



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF

# Advent

December 18, 2016

*Behold,*

**THE VIRGIN**

shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him

*Emmanuel,*

WHICH MEANS

"GOD  
IS WITH US."

~ Matthew 1:23

**ST. ELIZABETH SETON CHURCH  
ORLAND HILLS, IL**

## CORCORAN'S CORNER

### ***Simbang Gabi...***

This Sunday, Dec. 18, we will celebrate a special *Simbang Gabi* Mass, at 7:00 PM, in the church. *Simbang Gabi* is the Filipino tradition of a Novena of Masses [held on nine consecutive days] leading up to the Feast of *Christmas*. There will be a feast of Filipino delicacies and refreshments following the Mass in the Parish Life Center. All are welcome to attend!

### ***Some Words of Thanks...***

Thanks to our parish Men's Club for arranging for Santa to visit our parish children in the Church Hall after all the Sunday Masses. We had a huge turnout after all the Masses this year. The church hall was abuzz! I sometimes wonder who are the "bigger" kids: the members of the Men's Club, or the tykes sitting in Santa's lap? Both were wide-eyed with all the joy last weekend. Thanks for this gift of Christmas happiness.

Thanks also to our Religious Education Program and Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School children who participated in our "Living Nativity" presentation last weekend. Their presence brought home the true meaning of the holiday, and added to the festivity in the Church Hall. It was a wonderful setting of the scene for Christmas.

Thanks also to the brave souls who traveled through the snow last Saturday to attend the *Our Lady of Guadalupe* Celebration at our sharing parish in Pilsen.

Thanks to those who contributed to the Respond Now Children's Toy Drive, and/or to our Annual Christmas Gift Giving with our sharing parish, St. Procopius. Your gift(s) will make Christmas brighter for many.

### ***The Christmas Mass Schedule...***

A word to the wise: Christmas Eve Masses are at 4:00 PM, in our church and in our Parish Life Center, with doors opening at 3:00 PM; as well as 6:00 PM, and 10:00 PM, in our church. Christmas Day Masses follow normal Sunday schedule of 7:15, 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30 AM, in our church. If past practice is an indicator of the future, the 4:00 PM Mass in the church is packed, which is wonderful. But if you are "crowd phobic", it might not be the Mass for you. All are welcome.

### ***The New Year's Mass Schedule...***

Our New Year's Masses will follow our normal Saturday/Sunday Mass schedule with a Vigil Mass on Saturday, New Year's Eve, at 5:00 PM, and on Sunday, New Year's Day, at 7:15, 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30 AM.

### ***Our 9:00 A.M. Mass and Rosary...***

On Tuesdays and Thursdays after the 9:00 AM Mass, parishioners remain to pray the rosary together. On Wednesdays after the 9:00 AM Mass, the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed. Please know that all are welcome to stay and participate in this prayer when the spirit moves them. To participate once does not mean

you need to do it after every Mass, but all people are always welcome to join in this prayer.

### ***As Christmas Approaches...***

Two weeks from now we will be celebrating Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. At this time of year when we consider the gifts that God has brought into our lives, we remember that one of the year-long gifts that we enjoy in the community of Orland Hills Seton. Whether as our spiritual home where we give praise to God for wonders, petition Him for our needs, or thank Him for our blessings, our parish church is truly a holy place where we are shaped by the Gospels, and nourished by the Eucharist. It is a place that forms us into a community of faith that lives out the gospel values in our daily lives.

Our parish is also a beacon of hope. We provide solace to the bereaved, accompaniment to those who are ill, wisdom to those who are discerning, support to those struggling with addictions, faith formation for the next generation, and community to people of all ages. We seek to be, in the words of **Pope Francis** and **Cardinal Cupich**, a "*Field Hospital*" binding up the wounds of those who are in need in our society.

We could do none of this without God's grace, and generous contributions from our parishioners with their time, talent, leadership, and money. At this time of Christmas when we remember the many gifts that the Lord has given us, beginning with the wondrous gift of the Incarnation—Jesus taking flesh—we also remember the gift in our lives that is St. Elizabeth Seton Parish.

I thank you for your ongoing support and contributions to our parish community.

### ***Are You Friendly?...***

After the new year, at the urging of the Parish Council, and following through on recommendations from our Parish Transformation Program, we are seeking to establish a "Welcome Committee" who would reach out to new parishioners as they register. This phone contact would help the newcomers to navigate the items in the parish welcome packet, and follow up on their expressed interests, allowing them to connect with parish groups, organizations, ministries, outreach groups, as well as the newcomers own interests. We welcome about 80 new registered families per year. We would hope to have each committee member contact perhaps one new family per month. More information will be available in the weeks ahead. This could be the answer to your upcoming New Year's Resolution to do something new and different in 2017!

***Keep Smiling,***



*Come Let Us Adore Him!*



## *Christmas Mass Schedule*

### Christmas Eve

**Saturday, December 24**

4:00 pm Mass

(4pm Masses to be held in the Church and Parish Life Center)

6:00 pm Mass

10:00 pm Mass

(Carols by our Adult Choir will begin at 9:30 pm)

### Christmas Day

**Sunday, December 25**

7:15 am, 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am Masses

### New Year's Eve

**Saturday, December 31**

5:00 pm

### New Year's Day

**January 1**

7:15 am, 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am Masses

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO | 

# RENEW MY CHURCH

## FOSTERING MISSION VITALITY; INSPIRING DISCIPLESHIP



WE WILL MAKE THE MISSION OF CHRIST OUR OWN—  
FOR OUR TIME.

Archbishop Cupich is calling every Chicagoland Catholic to join him in a multi-year initiative to revitalize our Church in the Archdiocese and ensure its growth for generations to come.

Together through *Renew My Church*, we will create vital, vibrant, life-giving, Catholic communities across the Archdiocese. We will inspire disciples to accompany all members of our family of faith to seize this moment.

