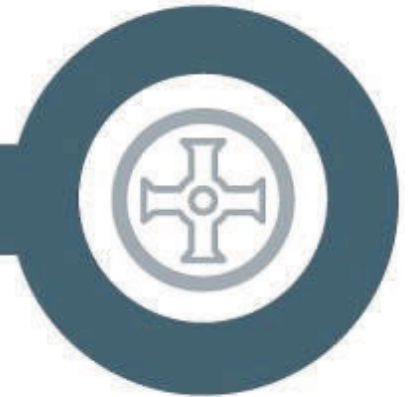


Baptism of the Lord  
January 9, 2021

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



Remember Cinderella at the ball. The midnight hour is drawing close, and she must depart. I imagine Cinderella turning to her fairy godmother and, perhaps a bit petulantly, asking, “Why do I have to leave at midnight?” I imagine her godmother replying, “Who said you could come to the ball in the first place?”

At the end of this month Bishop Callahan will grant me the status of senior priest. I will be retiring as your pastor after ten years. The decision to retire is my own. Still I have mixed feelings. Every day the Lord has blessed me through you and your example of Gospel faith and life. Every

day I have been inspired and humbled by your love of God and neighbor. I believe I am a better disciple of Jesus because of you. Part of me wants to stay for another year or two. But I believe the Lord has new things in store for both of us.

I think I have reached the time in life when increasingly the only words I want to say are “thank you.” Thank you, Lord, for being born and being called your child. Thank you for trusting me to be salt of the earth, the light set on the lampstand in my own place and time. Though it is hard for me to acknowledge, I am coming to recognize that gratitude is one of the hardest virtues. I have been most richly blessed and the more I say thank you the more the debt increases.

“Who said you could come to the ball in the first place?” But I have been invited. And so have you. So I think you know what I mean when I say, “Thank you.”

The Lord be with you.

Father John Parr

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## Marriage Assistance

When the old ways aren't working, the Retrouvaille Program helps couples restore their marriages and rebuild loving relationships. This is a three-phase program that begins with a weekend stay in the Wausau area. A series of "post sessions" provide ongoing healing and support. Presentations are given by couples who share their personal struggles in marriage and the tools they used to rediscover their love. Participants reflect and interact in privacy with their spouse. It is not group therapy. Costs are affordable and no couple is turned away because of limited finances. If you are wondering if this program is right for you or a loved one, find more information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions at [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call toll-free: 1-877-922-HOPE (4673) All calls are fully confidential. The next program begins on February 18-20, 2022. Space is limited. Early registration is recommended!

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## What Are You Looking For?

The first question that Jesus asks in John's Gospel is, "What are you looking for?" For some men, that answer to that question is a very special invitation to walk in Jesus' footsteps as a priest. If you or someone you know is interested in discovering more about this call to the priesthood, please contact Fr. Nate Kuhn, Director of Vocational Recruitment for the Diocese of La Crosse, at 3710 East Ave. S. PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602; or by phone at 608.791.2667. God bless you!

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## Gifts Given and Received

Peggy and her husband Joe (not their actual names) are guests at our food pantry. Senior citizens, they survive off of their Social Security income and sometimes have trouble making ends meet. This past September, Peggy asked me if we possibly had some elastic as one of her two pair of pants (which she had received from us last year at our Christmas Caring and Sharing) was wearing out and she wanted to fix them. I told her I would look for some, but the next time we met, she told me not to worry...that she had made the repair with a safety pin and that all was just fine.



When the time came to register this year for our Christmas Caring and Sharing, I asked Peggy what her wish list was for her and her husband. She told me that she had received so many wonderful things from us last year that she didn't want to ask for anything except for the food. I told her that certainly she could use new pants as I remembered that the elastic was wearing out on one of her two pairs. She told me that, no, the pin was holding fine...and that surely there were people needier than she. I pressed her that there must be something we could provide for her and/or her husband. Finally, she told me that her husband could really use a pair of warm slippers (size 10) because his feet were always so cold and he had never owned a pair of slippers before. I told her that we didn't generally provide footwear because it was so hard to fit, but that I, of course, would write it down because it was the only item she was asking for.

