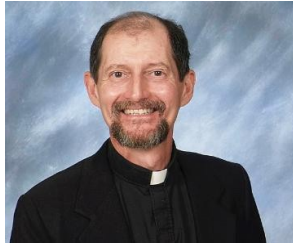


SETON NEWSLETTER



PASTOR'S CORNER



FEBRUARY 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE :

Pastor's Corner 1

PPC Minutes 2

PPC Nominations 3

Faith Formation 3

Lenten Schedule

Fish Fry

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we enter the month of February, my childhood memories make me think of big red hearts on school bulletin boards. I recall us kids having a Valentine's Day party, candy hearts and shy giggles as we shared our sweets. Presidents' Day Sales and Punxsutawney Phil may punctuate the secular conscience for the month of February. For us Christians, February is a month rich with spiritual ethos. It is God who wishes to give us a new heart! [Ez 36:26].

While not a "Holy Day", the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [Feb 2nd], also known as Candlemas Day, marks our Lord's presentation in the temple. At daily mass we bless candles for use in church and in peoples homes. At the liturgy, people light candles to mark Christ's presentation in the temple. Standing in church on a cold dark February morning, holding our small glowing candle, we are reminded of how God's Son has come to illuminate our life and our world. Since most of you will not be able to slip into daily mass, consider coming home that evening and gathering together in darkness, to light a candle in honor of our Lord's presence in the temple of your home. Allow that single light to draw you into His holy presence to dispel a bit of winter darkness. See Lk 2:22-40.



Throughout the month you will find some wonderful opportunities. The Feast of St. Blaise is on Friday the 3rd. So, the blessing of throats will be offered on the weekend of the 4th and 5th. The Tuesday morning 9am Scripture Study is focused on the wonderful women of the bible. The Wednesday evening Scripture Study will kick off on February 1st at 7pm. This series is designed for any beginner and anyone who would like to deepen their general understanding of the bible: "Introduction to the Bible". The Martha/Mary Prayer Guild meets at 6:30pm on the first. They would love your participation making prayer blankets. The Ministry of Encouragement invites you to their meeting on February 8th at 7pm. Those interested in exploring becoming Catholic are

invited to the next "Inquiry" meeting on the 6th and 20th at 6:30pm in our Hospitality Room. We will have a Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday the 29th from 1pm to 7pm. That is a great way to be a "valentine" to those in need.



It is not too late to get registered for the Women's [Feb. 18-19] and Men's [Feb. 25-26] Christ Renew His Parish. Once again this weekend experience is free to all our parishioners. This lay led retreat will be taking place around the corner at Camp CLRA. The men and women who went last year, said that it was an outstanding experience. Speak to your spouse about attending, and I bet they will encourage you to go. Let your Lord renew your spirit.



Speaking of "renewing our spirits", Ash Wednesday will be celebrated February 22nd with an 8am and a 7pm mass. So starting the first Sunday of February, please return last years palms to church so we can make ashes. During Lent we will have Stations of the Cross. We will begin having them on Fridays starting February 24, at noon. The following Friday [March 2nd] we will pray the Stations in the evening at 7pm. The Lenten Schedule of Parish Services will give you all the dates for the Stations. Last year the Knights of Columbus held a Fish Fry during Lent. This year they are having it a bit early, but with your help and support it will surely be a great success. Their Fish Fry at the parish is on Friday the 10th.

Our Lord God calls us to enter into the "Spirit of Renewal" each and every day. As we anticipate the spirit of Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent, let this be a time in which you choose to place yourself in God's presence. Find that quiet corner, light a candle and center your breathing. As you prepare to enter into God's presence "speak" these words: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit".....[Lk23:46]

Shalom, Fr Doug

Members Present: Father Doug, Nulah Cain, Gwen Graf, Terry Kelly, Jean Kirk, Maryanne Krug, Martha Murphy
Members Absent: Bob Lukas, Stan Major, Becky Perrine, Ivan Pierce, Maureen Stombaugh, Frank Szczepanski

Opening Prayer: Nulah Cain

Hospitality: Ivan Pierce

Approval of December Minutes: Accepted as written

Addition to the Agenda under New Business:

Old Business:

AED – Many positive comments were received about purchasing the units. Some parishioners offered to teach a class on how to use them. Father would love to hear from these volunteers very soon.