[archchicago.org/renew](http://archchicago.org/renew)

**Advent Reconciliation Offered at Local Parishes This Week**

In the spirit of cooperation and *Renew My Church*, local parishes have shared their reconciliation service times:

**Monday Dec.19**

St. Francis of Assisi Church, 7:30pm  
15050 Wolf Rd., Orland Park

**Monday Dec.19**

St. Cyril and Methodius, 5-6pm/7-8pm  
608 Sobieski St., Lemont

**Tuesday, Dec. 20**

Our Lady of the Woods Church, 7-8:30pm  
10731 W 131st St., Orland Park



**Ah Choo!  
Ah Choo!  
Ah Choo!**

*It's no surprise to all of us that the Cold and Flu Season is here...*

We are all challenged to do

our sensible best to avoid getting the flu or passing it on to others. Life does and will continue to go on and we will be washing our hands more, coughing and sneezing into our sleeves, and staying out of crowds when appropriate. We want you to know we are well aware of the many concerns people have regarding the reception of the Eucharist during this season. Our priests and all Eucharistic Ministers take care that health and safety concerns will prevail. The reception of the Precious Blood will remain available. The greeting of "Peace" will continue to be given. If you wish to acknowledge someone with a verbal greeting only, please do so. May we all be blessed with good health.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**COLLECTION FOR 12-11-16:  
\$21,286.46**

Thank you for your generosity.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

*The parish offices closed Friday, Dec. 23 and Monday, Dec. 26, for the Christmas holiday. The parish staff wishes all a safe and blessed Christmas season.*

**BAPTISMS**

Congratulations to these parents on the baptism of their child on Sunday, Dec. 11, 2016:

**Isabelle Olivia**, child of John and Jill Kleisch

**WEDDINGS**

Please pray for these couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony:

**Liz Guldan** and **Dan Jeziorny**; 12-31-16

**Jennifer Legerski** and **Mark Klabacha**; 1-21-17

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

We remember the sick, infirm, and those recommended to our prayers, that they may experience the healing power of Christ:

**Annie Roti**

**Nicole Pulciani**

**Loretta O'Connell**

**Mike Hall**

**Ron Grecnik**

**Nica Pulciani**

**Wally O'Connell**

For our deceased:

**Dave Kokotan** (Father of Janie Kokotan [Dave] Krauss

**Edward L. Lesli**

"Heavenly Father, accept the prayers which we offer for them."

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sat., Dec. 17 (5pm) **Melencio Panganiban; Esther Schmeski**  
Sun., Dec. 18

(7:15am) **For All Parishioners; Mary Pat Gorman**

(8:30am) **James Smith; Dennis Corluka**

(10am) **Daniel McCormick; Willard and Estelle Bush**

(11:30am) **Antonio Espina, Jr.; The Purgatorial Society**

Mon., Dec. 19 (9am) **Michael, Mary and Sarah Cox;**

**Domenico Iannotta**

Tues., Dec. 20 (9am) **Betty Gildea; Lenora Joy**

Wed., Dec. 21 (9am) **Frank Stasic; John Avante**

Thur., Dec. 22 (9am) **Arel Ondoy and Eric Ondoy (Living);**

**Mary Finn (Living)**

Fri., Dec. 23 (9am) **Rita Foltyn; Georgene Martino**

Sat., Dec. 24 (4pm) **NO INTENTIONS**

(6pm) **NO INTENTIONS**

(10pm) **NO INTENTIONS**

Sun., Dec. 25

(7:15am) **NO INTENTIONS**

(8:30am) **NO INTENTIONS**

(10am) **NO INTENTIONS**

(11:30am) **NO INTENTIONS**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Mary: Powerful Woman

By Ted Wogamot

**M**ARY: THE MOST POWERFUL WOMAN IN THE WORLD was the stunning headline in a recent publication. To the surprise of many, these were not the words of a Catholic newspaper, or a religious publication. Instead, this headline announced the lead article featured in the December, 2015 issue of *National Geographic* magazine!

The article is written by journalist, Maureen Orth, who spent three years traveling throughout the world trying to understand more fully why Mary, the mother of Jesus, is so crucially important to millions of people. Here are a few of Maureen's words:

Mary is everywhere: Marigolds are named for her. *Hail Mary* passes save football games. The image in Mexico of *Our Lady of Guadalupe* is one of the most reproduced female likenesses ever. Mary draws millions each year to shrines such as Fatima, in Portugal, and Knock, in Ireland, sustaining religious tourism estimated to be worth billions of dollars a year and providing thousands of jobs. She inspired the creation of many great works of art and architecture (Michelangelo's "*Pieta*," *Notre Dame Cathedral*), as well as the spiritual confidante of billions of people, no matter how isolated or forgotten.

**What was it about this young girl that attracted and enticed, not only Joseph in today's Gospel story, but even God?**

I'd like to suggest two possible answers, with the reservation that there are surely a number of others.

First, she wasn't a preacher. She wasn't an evangelist. She wasn't an activist. Instead, Mary was a listener who embraced simplicity. She was one who paid attention, who reflected, who meditated. All those Advent qualities...



**Present. Open. Available. Receptive. Quiet.**

That's the kind of person Mary was. Perhaps it was that collection of gifts that most enticed God, and Joseph, and so many people down through the centuries.

**B**UT PERHAPS there is another appeal of Mary – her life experiences are being repeated continuously by millions of people even today. Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem for a census that is now being

mirrored by countless numbers of people displaced from their ancestral homes. The family's flight into Egypt to avoid the death threats of a tyrannical king, just as today millions of refugees are doing the same. Mary's loss of her child by an unjust state execution paralleled today in the disappearance and murder of beloved children under dictatorial regimes – the Herods of today.

Women, in particular, may possibly find in Mary a sister for marginalized women in oppressive situations throughout the world – women who are without food or clean drinking water, without housing, without education or healthcare or employment, without security from rape, without human rights.

To all of them, Mary offers words of hope to the neediest — such as these words from her great prayer, the *Magnificat*:

**“... O my God ... You have shown strength with your arm ... You have put down the mighty from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.”**

When asked what Mary meant to him, Pope Francis answered with one word, “She is my *mama*.”

May our “*mama*,” the one who is “*blessed ... among women*,” assist each of us in birthing anew the Child that falls from heaven into our arms ... our hearts ... our souls.

