

# Sharings

From Father Rich Homa

**I know that many of you are doing the same thing I'm doing at this time of year:** Taking down, packing up, and putting away all the Christmas decorations until next year.

Unfortunately, along with that activity often comes the idea that we're also done with the true meaning of Christmas until next December. This article (from *Celebration Magazine*) can help us resist that notion.

## Everyday Is Christmas

By Father James Smith

SCROOGE WAS INTRODUCED TO THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PAST. But that was just a literary ploy. There is no Christmas past – Christmas is ongoing; it is happening right now. Of course, we can remember Christmases that we celebrated in past years, but that is just a memory thing. Christmas is about God becoming human, and God has no past. Everything happens to God all at once, in the present.

But *when* Christmas happens is not as important as *what* happens. The infinite God enters our atmosphere, the mysterious God becomes an open secret, the immortal God becomes mortal, the spiritual God becomes flesh.

Now, to appreciate the depth of Christmas, we must realize the new thing that happens at Christmas. God and human are not simply joined together like pieces of wood and plastic. God is not molded into human form as iron is forged into a horseshoe. God does not put on a human body the way we put on pajamas. God really, actually becomes a specific individual human being.

And when God becomes human, it is not only the human that is changed. Something also happens to God. Imagine yourself becoming your dog. The dog's life is certainly changed. The dog can now speak English and mention which brand of dog food he likes. But you have also changed; You now live a dog's life. Really. You lap water out of a bowl, scratch fleas, bark, and chase your tail.

In a similar way, God now laughs and cries, works and plays, loves and has feelings. God is henceforth and forever subject to mood swings, success and failure,

sickness and death. If this sounds extreme, very unlikely and radically un-divine, then consider the alternative. Either God becomes totally human or Jesus is no more than God in a Brooks Brother's suit. And what would be the point of that?

But what would be the point of God becoming human? Why would God want to disturb His heavenly serenity with early squabbles? Why would God want to limit His infinite freedom with finite choices? Why would God want to muddle His divine wisdom with human ignorance? Why would God want to mingle His divine comedy with all kinds of human tragedies? Why would God want to risk His assured future bliss with human uncertain fate? No reason. Except that God loves humans.

And humans do all kinds of things for the ones we love. We hug and kiss and pinch and dance and probe and maul. Love is messy, but we insist on being as physically close as humanly possible to those we love. But there's more. We also want to think and feel as they do, yearn for and work for what they want, reject and deny anything offensive to them. We want them to be like us and us to be like them. We want to be one with them.

God has those same strange tendencies. It is no fun being a know-it-all if nobody understands you. It is embarrassing to live in perfect bliss while your creatures exist in misery. What is the point in being everywhere all at once if your people are stuck in the airport? And how can you experience the joy of love if there is no one to love?

In the end, it was an easy choice for God to decide to become human. Now he has the best of both worlds. Whatever Jesus does is what God does. Everything that Jesus says is from God's mouth to our ears. Every pain that Jesus endures bruises the heart of God. If not, then God should have left us alone.

But there is more. God made every single thing from the same primary matter. Different things are simply the same basic thing in different forms. Everything is essentially connected at the core of creation. The birth of a baby and the birth of a star both burst from the same creative artistry of God. The desire of a saint and the instinct of an animal meet in the love of God. Past, present and future converge in the eternity of God.

Yes, Jesus was born in a certain place at a specific time – he was a unique combination of matter and spirit. But since matter is interchangeable, His body is physically connected with every particle of matter in the cosmos. And since nothing leaves the universe, we breathe the same air He breathed, experience the same things He experienced, live the same life He lived. The same life He is still living.

The incarnation of God, the enfleshment of God, the materialization of God, the humanization of God is ongoing. Every day is Christmas.

**May God Bless you,**

*Jr. Rich Home*

# Living The Word

Reflections for  
Baptism of  
the Lord  
Jan. 13, 2013

Good Father,  
You sent the Holy  
Spirit upon Your  
people to serve the  
world by working  
to bring about the  
victory of justice.  
Give us the strength  
to persevere in this  
work. Let us do our  
work in gentleness,  
kindness and peace.  
Amen.

## NEXT SUNDAY'S FOCUS: BAPTIZED FOR MISSION

*We end this Christmas season, appropriately with a song. It is a song attributed to an anonymous figure called the Servant from the book of the prophet Isaiah. In next week's first reading, and alluded to in the Gospel, this song speaks of Jesus' special mission: pleasing the Father and establishing justice on the earth.*

### FIRST READING

*Behold my servant with whom I am well pleased (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).*

The people had suffered terribly during the war that led to the fall of Jerusalem and during their exile from their homeland. They wondered whether God would be angry at them forever. Second Isaiah (an anonymous prophet whose writings were attached to those of the Prophet Isaiah) spoke of the con-

solation that the LORD was about to offer. God would restore the good fortune of the people. God would bring the people of Israel back to their homeland. There would be no barrier that would prevent the people from going home. This good news was to be proclaimed on the mountaintops.