The very next day, Mary, the person who collects and sorts our donated goods, came and said to me, "I know we aren't collecting footwear but a very generous person has gifted us a very expensive, brand-new pair of men's slippers. What should I do with them?" I asked her the size...and, wouldn't you know, they were a size 10. God provides...with the help of so many of you. When Peggy and Joe picked up their goods from us, they received a Christmas food box, fresh food, some new clothes, a blanket, and yes, a brand new pair of slippers. They received their gifts with hesitation and tears...so very grateful they were for all they had. Gifts given and gifts received... all inspired by the Holy Spirit.

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Beginning with this weekend, we have once again entered what the Church calls "Ordinary Time". Ordinary Time is divided into two time periods. The first period begins following the Baptism of our Lord and continues until Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The second period of Ordinary Time runs from Pentecost Sunday until the Advent season begins again. Ordinary Time is, for Catholics, the opportunity to allow the Lord to stir up our faith, to allow our spirits to rise, and to grow in our spiritual life. Green, a color that evokes life and growth, is used as a liturgical color during the weeks known as Ordinary Time.

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Hey Men of SEAS! Have ever thought of being a knight? Do you want to grow in your faith, be more involved, share your gifts, and support the church and community? Check us out on the parish website ([seasholmen.org](http://seasholmen.org)) and on FB at: Knights of Columbus Council #9385 - Holmen, WI

## Did You Know... Baptismal Bib

### Question:

At my grandson's Baptism, the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why is this done? Is it something new?



### Answer:

When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.

Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: "See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity ... bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." In baptism, we are given our purpose and goal in life as believers and this is symbolized by the white garment.

©LPi

## Wisconsin Right to Life Signature Ad

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court handed down the decision in *Roe v. Wade* which legalized abortion in the United States through all nine months of pregnancy. This decision has resulted in the legal deaths of over 62 million unborn babies since that time. Please join the La Crosse chapter of Wisconsin Right to Life and other prolife members of our community in making a public statement of our belief in the sanctity of every human life from conception to natural death. With the Supreme Court's upcoming decision, it is more important than ever to take a stand for life. The ad will appear in the La Crosse Tribune on Sunday, January 23, 2022.

We are asking for a donation of \$3 per name or \$5 per family, if possible, to help defray the cost of the ad. We will be collecting signatures after Masses this weekend in the gathering place. Thank you for your support for LIFE!



## 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**

## 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**.



## Diocesan Annual Appeal Update

Parish Target: \$90,240

Pledged/Received as of 1/4/2022:  
\$53,850

**Shortfall: \$36,390** Deadline: June 30th

There is still time to send in your pledge. If you need a pledge card, there are extras in the parish office or you can donate online at:

[diolc.org/donate-online](http://diolc.org/donate-online)

Thank you for your stewardship to the Church.

## CALENDAR

<b>Sunday, January 9</b>		<b>Baptism of the Lord</b>
8:00 am	Mass	<b>People of SEAS</b>
10:15 am	Mass	† <b>Robert Brown</b>
6:30 pm	Confirmation Sponsor Session	
<b>Monday, January 10</b>		<b>Weekday</b>
8:30 am	Mass	† <b>Diane Scholze</b>
<b>Tuesday, January 11</b>		<b>Weekday</b>
8:30 am	Mass	† <b>Dennis Vosen</b>
<b>Wednesday, January 12</b>		<b>Weekday</b>
8:30 am	Mass	† <b>Kimberly Dvoracek-Anderson</b>
6:30 pm	Faith Formation classes	
<b>Thursday, January 13</b>		<b>Weekday</b>
8:30 am	Mass	† <b>Catherine Furman</b>
<b>Friday, January 14</b>		<b>Weekday</b>
8:30 am	Mass	† <b>Diane Scholze</b>
<b>Saturday, January 15</b>		<b>Weekday</b>
4:00 pm	Sacrament of Penance	
	<b>Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
5:00 PM	Mass	† <b>Robert Peterson</b>
<b>Sunday, January 16</b>		<b>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
8:00 am	Mass	† <b>David Scholze</b>
10:15 am	Mass	<b>People of SEAS</b>



**Julie Malin**, age 63, died Wed., December 22, 2021. Her funeral was celebrated at SEAS on Fri., January 7, 2022. Please

keep Julie and her family in your prayers.

