## **St. Edward The Confessor Catholic Church**

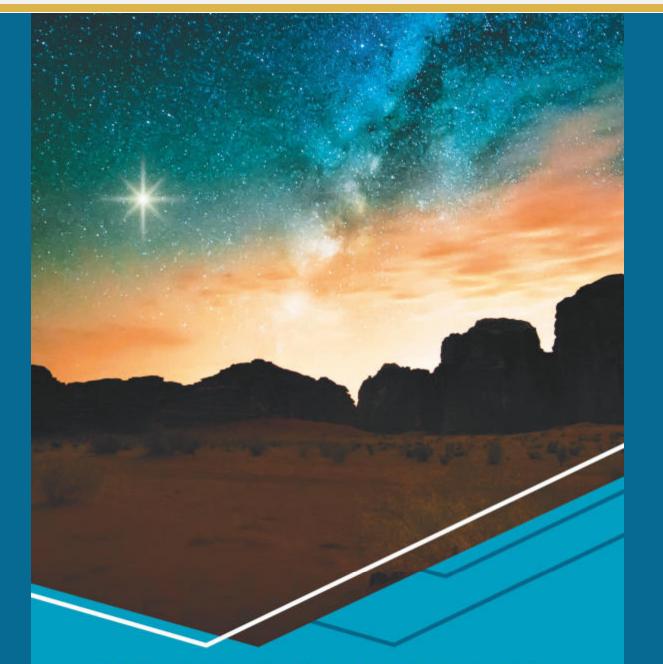


## **PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

Journeying as a Catholic community, we embrace the mission of Jesus Christ, striving to live and spread Jesus' message of love, sharing our gifts through discipleship, liturgical celebration, spiritual formation, and outreach.

## **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

## **JANUARY 2, 2022**



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11 Welcome to PARISH SOFT'S MY OWN CHURCH - go to https://stedchurch.com and click on the link. Once set up, you may update your contact/family info, view your contributions, and receive end of year statements.

## WELCOME TO ST. EDWARD CHURCH!

If you have moved into the area from another Catholic Church or have found St. Edward to be the parish in which you choose to worship, consider registering. Pick up a registration packet at the Parish Life Desk in the Commons after any weekend Liturgy, Parish Center during office hours, 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday, or •Go to our website, www.stedchurch.com/Important Forms.

Questions? Call 272-2948. Not of the Catholic faith? To learn more, call Anita at 864-4712.

### MAILING ADDRESS:

2700 Dolfield Drive N. Chesterfield, Virginia 23235-2618

Phone: (804) 272-2948 **FAX:** (804) 560-3565 Email: stedward@stedwardch.org Website: https://stedchurch.com



ST. EDWARD CHURCH IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, AND VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS. Visit our website, https://stedchurch.com, and follow the link under PROTECTING CHILDREN.

### **PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS**

VIRTUS

Excellence Builds Trust

9:00am-4:00pm Monday-Friday.

### AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES

Call 272-2948 and follow prompts.

#### \*See page 4 for full details concerning Liturgies and Reconciliation \*

### **EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES**

Saturday 5:00pm (Vigil of Sunday) Sunday 7:15am, 8:45am, 11:15am, & 5:00pm

Weekday Monday-Friday 9:00am

### RECONCILIATION

Monday-Friday 9:30am Saturday 4:00pm

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** 

In the Church; Fridays, 9:30am-10:30am For information, contact Andrew at 864-4715.

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In the Healing Chapel after each weekend Liturgy or by appointment.

## BAPTISM

To schedule or for parent classes, call Peggy at 864-4714.

#### FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST

For information, call Peggy at 864-4714.

CONFIRMATION For information, call Andrew at 864-4715.