### SECOND READING

*Jesus Christ saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit (Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7).*

The "bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit" that we have received was not due to anything that we had done to deserve it. It was the gift of a merciful and gracious God. Baptism is an expression of our faith. Faith is a gift from God. We cannot do anything to earn that gift. Yet, once we have received that gift from God, we must respond to it by being

baptized and living as children of God. This reading reminds us that receiving the Sacrament of Baptism is not enough. It is not a magical act that fulfills our responsibility to live as God's children. We must also live what Baptism signifies. We must reject those things which are opposed to the truth ("our godless ways") and live lives filled with virtue.

### GOSPEL

*When Jesus had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).*

When John the Baptist began His ministry of preaching conversion, many wondered whether he might be the Messiah of God.

John himself gave witness that he was not the Messiah, that another would come along who was much greater than he. He only baptized with water, but the Messiah would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. (The role of the Holy Spirit is central in the writings of Luke.) While John's Baptism only gave us the possibility of turning from our sins, Jesus' Baptism made us into children of God. It invites us into the life of the Trinity (which is why we hear the voice of the Father and see the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove).

### REFLECTION

For many people, the end of the Christmas season carries a touch of sadness. Joy gives

way to January. The liturgy, however, turns our attention to the work that lies at the heart of the mystery of the Incarnation. This feast of the Lord's baptism is the final feast of the Christmas season, serving as a bridge from Christmastime to Ordinary Time. It presents Jesus as God's "beloved Son." His baptism placed Jesus on the road of His mission: to reveal the Father and to begin to bring about the kingdom of God in the world. The First Reading helps us understand Jesus' mission in light of an unknown Old Testament figure called the Servant. The book of the prophet Isaiah contains four poems called the Servant Songs: 42:1-7; 49:1-7; 50:4-11; 52:13—53:12. These songs speak of a servant on whom God has poured God's spirit to be God's agent in the world and bring justice to the nations. The Christian community hears these songs in light of Jesus. St. Paul likewise quoted an early hymn (Philippians 2:5-11), singing of Jesus as one who emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, becoming obedient even unto death on a cross. Our baptism brought us into the Body of Christ, setting us on the path of continuing Jesus' mission. When the Holy Spirit came upon us, we became God's beloved children in Christ and the mission of Christ, which is the mission of the Church, became our mission.

## Readings for the Week

### January 7th-January 12th:

Mon.: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tues.: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44

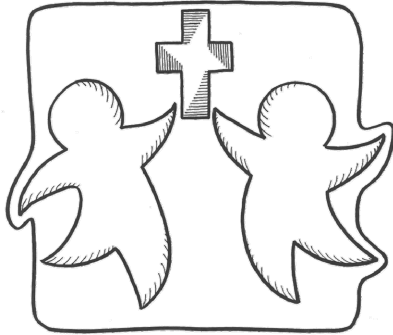
Wed.: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

Thurs.: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Lk 4:14-22a

Fri.: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

Sat.: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

## ST. ELIZABETH SETON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**A REMINDER THAT  
FAITH SESSIONS  
WILL RESUME  
THIS WEEK:  
MONDAY, JAN. 7TH  
TUESDAY, JAN. 8TH**

### IMPORTANT RE DATES:

**First Eucharist  
Presentation of Candidates  
Saturday, Jan. 12th  
9am in the Church**

**Eighth Grade  
Confirmation Retreat  
Sunday, Jan. 13th**

Candidates should arrive by 12:45pm. Retreat will start at 1pm in the Parish Life Center and will end at approximately 4pm in the Church. Candidates must attend the entire retreat to fulfill the Confirmation Responsibility.

**Fourth Grade  
Family Reconciliation  
Service  
Monday, Jan. 14th  
7pm in Church**

### *WELCOME*

Deacon George and Patricia Brooks

### *PLEASE PRAY FOR*

We remember the sick, infirm, and those recommended to our prayers, that they may experience the healing power of Christ:

**Dakota Todd  
Arlene Gelfo  
Laura Muller  
Patrick McKernan  
Irena Juska  
Delfina Miramontes  
Nancy Heebner  
John Meyer  
Danute Todter**

"Heavenly Father, accept the prayers which we offer for them."

