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st.elizabethseton@rogers.com
Website:
www.stelizabethsetonparishne@
archtoronto.org

Mass Times:
Weekend Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 9:00am & 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

Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time
February 19, 2023



Pastoral Team
Fr. Roy Roberts, Pastor
Deacon Marian Pawlitzko
Deacon Stephen Pitre

Parish Staff
Parish Administrator ~ Ann Lynch
Sacramental Coordinator
Baptisms, First Communion & Confirmations ~ Jennifer McAvoy
Rectorial Administrator—Nancy Rojas
Regular Office Hours
Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm
Friday 9am to 1pm



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

**"Cheerfulness prepares a glorious mind
for all the noblest acts."**

St. Elizabeth Seton

Mass Intentions

Monday, February 20th

10am: Paul Wharton

Req. by: Hugh & Carolyn McCartney

Tuesday, February 21st

10am: Rosina Graniero

Req. by: Cupe 1571

Wednesday, February 22nd

10am: **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Req. by: No Intentions

Thursday, February 23rd

10am: Mario Brogno

Req. by: Al & Theresa

Ukrainian Relief Fund:

In addition to praying for the situation, parishioners can contribute to the Ukrainian Relief Fund, which the Archdiocese has established to help suffering Ukrainians.

Parishioner are able to contribute online by going to:

www.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/donations/donate-pages/donate-to-humanitarian-relief/

Could the owner of envelope #296 please contact the parish office.

Thank you.



Parish Giving

February 12th

Offertory \$4,575.70

SES Building \$ 308.00

Month of January PAG

(Pre-authorized Giving)

Sunday Offertory \$4,372.00

SES Building Fund \$ 322.00

ShareLife \$ 465.00

Ruminations ...

I don't think we often think in terms of our favorite Lent. Let's face it, much of our perception of Lent is that it is a time of giving up things, and penitential hardships. When I look back at the Lenten journeys, just a few things come to mind. I remember when my brothers and I were all working and our Lenten Fridays became meatless days. We would order fish and chips from the Fish and Chip Store in the old shopping plaza at Yonge and Davis Drive. Now being someone who does not eat seafood, (and yes I have tried to find at least a mild tasting fish that I might be able to tolerate, but to no avail) it can present a bit of a predicament, but on those days, lots of French fries did the trick. As the weeks of Lent continued, the order grew to include other things like scallops and mussels, none of which I ate, but that made the family dinner seem rather exotic. This mini-tradition continued over several years of Lent to the point where the fish lovers looked forward to Lent. I remember mom commenting this practice was maybe within the letter of Lent, abstaining from meat, but maybe not in the spirit of Lent. Those meals had turned into a veritable feast, except for me who survived on the fries alone. It was all good fun and it was certainly a family bonding time, especially as we were at that stage when we were starting to go our own ways and the frequency of family dinners together were beginning to wane. My favorite experience of Lent was in my final year of university. My residence was run by the Jesuits and naturally we had a chapel where mass was celebrated. The chapel was gorgeous. It was in the round, and very quaint seating maybe twenty people. The ceiling was high and there were narrow panels of brilliant red stained glass going to the top. When the sun was shining, this chapel was magical and mystical and peaceful. Daily Mass was celebrated either in French or it was Bilingual, and Fr. Simon could preside, give a homily and get us out in 20 minutes in time to make it to our next class. It was my final year, and I just had this compulsion to attend the masses during the week when they were available with my class schedule, three times a week. There were not a lot of people attending, maybe just a handful, but there was something that was settling and peaceful about that privileged time. I wasn't really sure about why in my fourth year that I had this desire. It had never happened in the previous years, but it fit, and it seemed right. At the time, my thoughts were turned to trying to get a job working in some Olympic Sports Office, or get hired for the Calgary Olympics, but as much as that was the hope and dream of four years of Sports Administration, I knew my heart wasn't really in it. Laurentian life was geared more to your residence than to your program and even with that I drew more and more away from my classmates. I felt a bit like an imposter. Some of my classmates were way more gung ho and have gone off and had exciting and creative Spad jobs (what we referred to as sports administration jobs), though I suspect most now are enjoying the retired life – alas. Looking back, I guess one might say that I was being directed to another path, and I carry with me those wonderful 40 days in university. May your Lent be a time of peace and reflection and growth. Happy Lent.

