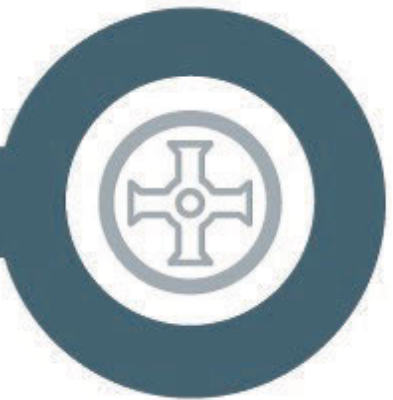


The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
December 26, 2021

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

Fay was a much respected carpenter in town during my growing up years. He labored alone and was highly regarded for the work he did. My parents built an addition to our house and Fay did all the work. As I look back I am amazed he got so much done because he was always willing to talk with people, even kids who must have been so bothersome. He was kind and gentle, and easy to talk with. Kids gathered wherever he was working to talk with him. From him I learned how to shoot pool and a BB gun, how not to use a power saw (he had lost a finger), how wrong it was to judge people based on color, never own a foreign car. I learned from him what it looked like to have a gentle spirit, a listening heart, time for others. My father taught me the same things but Fay was the right person at the right time.

There are limits to what a parent can do. Cherish, feed, clothe, warm, educate, teach by example, yes; but how far do parental responsibilities stretch? Some things I could only learn from Fay. And from trusted others that came into my life. When the child Jesus was left behind in the Jerusalem temple, were his parents to be regarded as negligent? Or did the child Jesus benefit by other adults who acted responsibly until his parents arrived?

The family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is the Holy Family unlike any other. But still his human family was fragile and vulnerable. And it was in this family that Jesus learned about the human family. And we do as well.

The Lord be with you.
Father John Parr



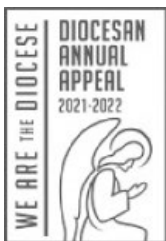
Thank You!

Our deepest gratitude goes out to so many of you for your stewardship of time, talent, and treasure in support of our Christmas Caring and Sharing. Our Caring and Sharing event was very successful. We provided generous gifts, clothes, and food to over 100 families, bringing them a great deal of Christmas joy. Special thanks to:



- the many people who donated the clothes, bedding, and other items that were gifted to the families
- the parishioners who “adopted” the children and provided toys, pajamas, hats, gloves, socks, and other goodies
- Mary Clark and all her elves who cleaned, sorted, organized, and labeled all the donated items
- all who took and filled a Christmas food box... and Judy Jakes who gathered, collected, and organized the entire food box project
- the elves who transported all the items from the rectory to the church on Saturday and those who set everything up on Sunday
- the shopping elves who fulfilled the wish lists of our guests throughout the week
- Finally, the working elves who enthusiastically shared all with our guests on Friday

It took MANY hands and MANY generous hearts... but because of all of you, many Christmas dreams became realities. May God bless you and keep you and may your Christmas be blessed also. Thank you.



Thank you to those who have contributed thus far to our parish target for the 2021/2022 Diocesan Annual Appeal. Whether it was with prayers or a donation, we are truly grateful and happy to announce we are just over 52% of our goal thanks to 118 donors so far. If you have forgotten to send in your pledge please do so as soon as possible.

Extra cards can be found in the gathering place or online at diolc.org.



The Knights of Columbus want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May peace and love surround you this Christmas season!

Did You Know?

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish has a very active food pantry. Our food pantry is open in our gathering place here at church every Tuesday and Friday morning from 9 am – 11 am from January through the end of November. We serve anyone in need who comes to us, no questions asked. Through very generous donations from our parishioners, community members, and local businesses, we are able to offer our guests a great variety of food – both non-perishable and perishable. We also provide personal hygiene items as well as laundry and cleaning products. Volunteers run our food pantry and are responsible for the organizing and packing of the food as well as its distribution. If you, or anyone you know, is in need, please contact Carol Reider or Fr. Parr for assistance or come to our Food Pantry during any open hours. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer for the food pantry, contact Carol Reider (526-4424). Our motto is “We share what we have” and we are blessed to serve and to share with you.



It is the custom of the Catholic Church that priests remember specific intentions at the celebration of the Eucharist. Normally, a small offering or stipend (customarily \$10 in the Diocese of La Crosse) is given for a **Mass intention**. Anyone can request a particular intention for which a Mass can be offered. Mass cards, to be given to the family of a deceased person for whom a Mass is to be offered, are available when requesting a Mass intention.