### *MASS INTENTIONS*

Sat., Jan. 5th (5pm) **Josephine Tarantino; Alice McDonald;  
Frank Smith III, June Tunelius**

Sunday, Jan. 6th

(7:15am) **Parishioners; Harry Rutkiewicz**

(8:30am) **Evelyn Mniszewski; Mildred West; Erma Flamini**

(10am) **James Paul; Nancy Bric; Edwin Giermak;**

**Sara Vargas; Ted Sopyrch; Clarence and Lottie Krzystek**

(11:30am) **Walter Kienzle; Art Williams**

Mon., Jan. 7th (9am) **Patrick Coleman; Leon and Alicia Blair;**

**Alma and Arny Ondoy**

Tues., Jan. 8th (9am) **Joan Sipowicz; Conney Sawyer;**

**Living and Deceased Members of Seniors and Seton**

Wed., Jan. 9th (9am) **Dolores Sadlis; Mary Grubbs;**

**Eric and Arel Ondoy**

Thurs., Jan. 10th (9am) **Ed Smith; Joann Dion;**

**Diane Krauss; Edmondo and Ida DeAmicis**

Fri., Jan. 11th (9am) **June Tunelius**

### *STEWARDSHIP*

Collection for December 23, 2012: **\$21,300.00**  
CHRISTMAS COLLECTION TO-DATE: **\$130,191.26**  
Thank you for your generosity.

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

*“The Magi opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” MT 2:11*

*A reflection by  
Jay Cormier  
Waiting in Joyful Hope*

**T**HE GIFT-GIVING HAS MERCIFULLY COME TO AN END.

For many of us, the most demanding part of Christmas shopping is deciding on the perfect gift, what best expresses our love and what will bring joy to those we love. Once we know the gift, the trek to the mall is considerably easier.

So what were the magi thinking? Did they just wrap up what they happened to have in their baggage (the first recorded instance of “re-gifting”)? Were their gifts given with as much thought as a bottle of wine or a holiday fruitcake?

Or do the three gifts express something special about this Child that these men of learning perceived as a future king?

First, the gift of *gold*. Well, you can never go wrong with cash, right? But, in antiquity, gold was more than currency. The most valuable metal on earth, it was a symbol of divinity—the ultimate gift, the perfect offering to royalty. *This Child, who will be betrayed for silver, comes to transform our perspective of wealth to treasure again the things of God—compassion, forgiveness, and peace are the coin of the realm of the newborn King.*



*Frankincense* comes from a small tree found only in Arabia and northern Africa. The hardened resin of the plant was used as an all-purpose medicine: it was applied to stop bleeding and heal wounds; it was used as an antidote for poisons and a salve for bruises and ulcerations. *This Child comes to restore and heal not just the physical ailments of those he will meet in his gospel journey, but to heal humankind of our fears and doubts, to*

*bridge the chasms that separate us from one another and from God.*

*Myrrh* was an expensive extract from the resin of the myrrh tree. It too was used as a medicine and, more significantly, in embalming the dead. Only the very wealthy and royalty were embalmed; myrrh, therefore, was a gift reserved for kings. *This Child comes to re-create us in the life of God: his death will be the defeat of death, his cross will be his—and our—glory.*

The three gifts of the magi are a gospel unto themselves. They honor the Child who is himself a gift from the God whose goodness knows neither limit nor condition. May we carry these gifts with us in the year ahead as we follow Christ the Morning Star on his journey to Jerusalem and beyond.

- What was the most satisfying and rewarding gift you *gave* this Christmas?

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O Christ,  
the very manifestation of God’s love and radiance of the Father’s light,  
illuminate the path we walk on our journey to God.  
May we come to your Father’s dwelling place  
bearing the most precious of gifts we can possess:  
hearts transformed in your love, lives given over to your justice and reconciliation,  
spirits re-created in your peace.

**National Vocation Awareness Week  
January 13-19, 2013**

National Vocation Awareness Week is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promote vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life through prayer and education. We are called to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations. For more information go to [www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations](http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations).

**KNOW THE MASS, ONE WORD AT A TIME**

Photo © John Zich



*Serve*

Serving means making ourselves available to meet the needs of others. Jesus served us in the most remarkable way. He identified his mission and his service when he said "the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,

and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). He serves us by giving up his life for us and for our redemption and healing. And we meet him serving us every time we celebrate the Mass—"This is my body, which will be given up for you."

In the Mass and outside the Mass, we take the service of Jesus to our hearts. We know that we too must make ourselves available to meet the needs of others. We too must serve.

**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO + STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLAN  
YEAR OF SUNDAY MASS / YEAR OF FAITH**

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**Be Still... A Call To Centering Prayer  
Wednesday, January 9th at 7pm**

You are invited to join in an hour of quiet time and learn about Centering Prayer. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month in the Cornerstone building located on the corner of 167th St. and 94th Ave. Questions? Please call Marge at 708-460-5357.



