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EMAIL:
st.elizabethseton@rogers.com

Website:
stelizabethsetonne.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. 207

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
February 18, 2024

LENT

*Fast
Pray
Give*



Pastoral Team

Fr. Roy Roberts, Pastor
Deacon Marian Pawliszko
Deacon Stephen Pitre

Parish Staff

Parish Administrator ~ Ann Lynch
Sacramental Coordinator
Baptisms, First Communion & Confirmations ~ Jennifer McAvoy
Rectory 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 19th

10am: **Annamarie Lou**

Req. by: Cemetery Board of St. John's

Tuesday February 20th

10am: **Lucille Martell**

Req. by: Pottie Family

Wednesday February 21st

10am: **Danny Memmo**

Req. by: Cupe 1571

Thursday February 22nd

10am: **Egidio Gullo**

Req. by: Family



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.

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/



St. Vincent de Paul

You can donate online to the Newmarket conference at:

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

Parish Giving

February 11th

Offertory	\$ 6,736.63
SES Building	\$ 855.00

Month of January PAG

(Pre-authorized Giving)

Sunday Offertory	\$3,959.72
SES Building Fund	\$ 400.00
ShareLife	\$ 272.00

Ruminations

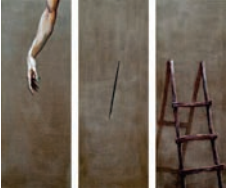
Around this time of year, there was always a great debate going on between my mom and me. It was in such 'discussions' that mom really revealed her Irish-ness. She was as stubborn as they make them. It all revolved around one evening almost exactly 20 years ago to the day. It was the day when mom decided to stay up a bit later than usual to sit with dad and watch a comedy television program. During one segment both mom and dad began to laugh up-roariously and dad sort of threw his head back, had a massive heart attack and died. This was shortly before 11:30 pm. At first mom thought dad was joking and after several scoldings of this not being funny, mom rushed to the phone and called 911. The poor operator tried to calm and instruct her but mom said she was going to hang up and call her daughter-in-law. Now the poor operator had no way of knowing that my sister-in-law was a nurse who was well acquainted with cardiac issues, having worked on the cardiac floor. Nor did the operator know that she lived just down the road and could make it to the house quicker than the emergency vehicles. Anyway, after much chaos and the arrival of the emergency team, dad was loaded into the ambulance and rushed to Southlake Hospital. The emergency teams struggled to revive dad but he was long gone. So he was pronounced dead in the wee hours of the next day. Therein lies the point of contention. The official death certificate lists him as dying on February 19. Mom on the other hand, in her professional opinion knew in her heart that dad died at home before he was ushered to the hospital. It was a very important distinction for mom. When it came time to write the obituary, she wanted her date to triumph over the official record. And when it came time to inscribe the headstone at the seminary, mom tried again to impose her version of events on the stone. In her defence, in all likelihood, she was right – dad passed at home watching a comedy, having died laughing. They say time heals all wounds, but I beg to differ. Mom would not accept the official version and so to move on, we had to devise a compromise. Mom could remember whatever date she wanted, but the official date had to stand on all matters official, like a gravestone. I don't ever remember her using the official date of death – ever. So we celebrated both dates, after all they only differed by an hour and a bit. I think the real solution was to acknowledge that he did in fact die at home and not in the hospital. That was always important to mom. I was relating the story surrounding his grandfather's death, and the humour in the establishing of the date, and it occurred to me that my nephew who is about to turn 21, has no lived experience or memories of my dad. He was not even a year old, but it is a blessing that his older siblings all have treasured memories to their grandfather. One of my favorite memories concerns my niece who was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. Twice she claims that granddad came to her; one in the hospital when she was diagnosed and he soothed and comforted her telling her that everything would be alright, and as a result, she took it all in stride, and never let it slow her down. The next time was in the middle of the night when her blood sugars were dangerously low, granddad woke her up and told her to check her sugar levels, and it likely saved her life. I asked her to get the lottery numbers from him if he shows up again. So now it has been twenty years since that life altering event, and despite the passage of time, it seems like yesterday, vivid and immediate. And the strangest things go through one's brain – this year I turn the same age that my dad was when he died. As per our family custom, we will celebrate the anniversary over two days. *Fr. Roy*



Announcements and Events...