If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for someone, we have openings for intentions throughout 2022. Please contact Sandy in the Parish Office (526-4424).

On January 1, the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**. On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God prepared Mary to be the dwelling place where God’s Son could dwell among us. Christ’s birth was made possible by Mary’s “Yes!” Calling Mary “Mother of God” is the highest honor we can give to her. This solemnity is usually a holy day of obligation, but since it falls on a Saturday this year, the obligation to attend Mass is lifted. However, we do have Mass that morning at 9:00 am at SEAS.

The joy of the Christmas season comes from gathering with our loved ones and friends. How blessed we are that God, the Creator of the universe sent his Son to be born as a human child to be physically with us. Our parish family is blessed today to gather at Mass, especially when we celebrate Holy Communion where we become intimately united with Christ and all of God's family both living and the dead in a far deeper way.

If this is your first time at a Catholic Mass or if you have been away, WELCOME! If you are an adult and desire to learn more about the Catholic faith and the sacraments, join us for RCIA classes. For children in Pre-K and Kindergarten we offer Sunday school, Grades 1-10 Faith Formation classes on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm. September-April. Children prepare for the sacraments of Penance and First Communion in 2nd grade and for Confirmation in 10th grade. Contact Pat Brueggen for RCIA and Faith Formation for grades 6-10 or Mary Luebke for grades Pre-K – 5; both at 608 526-4424. Merry Christmas!

Important Faith Formation Dates

Wed., Dec. 29 No Faith Formation

Wed., Jan. 5 Catechist Meeting 6:30 pm in church

Sun., Jan. 3 Pre-K/Kindergarten Sunday School at 9:15 am

Wednesday Jan. 12 Faith Formation classes resume 6:30 pm



2022/2023 Aquinas Catholic School Enrollment period begins soon!

On Monday, January 17, 2022, enrollment for the 2022-23 Aquinas Catholic Schools school year begins! If you are

interested in exploring your options when it comes to education, we would be happy to show you what Aquinas has to offer. Current Aquinas families can also begin the re-enrollment process at that time.

Please join us for our upcoming open house dates at Aquinas High School & Middle School:

AHS Open House: Mon., Jan. 10, 2022 at 6pm

AMS Open House: Wed., Jan. 12, 2022 at 6pm

Christmas Giving Options- If you don't receive monthly giving envelopes which have an extra envelope for Christmas, we have another option to give. Visit our website at seasholmen.org and click the ONLINE GIVING button. Through this, you can give regularly, or to other funds like **Christmas**. Due to Covid, we continue to have the collection basket in the gathering place after each Mass but encourage you to give online if you are able. Thank you for your generous support of our parish.

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.

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 26	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8:00 am Mass	† Sandy Beranek
10:15 am Mass	People of SEAS
Monday, December 27	St. John, Apostle
Parish Office Closed	
No Mass Today	
Tuesday, December 28	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
No Mass Today	
Wednesday, December 29	5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
No Mass Today	
Thursday, December 30	6th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
No Mass Today	
Friday, December 31	7th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:30 am Mass	† Dennis Vosen
Saturday, January 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
4:00 pm Sacrament of Penance	Vigil: Epiphany of the Lord
9:00 am Mass	People of SEAS
5:00 PM Mass	† Brent Loken
Sunday, January 2	Epiphany of the Lord
8:00 am Mass	† Susan Schafer
10:15 am Mass	† Cecil Rochester



Diane Scholze, age 76, died Tues., Dec. 14, 2021. Her funeral was celebrated at SEAS on Mon., Dec. 20th. Diane is survived by her husband, Phil, children Kimberly (Scott), Kerry (Troy), Kory (Kristine), Kristina (Tim), Kevin (Mandy), grandchildren and great-grandchild. Please keep Dian and her family in your prayers. **May she rest in peace.**

We continue to be in need of liturgical ministers, particularly at our 5:00 pm Saturday Mass and our 10:15 am Sunday Mass. If you would like to serve as a Hospitality Minister, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, or Proclaimer of the Word, please contact Carol Reider at 526-4424 or carol@seasholmen.org to be added back to the rosters and/or to receive updated training. We are in true need of your service at this time. Thank you for your stewardship.

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 January 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.



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

Cindy Ritteman
Bailey Rohrer
Aubrey Scott
Phyllis Thaldorf
Addison Quinn Usitalo
Heather Yang

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.

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 through the link on our website at seasholmen.org. Any questions, please contact Sandy in the parish office. Thank you.