*The Magi's own birth as followers of Jesus occurred as they offered homage to the Child and went forth to proclaim Him to the world.*

How can we proclaim Jesus to the world? Have you ever thought about a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? Men 22 to 40 years old are invited to participate in the INSEARCH Priesthood Discernment Program. If you feel called to the priesthood, INSEARCH will help you gain clarity around the call you feel. For information contact Fr. Brian Welter at [bwelter@archchicago.org](mailto:bwelter@archchicago.org) or call 312-534-8298 or visit [www.ChicagoPriest.com](http://www.ChicagoPriest.com). For information on religious life contact Sr. Elyse Ramirez, OP at [eramirez@archchicago.org](mailto:eramirez@archchicago.org), or call 312-534-5240, and for the Permanent Diaconate Program, contact Dcn. Bob Puhala at [bpuhala@usml.edu](mailto:bpuhala@usml.edu) or 847-837-4562.

**Vocation Cross Participants Needed**

Participants are presented the Vocation Cross at the 9am Mass on Wednesday and pray for Vocations for the week. The cross is returned the following Wednesday for the 9am Mass. Sign up in the parish office.

*Please join in prayer...*

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

HOLY SPIRIT, eternal Spring of joy and peace, it is You who open the heart and the mind to the Divine Call; it is You who make effective every impetus towards good, towards truth, towards charity. Your "inexpressible groans" rise up to the Father from the heart of the Church, which suffers and struggles for the Gospel. Open the hearts and minds of young people so that a new flowering of holy vocations may show forth the fidelity of your love, and all may know Christ, the true light of the world to offer to every human being the sure hope of eternal life.  
**AMEN.**

## Burial Cloth Workshops in January

Workshops to create burial cloths for the deceased of Haiti will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 8th from 6:30-9pm and Thursday, Jan 17th from 10am-12:30pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 171st and 70th Ave. in Tinley Park. Material is badly needed for girls dresses and diapers. Please ask friends and family to save their religious Christmas cards for use on the palls. Your donations can be dropped off in the Seton parish office.

## Catholic High School Placement Tests

The Catholic High School Placement Test will be given at most Catholic high schools on Saturday, Jan. 12th at 8am. Students do not need to register for the test. Simply go to the Catholic High School where the student wishes to enroll. The placement test fee is \$25 payable either by cash or check on the day of testing. To find a high school where a student would like to take the test, please visit <http://schools.archchicago.org>.

## St. Stephen Church and CJB School Comedy Night FUNdraiser

Saturday, Jan. 26th at the Orland Chateau in Orland Park. Doors open at 6pm. Bill Brady's Comedy Capers featuring Bob Jay (Man of 999 Voices) and Brian Hicks (National Comedian). Tickets: \$35 dinner/show. For ticket information contact [2013comedynight@gmail.com](mailto:2013comedynight@gmail.com) or call 708-342-2400 or find the event of Facebook.

## Resolve To Improve Your Marriage

Don't forget to add time for your marriage in your New Year's Resolutions. Worldwide Marriage Encounter can energize your sacrament. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends for the area are February 15-17, 2013 in Libertyville, April 12-14, 2013 in Burr Ridge or June 7-9, 2013 in Libertyville. Early registration is highly recommended. For reservations/information, call Jim and Kris at 630-577-0778 or contact at [www.wmmejoliet.org](http://www.wmmejoliet.org).

*The gift that gives all year!*



*2013 Golden Opportunities Books Are Here!*

*Only \$20 in the parish office.*

**Golden Opportunities Coupon books** offer many favorite local restaurants offering discounts of 50% off or 2-for-1. In addition, great savings at movies, grocery stores, sporting events, and more! Many coupons are valid once a month. The best deal in town!

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM CJB'S EverydayFUNdraising COMMITTEE

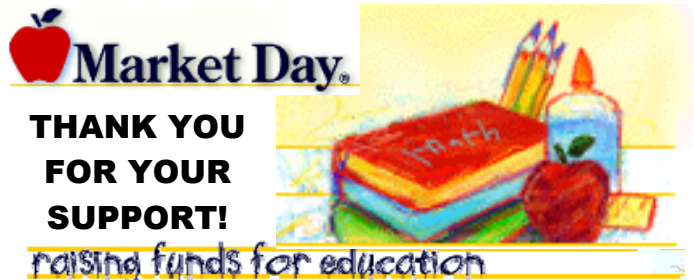
**At this time of year, we'd like to thank the St. Elizabeth Seton parishioners for participating in the many programs the CJB EDF Committee is involved in.**