Update on Recycling – Maryanne has begun the process of contacting Abitibi Bowater to begin a paper recycling program for SES. Within five miles of our parish there are at least nine paper retrievers. We are hoping to get a recycling bin here which would serve as a fundraiser for our parish as well as helping to save Earth.

2012 Meeting Schedule Handout – Terry provided members with a handout of meeting dates. (Jan. 3, Feb. 14, Mar. 13, Apr. 10, May 15, Jun. 12, Jul. 17, Aug. 7, Sept. 11 (Joint meeting with the Finance Council), Oct. 2, Nov. 13, Dec. 11)

Confirm Speakers for PPC Mass Announcements – Terry needs council members to volunteer. Martha volunteered to make phone calls for Terry. Maryanne volunteered to speak at Mass. There are two different information sheets for speaker to use.

New Business:

Jubilee – Parishioners are concerned that Father Doug's 25th anniversary to the priesthood went unrecognized. Maryanne apologized for the oversight and stated that parishioners are interested in acknowledging this occasion and honoring Father Doug. Father modestly agreed to April 29th recognition of this event after expressing concern with the overburdening parishioners.

Missals - Some parishioners suggested that missals should be available in the Pews during Mass to follow along with the readings. The Gospel is intended to be heard, however there are circumstances where hearing the Gospel at Mass is difficult. The *St. Joseph Sunday Missal* is available for purchase, but it is Sunday Readings only. The *Magnificat*, which has weekly readings along with the Sunday Readings, may also be used. In addition *The Word Among Us* (wao.org) may also be used. The weekly readings are posted in the bulletin for parishioners to reference in the Bible. The *Northwest Indiana Catholic* also publishes this information. The PPC felt perhaps a blurb explaining this in the bulletin may be helpful. Jean volunteered to write something up for the bulletin as a member of the education commission. If parishioners are interested in ordering a Missal, they may call Boric Religious Supply in St. John, IN at 1-888-412-2775 or (219) 365-4386.

CHRP – Maryanne asked that a mini testimony be given

immediately after the Homily during Mass on Feb. 21 and 22 before the women's retreat. Father wanted the testimony to be given during announcements instead of after the Homily.

Commissions Meeting Updates:

Education – Becky has many resources for Theology of the Body. She would like to know what to do with these materials in March after her term on the PPC has ended. Terry will call Becky and ask her to continue with this commission.

Spirituality & Worship – No Report

Peace & Social Justice – No Report

Parish Life – No Report

Stewardship – Father attempted several times to contact two more contractors for bids on necessary roof and air conditioning upgrades, however he was unable to reach them. Father Doug called Bob Lukas and asked him to contact them. Bob gave them a call; however they are very busy at this time. Father will proceed with Tim Henderlong next week if contact is unable to be made with the other two contractors. Jan. 17th is the Finance Council meeting. Father would like to get the presentation ready for the Finance Council. Progress needs to be made so the upgrades can be completed.

Next Meeting:

Hospitality - Stan Major

Prayer – Jean Kirk

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 14, 2012 7:00 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Father Doug

Submitted by: Susan Calvert

Save The Date!!!
Sunday April 29, 2012
World Day of Prayer for Vocations
AND
A Celebration in Honor of
Rev. Douglas Mayer's 25(1/2) year
Ordination Anniversary

This is a parish celebration in honor of our pastor, Rev. Douglas Mayer, for his continued commitment to serve God and God's people.

The celebration will convene in Seton Hall immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday April 29.

All parishioners are invited to join in the celebration by coming out to congratulate Fr. Doug.

Cake, coffee and punch will be served. Everyone is invited to bring an appetizer to share and/or, a bottle of wine, if you so please. Kitchen volunteers will be available to receive carry-ins prior to mass.

???(The Pastoral Council is organizing this celebration and questions can be directed to Maryanne Krug through the parish office.)?????