Stations of the cross

We will celebrate Stations of the Cross every Friday starting at 7:00 pm during the season of Lent. The Stations are a time-honoured tradition rooted in walking with Christ to the Cross.



Lent Evening Prayer

Sunday evenings starting at 7:00 pm, we will celebrate Evening Prayer or Vespers in the style of Taizé. This is a very reflective and meditative preparation for Easter. Please join us.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a group of people who gather on the first Wednesday of each month to chat, and laugh, and make Prayer Shawls. These shawls are given to people experiencing difficulties in their lives. The Shawl is a reminder to them that they are not alone in their challenges and that as expressed by the Shawl, they are always embraced by God's love. These Shawls have been sent all around the world and so represent our Christian outreach as a Community of Faith. If you have some time to spare, even if you are a beginner knitter or crochet-er, please feel free to join us for this fun, engaging way of bringing God's love and comfort to those in need. For more information or to get involved, please call the Parish Office.



The Next Fish Fry

Our next Fish Fry will take place on Friday, March 22, starting at 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Declared the best French fries in the area. Mark your calendar to join us in our Preparations for Easter.



***NOTICE**

Could the owner of **envelope box number 265** please contact the parish office. We are in need of some information. Thank you.

Sacramental Corner

First Communion

Enrolment Lamb Ceremony February 18/19
Decorate and bring lambs to Sunday Mass
First Communion Retreats and mass times are posted in the display case in the foyer.
Parent and child attend. Arrive 10 minutes early.

Confirmation

Enrolment Sunday / candidates bring your Letter of Intent to any Sunday Mass on February 24th/25th. Parents will be emailed with additional information.
Confirmation Retreat/ Thursday April 18th @7pm
All candidates must attend. Parents attend from 8:30-9:00pm

Family Day Skate

Monday, February 19 is Family Day. The Knights of Columbus are once again hosting a free Skating Party at Sharon Arena. The ice is open from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Come and enjoy an afternoon of family fun with hot chocolate and treats. Bring a friend.



Fish on Fridays

As long ago as the First Century, Christians recognized all Fridays as days of Penance—the day of the Crucifixion. It had the dual purpose of remembering the sacrifice of Christ, as well as an act of offering something to unite us with the sufferings of Jesus.

Abstaining from meat that walks the earth has been handed on to us. People may remember the weekly practice of meatless Fridays growing up as a universal act of Penance. Fridays are still days of penance, but the Bishops have relaxed the meatless obligation and allowed a deliberate other act of penance.

Let us pray for the sick...

Alana Brown-Wallace
Betty Loft
Bruce Firth
Kathleen Todesco
Joshua Perek
Donna Stea-Cutting
Andy Dube
Elizabeth Ryan
Matteo Savella
Jackson Rowan
Carmen Baldacchino
Mervin Correa
Leo Cadia Vaz
Orsola Accardi
Aria Crang
Andy Waldherr

E. Turnbull
Paul Jennas
Rose Marie Scott
Wanda Tolazzi
Sean Coen
Chad Buckley
Ana Aparicio
Jake Tallon
Victor Dumas
Trice Hawkins
Carole Carter
Lawrence Cooper
Candice Cusinan
Cheryl Tuck
Stephen Murphy
Sarah Kraft
Marian Kulmatytskyi
Joan Reagan

Laura Rostron
Albina Barber
Santiago Garcia
Hallie Lynn
Morgan Leung
Antonia Fabrizi
Theresa Wharton
Zeny Jose
Tammy Elkie
Marcus D'Mello
Lisa Stokl
Jeanette Barbosa
Daniel Juresic
Bernal Gutierrez
Tessa Stone

Lent

The fifth Sunday of Lent holds a unique position. On the one hand, it is the last Gospel before everything switches into an immediate anticipation of Easter and the celebrations of the Resurrection. The following Sunday begins Holy Week and we begin with a commemoration of the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

In the regular cycle of the Lectionary, the year A gospel presents the story of the raising of Lazarus. As much as we may marvel at Lazarus coming back from the dead, the thrust of the story is much more than a prelude to what we hope awaits us.

