

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
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Office Hours: Tue.- Wed. 9am - 1pm

Closed Thu-Fri for New Years

The Church is open weekdays 7:30 - 6:30pm

Saturdays & Sundays 7:30 - 5:15pm

December 28, 2025, Feast of the Holy Family



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Diaz #4

Office Manager: Chris Giacometti: #1

Mass times: #2

Youth Faith Formation: Jennifer Bedoka #3

Executive Board: Tony Madia/Chairperson,
Linda Biondini/Vice Chairperson, Katie
Chase, Larry Ruminson, Julie La Plante

Floral Decorations: Cesira Heric

Sacraments and Devotions

Reconciliation: Sundays: 9:45-10:15am,

Marriage: One year notice to the pastor.

Infant Baptism: 1 month notice. Baptismal Class
will be on February 15th 4pm-5:30pm for
Parents and Godparents

Anointing of the Sick: Please call Fr. Tom.
Usually, it is celebrated after 10:30 Sunday Mass

The Rosary: ½ hr. before weekday Masses.

Divine Chaplet: Tuesdays after the 12:15 Mass

The Welcoming Church: Not today.

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Sat/Dec. 27 4pm Ints of Charles McCollum

Sun/Dec. 28 8:30am +Robert Kalinyak
10:30am + Dick Broham

Tue/Dec.30 12:15pm +Abel Sagon

Wed/Dec. 31 8:15am Ints. of the Parish
4pm Ints of Chris Connell

Thu/Jan. 1 9am Ints of Heigi Pillor
12:15pm Ints John Lewis

Fri/Jan. 2 8:15am +Felipe Aranzaso &
+Alfonsa Genido

Sat/Jan. 3 4pm +Manuel Brasil

Sun/Jan. 4 8:30am Ints People of the Parish
10:30am +Manuel Brasil

Events in the Parish

Sun/Dec 28 No Welcoming Church

Fri/ Jan 2 4:30pm Social Justice Mtg/ CI

Parish Stewardship for Dec. 20th & 21st

Plate: \$4,396. Retirement Fund for the Religious
\$1,973. Thank you for your continued generosity

Homily Highlights from Last Sunday

- King Ahaz did not trust that God would protect him.
- St Joseph trusted in the message of an Angel.
- Which person is most like you?
- God kept His promise and the Virgin gave birth to Emmanuel; God is with us.
- How is God with you today?

Sunday Scripture Readings

Reading I: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 **Reading II:**

Colossians 3:12-21, Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Sunday Reflection

Immense Danger In this age of terrorist attacks and threats and so much unthinking violence in the world, it is easy to imagine Herod's otherwise appalling pogrom against the children in Bethlehem and surroundings. He was simply trying to destroy the Christ child.

Get to know and to love the others in your family, whether they have grown up and left home or not.

But it was hard to find the right infant. So Herod thought he might as well slay all the newborn babies just to make sure, and apparently this included the girl babies as well. Mary and Joseph were under obligation to run from this destructive campaign, and run they did, to Egypt, until the danger was past.

Immense danger.

If you are part of a family, you too must take great care today. The family unit is in peril, chased down and slain by the Herods of modern culture.

Television has almost no shows that depict successful families. Advertising pushes us to fill our own personal needs, to load up on pleasure, to buy products that make life easier, to eliminate

being bothered. Many or most movies show uncommitted sex in detail and with approval. Of course everyone knows that more than 50% of marriages today end in divorce. Latchkey children, two-job families, a commercially created teenage world which stands in direct opposition to values and family. Watch MTV sometime.

The same could be said of cell phones as a type of God even at the dinner meal. Families go into trances to make their cell phones more important than talking with the family.

Since the objective of advertisers has long been to "define us as consumers," is it any wonder that Americans are the most overweight population in the world with other countries eating their way to second place?

Maybe you grew up ok. Psychologists tell us all we need is a "good-enough" family, as opposed to a perfect one. You are blessed if you did have one. But many people were raised in what is called a "dysfunctional family," where values are grossly but subliminally skewed, to the extreme detriment of all involved. Portions of the coming generations will be twisted, whether they know it or not, because all families in the United States are in trouble, big trouble. Maybe you are not one of them, but then again maybe you are.

