

MASS INTENTIONS

MASSES CAN BE SEEN AT SERCC.ORG

MONDAY	JANUARY 3
9:00 AM	Valeria Stalsitz
TUESDAY	JANUARY 4
9:00 AM	Joseph Genay
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 5
9:00 AM	Scott Shenyo
THURSDAY	JANUARY 6
6:00 PM	Adoration
7:00 PM	Anna Wescoe
FRIDAY	JANUARY 7
9:00 AM	Enrollees of Memorial Fund Divine Mercy
SATURDAY	JANUARY 8
4:30 PM	Gerald Kratzer
SUNDAY	JANUARY 9
8:00 AM	People of the Parish
10:00 AM	Joseph Macaluso

OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please remember in your prayers all our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally, or spiritually, especially:

Mike Baran, Millie Breck, Jill Brubaker, Sharon Brubaker, Mary Buesgen Signarovitz, Grace Conti, Cindy Cooper, Deb Csorba, Marie Dal Maso, Rick Fitzgerald, Charles Fonzone, Dorothy Folajtar, Victoria Gaffney, Joshua Gage, Wayne Glover, Joe Gnall, Robert Hartzell, Laurie Hohl, Ariella Jarrab, Anna Kaufmann, Phyllis Laky, Lucy Lentini, Jade Madden, Mary Anne Maley, Deacon Mike Meder, Amalie Meehan, Steve O'Connor, Rich Pastorella, David Perenyi, Robert Purvis, Ruth Reisinger, Bob Sheehan, John Signarovitz, Kathryn Wechsler.

*NOTE: Please call church if you are admitted to the hospital.

TO THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS



We welcome you to Mass each weekend. If you wish to receive Holy Communion and find it difficult to join the Communion line, please let the ushers know and an Extraordinary Minister will bring communion to you. Low gluten hosts are available; prior to Mass go to the sacristy so the celebrant will know to prepare the host.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Eucharistic Adoration will take place in the Chapel on Monday before the 9 am Mass and Thursday evening before the 7 pm Mass. Please contact Wendy Ohlsen at 610-248-6648 if you have questions.

READINGS FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

First Reading:	Isaiah 40: 1 – 11
Responsorial Psalm:	104
Second Reading:	Titus 2: 11 – 14; 3: 4 - 7
Gospel:	Luke 3: 15 – 22

Parish Calendar of Regular Events (call for updates)

- Adult Choir** – Wed (Sept to May) times as scheduled
 - Baptism Class** – Sunday morning by appointment
 - Bible Study** – Wednesday 10 am in LMR*
 - Friendly Visitors** – 3rd Thursday (Sept to May) 2 pm LMR*
 - Parish Breakfast** – 2nd Sunday (Nov to April) 8:30 – 11 am Hall
 - Prayer Shawl** – 2nd Wednesday 2 pm LMR* *call Carolyn*
 - PREP** – Mondays (Sept to April) 6 pm School
 - RCIA** – Tuesdays (Sept to April) 7 pm LMR*
- *LMR = Parish office large meeting room 2nd floor.



The Sanctuary Candle burns this week for
Musu Johnson's 107th Birthday
requested by *Bob & Maryann Kulhamer.*

The Bells will ring this week in memory of
Rudy Brem requested by *Mary Brem.*



MASS INTENTIONS

Please pray for those who have died, especially
Joseph Murgia, who passed away this month.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



PARISH STATISTICS

	2020	2021
Baptism	14	13
First Communion	1	31
Confirmation	28	24
Weddings	1	6
Funerals	18	28
Priest / Deacon	3	2

This is a synopsis of the parish statistics for the last two years.



PASTOR'S CORNER

What can we take from today's beautiful gospel on the Feast of the Epiphany?

First, it is the story of a journey. This is the story like that of our lives trying to seek Jesus. It begins at the moment God creates us and we spend our time traveling toward God, with the help of God's Word, Jesus Christ and the Word of God, the gospel. So, all of our journeys are to the infinite.

Second, the kings are astrologers and are trying to unravel the meaning of life in the stars. They might not have absolute certain knowledge about God when they start the journey, but faith leads their travels until they reach the one who will fulfill their desires. The experience of God in our lives is not always obvious, but as we continue, even if we fall into darkness, Christ is with us because we walk by faith and not by sight.

