

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—February 22, 2009



St. Elizabeth

2035 Fifteenth Street West
Hastings, MN 55033

Ann Seton

www.seasparish.org

Parish Office:
651-437-4254

Fr. Jim Perkl, Pastor ~ Fr. Abraham George, Associate Pastor

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends:

Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday:

7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am, 6:00 pm

Daily Mass

Monday-Friday: 7:00 am

Thursday: 5:15 pm

Reconciliation

Weekdays at 6:45 am

Every Saturday 3:45-4:15 pm

*Immediately following 4:30 pm Mass on
the first Saturday of each month.*

Anointing

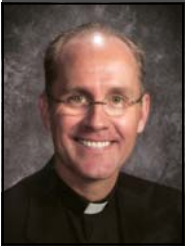
*Immediately after the 5:15 pm Mass on
the first Thursday of the month, or by
appointment.*

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

All volunteers of SEAS...let us serve YOU! Join us for a free spaghetti supper following the 4:30pm Mass on Saturday, March 28 in Seton Hall. There will be door prizes and entertainment...don't miss out on this special event thanking you for your volunteer service at SEAS!

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is a Catholic
Family Where God is Present and Active
Through the Gift of the
Seven Sacraments.*





Pope Benedict XVI is Sending a Message to Hastings!

Dear Friends,

On February 4th, I received a message from Pope Benedict XVI. The good news is that his message was sent not just for me but also to the whole church around the world. The title of his Message for Lent 2009, *“Fasting Is a Great Help to Avoid sin and All That Leads to it.”* Just to give you a taste of his three-page letter, I will highlight just the first sentence of each paragraph he is writing to us.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

At the beginning of Lent, which constitutes an itinerary of more intense spiritual training, the Liturgy sets before us again three penitential practices that are very dear to the biblical and Christian tradition—prayer, almsgiving, fasting—to prepare us to better celebrate Easter and thus experience God’s power that, as we shall hear in the Paschal Vigil, ‘dispels all evil, washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy, casts out hatred, brings us peace and humbles earthly pride.’

We might wonder what value and meaning there is for us Christians in depriving ourselves of something that in itself is good and useful for our bodily sustenance. In the New Testament, Jesus brings to light the profound motive for fasting. . . True fasting, as the divine Master repeats elsewhere, is rather to do the will of the Heavenly Father, who ‘sees in secret, and will reward you’ (Matt. 6:18). The practice of fasting is very present in the first Christian community (cf. Acts 13:3; 14:22; 27:21; 2 Cor. 6:5) In our own day, fasting seems to have lost something of its spiritual meaning, and has taken on, in a culture characterized by the search for material well-being, a therapeutic value for the care of one’s body. The faithful practice of fasting contributes, moreover, to conferring unity to the whole person, body and soul, helping to avoid sin and grow in intimacy with the Lord. Through fasting and praying, we allow Him to come and satisfy the deepest hunger that we experience in the depths of our being: the hunger and thirst for God. Voluntary fasting enables us to grow in the spirit of the Good Samaritan, who bends low and goes to the help of his suffering brother (cf. Encyclical God is Love, 15). From what I have said thus far, it seems abundantly clear that fasting represents an important ascetical practice, a spiritual arm to do battle against every possible disordered attachment to ourselves. Dear brothers and sisters, it is good to see how the ultimate goal of fasting is to help each one of us, as the Servant of God Pope John Paul II wrote, to make the complete gift of self to God (cf. Encyclical ‘The Splendor of Truth,’ 21). I am thinking especially of a greater commitment to prayer, lectio divina, recourse to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and active participation in the Eucharist, especially the Holy Sunday Mass.

With these wishes, while assuring every believer and ecclesial community of my prayer for a fruitful Lenten journey, I cordially impart to all of you my Apostolic Blessing.

From the Vatican, 11 December 2008
Benedictus PP. XVI

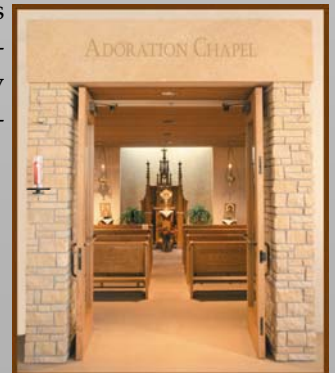
Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. The following Fasting & Abstinence Regulations are observed:

All who have reached their 14th birthday are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during Lent.

