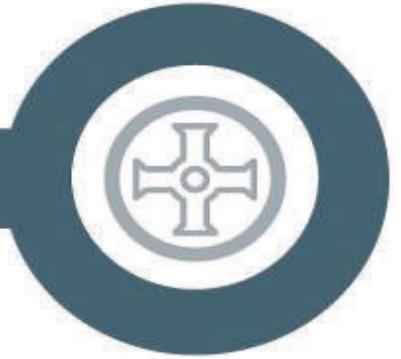


First Sunday of Advent  
November 28, 2021

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

515 North Main St. • Holmen, WI 54636-9387  
608-526-4424 • office@seasholmen.org • www.seasholmen.org



## THE BANE AND BLESSED

As Christians we know something about the world that the world doesn't know about itself. Believers and non-believers all know that the powers of darkness are desperately trying to keep a hold on the world. Everybody in the world knows that. But as Christian we also know about the new world being born and is sure to come. We know something about the world that the world does not yet know. That is why we as Christians are different and ought to be.

We believe in darkness and light, good and evil, past and future, now and not yet. We await a new heaven and a new earth, but know that the new world has already come. When a political rally against apartheid was prohibited, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu held a service in the Cathedral at Cape Town, South Africa. Soldiers and riot police, armed with bayonets and machine guns, stood around the church interior intending to stop it. Archbishop Tutu told them, "You may be powerful—very powerful—but you are not God. God will not be mocked. You have already lost." Then, coming down from the pulpit with his engaging smile, he walked up to them and said, "Therefore since you have already lost, we are inviting you to join the winning side." Advent is the call to join the winning side. Advent celebrates God at work, and we want to work with him. So we pray, and provide clothes for strangers, bring cans and boxes of food for the hungry, do the works that glorify God while we wait for the new world that we see. And know is sure to come.

The Lord be with you.  
Father John Parr

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD,  
WHEN I WILL FULFILL THE PROMISE  
I MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH."

—JEREMIAH 33:14

## Preparing the Manger

Where do you fall in the “Christmas-songs-in-November” debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There’s no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it’s not everyone’s cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It’s hard to miss that point — Lent doesn’t even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It’s harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — “advent” — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, “so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.”

So let us not forget — our master’s advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  
Everyday Stewardship/©LPi



## Knights of Columbus

Thank you to those members who were able to help with either setting up or tearing down the Christmas Bazaar. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Your Holmen KC's is again sponsoring the annual **Christmas Party** in the gathering space after the 5pm Mass on **Sat., Dec. 4th**. All Parishioners and their families are welcome to join in for the blessing of the Christmas Nativity Scene, sing some Christmas Carols, and have a free meal. We may even have a "Special" visitor show up to hand out presents for the children!



## Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,  
Master of both the light and the darkness,  
send your Holy Spirit  
upon our preparations for Christmas.  
We who have so much to do  
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.  
We who are anxious over many things  
look forward to your coming among us.  
We who are blessed in so many ways  
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.  
We whose hearts are heavy  
seek the joy of your presence.  
We are your people, walking in darkness,  
yet seeking the light.  
To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!”  
—Henri J.M. Nouwen

**Attention Registered Members** - To update your personal info that we have on file such as, phone numbers, emails, addresses, etc., please log in to [MyOwnChurch](http://MyOwnChurch) through the link on our website at [seasholmen.org](http://seasholmen.org). Here you can access your contribution statements as well. Any questions, please contact Sandy in the parish office. Thank you.

Having a hard time finding that perfect **Christmas gift** for someone special? We now have **donation cards** available in the office so that you can make a cash donation in someone’s name to our Food Pantry. The certificates read, “*In the spirit of joy this Christmas season, a donation to the Holman Food Pantry at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was made in your name.*” See Carol Reider for a donation card for your gift recipient. Thank you and God Bless!

## Altar Servers

Fr. Parr is looking for altar servers! Anyone 4<sup>th</sup> grade or older, male or female, is invited to serve. Serving at the altar is a great way for young people to be involved in parish life. Please contact Mr. Pat Brueggen for information on training. If you are already trained, please sign up on the app or simply volunteer to serve when you come to Mass. We greatly appreciate your service.



