

**SAINT ELIZABETH SETON CHURCH  
ORLAND HILLS, IL**



**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

**“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the  
least brothers of mine, you did for me.” - Mt 25:38-40**



## CORCORAN'S CORNER

### The Feast of Christ the King . . .

This weekend the Church celebrates the final Sunday of the 2022-23 Liturgical Year with the *Feast of Christ the King*. As Americans we do not readily relate to the image of Christ as King. But this could be a very good thing, as we are not caught up with the Hollywood depictions of Kings and Queens with royal palaces, and servants, of proper etiquette, and subservience.

Perhaps our cue is better taken from **St. Martin of Tours**, one of my most favorites saints. The story is told of how St. Martin in prayers one day, had a vision. The vision revealed to Martin that the image in the vision was *Christ the King*, and that of everyone else in the world — it was only Martin, because of his goodness — was the one chosen to appear to. The vision asked Martin to bow down and worship. Well if this was me, I would have been on my knees in a flash. But as Martin was a saint, he realized that the vision was the devil, appearing to tempt his pride. Martin responded to the vision, and said he would not worship unless the vision of *Christ the King* could show the wounds of his Passion and Cross. With that — the vision disappeared. For St. Martin, *Christ the King* was tied to **Christ** the suffering servant, the Crucified, the Redeemer. Martin makes the image of *Christ the King* much more real for all of us.

As we approach the celebration of *Christ the King*, let us fully take in, all that is contained in that image. Yes, Christ is King. He is Lord of all of the Universe. He is our Savior and Redeemer, and he loves us so much, sinners that we are, that he suffered and died for us, so that we may live. This is a wonderful feast that can be a great linchpin for our faith. Happy Feast Day.

### Automatic Giving . . .

For some time now the percentage of families using our online automatic giving (e-giving) has increased — with 25% doing so. Many of us are accustomed to online giving, whether it is paying our rent, utility bills, or making a donation to a good cause. Such giving and payment has become a part of our every day lives. Personally, I am very old fashioned and like to write a check. But even I pay some things electronically. And I am as they say “a slow adapter”. But once I got slapped with a late fee — I adapted quickly!

We are inviting parishioners to sign up for electronic giving. Information can be found later in our bulletin.

### Santa's Helpers. . .

In the coming weeks we are offering an abundance of opportunities for parishioners to be involved in supporting others in need. I rarely stand out in front of church prior to Mass. [I always feel that latecomers to Mass will feel I am catching them!] But as these gifts are returned, I enjoy being in front before Mass, as I am catching people doing something good.

These activities enable our parishioners to be involved with doing something very good for others — and these opportunities are meant to move people's hearts. We replicate God's goodness to us, by similarly being good to others. It's time to think what each of us will do this holiday season.

### Director of Liturgy . . .

We have been actively recruiting for a new Director of Liturgy. I am happy to report that we have had some excellent interviews with several candidates, and will be reaching a decision around Thanksgiving, with the new person

beginning on January 1, 2024. This new person will allow our current Director of Liturgy, **Deacon John Sobol**, to return to his previous role as Parish Young Adult/Youth Minister, a joint position with St. Stephen Parish in Tinley Park. We plan on good things in the months ahead.

### 2022-2023 Annual Parish Financial Report . . .

Our Annual Financial Report is included in this bulletin (on pages 14 and 15). All families will receive a copy in their January contribution report.

The report tells of an outstanding outpouring of financial generosity in support of the many missions of our parish. A total of \$1,377,493, was donated to the parish. This does not include the donations made to various second collections, nor the Archdiocese Annual Catholic Appeal.

The report details how we prudently spent those funds: 10% is given to our Archdiocese [\$127,860]; another 3½% to the Priest Retirement/Mutual Aid Program [\$44,772]; utilities [\$72,230]; and repairs [\$77,990], take a slice of the income; Staff salaries and benefits for our priests, Maintenance personnel, Office and Religious Education staff, Directors of Liturgy and Music [\$557,365], are paid from your contributions. We subsidize our National Blue Ribbon for Academic Excellence Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School [\$51,400]; and our Religious Education Program [\$97,017]. These good works could not happen without your generous financial backing. We always seek to be judicious stewards of the money that you contribute to the parish. If you have any questions, please contact me.

On the report you will notice a deficit [\$111,202], that was covered by parish savings. As I have mentioned before over the next two years, we hope to claim money from the Federal Government for the Employee Tax Credit. These funds will cover the deficit we had last year, as well as the deficit we expect this year. I have previously asked for parishioners to increase their contributions to our parish. Like yourselves, we too have felt the affects of inflation. Salaries increased 8% over the past two years and health insurance premiums skyrocketed. [But I do not have to tell you that!] Our parish income, due to the COVID-19 drop in attendance, has hurt our bottom line. All that you do to assist us is greatly appreciated — and spent prudently. Thanks.

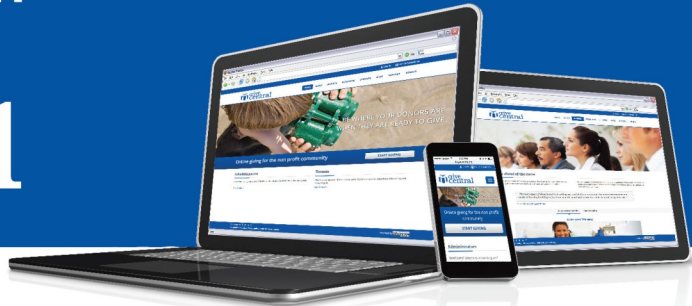
### First Sunday of Advent is Next Weekend . . .