**May she rest in peace.**

*Thank You*

Thank you to Floorcrafters for the great job on installing the new carpet. A huge thank you goes out to Larry Warzynski, Pat Brueggen all the volunteers who moved everything out of the way and put it all back together for us to have Mass on Friday morning. It was a big undertaking and we appreciate those that stepped up to help. We also want to thank Mary Lenz for painting the room across from the kitchen which also received new carpeting. That room is used for a gathering area for brides-to-be before their wedding, a meeting room for our Good Mourning Grief group, hopefully soon, the meeting area of a Mom's Group among other uses. The room "make-over" has made it a beautiful gathering space.

## 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

Addison Quinn  
Bailey Rohrer  
Phyllis Thaldorf  
Heather Yang

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 published. Contact the parish office to add and to remove requests. Thank you.



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The Christmas flowers around the altar have been donated in loving  
memory/honor of the following:

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J.W. (Bill) Hein, Jr.  
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Stanley A Karwoski, Sr.  
S. Anthony Karwoski, III  
Steve and Pauline Karwoski  
Michael and Birdella Deutsch  
Anthony and Marie Thier  
Robert and Winifred Merfeld  
William and Doris Clark  
Cleone Dickson  
Olive and Claude Burkart  
Gene Sosalla  
Edward Vahala  
Lloyd, Rita and Mike Lee  
Marie and Art Meuler  
Joe and Mary Stephens  
Mrs. Evelyn Schlimmer  
Mr. Wm Schlimmer  
Mrs. Lucille Nagel  
Mr. Bernard Nagel  
Jim Walsh  
Ken Gerdes  
Patricia Zeman  
Roger Zeman  
Joe Zeman  
Rick Sevenants  
Alex Wozney Family  
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Merlin Anthony  
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Ruth and Joe Beranek  
Donald N. Hill  
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Louis Jessesky  
Teddy Jessesky  
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Eleanor Skwiertz  
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Cora Grabski  
Frank Racich  
Tony Racich  
William Schuth  
Ashley Peters  
Stella and Bernard Shuda  
Kathleen and Ray Woodhouse  
Tom and Madolyn DeRosa  
J. R. (Bob) and Roseann Ristow  
Susie Meehan

Dennis P. Madigan  
Theona Crawford  
MaryJane Goodenough  
Sue Schafer  
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Bruce Krinke  
Katherine Nelson  
Bobbi Corcoran  
Brent Loken  
Riley Sass-Loken  
Sr. Bridget Donaldson, OSB  
Chad Dooley  
Joseph M. Gittens  
Valeria M. Gittens  
Donald C. Wallace  
Corella H. Wallace  
Robert White  
Robert Drier  
John Levand  
Don and Fern Petry  
Linda Zillmer  
Helena Kelly  
Von Arx and Flannery Families  
Barry Schaller  
Tom Srdich  
Robert Peterson  
Kyle Bertelsen  
Robert/Irene Schaller  
Knute/Ethel Bertelsen



**Baptisms at SEAS**-Having a new baby? Congratulations!! Please call Carol at the parish office to schedule an appointment for Baptism prep. At this time, Baptism preparation is being completed privately, and each child is baptized individually. Families can choose to have the Baptism during Mass or after the 5:00 pm or the 10:15 am Mass. We look forward to welcoming your new little one into our parish family.



Are you recently engaged? Is there a wedding in your future? If so, prayerful congratulations on your engagement! What an exciting time for you as you prepare to spend the rest of your lives together! If you would like information about marriage preparation here at St. Elizabeth's, please contact Carol Reider at 526-4424 or at [carol@seasholmen.org](mailto:carol@seasholmen.org).



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](http://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. Welcome to all visitors as well.

**PCCW- Parish Council of Catholic Women Needs You!**

In order for us to continue with fundraising events such as the annual Rummage Sale and Bazaar or any new ideas, we **need a President** for our PCCW. 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 only a few times a year, organizing committees for the annual Rummage Sale and Christmas bazaar, along with any other events or fundraisers. Please prayerfully consider this position with our parish women's group.