

SETON LAKERIDGE

Parish E-Newsletter



“God is light and in him there is no darkness,” St. John writes in his first letter (1:5); and St. Paul echoes that God *“dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see”* (1 Tim 6:16). The divine light enters the world and shines over all people when God becomes human. This is the great event in all human history: the divine life, the perfect and unapproachable light, has left the bosom of divinity and become visible among us in the person of Jesus Christ. As St. Peter reminds us, He has *“called you out of darkness into his marvelous light”* (1 Pt 2:9). As we are journeying through our **ADVENT PILGRIMAGE**, the Church celebrates our Lord’s birth (Christmas) in proximity to the winter solstice. After His birth, the days and sunlight begin to become a little longer and thus begins the **SEASON OF CHRISTMAS**, or the beginning of the **SEASON OF “LIGHT ENTERING THE WORLD”**. For those of us living in the northern hemisphere, this gradual increase in daylight reflects the desired spiritual increase of the **“Light of Christ”** growing in our lives symbolically revealed in nature.

It is my hope and prayer that as we gaze upon these pages of our “rechristened” **SETON LAKERIDGE PARISH NEWSLETTER** and ponder where we have been, and look forward to what lies ahead, we will indeed reflect more of Christ’s light in our world and dispel the shadows and darkness of sin to forever bask in the glow and warmth of Christ’s light!

On behalf of Fr. Dort, Deacon Rob and our entire parish staff, I want to wish everyone a very Blessed and Merry Christmas and a grace-filled New Year!

~ Fr. Bashista

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Faith Formation

FAITH FORMATION

SHERI SUESS, DIRECTOR, [EMAIL](#)
 MYLENE GARCIA, SECRETARY, [EMAIL](#)

November 1, 2021

We had our first **All Saint's Day Parade and Potluck** on November 1st, 2021. It was a fantastic family event open to the entire parish. 100+ children and adults attended parading (to the tune of "When the Saints Come Marching In") around our parish parking lot, ending in Fellowship Hall for a huge potluck dinner!



OUR PARISH SCHOOL — ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

October 2, 2021

Our Seton-Aquinas family group had a fun meet and greet potluck in Bayley's Cellar and on the outdoor patio at the rectory.



a new country. The donations collected will be handed over to the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington's division of Migration and Refugee Services.



October 31, 2021

At the end of the summer many Afghan refugees entered our country with very little. Many were placed in homes throughout our region. The cold weather will be coming soon enough and these winter items can be an expensive proposition for families that are launching their lives in

The Newcomer Services Ministry will be distributing these winter items to our immigrant and refugee friends to help them



prepare for colder weather.

The donations will help keep them warm this winter!





SETON SENTINELS

SETONSENTINELS@
SETONLAKERIDGE.ORG



A NEW SETON LAKERIDGE MINISTRY!

Who are the Seton Sentinels?

Seton Sentinels is a women 's ministry created with YOU in mind. Many women in our parish have asked for a female version of That Man is You and Knights of Columbus. This ministry answers that question and is designed to strengthen and equip you to answer God 's call through fellowship and faith centered activities.

A la Carte

We know you 're busy because We ARE busy! Our goal is to offer opportunities with no expectation that you participate in everything. We do recommend you pick one thing that appeals to you, whether it is a bible study, movie night, or a wine and cheese night.

Spiritual Gifts

Do you have a unique gift or talent? Perhaps you 've been looking for a group of friends with similar interests and values? Consider ways you can contribute. The more women who step up to help lead or host activities, the more numerous and varied opportunities we can provide!



Vision Statement

Form, grow, and maintain God's army of women.

Mission Statement

Through Christ-centered living, strengthen and equip Seton women using our God-given values for the benefit of our self, family, parish, and community.

MONTHLY MEETINGS
1st Monday of the month
7:30pm—8:30pm
Fellowship Hall

August 2021

Speaker Melissa Maleski (Director of Marriage and Family Life at Seton Lake Ridge) spoke to our group about her book The Supreme Vocation of Women.



