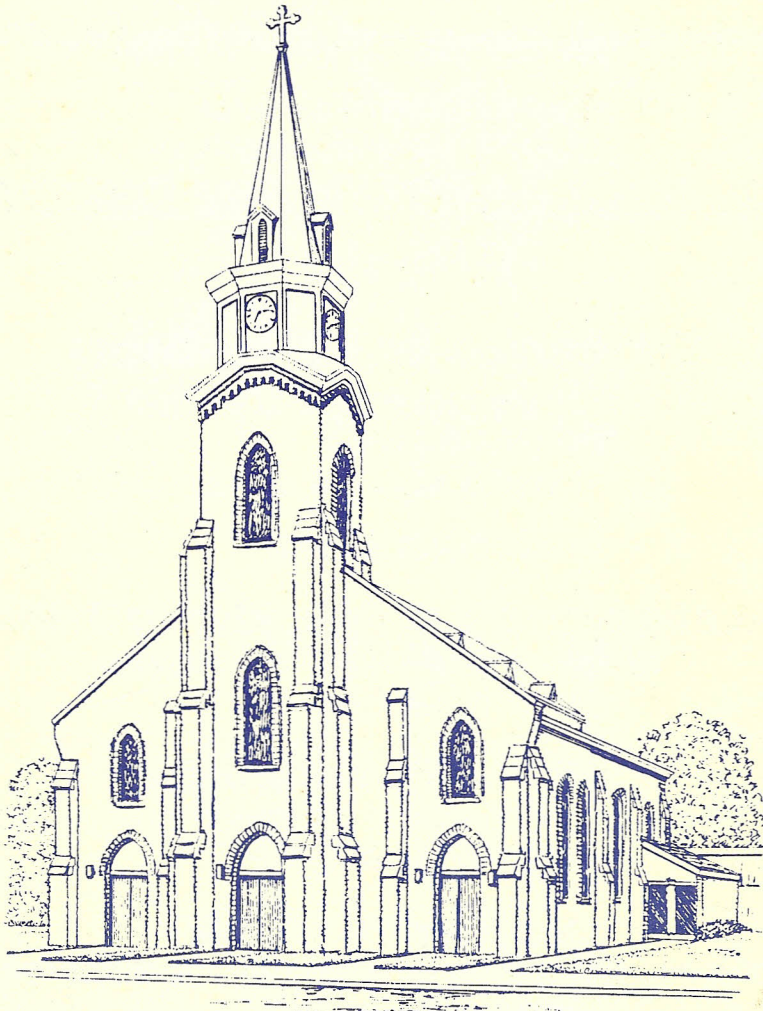


Mass of Thanksgiving
September 15, 2000



Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Community
Twenty-Fifth Anniversary
1975-2000

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF BLESSINGS

In Chautauqua County in the City of Dunkirk, N.Y.

Under the patroness of

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON
(1774 – 1821)

Canonized by His Holiness
Pope Paul VI
On
September 14, 1975

His Excellency, Most Rev. Henry J. Mansell
12 Bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo
Principal Celebrant

Rev. Thomas J. Wopperer
2nd. Pastor of the Parish
1988 to present

Rev. David G. LiPuma
Secretary and Master of Ceremonies to the Bishop

Deacon Jose Ruiz
Deacon of the Word and Eucharist

Concelebrants of the Silver Jubilee Eucharist

Rev. Thomas J. Wopperer (Pastor)
Rev. Walter Werbicki (in Residence)
Rev. Stanislaw Dudek (Hispanic Ministry)
Deacon Moises Cruz (Hispanic Ministry)

Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. Beasley

Rev. Peter Cronin, SSC

Rev. Patrick Elis

Rev. Chester Gawronski

Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Gill

Rev. Joseph A. Gulla

Rev. John L. Kuhlmann

Rev. Karl Loeb

Rev. Gerald P. Sheehan

Rev. Charles J. Zadora

PROCESSION

[Members of Parish Organizations, groups and ministries of the Parish will process from the School Hall to the Church at 6:55 P.M. They will be led by a standard bearer and sit in the center pews of the Church. If you are a member of any of the following, go to the Hall now for the procession.]

