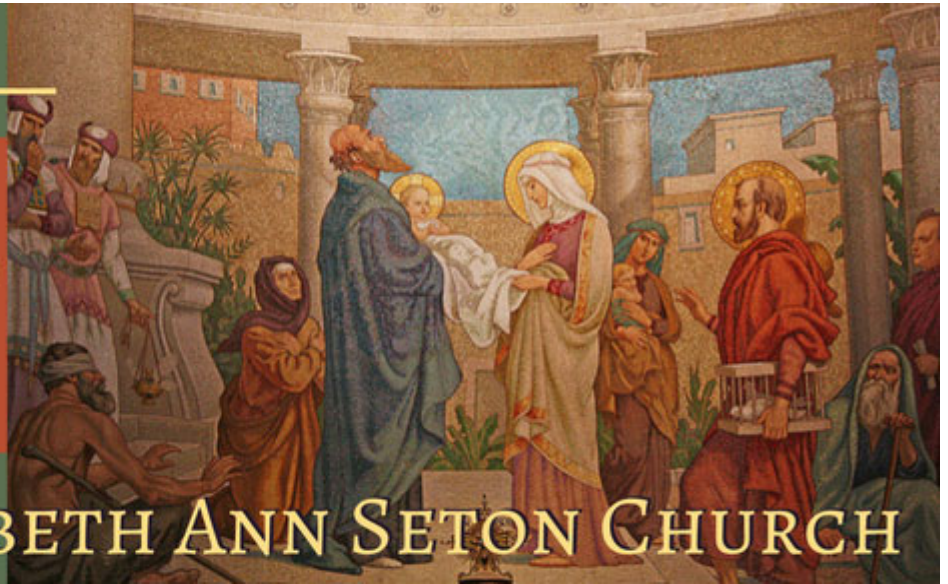


DECEMBER 31, 2017

THE HOLY  
FAMILY OF JESUS,  
MARY AND  
JOSEPH

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH



STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Conor J. McGrath  
Sister Frances Briseño  
Martha Gomez  
Heidi Neuenfeldt  
A J Rabel  
Deana Giuliani  
Ana Holbrook  
Susan Ramsower  
Lisa Casas  
Mary Koonce  
Suzanne Villanueva  
Valerie Trevino  
Michelle Marroquin  
Dr. Maria Leavy Hoelscher  
Anna Cantu

Pastor  
Pastoral Administrator  
Pastoral Administrator  
Dir. of Religious Ed  
Plant Manager  
Parish Accountant  
Religious Ed Admin Asst.  
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Middle School Faith Formation  
Youth Minister  
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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:29 -- 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

**Friday:** 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]

**Sunday:** Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturday 4 p.m.

**WEDDING:** Must be registered in parish and make an initial appointment with the Pastor at least six (6) months in advance of the wedding date.

**BAPTISM:** Call the office to make an appointment (210) 698-1941. Our Baptism classes will be held on Jan. 4, Feb. 1, Mar. 1, at 6:30 p.m. in Seton Hall.

**RCIA:** Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults  
Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or considering becoming a Catholic? Are you an adult Catholic wanting to prepare for Eucharist and Confirmation? Classes will be held every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Please call Sr. Frances Briseño for more information at 210-698-1941.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

We ask God to bless all those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them. To have the Ministers of Care pray for your loved one email [anna@seaschurch.com](mailto:anna@seaschurch.com) or call the parish office at 210-698-1941.



**Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (210) 698-1941 Pastoral Center Fax: (210) 698-1983**  
8500 Cross Mountain Trail. San Antonio TX 78255 [www.seaschurch.com](http://www.seaschurch.com)

**Mass Intentions & Schedule**

8:00 AM **Monday, January 1, 2018**  
Daniel Ramon (d)

8:00 AM **Tuesday, January 2, 2018**  
Christine Gibson

8:00 AM **Wednesday, January 3, 2018**  
Benjamin Gibson

8:00 AM **Thursday, January 4, 2018**  
David & Bernadette Gibson

8:00 AM **Friday, January 5, 2018**  
Matt Holohan (d)

8:00 AM **Saturday, January 6, 2018**  
Angie DaCosta

**Sunday, January 7, 2018**  
Joseph P. Lozano (d)

9:30 AM Susan Oliver (d)

11:00 AM Michael Harbert (d)

12:30 PM Mario & Eva Vega & Family

7:00 PM In Thanksgiving to Baby Jesus

**Weekly Schedule**

**Monday January 1, 2018**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

**Tuesday January 2, 2018**  
9:00 am CDA Rosary Making (*Seton Hall*)  
6:00 pm NO Good Shepherd (*Marron Center*)  
6:30 pm NO FF Elem (*Marron Center*)  
7:00 pm Young Adults Ministry (*Seton Hall*)

**Wednesday January 3, 2018**  
5:00 pm NO Spanish Good Shepherd (*Marron Ctr*)  
6:30 pm NO EDGE (*Marron Center*)  
6:30 pm Rosary (*Chapel*)  
6:30 pm Women ACTS Team (*Marron Ctr.*)

**Thursday January 4, 2018**  
5:30 am TMIY  
9:00 am NO Catholicism (*Seton Hall*)  
4:00 pm NO Good Shepherd (*Marron Center*)  
7:00 pm Spanish Choir (*Church*)

**Friday January 5, 2018**  
9:00 am CDA Rosary (*Church*)

**Saturday January 6, 2018**  
**Sunday, January 7, 2018**  
9:00 am RCIA (*Seton Hall*)  
9:00 am Faith Formation Elem (*Marron Center*)  
9:00 am Good Shepherd (*Marron Center*)  
10:30am Faith Formation Elem (*Marron Center*)  
10:45am Good Shepherd (*Marron Center*)  
4:30 pm Confirmation Class (*Seton Hall*)  
5:30 pm Life Teen/ High School (*Marron Ctr.*)

**Faith Formation classes  
resume the week of January 7**

**Divine Mercy**

As we stand at the beginning of this New Year won't you join us in saying the divine mercy rosary? We all have our hopes, expectations and special intentions. Come pray with us on Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 6:30 in the small Chapel  
"Jesus, King of Mercy we trust in you."

**Day Added For Portrait Sessions!**

We added one more day for family pictures, Saturday January 6, 2018 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. You may register online through the link at [seaschurch.com](http://seaschurch.com) or call the office.



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**Remember Our Heroes**

Robert Castillo, Peter Greenburg, Roy Vaughn, Matt Pryor, Miguel T. Sotello and Ron Wyble, deployed to Iraq. Bruce Balvin, Luis A. Ramos, Zac Gerner, Jordan Bittner and Anthony Delgado, Jr., Matthew Wilkinson deployed to Afghanistan and Christopher Le Comte in Germany, Zachary Williams in Ethiopia and Mack Peter in Colombia. Austin Reyes in S. Korea.

**For individual support (illness or emotional need), please call the SEAS Pastoral Center at 698-1941.**

**GOD’S WORD HAS BEEN FULFILLED**

In this joyous Christmas time, it is fitting that we turn our attention from all the angels and shepherds and kings to take a look at the more intimate picture of the Holy Family in their ordinary life. They come with Jesus to consecrate him to the Lord, as is written in the law, and they come upon Simeon and Anna, prophets of the Lord, who have amazing things to say about this child and Mary, his mother. One can wonder what Mary must have thought when Simeon told her that “you yourself a sword will pierce.” We interpret that in hindsight she would suffer greatly at the crucifixion of her beloved son. But what must she have thought at the possible literal interpretation of this prophecy? And yet she was, as always, obedient to God and accepting of God’s word for her.

**TWO PROPHETS**

Simeon and Anna recognized in this infant the Messiah of God. Both were “righteous and devout” and prayed in the temple constantly. Simeon spoke at length to Mary and Joseph about this child, and Anna proclaimed to all the salvation of Israel in Jesus. Throughout the centuries, God had made use of many prophets to proclaim the coming of Jesus, as Jesus explained to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus after his death and resurrection. But people, being hard-hearted and somewhat clueless, did not recognize these prophecies as referring to the Messiah and later, to Jesus. Many in his time heeded the words of the prophets and believed, but many walked away. To those who believed, he gave the words of eternal life. They believed that “the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.” These loving parents would protect and raise this miraculous child, and he “grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”  
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**Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton’s Feast Day 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, 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.

*From [www.fransicanmedia.org](http://www.fransicanmedia.org)*