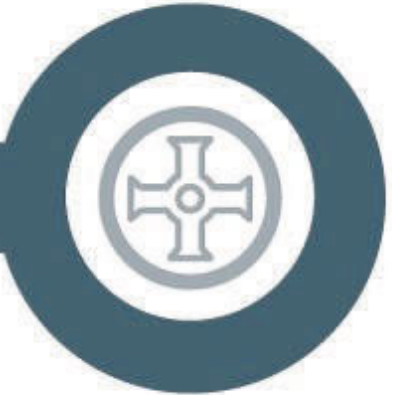


Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 23, 2022

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

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



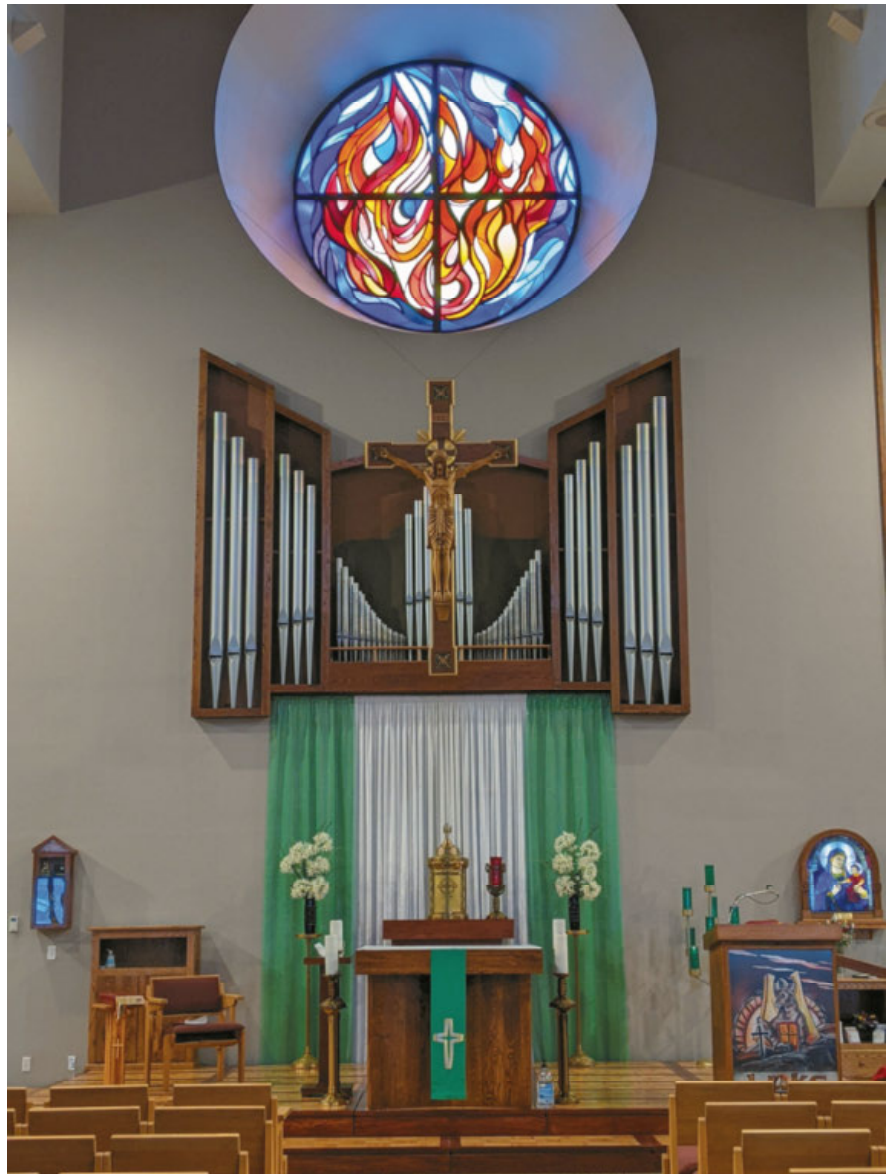
THE BANE AND BLESSED

It touches my heart whenever I see it happen. A young mother carries her small daughter in her arms as she receives Holy Communion. Her child eagerly reaches out to the Lord. And the mother doesn't ignore that eagerness but with reverence allows her child to touch Jesus before she receives him into her own heart. I think of the woman in the Gospel who wanted but to "touch the hem of his garment." Or Thomas wanting to touch the wounds of Christ Risen. The mother was already teaching her child to exercise the one thing that makes us human. To exercise the soul. To hunger for God who calls us not servants but friends. Jesus wants to be touched, and to touch us.

Of course we touch and are touched by the Lord most perfectly in the sacraments. We use bread, wine, water, oil as the most powerful channels of God's life this side of the Kingdom. But the sacraments do not only draw us deeper into the life of God and God's saving events. The sacraments also open us to the value of the created world, and the events that constitute human life. Birth, death, marriage, human relationships of every stripe. The presence of Jesus tells us that nothing we do is beyond his touch, and in everything we can touch and be touched by him.