Mark your calendars now for our  
**St. Elizabeth Seton Parish**

**30<sup>th</sup>**

**ANNIVERSARY  
DINNER DANCE**

**Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017  
6:30-Midnight**

**Orland Chateau  
\$60 per person  
includes Dinner and Open Bar  
Music by Fun! Fun! Fun! DJ's**

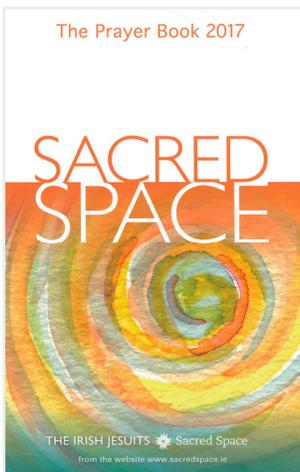
**Tickets available for sale beginning  
January 7 and January 8 after all  
weekend Masses in the Narthex**

*The official public, daily prayer of the Church is the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours. Psalms are prayed, scriptures proclaimed, hymns and canticles sung, and intercessory prayer is offered. The daily singing and reciting of the Book of Psalms is a most ancient tradition.*

## ADVENT LITURGY OF THE HOURS



**Join us at 8:30AM (MON-FRI) through DEC. 23**



*Sacred Space Prayer Books can be purchased in the parish office for \$20 each.*

**Sacred Space Book: The Prayer Book 2017**

Members of the Sacred Space community spend quality time reflecting on daily scripture readings as presented in a book titled, *Sacred Space The Prayer Book*. This particular book has been a part of the prayer life of the Catholic Community of St. Elizabeth Seton for several years now.

*Sacred Space: The Prayer Book 2017*, offers short, in-depth meditations on the scripture of each day throughout the church year. It is a value for anyone who wants to grow in prayer and be more connected to God, but may feel too busy to do so.

Parishioners (and a few members of other parishes) meet once a month to share their reflections on the daily scripture readings. The group meets in the Cornerstone on the first Monday of each month after the 9:00 AM Mass.

**Thank you to all those who celebrated the Advent tradition of carrying up the Advent Candle at during our weekend liturgies for Advent.**



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
Grice Family	12/17 5:00 PM
Greeters	12/18 7:15 AM
Maiolo Family	12/18 8:30 AM
Krusenoski Family	12/18 10:00 AM
Greeters	12/18 11:30 AM



### The Symbols of Advent

The Advent Wreath and the Colors of Advent are probably the most popular symbols of the season. The Advent Wreath is a circular garland of evergreen branches where four candles are arranged. During Advent one candle on the wreath is lit each week representing the coming of the Lord. Candles for the First, Second, and Fourth week of Advent are blue or purple — these are the primary liturgical colors for Advent and symbolize repentance. The pink or rose colored candle lit on the Third Sunday of Advent represents joy — and reveals a shift in the season away from repentance and toward celebration.

### “O Antiphons”

**During this Advent and Christmas Season, vibrant “O Antiphon” banners are displayed in our Narthex.**

**We will feature two banners each week in the bulletin.**

This Advent and Christmas season, we are highlighting the O Antiphons that refer to the seven verses recited (or chanted) preceding the *Magnificat* during Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours. They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, December 17-23. These Antiphons form the basis of the Advent hymn, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” put to music in 15th century France.

A colorful antiphon banner for December 23. It features a stylized figure with arms raised, set against a background of vibrant, overlapping colors. The text "O EMMAUEL" is written in large, green, stylized letters across the center. At the bottom, it reads "O ANTIPHON December 23".

**December 23**  
**O Emmanuel King and Law Giver**

Desire of the nations, Savior of all people, come and set us free, Lord our God.

A colorful antiphon banner for December 24. It features a manger scene with a baby in a blue swaddling cloth, set against a background of vibrant, overlapping colors. The text "WONDERFUL EXCHANGE" is written in large, blue, stylized letters across the center. At the bottom, it reads "CHRISTMAS".

**December 24**  
**O Wonderful Exchange**

Let us pray with Mary in the words of an ancient hymn by St. Ephrem the Syrian:

“I am your Mother but I will give honor to you. I have engendered you, but you are older than I am. I have carried you in my womb, but you sustain me on my feet. You have been born of me like a little one, but you are as strong as a giant. The height of the heavens are filled with your majesty, and yet my womb has not been too small for you.”



St. Elizabeth Seton  
Women's Club

*Christmas*  
**DINNER**

Catered by Don Monaco Pizzeria & Catering

**Tuesday, December 20th**

Doors open at 6:30pm

Dinner starts at 7:00pm

Linda McKeague will lead us in Christmas Carols.

If you have not already bought your tickets  
(Members \$5, Guests \$10) or signed up to attend,  
please call Lynn at 708-460-6113.

We are having a cookie contest so bring  
your best homemade cookies.

Bring a friend and come join the fun!

The St. Elizabeth Seton Women's Club will offer Oplatki Christmas Wafers in the Narthex after Masses this weekend, Dec. 17/18.



**Celebrate Christmas with Oplatki**

Oplatki will be available in the Narthex after all Masses, for those wanting to participate in this centuries old custom. Oplatki, Holy Bread, is our Christmas oblation and the

Christmas wafer is reminiscent of the word Bethlehem, which means "House of Bread." The breaking of bread with family in your home is a sign of charity, unity, and friendship. With prayer for God's grace and for the welfare of the present/absent members of the family, the broken wafer pieces are distributed to each one at the table.

**A FREE WILL DONATION WILL BE APPRECIATED.**



**Women's Club NEWS**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Tuesday, December 20**  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY DINNER**  
**CHRISTMAS CAROLS WITH LINDA**  
**Parish Life Center opens at 6:30pm**  
**Christmas Dinner starts at 7pm**

Christmas dinner will be catered by Don Monaco Pizzeria and Catering. St. Elizabeth Seton Music Director, Linda McKeague, will lead us in Christmas carols. If you have not already bought your tickets (members: \$5, guests, \$10) or signed up to attend, please call Lynn at 708-460-6113. We are having a Cookie Contest so bring your best homemade cookies.

*Bring a friend and come join the fun!*

- **Tuesday, January 17 Meeting**  
**GREETING CARDS WORKSHOP**  
**Parish Life Center opens at 6:30pm**  
**Meeting begins at 7pm**

We will create three homemade greeting cards (Valentine's Day, Birthday and Thinking of You). If you would like to participate, the cost will be \$5, which you need to pay at the December meeting.

- **Tuesday, January 24 Meeting**  
**Painting Party**  
**7pm in the Parish Life Center**

We will each be painting two stemless wine glasses with a grapes motif. The cost is \$25 per person. You can sign-up and pay at the December meeting.

