

Apr. 14, 2019

Thoughts from the pastor,

Have a holy Holy Week. If you have a tradition of attending services on Holy Thursday and Good Friday you already know how powerful they are. If not, it is time to push yourself in your understanding of these way to participate in Christ's life. Holy Thursday Mass is at 7pm and is one hour as usual. Starting immediately after that service from 8pm to midnight everyone is encouraged to take Jesus' invitation to his followers to "stay and pray with me" for an hour. He invited the apostles to do that and they fell asleep. Hopefully we can do better. This prayer time will be in the chapel.

On Good Friday we have the Tre Ore which commemorates the three hours Jesus hung on the cross from noon to 3pm. Come to all or part of this time of reflection on the Last Words of Jesus before he died. The Veneration of the Cross and Communion on Good Friday starts at 7pm and again lasts an hour. The Holy Saturday service is longer. It will start at 8:15pm this year and will probably be an hour and a half. It has fire, candles for everyone, holy water, and incense. We have a renewal of baptismal promises and a Confirmation. There is no Saturday 5:30pm Mass and the Easter Sunday Masses are at 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am, and there is no Easter Sunday evening Mass. Plan accordingly.

For any who would want to borrow them, there are now copies of the Parish Mission available at the Parish Office. You can get the one for the night you missed or the whole set. My personal suggestion is that you don't watch it on a really big screen TV. That even scares me.

We still have an opening or two for the Parish Council and an opening for the TBOE. One candidate is wavering so at this time I don't know if we need one or two for P.C. Please consider this possible way of serving your parish. The TBOE works to oversee the workings of SJS School, the PRE program, and the adult education for the parish. They meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month and oversees the many different aspects of SEAS Parish. If you are interested please contact the parish office or talk to one of the members of these boards. Cameron Gales, Ann & Larry Reynek, Lenal Bottoms, Tom and Ann Fryda, Shelly Gray, Michael Howick, Eric Keisling, Agatha Poteat, Cora Thelen, Heather Vyff, or the president Randy Bergstrom. Jeremy Kreikemeier is on the TBOE.

Rachel sent this message to all of you:

Dear St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishoners – I am so grateful for the chance to speak with you last weekend. It was a blessing to meet so many of you and to hear of your excitement for the work of FOCUS. If you feel called to learn more about supporting my mission, please email me at rachel.kauffold@focus.org, or visit www.focus.org/missionaries/rachel-kauffold. I will pray that you have a blessed closing to your Lenten season and a joyful Easter! In Christ, Rachel Kauffold

We missed the snow this time but those who got it need our prayers. Some of it was on those who have already been suffering. It is another reminder that this is not heaven. This is a place where we are tested just like Jesus was, especially during the first Holy Week. If we want to get heaven, and see what it is like, we have to pass the test just like he did and be faithful to the will of the Father.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank