

ST. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church



3609 Coastal Hwy,
Crawfordville, FL 32327

Office phone: 850-745-8359

Email: office@seas.ptdiocese.org

Parish office

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9.00am to 3.00pm

Parish Administrator

Fr. Paul Raj HGN
850-375-8359

Parochial Deacon

David Harris
850-585-2233

Parochial Secretary

Mrs. Judy Antol
724-322-7676

Liturgical Minister

Mrs. Amelia Morse
850-320-2561

Music Minister

Mr. Jeff Cook
850-375-8359

Religious Education Director

Mrs. Amy Wiedeman
850-926-6797

Website:

www.catholicchurchwakulla.org

Facebook: Seas Parish

Instagram: Parish Seas

YouTube: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Crawfordville FL

Mass Schedules

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am

Wednesday 7:00 pm

Saturday 5:00 pm (Vigil at SEAS)

Sunday 11:00 am

Confession: Saturday 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Every 1st Saturday of the Month 8:00 am Adoration,
confession and Mass at 9:30 am at SEAS

Lanark Village

Friday 9:00 am

Every 1st Friday of the Month 8:00 am Adoration
followed by confession and Mass at 9:00 am

Sunday 9:00 am



Jesus was made known to them in the
breaking of bread

CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL

The Catholic Sharing Appeal needs
your support submit your pledges and
donations via envelopes or online



Actual Donations as of: 04/05/2023

Goal: \$ 12, 625

Pledged \$ 13,755.15

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that bears o fruit, He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit, he prunes, that it may bear more fruit" (John 15:1) This verse was particularly meaningful during a time in my life when I realized that my branch was liable to be "cast forth....gathered, thrown into the fire and burned"(John 15:6), as God helped me to understand that I was not abiding in Him, and His words were not abiding in me, sparking a great conversion in my life, thanks be to God.

Looking back, I can see how He led me to a sort of spiritual gardening In my soul then. It was terribly painful as parts of my branch had to be trimmed down, or lopped off entirely, as I grafted my branch to Christ's vine and began to fully abide in Him alone. Despite the pain, each cut was followed by so much consolation and affirmation, buoying me along. Like the hug of a parent after their young child receives a shot at the doctor. Or the stake in the ground that the sapling is tied to until it's strong enough to stand. I threw myself at the mercy of His one true Church and felt even more of that warm embrace, carrying me along in my now laser-focused spiritual journey to follow Christ and his commandments. The graces, mercies, and miracles that followed have been true blessings. However, I have not yet been blessed by what St. John of the Cross calls a "dark night of the soul", where I understand this journey will continue without such consolations and affirmations. I pray that if God so chooses my soul to enter such a time, that he gives me the strength to endure and to persevere in prayer and humility.

Years after that great conversion, God has granted me to see how the spiritual work in the garden of my soul continues. Especially now, as certain "stakes", so to speak, in my life are being removed or are changing. After continually giving Him access to every part of my life and asking Him to help me align m will to His, he is now gently going through the rest of the layers of my heart, like peeling an onion, and helping me to make more room for Him and His fruits. And now, instead of the lopper or an ax, I feel He is using His hands, gentle and precise. Like when I use baby oil to remove a band-aid slowly and painlessly from my child's skin. I feel as though he is making even more space in my heart for Him and whatever His will is for me. He is pulling weeds and clearing the field, slowly but surely, in so far as I am willing. The more I let go, the more he gives, in His perfect timing. God is good!

And, while this is much less painful than before, there are times when fear and doubt can still creep in. It's hard to not immediately say, "wait, no not that!", and to stay in my will and preferences. But, every time I am tempted by those feelings, I try to immediately offer it up, whatever it may be, for God to sanctify, redeem and restore, in accordance with His will, for me or for others. And, after reading about, meditating on, and praying for Divine Providence, I realized that I need to accept everything as if coming directly from His pierced hand. In doing so, my trust and surrender is increased, and my faith is strengthened. This is not always easy. In addition to prayer and the Sacraments, ancient sacred and modern spiritual music is so helpful for me. There is a great song by a contemporary Catholic artist (Luke Spehar) called "The Farmer" which I recommend and listen to often. Finally, I am blessed to understand and begin a Marian devotion after my conversion. I can't overstate, or even fully explain, the benefits that I'm receiving in allowing her to be my spiritual Mother, but that's a story for another day. For now, God willing, I will continue to work on the garden of my soul with my Master, granting him full access to every corner. We will see what crops up!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Interested in the Catholic Church? Call 850-745-8359 to be directed to Eileen S about inquiry classes and RCIA

CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Choir would like to expand. Do you love singing to the Lord, then please come and join the choir? Everyone, young or old, with a wish to sing-is welcome to join. Please see Jeff Cook our choir director or call the office on:

Mon./Wed/Fri
850-745-8359.



Catholic Gift Shop



Specializing in gifts for every occasion, including Holidays and all 7 Holy Sacraments.