## **IN SERVICE TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY**

Pastor Parochial Vicar Deacon Deacon Deacon Deacon **Business Administrator** Pastoral Care Coordinator Receptionists Pastoral Assistant Director, Evangelization of Young Families **Religious Education Coordinator** Youth Ministry Coordinator Edge Coordinator Director, Social Ministry Director, Music Associate Director of Music Communications/Parish Registration Columbarium **Business Manager/Adult Formation** Custodian for Church Building Custodian for Church Building Pastoral Council Chairperson **Finance Council Chairperson** St Edward-Epiphany Catholic School Knights of Columbus, Grand Knight St. Edward Ladies Auxiliary, President

Rev. Donald H. Lemav Rev. Paul Kkonde Rev. Mr. Bob Ewan Rev. Mr. James D. Greer Rev. Mr. Kevin Hogan Rev. Mr. Gregg Whisler Jan Webb Pat Plonski Miriam Grau & Lisa Mizell Anita McCabe Joan Nelson Peggy Byers Andrew McCarthy Rachael Mattio Jennifer Bousquet Liz Goodwin Joe Guardino Kathleen Wood Anita McCabe Sherri Gravins Bob Oliver Mac Boneparte Warren McKeon Robert Kuzemchak Tracy Hamner Tom Shepley Marilyn Mare

272-2948 272-2948 379-5920 372-6080 864-4707 564-2125 864-4704 864-4701 272-2948 864-4712 864-4708 864-4714 864-4715 864-4719 864-4718 864-4717 864-4710 864-4711 864-4712 864-4706

#### 379-3235 276-0463 272-2881 396-0169 379-9505

## **ADULT SACRAMENTS**

Inquiries about initiation sacraments for adults, call Sherri at 864-4706.

### MARRIAGE

Registered parishioners are to contact Pat 864-4701 at least six months prior to setting a date. Pre-marriage formation is required.

## **PASTORAL CARE**

Call Pat at 864-4701when you or a family member is admitted to the hospital or local care facility, when you need a weekly visit with Communion, or to add someone to our weekend prayer list for the sick or deceased.



to approval and space availability. Email to kathleen.wood@stedwardch.org.



#### **MEMORIAL GARDEN &** COLUMBARIUM: For appt. Anita McCabe, 864-4712, anitam1@stedwardch.org

or Jan Webb, 864-4704, jan.webb@stedwardch.org.



### HEARING LOOP SYSTEM

If your hearing aid or cochlear implant has an activated T-coil, you may access our hearing loop system. Not sure? Ask your audiologist.

### AUTOMATIC DOOR



## •We have an automatic door on the far left side of the Church. •Doors on the far right side of

Church are open 8:30am-5:00pm, M-F.



#### Our Parish Library is open and staffed for 15 minutes following the Sunday morning Masses. 2

Epiphany of the Lord



## PLEASE KEEP DEACON GREGG IN YOUR PRAYERS!

In early January, he'll head overseas - to Kosovo.

We thank him for his service and pray for his safe return home. To send him an email: gregg.whisler@stedwardch.org



## EPIPHANY CHALK AVAILABLE AFTER ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND!

Epiphany marks the occasion of a time honored tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual—adapted for 2022- is simple!

Take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home:

## 20 + C + M + B + 22.

The letters have two meanings: 1) the initials of the Magi—Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar 2) the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" meaning "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross; the "20" and "22" mark the year.



This tradition encourages Christians to dedicate their life at home to God and to others. As we come and go in our daily routines, it reminds us that those who dwell in the home belong to Christ. We are also reminded of the wonderful, warm welcome given to Jesus by the Magi.

May we be just as welcoming to those who come to our homes to visit us!

## JOIN US NEXT WEEKEND FOR COMMUNITY WEEKEND!

January 8 / 9 In the Community Center following all Masses Stop by and say hello!





Please pray for those associated with our parish who are sick or unable to worship with us, that they experience strength in the Lord's unending compassion and love: Tom Delano, Judi Gaughran, Mary Hardy, Lynn Jones, OLP

Natasha Torres, Jillian Voss; and all victims of the coronavirus, war, terrorism, violence, and natural disasters.

