



SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

755 Highway 49, Tennessee Ridge
Tennessee 37178

Sunday, January 28, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Welcome!

The community of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is delighted that you have joined us for Mass!

If you would like to become a member of our faith community, please register on our website at seastn.com or you may also pick up a form at the parish office, Mon-Fri, 9:00am to 3:00p.m. For any questions, call us at 931-721-3769. If you are visiting St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, know you are always welcome!

Pastor:

Rev. Father Vimal Backiyaraj CP
pastor.stfroa@gmail.com
205-718-4230

Office Manager /DRE/ Bookkeeper/ Bulletin:

Valerie Brown
seastnoffice@aol.com

Parish Office:

☎ 931-721-3769
Fax: 931-721-3775

Office Hours:

Tue & Thurs 9:00am—3:00pm

Holy Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass:

Sunday: 11:30 am

Weekday Mass:

Tuesday: Noon
Thursday: Noon

Reconciliation:

At all Masses.
Also by an Appointment.

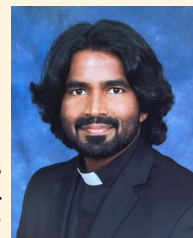
First Friday Adoration:

First Friday of every month
11 am –noon

Call the office for Sacramental Information or visit:

<https://Seastn.com>





God is God all the Time!

Dear Parishioners,

This is the first time I am writing an article in our Bulletin. I decided to write now and then when it is possible or when it is necessary. Recently I mentioned that we are going to Celebrate the Pongal festival. Some of you must be wondering what kind of festival it is. Why does Fr. Vimal want to celebrate? So let me explain to you what Pongal is.

Pongal is a harvest festival celebrated by the Tamil community all over the world. It is a celebration to thank the Sun, Mother Nature and the various farm animals that help to contribute to a bountiful harvest. Celebrated over four days, Pongal also marks the beginning of the Tamil month called **Thai**, which is considered an auspicious month. It usually falls on the 14th or 15th of January each year. Pongal is also the name of the dish made and eaten during this festival. It is a mixture of boiled sweet rice. It is derived from the Tamil word *pongu*, which means "to boil over". The festival is celebrated for four days, with each day having its own significance.

Day: 1 BHOGI PONGAL

The first day of Pongal is called *Bhogi*. It is a day where cleaning and discarding of old belongings are carried out to signify a fresh start. New clothes are worn, and houses are decorated in the spirit of the festivity. Similar to your spring cleaning.

Day: 2 SURYA PONGAL

The following days are spent in thanksgiving for the blessing, like the sun which provides us with light. On that day which is called Surya Pongal, colorful decorative floor patterns called *kolam* are drawn at the entrance of one's home, and each household cooks a pot of fresh rice with milk at auspicious timings. As the milk boils freely over the pot, family members shout out happily "**Pongalo Pongal**"! After the Pongal is prepared, they would feast on several Pongal dishes that are prepared especially for the day.

Day:3 MATTU PONGAL

On the third day called Mattu Pongal, the main day, we give thanksgiving to the cattle which provide us with food and plows the land. The third day of Pongal is called Mattu Pongal. Cows are bathed and adorned with multi-colored beads, flowers, garlands, and bells.

Day:4 KANNUM PONGAL

The fourth day of Pongal is called Kaanum Pongal. On this day, importance is given to the community and to strengthening ties. Families gather together to have a sumptuous meal. Younger members seek the blessings of the older members of their families. It is also a day for traditional Indian folk dances such as mayilattam and kolattam.

The festival was to be celebrated by all Tamils, irrespective of religious background Hindu, Christian and Muslim Tamils enthusiastically joined together as brothers and sisters to celebrate the Tamil festival. They also pray for a good harvest for the coming year.

I'm sure this festival is new to you but the Pongal celebration is a festival for the Tamil people, not any particular religion. You can be hindu, Muslim, or a Christian to celebrate this Tamilian celebration. Its beautiful that all religions come together to pray for a good harvest the coming year.

