

www.setonlakeridge.org

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Lake Ridge, VA



#### **PARISH OFFICE:**

12807 Valleywood Drive Lake Ridge, VA 22192

#### Parish Office Hours:

Mon. & Wed.: 9:00am - 8:00pm Tues, Thurs, & Fri.: 9:00am - 4:00pm Sunday: 8:00am - 2:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am - 2:00pm

Phone: 703-494-4008 Fax: 703-494-1995 Email: receptionist@setonlakeridge.org Sacramental Emergency:

571-455-0402

#### **CONFESSION SCHEDULE:**

**Monday:** 7:00pm – 7:45pm **Friday:** 9:30am – 10:00am **Saturday:** 3:30pm – 4:30pm

#### **MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Daily:** Monday - Saturday: 9:00am (Rosary at 8:25am)

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sun.: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:45am, 12:30pm

First Friday Evening Mass: 7:00pm;

(7:30pm during Lent)

#### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:**

Tues/Thurs All Day Adoration:

9:30am - 8:30pm

Tuesdays Children's Adoration

4:00pm - 5:00pm

First Friday All Night Adoration:

7:30pm - 8:30am (Sat.)

#### **MOTHER SETON FOOD PANTRY**

Thursday 12:00pm - 2:00pm

#### **MOTHER SETON GIFT SHOP**

Sunday	8:15am — 2:00pm
Monday	CLOSED
Tues-Thurs	9:30am — 12:00pm
*Friday	CLOSED
<b>(</b> *5:00pm –	8:00pm during Lent)
Saturday	4:00pm – 6:30pm

#### **PARISH LIBRARY**

Sunday	8:15am <b>—</b> 2:00pm
Mon/Wed	9:00am <b>–</b> 8:00pm
Tues/Thurs/Fri	9:00am <b>–</b> 4:00pm

#### WELCOME TO ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

#### **PARISH MISSION AND VISION**

Here at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, it is our mission to grow with and accompany those within our parish boundaries, fostering a community that journeys together in the faith in a way that is personal, purposeful, and prayerful.

#### New to the Parish?

Welcome to Seton Lake Ridge! We are excited to connect with you! Please complete your Parish Registration Card by stopping by the Parish Office or online at setonlakeridge.org/parish-registration.

If you are a returning Catholic, we welcome you home. Everyone is invited to rediscover the gift of our faith and the unique role that each of us has in this family of God!

#### **Becoming Catholic (OCIA)**

If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or becoming Catholic, please contact our OCIA Director, Catherine Mays at ocia@setonlakeridge.org.

#### **Baptisms**

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life; it is the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. At our parish, Baptisms occur every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. To register for the required Baptism Workshop and schedule a date for the Baptism, please contact the Parish Office.

#### Matrimony — Congratulations on your engagement!

Registered Parishioners that wish to be married here or elsewhere, are asked to contact one of the Parish Clergy at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding date to begin the Pre-Cana preparation process.

#### Blessings

<u>Sacramental Blessings</u> - A priest will bless Sacramentals every 1st Saturday of the Month | After 9:00am Mass Near Baptismal Font

Please Note: Previously blessed items are not to be blessed again.

# Seeking information about the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated religions life?

If you are seeking more information about *Holy Orders* and *Consecrated Life*, please contact one of the Parish Clergy or the Diocesan Office of Vocations (703-841-2514).

#### Pastoral Care of the Sick

If there are any parishioners who are hospitalized or homebound, please notify us so that we may best assist and accompany them. **Holy Communion**, the **Sacraments of Penance**, and **Anointing of the Sick** are arranged by the Parish Office. In a danger-of-death situation, call the parish emergency line, 571-455-0402.

#### **BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS**

All submissions to the bulletin must be sent in using the *Communications Submission Form.* This form can be found on setonlakeridge.org/bulletins, and must be submitted on <u>Monday, two weeks before the Sunday publication date.</u> Note: Due to space limitations, submissions are not guaranteed a space.