#### Lord, hear our continued prayers for those dealing with an on-going illness, may they experience fortitude and peace:

Jamie Aguilar, Cathy Alden, Chris Ballalo, Nanci Bolling, Mike Bonner, Mary Jane Burke, Sherry Cart, Cathy Casey, Mary Alice and Ed Christie, Ryan Colavita, Sue Connell, Regina Corcoran, Bobbi Daniello, Mike and Diana Dougherty, Josephine Douglas, Sue Driscoll, Samantha Finnegan, Nicole Florio, Wayne Frith, Sarah Fyock, Kathy Galligan, Emily Gardener, Verena Goins, Mary Grace Greer, Jeff and Spencer Hamm, Tom Hammerstone, Thomas Hardy, Hartwell Harrison, Neico Hayden, Grover Helsley, Rita Holloman, Grant Ilkani, Graham Jennings, Melissa Jennings, Joseph Jones, Sr., Marlene Kacmar, Amanda Keller, Uni and Robert Kemp, Oliver Khoury, Fr. Dan Klem, Kim Lourenco, Margaret Day Magno, Marg Mayer, Connie Mikuski, Daniel Miller, Lando Mojica, Vera Mulherin, Marie Oliver, Lois Pearn, Resa Pemberton, Brian Pickral, Marian Piracci, Rose Marie Pulleyblank, Dan Raible, Grant Rake, Jean Raugh, Kaeden Ross, David Russ, Sam Sponeybarger, Mary Serra, Kelly Shanahan, Beau and Suki Simpson, Tony Stanton, Garry Stelmach, Michelle Stelmach, Grace Stivers, Greg Stivers, Laura Sullivan, Barbara Swan, Gregory Toler, Tony Toler, David Turner, Billy Vogelson, Tracy Waldo, Benjamin Weldon, Marie Wilborn, Ella Wilkinson, Barbara Williams, and Sam Young.

#### Lord, hear our prayers for all the souls of the faithful departed:

Joseph Butler, son of Rita Holloman; Paul Kellogg, father of Joan Rhodes

Please pray for the parishioners of Holy Trinity cluster and bless the works of their outreach:

St. Anthony in Norton; Holy Spirit in Jonesville; Sacred Heart in Big Stone Gap; and St. Joseph in Clintwood.

#### Please pray for those service men and women who fight for our freedom:

Yasmin Acevedo, A1C; Taylor Armstrong, US Army; 2nd Battalion 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment; Daniel Beirne; Major David Bhatta-US Army; Richard Currie Braun, Air Force; LTJG Ian Burke, USN; Joseph Brandon Butler; Ross Butler; ENS Jimmy Callahan, USN; Lt. Michael Callahan, USN; Capt. Scott P. Campbell; Matthew Coccia, Army; SSGT. John Maxwell Cosper and Unit, US Army Special Forces; Cpt. Mike Curran; Major Spencer D. Curtis, Judge Advocate, National Guard; Col. Seth Enterline; Navy Lt. Coleen Fagan; Capt. Leroy O. Flynn; SSgt Brad Freda, Air Force; Capt. Peter Fritz; PFC Jose Luis Garcia, National Guard; Spec. Garrett; LCpl Kevin Hackman, Marines; Diana Honings April USCG; Matt Horansky; Capt. Katie Hulcher; 2nd Lt. Megan Hulcher, RN; Capt. Thomas Hulcher; Capt. Renee Kane, Army; Major Nathan Kane, Air Force; Lt. Col. David Kaulfers, Army Corps of Engineers; Sgt. A. David Kelly; Staff Sgt. Steven Kelly, US Army; Josh Kozup, Army; Ryan Larson, Army; Grayson Larus, Ensign US Navy; Nicole Lee; Stacey Lee; Clara Mailloux, Navy Airman; Bryan J. McCabe U.S.C.G.; Sean McHugh, Army; Brendan Meadows, Pvt. US Army; Christine Michel; Major T. Alex Mitchell, First Lt. USMC Kevin Morrison; Capt. Quentin Mueller; Wilson Mustian, Army; Adam Peers, Army; Capt. Lerv Remias; Sgt. Jared Roussell; Capt. Javone Seaborn; Jonathan Schulte; Jobon Seaborn, Army; Lt. Curren D. Shorte; Vincent Stransky; Sgt. lajor Thomas Tombes, Chandra Weisner; Brennan Wilkes, US Navy; Christopher Sturtevant; Major Weatherell; Cpt. Matthew Major Justin Wolfe, USAFR; Phillip Wood; and Steve York.

