

OUR CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Lord, as we look forward to our holiday celebrations, help us to focus on Your incarnation and not our stress.

Lord, as we anticipate gift giving, help us focus on the joy of Your presence, and not on our struggle with materialism.

Lord, as we anticipate Christ's arrival, help us to focus on spiritual preparation, and not on frantic activity.

Lord, as we hope for a season of peace, help us to pray for the world and not only our narrow concerns.

Let us pray for a renewal of our spirits, that we may truly rejoice.

Lord, let us put You before all things. Amen.



OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

“The Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit, for He will save His people.” Is the Holy Spirit leading you to share your gifts as a priest or religious brother or sister? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocations Office, 804-359-5661; vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



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

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of study and prayer for those who have never been baptized, were baptized in another Christian denomination and would like to become Catholic, or were baptized Catholic, but never received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist or Confirmation. For more information about our programs at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, please contact the parish office at 804-932-4125 to be put in touch with our RCIA Coordinator.

K OF C BABY PRODUCTS DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus are holding a baby products drive for the East End Pregnancy Center during the month of December. Please place your donated items in the labeled collection bin in the Commons Area of the Church.

K OF C PARISH WINTER 50/50 FUNDRAISER

K of C Council 14034 is raising money for the SEAS Kitchen/Social Hall and maintenance fund to help with the cost of a new commercial refrigerator and other items for the social hall. The council will hold a parish winter 50/50 drawing with ticket prices \$10.00 for the first and \$5.00 for each additional ticket purchased at time of initial purchase. Ticket sales began on Dec. 2 and will run through Jan. 18, [drawing on Jan. 18](#).



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: 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 Nativity of the Lord December 25, 2023

**Grant, we pray,
almighty God,
that, as we are
bathed in the new
radiance of your
incarnate Word, the
light of faith, which
illuminates our minds,
may also shine
through in our
deeds.**

**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.**



Adoration of the Magi, Giotto di Bondone, 1304-06

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. 23—Vigil

4:30 PM—Confessions
5:30 PM—Mass: †Dr. George Gray

Sunday, Dec. 24—4th Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM—Mass: People of the Parish
*There is no 11:00 AM Mass

Sunday, Dec. 24—Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)

3:00 PM—Mass: People of the Parish
5:30 PM—Mass: †Tom & Eileen Dailey

Monday, Dec. 25—Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

***Office Closed**
11:00 AM—Mass: †Fr. James Guttendorf

Tuesday, Dec. 26—St. Stephen, the First Martyr

***Office Closed**

Wednesday, Dec. 27—St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

***Office Closed**

Thursday, Dec. 28—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Friday, Dec. 29—5th Day within the Octave of Christmas

Saturday, Dec. 30—Vigil

5:00 PM—Confessions
5:30 PM—Mass: †Eric Fulton

Sunday, Dec. 31—Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

8:30 AM—Mass: Pat Searles
11:00 AM—Mass: People of the Parish

Mon., Jan. 1—Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

12:00 PM—Mass: People of the Parish

***There will be no public daily Mass or Adoration this week at the Church.**

SEAS Parish Prayer List



"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well."
James 5:15

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

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.

And those who have died are remembered in a special way, especially:

Edward L. Edwards, Linwood Parker, Edward J. Gillikin, Sr., Dr. George Gray, Joseph Yates, Joseph Frank Stacklin, Natalie Pastore Johnson, Anthony Iacovone and Alice R. Iacovone.

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 continued generosity!

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)
Monday, Jan. 1—12:00 PM



FROM THE EDWARDS FAMILY

"Our heartfelt thanks to everyone for their condolences, support and most of all their prayers during a very difficult time for our family. God bless you all."

~Linda Edwards & Family

Scripture Readings

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

Dec. 24 4th 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

Dec. 25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-3,11-13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:10-11/Lk 2:1-14

Dec. 26 Feast of St. Stephen, the First Martyr
Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4,6&8ab,16bc&17/Ps 118:26a,27a/Mt 10:17-22

Dec. 27 Feast of St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12/Jn 20:1a&2-8

Dec. 28 Feast of the Holy Innocents
1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-5,7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18

Dec. 29 The Fifth Day of the Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a,2b-3,5b-6/Lk 2:32/Lk 2:22-35

Dec. 30 The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas
1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a,8b-10/Lk 2:36-40

Dec. 31 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Sir 3:2-6,12-14/Ps 128:1-5/Col 3:12-21/Col 3:15a,16a/Lk 2:22-40

Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Heb 1:1-2/Lk 2:16-21

Parish News

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 and parish office voicemail for any updates or news.