As a parish we have so many great ways to celebrate the *Season of Advent*. We will be passing out reflection booklets. We will have Morning Prayer, Monday through Friday, at 8:30 AM, followed by 9:00 AM Mass. We will have Christmas Caroling at neighboring nursing homes [more information to come]. On December 17th we will celebrate *Gaudete* [Joy]/Bambinelli Sunday when we invite people to bring to church the Jesus figurine from their family creche sets to be blessed. Also on that morning we will have our Children's Living Nativity, and our Donuts with Santa, sponsored by our Men's Club. Our Women's Club, Men's Club, and Seniors of Seton, will also have their own celebratory gatherings. Mark your calendars for our Advent Reconciliation Service held next Sunday, Dec. 3, at 3:00 PM, in the church. And on Sunday, Dec. 10, we will have the Parish Choir Music Concert. We have lots to celebrate and enjoy!

**Keep Smiling,**

*Vary Rev. William F. Corcoran Ph.D.*

# Online giving with give central



We would like to remind you that our parish accepts online donations through GiveCentral.

You can use GiveCentral to make paperless donations to our church. **You can give using a credit or debit card, or electronic checks, for either one-time or recurring donations.**

GiveCentral is a secure, online system that allows you to give whenever and however you like—from home or on the go with your phone.

*We understand that most transactions today are done electronically.*

*We want to provide you with that same convenient option at our church.*

## Here's how to sign up for GiveCentral:

1. Go to **WWW.GIVECENTRAL.ORG/LOCATION/208** to be taken directly to St. Elizabeth Seton Church donation page OR go to **WWW.STESETON.COM**, and scroll down homepage to THE GIVE CENTRAL IMAGE, click it and be directed to the St. Elizabeth Seton donation page on the GIVECENTRAL site.
2. Choose an **"EVENT"** to which you would like to donate (example "Sundays and Holy Days").
3. Enter the frequency, date range and dollar amount, then click, **"ADD TO MY GIFT BASKET."**
4. When you are ready, click **"MY GIFT BASKET"** at the top and verify your gifts.
5. Click **"CONTINUE,"** then **"COMPLETE PROFILE"** to register.
6. Complete the simple registration form, then click **"REGISTER AND CONFIRM GIFT."**
7. **YOU ARE REGISTERED!** Check for an email from admin@givecentral.org.

You can return to GIVECENTRAL at any time to make changes to your donations or personal information. Click on the **"LOGIN"** button on the GIVECENTRAL homepage, then enter your USERNAME and PASSWORD to access your profile.



*Please visit [www.givecentral.org](http://www.givecentral.org) and take a few minutes to set up your donations. Thank you for your generosity and support. Your contributions are appreciated! Need assistance? We would be happy to help! Please contact Donna Stolinski, St. Elizabeth Seton Business Manager, at 708-403-0101, x106, or email [dstolinski@steseton.com](mailto:dstolinski@steseton.com).*

# SENIORS OF SETON

*invite our parish and all to attend!*

## ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION

*with  
Bishop Ron Hicks*

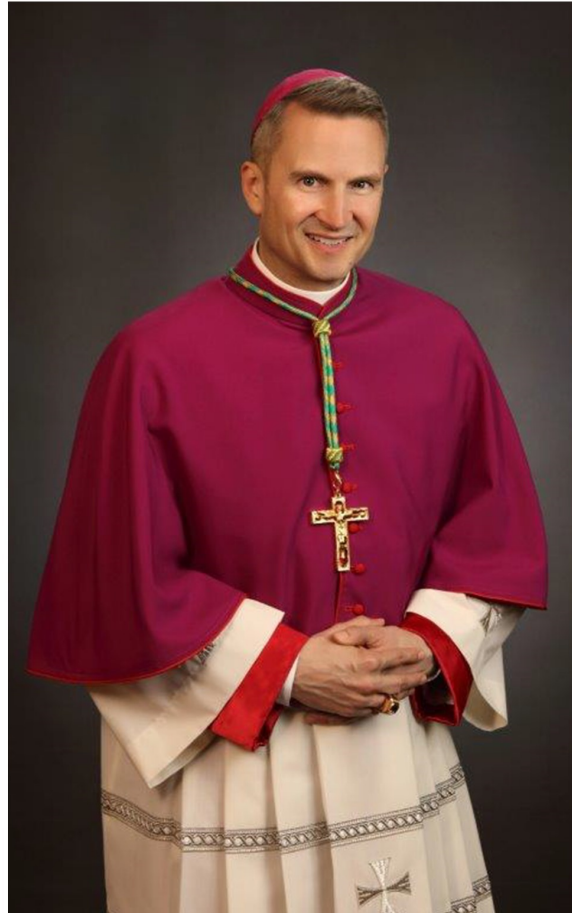
- TOPIC -

*"Life is Changed, Not Ended:  
What we Believe about  
Death and Resurrection"*

**THURSDAY, NOV. 30**  
*in the McBrady Center*

- AGENDA -

**9:00 AM - Mass (in the church)**  
**10:00 AM - Reflection Talk**



With solid theology and engaging stories Bishop Hicks will explore the differences between how the Church and secular society view death and resurrection. With faith and hope, look forward to listening to his inspirational presentation about eternal life.

### **ABOUT OUR GUEST SPEAKER**

Bishop Hicks arrived to St. Elizabeth Seton in 1996. Since then, he has lived and worked at NPH in El Salvador, been on faculty at Mundelein Seminary and served as the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Chicago. In 2018 he was ordained a bishop, and three years ago installed as the 6<sup>th</sup> Bishop in the Diocese of Joliet in Illinois. We welcome his return to our parish on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023. He will preside and preach at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Then, immediately after Mass he will give a reflection talk in the McBrady Center.

### **FREE-WILL OFFERING**

There will be a free-will offering to help Bishop Hicks with his continued ministry to the children of NPH-Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (Our Little Brothers and Sisters) in El Salvador.



ST. ELIZABETH SETON PARISH

# ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

**Sunday, Dec. 3**  
**3:00pm**  
**in the church**

*Let us mark this holy season of Advent  
with prayerful preparation for  
Celebrating the Birth of Christ.*

It is forgiving love that Jesus came  
into the world and desires for us more  
than any other this Advent Season. Let the  
light of his forgiveness shine forth in you  
as you prepare to celebrate his birth.  
All are welcome!