So THANK YOU for helping to make the EDF program at CJB so successful. The EDF committee takes part in many loyalty shopping, label and loyalty programs that directly benefit our parish school. There's something for everyone, including:

Campbell's Labels for Education, eLabels for Education, Box Tops for Education, Box Tops for Education Marketplace, My Coke Rewards, eScrip/eDining, Target Take Charge of Education, Lands' End School Uniforms, Tyson Project A+ 1-2-3, Meijer Community Rewards, Goodshop, Goodsearch, Gordon Food Service, Kemps Nickels for Schools, Swiss Valley Cash for Caps, Terracycle Chip and Cellphone Brigades

If you have questions about any of these programs, please feel free to contact EDF parish liaison Cindy Becker at 708-478-3527 or Kim Radek, EDF Chairperson, at 708-429-4727. You can also visit the EDF page in the "About" section of CJB's website at [www.cjbschool.org](http://www.cjbschool.org) to find out more information about how each program works and benefits CJB.

**Thank you for your support!**



**Thank you to everyone who supported our December sale. We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Receive A FREE Eat Well Guide with any purchase this month. Help us reach our goal of \$10,000. Every purchase helps us reach our goal! AND every purchase is 100% guaranteed. Sign-up at [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com) to receive monthly newsletters, exclusive offers, and money saving coupons.

Order forms are due to church by Sunday, January 13th or order online [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com) school #16266 by 11pm on Saturday, Jan. 19th. Pickup is Wednesday, Jan. 23rd from 5:30-6:30pm in the St. Elizabeth Seton Church Hall. Pay by credit card online or pay with cash or check at the sale. We look forward to seeing you!

Call Jen Krueger (708) 873-1387 or Linda Nemecek (708) 429-1583 if you have any questions.

Register Now for Seton Scripture Study!  
**THE BOOK OF EXODUS**



**Thursdays: January 24th until March 21st of 2013**

**Morning Session: 9:45-11:00 a.m.**

**Evening Session: 7:30-9:00 p.m.**

The study of the Book of Exodus will allow us to enter into the world of the Old Testament and the ancient Israelites. It is the story of Pharaoh's oppression of the Hebrews, the call of Moses, the Passover, the deliverance through the Red Sea, the journey through the wilderness, the Covenant on Mount Sinai and much more. Exodus tells us how God's miraculous intervention delivers the Hebrews from slavery, makes them a "people of his own" and leads them to the Promised Land.

**PLEASE REGISTER NOW!**

**Registration Deadline: Monday, Jan. 7, 2013. Materials ready for pickup on Friday, Jan. 18, 2013.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

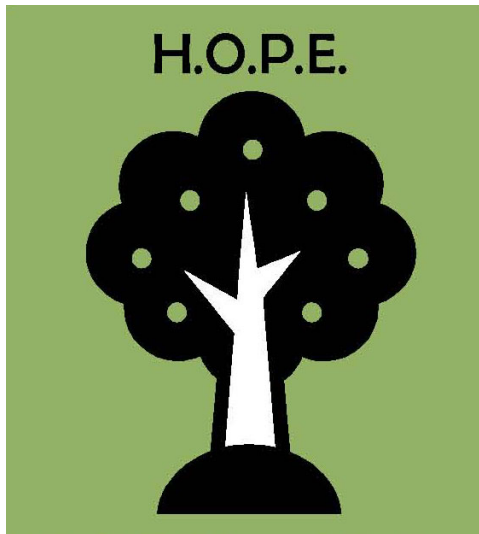
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

Morning Session (9:45-11am) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Session (7:30-9pm) \_\_\_\_\_

Fee: \$20 (Please make check payable to ST. ELIZABETH SETON CHURCH).

For information, contact Mary Vlaming, 708-460-6235 or Father Gubbins, 708-460-9485.



**Helping Outreach for People  
Seeking Employment**

**Join the HOPE Ministry  
in kicking off our  
8<sup>th</sup> year of service  
with a Special Mass!**

**Tuesday, January 15th  
Rosary at 6:30pm  
Mass at 7pm**

The **H.O.P.E.** (Helpful Outreach for People seeking Employment) **Employment Support Ministry** meets at St. Elizabeth Seton Church on the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Our sessions are open to all faiths and denominations. We meet to offer support, fellowship, guidance and information for the employed, unemployed, or those in Career Transition. **HOPE** Ministry

leaders review and critique resumes; offer job search and interview tips; and pass along job leads. Each month we also provide a guest speaker to support those in transition.

To help kick off the 8<sup>th</sup> year of service to the community, our January Meeting has been rescheduled to the evening of **Tuesday, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>**. The meeting will start at **approximately 6:30pm in the Church as we will say the rosary. The rosary will be followed with Mass at 7pm.** We invite people of all faiths to join us for this Mass. The Mass is intended to be a shared prayer for support and inspiration in the job search; in gratitude for blessings received; and for the hope of blessings forthcoming.

