

17955 Leslie Street
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 9A4

PH: 905-853-5009

FAX: 905-853-9391

EMAIL:

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

First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022



Pastoral Team

Fr. Roy Roberts, Pastor

Deacon Marian Pawlitzko

Deacon Stephen Pitre

Parish Staff

Parish Administrator ~ Ann Lynch

Sacramental Coordinator - Grades 2 & 7 ~ Jennifer McAvoy

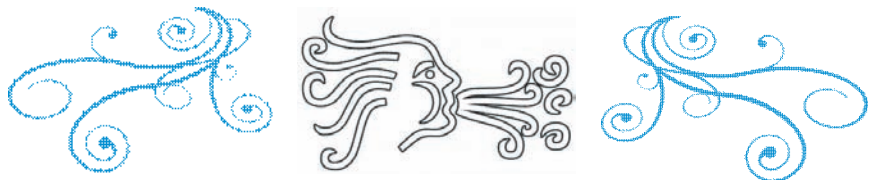
Rectory Administrator—Nancy Rojas

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, March 07th

10am: Maria Marcantonio
Req. by: Cupe 1571

Tuesday, March 08th

10am: Jill Gorman
Req. by: MacKenzie Family

Wednesday, March 09th

10am: Shak Yeung Lai Chun
Req. by: Natalie Lam

Thursday, March 10th

10am: Shak Yeung Lai Chun
Req. by: Mary Shak



Old Christmas Cards

Thank you for all the donations of your Christmas Cards. We have received more than enough for this year.



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

February 28th

Offertory TBA
SES Building TBA

Month of February PAG

(Pre-authorized Giving)

Sunday Offertory	\$4,372.00
SES Building Fund	\$ 322.00
ShareLife	\$ 465.00

Ruminations

Well, it's been a long time in coming, but it looks like there is a light at the end of the Pandemic tunnel- not the end of Covid, but the end of the restrictions. As a hard core introvert, the last two years have provided much time to reflect. For sure, the thing that I have missed the most, has been the singing and signing of the Lord's Prayer at the 9:30 am Mass. I also missed having the families set the table and bring up the gifts. I must confess that I have become rather partial to closing the doors before the start of Mass. This probably has more to do with my own preoccupation with numbers and time than anything else. And, I loved the concept of social distancing long before regulations required it. In my day, we just referred to it as 'private space'. I think growing up with the four boys all piled into one bedroom, privacy and space were premium commodities. In my humble preference, six feet was not enough, not for health reasons, but just personal comfort. The lessening of the restrictions is really going to have minimal effect on my life. It has been years since I have seen a movie in the cinema, and I have very little interest in seeing one. The number of times I have visited the Mass you can count on one hand over the last five decade – maybe once a year. I am trying to think of something I would like to do once everything is open, and I can't think of anything too exciting. Come spring, I hope to make my annual trek to Algonquin Park. I might treat myself with a visit to the Scandinavian Spa in Collingwood, but other than that, not much on my bucket list. Rumour has it as the media report that the Government is contemplating the lifting of the mask restrictions. I'm not sure how I feel about that. I know I intend to continue to wear a mask well beyond the lifting of the requirement, not so much for health and safety, but because it really is a time saver for me. Sometimes the best of priestly ministry doesn't happen in the church, but in the grocery store. For whatever reason, it seems like neutral territory, and the number of times I have encountered parishioners and have engaged in conversation, especially with people with whom I have only had the most cursory and polite chats as they are leaving Mass and heading to the cars. It is a good thing, but sometimes it pre-empts a rather tight schedule. I have had hour long conversations, parking my grocery cart off to the side, and moving aside when someone needs to access the eggplant. I try to park there because I can't imagine anyone in their right mind eating it. However. Now, with a mask, a baseball cap (a Maple Leafs hat when they win, and a Whistler hat on other occasions) and my sunglasses on, I can cruise through the store and get my business done – priest incognito.

Fr. Roy



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Announcements and Events...

