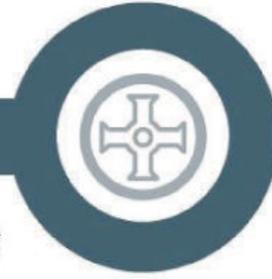


Third Sunday of Advent
December 12, 2021

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

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



In recent weeks we have heard much about fights aboard airplanes. Flight crews feel threatened by the violence. A friend who is a frequent traveler told me he is thinking of packing boxing gloves when he gets on board. It reminds me of a comment made to me years ago by a young lady I taught in high school. At the time she worked for what is now Delta Airlines. Kay told me that when a flight was canceled due to bad weather the loudest complaints came from the first class passengers. They think their money and position should inoculate them from things going wrong, from having to wait patiently in line. She said that often the least complaint came from those sitting in the back of the plane, next to the restrooms.

Advent keeps us humble. Advent tells us that our God is infinitely patient with us. Through no merit or effort of our own, we have been given a Savior.

May we wait in line patiently and prayerfully this Advent. May we say “Yes” to all God’s saving plan holds for us. May we grow more eager to say yes to God’s love, yes to his Kingdom of justice and peace, yes to every opportunity to serve the Gospel, yes to knowing that our God is a faithful companion with us every step of our journey.

The Advent prophets call us to wait patiently for the Lord is coming. It is worth the wait.

The Lord be with you.
Father John Parr





Hospitality as Stewardship

“Let us not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it.” Hebrews 13:2

During this Advent season, let us practice our stewardship by striving to show hospitality to one another – to our families and friends, to our neighbors, and to all those we encounter. Christian hospitality involves being truly present to people, listening to them, opening our hearts to them, and assisting them with their needs. However, providing hospitality for others does not need to be difficult, complicated, or expensive.

Hospitality can be shown to others in the simplest of ways – with a smile, a pleasant greeting, or a friendly chat. We can telephone someone in a nursing home, shovel the walk of an elderly person, or offer to bring groceries to homebound neighbors. What is important is that we be present to the other person and see – truly see – the person before us. When we are able to do that, we will come to recognize the face of Christ in each and every person we encounter.

On Tuesday, December 14th, we celebrate the Memorial of St. John of the Cross. St. John of the Cross was a Carmelite friar who composed powerful poetry about our soul’s journey to be united in love with God. Here is one of his prayers we can pray this Advent season:



O Blessed Jesus, grant me stillness of soul in Thee.
Let Thy mighty calmness reign in me.
Rule me, O thou King of gentleness, King of peace.
Give me control, control over my words, thoughts, and actions.
From all irritability, want of meekness, want of gentleness,
O dear Lord, deliver me.
By thine own deep patience give me patience, stillness of soul in Thee.
Make me in this, and in all, more and more like Thee. Amen

Support aging religious. You will find an envelope in your monthly packet for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests served for years for small stipends. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps pay for medications, nursing care and other needs for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.

Liturgical Ministers Needed

Our Sunday worship depends on the stewardship of many individuals. Each weekend



Mass, we rely on people to step up and serve God and our parish.

Currently, we are looking to add to our ministry rosters and are in need of:

Ministers of Hospitality: Ministers of Hospitality perform the vital functions of welcoming our members and guests and assisting God’s people at Mass. We welcome individuals, couples, and families to participate in this ministry.

Lectors: Lectors proclaim the Word of God. We welcome any confirmed Catholic who would like to share the Word of God with others.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: We utilize two EMHC at each weekend Mass. If you are drawn to the Eucharist and to Sunday worship, please prayerfully consider if this ministry is for you.

Please contact Carol Reider to sign up or if you have any questions. **The parish NEEDS your service now.** Especially as Christmas approaches, we need to increase our numbers. Thank you.



50th Jubilee Wedding Anniversaries

Please contact the parish office by Wed., Dec. 21, if you will be celebrating your 50th anniversary in 2022. Congrats on 50 years of marriage!



ATTENTION ALL GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 9 THROUGH 14: The annual Knights of Columbus **Free Throw Contest** will be held Wednesday, **December 22nd** at the Holmen Boys and Girls Club. Registration begins at 6:00pm with free throw shooting to begin around 6:30pm. You do not need to pre-register to shoot in the contest. Come and join the fun on December 22nd!!

A Time of Preparation

"Get the road ready for the Lord, make a straight path for Him to travel." Mark 1:3

We are in the season of Advent, the season of preparing our hearts for the coming of the Lord. Just as we get cleaned up, dressed up, and clean our homes for the coming of an important guest, we need to clean up our hearts for the coming of our most important guest, Jesus. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a perfect way to do that cleansing.

It is important to remember that reconciliation is not just needed in our relationship with God. Throughout the year, and especially during the season of Advent, it is important to remember that we need reconciliation among our friends and family.

Important Faith Formation Dates

Wed., Dec. 15- Confessions for grades 7-10 6:30pm

Thurs., Dec. 16- First Penance 6:30-7:30pm

Sat., Dec. 18- First Penance 3:00-4:30pm

Wed., Dec. 22- No Faith Formation

Wed., Dec. 29- No Faith Formation



PCCW- Parish Council of Catholic Women Needs You!

We are **in need of a President** for our PCCW beginning January 1st. Kathy Severson is stepping down from the position. We are truly grateful for her many years of service. If you are interested in lending your time and talents to this group, please contact the parish office.

The position will include running the meetings held a few times a year, organizing committees for the annual Rummage Sale and Christmas bazaar, along with any other fundraisers.



Did you know?

- This group of women includes all the parish women members of St. Elizabeth's age 18 and older
 - No dues to belong
 - They host fundraising events, such as the Rummage Sale, Christmas Bazaar, and organize the Baccalaureate Brunch.
- Any new ideas and fundraisers are welcome. Please consider a role in this important parish council.