MUSIC MINISTRY



MUSIC MINISTRY

CARTER STEVENS, DIRECTOR, [EMAIL](#)

November 21, 2021

Christ the King Eucharistic Procession & Potluck

Hundreds of joyful parishioners gathered to process through the nearby streets. Our second ever Parish Eucharistic Procession to give honor to Christ our King and an incredible witness to our neighbors of our faith in the true presence of Our Lord in the Eucharist. Parishioners processed in song and prayer from the Main Church back to Seton Hall where they gathered for a potluck.



**Seton
Lake Ridge
Alter
Servers**





MUSIC MINISTRY

CARTER STEVENS, DIRECTOR, [EMAIL](#)



St. Cecilia Organ Recital 2021

Every Sunday at 5:00pm in the Main Church

On November 7th, Dr. Justus Parrotta treated us to an organ concert of his own compositions as well as pieces by Bach, Mozart, Mendelssohn, and others.

What a blessing it is for our parish to have such an excellent and powerful instrument for the worship of God!

Have you ever been asked what was said at mass and drawn a blank, because you were just going through the motions? To me, Vespers is new, so I have to pay attention. I find myself paying more attention to mass and to everyday life, and seeing that God created everything good. The Vespers prayers are beautiful. They are both from the past and tailored for today's confusing world, followed by a brief time of prayer and meditation with Jesus. In the past several months, more people have asked me to say prayers for them, even people who do not "do religion." I'm grateful that I can bring their prayers and my prayers directly to Jesus.

~ Pat Huff



COMING IN DECEMBER



The Vigil Project

Winter Ember Days
Friday, Dec. 3

See all the details on our [website!](#)

SETON LAKE RIDGE YOUTH

MELISSA MALESKI, DIRECTOR, [EMAIL](#)

YM: ADVENTURES



Neabsco Boardwalk Hike & Hot Chocolate, November 2021

"The new youth ministry is a beautiful blessing to all those involved. Not only does it make learning about the faith fun for our parish teens, but it also gives them an opportunity to spend time with other young Catholics! Having the opportunity to minister to these teens has been a true gift."

~ Eringrace Warner, Youth Minister & former youth group member

I enjoy being a part of the youth ministry because it is a great way to get to know other teens who share my Catholic faith. We learn a lot, but we also have a lot of fun too. One of the best experiences I have had so far was working to renovate the youth center in the basement of Seton Hall. I love hanging out there and I'm really proud of the work the other teens and I did to make it such a great space for us to gather."

~ Leo May

I love how connected everyone is. It always feels like a family to me, which is very different from other places I have been to where there wasn't much emphasis on getting to know people. I also love how I can tell that everyone there made the choice to be there - it wasn't just something they were forced to do. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton's Youth Ministry has really blessed me!"

~ Katie Orloski

YM: THEME NIGHT, OCT. 2021

"A Trip through the Last Things"

Spoiler Alert: Everyone made it to Heaven, though not without some work and prayers along the way.



"I am thankful for the youth ministry program at Seton Lake Ridge. It is difficult to be a young Catholic today. Our youth ministry provides our young people with opportunities to be with peers who have the same values & beliefs. It provides a variety of activities that are serious, fun, engaging, prayerful, social, & educational. Our youth need be empowered when they are outside the walls of our church & homes, and the youth ministry program helps do this."

~ Marcell Family

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE (MFL) EVENTS COMING SOON:

Jan 2022: The parish is invited to a special presentation on "Family and Identity: A Conversation on Gender Ideology in Light of Catholic Anthropology", presented by Melissa Maleski, Director of Marriage & Family Life . [See our website for all the details.](#)

Feb 19, 2022: A day of enrichment for you and your spouse. Registration opens soon. [Click](#) to view the flyer on our website.