Ontario Government Easing Restrictions & what it means for us

The unveiling of the lifted restrictions came after our Bulletin Deadline. Here is what it will mean for us here at St. Elizabeth Seton:

- ◆ Social distancing is no longer required in the pews. As the Cardinal recommended, this can be lifted gradually to accustom people to this new reality.
- ◆ Holy Water can return to the font. We have done that which is funny, because in the past we had emptied it for the season of Lent which is a preparation for baptismal renewal, but we will leave it in until Palm Sunday.
- ◆ Once enough Ministers of Hospitality return, we will invite families to once again set the altar and bring up the gifts. When the Hospitality ministers return, we will begin to pass the collection basket again.
- ◆ Communion singing has returned, but for the choirs, they must maintain the 10 foot distancing, or sing through their masks.
- ◆ Our Communion Procession is no longer restricted to the centre aisle, but best practices suggest that we should still maintain the six foot distancing.
- ◆ Altar servers may return, but we will implement this slowly and we hope by Easter to be up to speed on this.
- ◆ Parish groups can begin to meet in the Hall, but outside groups are still on hold, likely until September.
- ◆ The Parish Office will slowly be adding to its hours of operation, easing back to full time on site.
- ◆ Shaking hands and communion from the Cup is still on hold.



Inspired by the Holy Spirit

Pope Francis has invited the People of God to join in a "synodal process" of discerning, listening and speaking. He has asked us to reflect on where we believe the Holy Spirit is leading the Church in our day. He has extended a

special invitation to those who feel marginalized, disinterested or even separated from the Church. Each diocese has designed their own process for gathering the inspired thoughts of people. However, some people may wish for more engagement and others may not feel comfortable sharing their thoughts through the regular channels. To this end Concerned Lay Catholic – is offering listening sessions for older Catholics, LGBTQ+ folks & their families and friends, victims/survivors of clerical sexual abuse, lay ecclesial ministers and others employed by the Church, people of other faith communities and people who are unable to participate in the regular diocesan or parish listening sessions. All sessions, with dates, times and registration information can be found on the CLC website:

<https://concernedlaycatholics.ca/synod-listening-sessions>.

Announcements and Events.....

CWG News - General Meeting

All Ladies of the Parish are invited to attend the upcoming CWG General Meeting that will be held on Tuesday, March 8th beginning at 7pm with a Celebration of the Eucharist. We will then proceed into Seton Hall for the General Meeting. All current Provincial Covid restrictions and guidelines will be followed for a safe gathering of fellowship. As a reminder, all participants are required to wear a mandatory mask within the Parish and we ask that you bring your own beverage and food will not be served. The meeting will focus on upcoming CWG Events and Father Roy will discuss the Preparation of Lent and meaning of Synod.

First Communion Candidates

On the first Sunday of Lent, March 5 & 6, at all the Masses, the children will be invited forward to present the Lambs of intent, asking us as a community to accept them as Official Candidates for First Communion. The cut-out, decorated lambs, complete with a small photo, will then be put up in our display cabinet.



First Communion Retreats

FYI - the First Communion Retreat dates sign up sheets will be in the foyer for you to register starting February 26 until March 6. Remember that spaces are limited because of Covid protocols. The dates for the Retreat are: Wednesday, March 30th, Saturday, April 02, and Monday, April 04.



Confirmation Candidates

On the Second Sunday of Lent, your letters of Intent are due. They are to be handed in during a little ceremony during the Mass on the weekend of March 12 & 13. You will be called forward at whatever Mass you attend that weekend. We will provide some guiding questions over the next few weeks. Get that grey matter rolling. Because the Pandemic has robbed us of opportunities to journey more thoroughly with you, there will be a lot of emphasis on our Retreat. The date for the Retreat is Thursday, April 7 starting at 7:00 pm.