**Christmas Flower Memorial Gift**

If you plan on using the Christmas Flower envelope found in your monthly packet of envelopes, or if you already sent in a flower memorial gift, fill out the form below so we can publish the names of your loved one(s) in the bulletin after Christmas.



Given in Memory of

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by



Please place in collection basket. Thank you.



*Great Christmas gifts!*  
*2017 Golden Opportunities*  
*Coupon Books!*  
*Still Only \$20!*

**Golden Opportunities Coupon books** offer local restaurants offering discounts of 50% off for 2-for-1. In addition, great savings at movies, grocery stores, sporting events, and more! Many coupons valid once a month. And... it makes a great gift!

*Available for purchase in the parish office!*

*Journey to Spain*  
*Sept. 6-13, 2017*  
*with Fr. Bill Gubbins*

- *Madrid*
- *Toledo*
- *Avila*
- *Segovia*
- *Barcelona*
- *Sagrada Familia*
- *Montserrat*
- *Flamenco Dancing*

**Eight Days**  
**Cost: \$2,890**  
(Price includes airfare,  
hotels, meals and  
coach transportation  
throughout Spain.)  
For information call  
Fr. Bill Gubbins  
at 708-460-9485.

Photo image:  
Sagrada Familia Basilica  
Barcelona, Spain





## Cardinal Bernardin Students Collect Donations for Clothing Drive

CJB's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students recently collected gently used clothing for a special project. Fellow students and CJB staff brought in donations which were given to Neat Repeats Consignment Shop. Neat Repeats provides one-third of the operating budget for the Southwest Suburban Crisis Center (CCSS). CCSS provides education materials and support for victims of domestic violence and their families.



### Newborns In Need

The next meeting of the Seton Sowers will be held on Monday, Dec. 19, in the meeting room in the Church Hall at 9:15am. If you knit, crochet, or sew, we can use your skills to make clothing and blankets for newborn babies who need to spend time in the hospital because they are premature

or sick. It is not too late for Christmas items, We also help those newborns who are financially in need. We can use donations of yarn, fabric, baby toiletries and supplies. For more information, please call Carol Dimer at 708-479-6994.

### “Christmas Night Joy”

The St. Christopher Music Ministry invites you “Christmas Night Joy” on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 7pm. This year’s concert will be performed by the combined adult choirs of St. Christopher and St. Emeric, the St. Chris Children’s Choir, Living Stones Young Adult Choir accompanied by the St. Christopher Chamber Ensemble, under the direction of Phil and Amy Switalski. Refreshments will be served following the concert, free-will offering appreciated. St. Christopher Church, 147th and Keeler, Midlothian. Stay for fellowship after the concert and pick up the St. Christopher Travelers upcoming 2017/18 Trip information on Nashville Music City, Mackinac Island, Yellowstone/ Tetons and Mt. Rushmore, Rt. 66 and more. For more information please call 708-687-3302.

Look for this sign on local electronic billboards, sponsored in part by our Men’s Club...



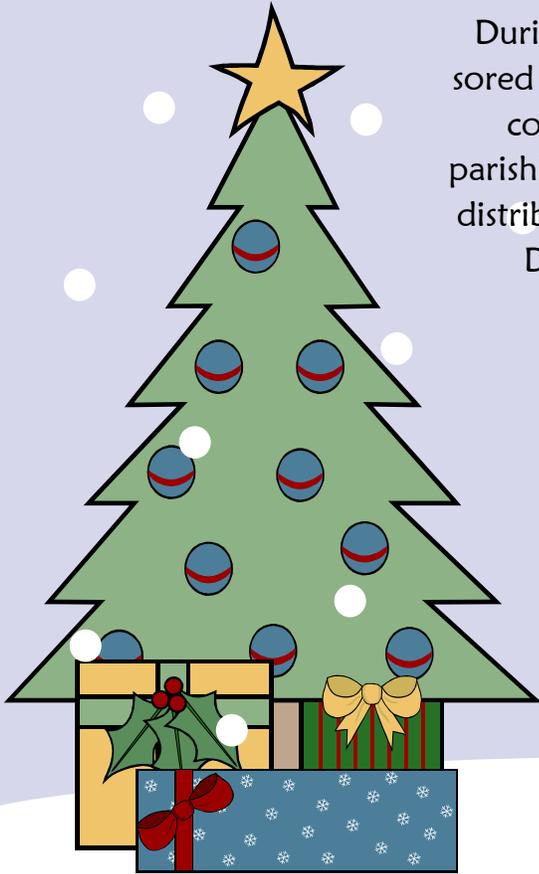
## Keep Christ In Christmas

Knights of Columbus  
www.KofC.org



*Fr. C. C. Boyle Council of St. George Parish has sponsored three billboards to "Keep Christ in Christmas". One is electronic and located on I-294 at 115th and Ridgeland. It is expected to be viewed by 450,000 people per week for 10 seconds every 80 seconds night and day. The second billboard is located on 159th at 94th Avenue. The location of the third electronic billboard is still to be determined. This billboard will be sponsored with a \$200 donation in participation by our St. Elizabeth Seton Men's Club.*

# St. Vincent DePaul Holiday Drive



During Christmas seasons, St. Vincent DePaul has sponsored a special collection of items for the homeless. Many come without adequate clothing. We thank all the parishioners for their heartfelt generosity. Proceeds will be distributed to the South Suburban PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) Homeless Shelter Organizations.

