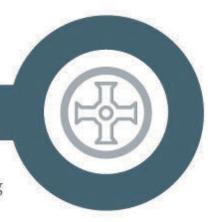
# Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 30, 2022

### 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

I don't remember choosing to come to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. I don't have much recollection of the process by which I made my choice ten years ago to be your pastor. But today I know that once the choice was made it was not a choice but a gift. As I leave the parish and begin retirement, I do so with an overflowing sense of companionship, gratitude and joy. And blessing.

Always I have dreaded moving. The packing and unpacking part to be sure. What do I want to let go of? What do I want to keep? But I am trying to keep my eye on the One who brought me to this faith community. He is the same One who leads me on. So I am trying to hear him ask me not only "What do you want to let go of" but also "Lord, what are you asking me to now give myself to?"

I want to let go of any hurts I have felt. But especially I want to ask you to forgive me for the hurts I have caused. I want to let go of my fear of taking risks for the good of others. I ask your forgiveness for being afraid to take the risk of preaching the Gospel and living it more boldly. I want to let go of my fear of welcoming others who think differently, pray differently, serve differently. I ask that you forgive me for being small minded and failing to let God be God.

My fervent prayer and hope is that as we take leave of one another we will not ever take leave of Him who has brought us together. May we never take leave of our Lord who has brought us this far and is leading us home.

My prayer is that of St. Paul:

Rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:4-7)

May the God of peace be with you. Father John Parr



Our Food Pantry (Part Two)
Did You Know...

- We have a very large and very active food pantry committee, and we are always looking for new members.
- It takes a great many people to organize, run, and maintain our food pantry.
- Two or three volunteers are needed each and every Monday and Thursday to pack our food totes at the rectory and transport the totes to the Church.
- Two volunteers are needed each and every
  Tuesday and Friday to work during Food
  Pantry hours to pack up the food for our guests.
- Two people/families are needed each week (Monday and Thursday) to pick up donated items from Kwik Trip and transport them to the Church.
- People are needed to empty the grocery cart at Church and shelve the donated food items at the rectory.
- People are needed to run our food drives, pick up and deliver food, shelve food, and do many other such tasks.
- Please contact Therese Frana (theresefrana@gmail.com) if you would like to become involved with our Food Pantry. Serving our sisters and brothers in Christ is a great act of stewardship.
- Our next Food Pantry meeting is on Thursday,
   Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Please join us.

#### **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. We are looking to add to our ministry rosters and are in need of Ministers of Hospitality, Lectors, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Please contact Carol Reider at carol@seasholmen.org if you can help out. We really need your service. Thank you.

**Needed - Altar Servers** - Anyone  $4^{th}$  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.



#### **Retreat Offering**

The Franciscan Spirituality Center is offering: PRAYING WITH CLARE (VIA ZOOM) FEBRUARY 5 Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon. Please call to register by February 4. St. Clare of Assisi is not only the co-founder of the Franciscan movement but a spiritual teacher in her own right. What do St. Clare's words of wisdom mean for us today personally? We will look at her life and her gifts as a woman to Franciscanism. Also, we will dive contemplatively into some of her writings, particularly her letters to Agnes of Prague. Clare's unique contributions have sometimes been overlooked, and so we will uncover her particular perspective through prayer, presentation and discussion.

Help Catholic Charities assist the Homeless this Winter; also Afghan Refugees. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse is second to none in assisting the homeless in our communities, as well as helping the thousands of Afghan refugees who are receiving shelter and care at Ft. McCoy, near Tomah. Find out how you can contribute to these efforts, financially or by volunteering. Visit CCLSE.org

The annual fundraiser for **Birthright of La Crosse** began last 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.



We, the Knights of Columbus of Holmen, would like to share our appreciation for the many years of service in which

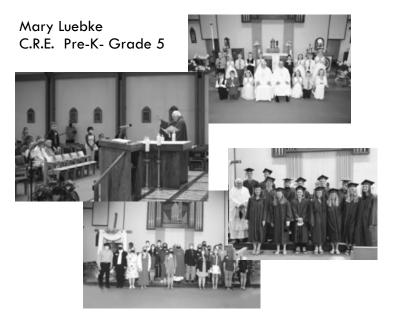
Fr. John Parr has bestowed on our Parish. He led us all in many ways; his lovely homilies, his love for the sacraments, his dedicated prayers and his intentions for all of us. Thank you for being our shepherd! We hope and pray you continue to serve God as you start the next chapter of your life.

I have grown to love the preacher behind the pastor we call Fr. Parr. Being one of the lucky ones to attend daily Mass, I marvel how each day during his homily, such insight and wisdom came forth from him. I will miss this so much. The other thing I have grown to love about Fr. Parr is how each and every time he stopped into our Faith Formation classrooms he would tell the students how wonderful they are and how much God loves them. You could see the students eyes just light up each time he said this regardless if the teacher was feeling the same love for their students that particular evening. Best of luck in your retirement, Fr. Parr, and thank you for inspiring us all each and every day.

Pat Brueggen
Faith Formation Director

I am thankful and I am sure I can say them same on behalf of the other Faith Formation families for the gentle way Father led us as parents and our children to the Sacraments. For Penance and his saying "the only thing you can do wrong is to not come" and in his First Communion homilies of "God holding us to his heart, that it is not just us eating Jesus but that He is eating us up in His love; there is no closer place we can be than with Jesus' heart."

Father's first year at St. Elizabeth's was also my first year as CRE. That year also marked my son's First Penance and First Holy Communion. Last Spring in May of 2021 our parish, particularly my son's 10th grade class, was blessed to be able to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Elizabeth's with Father Parr. It was beautiful to see him anointing all those same youth, now young adults as they came forth. Thank you for shepherding us all these years.





Farewell, Fr. Parr

In his homily a couple weeks ago, Fr. Parr told us, "God takes his delight in each of you." At St. Elizabeth's, we are certain that God takes tremendous delight in Fr. Parr. It has been our great privilege to have Fr. Parr serve as our pastor for the last 10 years and though we are happy for his retirement, we are sad to see him go. We wish Fr. Parr all the best as he continues on his journey. He leaves a legacy of love behind. He taught us all that God loves us; that God has a rather limited vocabulary of words like LOVE and LIFE; and that God takes great delight in each of his sons and daughters. All of our parish children know for sure that the greatest thing after their First Holy Communion is their Second Holy Communion....and nothing is sweeter to all of us than God's mercy. Under Fr. Parr's leadership, we have continued to be a parish of great hospitality and stewardship. God's blessings to you, Fr. Parr, and with grateful hearts, we say farewell.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

#### Numbers 6:24-26

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.

#### CALENDAR

Sunday, January 30 8:00 am Mass 10:15am Mass	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time People of SEAS
	Monday, January 31
8:30 am Mass	Priest Intention
Tuesday, February 1	Weekday
8:30 am Mass	† Diane Scholze

Wednesday, February 2 The Presentation of the Lord

**8:30 am Communion Service-No Mass** 6:30 pm Faith Formation classes

Thursday, February 3 Weekday 8:30 am Mass Priest Intention

Friday, February 4 Weekday 8:30 am Mass Priest Intention

Saturday, February 5 St. Agatha

4:00 pm Sacrament of Penance

Vigil: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 PM Mass † Michanne Marie Reese

Sunday, February 6
8:00 am Mass † Kimberly Dvoracek-Anderson
10:15am Mass People of SEAS

We are 25% away from reaching our goal.

In order for us to avoid using our general operating



We can do this!
We are SEAS strong!
Parish Target: \$90,240
As of 1/25/2022:
Under target by \$22,956
161 donors have pledged so far

funds to pay for any remaining appeal target, we must reach our goal by June 30th. It's important that everyone send in a pledge no matter how large or small. Please consider giving to the Diocesan Annual appeal. You may also give online at: diolc.org/donate-online. For a video of where some of these funds are used (such as the Watermark Mission ) go online at: https://youtu.be/3CiVBENvCc0.

The Watermark Mission: With the help of grants from the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns, Gary and Rosey Asher from St. Henry Parish in Eau Galle, through their ministry, unite people from all over the diocese and country to help fix and repair homes after natural disasters, providing hope to those in need.

#### **PARISH INFORMATION**

#### **PARISH RECTORY & OFFICE**

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

**Pastor**, Father John Parr

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

#### 2022-2023 ACS ENROLLMENT PERIOD HAS BEGUN

Enrollment and re-enrollment for the 2022-23 school year is now open! 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. We have options for financial aid beginning in 5K, after-school care options, and wide-reaching bus routes throughout the area!

Visit <u>www.aquinascatholicschools.org/enrollment</u> to get started.

Follow @AquinasCatholicSchools on Facebook to stay up-to-date on everything Aquinas.



Catholic Schools Week 2022 January 30–February 5 www.NCEA.org/csw #CSW22



Don Clements
Joe and Donna Gittens
Bailey Rohrer
Robert (Bud) Smith
Phyllis Thaldorf
Heather Yang
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 published. Contact the parish office to add and to remove requests. Thank you.



Weekend Breakfast 7am-11am Lunch Menu starting at 11am 504 N. HOLMEN DR.

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