**SAVE THE DATE for these  
UPCOMING EVENTS**  
*at St. Elizabeth Seton Church!*

## SENIORS OF SETON ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION with BISHOP RONALD HICKS

Thursday, Nov. 30, Mass: 9:00am, church  
Reflection: 10:00am, McBrady Center

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MASSES

Friday, Dec. 8, 9:00am and 7:00pm Masses

## OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MASS AND FIESTA CELEBRATION

Friday, Dec. 8, 5:00pm, at St. Procopius Church

## SES ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY WINTER DONATION DRIVE

Saturday, Dec. 9, 2:00-5:00pm

Sunday, Dec. 10, 8:00am-12 Noon

## ST. ELIZABETH SETON MUSIC MINISTRY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, Dec. 10, 3:00pm, in the church

## CHILDREN'S LIVING NATIVITY

Sunday, Dec. 17, in the Narthex

At the 9:30am and 11:30am Masses

## RESPOND NOW TOY DRIVE

Sunday, Dec. 17, all Masses, in the Narthex

## MEN'S CLUB DONUTS WITH SANTA

Sunday, Dec. 17, after Masses, O'Mara Hall

## WELCOME

**Vincent and Jean Aiello**  
(Child: **Giana Aiello**)

**Mary Burmeister**

**Monique Robles**

(Children: **Giovanni Camacho, Santino Camacho, and Lorenzo Velez**)

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

*Due to privacy issues we honor prayer requests (by you/family member only) for two weeks. Please call to add name or continue for two weeks.*

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

**John York**  
**Nancy Marcus**  
**Catherine Neubeck**  
**Joanne Laux**  
**Valdene Ortez**  
**Richard Tropp**  
**Thomas Berta**

And for our deceased:

**Deacon George Brooks** (spouse of **Patricia Brooks**)  
**Donna Hynes** (spouse of **John Hynes**)

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday., Nov. 25 (5pm) **Dee Ulrich; George Clancy**

Sunday., Nov. 26

(7:30am) **Aurora T. DeLeon; Umberto Gagliardi**

(9:30am) **Charles Lofrano; Dee and Norm Gasior**

(11:30am) **Patrick R. McMahon; Tom Doyle**

Monday, Nov. 27 (9am) **Justinas Glamba; Leonard Linkus**

Tuesday, Nov. 28 (9am) **Margaret Kenealy; Julie Hensley**

Wednesday, Nov. 29 (9am) **Patricia Blaisdell; Paul Tishka**

Thursday, Nov. 30 (9am) **Joseph Brzegowy; Ruth Gorman (Living)**

Friday, Dec. 1 (9am) **James O'Connor; Larry Reyes (Living)**

Saturday., Dec. 2 (5pm) **Zofia Slawinski; Edmund Zilinskas**

Sunday., Dec. 3

(7:30am) **Gilberto Perez; James Gorman**

(9:30am) **Barbara Czarnecki; Stanley Wymimko**

(11:30am) **Varkalis Family; Zilinskas Family**

## STEWARDSHIP

**COLLECTION FOR 11-12-2023: \$19,644.63**

\$12,766.63 (envelopes)/\$6,878.00 (e-giving)

(PLEASE NOTE: Due to early publication schedules for the holiday,  
the collection for 11-19-2023, will be included in the 12-3-23 bulletin)

**Thank you for your generosity.**



For up-to-date parish information follow us

on Facebook: **Saint Elizabeth Seton Church-Orland Hills**

VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE: [WWW.STESETON.COM](http://WWW.STESETON.COM)



# A Child is Born

# Advent 2023

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

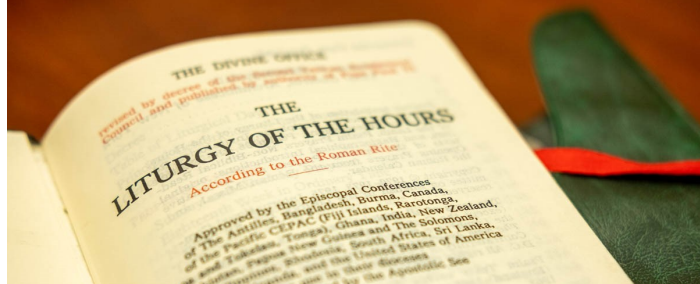
Saturday

<p><b>3</b> <b>DECEMBER</b> <b>THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> The PROPHETS say... "This is the day!"</p> 	<p><b>4</b> Some prophets looked for a day of justice. Some prophets looked for a day of mercy.</p> 	<p><b>5</b> All the prophets looked for the day God's ways would be followed by all people. Ask your family: "How do we follow God's ways together?"</p> 	<p><b>6</b> <b>ST. NICHOLAS</b> St. Nicholas loved children, so this day is for you! Ask a family member to read aloud your favorite book.</p> 	<p><b>7</b> God wants all people to live without fear. Do you feel afraid sometimes? Who can you ask to help you with your fear?</p> 	<p><b>8</b> <b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION</b> Advent is a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus. God prepared for the birth of Jesus by choosing his mother—before Mary was born!</p> 	<p><b>9</b> God wants all people to be free of hunger. Ask your family to fill a bag with food to share.</p> 
<p><b>10</b> <b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> JOHN THE BAPTIST says... "Prepare the way!"</p> 	<p><b>11</b> Advent is a time to get ready. How will you get ready for Christmas? Can you learn a new song to share? Can you make up a Christmas game to play?</p> 	<p><b>12</b> <b>OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE</b> Our Lady reminds us that standing with the poor gets us ready for Jesus. How can you and your family share with the poor?</p> 	<p><b>13</b> One way to share with the poor is to give our time. Does your parish help the poor? Can your family help with this work?</p> 	<p><b>14</b> Ask your family. What is God asking of us? How can we prepare?</p> 	<p><b>15</b> Talk with your family about your hopes for Christmas. Do you want time with friends or family? Is there something you wish you could do with mom or dad?</p> 	<p><b>16</b> "In the desert prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!" Isaiah 40:3</p> 
<p><b>17</b> <b>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> JOSEPH says... "Let us go to the City of David!"</p> 	<p><b>18</b> Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem. Will you travel this Christmas? Will travelers come to you? Pray for safe travels for all!</p> 	<p><b>19</b> Good thoughts can travel, too! Make a Christmas card to a friend or family member.</p> 	<p><b>20</b> Kindness travels with a smile. Does your family have a friend or family member in a retirement community or nursing home? This is a good week for a visit.</p> 	<p><b>21</b> "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary into your home. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus." Matthew 1:20-21</p> 	<p><b>22</b> Food can travel, too! Make a batch of your favorite Christmas cookies to share with friends or neighbors.</p> 	<p><b>23</b> Prayers travel most quickly of all. Finish these two short prayers: "God, please help me." "God, thank you for..."</p> 
<p><b>24</b> <b>THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> MARY says... "To us a child is born!"</p>  <p><b>25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> Say a prayer of thanks today for God's gift of Jesus Christ to each and every person on earth!</p>  <p>"Good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ the Lord!"</p> 						