Children who have come fresh from God reach out to him in Eucharist but also in all things great and small. Wonder springs from reverence for God who is, as St. John Henry Newman says, in everything most wonderful and deserving of praise. And this wonderful God is always seeking us and wants us to know he shares his wonder with us.

The Lord be with you.
Father John Parr



Our Food Pantry (Part One)

Did You Know...

- The “official” name of our food pantry is the Holmen Area Food Pantry at St. Elizabeth’s.
- Our Food Pantry is open every Tues. and Fri. from 9 am – 11 am, though we will generally serve anyone at any time.
- We meet and serve our guests here at the Church.
- Currently, we serve about 80 – 125 families per month.
- Our guests need only provide an ID (first visit per year only). No proof of income is ever required. We serve people from Holmen and the surrounding communities.
- Guests meet individually with Carol or another volunteer to determine their needs and wants, and then two volunteers prepare their items.
- Guests receive a prepared food tote, hygiene items as needed, fresh food, and other items we have to offer each week.
- Parishioners are invited to contact Carol Reider to access our food pantry and our resources at any time.

The annual fundraiser for **Birthright of La Crosse**

begins this weekend. Birthright is an international volunteer organization with a La Crosse chapter since 1976. Birthright is available to those with an unintended pregnancy to provide information, a listening space, and love, along with referrals and emotional and spiritual support when needed. The envelopes are available in the gathering place. Please **return the envelopes by Sunday March 6, 2022**. Thank you and know your pro-life support will be appreciated by moms, dads, and babies to be.



Baptizing Your Child

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.

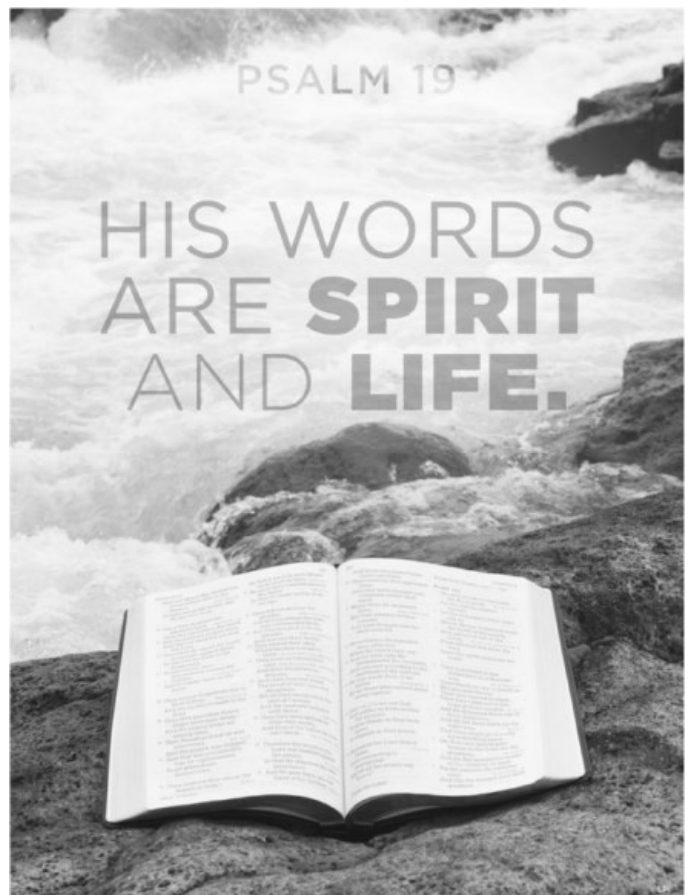
Retreat Offering

The Franciscan Spirituality Center is offering **NAVIGATING TOGETHER: A GRIEF RETREAT** (IN-PERSON) JANUARY 29 • Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 608-791-5295 to register by January 26.

Grieving the death of a loved one involves many difficult challenges. Often, we feel overwhelmed with tasks and emotions. You’re invited to spend a day in community with other people who are experiencing grief. Through discussion, time for reflection, and creative expression opportunities, there will be space for you to both express your grief and consider new paths that might be part of your healing



Calling children of all ages... We are asking for children to once again participate in the Offertory Procession. Please join us 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. This is a great opportunity to foster a sense of stewardship in our children. Thank you!





Why a Child's First Holy Communion is a Big Deal

As Catholics, we know that the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith: it is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Pope Francis has called it the "Sacrament of Love": "The Eucharist is at the heart of 'Christian initiation', together with Baptism and Confirmation, and it constitutes the source of the Church's life itself. From this Sacrament of love, in fact, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness." For children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion, this is a big deal. And for all of us, no matter how many times we have received Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist, it should always be a big deal. What makes it so special the first time is the same thing that makes it special every time!

Jesus comes to us in a unique way in the Eucharist. When He comes, we receive Him into our body and our soul. This is very beautiful, personal, and intimate. We should not take it for granted!

This is why the first time a family member makes their Holy Communion, it is an exciting event for the whole family. The boy or girl preparing for this sacrament is going to be profoundly united with Jesus in a way that they never have before!