All those who are ages 18 to 59 are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Only one full meal is allowed on days of fast. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one’s needs. But together, they should not equal a full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. The obligation does not apply to those whose health or ability to work would be seriously affected. People in doubt about fast or abstinence should consult a parish priest.

Our love in Christ,
Fr. Jim Perkl
Pastor

P.S.- May God bless our Lenten journey and our gifts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving that we will offer with Christ at Mass.



Spiritual Life

ATTENTION ALL MUSICIANS (PAST & PRESENT)

We are taking inventory of our music and are missing many copies of music. If you have extra copies of music at home, please return them to Chris at the Parish Office. This will save us having to order unnecessary music for our choirs.

THE SETON RINGERS (HANDBELL CHOIR)

The next rehearsal for the Seton Ringers is on Tuesday, February 24 at 5:00pm in the church.

THE SETON SINGERS

The Seton Singers will sing at the 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Mass on February 25. They will rehearse at 6:00pm that night in the church.

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Children's Choir will have rehearsal on Ash Wednesday, February 25 from 5:45-6:30pm in the St. Claire Room. We will sing next at the 4:30pm Mass on Saturday, March 7th. The Children's Choir is open to all those in Grades 3-8, and we always welcome new singers. Please call Mo (ext. 228) or Chris (ext. 230) in the parish office with any questions.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Our Winter/Spring Concert Series

Friday, March 6 – 7:00 pm– Concert by Sonar

Thursday, March 26 – 7:00 pm – Concert by the St. Cloud State & the Hastings High School Choirs

MIRYAM/OPERATION ANDREW DINNER

Do you know a young woman, age 18-35, whom you consider to have a well rounded religious outlook, demonstrates their faith, has a sense of prayer, is interested in people and their welfare, and exhibits average or better intelligence and good health? Please contact Fr. Jim with their name and contact information **by Monday, February 23**, and let him know you are recommending that person to be invited to the Miryam Dinner at the archbishop's residence on March 2, 2009.

Do you know a young man, age 16-35, who has some of the same qualities listed above? Please contact Fr. Jim with their name and contact information **by Monday, March 23**, and let him know you are recommending that person to be invited to the Operation Andrew Dinner at the archbishop's residence on March 30, 2009.

Eucharistic Adoration



In the Chapel of Resurrection 24 Hours Each Day Except During Weekend Mass Times. Use the NORTH entrance of the building for late evening and night time hours.

Everyone is welcome.

*Come when you like,
stay as long as you wish.*

Our Lord is always ready to welcome you!

Divine Mercy Prayer Hour each Wednesday, 7-8pm

Little Way of Divine Love Prayer Group each

Sunday 7:15 – 8:45pm

Everyone is welcome in the prayer groups.

When you visit Our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration this week, please pray 1) for all of us Christians as we journey through lent 2) for guidance and protection for our country 3) for the 25,000 babies killed by abortion each and every week in our country and for their parents and grandparents 4) for the victims of recent tragedies and natural disasters and for their families 5) that appropriate ways will be found to help the needy 6) for all RCIA candidates, their sponsors, leaders and families 7) that young men and women will hear the call to the priesthood and religious life 8) for the Total Life Care Center being established in Hastings and 9) for Father Jim, Father Abraham, all the area priests, the SEAS Parish and Staff, the Archdiocese of St. Paul – Minneapolis, the Red Lake Indian Mission and the Diocese of Kitui, Kenya.

SUBSTITUTES & COMMITTED PRAY-ERS

If you have not already done so, please pick up the letter with an updated information sheet that is waiting for you in the back of the chapel.

A LENTEN RESOLUTION: TO FREQUENTLY VISIT OUR LORD IN THE ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel is open 24 hours each day. It is a wonderful place to experience peace. We can visit Our Lord on normal days, sad days, happy days or days of feeling special burdens or concerns. Our Lord is always ready to listen and refresh us. The chapel is also a wonderful place to thank Him for our joys and blessings. COME! Experience the joy and peace of visiting Our Lord, Who is always ready to welcome us into His Presence!

Stewardship

A Special Prayer...

I am writing a check. But the check I'm writing is to the church and I don't know what to put in the lower left-hand 'what for' space.