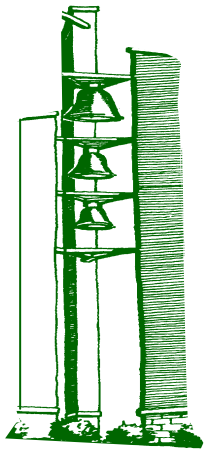
Whether you are employed or unemployed, all are most welcome to attend, including spouses and children, as they are part of everyone's support group. We especially encourage Alumni of the **HOPE** program to attend and share their experiences. A Networking Reception will immediately follow this uplifting, energizing event. Please RSVP to Tom McMahon via email – [tom.mcmahon@mcmahonjobs.com](mailto:tom.mcmahon@mcmahonjobs.com) so that we can plan accordingly for the reception. Please put **HOPE Mass** in the subject of your email.

LinkedIn Members are encouraged to join the **H.O.P.E. Employment Support Ministry Group** to share job leads, network, etc. The group can be accessed through [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com).

Employers: Please forward your job leads to [Tom.McMahon@McMahonJobs.com](mailto:Tom.McMahon@McMahonJobs.com) for distribution to our members.

**Start the New Year off right with some HOPE and a Mass on  
Tuesday, January 15th @ 7:00pm...  
because everyone could use a little HOPE!**

*In addition to our HOPE Meetings at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, we also host meetings the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month, 7:00pm, at St. Patrick's Church in Lemont (St. Patrick's Parish Ministry Center Parish Hall - Cass Street Building, 205 Cass Street, Lemont, IL 60439); and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month, 7:00pm, at Our Lady of the Woods Church in Orland Park (10731 W. 131<sup>st</sup> St.).*



## Seniors of Seton

### UPCOMING EVENT

**JAN. 24TH**

#### **GAELIC PARK SNOWBALL**

There will be a choice of stuffed pork tenderloin or roasted chicken and there will be a cash bar.

Call Phyllis at 478-0471 for reservations. Last day for payment of \$25.00 per person is at the January 8, 2013 meeting.

#### **FEB. 18TH — ST. MARTHA'S**

Bus Trip to St. Martha's Church, Morton Grove, Illinois. Departing St. Elizabeth's parking lot at 10:00AM. Lunch at White Eagle: Family-style meal to include soup, salad, vegetables, pasta, pirogue, chicken, beef, Polish sausage, sauerkraut, pastries, coffee. Visit St. Martha's Church for a presentation on the relics and Mass with Fr. O'Neal. Return about 4:00PM. Reservations will be taken at the January meeting. Cost is \$60 per person.

### **Families Anonymous**

If your life has gone astray due to living with someone who has a substance abuse problem, consider attending Families Anonymous on Mondays from 7-8:30pm at Palos Hospital, 123rd and 80th Ave., Palos Heights (Ambulatory Care Center, Rm. 1, enter Emergency Room to elevator to the Lower Level). For information call Warren, 708-429-2507 or Therese at 708-269-9853.

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

If you have a problem with alcohol and feel a sincere desire to stop drinking, you are welcome to attend a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) in the downstairs St. Elizabeth Seton Church Hall on Thursdays from 7:30-8:45pm. Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other so that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover. The only requirement is a sincere desire to stop drinking.

### **Join the Seton Rosary Prayer Group**

The Rosary Prayer Group gathers in the church **after the 9am Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays** by our statue, **MARY, SEAT OF WISDOM**, to offer intentions with the intercession of Mary, and pray the decades of the rosary while contemplating the scenes of our Lord's life, death and resurrection.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK



### BLESSED WILLIAM CARTER

D. 1584

BORN IN LONDON, WILLIAM CARTER ENTERED THE PRINTING BUSINESS AT AN EARLY AGE. For many years he served as apprentice to well-known Catholic printers, one of whom served a prison sentence for persisting in the Catholic faith. William himself served time in prison following his arrest for "printing lewd [i.e., Catholic] pamphlets" as well as possessing books upholding Catholicism.

But even more, he offended public officials by publishing works that aimed to keep Catholics firm in their faith. Officials who searched his house found various vestments and suspect books, and even managed to extract information from William's distraught wife. Over the next 18 months William remained in prison, suffering torture and learning of his wife's death.

He was eventually charged with printing and publishing the *Treatise of Schisme*, which allegedly incited violence by Catholics and which was said to have been written by a traitor and addressed to traitors. While William calmly placed his trust in God, the jury met for only 15 minutes before reaching a verdict of "guilty." William, who made his final confession to a priest who was being tried alongside him, was hanged, drawn and quartered the following day: January 11, 1584.