#### **PARISH CLERGY**

**Reverend Brian Bashista,** *Pastor* 703-494-4008

pastor@setonlakeridge.org (Non-Confidential)

**Reverend Charles Merkle III,** *Parochial Vicar* 703-494-4008

frmerkle@setonlakeridge.org

Reverend Mr. Rob Warner, Deacon 703-494-4008 dcnrob@setonlakeridge.org

#### **DISCIPLESHIP**

**Kris Fischer,** *Director of Missionary Outreach* – Ext. 137 .k.fischer@setonlakeridge.org

**Rebecca Sobus,** *Director of Disciple Formation* – **Ext. 139** <u>r.sobus@setonlakeridge.org</u>

#### **FAMILY FAITH FORMATION**

Mylene Garcia, Coordinator - Ext. 126 m.garcia@setonlakeridge.org

#### **HUMAN CONCERNS OUTREACH**

Betty Maher, Director – Ext. 105 b.maher@setonlakeridge.org

#### LITURGY, SACRAMENTS, AND MUSIC

**Jane Moreno**, *Coordinator of Liturgy and Sacrament Preparation* – **Ext. 129** j.moreno@setonlakeridge.org

Carter Stevens, *Director & Organist* – Ext. 108 <u>c.stevens@setonlakeridge.org</u>

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

Christine O'Hearn, Office Mgr & Pastor's Asst. – Ext. 127 c.ohearn@setonlakeridge.org

Robert Yates, Business Manager – Ext. 136 r.yates@setonlakeridge.org

**Violet LaVille**, *Database Mgr & Financial Assistant* – **Ext. 131** v.laville@setonlakeridge.org

Katya de Leon, Communications Manager – Ext. 138 k.deleon@setonlakeridge.org

Walter Purdy, Facilities Manager – Ext. 107 w.purdy@setonlakeridge.org

Jenny Jones, Receptionist Tracy Grubbs, Receptionist receptionist@setonlakeridge.org

#### **PARISH SCHOOL**

St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School 13750 Mary's Way, Woodbridge, VA 22191 Sister Mary Sabina, O.P., Principal Phone: 703-491-4447 | Fax: 703-492-8828 www.aquinastars.org

#### **FROM OUR PASTOR**



With the approval of our **Master Plan Special Use Permit** by the county a few weeks ago, many have asked me "when are we going to begin construction, when will the columbarium be ready, are we really going to have a pre-school, what are the next steps?" I will try to offer some preliminary 'best-guesses' here. The next step is for us to prepare **construction documents** and also materials to begin taking orders to secure the **sale of columbarium niches**. That is scheduled to take place

the <u>first half of 2025</u>. In the mean time, we are already looking at the possibility of opening a **Pre-K** in the <u>fall of 2025</u> in our existing nursery space as a 'satellite campus' to **St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School** (our shared parish school located at O.L.A.).



More information on that will be forthcoming, hopefully in <u>early January 2025</u>. After construction documents are complete we will obtain cost estimates to prepare the overall financial model to complete Phase III of our Master Plan. Then we need to obtain final approval from the Bishop and his Building Construction Committee in the latter half of 2025. The final step is approval of our overall finished site-plan by the county. This process is estimated to take 9-12 months from time of submittal. Our Civil Engineers hope to have this plan submitted by early



spring 2025 so the soonest we think we can 'break-ground' and begin construction would be the spring or early summer of 2026. The duration of construction could last 18-24 months, so the general estimate of time of completion would be late 2027.



I want to express my deep gratitude to Almighty God, and to you, the good people of Seton Lake Ridge who, through your generous financial contributions, support and prayers, have brought all of these facility and ministry enhancements closer to reality.

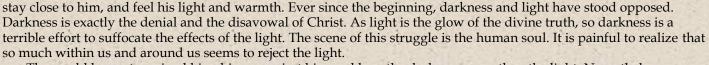
Advent Blessings to all ~ Fr. Bashista

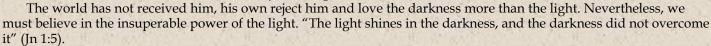
### **WEEKLY REFLECTION**

# Called to the Light

"God is light and in him there is no darkness," John writes in his first letter (1:5); and Paul writes 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 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. He has "called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Pt 2:9).