And finally, the wise men found their way with the help of a star. A single star may not always shine with great light, but it does give direction. We depend on the light of faith and with that is the direction from our God and church. The wisdom of the Magi was that they sought knowledge and truth, they were willing to journey in faith to personally discover what God was all about.

They did not hesitate to seek help on the way; they looked to the stars and in faith found their way. We pray to God for help, and trust in his answer to our prayers, even if we don't have full understanding and certainty. But we trust and believe.

The wise men accepted what they found, the presence of an Almighty God in such a lowly place as a manger. The magi had a long journey, but in the end were changed. They ended by returning another way, the way told to them by God. In every encounter we have with God, we come away changed. Let today be our epiphany, let today be our revelation.

So when we leave as the gospel tells us, by another way; when a star in the sky is gone; when the kings and the magi are home; when the shepherds are back with their flocks; when the decorations are back in the attic; then the work of Christmas begins; to find the lost, heal the broken, recognize God among us, to rebuild our world and to find a peace that does not yet exist.

God bless you

Fr. Stan

PARISH NEWS

THINGS TO PONDER

American Saints

On January 4th we celebrate Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. She was raised in the Episcopalian faith. After her husband died of complications from tuberculosis, Elizabeth and her daughter were received by his business partners Filippo and Antonio Filicchi who introduced her to Catholicism.

Elizabeth founded many schools and formed the first congregation of religious sisters to be founded in the United States.

Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first native born citizen of the United States to be canonized a saint.

On January 5th we celebrate Saint John Neumann. He was born in Bohemia and was unable to be ordained a priest *because Bohemia had too many at the time*. He learned English by working in a factory. He then wrote to bishops in America. He was ordained in New York. In 1852, he was appointed Bishop of Philadelphia. He founded many schools. He essentially was the founder of Catholic education in this country. He is the first American Bishop to be canonized.

2021 TAX STATEMENTS

Parishioners wishing a tax statement should call the parish office with their e-mail contact information. Tax statements will be available by January 31st and will be e-mailed to those requesting one. Any donations dated after Dec 31st will be considered a 2022 donation. If you do not **request** an e-mail tax statement none will be provided.



SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2022-2023

St. Elizabeth Regional School is now accepting applications for enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year for Pre-K 4 thru 8th Grade. Please note that enrollment in Kindergarten requires that your child be 5 years of age BEFORE October 15, 2022. If you need an application, contact the school office at 610 – 264 - 0143. If you chose to enroll your child, there will be an enrollment fee due when you return your application to the school office.





Our church looks beautiful this season!

Thanks to Bob Kulhamer for his artistic vision and leadership along with his decorating helpers for all the time and effort they spent to create such a lovely atmosphere for our Advent and Christmas celebration.

GIVE THE GIFT OF A CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Complete or partial sponsorship of a student can make a difference in a student's ability to attend Saint Elizabeth Regional School. Sponsorship opportunities, which combine faith with learning, create a well-rounded and prepared student. As an "**Angel of the Lord Sponsor**," you provide financial support to families who desire the spiritual, moral, and intellectual growth fostered by a Catholic, faith-based school.

Choose from any three levels of support:

- **Phanuel Angel:** Donate Any Amount
- **Seraphim Angel:** Donate a Half Year of Tuition (\$1,850)
- **Uriel Angel:** Donate a Full Year of Tuition (\$3,700)

Send donations to Mrs. Kimberly Kocher, Principal

St. Elizabeth Regional School
431 Pershing Blvd, Whitehall, PA 18052

Thanks for your support!

COOKS WITH COLLARS



Fr. Stan and the St Elizabeth's Women's Group would like to announce the winning theme for this year's video. It is HALUSKI! Thank you to all that submitted suggestions. Look forward to Fr Stan's family recipe. We will also be announcing a way to make your donation for this fundraiser. God Bless.

SCRUMPTIOUS PARISH BREAKFAST!

We will serve our monthly Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, January 9 from 8:30 – 11:30 AM! Come and fill-up on all your favorites of bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, home fries, pancakes, Danish, juice and coffee – all for only \$8.00/adult and \$5.00/child. Children 3 years and under are free. *Treat your favorite snow shoveler!* We are very grateful for this month's sponsor, Bernard Polak New Smithville Catholic Foundation.