FORMING DISCIPLES IN



FAITH FORMATION





**A "SENIOR CITIZENS"
ORGANIZATION
55+ YEARS OR OLDER**

SILVER FOXES

**ANN MUENCH, PRESIDENT
SILVERFOXES@SETONLAKEEDGE.ORG**

DAY OF AWARENESS AND EDUCATION, OCTOBER 20, 2021

We started the day with a blessing from Father Dort. We had three speakers planned for the day: Officer Truman Paul, Prince William County Police Department, spoke about Safety and Security. Providing us guidance on managing our medicines as well as home and internet safety.

Ms. Darlene Illig, founder of Organize You Inside and Out. Ms. Illig spoke to us about how to make a small space larger and getting rid of "clutter" as we begin to downsize.

Ms. Sharon Accardo, a community educator for a local insurance company, provided us a talk on Medicare 101 and taught us what to consider when selecting health plans.

We had 42 attendees, from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Holy Family, Sacred Heart and a few people from the Seton Lake Ridge



Father Dort

neighborhood! Seton Lake Ridge is making a difference in the community and a beacon of faith!





**A "SENIOR CITIZENS"
ORGANIZATION
55+ YEARS OR OLDER**

SILVER FOXES

**ANN MUENCH, PRESIDENT
SILVERFOXES@SETONLAKE RIDGE.ORG**

Monthly Meeting, October 30, 2021

Even our monthly meetings are festive! On October 30th we had our 2nd Monthly meeting since COVID - and we told everyone to feel free to dress in their Halloween Costumes.

We asked Father Bashista to say a blessing for us, since he was saying the 9am Mass. Not only did he say a blessing, but he spoke about the Capital Campaign answering many questions and alleviating the concerns of our seniors - many whom are on a fixed income. Any amount - and our prayers - will make a difference.



**SOME SILVER FOX MEMBERS SUPPORTING THE
SETON LAKE RIDGE MINISTRY FAIR
OCTOBER 10, 2021**

Then he surprised EVERYONE by staying and talking to everyone. He went from table to table, like it was a party thrown for him! God was definitely with us that day! Maybe it was my Professor McGonagall costume!





ALPHA
 K.FISCHER@
 SETONLAKE.RIDGE.ORG



SETON LAKE RIDGE COMPLETES SEASON TWO OF ALPHA!



WHAT IS



GOOD FOOD

+



ALPHA TALK

+



DISCUSSION

Alpha is a FREE meal and a series of videos to watch followed by open conversation that explores life, spirituality and faith.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! "Come and See"

www.setonlakeridge.org/evangelization/alpha/

"WHAT'S THE MEANING OF LIFE?"
 "DO I HAVE A PURPOSE?"
 "IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?"
 "IS THERE A GOD?"
 "WHAT AM I DOING HERE?"

Alpha

FIND OUT ABOUT THE ALPHA COURSE



Mark Your Calendar!
Spring ALPHA Begins
March 30, 2022



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

Advent and Christmas Mass Schedule 2021

DAILY MASS

Monday—Saturday 9:00am

CONFESSIONS (starting November 29th)

Mondays 7:00pm - 7:45pm
 Fridays 9:30am - 10:15am
 Saturdays 3:30pm - 4:30pm
 Monday, Dec. 20th 7:00pm - 8:30pm
 Friday, Dec. 24th 9:30am - 11:30am
 *Saturday, Dec 25th No Confessions

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU (CONFESSIONS)

Wednesdays 6:30pm - 8:00pm
 *December 1st 6:30pm - 7:30pm
 *Wednesday, Dec 8th No Confessions

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Vigil, Tuesday, Dec 7th 7:30pm
 Wednesday, Dec 8th, 6:30am, 9:00am, 6:00pm, & 7:30pm

Cancelled - Holy Hour of Adoration

EMBER DAYS

Wednesday, Dec. 1st 7:30pm - 9:00pm
REFLECTION Presented by Fr. Dort, Sheri Suess, Melissa Maleski & Kris Fischer (Main Church)
 Cancelled - Holy Hour for Vocations