**JOIN US FOR MORNING PRAYER THIS ADVENT**

Monday-Friday, 8:30-9:00 am, in the church  
beginning Monday, Dec. 4, through Friday, Dec. 22



## Happy Thanksgiving from your parish school

**Dear Parish Families,**

On Thanksgiving Day and always, the administration, faculty, and staff of the Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Catholic School join you in prayerful celebration of the many blessings God brings into our lives. We are grateful for your belief in Catholic education and we appreciate your support of CJB, a twice-recognized National Blue Ribbon School of Academic Excellence! Your prayers and friendship are a blessing ... as are your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Please know that the CJB community continues to keep our parishes and parishioner families close in prayer. May God bless you for your goodness.

**We are proud to serve as your parish school!**

**Ms. Jeanne Pagliaro**  
CJB School Principal



## **SAVE THE DATE!** **CARDINAL JOSEPH BERNARDIN** **CATHOLIC SCHOOL** **OPEN HOUSE and TOURS**

**3 year-old Pre-K through 8th Grade**

**Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024**

**11:00am-1:00pm**

Watch for INFORMATION on our OPEN HOUSE and TOUR opportunities for NEW STUDENTS and FAMILIES

**We are your Christ-centered Parish School**  
**twice-recognized as an "Exemplary High**  
**Performing National Blue Ribbon School**  
**of Excellence"**



For more information, visit [www.cjbschool.org](http://www.cjbschool.org), or  
contact Cynthia Devlin, at [cdevlin@cjbschool.org](mailto:cdevlin@cjbschool.org), or  
call 708-403-6525, x127.

## **Are you in an abusive relationship?**

**Call 708-429-SAFE (7233)**

**24/7, 365 days a year**



For confidential help call  
**888-456-HOPE**  
or visit [hopeafterabortion.com](http://hopeafterabortion.com)

Please help us celebrate as we prepare  
for the coming of the Promise...



Whether as a continued or new tradition,  
you are invited to participate at our...

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

**STARTING ON DECEMBER 2/3**, the *First Sunday of Advent*, we will have parish members process in with an Advent Candle at all week-end Masses. A prayer will be said prior to Mass, and then we will begin as our Altar Servers lead the procession and participants follow with the Advent Candle of the day. If you, your family or group/club are interested in participating in our Advent Candle Lighting, please contact Deacon John Sobol, email: [jsobol@steseton.com](mailto:jsobol@steseton.com) or call 708-403-0101 x102, as he will have the sign up sheet for the Advent Candle lighting.

## **SIGN UP SHEET AVAILABLE AT THE NARTHEX COUNTER**

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

12/02 | 5:00pm |

12/03 | 7:30am |

12/03 | 9:30am | **The Zapala Family**

12/04 | 11:30am |

### **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

12/09 | 5:00pm |

12/10 | 7:30am |

12/10 | 9:30am | **Bernadette and Dave Kemp**

12/10 | 11:30am |

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

12/16 | 5:00pm |

12/17 | 7:30am | **The Balediata Family**

12/17 | 9:30am

12/17 | 11:30am |

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

12/23 | 5:00pm |

12/24 | 7:30am |

12/24 | 9:30am | **Seniors of Seton Club**

12/24 | 11:30am |

**Our knitters have been working very hard to provide shawls, so we have an abundance of them! Help us to distribute shawls to someone who may have a need for them, whether yourself, or someone you know...**

*St. Elizabeth Seton Church*

## *Prayer Shawl Ministry*



**Distribution in the Narthex after Masses in the Narthex**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
**A PRAYER SHAWL DISPLAY/DISTRIBUTION!**

Our St. Elizabeth Seton Prayer Shawl Ministry has been working hard to meet the needs of our prayer shawl recipients by providing shawls that give spiritual, emotional and physical inspiration and comfort. The concept of receiving a "hug from God" has made an impression on people.

**\*NEW!**

We are adding new options to our offerings. We will include baby blankets and triangular wraps to our usual lap robes and regular rectangular shawls.

Each shawl maker begins to knit/crochet with a prayer for the recipient. Each time the work is taken up, the intention is renewed. Upon completion the group says a final prayer, and a priest/deacon gives a formal

blessing. Shawl recipients continue to be prayed for at each of our meetings, and at Prayer Shawl Ministries throughout the world.

If you would like to pick up a shawl, it is necessary to please share the first name of the recipient so we can inscribe it in our Prayer Intentions Book.

We thank you for embracing our ministry and providing us with feedback. There is no charge for the shawl, however, your donations keep the ministry going. We are deeply appreciative of your generosity. We could not exist without your support!

We ask you to please continue to prayer for our ministry!





The community of St. Procopius cordially invites all St. Elizabeth Seton parishioners and friends to join them for this very special event!

**Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
**Friday, Dec. 8**  
**Mass at 5:00 pm**  
**Fiesta Party to follow**

Along with a Ballet Folklórico (authentic Mexican dancers), St. Procopius Church shares an authentic meal at their Fiesta party. To have an accurate count of those attending for their food, please register on the sign-up sheet found on the counter in the Narthex or call our parish office (708-403-0101) and leave your name/phone by Tuesday, Dec. 5.