Due to early Bulletin transmission date of Dec 22, names may not be up-to-date.

# THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

#### EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

7:15, 8:45, 11:15 am Liturgies.....Church 5:00 pm Eucharistic Liturgy.....Church

### MONDAY, JANUARY 3 OFFICE REOPENS

9:00 am Daily Morning Mass	Church
7:00 pm Boy Scouts #1893	Pavilion

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 4**

9:00 am Daily Morning Mass	Church
10:00 am Bible Chicks	
5:30 pm Spirit Song Rehearsal	
7:00 pm Ladies Auxiliary	Nursery

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

9:00 am Daily Morning Mass.....Church 6:30 pm High School Youth Group.....Bosco Center 7:00 pm Outreach in Love (Older)....Media Center/Library

#### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 6**

9:00 am Daily Morning Mass	Church
10:00 am Morning Praise Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
7:00 pm Rosary and Novena	Chapel
7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
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#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

7:00 am Men of St. Joseph	Chapel
9:00 am Daily Morning Mass	
9:30 am Friday Adoration	Sanctuary

#### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 8**

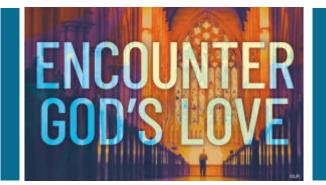
10:00 am Funeral for Jim Calpin	Church	
4:00 pm Reconciliation		
5:00 pm Eucharistic Liturgy	Church	
Community Weekend		

#### BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

#### 7:15, 8:45, 11:15 am Liturgies.....Church Community Weekend 10:00 am Into the Breach.....\*FHH Music

10:00 am Outreach in Love (Younger).	*FHH Art	
10:00 am Sunday Morning Rel Ed	School	
1:00 pm The Bible Timeline	Community Center/Gym	
5:00 pm Eucharistic Liturgy	Church	
Community Weekend		
6:30 pm Edge/Life Teen	School/Church	

\*FHH = old Fr. Herbert Hall in SEES





They were overjoyed at seeing the star. Matthew 2:10

TODAY'S READINGS SUNDAY, January 2 Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12

In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship. liberated from our narrowness and selfwe are absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being." Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important. We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved. @LPi

#### DAY AND TIME AND READINGS INTENTIONS MONDAY, 9:00 am Eucharistic Liturgy **January 3** -livestreamed-1 John 3:22-4:6 Mary Ann Scanlon † Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25 TUESDAY, 9:00 am Eucharistic Liturgy January 4 -livestreamed-1 John 4:7-10 Joseph Grana Sr. † Mark 6:34-44 WEDNESDAY, 9:00 am Eucharistic Liturgy January 5 -livestreamed-1 John 4:11-18 Jerry Chavez † Mark 6:45-52 THURSDAY, 9:00 am Eucharistic Liturgy January 6 -livestreamed-1 John 4:19-5:4 Larry Lemay † Luke 4:14-22 FRIDAY. 9:00 am Eucharistic Liturgy **January 7** -livestreamed-1 John 5:5-13 Larry Lemay † Luke 5:12-16 SATURDAY, 5:00 pm Eucharistic Liturgy **January 8** -livestreamed-1 John 5:14-21 John 3:22-20 Aimee Keith † Baptism of the Lord SUNDAY. 7:15 am Eucharistic Liturgy January 9 Luigi Maggio † Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 8:45 am Eucharistic Liturgy Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 Edward L. Barrett † 11:15 am Eucharistic Liturgy -livestreamed-Laura Montemurro † 5:00 pm Eucharistic Liturgy Parishioners. Living & Deceased † **OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS** ewardship Fiscal Year: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 A way of life Actual as of Budget\* Over<Under> Month Julv-Nov \$ 629.560 \$ 786.744 \$ 157.184 Dec \$290,736 (12/22) \$ 157,178 \$<133,558>

SCHEDULE

LITURGY

Note: We show the total budget for the month rather than each week.