He was beatified in 1987.

#### **COMMENT:**

It didn't pay to be Catholic in the realm of Elizabeth the First. In an age when religious diversity did not yet seem possible, it was high treason, and practicing the faith was dangerous. William gave his life for his efforts to encourage his brothers and sisters to keep up the struggle. These days, our brothers and sisters also need encouragement—not because their lives are at risk, but because many other factors besiege their faith. They look to us.

**Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Catholic School  
is a Nationally Recognized  
Blue Ribbon School of Excellence**



**OPEN HOUSE**  
Sunday, January 27, 2013  
1p-3p

**1:15p – Pre-K Programs Presentation**  
**1:45p – Kindergarten Presentation**



**Who is eligible to attend Cardinal Bernardin School ... and where is it located?**

Located at 9250 W. 167<sup>th</sup> Street in Orland Hills (adjacent to St. Elizabeth Seton Parish), CBJ is a regional Catholic school welcoming children (3Pre-K through Grade 8) baptized as Catholics. We also welcome children from other Christian households whose parents are seeking a Christian educational environment for their children. As the parish school for St. Francis of Assisi, St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr, St. Julie Billiart, and St. Elizabeth Seton, children qualify at an “in-parish” rate. Practicing Catholics of other parishes and non-Catholics are eligible at an “out-of-parish” rate.

**Where and when may I get registration materials?**

Registration packets will be available at our January 27 Open House. After January 27, please see Mrs. Devlin in the school office Monday through Friday from 7am until 3pm.

**How do I register?**

To register, mail or drop off completed paperwork, along with *original* birth and baptismal certificates (*originals will be returned*), and the *one-time* family enrollment fee of \$250. For Grades 1-8, please provide a copy of the 2012 first semester report card as well as standardized testing.

**What is the tuition ... are there additional fees?**

Tuition for 2013-14 will be finalized after budget meetings in March. In-parish tuition for 2012-13 for Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade is \$4,340. There are NO mandatory fundraisers and NO additional book fees. Half-day, four-day 4-year-old Pre-K tuition is \$2,228. Half-day, three-day 3-year-old Pre-K is \$1,750.

**What are school hours?**

The school day (full day classes) begins at 7:40am and dismisses at 2pm. (AM Pre-K runs from 7:40am until 10:40am. PM Pre-K runs from 11am until 2pm. 3Pre-K half-day is Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday. 4Pre-K half-day is Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday. **And, we are proud to introduce FULL DAY 4Pre-K Monday-Friday beginning August 2013.**

**Is there a “Before and After School” Program?**

Yes! The Extended Day Program opens at 6:30am and closes when the school day begins; it re-opens at 2:00pm and closes for the night at 6:00pm. The hourly-rate (\$4/hr for one child; \$6/hr for two children) is invoiced monthly.

**When may I register?**

Registration for new families takes place during the month of February and we will continue to accept registrations until all spaces are filled.

Additional questions may be directed to the Director of Enrollment, Cynthia Devlin,  
at 708-403-6525 ext. 127 or via email at [cdevlin@cardinaljbschool.com](mailto:cdevlin@cardinaljbschool.com)

1/12 & 1/13	5:00PM	7:15AM	8:30AM	10:00AM	11:30AM
<b>GREETERS</b> Attention All Ministers! Ministers schedules available at: <a href="http://www.steseton.com">www.steseton.com</a> Then visit: Music and Liturgy	R. Gaskey J. Gaskey C. Labus S. Labus M. Pahl K. Pahl G. Roy C. Roy G. Roy K. Roy M. Roy	E. Briette R. Dickover J. Esposito C. Esposito M. Foley B. Hill B. Majer D. Meyers J. Niemiec	L. Allen D. Biallas J. Biallas J. Biallas S. Biallas M. Crance R. Cubalchini M. Cubalchini S. Giovanazzi C. Bannon	D. Ahern W. Bric K. Bric J. Driscoll J. Grant J. Keller D. Keller B. Keller M. Pfeiffer L. Pfeiffer R. Warja/S. Warja J. Warja/N. Warja	M. Hattar S. Ivey R. Ivey S. Klean R. Mitchel B. Mitchel S. Potts
<b>LECTORS</b>	J. Cronin K. McSwain	K. Oliver	R. Hicks C. Bannon	M. Eisenberg R. Velcich	G. Rekar A. McKanna
<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>	S. Walsh T. Jaeger J. Laxamana	A. Hoelzel B. Kaslewicz C. Binder	B. Ryan M. Kedzierski A. Cachey	H. Galvin M. Murphy D. Berzins	S. Nemec M. Nemec J. Ucha
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	B. Raymond B. Cristofaro D. Cristofaro J. Murphy S. Abbatemarco M. Abbatemarco M. O'Connor T. Hanlon A. Sharp J. Harris B. DeJonge J. Connelly	D. Nykiel C. Nolan D. Houha J. Dickover J. Janiak A. Weishaar	R. Hicks C. Kirk L. Austin C. Bannon C. Hayward J. Austin W. Bekta M. Bekta E. Pawlak S. Weishaar T. Krull P. Skowronek	J. Krusenoski J. Eisenberg R. Laud K. Engraffia M. Gabrione T. Federico J. Federico R. Grill K. O'Sullivan S. Rosinski J. Mysker G. Chehy B. Hansen	N. LaCoco S. Villegas M. Morajda J. Mitchel B. McMahan L. Koning R. Dollah M. Schmidt T. Wolski M. Miller