The fact that the light has come to you brings tangible consequences, but only if you truly receive it and let it light up your darkness. Living in Christ will let you





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# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2024

# **ADVENT**

DAILY MASS

Monday - Saturday 9:00am

SUNDAY MASS

7:30am 9:00am 10:45am 12:30pm CONFESSIONS

Mondays

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Fridays

9:30am - 10:30am

Saturdays

3:30pm - 4:30pm

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LISTED EVENTS



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

Mass: Monday, December 9

Time(s): 6:30am, 9:00am, 6:00pm, & 7:30pm

(There will be NO 7:00pm Confessions)

#### HOPE AND HEALING ADVENT WORKSHOP Thursday - Saturday, December 12-14 Times Vary | Fellowship Hall

While we anticipate Christmas with excitement, the holidays can also be difficult, and for some, this season may bring to mind physical illness or pain, sorrow over a loss (of a friend, a loved one, a home, a job, etc.), regret, or other trials. For those in search of light, God is calling you out of the dark! Registration is FREE and open to ALL.

# SIMBANG GABI (MASS AND RECEPTION) Friday, December 20 | 6:00pm | FREE Main Church and Upper Seton Hall

This Filipino tradition is a devotional, nine-day series of Masses attended by Catholics in anticipation of Christmas. All are invited to join us for Mass and the reception to follow! If you are interested in volunteering for the night or donating a dish to share at our Salo-Salo (reception), scan the QR code!

# **CHRISTMAS MASSES**

VIGIL MASSES Tuesday, Dec. 24

4:00pm, 7:00pm

MIDNIGHT MASS Wednesday, Dec. 25

11:30pm - Chorale Prelude 12:00am - Mass CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES Wednesday, Dec. 25

9:00am, 10:45am, 12:30pm

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF OUR LORD

VIGIL | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

7:00pm (Adoration will end at 6:00pm)

MASS | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY I

9:00am & 12:00pm

#### **HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES:**

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas! Please note that the Parish Office, Gift Shop, and Library will be closed from Tuesday, December 24th, through Wednesday, January 1st. We will reopen and resume our regular operating hours on Thursday, January 2, 2025

#### **FEATURED EVENTS AND INITIATIVES**



#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: KEEPS CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CARD SALES

November 9 – December 22 <u>Price</u>: \$10.00 per Box of Ten (10) Cards

Come stop after any Sunday Mass to check out the Knights of Columbus' "Keep Christ in Christmas" cards! This year's card "Away in a Manger" will feature artwork of the Nativity and upon purchase, you as the card recipient will be remembered at the 7:00pm Christmas Eve Mass on Tuesday, December 25. Our Knights thank you for your support!

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WREATH SALES

The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly has kicked off our Annual Advent-Christmas Fundraiser to support our 3 diocesan seminarians: Reverend Mr. Raymond Goins, Reverend Mr. Michael Sampson, and Mr. Camden Short. Wreaths, Centerpieces, and/or Tabletop Christmas Trees can be ordered in person after all Masses until December 1 or they may be ordered online by using the QR code until December 6.

What holiday gift could be more timely and meaningful for around \$50? The 4th Degree Assembly will receive \$8 for every gift purchased using our code! Thank you in advance for your help. We hope you have a great holiday season.

#### **EVANGELICAL CATHOLIC'S REACH MORE IS COMING!**

January 14-21 | Bayley's Cellar

Starting next year, our parish will begin **Reach More**, a transformative training program from Evangelical Catholic designed to equip parishioners to grow as disciples and share their faith in everyday life. Through this program, participants will learn how to lead small faith-sharing groups, evangelize with confidence, and deepen their relationship with Christ while fostering meaningful connections with others.

As part of our **Clear Path to Discipleship**—Connect, Encounter, Form, and Equip—*Reach More Training* is central to the *Equip* step.