- 1) Northern Chautauqua Catholic School - Principal: Kathy Moser**
- 2) Altar Servers (Youth and Adult) – Katie Spier**
- 3) St. Joseph the Worker Recipients – Richard Anson, Ruth Friedah, Dr. Arthur Kaiser, Len & Virginia Wencek, Rafty Schrantz**
- 4) Religious Education Teachers and Staff – Sam Mancuso**
- 5) Pastoral Council - President – Gary Mrowka
including the following committees:
Finance, Buildings and Grounds and Maintenance,
Cemetery, Liturgy, Bereavement, Parish Life, Fundraiser
Chairpersons, Social Justice, Adult Education.**
- 6) Catechumenate – Wendy Kachemeyer**
- 7) Proclaimers of Word (including Childrens' Liturgy) – Jim Gibbons**
- 8) Special Ministers of Holy Communion – Saranne Karalus**
- 9) Ushers and Greeters – Paul Salisbury**
- 10) CYO Members and Advisors – President: Judith Pinkowski**
- 11) Ladies Guild – President: Carolyn Terese**
- 12) Sagrado Corazon – President: Mirna Ortiz**
- 13) Sacristans – Donna Banach and Teresa Waterman**
- 14) Marriage Preparation Couples – Tom & Andrea Gestwicki**
- 15) Baptism Preparation Leaders/Baptism Aides – Rene Tarnowski**

(Standard Bearers: please place your standard on the stand at the end of the pew near the middle aisle)

A EUCHARISTIC LITURGY CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton R.C. Church

Dunkirk, New York

Processional:	Sound the Trumpets	Organ
Song of Gathering:	Gather Us In (#196 Missalette)	All Sing
Welcome:		Fr. Tom Wopperer
Gloria:	Foley	All Sing
Opening Prayer:		Bishop Henry Mansell

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading:	1 Kings 8,22-23. 27-30	James Gibbons
Responsorial Psalm:	Rain Down, Rain Down Rain Down Your Love On Your People, Rain Down Rain Down, Rain Down Your Love God of Life	All Sing Refrain

Second Reading:	1 Peter 2, 4-9	Patricia Ebert
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Gospel Acclamation:	Celtic Alleluia	All Sing
Gospel:	Matthew 13, 47-53	Deacon Jose Ruiz

Homily: [PRAYER OF REDEDICATION] Bishop Henry Mansell

Prayer of the Faithful:	Bishop Henry Mansell Jane Kall
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Response: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of Gifts:

**Trustees: Dr. Arthur Kaiser
Mr. Richard Anson**

**[Our procession with the Gifts is led by youth
of our Parish's Hispanic Community]**

Presentation Song: Ofertorio Nicarguense Hispanic Choir

Holy, Holy, Holy: Dufford All Sing

**Memorial Acclamation: Dying You Destroyed Our Death All Sing
Rising you Restored our Life,
Lord Jesus Christ Come in Glory
We await your return**

The Great Amen: Dufford All Sing

The Lord's Prayer: Kowalewski All Sing

Sign of Peace: Instrumental

Lamb of God: All Sing

**Communion Hymn: One Bread, One Body All Sing
(#248 Missalette)**

Fill My House Choirs

**Communion Meditation: You Are Mine All Sing
Hymn (#231 Missalette) Refrain**

**[Our NCCS interpretive Dance Group
"Keepers of the Flame"
will accompany this song]**

Concluding Rites

Prayer After Communion: **Bishop Henry Mansell**

Bishop's Blessing: **Bishop Henry Mansell**

Concluding Hymn: To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King **All Sing**
(#178 Missalette)

Recessional: **Hymn to Joy** **Organ**

Special Thank you:

- * **Bishop Henry Mansell and Fr. LiPuma along with all our Priests and Deacons for gracing us with their presence tonight.**
- **Eric Kolodziej and Andrea Gestwicki who shared their gift of music by cantoring this evening.**
- **Sam and Joanne Mancuso, Tom Gestwicki and CYO members for creating the standards for the groups in procession.**
- **All the members of groups, organizations and ministries who participated in the procession and their leaders...all of whom share so much with our parish to make it what it is. May the Lord continue to work through you and bring more blessings upon this parish community.**
- **The Knights of Columbus who provided an honor guard for our celebration.**
- **All the Choirs, leaders and instrumentalists who provided our music ministry tonight... the Traditional Choir, the Hispanic Choir, the Adult Folk Choir and the Youth Folk Choir continually provide so much to make our liturgies very prayerful.**
- **Our Environment Committee, Amy Allen and Becky Eckstrom, who decorated the Church so well with flowers for this celebration and who are most creative in all their efforts throughout the year.**
- **Our Liturgy Committee who planned this Mass and all other liturgical celebrations so very well.**
- **The Keepers of the Flame and the Youth of the Hispanic Community who added much to our Anniversary celebration tonight.**
- **Our altar servers: Katie Spier, Mark and Adam Cole, Rachel Conti and Sara Rich who served our Jubilee Mass this evening. Our Lectors: Jim Gibbons, Pat Ebert and Jane Kall and our Cantors: Eric Kolodziej and Andrea Gestwicki.**
- **The Ladies Guild who are hosting the Reception following our Mass in the School Hall.**