**The collection concludes this Sunday, Dec. 18.**

**Suggested gift items are:**

deodorant  
hand sanitizer  
toothpaste  
toothbrushes  
white socks  
winter coats

hats  
scarves  
gloves (men's large)  
Mittens  
Men's underwear  
Women's underwear

**NO gift wrapping needed. Items must be identifiable from outside.**

## **Do you recognize this box?**

### **It is the Saint Vincent DePaul Society Offering Box**

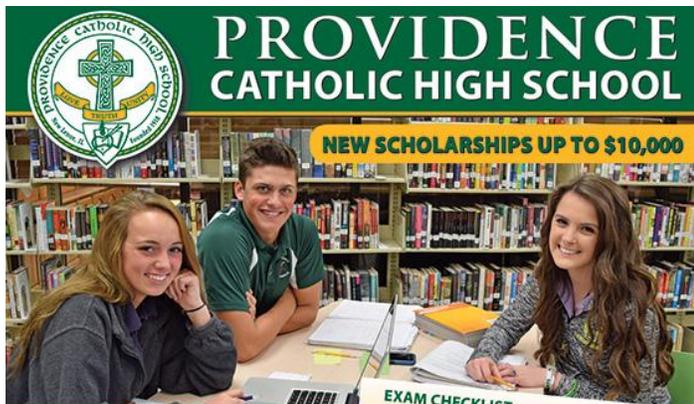
*You are invited to give a monetary gift or Jewel food certificates which will go toward providing a better Christmas for families in our community.*

## **SVDP Christmas Collection**

For your convenience, SVDP boxes are located at all the entrances of our church. We depend solely on the contributions placed in the donation boxes. SVDP members would like to thank all who contributed to the Thanksgiving collection—and to those who use the SVDP boxes at each entrance. All monies donated go directly to those in need. We service clients within our parish boundaries with emergency assistance for utilities, rent, security deposits, food, clothing, medical, dental, eye care and occasionally gasoline to get to a job site. As calls come throughout the year we look to your generosity and sense of sharing and justice to assist these people. It is your goodness that makes our work possible.

*May God continue to bless you.*





**PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

**NEW SCHOLARSHIPS UP TO \$10,000**

**CALLING ALL 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS**

**PLACEMENT EXAM**

**SATURDAY**

**JANUARY 14**

**8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

**EXAM CHECKLIST**

- Bring two #2 pencils
- No Calculators
- Arrive at PCHS between 7:30 am - 7:45 am
- Bring \$25 check payable to PCHS (Test Fee)
- Completed Student Information Form\*

\*Visit the PCHS website for more information and to obtain the student information form.

**ADMISSIONS QUESTIONS?**  
**CALL 815.717.3160**

**Providence High School To Award New \$10,000 Scholarship**

Providence Catholic has implemented a new academic scholarship program that will tremendously impact the incoming freshmen (Class of 2021) who enter PCHS in the Fall of 2017. The scholarships range from \$6,000 to \$10,000 and are available to all students who place in the Top 10% on the school's January Placement Exam.

**ONE NIGHT ONLY**

**CARDINAL JOSEPH BERNARDIN SCHOOL GALA**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**7:00 PM SATURDAY**

**FEBRUARY 25, 2017**

**TINLEY PARK CONVENTION CENTER**

Questions? Contact Kyle Hastings  
708-309-7172 or [cjbgala@gmail.com](mailto:cjbgala@gmail.com)  
[www.cjbgala.org](http://www.cjbgala.org)

# Branches Youth Ministry



Kyle Groves  
Parish Youth/  
Young Adult  
Minister

## DECEMBER EVENTS

**SUNDAY, DEC. 18**  
**BRANCHES MIDDLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
Parish Life Center, 5:00-7:00pm

**MONDAY, DEC. 19**  
**BICKFORD SENIOR LIVING SERVICE PROJECT**  
6:30pm. Please RSVP.

**FRIDAY, DEC. 30, 6:00pm-8:00am**  
**BRANCHES HIGH SCHOOL LOCK-IN**

**SUNDAY, JAN. 8**  
**BRANCHES MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Parish Life Center — 5:00pm-7:00pm

**SUNDAY, JAN. 15**  
**BRANCHES HIGH SCHOOL**  
Parish Life Center — 5:00pm-7:00pm

**FRIDAY, JAN. 20**  
**CRISIS ROOMS SOCIAL**  
Please RSVP for more information.

**Young Adults**  
**THURSDAY, JAN. 19**  
Young Adult Adoration & Social  
@ St. Michael's Parish — 7:00pm-10:00pm

## VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Starting in January, Branches will be playing in a High School Volleyball League among the other churches in the area from January to March. All 8th grade & high school students are welcome. Games held on Sundays & Thursdays. Practices are still to be determined. More information to come soon.

If you would like to sign up or receive information, please contact Kyle Groves at 708-403-0101 x105 or [kgroves@steseton.com](mailto:kgroves@steseton.com).



# Keep doing the things you love.

## Catch health problems before they go too far.

Life Line Screening, recognized with an A+ rating by the Better Business Bureau, offers a 5-test package to thoroughly check you for risk of stroke, cardiovascular disease and other chronic conditions. The combination of these tests helps detect problems—**before you have symptoms** and while you and your doctor can still take action...so you can keep doing the things you love.

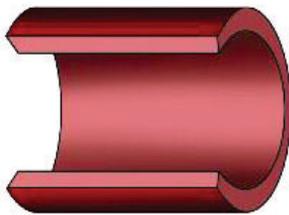


Register now to check the health of your arteries

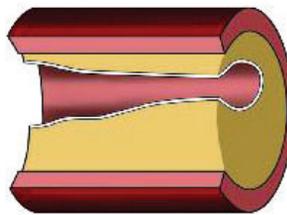
5 Important Screenings for Only \$149 a Savings of \$181!

- Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)
- Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation)
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening
- Osteoporosis Risk Assessment

## Plaque buildup in the arteries can lead to heart disease, aneurysm or stroke.



A normal artery allows blood to flow through easily.



Plaque buildup in the arteries reduces your blood flow and can be dangerous if left untreated.

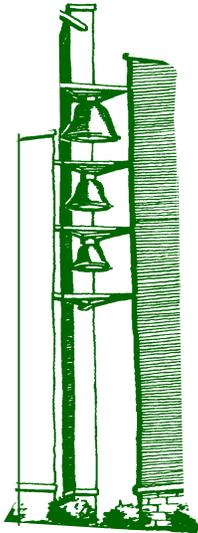
Join the **8 million people** who have been screened. We are coming to your neighborhood.