Whether you feel called to leadership or simply want to explore how to live out your faith more fully, **Reach More** offers the tools and support to make a lasting impact in our parish and beyond. Stay tuned for more details and opportunities to sign up in the coming months!

Registration coming soon.

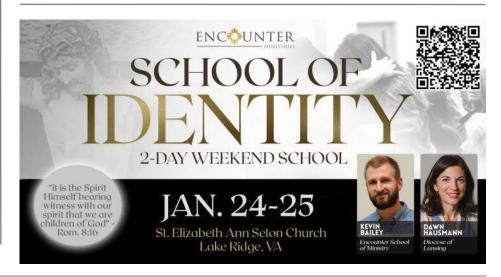
#### THE RESCUE PROJECT

January 29 – March 19 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm | Fellowship Hall

Join us as our parish launches The Rescue Project, a powerful and inspiring series created by Fr. John Riccardo, designed to help you rediscover the profound story of salvation and God's incredible plan for your life.

In this series, Fr. Riccardo dives deep into the "why" behind Christianity. Together, we'll walk through the core questions: Why is there something rather than nothing? What is our purpose? What went wrong in the world? And most importantly, what has God done about it?

Registration will be opening soon, more details to come!



#### THE BEST HOUR YOU WILL SPEND ON EARTH

#### **URGENT NEED OF STEADY ADORERS**



St. John Vianney, the patron saint of priests, told his people weekly: "If only you knew how much Jesus loves you in the Blessed Sacrament, you would die of happiness." Then, pointing to the tabernacle, he would say: "He is there." Yes, my friends, He is there waiting to speak to us, bless us, comfort us, encourage us, inspire us, and listen to us with compassion and love, as no other friend on earth can. The Holy Hour is Jesus' answer to our prayer: "Stay with us, Lord," and it is our answer to His call. **To keep Adoration open to all,** we need at least two adorers present whenever the Blessed Sacrament is exposed. We currently have only one adorer for the following hours: Tuesdays at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in committing to an hour or being a substitute can sign up by emailing adorers@setonlakeridge.org.

#### WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Join the KofC Assemblies Fr. Edwin F. Kelley#1443, Fr. Edward L. Richardson#3174, and the AHGVA 0614 on Saturday, December 14th, at Sacred Heart Cemetery (6430 Token Forest Drive, Manassas, VA 20112) to honor our fallen heroes, from SEAS and Sacred Heart parishes, at the annual Wreaths Across America wreath laying ceremony beginning at 12 noon. The ceremony will take place in all weather, please be prepared. If you are interested in purchasing a wreath to be laid on a hero's grave that day, please use this QR code. Thank you for your support!





#### **FOR CHILDREN**

#### **FAMILY FAITH FORMATION REMINDERS:**

<u>Happy 2nd Sunday of Advent!</u> It symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

**Family Faith Formation Small Groups (Weeks 6/7 & 8):** Group B — Week 6 (10:30am) sessions will meet today, Dec. 8th. After that, Group B Week 7 will meet on January 5, 2025. Group A — Week 7 (8:45am & 10:30am) sessions will meet on Dec. 15th. After that, Group A Week 8 will meet on Jan. 12, 2025.

There will be NO Small Group Session on December 22 and December 29.

# SACRAMENT PREPARATION 2ND GRADE FIRST PENANCE PARENT/CHILD MEETING #2

January 12, 2025 | Fellowship Hall | 4:00pm – 5:00pm

#### HAPPENING AT AQUINAS THIS MONTH: SAFE SOCIAL NETWORK

Friday, December 13 | TBA (Please check aquinastars.org)

Aquinas will host a Parent Talk by Ben Tracy of Safe Social Network. Ben is a leading keynote speaker on digital citizenship, online safety, and responsible social media use. Learn more about his organization at safesocialnetwork.com



#### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Sun., December 22 | 2:00pm – 4:00pm | Upper Seton Hall

Join us for our annual Children's Christmas Party! Hosted and coordinated by our *Knights of Columbus*, this joyful celebration is open to all families in our parish with children from three years of age to those in 5th grade. From our Knights, enjoy festive crafts, light refreshments, and a scavenger hunt! Santa, himself, will also have a special gift for all children who are registered.

