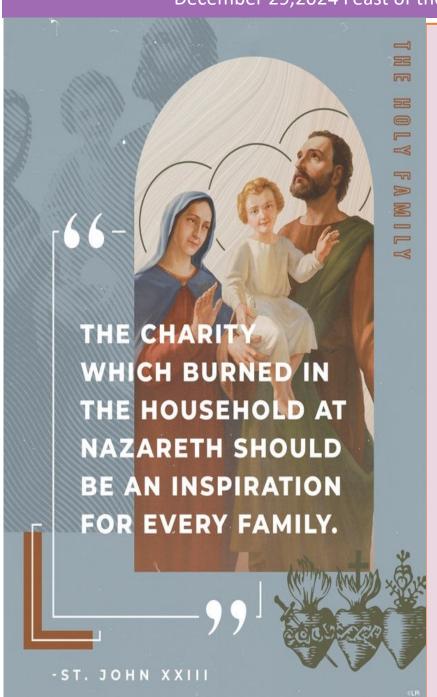


Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

December 29,2024 Feast of the Holy Family



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Diocese of Greensburg

www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

Help Line

St. Vincent DePaul www.svdpgreensburg.org 724-691-3711

Saturday, December 28, 2024

4:00 pm Steve Gergely (Jiom Gergely) (3:00 Confessions)

Sunday, December 29, 2024

8:30 am Rosalie Cordasco (Ron & Jeanne Antol)

11:30 am William L. Charmo (Bill & Laurie Charmo)

Monday, December 30, 2024

8:30 am Dolores Simkovic (Parish Family)

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

8:30 am Rose Lee Martin (Christian Mothers Ladies Guild)

Wednesday, January 1, 2024 Solemnity of Mary

9:00 am For the Parish

Thursday, January 2, 2025

8:30 am For the Parish

Friday, January 3, 2025

8:30 am Peggy Kolin (Rose)

Saturday, Janury 4, 2025

8:30 am William Chabanik

(Confessions following Mass)

4:00 pm Prayers for the Moineau Family

Sunday, January 5, 2025

8:30 am Dennis Kissane (Kissane Family)

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of December 29, 2024

Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

(see a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-

40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal

4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn

1:19-28

Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-

34

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

(see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-1

MEMORIALS

Sanctuary Candle:

Elizabeth McDonell (Bill & Kathleen Bellis) – Dec. 21-27

Bernice Lynch (Bill & Kathleen Bellis) – Dec. 28–Jan. 3

Altar Candles:

Willian and Josephine Eastman (Daughter, Barbara) – Dec. 1-27

Fr. Tom Wagner (Kevin & Beth Mitnik) – Dec. 28–Jan. 3

Altar Bread & Wine:

Joseph & Helen Stanish (Daughter Julie & Bob Henry) - Dec. 21–27

Christian Mothers

Please continue to bring in gift bags and items for St. Anne visits by Christian Mothers.

Saint Vincent DePaul Food Bank

Nutritious snack items are still needed for Kid's Lunch Bags to be distributed at SVDP Fook Bank. Thank you for your generosity!



Fr. Mike's Message

To Be a Holy Family...

Our celebration today focuses on the family of Jesus and in turn we reflect of our own family. Our readings present us with two children who somehow end up in the temple. The first reading is taken from the book of Sirach which was held in high regard by the early church. It is clear that from the book of Sirach we can see that the well being of the family is the foundation of the well being of all other social institutions.

Throughout the Old Testament we are given the notion that God's laws call for obedience and when we keep the law, God rewards us. This idea has permeated its way into early Christian moral teaching. However, the ideas put forth by Sirach need to be adapted to our culture and our society. The question of reverence and respect for one's parents takes on a different dimension. When this passage was written, there were no nursing homes or assisted care living. What Sirach told his original listeners as well as what he is saying to us is that what we need to do is see that compassionate care and dignity is given to our elderly parents.

St. Paul is speaking to a community that was struggling to remain faithful in the midst of much controversy. He is reminding the Christians that they needed to strengthen their community and make a favorable impression on their pagan neighbors. One way of doing this was to adhere to certain household codes that were standard rules of behavior. This was a patriarchal society and wives were to be protected by their husbands. There was a clear structure for family living. If these structures were followed then a strong community would be the end product.