AMAZON SMILE GIVE BACK

Do you like ordering from Amazon? Here is a quick and easy way to make money for the church by making your

purchase through Amazon Smile.

'AMAZON SMILE' is the same Amazon you are used to, but by ordering through "Smile" the company will donate .5% of your purchase to our parish, costing you NOTHING extra. If you shop at Amazon, you can painlessly support our parish: [Saint Elizabeth Amazon Smile](#)



You can also access AMAZON SMILE from our parish web site at [sercc.org](#) and click on "Ways to Give" tab, and then just click on the "Amazon Smile" for the hyperlink. Thank you for your continued support!

SPAGHETTI DINNER SAVE THE DATE!

St. Elizabeth
Regional School
Spaghetti Dinner



St. Elizabeth Parish Hall
Saturday, January 29, 2022

SYNOD INFORMATION

For more information, please contact St Elizabeth Synod representatives:

Joan Glover – jglover@ptd.net

Jen Samanka – anksam07@ptd.net

Joe Samanka – joesamanka@gmail.com

Mary Spieker – dirreled@sercc.org

Please return your survey to the parish by Feb 1

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPE NOTICE

In the next few weeks and months, you may see different color contribution envelopes than you are used to in the quarterly packets mailed to your home. We have been notified that there is a nationwide shortage of paper. Our suppliers have informed us that they will do the best they can to meet the envelope orders; however, weekly envelopes may not have a red border, special collections may also be in different colors than you have been used to or **parishioners may have envelopes different from each other**. You do not need to call the parish office; we are aware that envelopes may not match. We appreciate your patience and understanding.



We have also been notified that we may have paper shortages for the weekly bulletin. We will do our best to minimize the impact of these concerns.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK KICK OFF

With Catholic Schools Week coming St. Elizabeth Regional school is offering a raffle.

Tickets are available now.

1st Prize - \$500

2nd Prize - \$250

3rd Prize - \$100

OUR COMMUNITY

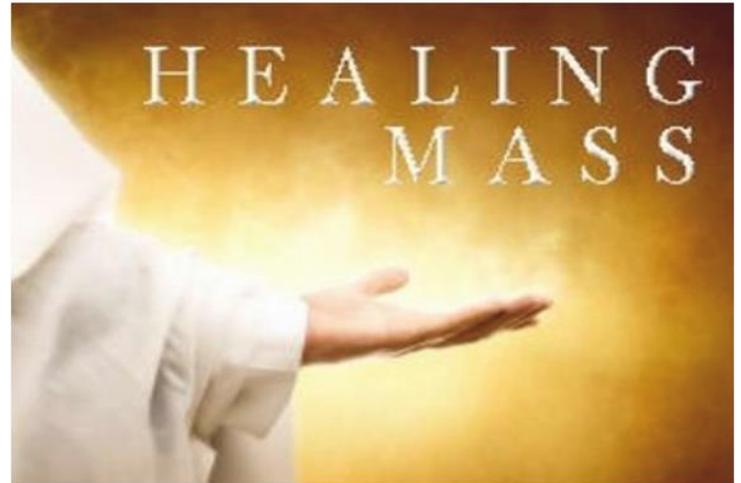


St. John the Baptist Parish Lottery Calendar Sale

January 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022 Make great stocking stuffers! Only \$20 for six months of chances to win!

Questions? Email stjohnbaptistpa@gmail.com

Or call 610 – 432 – 0034



Tuesday, January 11, 2022

7:00 PM

Celebrant: Fr. George Winne

Praise and worship music 6:30 PM

Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena

18th and Turner Streets, Allentown, PA

Contact: 610-217-1739



THE CHURCH IS LISTENING.

Individuals with Disabilities & Caregivers
 JAN 15 2022 | 3PM | Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bethlehem
 JAN 29 2022 | 3PM | Holy Guardian Angels, Reading

LGBT Community
 JAN 27 2022 | 6:30PM | St. Francis Center for Renewal

Young Adults & College Students
 FEB 10 2022 | 5:00PM | Holy Ghost Parish, Bethlehem

Parish Listening Sessions
 Various Dates | Listing available by county on website below

PARTICIPATE IN THE SYNOD!

We hope that wherever you are in your relationship with the Lord and the Catholic Church, you will consider participating in the Synod by attending a listening session or completing the online survey on our website.

www.allentowndiocese.org/synod