

*First Sunday
of Advent*

**SAINT ELIZABETH ANN
SETON
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Dedicated December 11, 1977

**755 Highway 49, Tennessee Ridge, Tennessee
37178**

Administrator:

Rev. Father Zach Kirangu
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Valerie Brown
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Parish Office:

931-721-3769

Fax:

931-721-3775

Office Hours:

M-F 9:00am-2:00pm

Music Director/Organist:

Kathy Joiner

Holy Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass:

Sunday: 11:00 am

Weekday Mass:

Tuesday: Noon

Thursday: Noon

Reconciliation:

At all Masses.

Also by an Appointment.

11 Hour Adoration:

First Friday of every month

7 am to 6pm

Daily Adoration/ Rosary

Mon –Sat 11:00 am to noon

Sunday 10:30 [Rosary only]

Call the office for Sacramental
Information or visit

Seastn.com

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018



Hope

*Let us then throw off the
works of darkness & put on
the armor of light
Romans 13:12*



From the Pastor's Desk

Father Zack Kirangu
Parish Administrator

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel!" This familiar hymn reminds the church of the season of Advent, a time traditionally marked for remembering the years of preparation and consecration prior to the coming of the Messiah.

For many centuries, the Church has identified the beginning of the Christmas celebration with a time of reflection and expectation called Advent.

The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival" and, when used in conjunction with Christmas, reminds us of the anticipation and expectation held over hundreds of years by the people of Israel for their Messiah and promised King.

For centuries before Christ, Hebrew rabbis methodically and passionately taught the Jewish people that Messiah was coming. They taught that the people should be ready to embrace their King when he appeared. They emphasized the need for holy living and obedience to God's law. The church is in a similar situation to Israel at the end of the Old Testament: in exile, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah. Israel looked back to God's past gracious actions on their behalf in leading them out of Egypt in the Exodus, and on this basis they called for God once again to act for them. In the same way, the church, during Advent, looks back upon Christ's coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ's kingdom when he returns for his people.

Today, we mark Advent in the Christian church with the display of a wreath - its circle reminds us of God Himself, eternal and endlessly merciful. It is evergreen - reminding us of the hope of eternal life.

The four outer candles incorporated into the display represent the time of waiting and preparation for the Messiah during the four Sundays of Advent.

The light of the candles reminds us of the Light of world, and the prophetic promise of His coming. The white central candle of the Advent wreath, lighted at Christmas, reminds us of the fulfillment of His first Advent and the pure, humble means by which He came.

Christians today have tasted of His first coming as Savior, experiencing His forgiving grace and saving power. Through study, we have learned about and embraced the truths of His virgin birth, His sinless life, His atoning death, and His glorious resurrection.

The first Advent was the glorious manifestation of incarnation - the uniting of God and man in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, born of a virgin in a lowly stable in obscure Bethlehem Ephrata. This indeed was a magnificent and redeeming event without comparison!

But all Christians must also appreciate and embrace another significance in this season of Advent. This Church season is also a prime opportunity to affirm the promise of Jesus that just as He came once, He would one day in the future return to the earth as Sovereign Ruler.

The day He ascended into heaven, two angels appeared and gave His disciples peace and comfort with this promise: "This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11).

The Apostle Paul revealed that "the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God" (I Thessalonians 4:16).

May all of us in this season of Advent do more than observe a lifeless church tradition. May the Church passionately encourage each other with the awesome promise that Jesus readies Himself even now to return in splendor and majesty - in a much different manner than His first advent.

He will then be revealed as Sovereign of the Universe - King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and Victor over death, hell and the grave.

Let us never lose sight of, nor lessen the value of the basic tenet of His Second Coming, so lovingly and longingly held since the Early Church age. Then, as now, reminding one another of Christ's promise to return is not only a strengthening message of hope, but also an admonition to holy living and righteous expectation of His potential revelation in glory.

Paul taught his followers to say, "Maranatha! O Lord, come!" (I Corinthians 16:22). May these words of Paul grant us courage, hope and purposeful life, looking with passion before the second Advent of the lord Jesus Christ. May our lives, our thoughts, and our words reflect our desire for the soon-coming return of Jesus, our glorious King!

Pope Francis in his Apostolic exhortation, "The Joy of the Gospel", reminds us that there is joy in taking our faith seriously. He says the Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness." It is for these reasons as from December 1 for the next four Sundays, I will lead a reflective meaning of Advent and what to do then during Advent, so as to allow ourselves experience this joy of Christ which is to be constantly born anew.

Mass at the Signature Healthcare center is Tuesday, December 4, at 2:00pm. All are welcome!