I can't put 'tithe' for this isn't a tenth, and it seems a singularly inappropriate thing to lie about. I won't put 'gift' for that seems presumptuous as though I were the Lady Bountiful, graciously offering a small token of my plenty. It is a validly a 'debt' as a 'gift.' Maybe more so.

What it is for is partial payment (and I shall never be able to make payment in full) for what the church has done in helping me raise my family; in helping me keep my own priorities sorted out; in helping me grow in my relationship with God through Christ. So, I shall simply put 'On account!' Amen.

—author unknown

Weekend of February 15, 2009

Sunday Envelopes.....	\$22,427.00
Plate.....	\$978.30
Youth Envelopes.....	\$95.98
Weekly Total.....	\$23,501.28
Weekly Budgeted.....	\$28,544.00
Difference.....	(\$5,042.72)
Phase II Building Fund.....	\$1,127.00

Year to Date Actual Budget

Actual.....	\$1,114,604.71
Budgeted.....	\$1,162,500.00
Difference.....	(\$47,895.29)

READINGS FOR SUNDAY

Sunday, March 1, 2009

Genesis 9:8-15/23

Psalms 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:12-15

WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS

If you are interested in having your wedding at SEAS, please contact Janet at ext. 265 at least six months prior to your expected celebration date.

If you are interested in having your child baptized, please call the parish office for information about baptism class times and baptism dates.

SEAS School

SEAS 3RD ANNUAL FISH FRY

We will be holding our 3rd Annual Fish Fry here at SEAS on Friday, March 6. Reserved seating times will be 3:45-5:00pm, 5:15-6:15pm, and 6:30-7:30pm. A limited number of tickets will be sold for each seating. Tickets will be available in the Gathering Space after each Mass on February 22 and March 1. The cost is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$5 for children under 10 years old. The menu will be broiled or battered ocean cod, baked potatoes, coleslaw, baked beans, and fresh bread. Also, that same night is a concert by Sonar at 7:00pm in the worship area.

SEAS SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

What is the Endowment Fund? The Endowment Fund was started in 1985 to ensure a sound financial basis for SEAS Catholic School in carrying out its educational purposes. It also states that it is to subsidize the operational expenses of the parish school, not covered by tuition. The fund only uses the income from the interest or dividends to benefit SEAS school. At the present time, the school's annual fundraiser, Spring Fling, donates a big portion of their proceeds to exponentially grow the fund. Currently, the proceeds from the Spring Fling help with tuition assistance for families who cannot afford a Catholic education. This endowment fund is currently being managed by Catholic Community Foundation. If you would like to contribute or find out more information about this fund please contact SEAS school. Your donations are tax deductible.

SEAS 7th GRADE: FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

On Thursday, February 12th, SEAS 7th graders saved 54 lives in two hours. They accomplished this remarkable task by going to Feed My Starving Children in Eagan and packing up 19,656 meals which will be sent overseas to God's hungriest children. SEAS 7th graders have been packing thousands of meals a year since 2006.

Feed My Starving Children is committed to feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit. Their approach is simple: Volunteers pack nutritious meals made up of rice, soy, vitamins and dehydrated vegetables, and they partner with relief organizations worldwide to distribute these meals to starving children.

As a Christian non-profit, they hope to reduce the number of starving children throughout the world by working to instill compassion in a generation that hears and responds to the cries of those in need.

News & Events

JOIN US FOR PUB TALK

Ages 18 to 100, single or married, are invited to join us for Pub Talk, six free evenings of lively conversation and fellowship at The Green Mill in Hastings. Come for one talk or come for all talks. The next talk is Tues., Feb. 24 from 7-9pm. The subject is "Fortifying Families of Faith" and the speaker is Linda Kracht.



Faith Formation News

FIRST EUCHARIST

All Second Graders in Catholic School and Faith Formation program are encouraged to register (if you have not done so) for First Eucharist preparation. The first meeting is for parents only. Please choose one of the following times: Mon., Feb. 23 at 7pm or Sat., Feb. 28 at 9am. Bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate if they were baptized at a church other than SEAS. Contact Mary Ellen at ext. 227 if you have questions, or if you need to register your children for First Eucharist.