We ask the Elect preparing for the sacraments of Initiation to reflect upon the things in their lives that reek of death. Just as Jesus instructed the family of Lazarus to remove all the bandages and wrappings of death, so are the Elect and we along with them, are called to discern everything in our lives that takes life away.


















That speaks of the essence of our Lenten journey. It is an annual invitation look at our lives, but in a particular context—our lives in the midst of a society, as the lost Popes have described as a culture of death. It reminds us that sin is not just individual, but it is communal. We live in a society that is trying to make everything subjective—truth, beauty and ultimately reality. The individual becomes the center of the world, with little or no care for others or a common good.

It takes a bit of work to see how much the world influences our lives, our thoughts and outlooks. That is one of the reasons this season of Lent it called the Period of Purification & Enlightenment for those adults seeking Initiation. The title gives a hood hint as to the direction of our own Lenten journey. We are invited to Purify ourselves. This is more than merely calling to mind our sin, making a list and checking it twice. It is to discern what our authentic sin is—how it affects the Body of Christ—how it acts to keep God at bay - how it makes us lesser than we are called to be - how it cheats us of the very gift of life God has bestowed on us. We are invited to be Enlightened with our baptism spirituality. This enlightenment is about striving to see the world through God's eyes—to see our relationships through God's eyes—to see our lives through God's eyes.

All these things serve to enwrap us in a mantle of death that weighs us down. As they act to deaden our spirit and our hope, as they act to blind us or dull our existential hopes, they insidiously blur our goal and our relationship with God. Too many Christians have failed to encounter the genuine love of God. Too many fear that the love of God is conditional—conditional on doing the right thing (which is not bad), or saying the right thing (again, a good thing to do), or saying our prayers rightly (still not a bad thing), or attending as many masses as possible (not a bad thing). None of these can make God love us any more or any less. The Paschal Mystery is God's definitive statement to us that we are loved—all of us, the saint and the sinner, the rich and the poor, the homeless and the drug addict, the alcoholic and the torturer, the oppressed and the oppressor. The challenge is for us to live lives congruent with our Enlightened knowledge of how much and how eternally we are loved by God.



The Life of Our Parish in March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Stations of the Cross 7pm. 	2 3rd Sunday of Lent 
3 3rd Sunday of Lent  Vespers—7pm	4 RCIA 7pm 	5	6 Prayer Shawl Ministry 	7 Soup & Series  Bible Study 	8 Stations of the Cross 7pm. 	9 4th Sunday of Lent 
10 4th Sunday of Lent  Vespers—7pm	11 RCIA 7pm 	12 CWG General Mtg. 	13 K of C General Mtg. 	14 Bible Study 	15 Stations of the Cross 7pm. 	16 5th Sunday of Lent  CWG Pie Sales 
17 5th Sunday of Lent  Vespers 7pm CWG Pie Sales 	18 RCIA 7pm. 	19	20	21 Bible Study 	22 Stations of the Cross 	23 Palm Sunday 
24 Palm Sunday  Vespers 7pm	25	26 CWG Exec. Mtg. 	27 K of C Exec. Mtg. 	28 Holy Thursday Mass at 7:30pm 	29 Good Friday Services at 11am and 3pm. Day of Fasting & Abstinence 	30 Holy Saturday Easter Basket Blessing: 10am (English); 12 noon (Polish) Easter Vigil 8pm 
31 Easter Sunday Mass at 9am & 11am 						

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