Fr. Roy



Announcements and Events...



Ash Wednesday
Wednesday February 22nd.
Mass at 10 am and 7pm



Lenten Fish Fry
Friday, February 24, 2023
From 5pm to 7pm

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is a universal day of Fasting & Abstinence. Abstinence refers to abstaining from meat. This applies to all people of all ages. Fasting means two smaller than usual meals and then a regular meal, and this applies to people between the ages of 18 to 59. Those in that age bracket who have chronic illnesses like diabetes are exempt.

Turkey and Syria Earthquake Humanitarian Relief

Those wishing to help may do so in the following ways:

Online through the Archdiocese of Toronto website – <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/donations/donate-pages/donate-to-turkiye-and-syria-relief/>

By phone through the Development Office – 416-934-3411

Through the parish, making cheques payable to:
Name of Parish – Turkey and Syria Earthquake – Humanitarian Relief

JK Registrations Open at York Catholic DSB

The York Catholic District School Board is now accepting registrations for Junior Kindergarten for children born in 2019. York Catholic provides a Christ-centred, innovative Catholic Education in its 102 schools across York Region. The York Catholic DSB is consistently ranked one of the top performing school boards in the province. You can visit their website, www.ycdsb.ca, to register for classes starting in September.



Sacramental Corner **First Communion**



Enrolment Lamb Ceremony February 25/26
Decorate and bring lambs to Sunday Mass
First Communion Retreats March 1st, 4th or 6th
Parent and child attend. Arrive 10 minutes early.

Confirmation

Enrolment Sunday / candidates bring your Letter of Intent

to any Sunday Mass on March 4th/5th
Confirmation Retreat/ Thursday April 13th
at 6:00pm

All candidates must attend. Parents attend from 8:30-9:00pm



CWG Pancake Sunday

The CWG will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, February 19th in Seton Hall following the 9am and 11am Masses as we prepare for the discipline of Lent. We welcome everyone during the Family Day weekend and we hope that you are able to join us. Donations are greatly appreciated and we thank you once again for your support



Mark your calendar

for our

Annual Family Day Weekend Family Skate.

This is a free event hosted by the Knights of Columbus. The Skate takes place on Monday, February 20 from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm at Sharon Arena. Helmets are mandatory for all young people & highly encouraged for all.

Hot Chocolate is available.



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
Matteo Savella
Gerber Aparicio
Jackson Rowan

E. Turnbull
Paul Jennas
Rose Marie Scott
Wanda Tolazzi
Sean Coen
Cathy Murphy
Chad Buckley
Ana Apareció
J. Gole
Thomas Lauber
Anna Zaryczanska
Jake Tallon
Victor Dumas

Carmen Baldacchino
Mervin Correa
Leo Cadia Vaz
Laura Rostron
Trice Hawkins
Carole Carter
Lawrence Cooper
Richard Ayson
Gina Santagato
Alexis Carvajal
Jose Fonseca
Catherine Kirk
Albina Barber

Lent

The season of Lent is upon us. The word itself means “Spring”. In the Mediterranean world where most of our traditions were developed, this makes sense. The trees and budding, Spring crops are being planted and flowers are pushing up through the ground. All accounts of our local groundhogs indicate that we are still weeks away.

Our present day experience of Lent is derived from the early day practices of fasting in preparation for baptism. There is no definitive origins story which is typical of life in the early Church. What has developed and been handed on to us is Lent as primarily a time of preparation for the up-coming renewal of our baptisms, and a time of penance.