We recognize the Holy Family; namely Jesus, Mary and Joseph. But we need to be careful how we define holy. To be holy in the scriptures means to have a special relationship with God, a closeness that takes priority over all other aspects of life. It is in this light that we see the family of Jesus as being Holy. We need to be careful not to look at this "Holy Family" and start to make comparisons to our own families. It is clear that the family of Jesus was not perfect and they had their problems as well.

When we talk about "family values" it is easy for us to fall back on what we refer to as the "good old days." We long for the days when families were something different. We look back with fondness and think that what was, should be today. However this can be and in fact is a false representation. If we are able to be perfectly honest, the good old days weren't so good. They had their problems and issues as well as we do. The bottom line is that we all have dysfunctional families. There is no perfect family; we all are perfect in our own unique ways.

Family units have changed dramatically since Sirach and Paul. We need to look at the families that we have and be grateful for them. We must not try to shape our families into a "textbook" notion of what family should be. What matters most and certainly makes us holy is the way we treat one another. In *Marriage and Family* magazine they offer what every family needs to be holy: "humility, genuine sorrow for past hurts, ability to admit mistakes, hunger for forgiveness, lips that can say I'm sorry." These are the things that make a family holy!

The "After-glow" of Christmas...

As I look over the past year, we have all been through a lot of changes as well as some pretty rough waters! However, in spite of all the changes that have occurred, this past year has also been filled with many blessings that should not be overlooked. Christmas Season does remind us of the blessings that life puts before us. It is hard to believe that we have celebrated Christmas yet another time, the birth of Christ comes upon us so quickly and then it is gone! However, we are still in the great season of Christmas, at least until the Epiphany on the 5th of January. It is easy for us to carry our "baggage" from last year and make it a part of the new year, but it is good sometimes to let go of some of that baggage, and simply embrace the new year God puts before us, because new blessings are always there for us as well as new problems that will become new baggage!

In looking back over the past few weeks, I am overwhelmed by the goodness and generosity of the people from our parish. I cannot thank you all enough for the many cards and gifts that you have given to me.

I also, I am edified by the way people so generously give of their time during this busy season when they certainly have enough of their own work to do. I would like to thank all of our Liturgical Ministers for the extra time they put into serving with the Liturgies.

I think that our church looks beautiful, and this certainly did not happen on its own. We are blessed with many gifted and talented people who came and helped decorate. I want you all to know how grateful I am for sharing your time and energy.

Although the whole reason for all this work is to celebrate the gift of Christ among us, I would just like to thank you our parishioners for your support and generosity.

We are blessed here at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, be grateful for these blessings, and we will carry them with us as we begin a new year in the Peace of Christ!



Home Blessing Kits – the Home Blessing Kits will be available this weekend, while the supply lasts. The tradition is to bless your home on the Feast of the Epiphany which falls on January 5, 2025. We ask that you take ONE kit per home and donate at least \$1.00 to pay for the supplies. The kits have been blessed and included within the kit are the instruction sheet, chalk, and holy water. The family will use the chalk to write the following above the doorway.

$$20 + C + M + B + 25$$

The letters represent the first initials of the three kings who visited the Christ child on the Epiphany: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. Those letters also signify the Latin phrase Christus Mansionem benedicat, which means, "May Christ bless this House".

QUEEN OF ANGELS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

TODDLER-TWO

PROGRAM

This "Toddler Time" Parent/Child Program is designed for children and their parent or caregiver to come together to play and learn.

A typical session will include: Exploratory Play, Arts & Crafts, Circle Time (a gentle introduction to group time) and Snack.