Where: ST ELIZABETH SETON CHURCH

When: SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2017

Please call toll-free **888-653-6434** to register for your screening and to receive a \$10 discount or visit [www.LifeLineScreening.com/community-partners](http://www.LifeLineScreening.com/community-partners)

Screening results are provided to you in 21 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Carotid Artery and PAD screenings help identify the presence of Atherosclerosis, and if found, can be an early warning for higher risks of stroke and coronary artery disease. Such early warning information can help you and your doctor take important steps to reduce your risk for more serious health issues. If necessary, steps may include lifestyle and diet, medical therapies, and even more thorough follow-up testing and evaluation of your heart function. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes **only**. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. Screenings in California are provided by Life Line Mobile Screening, a physician owned practice. Screenings in Kansas are performed by Life Line Screening of America, Ltd. on behalf of Life Line Screening Physicians, P.A. Screenings in New Hampshire, New Jersey and New York are performed by Life Line Medical Screening, LLC (Dr. Andrew Manganaro, 70 Niagara Street, Buffalo NY, 14202). Life Line Screening does not engage in the practice of medicine in those states. This information is not intended to induce referrals by Life Line Screening to Life Line Medical Screening, LLC for any professional medical service. Texas residents: Physician authorization is required. A Life Line Screening affiliated physician will provide authorization for you if you qualify. Cancellation Policy: A full refund is issued if you call to cancel at least 2 days prior to your appointment. If less than 2 days' notice is given, we will issue a Gift Card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, to purchase future screening services.



## Seniors of Seton

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### EVENTS TO FOLLOW NEXT YEAR

*Christmas and New Year's will be soon upon us and the start of a new year...*

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2017, with **C.J. Martello** giving us a glimpse of history into the **George Pullman "The Man and His Model Town"** in the Parish Life Center.

### UPCOMING TRIPS

*Trip questions or reservations please contact Doug Benker at 708-429-4518.*

#### 1920'S GANGSTER MURDER MYSTERY TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2017 BUCA DI BEPPO ITALIAN RESTAURANT 15350 S 94<sup>th</sup> Ave., Orland Park

Doors open: 11am. Luncheon: 11:30am. \$37 per person. Includes: Family-Style Luncheon: salad, entrée, two pastas, unlimited beverage (coffee, tea, soft drinks). Then travel back in time to the Roaring 20's—the era of Flappers, Gangsters, Bootleggers, Prohibition and "Old Henry's Speakeasy." Take part in solving the crimes that take place at the Speakeasy. Transportation on own. Limited seating. Reservations/payment deadline by our January 3 meeting. Checks payable SOS.

Questions: Contact Ceil Matul at 708-460-6004.



### SAVE THE DATE

**February 13, 14, 15 & 16  
for another FUNDRAISER at  
"ROCK BOTTOM BREWERY RESTAURANT".**



***We wish everyone a wonderful  
Christmas and New Year from  
all of us at Seniors of Seton!***

### SAINTS OF THE WEEK

## VIETNAMESE MARTYRS

*The Vatican estimates the number of Vietnamese martyrs at between 130,000 and 300,000.*

ST. JOHN PAUL II decided to canonize those whose names are known and unknown, giving them a single feast day.

The Vietnamese Martyrs fall into several groupings, those of the Dominican and Jesuit missionary era of the 18th century and those killed in the politically inspired persecutions of the 19th century. A representative sample of only 117 martyrs—including 96 Vietnamese, 11 Spanish Dominicans, and 10 French members of the Paris Foreign Missions — were beatified on four separate occasions: 64 by Pope Leo XIII on May 27, 1900; eight by Pope Pius X on May 20, 1906; 20 by Pope Pius X on May 2, 1909; and 25 by Pope Pius XII on April 29, 1951.

All these 117 Vietnamese Martyrs were canonized in 1988. A young Vietnamese Martyr, Andrew Phú Yên, was beatified in 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

The tortures these individuals underwent are considered by the Vatican to be among the worst in the history of Christian martyrdom. Families and villages which subscribed to Christianity were obliterated.

The letters and example of Théophane Vénard inspired the young Saint Thérèse of Lisieux to volunteer for the Carmelite nunnery at Hanoi, though she ultimately contracted tuberculosis and could not go. In 1865 Vénard's body was transferred to his Congregation's church in Paris, but his head remains in Vietnam.

There are several Catholic parishes in the United States, Canada, and elsewhere dedicated to the Martyrs of Vietnam (Holy Martyrs of Vietnam Parishes), one of which is located in Arlington, Texas in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Others can be found in Houston, Austin, Texas, Denver, Seattle, San Antonio, Arlington, Virginia, and Richmond, Virginia. There are also churches named after individual saints, such as St. Philippe Minh Church in Saint Boniface, Manitoba.

# Living The Word

NATIVITY OF  
OUR LORD  
December 25,  
2016

## NEXT WEEK: THE LIGHT THAT HELPS US SEE

*All the ends of the earth see the saving power of God because God's Light from light — Jesus Christ — shines for all to see, and for all to be able to see.*

### FIRST READING

*All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).*

This reading tells of how the LORD comforts His people and that it is the LORD Himself who will comfort His people. Throughout these chapters the LORD insists that He Himself will intervene. We hear the phrases like "I will rescue," "I will redeem," "I will create," etc. This is fulfilled in

the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem, for the Child is God among us. The prophet struggles to find words appropriate for this announcement. It is glad tidings, an announcement of peace, and of good news.

### SECOND READING

*God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God's being (Hebrews 1:1-6).*

The author speaks of how God revealed His word through the prophets of old. This was a wonderful gift, but the prophets spoke in human words. Human words always fall short. There had to be many prophets, because none was ever fully successful in revealing God's word to His people. This is why God chose to send His own Son, Jesus, the only-begotten

Son of God, as the Word of God, the perfect expression of who God is and what He asks of us. The last part of this reading tries to establish Jesus as superior to the angels. Angels are totally spiritual beings. Jesus took on our flesh, so some wondered whether angels might be superior to Him. Our author argues that Jesus is the Son of God and above every angel.

### GOSPEL

*The Word became flesh; from His fullness we have all received grace (John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).*

Before Jesus was born in the flesh in Bethlehem, He already existed. Although the Old Testament authors did not know it, they were

actually writing about Jesus whenever they wrote about Wisdom. When this hymn speaks about the Word being in the world and the world not knowing it, it is not speaking about the rejection of Jesus and Israel's rejection of all the prophets whom Yahweh sent to call her to conversion. God did not consider our material world to be evil, but rather decided to join us and thus bless and consecrate this created world, and so the Word became flesh. Jesus is full of grace and truth: God loves us with a covenant love and God is always faithful. Jesus is God's love and faithfulness incarnate. Jesus reveals who God is.