The traditional practices of Lenten penance include, prayer, fasting & abstinence, and almsgiving. Prayer becomes focused on personal and communal transformation. It means a long hard look at our lives and rooting out those aspects of ourselves that are not of our essence. It means working to become a better person, a better spouse, parent, child, a better follower of Jesus. Fasting and abstinence is a discipline to help us become more aware of patterns of our lives, and helps us to remember the poor and needy, to increase our compassion for those suffering injustices, oppression and hardships. Fasting and abstinence are exercises to impel us to reach out and make a demonstrable contribution to the betterment of people’s lives, locally and globally. Almsgiving is not just about giving money. It is about being aware of our own resources as gift, and not belonging to us to possess, but to share. It prompts us to reflect on what we want versus what we need.

Certainly an integral aspect of the journey of preparation for baptism renewal is the sacrament of Reconciliation. A healthy spiritual life cannot be as fruitful without Reconciliation. It is one of the most scary and under used grace that God has bestowed on us. This is likely because we have the wrong attitude and have practiced it so poorly over the years. Contrary to popular notions, it does not involve listing all the dirty little secrets of our life. What most people actually confess are the symptoms of interior dispositions. The sacrament is there to help reveal these patterns of life that are robbing us of our freedom and the best of our lives. Reconciliation is much more concerned about the ‘why’ of an action than the ‘what’. ‘Why do we do what we do?’ Delving into the mystery of the ‘why’ reveals patterns that dictate how we engage with the world. If we truly want to be free (and without freedom we cannot love authentically) then we need to engage our inner selves. One spiritual director told us that we need to ask ‘why’ at least 10 times to discover the truth about our motivation. Only then can we begin to move into freedom.

So the question is, “What are you going to do this Lent?” “How are you going to be transformed into a better version of yourself?” How are you going to engage more deliberately in your life? Your family? Your Church community? Your neighbourhood?

Lent is actually a time offered to you, inviting you through tried and true practices, to live life more fully. As Jesus said, “I have come that you may have life in abundance.” It is yours if you are willing to put the work into it.



Taking on a Parish Ministry

Your Parish Needs You!

Counting Ministry

Each week, the Sunday Collections are counted and deposited in the Bank. There are Archdiocese guidelines that we must follow. This is an important contribution to the life of our Community, and from a security perspective, it is good to ensure that there is no cash remaining in the Building.

When the team is at full compliment, the commitment is for about 2 hours on a Sunday starting at 11:00 am, once a month. If you are interested in lending a hand , we would be happy to have you.



Funeral Ministry

One of our famed Corporal Works of Mercy is burying the dead. Funerals can be tough on many fronts. Seeing a smiling and helpful face as the family and friends of the deceased come through the door adds a great sense of comfort. In this day and age, with many 'un-Churched' people who may feel very awkward and uncomfortable in the Church setting, especially in the midst of sorrow and grief, this Ministry provides a strong sign value, that we as a Community of Faith, welcome them and are here to support them as they walk this journey.



So Funeral ministers welcome mourners, open doors, uses umbrellas when necessary, answers questions and provide a strong voice during the Mass. Ministers also provide guidance in setting up for the Funeral Mass, serve as Eucharistic ministers when needed, and help offer a strong witness on behalf of the Community of St. Elizabeth Seton. Families are very thankful for these ministers.

Martha & Mary Funeral Luncheon Ministry

Many funerals have a reception after the Mass. We are fortunate in our parish to have excellent facilities to host such an event. As much as the liturgical celebration is important, so too, is the opportunity for fellowship and meeting with the family. It is a vital part of the family's bereavement journey.



Funeral Luncheons

So our Martha & Mary Ministry serves this need in various capacities by providing food and service. Sometimes the family gathering is small, and sometimes not so small. Usually we receive only a couple of days notice and so there can be a bit of scurrying around at the last minute, but it is such a worthwhile ministry and provides a huge act of Hospitality.

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