To ensure we have everything prepared for your little ones, please RSVP by December 18 (4PM) using the QR code. There is **NO** charge for the event **HOWEVER** all guests must be registered in advance.





# REVERSE ADVENT FOOD DRIVE CATHOLIC CHARITIES: ST. LUCY FOOD PROJECT

Family Faith Formation is excited to be partnering once again with Catholic Charities to support their St. Lucy Food Project which is missioned to serve those struggling with food insecurity within all counties of our Diocese.

Family Faith Formation Families and parishioners can pick up a blue bag after any Mass to fill up with the various items listed on the flyer. Bags can be found upstairs in the Narthex and downstairs on the table. Once filled, you can drop them off in the bin marked St. Lucy Food Project downstairs next to the Fellowship Hall. We will accept donations until January 5, 2025.

# M

### **FOR YOUTH**



#### YOUTH MINISTRY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sun., December 15 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm Lower Seton Hall

All current 6th-12th grade teens in public, private, or home school are invited to join us for our 2024 Christmas Party! We will meet in Lower Seton Hall beginning with refreshments and socializing. The evening will include a Gingerbread House competition, Ugly Sweater Contest, and other activities to get us in the Christmas Spirit! Wear your BEST and UGLIEST Christmas Sweater for a chance to win our Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest!



#### **ALPHA YOUTH RETURNS!**

YM Bi-Weekly Gathering

Get ready because Alpha Youth returns January 2025! Alpha Youth exists to EQUIP THE CHURCH to help RISING GENERATIONS discover and develop a RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS. We do this by providing culture-curating PRODUCTS & RESOURCES, transformative EXPERIENCES, and CURIOUS CONVERSATIONS.

More information and details will be released soon, so keep an eye out!

# [†] FOR MEN





# COULD CHRIST BE CALLING YOU TO PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS LIFE? ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR MEN

Saturday, December 21 | 10:15am – 4:00pm Dominican House of Studies

Could Christ be calling you to the priesthood or religious life? Take a step to find out and enjoy some quiet prayer time this Advent with diocesan seminarians and religious at the Dominican House of Studies. Prepare for Christ's birth, deepen in your prayer, and learn about seminary and religious life at the Advent Day of Recollection for Men. Open to all men ages 18-35, this day will include Mass, directed and personal prayer time, lunch, and fellowship. Register via email by December 1 (vocations@arlingtondiocese.org)



#### **FOR WOMEN**

# WHAT DOES JESUS' COMING MEAN FOR ME? ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR WOMEN

Sun., Dec. 22 | 10:30am – 3:30pm | Missionhurst Retreat Center

Any woman (18-35yrs) desiring to deepen their prayer lives and explore their vocation are invited to join Sr. Liz Sjoberg, DC for an Advent Day of Recollection. The day will include Mass, Adoration, talks, and lunch. Please register via email by December 16 at vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

#### FINDING JESUS WITH ST. THERESE LISIEUX: WOMEN'S SILENT RETREAT

Friday-Sunday, January 24-26 | San Damiano Retreat Center, White Post, VA

Thérèse's spiritual doctrine is easily understood and can be practically applied in our very occupied, day-to-day lives. Her counsel can ably assist us in enduring and embracing difficulties in prayer, overcoming scruples, and patiently putting up with people who challenge us. Join Fr. Jack Riley at the feet of Jesus at San Damiano to learn more about this great saint. The retreat begins at 5 p.m. on Friday, January 24, and ends at 1 p.m. on Sunday, January 26, 2025. Retreat cost is \$285 per person. For further information or to register, please contact Deacon Mark Maines at mark.maines@arlingtondiocese.org.



### **FOR COUPLES**



#### STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE IN THE NEW YEAR!

Saturdays Beginning January 11 | 6:00pm | Upper Seton Hall Childcare Available!