## Faith Formation

Knights of Columbus KEEP CHRIST IN CHRIST-MAS poster contest will soon be underway for children grades 1-4. Your child should have received the materials at Faith Formation class but if not, you may pick them up in the parish office.



**RULES** • Poster must reflect the theme of Keep Christ in Christmas. • Each poster should be the original work (including concept, layout, slogan and any visual images) of a single person. • Poster must be 11X17 inches in size. If pastels, chalk or charcoal are used the poster must be laminated or covered with clear plastic. • Each poster must be submitted with a Knights of Columbus “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest entry form. **Return by Dec. 1 to parish office or to Faith Formation teacher.**

### Important Faith Formation Dates

- Dec. 1 - Confessions Grades 3-6
- Dec. 5 Sunday School for Pre-K and Kindergarten at Children’s Palace 9:15am
- Dec 8 No Faith Formation
- Dec 12 First Penance Parent Retreat 11:45 am after 10:15 Mass
- Dec 15 Confession grades 7-10 meet at church 6:30

If you did not receive the Advent mailing, please contact the parish office to ensure that we have a correct address on file for you. Thank you.

### **Daily Advent Reflections – 4 great choices**

- Chris Stefanick – Unshakeable Joy. Sign up for a free 26-day Advent retreat with Chris Stefanick and Cardinal Cantalamessa. With 26 days of joy-filled videos and daily reflections, made specifically to fit your busy schedule, we know that YOU can unlock the secret to Unshakeable Joy today. Visit [reallifecatholic.com](http://reallifecatholic.com) to register.
- Bishop Robert Barron – Daily Gospel Reflections. Sign up for free daily reflections by Bishop Barron by clicking here: [dailycatholicgospel.com/sign-up-daily-gospel](http://dailycatholicgospel.com/sign-up-daily-gospel)
- Matthew Kelley – Dynamic Catholic with Daily Gospel Reflections. Sign up for free video meditations on the Gospel Reading for each day of Advent. Visit [dynamiccatholic.com/advent.html](http://dynamiccatholic.com/advent.html)
- Praying with Scripture: A beautiful way to prepare for the Birth of our Savior is to take a few minutes each day reflecting on a Scripture passage that describes the events leading up to Christmas. Go to [diolc.org/deeper](http://diolc.org/deeper) and click “Praying with Scripture” for a Prayer Card with 7 Scriptures or click on “Mysteries of the Rosary” for a Prayer Card with the five Joyful Mysteries.

## Thank you Volunteers!

Please join us in thanking all the wonderful volunteers who helped out with this year’s annual Christmas Bazaar on Nov. 13th. We had so many beautiful items donated and our volunteers worked non-stop baking, making up baskets, setting up, manning the booths and cleaning up.

The following are the Cash Raffles winners:

- Top Prize \$500—Brea Thatcher
- 1st Prize \$100 Holmen Locker-Richard Martin
- 2nd Prize \$100 Kwik Trip-Mary Lamprich
- 2-3rd Prizes \$50 Features-Phil Scholze and Oliver Valentine
- 2-4th Prizes-\$50 Pizza Corral-Curt Woods and Joyce Tabbert

## In Need?

Parishioners, if you are struggling this Christmas season and would like food, bill, and/or gift assistance please contact Fr. Parr, Carol Reider, or Pat Brueggen. People have been generous with us and we have plenty to share with others. All requests are confidential, and we are privileged to serve you.



Tickets Available Now- St. Elizabeth’s Huberters are selling tickets for their annual **Sportsmen Night and Wild Game Feed**. The event is scheduled for **Saturday, February 19, 2022**.

Tickets are \$50.00 each and include all you can eat wild game, beverages and a chance to win 1 top prize.

To purchase tickets, contact Pat Brueggen in the parish office and check out their Facebook page at: Saint Elizabeth’s Huberters for updates and for info on 2 other raffle tickets available to purchase for chances to win a UTV and a custom rifle.