In Memory of Sister Bridget Donaldson OSB

For thirty-seven years Sister Bridget served our parish and touched the Gospel to the lives of many people in our community and beyond. We miss her dearly.

Through your generous donations so far, we were able to commission the sculptor Timothy Schmalz of Canada to create *The Last Supper* as a lasting memorial. As can be seen in the accompanying photo the sculpture depicts our Lord at table giving himself to us in the Breaking of Bread (Eucharist). The twelve empty seats invite people to sit at Christ's table to be fed with his body and blood and to be his disciples in the world today.



The sculpture costs about \$27,000. The table, stools, installation and landscaping will bring the total cost to about \$60,000. He estimates about one year for the work to be completed.

If you wish to donate, you can do so by making a **check out to SEAS** and in the memo please include *Sr. Bridget Memorial* or you can donate online using checking/savings/credit or debit on our parish website at: seasholmen.org.

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. The certificates read, "In the spirit of joy this Christmas season, a donation to the Holmen 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!

Good Mourning Grief Group

Losing a partner, a soulmate, a spouse, or a child "demands" the greatest inner strength a person can apply, and it requires the help and wisdom of fellow grief travelers. The next meeting for SEAS Good Mourning Ministry will take place on **Wed., Dec. 15th at 1:00pm** in the room across from the kitchen. Please join us if you are able. Contact Carol Reider at the parish office if you have any questions.

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 12 3rd Sunday of Advent
 8:00 am Mass † Susan Schafer
 10:15 am Mass People of SEAS
 11:45 am 1st Penance Retreat
 7:00 pm KC General Meeting

Monday, December 13 St. Lucy
 8:30 am Mass Special Intention for
 Francis and Rodney Johnson family

Tuesday, December 14 St. John of the Cross
 8:30 am Mass † Dale Reinhart
 6:30 pm Bible Study

Wednesday, December 15 Advent Weekday
 8:30 am Mass † Susan Schafer
 1:00 pm Good Mourning Ministry
 5:30 pm Choir practice
 6:30 pm Faith Formation Classes

Thursday, December 16 Advent Weekday
 8:30 am Mass Special Intention for
 Theodore and Darlene
 6:30 pm Sacrament of Penance

Friday, December 17 Late Advent Weekday
 8:30 am Mass Special Intention for
 Donald and Joyce and family

Saturday, December 18 Late Advent Weekday
 4:00 pm Sacrament of Penance
 5:00 PM Mass † Vigil: 4th Sunday of Advent
 Willard Tanke

Sunday, December 19 4th Sunday of Advent
 8:00 am Mass † El Bloudeck
 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. 16th and 23rd)** 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.

We are so grateful to those donors who have sent in their pledge cards for the **Diocesan Annual Appeal** so far. We continue to get closer to our parish target. Donations can easily be made online at: diolc.org/donate-online or please remember to make your checks out the to Diocese of LaCrosse (NOT to the parish) and please mail directly to the Diocese.

Parish Target: \$90,240

As of 12/6/21: \$44,450 Pledged/Received

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.

We will be starting fresh with the prayer list Jan. 1. If you so desire to have the name you have submitted to remain on this list, please call the office by Dec. 20th. Thank you and God Bless you.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Lorraine Atkinson
 Renee Borkowski
 Rod and Linda Halvorson
 Sherry Hanson
 Julie Malin
 Ken Proctor

Cindy Ritteman
 Bailey Rohrer
 Aubrey Scott
 Diane Scholze
 Phyllis Thaldorf
 Addison Quinn Usitalo

Please remember, the sick, hospitalized, military members, homebound and anyone needing of our prayers.
 May they experience the healing power of God.

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 publicized. Please also inform us when a name should be removed. Thank you.



Weekend Breakfast 7am-11am
Lunch Menu starting at 11am
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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, Dec. 7th, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21
6:30pm - 7:45pm**

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



**Christmas Mass Times
Vigil of Christmas
Friday, December 24
4:00 pm & 6:00 pm
Christmas Day
Saturday, December 25
8:00 am & 10:15 am**

(There will be no 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, Dec. 25)

**No reservations are being taken for
Christmas Masses.**

*We ask that everyone in your party arrive 15 minutes before the start of Mass as we will fill all available seats at that time.

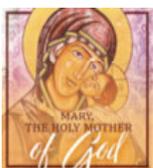
Masks are strongly recommended. Please bring your own as we have limited available.

**The Parish Office will be closed Fri., Dec. 24,
Mon., Dec. 27 and Fri., Dec. 31**

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Mass Time**

Saturday, January 1, 2022 at 9:00am

(Not A Holy Day of Obligation in 2022)



David Scholze, age 79, died on Wed., Dec. 1, 2021. His funeral was celebrated at SEAS on Mon., Dec. 6th. David is survived by his wife Celia, his children Tim (Rachel), Mike, Lynn, and Mark (Cynthia). Please keep David and his family in your prayers. **May he rest in peace.**

Thomas Mumaw, age 73, husband of Pamela, died Tues., Nov. 30, 2021. His funeral was celebrated at SEAS on Tues., Dec. 7th. He is further survived by his children and grandchildren. Please keep Thomas and his family in your prayers. **May he rest in peace.**

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:

**Sat., Dec. 18
Fri., Dec. 24
Thurs., Dec. 30**



Attention Parishioners:

You may have noticed we are back to using missalettes. We ask that you do not take these home as they are an expense to the parish and we have only enough for our Masses.

If you would like to purchase one for yourself, they are available at OCP.org. Search for the Breaking Bread 2022 w/Daily Readings to have the exact copy. Thank you for your understanding.

