DECEMBER

The parish office will be closed on the following dates in December: December 12-13, 2022 and December 23-27, 2022.

NUN RUN FOOD DONATIONS

Reminder: This weekend, Dec. 3/4 is the collection date for this month's food donations for the Poor Clare nuns and Little Sisters of St. Francis.

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.

NEW TO THE AREA? WELCOME!

Registration forms are located at both entrances to the Church or visit the parish office and we will be happy to assist you.

MOVING?

Please notify the office so we can update our records.

CHOIR PRACTICE

The music ministry team will be having choir practice on Tuesday, Dec. 13th from 7:00-8:30 PM. If you are interested in joining the choir, please make plans to attend or speak with Beth Ann Luther or Debbie Grosser after Mass.

A GENTLE REMINDER

Donations to the parish must be received by December 31, 2022 in order to be included in this year's contribution statements for tax purposes. Donations post-marked after December 31st will be for the 2023 calendar year. Thank you.

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 at 804-932-4125 for any updates or news.

STOVE DONATION AVAILABLE

A parishioner at SEAS Parish has a white, flat-top electric stove available to donate. For details and contact information, please call the parish office at 932-4125.

MISSING INFO FOR SUBMITTED MASS INTENTION

A Mass Intention request was placed in the collection basket at Mass, but due to missing information cannot be scheduled at this time. If you placed a Mass Intention request for a 5:30 PM Vigil Mass in the collection basket and it has not been scheduled, please contact the parish office.



Schedule: K of C Council 14034 meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM. This is a virtual meeting. The second meeting is on the third Saturday of the month at 6:30 PM in the SEAS Social Hall. A dinner at a local restaurant for members, wives and parishioners will be held after the meeting.

East End Pregnancy Center Support: The Council and parish members are invited to donate baby products and clothing items, such as diapers, baby wipes, baby and toddler clothes, baby blankets and booties. We will collect these items from November 27th through December 18th, 2022, for the East End Pregnancy Center located in Richmond. The Pregnancy Center is a faith and Gospel based organization for helping women and parents through their pregnancy and after their child is born.

Prayer Request: Please remember in prayer: the Barrie Deis family, 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 families.

Membership: To learn more about the Knights of Columbus Council at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish and all we do, please contact Membership Director James Ginter at: James.Ginter@kofc.org.

To learn more about the K of C in Virginia, visit our website: 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 the Richmond 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.