## Creation Care Corner

### Gratitude, Generosity and Stewardship

In his Encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, Pope Francis encourages us to imitate God's generosity, calling for an attitude of "...gratitude and gratuitousness, a recognition that the world is God's loving gift, and that we are called quietly to imitate his generosity in self-sacrifice and good works."

Pope Francis further explains, "One expression of this attitude is when we stop and give thanks to God before and after meals. I ask all believers to return to this beautiful and meaningful custom. That moment of blessing, however brief, reminds us of our dependence on God for life; it strengthens our feeling of gratitude for the gifts of creation; it acknowledges those who by their labours provide us with these goods; and it reaffirms our solidarity with those in greatest need." (*LS* 222, 227).

We show our respect and gratitude to the Creator by our stewardship and recognition of his bountiful creation as a precious gift requiring our care.

**Happy Thanksgiving Weekend!**

## ST. PROCOPIUS GIFT GUIDELINES...

If you chose a name tag for a Christmas gifts for our St. Procopius families, please follow these easy guidelines:

- 1) Buy **GIFT CARD OR A GIFT IF DESIGNATED ON TAG.** Include the **GIFT TAG** with the ID number (i.e., 1-1, 1-2)
- 3) Please return your **GIFTCARD/GIFTS** to St. Elizabeth Seton Church **BY SUNDAY, DEC. 3.**

Weekly parish office hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm, Saturday-Closed, Sunday, 8:00am-1pm.

If you have questions, please contact St. Procopius Sharing Parish liaison, Bruce Hall, at 708-803-6553 or email, [bwhall789@gmail.com](mailto:bwhall789@gmail.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. Alcoholics Anonymous 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.



**Scripture Reflections for  
FIRST SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

**LIVING  
the  
WORD**

**DECEMBER 3, 2023  
NEXT WEEK'S FOCUS:  
WAKE UP! WATCH OUT!**

*The call to be watchful and alert is a call to readiness, not to let our spirits get sluggish and slip off into a state of un-consciousness. But it is hard at times to stay up, to keep watch. Is Jesus being unreasonable here?*

■ **FIRST READING**

*We are the clay and you, O Lord, are the potter: we are the work of your hands (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).* This passage section was written by an individual or group after the end of the exile (539 VC), and it emphasizes the necessity for conversion. Israel cannot hope to experience the restoration promised in Deutero-Isaiah. Yet, even that is impossible if God does not intervene in a miraculous way in order to give Israel the strength to change its ways. Yet, even that is impossible if God does not intervene in a miraculous way in order to give Israel the strength to change its ways. Left on our own, we will never find the strength and courage to choose the good and reject evil. We desperately need the grace of God to use this Advent as a season of conversion. This author (as well as ourselves) trusts that God will provide this grace, for God is a loving parent who would never abandon his beloved children. God is also a potter who carefully shapes our hearts to respond to his call.

■ **SECOND READING**

*God is faithful; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son (1 Corinthians 1:3-9).*

The First Sunday of Advent emphasizes Jesus' return in glory at the end of time and not his coming in his birth at

Bethlehem. We must observe the importance of Jesus the Christ in this reading. This community had over-emphasized the importance of the Holy Spirit in their spiritual lives. In order to balance their theology, St. Paul speaks of how Christ must be the center of our lives and our love. He is the One who makes our lives and our hearts complete.

■ **GOSPEL**

*Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come (Mark 13:33-37).*

In the earliest days of the Church, Christians believed that Jesus was going to return in glory within a very short while. As time passed, they came to realize that it might be quite some time before Jesus did come. Thus, they began to speak about the second coming as something that would happen as unexpectedly as the arrival of a thief in the night. We do not know how long we are going to live. This does not mean that we should live in terror, but rather that we should live with the proper perspective. We must live each day as something precious, for there might not be another day. We must live today as if it were our first day, last day, and only day.

■ **REFLECTION**

Surely Jesus does not mean that we are to stay awake at all hours? Not only our bodies but our minds and our spirits need rest, both the rest of sleep and what we rightfully call re-creation. We need time to recharge our batteries, let our spirits play, give our souls room for leisure activities. Jesus is saying that part of our life's work is always to be in a state of readiness to welcome him, the one who will come to judge the living and the dead. Our faith reminds us that we are a people who wait for the Lord to return, just like a parent is always waiting for a child to return home late at night. One of the most difficult times to stay awake is after Thanksgiving dinner. All that stuffing—and not just what goes in the turkey! In his book, *Consumed*, Benjamin Barber points out how our consumer culture encourages adults to remain as infantile as possible, while it trains children to consume at an even younger age. Such consumption, he says, makes for a bloated people whose spirits are weighed down and sluggish. We all have moments when we feel alert, when our senses are primed to take in what is happening, when our hearts and minds are open. That is what the Lord is asking us to achieve. One way is to stay in a state of alertness is to fast, another is prayer.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK [November 27-December 3, 2023]**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Dn 1:1-6, 8-20 Lk 21:1-4	Dn 2:31-45 Lk 21:5-11	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28 Lk 21:12-19	Rom 10:9-18 Mt 4:18-22	Dn 7:2-14 Lk 21:29-33	Dn 7:15-27 Lk 21:34-36	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:-2-7 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37



*Our St. Elizabeth Seton Music Ministry presents . . .*



*Sunday, Dec. 10th*

★ *3:00 p.m.*  
*in the church*

*Light refreshments to follow*

★ Featuring our  
St. Elizabeth Seton  
Church Choir  
and directed by  
Ilya Vanichkin, ★  
Director of Music

*Free will offering accepted at the door*



ST ELIZABETH SETON CHURCH —ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

# WINTER DONATION DRIVE FOR MIGRANTS AND NEEDY CHILDREN

SATURDAY, DEC. 9  
SUNDAY, DEC. 10

2:00 PM-5:00 PM  
8:00 AM-12 NOON

A truck will be available in the church parking lot outside our east entrance doors  
(in the parking circle by the Bell Tower) to receive your donations:

## NEW OR GENTLY USED (all sizes)

Winter coats | Snow pants | sweaters |  
Winter boots | Winter hats | Winter gloves



All items must be  
brought in draw-string  
plastic bags

## NEW ONLY: Socks (all sizes)



(Please ensure that your gently-used items are of high-quality:  
not ripped, stained, or quality compromised in any way)



Your donations will  
be delivered to and distributed by: **Cradles to Crayons** [www.cradlestocrayons.org](http://www.cradlestocrayons.org)

## ANSWERING THE CRY OF THE POOR

Pope Francis has urged all men and women of goodwill to ask for the grace to hear the *cry of the poor*, “the Lord stretches out his hand, freely and not out of duty. And so it must be with us. We are not called to do good only to those who like us. That is normal, but Jesus demands that we do something more: to give to those who have nothing to give back, to love gratuitously... completely for free... for a person who cannot repay us. That will be our outstretched hand, our true treasure in heaven.”

— Pope’s Homily for the World Day of the Poor, 18 November 2018

Sponsored by St. Elizabeth Seton SVDP Society and Social Action Ministry  
Questions? Call Andy Panelli, 708-508-3111



## Seniors of Seton

Our Next General Meeting  
Tuesday, December 5, 2023  
McBrady Center  
10:00am (Doors open at 9:30am)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **MORNING OF REFLECTION WITH BISHOP HICKS - NOVEMBER 30, 2023**

After presiding at the 9:00am Mass, Bishop Hicks will give a presentation entitled "Life Is Changed, Not Ended: What We Believe About Death and Resurrection" followed by refreshments in the McBrady Center.

#### **CHRISTMAS CLASSICS w/ DIANE NOE - DECEMBER 5, 2023 including our yearly SWEETS TABLE**

Look forward to hearing songs from yesterday ranging from Standards, Broadway, Jazz, Swing, Country and Contemporary Music. Diane will bring a smile to your face and touch your heart.

#### **BJ's RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER - DECEMBER 6, 2023. 11:00am - 11:00pm...**

check our separate flyer in the bulletin for the designated code for our group.

#### **WHITE FENCE FARM/DENNY DIAMOND CHRISTMAS SHOW - DECEMBER 13, 2023 \$75/per person payable to SOS. Bus departs 10:00am/ returns 4:00pm. Ticket includes transportation, lunch, gratuity and performance. Limit: 40.**

#### **HOLOCAUST MUSEUM - JANUARY 10, 2024 \$95/ per person. Lunch at Maggiano's Restaurant. Tickets will be available at the December meeting.**

**Trip Flyers/Signup Forms** Payments can be made in the church office Monday-Friday 9:00am-1:00pm. Full details are available at our monthly meetings or church office. Please make checks payable to **Seniors of Seton**, unless otherwise noted. Questions: email Judy Gula at [rhip01@aol.com](mailto:rhip01@aol.com)/ phone: 708-261-6767 or Carol Pjosek, [caramiary@sbcglobal.net](mailto:caramiary@sbcglobal.net).

Please feel free to call Doug Benker, President of SOS if you have any questions: 708-738-8423.

## SAINT OF THE DAY



### SAINT LEO THE GREAT

*d. November 10, 461*

*With strong conviction of the importance of the Bishop of Rome in the Church, and of the Church as the ongoing sign of Christ's presence in the world, Leo the Great displayed endless dedication as pope.*

**ELECTED IN 440, POPE LEO** worked tirelessly as "Peter's successor," guiding his fellow bishops as "equals in the episcopacy and infirmities."

Leo is known as one of the best administrative popes of the ancient Church. His work branched into four main areas, indicative of his notion of the pope's total responsibility for the flock of Christ. He worked at length to control the heresies of Pelagianism—overemphasizing human freedom—Manichaeism—seeing everything material as evil—and others, placing demands on their followers so as to secure true Christian beliefs.

A second major area of his concern was doctrinal controversy in the Church in the East, to which he responded with a classic letter setting down the Church's teaching on the two natures of Christ. With strong faith, he also led the defense of Rome against barbarian attack, taking the role of peacemaker. In these three areas, Leo's work has been highly regarded. His growth to sainthood has its basis in the spiritual depth with which he approached the pastoral care of his people, which was the fourth focus of his work. He is known for his spiritually profound sermons. An instrument of the call to holiness, well-versed in Scripture and ecclesiastical awareness, Leo had the ability to reach the everyday needs and interests of his people. One of his sermons is used in the Office of Readings on Christmas.

It is said of Leo that his true significance rests in his doctrinal insistence on the mysteries of Christ and the Church and in the supernatural charisms of the spiritual life given to humanity in Christ and in his Body, the Church. Leo held firmly that everything he did and said as pope for the administration of the Church represented Christ, the head of the Mystical Body, and Saint Peter, in whose place Leo acted.

IMAGE ABOVE: *The Meeting between Leo the Great and Attila* | Raphael | photo by Art Renewal Center

**ST. ELIZABETH SETON PARISH****FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023 PARISH REVENUE AND EXPENSE ANNUAL REPORT**