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
John O'Rourke
Matteo Savella
Gerber Aparicio
Vito Greco

E. Turnbull
Mat Hatzimalis
Paul Jennas
Rose Marie Scott
Wanda Tolazzi
Sean Coen
Cathy Murphy
Chad Buckley
Corey Price
Ana Apareció
J. Gole
Monica Flynn

Monica Girón Amaya
Thomas Lauber

During Lent

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross is an ancient practice started in the early Church with pilgrims who would make their way to Jerusalem. Part of the trip was to walk the very steps of Jesus along the Via Dolorosa leading to the place of crucifixion. It was a spiritual accompaniment with suffering and death of Jesus. It wasn't until 1686 the Pope Innocent XI granted the Franciscan order permission to erect stations in the church. In 1731 Pope Clement XII extended this permission to all churches provided that a Franciscan father erected them. The number of stations was fixed at 14. Finally in 1862 all churches were permitted to erect 14 Stations without the need for a Franciscan priest to do it.



There are many ways of praying the Stations, and the practice as a meditation has grown to include Stations of Advent, Stations of Christmas, Stations of Creation as well as various versions of the Stations during Lent. Often, the Stations themselves dictate which version is used by the depiction of the story. Many are a combination of folklore and Scriptures. For instance, there is no mention of Veronica wiping the face of Jesus in the Gospels.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Fridays during Lent starting at 7:00 pm. They will not be live streamed.

Divine Office—Lauds or Morning Prayer

The Divine Office or Liturgy of the Hours is the official voice of the Church, answering the call to 'pray always'. It is a means of sanctifying time and has always meant to be communal, the exclusive domain of religious and clergy. In fact, the Second Vatican Council has called the Church to promote and invite this ancient form of Church life into the regular prayer routine of all peoples.

The Divine Office consists of a series of Major Hours and Minor Hours, and these differ in structure. The rhythm of the Liturgy of the Hours include the major hours of Lauds (Morning prayer at about 5 am), Vespers (Evening Prayer at the lighting of the lamps about 6:00 pm) and the Office of Readings (which can be prayed anytime or in conjunction with one of the other Hours.) There are also the minor hours of Matins (about 2 am), Prime (first hour about 6 am), Terce (third hour about 9 am), Sext (sixth hour about noon), Nones (ninth hour about 3pm), and Compline (Night Prayer about 7 pm just before bedtime)

We have on occasion celebrated Vespers or Evening Prayer, and during the blessing of the Easter Baskets, we pray the Office of Readings. Last year during Lent, while the world was locked down, we live streamed Morning Prayer from the Chapel with Deacon Steve. This year again we will offer Monday Morning Prayer. It will be in person and live streamed. **We will begin it at 9:30 am on Mondays for those who want to participate in person (we have purchased prayer books for those in person that you may use.)**



The Cantic of Zechariah

Attention: Confirmation Candidates

Letter of Intent

In this topsy-turvy year we have not been able to help you much along your journey towards completing your Initiation. From our end, the most important preparation is self reflection. It is customary for candidates to write to the Bishop submitting a Letter of Intent, indicating why they think that the Bishop should accept them for the sacrament of Confirmation. Address your letter (typed or written) to either the Bishop or Fr. Roy, the Bishop's representative.

Here are some guidelines in our extended version of reflecting on Why you want to have the Church Confirm you in your baptism.

1. What was the most significant thing your parents remember about your baptism? Who was there at the Church for this celebration? Who were your godparents? Why did your parents select your name?
2. From the Church's perspective the most important reason for your baptism was so you can participate in the life of the Church each weekend at Mass and join us at the Table of the Lord. Your confirmation will be a continuation in the life of the Church where the expectation will be for you to attend Mass with us each week. What are your fears and or hopes for living your life as a confirmed Catholic?
3. Confirmation expresses specific gifts related to the Holy Spirit; wisdom, understanding, courage, right judgment, knowledge, reverence, and wonder & awe. The prayer of Confirmation includes these gifts and signals that you should be aware of them in your own life. Give an example of each of them as pertains to your life experience, especially as they relate to God-given gifts that are supposed to make your life more filled with integrity.
4. What does the Church have to offer you as a fully initiated member?
5. What do you have to offer the Church as a fully initiated member?
6. Why should the Bishop accept you as a candidate for Confirmation?

At all the masses on the weekend of March 12 & 13, the Second Sunday in Lent, the candidates will be called forward for a little prayer service at which they will submit their Letters of Intent.

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