Adult Faith Formation News

ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

If you, or someone you know, is over 18 years of age, is baptized, received first Eucharist, but has never been confirmed, please consider preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Easter Vigil on April 11th. To prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation there needs to be a commitment for Tuesday evenings during the Lenten season. The dates are March 3, 10, 17, 24, Saturday Retreat April 4 (9-Noon), and April 7. The sessions are from 7-9pm. Please call Mary Ellen at ext. 227 for more information.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: A JOURNEY OF CONVERSION

The next session of the RCIA is Tues., Feb. 24 from 7-9pm in the St. Boniface room. These sessions are for those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. If the time is right for you, come join us. Please pray for our catechumens and candidates as they continue their journey to Easter.

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP

During the Lenten season Little Rock Scripture Study compares the particular insights found in the passion and resurrection accounts of the four Gospels. The core of our faith incorporates both the pain of the cross and the hope of resurrection into daily living. Lent/Easter is an ideal time to study these narratives. The seven sessions include prayer, reading the scripture passages and the commentary, discussion of the study questions, and DVD presentation. We meet from 7-8:30pm Monday evenings **OR** 9-10:30am on Tuesday mornings. Registration Weekend is **February 21/22, after all Masses**. Call Mary Ellen at ext. 227 for more info.

THE PSALMS

Our next Bible study (by Jeff Cavins) will begin on Thursday, March 5th (10am or 7 pm) with our study of the Psalms. It's not too late to register! Go to www.seasparish.org or get a registration form in the Parish Office.

EVANGELIZATION INITIATIVE

Materials are located in the gathering space for pick up. If you would like to meet in a small group, please call Jill at ext. 225.

FIREPROOF LENT 2009

We will be offering a three-week series on the movie "*Fireproof*". This is a movie that takes a realistic and Christian look at a marriage that is crumbling. Finally the couple finds a plan that challenges them to love God, to love better, and to love for a lifetime. Over the three weeks we will watch the movie and offer a Catholic discussion. Sessions will be held on the following Mondays, 3/23, 3/30, and 4/6 from 7-9:00pm. Please call the Office of Faith Formation to register.

MEN'S MORNING SCRIPTURE STUDY FOR LENT

Looking for something to do extra for Lent? We will begin a Men's Morning Scripture Study March 4-April 15 on Wednesdays at 6:00-7:00am. We welcome all interested men. We will be covering a Little Rock Scripture Study course on the four Passion and Resurrection narratives. No previous experience in Scripture study is necessary. Cost of the materials is \$15. To register you may call the Parish Office. If you have questions there will also be a sign-up table and person at Masses on February 21-22.

CATECHETICAL MINUTE- BY: JEANNE HILL, O. P.

In Lesson 1 of Pillar II we learned that the liturgy is the participation of the People of God in the "work of God" (CCC 1067). This means that we must participate in the Mass. Listening with our ears to the Word of God, which comes from the Old Testament in the 1st reading, a Psalm, New Testament Letters, and the Gospel as well as the Homily of the priest. We use our voices to sing and respond to the prayers of the Mass. We watch with our eyes as the priest calls upon the Holy Spirit in the Paschal Mystery of Christ's sacrifice of the Mass. We taste and feel the Body and Blood when we receive the Eucharist. And we use our sense of smell as the incense is burned during Lent and other important celebrations. Thus, we participate with all of our senses during the Liturgy. "Every Liturgical action, especially the Eucharist and other sacraments is an encounter with Christ." (CCC 1098) So we must remember when we are at Mass that we receive the graces of the sacraments in accordance to our faith in the Sacraments. "These sacraments that come from the Body of Christ must be celebrated in faith." (CCC 1116) Today I felt a greater sense of faith myself as I helped with Communion at the Mass. What a blessing that you and I receive at every Mass. Next week we study more of the Liturgy and the Lord's Day. (CCC 1166-67) as well as 1135- 1199.

Parish Family & Life

PRAYER CORNER

Note: To add a name to the prayer corner, please call Janie at extension 224 with the name of the loved one needing prayers, your name, and your telephone number. Thank you!