Jesus was born into a good family, though poverty-stricken, but nevertheless a human microcosm of God's life. Love bestowed and love received, as within the Trinity. Care for a new and helpless infant. A fond gaze into its eyes, the kind that bestows a first fragile identity. People "putting themselves out" for each other. The feast of the Holy Family is placed so close to Christmas in order to show how crucial are love and care to human lives in their beginnings, and their continuing's as well.

Being in a family is no easy job. All parents are amateurs when they start off. What can they do about today's great assault on family and Christian/human values? For one thing, be willing to spend time even when it is scarce. Be willing to give up some of their own fascinations for the sake of others. Commit and do not relent. Defer to sensitivities.

In other words, imitate the Holy Family.

Get to know and to love the others in your family, whether they have grown up and left home or not. Every value-rooted family builds another entrenchment against the ghastly degradation of this most important foundation-stone of human life.

We all want to be part of the great web of love that is God's presence on earth. It is played out in the foibles and fun of ordinary family life. God is there.

John Foley, SJ

Discussion Question: How far will you step out of your comfort zone for your family?

Family Connection

In the midst of the Christmas season, it is quite appropriate that our liturgy asks us to pause to consider the Holy Family. In today's Gospel, we hear about how Joseph protected Jesus from danger by relocating the family to Egypt in obedience to God. Following the model of the Holy Family, we might use this feast to recall the responsibility that each family member has to contribute to the good of the family and recommit ourselves to one another.

Gather together as a family to work on a common project. You might prepare a meal together, prepare a special dessert, or perhaps do a craft together. When you finish, talk about how each family member contributed to the common project. Remind one another that each member of the family contributes to the good of the whole family. Recall that Jesus was also part of a family and that this Sunday we celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23. Pray together that your family will continue to protect and care for one another as Mary and Joseph protected and cared for Jesus.



We welcome Luke Miller to our Catholic Family

The Hispanic Committee wishes to thank all those who participated in La Posada last week and helped provide food and snacks for the celebration.

El Comité Hispano agradece a todos los que participaron en La Posada la semana pasada y ayudaron a proporcionar comida y bocadillos para la celebración.



Faith Formation Ministry

Quote of the Week

"A God who became so small could only be mercy and love."

St Therese of Lisieux

Sunday, December 28th

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

No classes for Confirmation or Catechesis of Good Shepherd Level 3 on Dec 21st or Dec 28th.

(Classes resume January 11th)

Wednesday, December 31st

No Classes December 24th and December 31st

(Classes will resume January 7th)

Sunday, January 4th

10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word

No classes for Confirmation or Catechesis of Good Shepherd Level 3 on Dec 21st or Dec 28th.



Faith Formation would like to thank all our youth who served our parish on Christmas Eve. They did a fabulous job

NEW OPENINGS AVAILABLE !!

for Level 1 (Ages 3-6)

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Atrium sessions begin January 13, 2026

Tuesdays from 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Contact Jennnifer Bedoka to register

Email sesreled@gmail.com if you're interested in joining our ministry!



Thank you to all our parishioners who celebrated Simbang Gabi with our parish this month. As always, we are grateful for supporting our

ministry this year. A special thank you to everyone in our ministry for the wonderful lunches, meetings, and fellowship this past year. We hope everyone has a blessed New Year in 2026!