Friday, December 3rd

Brown Scapular Enrollment 6:00pm (Chapel)
MASS (Main Church) 6:30pm

VIGIL PROJECT TRUE PRESENCE NIGHT

ADORATION/CONFESSION 7:15pm - 8:30pm
 All Night Adoration 8:30pm

Saturday, December 4th

STEWARDSHIP: CAROLING at
Westminster Retirement Community
 Meet in Fellowship Hall 8:30am

SOLEMN VESPERS W/ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Sunday, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 12 & Dec. 19
 5:00pm - 6:00pm in the Main Church

CHRISTMAS MASS

Friday, Dec. 24th
 Vigil Masses: 4:00pm, 6:00pm, 8:00pm
 12:00am Midnight (12/25)

Cancelled - Divine Mercy Chaplet

CHRISTMAS DAY

(Holy Day of Obligation)
 Saturday, Dec. 25th
 Masses: 9:00am, 10:45am & 12:30pm
NO CONFESSIONS OR 5:00PM VIGIL MASS

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

NO VIGIL MASS DEC. 25TH
 Sunday, Dec. 26th
 Masses: 7:30am 9:00am, 10:45am & 12:30pm

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

(This Solemnity is NOT a day of obligation this year because of the way it falls on the liturgical calendar, but it is still a Holy Day. We encourage all parishioners to attend our scheduled Masses to celebrate Mary, The Holy Mother of God.)

Friday, Dec. 31st
 Vigil Mass: 7:30pm

Saturday, Jan. 1st
 Masses: 9:00am & 12:00pm

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

From Noon on Thursday, Dec. 23rd through Sunday, Jan. 2nd, 2022.
 Reopening on Monday, Jan. 3rd, 2022.



Our First Ever Farm Gleaning!

On Saturday, September 18th, 30 Seton Lake Ridge parishioners joined Fr. Bashista on the 6:00am chartered bus, or hopped in their own cars, and headed Colonial Beach in Westmoreland County, VA. We traveled to Parker Farms to glean sweet corn to feed Virginia families in need.

“When you reap the harvest in your field and overlook a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; let it be for the resident alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the LORD, your God, may bless you in all your undertakings.”
(Deuteronomy 24:19)



One major area of food waste in America is in farmers’ fields, where crops that don’t meet top-grade quality are left to rot or be plowed under. Gleaning is the traditional biblical practice of gathering those crops.

Parker Farms donate crops, volunteers glean and harvest, and the Healthy Harvest Food Bank collects and delivers the food to their partner agencies where it is distributed to families in need.

Gleaners are people of all ages who want to give of their time to help those who struggle with enough healthy, nutritious food to eat.

By the time they finished, everyone was hot, dirty, and tired, but feeling sweet contentment in knowing their efforts would mean so much to those less fortunate than themselves.





Our Lady's Rosary Makers Visit Seton Lake Ridge

On Saturday, October 23rd, Mrs. Aileen Bashista, and four other members of *Our Lady's Rosary Makers*, visited Seton Lake Ridge to teach our parishioners how to make rosaries. The morning began with 9:00am Mass, followed by a continental breakfast and then on to the Rosary Making Class. It was difficult at first, but all were successful in the end. We were grateful to have such gentle and patient teachers. We also thank them for their very generous donation of handmade rosaries for our parish's Rosary Donation Drive, held that same weekend.

A special *thank you* goes out to parishioner, Patti Ann Gleichsner, for her assistance in the planning and execution of both the rosary making class and rosary donation drive. Patti Ann is the parishioner responsible for cleaning, packaging, and mailing all of our parishioners' donations of religious articles to *Our Lady's Rosary Makers* for shipment to Catholic missions around the world.



December 2021
WINTER EMBER DAYS
Join us for TRUE PRESENCE NIGHT
Friday, December 3 | 7:30pm (after the 6:30pm First Friday Mass)

THE VIGIL PROJECT PRESENTS

TRUE PRESENCE NIGHT

ADVENT 2021

LIVE MUSIC. DYNAMIC SPEAKING. EUCHARISTIC ADORATION.

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