UPCOMING PARISH OFFICE CLOSING DATES

The parish office will be closed on the following dates: Dec. 25th-27th and Jan 1st. If you have an urgent need that requires the presence of Father Scott during these dates, please call the rectory at 804-557-3962.

NUN RUN FOOD DONATIONS

Items donated for the monthly Nun Run help support two communities of women religious: the Poor Clare Nuns in Barhamsville and the Little Sisters of St. Francis in western New Kent County.

The cloistered Poor Clares are vegetarian but eat fish twice a week. They can use canned veggies, fruit, flour, salt, canned tuna and salmon as well as toothpaste, paper products and soap.

The Little Sisters of St. Francis appreciate canned foods, gelatin desserts, puddings, soups as well as paper products, disinfectant wipes, laundry detergent and wash cloths for bathing their disabled residents.

On the first weekend of each month, there is a collection for both communities. Donated items can be placed in the collection box in the Commons Area of the Church. The next collection date is: **Jan. 6/7**. Deliveries to the two communities of women religious occur on the Tuesday after the first weekend of the month.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Additional dedicated ushers are needed at all Masses. We are down to a small group who are stretched very thin and when someone is out, we are short-handed. Please call the parish office if you are able to help out.

A GENTLE REMINDER

Donations to the parish must be received by December 31, 2023 in order to be included in this year's contribution statements for tax purposes. Donations post-marked after December 31st will be for the 2024 calendar year. Thank you.

2023 ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

Many thanks to all those who so generously donated gifts for this year's Christmas Angel Tree program. Deliveries and pick up of gifts took place last Friday to help 10 local children and eight home-bound and elderly adults to experience good will and a brighter Christmas holiday. Special thanks to the New Kent Christmas Mother program for the stockings, extra gift cards and to Food Lion for the donation of food boxes. Also, we wanted to share the letter below (also posted in the Commons Area) which was given to us by one of our families to express their thanks:

"To the kind and generous folks who helped make my kids Christmas special and magical this year—thank you so much.

It's always just been the three of us (two kids and me) and this year has been very difficult for us, but with your help I'm able to keep their spirits up this holiday season. I am so grateful for you. Your generosity is appreciated so much.

I hope you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and New Year! ~Warmest wishes, A very grateful Mama"

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.



Schedule: K of C Council 14034 meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM. The in-person meetings are in the SEAS Social Hall and please bring your membership cards. The first meeting is the Officers/Directors Meeting and the second meeting is the Membership/Business Meeting. Both meetings are open to all Brother Knights and the membership are encouraged to attend. A free light dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. Donations are gratefully accepted to defray meal costs. There will be a 50/50 drawing after every meeting.

Prayer Request: Please remember in prayer: Ed Gillikin, Sr., and the Gillikin family, the Harshbarger family and for the soul of Brandon Harshbarger's father who passed away recently, the Kulick family, the Deis family, the Gothreau family, the Cashin family, the Almeida family, the Cassano family, the Gargiulo family, and all our military, law enforcement, first responders and their families.

Save the Dates: K of C Baby Products Drive, through Dec. 31; Parish Winter 50/50 Drawing Ticket Sales, through Jan. 18.

Recitation of the Rosary: We will be having monthly Recitation of the Rosary the 1st weekend of each month and each weekend in May.

Membership: To learn more about the Knights of Columbus Council at SEAS Parish and all we do, please contact Acting Membership Director Kevin Almeida at: alexandre2018@yahoo.com or call 804-803-9725. To learn more about the K of C in Virginia, visit our website: kofc.org/joinus.

DIocese of Richmond Office of the Bishop

The Diocese of Richmond encourages anyone aware of sexual abuse of minors on the part of clergy or staff of the Richmond Diocese to notify civil authorities, including Child Protective Services (CPS) at 1-800-552-7096 and reach out to the confidential Victim Assistance Reporting 24-Hour Number at 1-877-887-9603, or by email at: vac@richmonddiocese.org.