Soon it will be time to nominate new members for the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Pastoral Council. We are looking for people who are able to:

- ◆ Act as a liaison between the pastor and the parishioners
- ◆ Understand the personal, material and spiritual needs of the parish and how to deal with them
- ◆ Display leadership
- ◆ Encourage and motivate parishioners to become more involved in Parish Life
- ◆ Help to foster an atmosphere conducive to worship and fellowship within the Parish
- ◆ Take an active interest in the lives of the parish, diocese, local community and Universal Church

Eligible parishioners include:

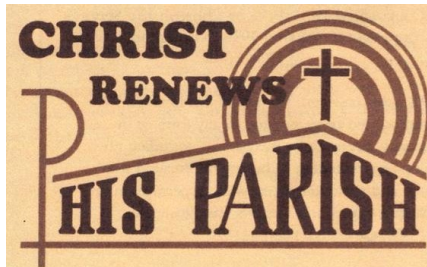
Every person who is a fully initiated practicing Catholic over the age of 16 and is a registered member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish (Members are chosen to a 3 year term).

Non-Eligible parishioners include:

- ◆ Current members of the Finance Council: Dennis Erickson, Micaela Pawlowski, William Rosta, Linda Miller, Tim Henderlong, Helen Groch and Norman Graff.
- ◆ Employees of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
- ◆ Current members of the Parish Pastoral Council whose terms are expiring: Terry Kelly, Martha Murphy, Becky Perrine and Frank Szczepanski.

If you know a parishioner who you feel will be a great representative for this calling, please submit their name when we begin taking nominations in February.

MINISTRY



Wise men and women still seek Jesus. Is Jesus calling you to a closer union with Him? There are still openings for both women and men in the February retreats. Pick up an invitation at the back of church.

WOMEN'S RETREAT
Saturday, Feb. 18 &
Sunday, Feb. 19, 2012
"save the dates"

MEN'S RETREAT
Saturday Feb. 25 &
Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012
"save the dates"



MARDI GRAS celebration will take place before Ash Wednesday, on Monday, February 20, at 6:30 PM and on Tuesday, February 21, at 4:30 PM for grades 1-6. We are in need of your help with the games and food booths. If you are willing to help please call the Faith Formation Office at 462-2202 ext. 228 or 230.

FEBRUARY CLASSES

MONDAY 6:30 Grade 1-8

February 6, 13 & 27 **NO** classes February 20, 21, 2012

TUESDAY 4:30 Grade 1-8

February 7, 14, & 28 **NO** classes on February 21, 2012

RECONCILIATION MEETING II for the **parent and student** will take place on Thursday, February 9 at 6:30 PM **or** Saturday, February 11 at 10 AM Families must attend **one** of the above meetings without exception. A reminder letter will be mailed. The First Reconciliation celebration will take place on March 17, 2012 at 10 AM at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. Please keep these families in your prayers.



PARISH SACRAMENTS



Kelli Robinson
Lisa Tometzak
Beverly Zborowski
Guy Kosmoski
Anna Hearn
Christine Ortiz



Baptisms

Lukas Ray Higgins
Michael James Kull



With Sympathy

Victor Nowicki
Judy Seltzer

DAILY READINGS

Some parishioners suggested that missals should be available in the Pews during Mass to follow along with the readings. The Gospel is intended to be heard, however there are circumstances where hearing the readings at Mass is difficult.

Included are some suggestions to guide those who are interested in using the readings as an aid to hearing the Word of God:

The *Magnificat*, which has daily readings along with the Sunday Readings, may be used. www.magnificat.com

The Word Among Us, A Catholic Devotional Magazine based on the Daily Mass Readings.

The Word Among Us Catholic Mass Edition is now available on Amazon Kindle for only \$2 a month. www.wau.org

The weekly readings are posted in the bulletin for parishioners to reference in the Bible.

The *Northwest Indiana Catholic* also publishes daily readings

The *St. Joseph Sunday Missal* is available for purchase, but it is Sunday Readings only.