<b>Parish Revenue</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Religious Education</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Sunday & Holy Day Collections/Envelopes & Loose	\$754,045		\$754,045	\$775,000
Sunday & Holy Day Collections/On-Line E-Giving	\$170,505		\$170,505	\$175,000
Christmas Collection	\$143,335		\$143,335	\$160,000
Easter Collection	\$79,732		\$79,732	\$75,000
Other Collections	(\$10,496)		(\$10,496) (a)	(\$3,500)
Tuition/Fees		\$49,962	\$49,962	\$47,660
Fundraising Net Income	\$23,735		\$23,735	\$25,000
Interest & Investment income	\$1,740		\$1,740	\$500
Sharing Collection/St. Procopius	\$13,643		\$13,643	\$12,000
Archdiocesan Second Collections	\$38,562		\$38,562	\$30,000
Estates, Bequests, Memorials			\$0	\$5,000
Continuing Maintenance Collection	\$18,055		\$18,055	\$18,000
To Teach Who Christ Is Campaign/TTWCI	\$3,493		\$3,493	\$6,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$85,006	\$6,176	\$91,182 (b)	\$52,340
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,321,355</b>	<b>\$56,138</b>	<b>\$1,377,493</b>	<b>\$1,378,000</b>
<b>Parish Expenses</b>				
Salaries	\$557,365	\$68,534	\$625,899	\$530,117
Employee Benefits	\$121,809	\$32,634	\$154,443	\$131,816
Books & Supplies	(\$3,526)	\$14,639	\$11,113	\$12,000
Administrative Expenses	\$39,651	\$16,349	\$56,000	\$38,000
Transportation	\$8,885	\$1,206	\$10,091	\$3,500
Food & Meals	\$15,186		\$15,186	\$15,000
Utilities	\$72,230	\$252	\$72,482	\$82,180
Maintenance & Building Repairs	\$77,990		\$77,990	\$60,000
Altar & Liturgical Supplies	\$35,728	\$400	\$36,128	\$25,000
Furnishings and Equipment	\$704		\$704	\$5,000
Parish Support/Subsidy to School	\$51,400		\$51,400	\$51,400
Archdiocesan Assessment	\$127,860		\$127,860	\$127,916
PRMAA Assessment	\$44,772		\$44,772	\$44,772
Property/Casualty/Auto Insurance	\$76,632		\$76,632	\$75,139
Sharing Collection/St. Procopius	\$13,643		\$13,643	\$12,000
Archdiocesan Second Collections	\$38,562		\$38,562	\$30,000
Capital Improvement/Parking Lot	\$17,050		\$17,050	\$0
Shared Capital Expense			\$0	\$77,500
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$39,599	\$19,141	\$58,740 (c)	\$41,599
<b>Total Parish Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,335,540</b>	<b>\$153,155</b>	<b>\$1,488,695</b>	<b>\$1,362,939</b>
<b>Total Parish Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$14,185)</b>	<b>(\$97,017)</b>	<b>(\$111,202)</b>	<b>\$15,061</b>

**AT-A-GLANCE FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023 HISTORICAL BUDGET TO ACTUAL COMPARISONS**

	<b>FY 2023 Budget</b>	<b>FY 2023 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2022 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2021 Actual</b>
Sunday/Holy Day Collections	\$950,000	\$924,550	\$953,868	\$962,240
Christmas Collection	\$160,000	\$143,335	\$161,694	\$158,701
Easter Collection	\$75,000	\$79,732	\$78,684	\$75,606
Continuing Maintenance Collection	\$18,000	\$18,055	\$18,148	\$26,611
Utilities Expense	\$82,180	\$72,482	\$70,066	\$69,998
Maintenance & Building Repairs	\$60,000	\$77,990	\$63,089	\$55,519
Ordinary Church Expenses	\$1,215,470	\$1,266,235	\$1,054,878	\$1,015,907
Religious Education Expenses	\$127,496	\$153,155	\$141,252	\$118,650
Religious Education Subsidy	\$79,836	\$97,017	\$91,300	\$71,606
School Subsidy	\$51,400	\$51,400	\$51,600	\$53,550



<b>CASH BALANCE SHEET</b>	<b>6/30/2023</b>	<b>6/30/2022</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Local Parish Operating Accounts (Including Stipend & Payroll)	\$823,197	\$946,275
Parish Organizations' Account Balances	\$29,118 (d)	\$18,601
Savings Accounts with Archdiocese	\$277,779	\$281,351
To Teach Who Christ Is/TTWCI Account	\$5,846	\$2,328
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,135,940</b>	<b>\$1,248,555</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities	\$52,047	\$53,460
Church Mortgage/Loan Balance from the Archdiocese	\$1,000	\$1,000
School Mortgage/Loan Balance from the Archdiocese	\$4,960,400	\$4,960,400
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$5,013,447</b>	<b>\$5,014,860</b>
Equity & Retained Earnings	(\$3,877,507)	(\$3,766,305)
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>\$1,135,940</b>	<b>\$1,248,555</b>

**FINANCIAL NOTATIONS:**

- (a). Net Flowers Collection - \$2,118, Offertory Envelopes Expense - (\$12,614).  
 (b). Stole and Stipend Fees - \$54,957 less (\$9,600) for priests' salaries, SES Source Specified Donations - \$18,183, Parish Organization's Net Transactions - \$10,517, RE Misc. Income & Donations - \$6,176, Votive Candles - \$2,072, Facility Usage Donations - \$1,775, Prior Year RE Tuition & Fees - \$1,230, Other Misc. Income - \$5,872.  
 (c). RE Misc. Expenses - \$19,141, Hospitality - \$12,473, Gifts & Donations - \$11,615, Stipend's Expense - \$5,215, Ministry & Education - \$4,933, Public Relations - \$3,026, Dues & Subscriptions - \$1,898, Other Misc. Expense - \$439.  
 (d). Seniors of Seton - \$10,452, Women's Club - \$7,371, Social Action Ministry - \$4,068, Youth Group - \$3,719, Men's Club - 3,508.

<b>STATUS ANIMARIUM</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Baptisms	80	79	73
First Communions	46	43	50
Confirmations	49	42	55
Marriages	19	17	11
Deaths	57	56	96
Average Number Attending Mass Each Weekend	1070	925	NA/Covid
Registered Families	1935	1933	2273
Religious Education Students	218	218	242



**CHRISTMAS GIFTS  
FOR LOCAL  
RESIDENTS  
OF OUR  
ST. COLETTA'S  
RESIDENTIAL  
HOMES**

**Would you be willing to help?  
A few gift names remain . . .**

St. Coletta's of Illinois is a social service agency providing residential, educational and vocational services to children and adults with developmental disabilities without regard to race, religion or economic background. Currently St. Coletta's has 27 group homes in 15 southwestern suburban communities in the Chicago area.