Our parish is excited to launch The Alpha Marriage Course, a seven-week program designed to help couples invest in their relationship and build a stronger, healthier marriage. Whether you've been married for 1 year or 50, this course offers practical tools and guided discussions to help you grow closer, communicate better, and navigate life together. Each session includes video presentations, private couple conversations, and refreshments in a welcoming, relaxed setting. The course begins in January, and childcare will be provided to make it easier for parents to attend.

More information and registration will be coming soon! Invest in your marriage and discover the joy of growing together!



#### **MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS OF THE WEEK**

#### Sunday, December 8th

5:00 p.m. † Joseph Castellano Vigil 7:30 a.m. † James McGarry 9:00 a.m. Guilleramo Giandoni 10:45 a.m. Hoyt McPherson

12:30 p.m.

#### Monday, December 9th

6:30 a.m. † Teresa Amendola 9:00 a.m. † Luis Leisan Santos 6:00 p.m. † Walter Michalek

7:30 p.m. For the People of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

#### Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. Josette Lamb

#### Wednesday, December 11th

9:00 a.m. † Teresa Amendola

#### Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. † Bernita Faulknew

#### Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. † Frank Coniglio

#### Saturday, December 14th

9:00 a.m. Silver Foxes

5:00 p.m. † Shannon Eddleman

Vigil

#### **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

The sick of our parish family: Kathleen Murray

**The deceased of our parish family:** Laura Westley, Jerome Liwanag, Jack Harar, Beth Sipes, Bogdan Nocon, Sabas Heredia, Paul Engborg, Darius de Leon, Mylene Garcia, Frank Belmes

#### **COLLECTIONS FOR OCTOBER 2024**

Collection (Average Weekly)	\$ 22,794.22
Capital Improvements	\$ 6,630.00
Poor Box	\$ 835.00
Votives	\$ 1,480.23
Flowers	\$ 292.00
Special Collections	
Hurricane Relief	\$ 8,294.00
Porto Charities	\$ 1,727.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 4,444,00

Thank you for your generous donations!

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9 Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11

Lk 3:1-6

Monday: The Immaculate Conception of BVM (S)

Gn 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Eph 1:3-6,

11-12 Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Our Lady of Loretto (m)

Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 Mt

18:12-14

**Wednesday:** St. Damasus I (m)

Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Our Lady of Guadalupe (F)

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Jud 13:18bcde, 19 Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday: St. Lucy (M)

Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: St. John of the Cross (M)

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19

Mt 17:9a, 10-13

#### FROM YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER!

**Dear Parishioners**: Why don't we begin this edition by taking a victory lap together over the 19 November approval of the Seton Lake Ridge Special Use Permit (SUP) by the Prince William Board of County Supervisors (BOCS)? The show of support from you all - it was literally standing room only in the BOCS Conference Room – was overwhelming! In fact, BOCS Chair Deshundra Jefferson commended all present for the 'silent (but effective) show of support' for the Seton Lake Ridge SUP shown by our overwhelming presence at the meeting. In the end, despite all of my pre-meeting jitters, Our Lord once again knocked the ball right out of the park and our SUP received unanimous approval. The resultant exchange of handshakes, high fives, smiles and even a few hugs - allowed the love of Christ to flow freely within the McCoart Building that day! Thanks to all who have supported our Special Use Permit/Capital Campaign efforts; you can expect an update on next steps very soon. Moving now to remind all as we approach the end of the calendar year and (inevitably) tax season – contribution statements will go out in the mail in January. Finally, I will remind all that our Gift Shop Manager, Karen Kiesner, has the shop stocked to the hilt with Christmas and other goodies. PLEASE DO STOP BY FOR A LOOK! I promise you won't be disappointed and I'm almost certain you'll find something to take home with you! I'll close now by expressing thanks to each of you, for the last time in 2024, for your generosity of time and treasure in support of our Church and wish you and yours a most blessed Advent and Christmas season. May the light of the infant Jesus and the intercession of His holy Mother shine upon each of you and your families throughout the Christmas Season. Please contact your business manager anytime with questions or concerns (pg.2)

God bless! Robert Yates

#### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Daily Rosary: Mon-Sat | 8:25am – 8:55am | Main Church