If anyone is interested in ordering a St. Joseph Missal, you may contact call Boric Religious Supply 10951 Thiel St. Saint John, IN (219) 365-4386 or 888-412-2775 www.boricreligious.com/

Items that are specifically geared to children may be purchased at Boric and The Magnificat has a child friendly edition called the MagnifiKids available.



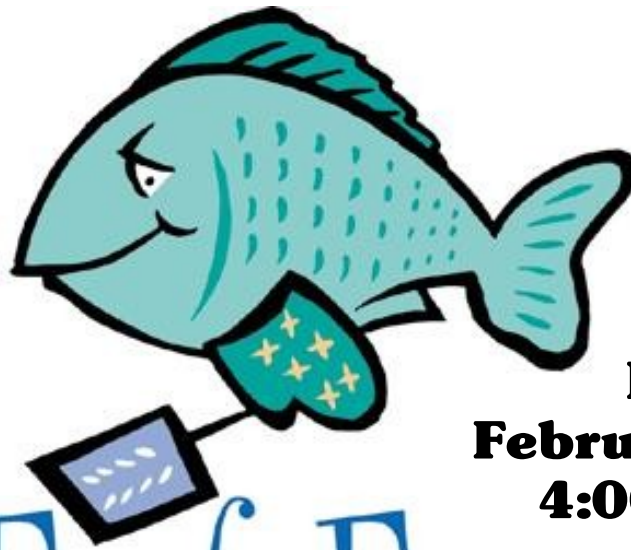
Lenten

SCHEDULE

February 22nd	Ash Wednesday Mass	8:00AM & 7:00 PM
February 24 th	Stations of the Cross	NOON
February 25 th	Reconciliation	3:30PM – 4:30 PM
March 2 nd	Stations of the Cross	7:00 PM
March 3 rd	Reconciliation	3:30 PM-4:30 PM
March 9 th	Stations of the Cross	NOON
March 10 th	Reconciliation	3:30PM-4:30 PM
March 16 th	Stations of the Cross	7:00 PM
March 17th	First Holy Reconciliation	10:00AM
March 17 th	Reconciliation	3:30PM-4:30 PM
March 23 rd	Stations of the Cross	NOON
March 24 th	Reconciliation	3:30 PM-4:30 PM
March 26th	COMMUNAL PENANCE: ST. PATRICK	7:00 PM
March 27th	COMMUNAL PENANCE: ST. PAUL	7:00 PM
March 28th	COMMUNAL PENANCE: ST. SETON	7:00 PM.
March 29th	COMMUNAL PENANCE: HOLY SPIRIT	7:00 PM
March 30th	COMMUNAL PENANCE: NATIVITY	7:00 PM
March 31 st	Reconciliation	3:30PM-4:30 PM
March 31 st	Vigil Palm Sunday	5:00 PM
April 1 st	Palm Sunday	7:30AM, 9:00AM, 11:00 AM
April 2nd	COMMUNAL PENANCE: ST. HELEN	7:00 PM
April 4 th	Seton Seder Supper	7:00 PM



April 5th	Holy Thursday/Lord's Supper	7:00 PM
April 6th	Good Friday/Lord's Passion	2:00 PM
April 6th	Living Stations with Youth Group	7:00 PM
April 7 th	Blessing of Easter Food Baskets	1:00 PM
April 7th	Easter Vigil of the Lord	7:30 PM
APRIL 8th	Easter Morning Masses:	7:30AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM



**Friday,
February 10, 2012
4:00-7:30 PM**

Fish Fry

Menu includes:

All You Can Eat
Pollock (white fish), Chicken
Tenders, Tossed Salad, Potatoes,
Green Beans, Coffee, Tea and
Lemonade
\$10/adult; \$9/senior; \$5/age 5-13;
Under 5 free

Homemade Baked Goods are
provided for a separate price.

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH



* Menu subject to
change without
notice.

**Our Fish Fry was a great
success last year!
Come out and find out for
yourself.
Proceeds benefit Knights of
Columbus Council 7473
Charities.**

Volunteers are needed to
help with the Fish Fry.

Sign-up sheet will be in the
vestibule.

We would also like donations
for desserts for our event.

Please drop off at hall
between 2-6 PM