In the St. Coletta's residential homes located in our parish boundaries, there are a total of 12 people living at these three sites, all of whom are **non-verbal and/or autistic with various mental capacities**. We received an appeal from St. Coletta's to provide Christmas gifts for these individuals.

**If you are able to provide an "age-appropriate" Christmas gift** for one of the residents, call Donna Stolinski at the parish office at 708-403-0101, x106 (please leave a message with your name and phone and I will return your phone call). A gift tag (with specific gift suggestions) will be provided to you. The unwrapped gifts need to be returned by **Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2023**. God bless you for your care and generosity,

**Donna Stolinski  
Business Manager, St. Elizabeth Seton Church**



# JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS WAY TO **RAISE MONEY!**

**Date:** WEDNESDAY, DEC 6, 2023

**Time:** 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM

**For Dine In, Takeout or Curbside at this BJ's Location:**

**15081 South LaGrange Road, Orland Park**

Enjoy delicious food in a fun atmosphere along with your family  
and friends while earning funds in support of:

## **SENIORS OF SETON from Saint Elizabeth Seton Church**

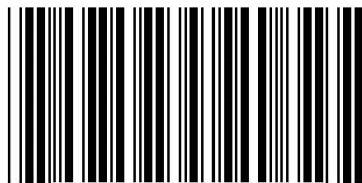
WITH EACH FLYER PRESENTED DURING THIS **FUNDRAISING EVENT**, BJ's WILL DONATE  
**20% OF FOOD AND SOFT BEVERAGE SALES** TO THE DESIGNATED ORGANIZATION!

### **VISIT US IN PERSON, ORDER ONLINE OR PLACE A TAKE-OUT ORDER**

**When dining in:** Present this flyer to your server at any time during your meal.

**When ordering online:** Enter the 6-digit fundraiser code below at the time of checkout.

**When placing a take-out order:** Present this flyer to a BJ's team member upon your arrival.



**D E C 1 6 7**

Valid for dine in, takeout or curbside when applicable. Not valid toward alcoholic beverages, Happy Hour specials or for delivery orders.  
Please do not distribute flyers on site during the event.







## ST. ELIZABETH SETON PARISH INFORMATION

■ **New Parishioners** We welcome all to participate in the life and mission of the parish. A complete listing of parish services/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: [www.steseton.com](http://www.steseton.com).

■ **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is on Saturday, between 4:15-4:45pm

■ **Sacrament of Baptism** is celebrated twice monthly at 1pm. Reserve your time by calling the parish office early. Limit of two children per Sunday.

■ **Baptismal Preparation** Couples preparing for the birth of their child should contact

the parish office to register for a one-night seminar, focusing on a parent's role in faith development. Session is mandatory prior to the Baptism.

■ **Anointing of the Sick** 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 of Adults

Adults 18/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. Call 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 Parish Office at 708-403-0101 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 Parish Office at 708-403-0101 for assistance.

■ **Sacrament of Marriage** Couples planning to marry are asked to make arrangements six months in advance.

■ **Wedding Workshops** offered throughout the year, provide engaged couples with guidelines/suggestions for the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage. The workshop covers topics on readings, music, flowers and video taping.

■ **Adult Choir** sings at Sunday Mass/special liturgies. Please contact Music Director at [music@steseton.com](mailto:music@steseton.com).

■ **Teen Choir** sings at the 11:30am Sunday Masses. Please contact our Music Director at [music@steseton.com](mailto:music@steseton.com).

■ **Moving?** Please call the office at 708-403-0101.

## Saint Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church

9300 West 167th St., Orland Hills, IL 708-403-0101 Fax 708-403-0105

Children's Religious Education Office: 708-403-0137

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MON-FRI: 9AM-1PM SAT: CLOSED SUN: 8AM-1PM

## Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Catholic School

WEBSITE: [WWW.CJBSSCHOOL.ORG](http://WWW.CJBSSCHOOL.ORG) 708-403-6525

Principal: Jeanne Pagliaro

Administrative Assistant: Cindy Labriola Devlin

### Pastoral Staff

**Very Rev. William T. Corcoran, Ph.D., Pastor**

[wcorcoran@steseton.com](mailto:wcorcoran@steseton.com)

**Rev. Daniel Korenchan, Associate Pastor**

[dkorenchan@steseton.com](mailto:dkorenchan@steseton.com)

**Rev. Kevin McCray, Associate Pastor**

[kmccray@steseton.com](mailto:kmccray@steseton.com)

**Rev. William T. O'Mara, Pastor Emeritus**

**Deacon John Sobol, Director of Liturgy**

[jsobol@steseton.com](mailto:jsobol@steseton.com)

**Deacon Robert (Catherine) Velcich**

[bvelcich@steseton.com](mailto:bvelcich@steseton.com)

**Deacon Frank Gildea**

### Music Ministry

**Ilya Vanichkin, Director of Music, [music@steseton.com](mailto:music@steseton.com)**

### Parish Office Staff

**Donna Stolinski, Business Manager**

[dstolinski@steseton.com](mailto:dstolinski@steseton.com)

**Darlene Raila, Communications**

[raila@steseton.com](mailto:raila@steseton.com)

**Karen Mirecki, Secretary**

[karenm@steseton.com](mailto:karenm@steseton.com)

### Youth Ministry

**Bruce Hall, Coordinator**

[bhall@steseton.com](mailto:bhall@steseton.com)

### Religious Education Staff

**Diana Barracca, Catechesis**

[barracca@steseton.com](mailto:barracca@steseton.com)

**Mary Vlaming, Catechesis**

[mvlaming@steseton.com](mailto:mvlaming@steseton.com)

### Maintenance Staff

**Raymond Yanowsky, Director of Maintenance**

[ryanowsky@steseton.com](mailto:ryanowsky@steseton.com)

**Carlos Jaurez, Staff**

**Maria Makuch, Staff**

**Dan Kosty, Staff**

## REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: 9:00 am

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30am

**ROSARY: Tuesdays/Thursdays, 9:30am**

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: Wednesdays, 9:30am**