### St. Elizabeth Seton Church

9300 W. 167th Street Orland Hills, IL 60487

Parish Office: 708-403-0101

WEBSITE: WWW.STESETON.COM

Religious Education: 708-403-0137

PARISH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:30AM-4:30PM

SATURDAY-SUNDAY: 8AM-1PM

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin Catholic School 708-403-6525

Principal, Mary Iannucilli Administrative Assistant, Cindy Labriola Devlin

**Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Richard Homa, Pastor  
 Rev. Stanislaw Kuca, Associate Pastor  
 Margie Guadagno, Pastoral Associate  
 Donna Stolinski, Business Manager  
 Claudia Nolan, Director of Liturgy  
 Linda McKeague, Director of Music  
 Elaine Pawlak, Religious Education Coordinator

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. William T. O'Mara

Resident Priest: Rev. William Gubbins

Deacon: Frank (Betty) Gildea

Deacon: Joseph (Nancy) Bishop

**Liturgy and Music Staff**

Claudia Nolan, Director of Liturgy  
 Linda McKeague, Director of Music

**Parish Office Staff**

Donna Stolinski, Business Manager  
 Darlene Raila, Parish Publications  
 Joan Nemec, Morning Receptionist  
 Karen Mirecki, Afternoon Receptionist

**Religious Education Staff**

Elaine Pawlak, Catechetics  
 Diana Barracca, Administration

**Branches Youth Program**

Bruce Hall, Coordinator  
 Rick Vlaming, Coordinator  
 Rick Wojcik, Coordinator

**Athletics**

Bob Myjak, Director

**Maintenance Staff**

Raymond Yanowsky, Director of Maintenance  
 Carlos Juarez, CJB Maintenance Coordinator  
 Frank Siwec, Staff Marie Makuch, Staff  
 Joseph Shake, Staff Michael Makuch, Staff  
 Mark Siwec, Staff

**REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE**

Monday-Friday 9am  
 Saturday 5pm  
 Sunday 7:15, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30am

## ST. ELIZABETH SETON PARISH INFORMATION

- **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is offered on Saturday, between 4:15-4:45pm.
- **Sacrament of Baptism** is celebrated twice monthly at 1pm. Reserve your time by calling the Pastoral Center early. We are limited to six children per Sunday.
- **Baptismal** Couples preparing for the birth of their child should contact the Pastoral Center to register for a one night seminar, focusing on a parent's role in his/her child's faith development. This session is mandatory prior to the Baptism.
- **Anointing of the Sick** is available in the Church every Monday after the 9am Mass. For those who are ill or facing hospitalization, it is appropriate to receive the sacrament once every six months. Please call the Pastoral Center for more information.
- **Ministry of Care** is available to give Communion to the housebound, to visit and pray for hospitalized and/or to arrange for the Anointing of the Sick. Please call the Pastoral Center for assistance.
- **In the Hospital?** Because of HIPAA Privacy regulations hospitals can no longer contact the parish regarding your hospitalization. It is the responsibility of you or a family member to notify our parish. We desire to offer whatever spiritual support we can. Please call the Pastoral Center.
- **Sacrament of Marriage** Couples planning to marry are encouraged to make arrangements at least six months in advance.
- **Wedding Workshops** are offered throughout the year. They provide engaged couples with guidelines and suggestions for the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage. The workshop covers topics ranging from readings and music to flowers and video taping.
- **Adult Choir** sings at all 10am Sunday Masses, as well as at a number of special liturgies.
- **Moving?** Please call the office at 708-403-0101.

### HELP IS A PHONE CALL AWAY:

**DOMESTIC ABUSE 24-HOUR HOTLINE: 708-429-SAFE**

**CRISIS PREGNANCY HOTLINE: 888-4-HOPE-4-1**

**HURTING FROM AN ABORTION?: 888-456-HOPE**