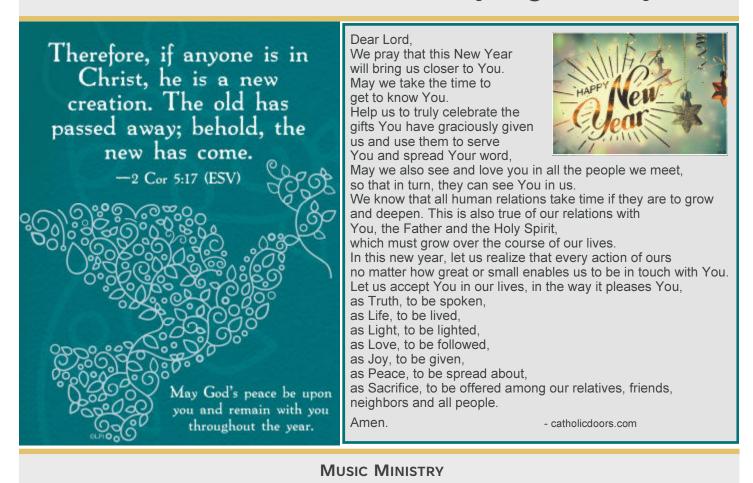
A very heartfelt thank you for your generosity!

Due to early Bulletin transmission date of Dec 22, we're unable to show totals for the weekend of Dec 25/26.

5

## LITURGY TEAM

## Fr. Don Lemay, Pastor 272-2948 Anita McCabe, Coordinator 864-4712 anitam1@stedwardch.org MINISTRY SCHEDULE - Sherri Gravins 864-4706 sherri.gravins@stedwardch.org



Liz Goodwin, Director of Music Joe Guardino, Associate Director of Music Katie Wooldridge Geisert, Violinist, Instrumental Coordinator Mary Beth Schutte, Handbell Director

864-4717 864-4710 304-4837 liz.goodwin@stedwardch.org joe.guardino@stedwardch.org katie.wooldridge@stedwardch.org mbssings@gmail.com

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: JOIN A CHOIR!

Youth Choir – 5-6pm Wednesdays (2nd through 5th grade singers) Schola 6-7pm Wednesdays (6th through 12th grade singers) Morning Praise – 10-11am Thursdays Adult Choir – 7:30-9pm Thursdays



All players welcome!

OFFICE OF HUMAN CONCERNS, JUSTICE & PEACE, HAITI TWINNING

Jennifer Bousquet 864-4718 jennifer@stedwardch.org

## HAITI MINISTRY



The next Haiti Committee meeting will be January 10 at 6:15pm, in person at the parish center and on Zoom.

## **STARS**

Thank you to everyone who supported Outreach STARS Christmas **Program** this year! We provided gifts to over 40 residents of Saint Francis Home assisted livina. over 40 unhoused or homebound folks through Care to Share RVA, and \$30,510 in gift cards for families and children in need. What an awesome way to spread some Christmas cheer!



During the busy weekends between now and mid-

January, please remember to bring some staples to our food pantry, including: canned meat/tuna, rice, beans, jelly, peanut butter, and pasta sauce, and also these deodorant. sometimes forgotten items: laundry detergent, soap, and toothpaste. Thank you to everyone who shampoo. donates throughout the year!

## ST. PETER'S OUTREACH

We are collecting the following cold-weather items for the homeless people served by St. Peter's downtown: new hats, gloves, warm socks, and waterproof sleeping bags. Bring your donations to the parish center during the week or the blue bins in the commons throughout the winter. Thanks!

## January 1st

Pope Paul VI established the World Day of Peace



in 1967, being inspired by the encyclical Pacem In Terris of Pope John XXIII and with reference to his own encyclical Popularum Progressio. The day was first observed on January 1, 1968.