No pledge is too big or too small. Prayers are also welcome. Please send in your Diocesan Annual Appeal pledge card as soon as possible directly to the Diocese, checks made out to the Diocese. Extra pledge cards are available in the gathering place. Thank you to those 90 donors out of 834 registered families that have donated so far. We are currently at 38% of our target. You can easily donate online as well at <https://diolc.org/donate-online>. Thank you and God Bless

**Please note – the daily Mass on Friday, Dec. 3 has been changed from 8:30 to 8:00am due to our Caring and Sharing event.**

## CALENDAR

<b>Sunday, November 28</b>	<b>1st Sunday of Advent</b>
8:00 am Mass †	Krista Clements
10:15 am Mass	People of SEAS
<b>Monday, November 29</b>	<b>Advent Weekday</b>
8:30 am Mass †	Rod Clark
6:30 pm	Huberters Meeting
<b>Tuesday, November 30</b>	<b>St. Andrew</b>
8:30 am Mass	Priest Intention
6:30 pm	Bible Study
<b>Wednesday, December 1</b>	<b>Advent Weekday</b>
8:30 am Mass	Priest Intention
5:30 pm	Choir practice
6:30 pm	Faith Formation classes (Gr.3-6 Confessions)
<b>Thursday, December 2</b>	<b>Advent Weekday</b>
8:30 am Mass †	William Kroner
6:30 pm	Sacrament of Penance
<b>Friday, December 3</b>	<b>St. Francis Xavier</b>
8:00 am Mass †	Goldie Warzynski
9-noon	Christmas Caring and Sharing
<b>Saturday, December 4</b>	<b>Advent Weekday</b>
4:00 pm	Sacrament of Penance
	<b>Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Advent</b>
5:00 PM Mass	<b>Special Intention for</b>
	<b>the Knights of Columbus families</b>
6:00 pm	Blessing and Lighting of the Nativity/KC Christmas party
<b>Sunday, December 5</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>
8:00 am Mass †	Mark Phillips
10:15 am Mass	People of SEAS



Please celebrate the Lord's mercy in the **Sacrament of Penance** during these days of Advent on **Thurs. evenings (Dec.2-Dec. 23)** at 6:30pm, Saturdays at 3:45pm. Please feel free to contact Father Parr if you wish to schedule a time more convenient for you.



### The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Wednesday, Dec. 8**  
This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

**Mass Times**  
8:30am and 5:00pm.

The parish office will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 8.

## PARISH INFORMATION

### PARISH RECTORY & OFFICE

Phone/526-4424 Fax/526-3177 Email: office@seasholmen.org  
**STAFF**

**Pastor**, Father John Parr.....pastor@seasholmen.org  
**Pastoral Minister**, Carol Reider.....carol@seasholmen.org  
**C.R.E. (3 yrs-gr. 5)**, Mary Luebke.....reled@seasholmen.org  
**D.R.E. (gr. 6-12)**, Patrick Brueggen.....youth@seasholmen.org  
**Director of Music**, Beth Lakmann.....music@seasholmen.org  
**Secretary**, Sandy Jerue.....office@seasholmen.org  
Pastor Emeritus, Msgr. Delbert J. Malin

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Weekend:** Sat. 5:00 pm and Sun. 8:00 & 10:15 am

**Weekday:** 8:30am

Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8am-4pm, Fri. 8am - noon

**Gluten Free Hosts:** St. Elizabeth's has gluten free hosts available. Please contact Fr. Parr, and he will make the necessary arrangements.

### SACRAMENTS

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:00 pm or by appointment.

**Baptism:** Baptism involves membership in the church. Parents are to attend a preparation session.

**Marriage:** Arrangements for a wedding date are to be made at least six months before the anticipated date.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Individual celebrations upon request. Please call the office when family members are hospitalized.

**Confirmation:** Two year preparation program in grades 9 and 10.

### PASTORAL VISITATION

Anyone who desires a personal home visit is invited to call the parish office.

### CATECHUMENATE

Anyone wishing to become a full member of the Church is invited to visit the parish office.