- WHO: 2-3 year old children with a parent or caregiver (Must be 2 before session starts)
- WHERE: Queen of Angels Catholic School
- WHEN: 1 hour class Monday AND/OR Wednesday TIME: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
- SESSIONS AVAILABLE: Each session is 8 weeks
 Fall- Oct 14/16- Dec 9/11 (no session Nov 27th or Dec 2nd)
 Winter -Jan 6/8- March 10/12 (no session Jan 20/22 or Feb 17/19
 Spring- March 17/19- May 12/14 (no session April 16th or 21st)
- Cost per session: \$100 for 1 day per week or \$175 for 2 days per week



REGISTRATION FORM

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE:
ONE MAIN ST. NORTH HUNTINGDON, PA 15642. YOU MAY ALSO REGISTER AT
HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/BMBS4IPZAM OR SCAN THE QR CODE

Guardian's Name:	
Child's Name:	
Phone Number:	Email:
Session:	Fall Winter Spring
Dav: Mondav	Wednesday Monday & Wednesday

Toddler—Two Program

Join Queen of Angels Catholic School for our Toddler Two Program. This "Toddler Time program is designed for children and their parent or caregiver to come together to play and learn.

A typical session will include: Exploratory Play, Arts & Crafts, Circle Time (a gentle introduction time" and Snack. Register online at: https://forms.office.com/r/BmBs4ipzAM

There is still time to register for the winter session which starts January 6th!

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local competition for the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championships. The local competition will be held Saturday, January 4, 2025 at Queen of Angels Gymnasium, and start time is 12:00 PM. Boys and girls will compete in their respective age divisions with winners progressing through Local, District, Regional and State Competitions. For questions or registration information please call or email Al Borgony at 724-864-3487 or email a.borgony@comcast.net ,or Matt Cheplic at 412-736-9196 or email

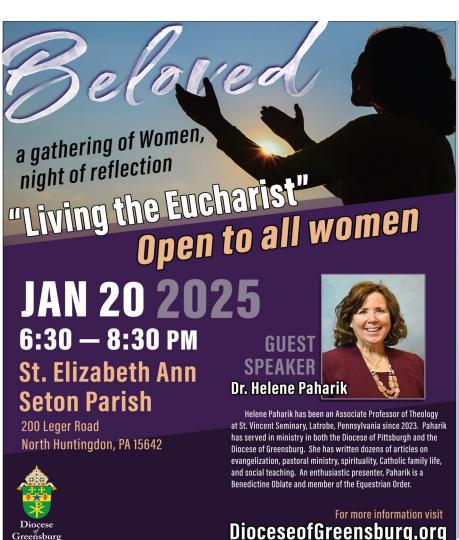




Bishop Kulick to celebrate Solemn Opening Mass of the Jubilee Year – Pilgrims of Hope Graphics Attached

Bishop Larry J. Kulick invites the faithful of the Diocese to join him for the Solemn Opening Mass of the Jubilee Year — Pilgrims of Hope Sunday, Dec. 29, at 3 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg. The opening celebration will begin at the lower level of the Westmoreland Museum of American Art with the blessing of the Diocesan Cross specially created for this Jubilee Year and the reading of the Papal Bull. Bishop Kulick will then lead a procession to the doors of the cathedral for the official opening Mass of the Jubilee. Parking will be available at Aquinas Academy, the cathedral and Greensburg Salem Middle School. Please join in this special celebration.





"Beloved" gathering of women Jan. 20 at

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon

All women in the Diocese of Greensburg are invited to "Beloved – Living the Eucharist," an evening of prayer, reflection, reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration, Monday, Jan. 20, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon. Guest speaker will be Dr. Helene Paharik, associate professor of theology at Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, who has served in ministry in the Dioceses of Greensburg and Pittsburgh and is an accomplished writer. For information, visit DioceseofGreensburg.org.

"Transformed" gathering of men Jan. 27 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon

"Transformed," a gathering for all men of the Diocese of Greensburg, will be held Monday, Jan. 27, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon. The evening's theme will be "Eucharistic Intimacy: Coming heart to heart with the Eucharistic Christ," and will feature Tim Ruflin, Regional Director of Faith Formation and Discipleship serving the parishes of New Kensington and Lower Burrell, as guest speaker. He previously served as Campus Minister at the University of Mount Saint Vincent in New York City and as a parish catechetical leader in the Diocese of Meath, Ireland. There will be time for reflection and discussion and an opportunity for adoration and reconciliation.