Daily Mass: Mon-Sat | 9:00am – 9:30am | Main Church

Sat. Vigil Mass: 5:00pm | Main Church

Sun. Masses: 7:30am, 9am, 10:45am, 12:30pm | Main Church

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Sunday, Decemb	er 8 <sup>th</sup> - Second Sunday of Advent	
8:30am – 11:30pm	OCIA	Seton Hall
10:30am – 12:00pm	Family Faith Formatin Group B Session 2	
10:45am – 11:35am	Nursery	Nursery
6:30pm – 8:00pm	YM Girls Boys Study	Lower Seton Hall
	ber 9th - The Immaculate Conception of BVM (S)	
9:00am – 10:00am	The Immaculate Conception of BVM Mass	Main Church
6:00pm - 7:00pm	The Immaculate Conception of BVM Mass	Main Church
7:00pm - 8:00pm	Al-Anon	St. Paul Room
7:30pm - 8:30pm	The Immaculate Conception of BVM Mass	Main Church
	ber 10 <sup>th</sup> - Our Lady of Loretto (m)	
9:30am – 8:30pm	All Day Adoration	Chapel
9:30am - 10:30am	Blue Army Devotion	Chapel
Wednesday, De	cember 11 <sup>th</sup> – St. Damasus I (m)	•
9:30am – 11:30am	Divine Mercy Cenacle	St. Mary Room
9:45am – 11:30am	Wednesday Bible Study	St. Peter & Paul Room
1:30pm - 3:30pm	Lumen Christi	Seton Hall
6:00pm - 7:30pm	OCIA Youth Program Catch-Up	Trinity 3
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Alpha	Fellowship Hall
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Mother of Joy Prayer Group	St. Paul Room
Thursday, Dece	mber 12 <sup>th</sup> - Our Lady of Guadalupe (F)	
9:30am - 8:30pm	All Day Adoration	Chapel
9:30am – 10:45am	Divine Mercy Holy Hour	Chapel
12:00pm - 2:00pm	Mother Seton Food Pantry	Fellowship Hall
6:00pm – 7:30pm	American Heritage Girls	Lower Seton Hall
6:00pm – 7:30pm	Trail Life USA	Upper Seton Hall
7:00pm - 8:30pm	Hope and Healing Advent Workshop	Fellowship Hall
7:00pm - 8:30pm	Thursday Bible Study	St. Mary Room
7:15pm — 8:45pm	Traditional Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
Friday, Decemb	er 13 <sup>th</sup> - St. Lucy (M)	
9:30am – 12:00pm	Mom's Group	Nursery
9:45am – 12:15am	Friday Morning Faith Sharing	St. Peter & Paul Rooms
10:00am – 11:30am	Legion of Mary	Trinity 3
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet	Chapel
7:00pm <b>–</b> 8:30pm	Hope and Healing Advent Workshop	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, Decem	ber 14th - St. John of the Cross (M)	
7:00am – 9:00am	That Man is You! (TMIY!)	Fellowship Hall
9:30am	Rosary at the Unborn Child (K. of C. and Legion of Mary)	Parish Grounds
10:00am – 11:30am	She Shall Be Called Woman (SHE)	Seton Hall
11:00am – 12:30pm	Hope and Healing Advent Workshop	Fellowship Hall
	TT	Eallowship Hall
2:00pm - 3:30pm	Hope and Healing Advent Workshop	Fellowship Hall

#### THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

"The second candle on the Advent wreath represents Peace. Like the first candle, it is also purple. Often called the "Bethlehem Candle," the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus. Building on the meaning of the Prophecy Candle, this second candle recalls that after all of the division, destruction, and dispersion of the kingdom in the Old Testament, there might finally be peace on Earth – Jesus is coming, and so is his Kingdom of Peace. As we read in the quote from Pope Francis, this light of peace shone forth from Bethlehem for all the world. This Advent, light the second candle on Sunday, December 8, 2024." (Hallow.com)

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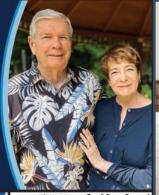
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