## Readings for the Week

### December 19-December 24:

Mon.: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22  
Tues.: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
Wed.: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Mt 2:13-18  
Thurs.: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40  
Fri.: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23  
Sat: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

### REFLECTION

Christmas celebrates the light of God's Word-made-flesh. Light comes in many forms. Some light is direct. Others are a mere reflection of another source. The glow of a candle, lights on a highway, motion detectors, and lamps in our homes lessen darkness, offer comfort, provide guidance, calm fears, and help us see. Lights in church tell us God is here. Jesus, the Word, is the light that no darkness can overcome; but at times it seems as though darkness is overcoming the light. While these words on this page were being written, a series of terrorist attacks changed the lives of many and more senseless shootings took place in our cities. News reports often pay more attention to darkness than the lights of people who hold a dying stranger, welcome others into their homes, and protest the violence. These sisters and brothers testify to the power of light, like John the Baptist. They help us see glimpses of God-with-us. Their actions announce glad tidings and bears the good news that the light of Christ is stronger. Small deeds speak loudly. Our words and deeds give birth to Jesus each day. They testify that the seemingly impossible can happen, that is, God's light grows stronger when our actions and presence reflect that God is here. Celebrate Christmas as people of hope who give praise and thanks for Jesus Christ. Restore peace by offering comfort and hope in actions that make God's glory known. Let the light of our lives match the lights that decorate our trees and homes to lessen the darkness, offer comfort, give guidance, calm fears, and help all see that God is here.

## ST. ELIZABETH SETON PRAYER/OUTREACH MINISTRIES

### Social Action Ministry

How we serve: Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen in Joliet; Sharing Parish with St. Procopius Church; Pro Life Ministry includes: COURAGE Program, Mother's Day Flowers For Life; Life Chain Sunday, Diaper Drive; Respond Now Outreach; SWIFT (South West Interfaith Team); Environmental Ministry; Speaker nights.

### Seton Rosary Group

All are invited to join in praying of the Holy Rosary. We meet each Tuesday and Thursday in the church, by our statue of the Mary, following the 9am Mass.

### Chaplet of Divine Mercy

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is recited every Wednesday morning in the church, following the 9am Mass.

### Heart Warmers Meal Ministry

Heart Warmers is an outreach program where Seton volunteers deliver homemade meals to people of our parish community when they are experiencing times with medical, health, new baby, recovery, or grief issues. To schedule receiving a meal or to become a meal provider contact Barb Cristofaro at 708-349-7493 or heartwarmers-ses@att.net.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Shawls are prayerfully created, blessed, and distributed to those who have a need for the spiritual, physical or emotional comfort. Knit or crochet in your home and/or at the twice-monthly meetings. To become a knitter or to obtain a shawl, call Sharon Leone at 708-226-4836.

### Seton Sowers-Newborns in Need

If you knit/crochet/sew, your skills to make clothing/blankets for premature newborn babies at the University of Illinois Hospital. We meet monthly in the Church Hall. Donations of yarn/fabric/baby toiletries/supplies accepted. For information/meeting dates, contact Carol Dimer at 708-479-6994.

### HOPE Employment Ministry

HOPE is open to everyone. All of our services, to both job seekers and employers, are free. We meet the first Tuesday of each month in the Church Hall at 7pm. Our meetings consist of networking, resume review, guest speakers and open forums. Contact Lee Junkans at ajunkans@aol.com.

### Alcoholics Anonymous

If you have a problem with alcohol and feel a sincere desire to stop drinking, you are welcome to attend a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) in the downstairs St. Elizabeth Seton Church Hall on Thursdays, from 7:30-8:45pm. AA is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other so that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover. The only requirement is a sincere desire to stop drinking.

### Families Anonymous

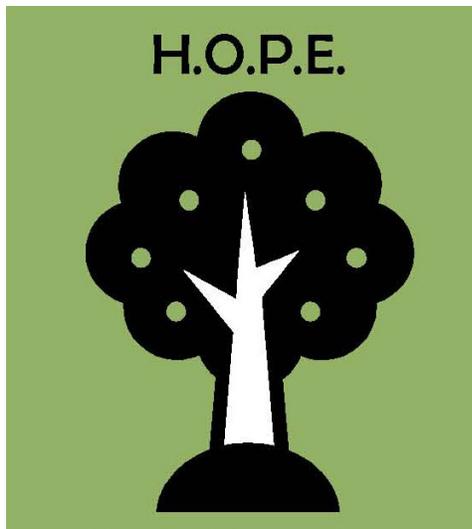
If your life has gone astray due to living with someone who has a substance abuse problem, attend a Families Anonymous on Mondays from 7-8:30pm at Palos Hosp. 123rd and 80th Ave., Palos Heights (Ambulatory Care Center, Rm. 1). Call 708-429-2507 or 708-269-9853.

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

Anyone within parish boundaries in need of assistance from SVDP, may call the parish office at 708-403-0101.

## ST. ELIZABETH SETON PARISH INFORMATION

- **New Parishioners** We welcome new members. All are invited to participate in the life and mission of the parish. A complete listing of parish services and organizations is available in the parish office and on our parish website. Please visit the parish office to register or obtain the registration form on the parish website.
  - **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is offered on Saturday, between 4:15-4:45pm.
  - **Sacrament of Baptism** is celebrated twice monthly at 1pm. Reserve your time by calling the parish office Center early. Limited to six children per Sunday.
  - **Baptismal Preparation** Couples preparing for the birth of their child should contact the Pastoral Center to register for a one night seminar, focusing on a parent's role in faith development. This session is mandatory prior to the Baptism.
  - **Anointing of the Sick** is available in the Church every Monday after the 9am Mass. For those who are ill or facing hospitalization, it is appropriate to receive the sacrament once every six months. Call 708-403-0101 for information.
  - **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** Adults, 18 and older, who wish to become Catholic are enrolled in a formation process (RCIA) that includes prayer, dialogue, instruction, and introduction to the Church's life and values, rituals and traditions. For information call the parish office 708-403-0101.
  - **Ministry of Care** is available to give Communion to the housebound, to visit and pray for hospitalized and/or to arrange for the Anointing of the Sick. Please call the Pastoral Center for assistance.
  - **In the Hospital?** Because of HIPAA Privacy regulations hospitals can no longer contact the parish regarding your hospitalization. It is the responsibility of you or a family member to notify our parish. We desire to offer whatever spiritual support we can. Please call the Pastoral Center.
  - **Sacrament of Marriage** Couples planning to marry are asked to make arrangements six months in advance.
  - **Wedding Workshops** are offered throughout the year. They provide engaged couples with guidelines and suggestions for the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage. The workshop covers topics ranging from readings and music to flowers and video taping.
  - **Adult Choir** sings at all 10am Sunday Masses, as well as at a number of special liturgies.
  - **Teen Choir** sings at the 11:30am Sunday Masses.
  - **Moving?** Please call the office at 708-403-0101.
- 9300 West 167th St., Orland Hills, IL**  
**708-403-0101**  
**www.steseton.com**



