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st.elizabethseton@rogers.com

Website:

www.stelizabethsetonparish.com

Mass Times During
The Pandemic:

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:30pm

Sunday: 9:30am & 11:00am

All will be lived streamed.

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Monday to Thursday: 10:00am

All Masses are live-streamed

*Polish Mass: 5:00pm on the last Sunday
of each month except July & August

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

905-898-4264

Website: sjcses.blogspot.com

Catholic Community Services

of York Region: 905-770-7040

Catholic Cemeteries: 905-889-7467

St. John's Cemetery

905-898-4137 ext. 226

New Parishioner?

Welcome to St. Elizabeth Seton!

If you would like to register, forms are available
at the church entrance or the parish office.

Parishioners with a change of
address, please inform the Parish office.

Envelopes may also be
acquired at the office.

Please introduce yourself to
Fr. Roy Roberts after Mass!



Parish Schools

Good Shepherd School

905-895-0303

St. Elizabeth Seton School

905-853-0340

Our Lady of Good Counsel

905-478-4242

Sacred Heart High School

905-895-3340

St. Elizabeth Seton Parish

Feast of the Holy Family

December 26, 2021



Pastoral Team

Fr. Roy Roberts, Pastor

Deacon Marian Pawliszko

Deacon Stephen Pitre

Parish Staff

Parish Administrator ~ Ann Lynch

Sacramental Coordinator - Grades 2 & 7 ~ Jennifer McAvoy

Rectory Administrator—Nancy Rojas

Regular Office Hours

Mon. 9:00am—4:00pm

Tues., Wed., and Thurs. 9:00am—8:00pm ~ Fri., 9am—1pm

Sat. 2:00pm—6:00pm Sun. 8:00am—1:00pm



Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday ~ 3:00 - 3:30 pm

Or By Appointment

Sacrament of Baptism or Marriage: Please contact the office.

For those interested in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children
of Catechetical age please contact Fr. Roy Roberts

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 27th

10am: No Morning Mass
Req. by:

Tuesday, December 28th

10am: Special Intention
Req. by:

Wednesday, December 29th

10am: Special Intention
Req. by:

Thursday, December 30th

10am: Special Intention
Req. by:

Wanted Old Christmas Cards

Wondering what to do with your old Christmas Cards after Christmas? The Gift Wrapping Stations at the Mall make tags out of recycled Christmas cards. The profits go to support Community Living Newmarket and Aurora District. There will be a box in the foyer of the church. During Covid times please call ahead and let us know when you would like to drop off your cards.



Your Cancelled Stamps are Valuable

Your cancelled stamps can make a difference. Christmas cards may soon be arriving! Please donate your stamps in the box located in the foyer of the church or by dropping them by the parish office. The money raised from the sale of the postage stamps goes to the Canadian Food for Children Mission Fund.

St. Vincent de Paul

You can donate online to the Newmarket conference:

<https://sjcses.blogspot.com/p/donate.html>

Tax receipts for one-time donations will be emailed immediately.

Parish Giving

December 12th

Offertory \$6,449.88
SES Building \$ 225.00

Month of November PAG

(Pre-authorized Giving)

Sunday Offertory \$4,144.72
SES Building Fund \$ 282.00
ShareLife \$ 440.00

Ruminations

'Twas another year with CoVid and omicron had arose
Looking for light at the end of the tunnel, but no one really knows.
After two vaccinations and now recommended a booster shot
With No clear direction or guidance or vision has left us all besot.
But Christmas is here a season of hope
Our only chance to survive this and cope.
The churches had opened and some have returned
The numbers again dropping with new strain concern.
Onward we plod despite more limitations
Another sparse Christmas with capped family relations
There can still be garlic mashed potatoes and roast turkey too,
With fewer people at table, there is just more dressing for me and you.
At the Church things are still nebulous and un-copasetic
With an emphasis on caution, it seems unsympathetic.
But the poinsettias have arrived, and the Knights' trees are in stands
And Christmas lights are glowing, the work of many hands.
The Hall is for overflow, with the nativities on display
If not in the Worship Space, it is an inspiring place to pray.
The angel's wing repaired, the shepherd's staff glued
Resuming their place with the nativities in view.
There was a generous donation of the Naples big scene
Impressive in details, it's the most complex we've seen.
The new ones from Mongolia and Australia from down under
In their own precious simplicity they add to the wonder.
That is the spirit of Christmas, the wonder and awe
Receiving in love, a new divine law
Where the mystery of God is revealed in each one
To immerse us in the kingdom that God's will be done.
That mystery of God, the mystery we call love
It is the essence of our genesis, of which we are made thereof.
The Word became flesh and all creation has changed
The unity of God means we are no longer estranged
The very breath of God, the Spirit is rife
For no other reason than to offer divine life.
So despite limitations, and shots and pandemic fear
Christmas reminds us that God is very near.
So even if we gather, around tables that seem empty and incomplete
Remember the love of God still takes a seat.
And in years to come when they recount stories on our behalf,
With twinkling eyes, they will laugh and laugh and laugh.

So as we recognize God's manifestation in the Son
Stay filled with hope, Merry Christmas everyone.