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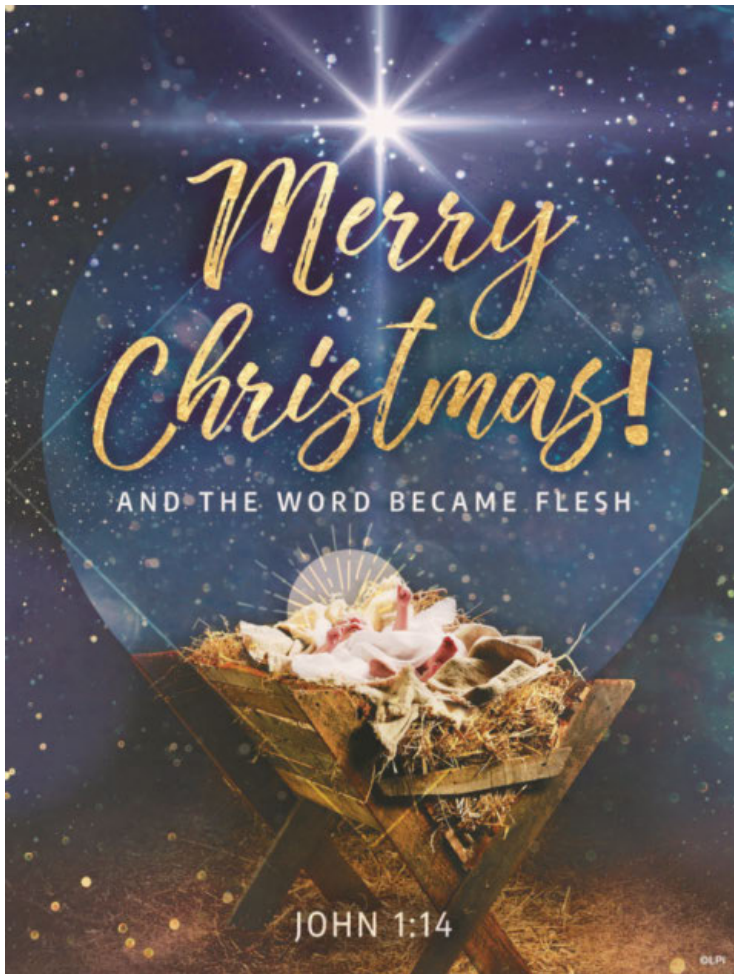
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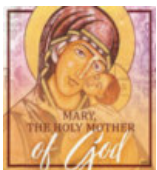
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The Staff at
 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish want to
 wish you a very Blessed Christmas.
 Safe travels and have a happy New Year!



The Parish Office will be closed
 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)

A Christmas Prayer

God, you became human through the obedience of a simple young woman named Mary. Mary is our model of faith. May we be faithful to your word as Mary was. Give us the courage to face each day with the yes that Mary gave to you. We ask this through the incarnate God, who comes to us again during this Christmas season. Amen.



Welcome to all our guests who have joined us this weekend. From our parish family to you, thank you for being with us.

Interested in becoming a member at St. Elizabeth's? We would love to have you join us. Just stop in to the parish office to fill out a registration form and receive a welcome packet with parish information. We can't wait to meet you. It's that easy.

The registration form can also be found on the website at seasholmen.org along with other important information about St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. Check out our Facebook page to keep up-to-date on parish events.

Thank You

Thank you to our amazing liturgical ministers and volunteers who have helped out through all of 2021. We are truly grateful for your stewardship of time and talent.

Thank you to Beth Lakmann, our music director, and the choir for the beautiful music at our liturgies.

Thank you to Betty Schultz and those who decorated the worship space and outdoor areas. Our gratitude continues to those who launder the altar linens, those who volunteer weekly to staff the food pantry, fill the food totes, and make the Kwik Trip runs. Thanks to Francis Brown who mows the lawn, those who trim the weeds, and shovel the walkways. So many parishioners have stepped up and have taken care of so many needs...and for all of you...we are truly grateful. Thanks to our Knights of Columbus and our PCCW for all you do as well.

We couldn't be the strong parish that we are without all of you! Bless you!



Attention Parishioners

A reminder that the new carpeting will be installed in the church beginning, Monday, December 27th.

Thank you to all the volunteers who plan on helping to get the church ready for the installers and who will help to put everything back. We truly appreciate you.

There will be **no daily Masses Dec. 27– Dec. 30.**
 Please make note. Mass time on Dec. 31 is at 8:30am.