Helping Outreach for People  
Seeking Employment

## Join the HOPE Ministry in kicking off our 11th year of service with a Special Mass!

**Tuesday, January 3  
Mass at 7pm**

The **H.O.P.E.** (Helpful Outreach for People seeking Employment) **Employment Support Ministry** meets at St. Elizabeth Seton Church on the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Our sessions are open to all faiths and denominations. We meet to offer

support, fellowship, guidance and information for the employed, unemployed, or those in Career Transition. **HOPE** Ministry leaders review and critique resumes; offer job search and interview tips; and pass along job leads. Each month we also provide a guest speaker to support those in transition.

We invite people of all faiths to join us for this Mass. The Mass is intended to be a shared prayer for support and inspiration in the job search; in gratitude for blessings received; and for the hope of blessings forthcoming.

Whether you are employed or unemployed, all are most welcome to attend, including spouses and children, as they are part of everyone's support group. We especially encourage Alumni of the **HOPE** program to attend and share their experiences. A Networking Reception will immediately follow this uplifting, energizing event.

Please RSVP to Lee Junkans via email – [ajunkans@aol.com](mailto:ajunkans@aol.com). Please put **HOPE Mass** in the subject of your email.

LinkedIn Members are encouraged to join the **H.O.P.E. Employment Support Ministry Group** to share job leads, network, etc. The group can be accessed through [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com).

Start the New Year off right with some HOPE  
and a Mass on **Tuesday, January 3 @ 7pm...**  
*because everyone could use a little **HOPE!***

12/24 & 25	4:00PM	6:00 PM	10:00 PM	7:15 AM	8:30AM	10:00AM	11:30AM
<b>GREETERS</b> <i>Liturgical Ministers names at time of bulletin printing. Please sign up in the Narthex</i>	M. Pahl K. Pahl B. Tenuta S. Lorenz N. Lorenz R. Lamparski  G. Roy [PLC] G. Roy [PLC] K. Roy [PLC] M. Roy and Family [PLC]	S. Klean J. Federico E. Federico D. Gurka M. Gurka P. Gurka M. Gurka B. Krueger	W. Krol S. Klean R. Chehy		L. Allen S. Giovanazzi C. Bannon C. Bannon J. Klomes M. Klomes		F. McCarthy
<b>LECTORS</b>	W. Dendler P. DeWilkins  J. Bessette [PLC] K. McSwain [PLC]	R. Coe M. O'Sullivan	G. Shafer T. Shafer	B. DeJonge	E. Espina C. Bannon	M. Ward	B. Velcich C. Steckhan
<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>	M. McMahan I. Flores  H. Ryan [PLC] E. Ryan [PLC]	C. Durkin A. Durkin J. Durkin O. Durkin M. Maciulewicz A. Gregg	L. Reiter M. Reiter	J. Zufan C. Zufan	P. Maiolo E. Arduino	G. Misiunas D. Lingan N. Papciak P. Baggio	K. Soltys C. Soltys C. Stroz E. Gacek H. Gacek
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	J. Paluch M. Paluch C. Kirk W. Dendler B. Kandel M. O'Connor T. Brabec M. Fehrenbacher B. Raymond A. Sharp  G. Roy [PLC] J. Nemecek [PLC] P. Rodgers [PLC]	L. Coe P. Krueger C. Innis K. Petrey Deacon Joe	V. Keane D. Keane A. Weishaar E. Barin M. Schmidt R. Grill S. Weishaar P. Ihnat M. Ihnat M. Gabrione Deacon Joe J. Weger M. O'Connor	B. Cristofaro J. Janiak D. Flynn N. Sasso Deacon Dennis	J. Klomes S. Rosinski S. Arcos J. Kokotan Krauss E. Pawlak P. Orozco C. Bannon M. Galka S. Hall B. Hall M. Dziallo L. Klomes	K. Kocher J. Kocher S. Arcos R. Hicks J. Misiunas D. Pacholski K. O'Sullivan	S. Villegas T. Wolski R. Dollah M. Merino D. Loizzo R. Loizzo C. Holmquist J. Holmquist Deacon Joe

## St. Elizabeth Seton Church

9300 W. 167th Street Orland Hills, IL 60487

Parish Office: 708-403-0101

WEBSITE: WWW.STESETON.COM

Religious Education: 708-403-0137

**Pastoral Staff**

**Rev. William T. Corcoran, Ph.D,** Pastor  
**Rev. John Zurek,** Associate Pastor  
**Rev. William Gubbins,** Resident Priest  
**Rev. William T. O'Mara,** Pastor Emeritus  
 Deacon: **Frank Gildea**  
 Deacon: **Dennis (Barb) Cristofaro**  
 Deacon: **Joe (Mary) Truesdale**

**Liturgy Staff**

**Claudia Nolan,** Director of Liturgy

**Music Staff**

**Linda McKeague,** Director of Music

**Parish Office Staff**

**Donna Stolinski,** Business Manager  
**Darlene Raila,** Communications Director  
**Joan Nemecek,** Morning Receptionist  
**Karen Mirecki,** Afternoon Receptionist

**Youth/Young Adult Ministry**

**Kyle Groves,** Director  
**Bruce Hall,** Coordinator

**Religious Education Staff**

**Susan Matthews,** Director of Religious Education  
**Diana Barracca,** Administration Assistant  
**Mary Vlaming,** Secretary

**Athletics**

**Bob Myjak,** Director

**Maintenance Staff**

**Raymond Yanowsky,** Director of Maintenance  
**Laurie De Mik-Renn,** CJB Day Maintenance Supervisor  
**Marie Makuch,** Staff  
**Joseph Shake,** Staff

### REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday:

9:00 am

Saturday

5:00 pm

Sunday:

7:15, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30am