Fr. Roy



A Dinner Grace before Meals

Dear Heavenly Father,
 love brought Jesus to the earth,
 and love brings us to this Christmas table.
 Today as we share this Christmas feast, may
 we also share with one another
 a joyful heart, a warm smile,
 and a loving embrace.
 May our Christmas dinner
 be filled with kindness.
 And may the memories of today
 warm our hearts
 through out the coming year.



The Twelve Days of Christmas

Long ago, before play stations, iPods, Television & even radios, families played intergenerational parlour games, had family sing-a-longs, and dances in their homes to entertain themselves and while away the time. 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' has its origins in just such a place. It was a child's memorization game, played mostly on 12th Night, the eve before the end of the 12 days of Christmas.

The gifts of each day that we have come to know, were not the only gifts in town. Many different versions and variations are still in existence today, from peacocks in a pear tree, to hares a-running, or badgers baiting, to bears a-beating, men a-mowing, hounds a-running and lambs a-bleating. Never anything about cats—amen. Every year, since 1984, the cost of the gifts has been listed as a tongue in cheek economic index. In 1984, the cost of the gifts tallied to \$12, 623.10. This year's Christmas index costs out at \$41,206.00.



1. Where does the advent calendar tradition come from?
2. Why do we hang Christmas stockings?
3. What did roast turkey replace on the British royal family's Christ day menu?
4. Who composed the musical masterpiece 'The Messiah' and in what European city was it first played?
5. About what year was the first recorded Christmas celebration on December 25?
6. What town is closest to the North Pole? (Hint—it is a Canadian town)
7. What were the first Christmas tree decorations?
8. How many days are there in the season of Christmastide?
9. Which instrument accompanied the first performance of 'Silent Night'?
10. In Greece, who is traditionally given the first slice of bread from the Christmas loaf?
11. What war ended on Christmas Eve?
12. In which country was it once customary to hang Christmas trees upside down?

Find the answers...

The Oldest Christmas Carols

The Gloria to God in the Highest is considered the oldest Christmas Carol. Long before it became part of the Mass it was used by Pope Telesphorus around the years 128—139 ad. as part of the Mass for Christmas Day.

Then from France came "Jesus, Light of all the Nations, written between 310 & 367 ad. By St. Hilary of Poitier.

Another oldie but goodie is 'Of the Father's love begotten', from the Roman province of northern Spain. It was written sometime between 348 - 413 ad. by a man named Aurelius Prudentius Clemens.

In the 12th & 13th centuries, carols about animals were in vogue so there was 'The Friendly Beasts' and also 'Between the Ox and the Grey Donkey'. These are both from France.

Then in the 14th century, around 1328. a popular carol that is still with us 'In dulce Jublio' or what we know as 'Good Christians all Re-joice was composed in Germany.

Let us pray for the sick...

Alana Brown-Wallace
 Betty Loft
 Bruce Firth
 Kyle Elkie
 Kathleen Todesco
 Joshua Perek
 Donna Stea-Cutting
 Andy Dube
 Elizabeth Ryan

E. Turnbull
 Mat Hatzimalis
 Paul Jennas
 Rose Marie Scott
 Wanda Tolazzi
 Sean Coen
 Cathy Murphy
 Joe Legari
 Chad Buckley

****If you have a loved one you would like on our Sick List please call the parish office or email us. We will keep your loved on our list for 4 weeks. Thank you. ****



Christmas Quiz Answers

- While the religious advent season celebrated by Christians technically starts four full weeks before Christmas, the celebratory advent calendars most folks use today usually begin on December 1 and date back to the 19th century. The tradition was first started by German Protestants who lit candles or made chalk marks on doors every day during the month of December.
- The tradition came about thanks to a legend that states the generous Turkish bishop St. Nicholas helped a set of three poor sisters avoid a life of indentured servitude by paying for their dowries. For three nights, the bishop threw gold down their chimney, which landed in their stockings hung by their fireplace to dry. Now we carry on the tradition by hanging stockings to fill with gifts and small treats.
- Roast Swan
- The premiere of Handel's „Messiah“ One of the glories of German music, Handel's oratorio “Messiah” was first performed in Dublin at the New Music Hall in Fishamble Street **at noon on April 13th 1742.**
- The first recorded date of Christmas being celebrated on December 25th was in **336**, during the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (he was the first Christian Roman Emperor). A few years later, Pope Julius I officially declared that the birth of Jesus would be celebrated on the 25th of December.
- **Alert**, in the Qikiqtaaluk Region, Nunavut, Canada, is the northernmost permanently inhabited place in the world. It lies just 817 km (508 mi) from the North Pole.
- The first Christmas trees, in medieval mystery plays, were decorated with **apples** to represent the forbidden fruit.
- Christmas Day (or sunset on Christmas Eve) initiates the season of Christmastide, which historically in the West lasts **twelve days** and culminates on Twelfth Night.
- "Silent Night" was first sung as part of a church service in Austria. **A guitar** was used for accompaniment because the church organ had been destroyed by mice.
- Slices of Christopsomo, or "Christ bread", are offered to the **first beggar** or stranger who comes to the house.
- The Treaty of Ghent ended the **War of 1812** between the United States and Great Britain. Peace negotiations began in Ghent, Belgium, starting in August of 1814. After four months of talks, the treaty was signed on December 24, 1814.
- An old **Polish** custom exists, observed to this day in small villages: a Christmas tree is turned upside down and hung from the ceiling to represent the holy trinity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.





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