Contact: Nickey Lepp
Sun. Hrs. 10am -11am or 12pm-1pm or call for appt.
850-926-9750

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 14th

11:00 AM

+ Tony Gagliano +

Requested by Rodger & JoAnn Bova

Tuesday, April 16th

8:30 AM

+ Trenton Lee +

Requested by Bobby O'Donnell

Wednesday, April 17th

7:00 PM

Intentions of Lydia Bryant

Requested by Lew & Amy Wiedeman

Thursday, April 18th

8:30 AM

Intentions of Lew & Amy Wiedeman

Requested by Bobby O'Donnell

Saturday, April 20th

5:00 PM

Intentions of Seminarian Heath Fulmer

Requested by SEAS Ladies Circle

Sunday, April 21st

11:00 AM

Intentions of Seminarian Peter Jutras

Requested by SEAS Ladies Circle

Offertory: \$ 3,323.00

Online: \$ 397.02

Total: \$ 3,720.02

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

Year of prayer

**"A FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER,
STAYS TOGETHER"**



For the Everlasting Joy

Heavenly Father, As we gather in Your presence, we come with hearts overflowing with gratitude and reverence for the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who conquered death and rose again, bringing eternal joy to the world. We humbly bow before You, recognizing Your infinite love and mercy that sustains us each day.

Lord Jesus, we thank You for the joy that radiates from Your resurrection. In the midst of life's trials and tribulations, may Your joy be our strength, guiding us through every storm and leading us into the light of Your presence. May the power of Your resurrection fill our hearts with unwavering hope and unfathomable joy, knowing that You have overcome the world.

Grant us, O Lord, the grace to cling to the joy of Your resurrection amidst the challenges of life. When darkness threatens to overshadow our souls, may Your light pierce through, illuminating our path and filling us with the assurance of Your victorious love. Let Your joy be our constant companion, lifting our spirits and renewing our faith in Your promises. **Amen**

SONGS FOR TODAY

397-Christ The Lord Is Risen
Today

702-Prayer of St. Francis
791-Gift Of Finest Wheat
650-Christ Be Beside Me
593-Lift Up Your Hearts



FAITH FORMATION/CCD

9:30 to 10:30am before Sunday
morning Mass. Faith Formation
Teachers needed. Please see
Amy W
Phone: 850-926-6797

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CEMETERY

Burial spaces & cremation sites
are available upon request.
Contact: Jo Ann Daniels
850-509-7630 Or
Parish Office: 850-745-8359



What's Next

At some point after the Resurrection of Jesus, the disciples might have wondered, “Jesus rising from the dead is great, but what now? Do we have to follow Him, and then is Jesus going to start building the Kingdom on earth with all of His Risen Disciples?” Was Jesus going to set up in Jerusalem, and establish a new world order with the apostles as his cabinet officers? So “*What's next?*”

If someone had asked Jesus “What's next?”, Jesus would have answered them as He said to Mary Magdala that “go and tell my brothers, I am going to my Father and your father, My God and your God”. He was going to ascend above the earth, to return to the Right Hand of God the Father. But, on the other hand, where were the disciples going? They were going to go from Jerusalem to all the corners of the world, As Jesus said in last Sunday's passage from the Holy Gospel, “*As the Father sent me, so I send you.*” Jesus' earthly journey was almost over, but not the apostles' journey.

Jesus, our Lord, through His Death on the Cross, opened the gates of Heaven so that everyone could enter through them. But does that mean that being a Christian is just about saying “Thank you, Jesus, for opening up Heaven”, and then waiting to be taken from this world to Heaven's gate? Not at all, nothing in the Scriptures, and nothing in the Church that Jesus established, says anything like this. From the moment that we become Christians at Baptism, until the time that we die on this earth, our motto should be those words Jesus spoke: “*As the Father sent me, so I send you.*” He says that His followers are to preach the Good News of the Gospel “*to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem*”

Jerusalem was the historical origin of the Church: it was there that Jesus celebrated His Last Supper, there that He died and rose from the dead. It was there that the apostles waited during those ten days after Jesus' Ascension for the Holy Spirit to come down upon them from Heaven, to fill their hearts, minds, and souls. “Jerusalem” represents for us both the historical city where the Church began and the place in the soul where God plants His grace.

When Jesus tells us to preach the Gospel “*to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem*”, He means for us to preach the Gospel to as many people as we can, beginning with those closest to our souls: those within our homes, in our classrooms, in our office and in our neighborhoods. It's to the people there that Jesus is sending us when he says, “*As the Father sent me, so I send you.*” But what are we sent to do?

Of course, there are many ways of “preaching”. We should keep in mind the saying attributed to St. Francis of Assisi: “Preach always, and use words if necessary.” In other words, you can preach without opening your mouth. In fact, our example is usually more persuasive than our words, since most of us are not great speakers. The greatest work we can carry out as Christians is to forgive. As the Father forgave us through Jesus' Death on the Cross, so we forgive others through our example. The Christian offers forgiveness first without demanding an apology beforehand, and not even expecting the apology at the same time as forgiveness is given: just as Christ on the Cross not only did not receive an apology from those around Him, but received instead mockery and scorn.

For us, too, Jesus does not wait to forgive us until we are good and strong enough to appear before Him and offer an apology. He offers to cleanse us of our sinfulness when we are yet babies, unable even to speak or realize that we are conceived in this world as sinners. We in our turn should offer forgiveness from our hearts and through our words and actions before someone who has wronged us even asks for it. This is the message that alone can bring peace to the world and make it possible for Jesus' words to come true: “*Peace be with you.*”