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Feast Day

This year the feast day of the Immaculate Conception falls on Saturday, December 8. We will have a vigil Mass here on Friday, December 7, at 6:00pm. This is a **Holy Day of Obligation**



Website: seastn.com



SVdP Youth News

The SVdP Youth Group will meet Monday, December 3, at 5:00pm for a Christmas party. Before the party begins we have a surprise for a few neighbors! Hope to see everyone there!

Giving Tree

Christmas is about giving. Once again we can come together and give to others who will not be getting anything this year. Please take one or more tags off of the Giving Tree located in the vestibule and purchase a gift/gifts for a resident at Centerstone. The SVdP Youth Group has invited the residents to a Christmas party here on Thursday, December 20 at 1:30 pm At this party, the youth group will give them their presents. The residents and the youth group will have an opportunity to play Bingo and win prizes, eat Christmas goodies, and spend time with each other.

The Giving Tree gifts need to be brought in by Sunday, December 16. The gifts need to be wrapped. Please attach the tag from the tree to the gift. Thank you in advance for your support!

Stocking Hung with Care

Just like last year, we will have a Christmas stocking for each child hung in the hall. These stockings will be hung up until Christmas. During this time, parishioners are invited to fill them with goodies. Goodies can include candy, tokens, cards, notes of encouragement, and etc. The stockings are found across the hall from the Mailbox. The list of names of the names on the stockings are found on the bulletin board in the hall. Please check the list and if your child's name is not on that list, please let Valerie know ASAP so she can make a stocking for your child. There are approximately 25 stockings hung. Each child can pick up their stocking contents on Christmas Eve/Day. Their goodies will be placed in bags labeled with their name.



Christmas Flower Donations



Please consider donating toward the Poinsettias that will be used to make our church seasonally perfect this year. If you make a donation, you are welcome to make the donation in memory/honor of a loved one, these names will be in the bulletin. If you put the donation into an envelope, please write the name of the loved one on the outside. There will be envelopes available in the packets of offertory envelopes that are mailed to you.

Parish Christmas Card Mailbox

The Christmas card mailbox is up! You will find it hanging in the hallway. Each slot is labeled with the last names of each registered parishioner. This mailbox is a perfect way to exchange Christmas cards with each other. You can pick up a complete list of registered parishioners on the table in the vestibule. If your name is not on the mailbox please contact Valerie.



Advent Retreat and Reflections

We all need to pray more, and Advent is the perfect time to start praying more!

St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) said:

"Are we ready to receive Him? Before the birth of Jesus, his parents asked for a simple dwelling place, but there was none. If Mary and Joseph were looking for a home for Jesus, would they choose ... your heart, and all it holds? Let us pray that we shall be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas..."

If you want to answer "Yes", then consider joining this online retreat. There are 4 speakers, 16 audio and video presentations, and 16 reflective study guides. To sign up <https://praymoreretreat.org>

Another sure way to fire up your advent is to sign up for Bishop Robert Barron's advent Reflections. You will receive a reflection daily directly to your inbox. To sign up adventreflections.com

December 2, 2018 Gift Bearers & Vocation Cup: Perez Family



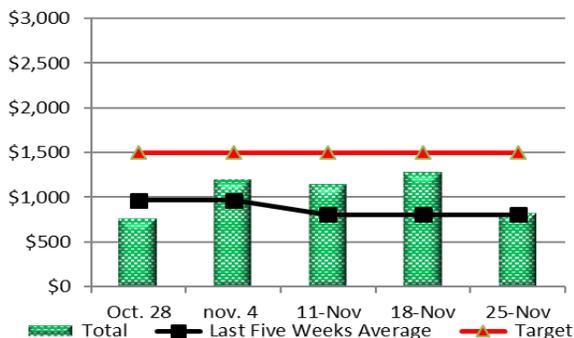
Prayer intentions

Sandra Stephenson, Gene Powell,

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Minister	December 2	December 9
Lector I	Landon Arthon	Sue Resler
Lector II	Seth Rye	Haydee Perez
E.M.H.C	Shirene Chesser	Glenn Hake
E.M.H.C	Daine Lill	Bonnie Lill
E.M.H.C.	Joan Kupiec	
Gift Bearer	Perez Family	Rye Family [Seth]

Our Gifts to the Lord Last Weeks Collection: 833.00



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

December 2 thru December 9

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16 1Thes 3:12—4:2 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday: Is 2:1-5 Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24 Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Lk 3:1-6

Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 2

Mass 11:00am

+ Andres Perez

By Haydee & Henry

Tuesday, December 4

Mass 2:00pm [nursing home]

+Michelle Moody

By Sandy Long

Thursday, December 6

Mass noon

+Gino & Theresa Olivi

By Della

Friday, December 7

Mass 6:00pm

+Gene Parrish

By Wanda

Sunday, December 9

Mass 11:00am

Ashlyn Long

By Sandy

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