

OPENING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Bishop Barry C. Knestout will soon inaugurate the 2025 Jubilee Year. The theme of this Holy Year is "Pilgrims of Hope." Pope Francis will open the Jubilee Year at the Vatican on Christmas Eve at 7:00 PM with the rite of the Opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of St. Peter and then preside over the celebration of the night Mass of the Lord's Birth inside the Basilica. Giant screens will be set up in St. Peter's Square to follow the Mass.

Diocesan bishops around the world will a week later on the Feast of the Holy Family at their cathedral churches, celebrate the Holy Mass as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year. The 2025 Jubilee also marks the 1700th anniversary of the celebration of the first great Ecumenical Council of Nicaea (325 AD) which unanimously approved the Creed which we recite each Sunday at the celebration of the Eucharist and declared the Full Divinity of Jesus Christ.

The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond will be the host to open this special year in our area. Visit <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html> for more information about the opening of the Jubilee Year and full event details.

KROGER REWARDS PROGRAM

SEAS Parish is enrolled in Kroger Community Rewards and you can help support the SEAS New Church Fund by shopping at Kroger and using your Kroger Plus Card.

To enroll your Plus Card, go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

- Click on "Link Your Shopper's Card."
- Enter your email address and create a password agreeing to terms and conditions.
- Enter your card number and our church name, "St. Elizabeth Ann Seton" or our account number, "CF801."

Questions? Please contact the parish office at 932-4125.

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.

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.



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

2631 Pocahontas Trail, P.O. Box 648, Quinton, VA 23141
 PARISH OFFICE: 804-932-4125 REL. ED. OFFICE: 804-932-3388
 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 or by appointment.

Christmas
December 25-29, 2024

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your incarnate Word, the light of faith, which illumines 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

Parish Staff

Pastor:	Rev. J. Scott Duarte, J.C.D.	804-557-3962
Secretary & Bulletin Editor:	Rose Reed secretary@seascatholicchurch.org	804-932-4125
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Sacristan:	Mary Brooks	804-795-5183
Parish Musician:	Michael Horvath	804-932-4125

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

Monday, Dec. 23—Late Advent Weekday
Tuesday, Dec. 24—Vigil
 *Office Closed
 3:00 PM—Mass: †Patricia Searles
 5:30 PM—Mass: People of the Parish
Wednesday, Dec. 25—The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
 *Office Closed
 11:00 AM—Mass: †Thomas & †Eileen Dailey
Thursday, Dec. 26—St. Stephen, the first martyr
 *Office Closed
Friday, Dec. 27—St. John, apostle and evangelist
 *Office Closed
Saturday, Dec. 28—Vigil
 5:00 PM—Confessions
 5:30 PM—Mass: Pastor's Intention
Sunday, Dec. 29—Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
 8:30 AM—Mass: People of the Parish
 11:00 AM—Mass: Victims of PanAm Flight 103
Monday, Dec. 30—6th Day in the Octave of Christmas
Tuesday, Dec. 31—7th Day in the Octave of Christmas
Wed., Jan. 1—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
 *Office Closed
 12:00 PM—Mass: Special Intention
 7:00 PM—Mass: People of the Parish
Thurs., Jan. 2—Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
Friday, Jan. 3—Holy Name of Jesus
Saturday, Jan. 4—Vigil
 5:00 PM—Confessions
 5:30 PM—Mass: Fr. Scott Duarte
Sunday, Jan. 5—The Epiphany of the Lord
 8:30 AM—Mass: Jake Wayne
 11:00 AM—Mass: People of the Parish

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

SEAS Parish Prayer List



Please hold in prayer this week all the sick and homebound of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, our local community and the Diocese of Richmond.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK:

Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless our 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 forever and ever. Amen.

And those who have died are remembered in a special way, especially: Cindy, Butler, John J. Gothreau, Michael Pastore, Deborah Schiro, Connie Bowry, Gerald A. Hall, Sr., Fred Searles, Patricia Searles, Ernest Perry, Dwayne Reed, Mildred Acampora, Louise Mendez, Shirley Shumaker, Shirley Parker, Edward L. Edwards and Linwood Parker.

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 (Holy Day of Obligation)
Wednesday, Jan. 1: Mass—12:00 PM & 7:00 PM



Scripture Readings

Dec. 23 Monday of the 4th Week of Advent
 Mal 3:1-4,23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab,8-10&14/Lk 1:57-66
Dec. 24 Tuesday of the 4th Week of Advent
 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16/Ps 89:2-5,27,29/Lk 1:67-79
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 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 2:41-52
Dec. 30 6th Day in the Octave of Christmas
 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a,8b-10/Lk 2:36-40
Dec. 31 7th Day in the Octave of Christmas
 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2,11-13/Jn 1:14a,12a/Jn 1:1-18
Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8/Gal 4:4-7/Heb 1:1-2/Lk 2:16-21
Jan. 2 Memorial of Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1-3ab,3cd-4/Heb 1:1-2/Jn 1:19-28
Jan. 3 Christmas Weekday
 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1,3cd-6/Jn 1:14a,12a/Jn 1:29-34
Jan. 4 Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1,7-9/Heb 1:1-2/Jn 1:35-42
Jan. 5 The Epiphany of the Lord
 Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2,7-8/Eph 3:2-3a,5-6/Mt 2:2/Mt 2:1-12

Parish News

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. 4/5**. 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.

HOME BLESSINGS FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025 is the Feast of the Epiphany. In imitation of the magi, who, according to Matthew's Gospel, came to the home of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we ask Christ to visit our home and to bless all who reside there.

After Mass on the Epiphany, please pick up a blessing prayer and a piece of chalk to inscribe above the door: "20+C+M+B+25" for the new year and the Latin words "*Christus mansionem benedicat*," -- May Christ bless this house.

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. 24th-27th and Dec. 31-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.

A GENTLE REMINDER

Donations to the parish must be received by December 31, 2024 in order to be included in this year's contribution statements for tax purposes. Donations post-marked after December 31st will be for the 2025 calendar year. Thank you.

2024 ANGEL TREE PROGRAM

Many thanks to all those who so generously donated gifts for this year's Christmas Angel Tree program. Deliveries of gifts took place on Thursday, Dec. 12th to help fourteen local children and three elderly parish adults to experience good will and a brighter Christmas holiday. Special thanks to the New Kent Christmas Mother program and all their volunteers for the stockings, extra gift cards and to Food Lion for the donation of food boxes.

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 the first and third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. The in-person meetings are in the SEAS Social Hall. Please bring your membership cards. The first meeting is the Officers/Directors Meeting and the second meeting is the Membership/Business Meeting. All members are welcome to attend both meetings.

East End Pregnancy Center Collection: We will be collecting baby clothes and products for the East End Pregnancy Center, through Jan. 6, 2025. Please place your donations in the collection bins in the Commons Area of the Church.

Prayer Requests: Please remember in prayer: the Kulick 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.

Membership: To learn more about the K of C Council at SEAS Parish and all we do, please contact GK Mark Dupuis at: 804-201-5925; mdupuis99@aol.com.

To learn more about the K of C in Virginia, visit our website: kofc.org/joinus.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025!

May this New Year bring you joy and may each day be blessed with peace, prosperity, good health and happiness too!

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.