It is such a holy, joyful occasion. Our souls become the bride of Christ. That is why girls wear white dresses and boys wear suits. Relatives are invited. Parents take pictures. We celebrate. And the very act of celebrating reveals our belief in the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Hetzel, Whitney. Why First Communion is such a Big Deal. <https://www.catholiccompany.com/magazine/why-a-childs-first-holy-communion-is-a-big-deal-6042Apr 21>.

Important Faith Formation Dates

Wednesday, Jan. 26 - First Communion Parent Meeting at church 6:30 pm
Sunday, Feb. 6 - Pre-K/Kindergarten Sunday School at LOCATION CHANGE now at ST.ELIZABETHS 9:15 am



Please be generous in next week's special collection, which supports the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people live in poverty. Through this collection, you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for people across the country who struggle. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect will remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at: www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

Thank you for standing for LIFE!!

Thank you to everyone who took a stand for life by adding your name to the WI Right to Life signature Ad. Even with lower than usual Mass attendance, we gathered almost 150 names. If you do not see your full name in the ad even though you signed, it is most likely due to the fact that we were unable to decipher it correctly and therefore put in a partial name, perhaps with initials. Apologies to anyone who was missed because of this and we thank you just the same for your witness to the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.

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, January 23	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 am Mass †	Steven Clements
10:15 am Mass	People of SEAS
6:30 pm	Confirmation Session
Monday, January 24	St. Francis de Sales
8:30 am Mass †	David Scholze
Tuesday, January 25	Conversion of St. Paul
8:30 am Mass †	Don and Carole Lunders
Wednesday, January 26	Sts. Timothy and Titus
8:30 am Mass †	Susan Schafer
5:30 pm	Choir practice
6:30 pm	Faith Formation classes
Thursday, January 27	Weekday
8:30 am Mass †	Dustin Flannery
Friday, January 28	St. Thomas Aquinas
8:30 am Mass †	Diane Scholze
Saturday, January 29	Weekday
4:00 pm	Sacrament of Penance
	Vigil: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00 PM Mass †	Debra Hasz
Sunday, January 30	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 am Mass	People of SEAS
10:15 am Mass †	Bridget Kavanaugh



2021-2022 Summary Information As of 1/18/2022

Total Pledged/Received: \$60,884
Target: \$ 90,240
Shortfall: -\$29,356

Thank you to those who made a commitment to this year's Diocesan Annual Appeal. If you have not yet responded please consider a pledge at this time. Every gift helps and like last year when we reached and exceeded our target, we received a rebate in which we put towards general maintenance on the building. Thank you for your generosity. DEADLINE is June 30th.

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. Here you can access your contribution statements as well. Any questions, please contact Sandy in the parish office. Thank you.

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

Joe and Donna Gittens
Bailey Rohrer
Phyllis Thaldorf
Heather Yang
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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Farewell to Fr. Parr

Fr. Parr's last weekend with us will be Jan. 29 and 30. We hope to see as many of you as possible at Mass that weekend as we gather to bid farewell to Father Parr, a good and faithful servant priest in our diocese for 43 years. We will have a card box available for those who wish to convey their personal wishes to him. We will miss him greatly, but we wish him all the best as he continues on with his journey as one of God's good servants. Godspeed, Fr. Parr.



Sunday, January 23rd, at 3:00pm, we will offer a prayer service as part of the Pilgrim Icon Program at church. The K of C Pilgrim Icon Program began in 1979. Every few years the Supreme Knight

chooses a new icon to share among the 16,000 Knights of Columbus chapters around the world. The new icon features St. Joseph holding the Christ child. Our parish has the privilege of displaying this icon Jan 20th - Jan 26th, when it will move to another chapter and parish. For a detailed description of the Pilgrim Icon Program, please visit: www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/249543/knights-of-columbus-saint-joseph-icon



Prayer to St. Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.

~Pope Francis



Welcome to all our guests and visitors. If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Elizabeth's, please stop in to the parish office and pick up a registration packet. We would love for you to become a part of our parish family.

To find out more about what's going on at SEAS, visit our website at seasholmen.org or LIKE us on Facebook.

St. Elizabeth's has low gluten hosts available. Please contact Fr. Parr, and he will make the necessary arrangements.



Want to continue to give but are not able to make it to Mass? We have a simple solution.

Try the convenient online giving option. If you visit our website at www.seasholmen.org you will find a button that will link you to this option. It is user friendly. You can choose to give one time or set up recurring donations. You can use your savings/checking/credit or debit. If you have any questions regarding the set up, please contact Sandy in the parish office. Thank you for your stewardship.



Announcing a Lifeline of Hope and Healing for Struggling Marriages!

When the old ways aren't working, the Retrouvaille Program helps couples restore their marriages and rebuild loving relationships. 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 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!

Vocations

Have you ever thought about becoming a missionary Priest, Brother, Sister, Short Term Volunteer, or Lay Missioner? If so, contact Maryknoll Vocations at 914-941-7636 Ext. 2416 or vocation@maryknoll.org for more information. The Spirit may just be calling YOU!

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