## AFGHAN REFUGEES

Thank you to the parishioners who have donated furniture for Afghan refugee families. Catholic Charities came with their truck with three Afghan men and picked up a couch, a dining table and chairs, a full set of dishes and silverware, and new bedding that had all been recently donated. The men were so thankful; I wish you could have seen their faces. If you have basic furniture and can get it to St. Edward, we can store it until CCC comes to get it. Please contact me if you have furniture or household goods to donate! basic Jennifer@stedwardch.org



## Thanksgiving Meals

Thanks to your generous donations to Human Concerns, our parish was able to help provide last minute Thanksgiving meals for two shelters run by Catholic Charities. I was contacted by CCC less than a week before Thanksgiving when they found out their food vendor was not able to provide meals for their two homeless shelters (the non-congregant shelter for COVID-vulnerable individuals and families & the cold weather shelter for singles.) St. Edward was able to donate money to CCC to purchase food to help these folks have a nice meal from Mission BBQ on Thanksgiving. One shelter served 215 meals for clients, including, 42 children ages 0-5, 50 children ages 6-12, 20 children ages 13-17, and including 43 chronically homeless adults. The cold weather shelter served meals for 105 adults that night. This is one way your donations directly benefit those in need.

## POPE FRANCIS ON TWITTER

## @Pontifex 12/16/21

"#Christmas symbols, especially the creche and trimmed tree, bring us back to the certainty that fills the heart with peace, with joy for the Incarnation, to God who becomes familiar: He dwells with us, He fills our days with the rhythm of hope." 7

## OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION OF YOUTH & YOUNG FAMILIES

Joan Nelson, Director Peggy Byers, Religious Education Coordinator Andrew McCarthy, Youth Ministry Coordinator Rachael Mattio, Edge Coordinator Candace Aud, Outreach in Love Coordinator



Facebook.com/stedchurch Facebook.com/stedwardyouthministry Facebook.com/outreachinlove

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

## SUNDAYS 10-11AM

Grades Pre-K through 5th, in person Religious Ed. To view our full schedule, visit our parish website at www.stedchurch.com. Click on Ministries, then Evangelization.

Outreach in Love is religious education for children and adults with special needs. For info, email Candace.Aud@stedwardch.org Classes meet in the School

Class schedule:

- Wednesday, Jan. 5 **Older** group in person at 7pm
- Sunday, Jan. 9 Younger group in person at 10am
- Wednesday, Jan. 12 Older group Zoom at 7pm
- Wednesday, Jan. 19 Older group in person at 7pm

## TEENS

## OLIFE TEEN SECTE

## SUNDAYS 6:30-8PM

Life Teen (High School) and Edge (Middle School) are the catechetical programs offered for our teens. The full schedule is posted on our website, www.stedchurch.com. Click on Ministries, then

> Service | Prayer | Community | Fun Youth Activities @ St. Edward HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP WEDNESDAYS 6:30-8:00PM All rising 9th –graduated seniors welcome

## January 5 Youth Group

### January 12 Youth Group

**NEW Rosary Group:** On Wednesday nights before youth group, we will be saying the rosary in the columbarium starting at 6:00!

## Middle School Youth Group

Youth Group January 13 6:30pm. Watch for your Middle School email for details and sign up info.

- 864-4708 864-4714 864-4715
  - 08 joan.nelson@stedwardch.org 14 peggy.byers@stedwardch.org
  - 714 peggy.byers@stedwardch.org 715 andrew.mccarthy@stedwardch.org
- 864-4719 rachael.mattio@stedwardch.org
  - candace.aud@stedwardch.org





## SACRAMENTS

### **Baptism**

See our website, www.stedchurch.com for our complete schedule. Click on Sacraments, then Baptism. Contact peggy.byers@stedwardch.org to schedule or for info.

## First Penance and First Holy Communion

Our First Penance Services are complete. Our next class in January 23 or 31 Look for a reminder email the week of January 16.

## Confirmation

Student sessions have begun! All registered families should have received an email. Contact andrew.mccarthy@stedwardch.org for information.



WINTER RETREAT JANUARY 14TH-16TH I 9TH-12TH GRADE TEENS

We head into the mountains for a weekend of peace, fun, prayer, reflections, games, great friends, and much more! Our theme this year is Focal Point! Take a leap of faith this winter and rediscover JOY! Cost \$160

Youth Ministry Bake Sale Super Bowl Sunday weekend after all Masses! You have 1 month to lose your Christmas weight so you can support Youth Ministry programs by buying some delicious treats!