Ministry Schedule

December 27th & 28th Feast of the Holy Family

4pm Mass

Readers: Linda Biondini, Heigi Pillor

EMS: Jovita Bishop, Beth Turegano, Bill Yates

Ushers: Mark & Selina Johnson

Greeters: Luisa Bustillos, Pat Yates

8:30am Mass

Readers: Liz Ritchie, Maureen Sheridan Scott

EMS: Armando Argueto, Larry Biondini

Ushers: Diane Cook, Barry Goff

Greeters: Patty Ramos, Mary Thayer

10:30am Mass

Readers: Marie Horwitz, Milagros Morrical

EMS: Dianne Foppoli, Victoria Gregorio, Nativity Mata

Ushers: Dianne Foppoli, Scott Morrical

Greeters: Fred & Janet Adam

Dec 31st & Jan 1st Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

4pm Vigil

Readers: Tony Sacramento, Maureen Sheridan Scott

EMS: Gloria Bacani, Luisa Bustillos, Lorraine Datu

Ushers: Mark & Selina Johnson

Greeters: Ron & Debra Ciarasso

9am Mass

Lectors: Bill Yates, Maureen Sheridan Scott

EMs: Gloria Bacani, Diane Cook, Beth T

Ushers: Bill Yates, Tony Turegano

Greeters: Pat Yates, X

12:15pm Mass

Readers: Linda Anderson, Linda Biondini

EMS: Armando Argueto, Larry Biondini, Victoria Gregorio

Ushers: Scott & Milagros Morrical

Greeters: Sally Shami, Mary Thayer

January 3rd & 4th The Epiphany of the Lord

4pm Mass

Readers: Liz Ritchie, Tony Sacramento

EMS: Jovita Bishop, Janice Dyer, Victoria Gregorio

Ushers: Dianne Foppoli, Tony Turegano

Greeters: Luisa Bustillos, Tony Piazza

8:30am Mass

Readers: Phillip Alvarado, Maria Van Anne

EMS: Remie Alinas, John Buhagiar, Dave Grundman

Ushers: Sally Shami, Mary Thayer

Greeters: Patty Ramos, Diane Van Anne

10:30am Mass

Readers: Scott Crossen, Marie Horowitz

EMS: Giovanna Desimone, Nora John, Nativity Mata

Ushers: Scott & Milagros Morrical

Greeters: Fred & Janet Adam

Please pray for the health intentions of: Sherman Chan, Gus Chang, Mary Couto, Ginger Crawford, Patrick Dempsey, Lupita Diaz, Marcella Dorado, Anthony Eger, Evelyn Estrella, Jeanne Fields, Louise Galassi, Elsa Garcia, Dave Grundman, Theresa M, Nancy Keegan, Patricia Lauterjung, Kelly Limberg, Frank Manhoso, Charles Mc Collum, Larry Ng, Pat O'Brien, Robert Perrill, Mary Piccioni, Lisa Rivas, Patricia Sack, Robert Scarpone, Maureen Sheridan Scott, Dominique & Cecilia Tarrant, Jessica Thompson, and Malik Whitehorse.

If you want a name on the list, please call the office.

Prayer to the Holy Family



Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love, to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen

How can we act as a Holy Family

To act as a holy family, one can follow the teachings of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, which emphasize love, faith, and the practice of virtues. Here are some ways to embody the Holy Family's teachings:

- **Follow God's Laws Together:** Emulate the Holy Family's adherence to Jewish practices and the Church's precepts, such as going to Mass, fasting, and tithing.
- **Practice the Virtues Together:** Cultivate virtues like patience, generosity, and humility within the family.
- **Be Present and Loving:** Show up in the lives of family members, offering love and support through all the ups and downs of life.
- **Educate and Inspire:** Share the Holy Family's example with children and others, teaching them about love, faith, and the importance of family life.

- **Support the Church:** Assist in the material needs of the Church, reflecting the Holy Family's commitment to supporting the community.

By following these steps, families can strive to embody the Holy Family's teachings and contribute to a more holy and loving community.

Relationships Strengthen Families, Such as Holy Family, and Church

By Msgr. Joseph Prior

The commercial came on the television. It showed short video clips of a man and woman falling in love, getting married, having a baby, then clips of the family as the child grew, graduated, fell in love and got married. I'm not sure how effective the commercial was because I cannot remember what it was advertising, but it captured some of the beauty of family life.

Of course it did not capture other moments such as when sickness comes into play or the struggles of adolescent years. This may cause some to say that it sentimentalizes the subject, which may be true. But it does reflect a certain aspect of family life and love — that of being present throughout life, loving through the years in all the varied ways that love takes shape and form.

This Sunday we celebrate the Holy Family. My mother used to love this feast day. It was important to her and she did all she could to live out its meaning in our family life. It is one of those occasions for me to be reminded of the practical impact faith has in the life of the faithful.

Families are not chosen by us; God has provided them for us. The relationships within a family are wide and varied.

Granted, no family is perfect but the family and the individuals who are part of it are called to be perfected in love. The bonds that are created in a healthy family are strong. The members sense, from their earliest years, the strength that comes from a loving home. The example of love through the joys and sorrows, the triumphs and tragedies, of life can propel the next generation to be instruments of that love.

Sadly, not everyone has this experience as it is challenging to have a strong family life today. Yet we rejoice and are uplifted when a family strives to be what it is called to be. The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph offers us that call this Sunday.