Laine Alter family, Jerry Abbott, Jesse Abbott, George Brockman, Barbara Buck, Bill Boesel, Eva Bernstein, Jan Burr, Marlene Burkard, Peter Biessel & family, Jacob Berggren, Ruth Bremer, Jim Burgoyne, Gary Benson, Carol & Chris Capriglione family, Baby Dominic Capriglione, Cole Christian, Pat Conway, Marie Cowan, Mary Cedar, Scott Dodge, Don Diamond, Cal Daniel, Clarence Drietz, Margaret Denn, Monica Driscoll, Margie Flemming, Jim Flemming, Roger Fike, Barb Frank, Brian Fraleigh, Lorene Gergen, Julie Gabor, Steve Gilbert, Bill Gilles, Ryan Gelhar, Jim Gergen, Craig Giles, Bill Hobday, Jim Heerey, Deanne Swainston-Harrison, Collette Hall, John Hoffmann, Lynn Hunter, Mike Husman, Jon Holmes & Family, Margaret Huberty, Eric Hood, Tom Imdieke, Sr. Florence Judge, RSM, Jerry Kasel, Gary Kitzmann, Jill Kisby, Patty Kimmes, Kiki, BPK, Lucy & family, Abigail Macioch, Cheryl Murtaugh, Jodi McNamara, Mike, Jim McGrath, Adam Majetch, Robert Meiers, Pete Nelson, Nick Podgorski, Ruth, Rita Razidlo, Ryan, Dan Riley, Charlene Schaupp, Terry Salo, Al Sieben, Emma Seeger, Gordon Sanders, Fran Schneider, Jackie Scott, Ed Siebenaler, Michael Schaack, Rick Smith, Rose Sieben, Jane & Daniel Saxton, Ted Trondson, Sylvester & Irma Taube, Mary Tri, Cody Vanderloop, Rita Welshons, Celestine Wagner, Penny Whipple, Lenny Weiss, Julie & Steve Warmbo, Nico Youngren, Louise Young, Elizabeth Zweber



CCW NEWS AND EVENTS

Women of SEAS parish, please mark your calendars for these upcoming Council of Catholic Women events:

- **Tuesday, February 24:** CCW meeting at SEAS, 7-9:30pm.
- **Saturday, March 28:** Archdiocesan CCW Leadership, 8:30am-12pm
- **Thursday, May 7:** Archdiocesan CCW Convention, 8:30am-2:15pm at St. Therese of Deephaven
- **Saturday, May 9:** Mother's Day Tea at SEAS

2009 CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

Through the generosity of the 170 parish households that have responded so far, we have reached 14% of our parish financial goal for the Catholic Services Appeal, which is \$105,481. Thank you for sharing God's gifts in helping serve others in our community. Help us to grow the number of donors to this appeal! Those who continue to prayerfully consider their gift, we remind you that no gift is too small to support one another in faith and to help those in need. "We are one body, one body in Christ."

SEAS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

SEAS Preschool is now taking registration for the upcoming school year. We have limited space available. Please call the school for more information. If you would like to come and visit us before you register, call and we can make an appointment for you. Call the Early Childhood Campus at 651-438-3223 or email Polly at pbauer@seasparish.org or Barb blaumeyer@seasparish.org.

50+ ANNIVERSARIES

- Duane & Theresa Fike
02/25 (52 years)
- Robert & Verna Green
02/26 (60 years)

BEFRIENDER MINISTRY

In times of trouble, we look to caring Christian friends to listen to us while we work through our feelings. A Befriender can be that person; either for you or for someone you know. Call Vern Fox at 480-3496.

SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

Join Fr. Jim on a spiritual pilgrimage to Fatima, Spain and Lourdes, Paris, and Lisieux, France. October 19-30, 2009. For information call 438-2725 or pick up a brochure in the Parish Office.

LENTEN PROJECT

Students from the 5th grade Faith Formation classes are working on two service projects during Lent, which help support Hastings Family Service. We will be collecting paper grocery bags and sample sized toiletries. Please drop off your donations in the labeled box in the Gathering Space. If you prefer to donate money for the purchase of these items, bring it to the Parish Office in an envelope marked, "5th Grade Faith Formation". Thank you for your support!

LENTEN RECOLLECTION

The Galtier Society invites you to a Lenten Morning Recollection, Saturday, February 28 from 9am-Noon at St. Olaf Church, located at 218 South 8th Street in Minneapolis. There is no cost for this event and lunch is provided; all are welcome!

SUNDAY DONUTS

Sunday, March 1, 2009
7:30am—John P. Fox, Ken & Betty Hoeschen
9:30am—James Nelson, Shelly Schmitz, Dan & Jackie Rother