### Parish Council Members

Alyson Haugen  
Jennifer Fisk  
Brian Clements  
Christine Olson  
Mary Lenz  
Kathy Nicklaus  
Bill Heinz  
Patty Heiderscheit

### Finance Council Members

Larry Warzynski  
Shawn Handland  
Janice Dvoracek  
Barry Ploessl  
Pat Stephens



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Lorraine Atkinson

Renee Borkowski

Rod and Linda Halvorson

Sherry Hanson

Julie Malin

Bill Peters

Ken Proctor

Cindy Riteman

Bailey Rohrer

Aubrey Scott

Diane Scholze

Phyllis Thaldorf

Addison Quinn Usitalo

When requesting that an individual be added to our prayer list, you must have the consent of the individual or their family for their name to be published. Contact the parish office to add and to remove requests. Thank you.

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**A Walk With Peter  
An Advent Journey  
Jesus to Peter**

**The Love Story Continues**

Join us as Mr. Pat Brueggen explores the early church guided under our first Pope, Peter. Video lessons with Dr. Tim Grey covering the span from Jesus' early calling of the disciples to choosing Peter to hold the keys to the Kingdom. The Church is now the key to God's ever expanding love and His salvation plan for His children through His Son Jesus in His New and Eternal covenant made in the Eucharist.

**Tuesdays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7th, Dec. 14, Dec. 21  
6:30pm - 7:45pm**

For more information contact:  
Pat Brueggen youth@seasholmen.org or  
(608) 526-4424



If you would like to make a donation toward Christmas flowers to decorate the church, you can use the flower envelope in your November/December packet or use a blank envelope with your donation and the name of the person(s) you would like to memorialize. A list of those who are honored and remembered will appear in a January bulletin. Thank you.

**Attention Parishioners**

If all goes as planned, new carpeting will be installed in the church beginning Monday, December 27th. That being said, there will be **no daily Masses Dec. 27– Dec. 30**. Please make note.



**Calling children and young people of all ages...** We invite the children and young people of the parish to participate in the Offertory Procession by bringing in food from home to donate to the food pantry or by taking one of the food items from the basket in the back of church. Simply meet in the

back of the church when the Offertory song begins. Parents are welcome to accompany their children. Thank you for living out Jesus' call to feed the hungry!



**We welcome  
Camila Leon,**

daughter of Antonie Leon and Daniela Solis,  
to our faith community in the  
celebration of Baptism.

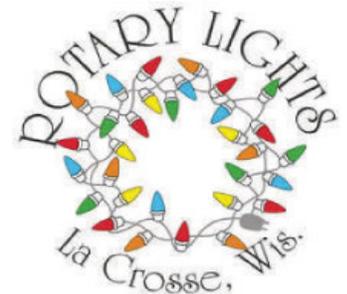
It is now our privilege to help this child  
grow in faith.

We have a great gift of faith to share.

**La Crosse's Rotary Lights**

Help assist Rotary Lights in its mission of collecting non-perishable food items to help feed the hungry in the greater La Crosse area. Please bring your family (and your non-perishable food items) to the Rotary Lights display in Riverside Park. It is a wonderful opportunity for families to enjoy an evening together. The SEAS Holmen Food Pantry is the recipient of the donated food items on the following evenings:

- Tues., Dec. 7**
- Fri., Dec. 10**
- Sat., Dec. 18**
- Fri., Dec. 24**
- Thurs., Dec. 30**



**The Rosebud Program**

The Elizabeth Ministry program at SEAS is a visual reminder of the power of prayer through the Rosebud program. At the front of the church in the sanctuary under our Blessed Mary, you will see a vase of roses. These roses each

represent a sacred life and each color represents a different prayer request. A **pink** rosebud honors pregnancy and the unborn baby. A **red** rosebud celebrates birth or adoption. A **white** rosebud remembers a child lost through miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, or infant or child death (whether recent or in the past). A **yellow** rosebud represents those waiting to conceive or adopt. A **blue** rosebud represents those families experiencing troubling times, and a **purple** rosebud represents grandparents' concerns.

When the occasion arises, simply approach the altar, pick out the appropriate rosebud, and place it in the vase. A journal is available to fill out with your name or with an anonymous notation whatever details you would like the parish to hold in prayer. Prayer cards for the various situations are located next to the roses and can be taken home and kept for personal meditation. The roses will serve as reminders to all members of the parish to hold your intentions in prayer. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Reider at 608-526-4424.