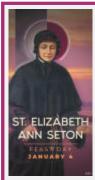


## OFFICE OF PASTORAL CARE

Pat Plonski 864-4701, pat.plonski@stedwardch.org Anita McCabe 864-4712, anitam1@stedwardch.org

## **ADULT FAMILY LIFE**

Sherri Gravins 864-4706 sherri.gravins@stedwardch.org



### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton—January 4

Mother Seton is one of the keystones of the American Catholic Church. She founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. She opened the first American parish school and established the first American Catholic orphanage. All this she did in the span of 46 years while raising her five children. Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton is a true daughter of the American Revolution, born August 28, 1774, just two years before the Declaration of Independence. By birth and marriage, she was linked to the first families of New York and enjoyed the fruits of high society. Reared a staunch Episcopalian, she learned the value of prayer, Scripture and a nightly examination of conscience. Her father, Dr. Richard Bayley, did not have much use for churches but was a great humanitarian, teaching his daughter to love and serve others. The early deaths of her mother in 1777 and her baby sister in 1778 gave Elizabeth a feel for eternity and the temporariness of the pilgrim life on earth. Far from being brooding and sullen, she faced each new "holocaust," as she put it, with hopeful cheerfulness. At 19,

Elizabeth was the belle of New York and married a handsome, wealthy businessman, William Magee Seton. They had five children before his business failed and he died of tuberculosis. At 30, Elizabeth was widowed and penniless, with five small children to support. While in Italy with her dying husband, Elizabeth witnessed Catholicity in action through family friends. Three basic points led her to become a Catholic: belief in the Real Presence, devotion to the Blessed Mother and conviction that the Catholic Church led back to the apostles and to Christ. Many of her family and friends rejected her when she became a Catholic in March 1805. To support her children, she opened a school in Baltimore. From the beginning, her group followed the lines of a religious community, which was officially founded in 1809. The thousand or more letters of Mother Seton reveal the development of her spiritual life from ordinary goodness to heroic sanctity. She suffered great trials of sickness, misunderstanding, the death of loved ones (her husband and two young daughters) and the heartache of a wayward son. She died January 4, 1821, and became the first American-born citizen to be beatified (1963) and then canonized (1975). She is buried in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

### Reflection

Ionuomy 9

Elizabeth Ann Seton had no extraordinary gifts. She was not a mystic or stigmatic. She did not prophesy or speak in tongues. She had two great devotions: abandonment to the will of God and an ardent love for the Blessed Sacrament. She wrote to a friend, Julia Scott, that she would prefer to exchange the world for a "cave or a desert." "But God has given me a great deal to do, and I have always and hope always to prefer his will to every wish of my own." Her brand of sanctity is open to everyone if we love God and do his will. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the Patron Saint of Catholic Schools, Educators/Teachers, Loss of Parents, and Widows. - Franciscan Media



## Schedule for The Bible Timeline thru March 2022 DATE **SESSION**



January 2	No Meetir
January 9, 1:00—2:30 pm	7. Egypt a
January 16, 1:00—2:30 pm	8. Desert V
January 23	No Meetin
January 30, 1:00—2:30 pm	9. Conque
February 6, 1:00—2:30 pm	10. Conqu
February 13, 1:00—2:30 pm	11. Royal
February 20, 1:00—2:30 pm	12. Royal
February 27, 1:00—2:30 pm	13. Divide
March 6, 1:-00—2:30 pm	14. Divide
March 13, 1:00—2:30 pm	15. Exile-
March 20, 1:00—2:30 pm	16. Return
March 27, 1:00—2:30 pm	17. Macca

#### No Meeting—Happy New Year!

- and Exodus—Pt 2 *Exodus*
- Wanderings-Numbers

#### ng

- est and Judges—Pt 1 Joshua; Judges
- uest and Judges—Pt 2 *Joshua; Judges*
- Kingdom—Pt 1 1 Samuel; 2 Sm; 1 Kings 1-11
- Kingdom-Pt 2 1 Samuel; 2 Sm; 1 Kings 1-11
- ed Kingdom—Pt 1 1 Kings 12-22; 2 Kings 1-17
- ed Kingdom—Pt 2 1 Kings 12-22; 2 Kings 1-16
- -2 Kings 17-25
- n—*Ezra: Nehemiah*
- abean Revolt—1 Maccabees