**ALL ARE INVITED TO PROCEED TO THE
PARISH HALL**

**Following our Mass this evening
For a social gathering
With refreshments**

**...PLEASE COME...
and continue our celebration**

**We are very grateful to the Ladies Guild of the Parish
for hosting this reception.**

President: Carolyn Terese and Committee

Caterer: Michael Porpiglia

**Reminders: Jubilee 2000 Mass at Chautauqua Institution
Sunday, October 1, 2000 at 4:00 P.M.**

**Parish Mission / Retreat at SEAS
Sunday, October 8 – Thursday, October 12
At 7:00 P.M.**

**Silver Jubilee Banquet at Sheraton Four Points
Saturday, October 14 at 6:00 P.M.
Reservations due by October 1**

Elizabeth Ann Seton

1774 – 1821

Elizabeth Bayley was born into a distinguished New York family. Her father taught Anatomy at King's College, now Columbia University. Her mother died when she was only three, but had already begun to raise Elizabeth as a faithful Episcopalian. Her religious education was later continued by her stepmother. Her father was not a religious man, but he was a humanitarian and taught Elizabeth service to others, as well as seeing to it that Elizabeth received an education. The family on occasion entertained Alexander Hamilton in their home.

At the age of 19, Elizabeth married William Seton, a wealthy businessman. Together they had five children. During this time Elizabeth was active in support of the poor, and founded the society for the Relief of Poor Widows with Small Children. When her husband's business and then his health began to fail (tuberculosis), the Setons traveled to Italy in hopes that his health would recover. It was in Italy, living with Catholic friends, that Elizabeth received first-hand experience with Catholicism. What she learned of the beliefs of Catholicism, as well as the way of life of her hosts, encouraged Elizabeth to consider conversion.

William Seton died in December of 1803. Elizabeth remained in Italy until the following May, then returned to New York. She continued to be moved toward conversion to Roman Catholicism, but hesitated at first because of the opposition of her family and friends. However, she persevered and was received into the Catholic Church in 1805.

Her conversion led to estrangement from her family and rejection by former friends. Upon her return to New York she had founded a school in order to support herself. Many parents removed their children from her school when they found out she had become Catholic. Bishop Carroll of Baltimore came to her aid and offered her a house at a seminary for her school. Later, benefactors acquired property in the country where she was able to establish a school for poor children. She charged no tuition. This school became the basis for a group of women dedicated to educating children and caring for the poor, and this group became the basis for a community begun with four friends in 1809. This school in Baltimore was the beginning of the far-reaching Catholic School System.

In this new religious community, the rule was taken from the Sisters of Charity. The women did not wear habits, but instead wore their "widows clothing." This was the first American religious society. The order flourished and spread across the United States and numbered 20 communities when Elizabeth died in 1821. Mother Seton, as she became known, moved the community to Emmitsburg, Maryland – still its permanent base.

Elizabeth was very close to her children. All her daughters followed her into her order. Unfortunately, Cecelia and Harriet died untimely deaths, one from tuberculosis like her father and the other from brain fever. Another daughter, Anna Maria, died in 1812. On her deathbed she recited her religious vows.

Despite the responsibilities of running the community, Mother Seton found time to take part in the work of the community and also to compose music, write hymns, and prepare spiritual discourses. She died in Emmitsburg on January 4, 1821 at the age of 46. Today, there are at least eight distinct branches of the Sisters of Charity conducting schools, colleges, orphanages and hospitals. Pope Paul VI canonized her on September 14, 1975, as the first American-born saint.

Convert, wife, widow, mother, teacher, foundress, servant, saint – she serves as an excellent model for us who live, love and serve in the Catholic Community of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Dunkirk, New York.

Feast day: January 4
Patron Saint of the Catholic Schools

A Prayer to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Lord God,
you blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton with gifts of grace
as wife and mother, educator and foundress,
so that she might spend her life in service to your people.
Through her example and prayers
may we learn to express our love for you
in love for others.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

{The statue of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton hanging from the reredos behind the altar of the Church is an original work of art. It was carved from bass wood by Mark Carroll of East Aurora, New York in 1992 during the refurbishing of the Church. The committee wanted her to be depicted with a child because she was so fond of children and profoundly interested in their education. She is holding a catechism. Notice also her caring and compassionate countenance }