## January 2, 2022

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE Deacon Kevin & Adria Hogan 804-864-4707 khogan@richmonddiocese.org

## Date Night 2021

What: Date Night 2021 is a marriage enrichment community building program. Invite couple friends from the parish, your neighborhood and other parishes.

When: We meet from 10a-11a in the Music Room in the school building. Our remaining sessions are January 9, 23, and 30, 2022. We end with a Parish Wide Marriage Celebration Event on May 28,2022.

Who: married & engaged couples

**<u>Cost:</u>** There is a \$10 charge per couple for the "Couples Guide" book

Registration: To register, please email Dan and Janis Riegel at <u>danctva98@gmail.com</u>. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Kevin Hogan <u>khogan@richmonddiocese.org</u>.

Details: We meet for a meal that you bring for yourself, prior to the program @the Pavilion right after 5pm Saturday night Mass. We then proceed to SEES

night Mass. We then proceed to SEES Cafeteria for the program; after dinner the program "**Better Together**" from **Dynamic Catholic** will be presented.

## **INTO THE BREACH**

Christian Men! Meet for an hour on Sunday mornings to pray, discuss, meditate on Scripture, & work on an action plan for the following week. 11 sessions. Come as much as you can. To register, email Deacon Kevin Hogan at khogan@richmonddiocese.org

The **St. Edward Retired Men's Breakfast Group** meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:30am. For more information, call Bill Heipp at 804-794-3749 or Dave Mueller at 804-639-5885.

**"Put the Family in the Hands of the Father"** The **Men of St. Joseph** meet weekly Friday mornings, 7am–8am, and host a communion prayer service the First Friday of each month. The Magnificat is used as the main source for the daily readings and Sunday gospel discussed during the one hour prayer meetings. If you are interested in learning more about the MOSJ group, please contact: Deacon Kevin Hogan

(khogan@richmonddiocese.org), Carl Tarantino (nuccarl@comcast.net) or Phil Sido (phil.sido@gmail.com) or just show up Friday morning.



#### St. John Neumann—January 5

Perhaps because the United States got a later start in the history of the world, it has relatively few canonized saints, but their number is increasing. John Neumann was born in what is now the Czech Republic. After studying in Prague, he came to New York at 25 and was ordained a priest. He did missionary work in New York until he was

29, when he joined the Redemptorists and became its first member to profess vows in the United States. He continued missionary work in Maryland, Virginia and Ohio, where he became popular with the Germans. At 41, as bishop of Philadelphia, he organized the parochial school system into a diocesan one, increasing the number of pupils almost twentyfold within a short time. Gifted with outstanding organizing ability, he drew into the city many teaching communities of sisters and the Christian Brothers. During his brief assignment as vice provincial for the Redemptorists, he placed them in the forefront of the parochial movement. Well-known for his holiness and learning, spiritual writing and preaching, on October 13, 1963, John Neumann became the first American bishop to be beatified. Canonized in 1977, he is buried in St. Peter the Apostle Church in Philadelphia.

#### Reflection

Neumann took seriously our Lord's words, "Go and teach all nations." From Christ he received his instructions and the power to carry them out. For Christ does not give a mission without supplying the means to accomplish it. The Father's gift in Christ to John Neumann was his exceptional organizing ability, which he used to spread the Good News. Today the Church is in dire need of men and women to continue in our times the teaching of the Good News. The obstacles and inconveniences are real and costly. Yet when Christians approach Christ, he supplies the necessary talents to answer today's needs. The Spirit of Christ continues his work through the instrumentality of generous Christians. St. John Neumann is a Patron Saint of Educators/Teachers. - Franciscan Media

Image: Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Church, Powell, Ohio (interior, stained glass) St. John Neumann | photo by Nheyob