The celebration aims to foster unity among the Tamils for the preservation of the Tamil culture, language, and literature for posterity and to uplift the community.

Why do we plan to celebrate at St. Francis of Assisi? As we all know, I come from the southern part of India, the state called Tamil Nadu. I belong to the Tamil community and I speak the Tamil language. Pongal is one of our important festivals. it would give you a chance for all of you to witness some of our traditions and ritual practices and also will help you to understand where I come from and my cultural background. The mass will be celebrated in Tamil language and the homily will be in English. I have invited some of my Tamil family friends who live in this country to join us. I am excited about having this celebration for the first time at St. Francis of Assisi and I cordially invite you, your children and your family members to come and join us on the 3rd of February at 4pm at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Hope to see you!

Through the intercession of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton may God bless all of us.



Week in a Glance

St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

Sunday, January 28

11:30am Liturgy-Church

Tuesday, January 30

10:30am Priest Assembly

Thursday, February 1

No Mass

Friday, February 2

11:00-noon Adoration

Noon Mass + Chris Etzkorn

Saturday, February 2

4:00pm Pongal Celebration / Mass at St Francis

Potluck afterwards

St Francis of Assisi Church

Sunday, January 28

8:30 am Liturgy –Church

Wednesday, January 31:

5:30pm Daily Mass Trenton Pfeiffer

Friday, February 2

5:00-6:00 pm Adoration

6:00pm Mass Trenton Pfeiffer

Saturday, February 3

4:00pm Pongal Celebration/ Mass Trenton Pfeiffer

Potluck afterwards



We are kicking off this year's Bishop Annual Appeal!

Thank you to our community of faith for your incredible support of last year's bishops annual appeal of ministries. Your generosity enabled us to make the daily needs of others through vocations, faith, formation, Catholic charities, and more. To make your 2024 gift today visit dioceseofnashville.com/appeal! We are deeply grateful for your ongoing commitment. Thank you.

Announcements

Chris Etzkorn Funeral Mass Feb 3 at 10:00.

We are invited to St Francis for the Pongal Celebration Saturday, February 3 at 4:00pm. Potluck afterwards!

Father will bless throats during Mass the weekend of February 3 & 4.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

World Marriage Day Mass with Bishop Spalding

When : February 4

Time 2:30pm

Where: Cathedral 2015 West End Ave., Nashville

All married couples celebrating anniversaries of any year are invited to attend [Special recognition for milestone anniversaries of 25, 50, 60 +years].

A special reception will follow the Mass. RSVP with how many in your party are attending to the Office of Marriage and Family Life at: nashvillefaithformation.com/mfl-events or 615-540-1235

The greatest of gifts: Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for a special occasion, on behalf of a family member, a friend, or a deceased loved one (Holy Souls in Purgatory), please submit a Mass Request to the office. Father Vimal is happy to celebrate Masses for all of your intentions. We will also send personalized Mass Cards.

2023 Tax Contributions

They are ready, if you would like a copy of your end of year contributions, please see Valerie

The Celebration of the Eucharist :

Minister
Lector
E.M.H.C
E.M.H.C
Gift Bearer

Jan 28
Sue Resler
Gregg Lill
Diane Lill
Janet & Glenn Hake

Feb 4
Seth Rye
Sue Resler
Bill Resler
Della Hudson



Prayer Intentions

Lea Eichorn, Della Hudson, Joan Kupiec, Bob Eberle, Bill Hrachovina, Rick Mathes Jeff Pack, Paul Brendle, Bill Darnell, Autumn Gibson, Shan McEvoy, Barry Parker, Hector Segura, Mabry Violet Walker, Pat Mallory, Sophia Jewell & Joe Mills

READNGS FOR THE WEEK

Jan 28 thru Feb 4

Sunday Dt 18:15-20 1Cor 7: 32-35 Mk 1:21-28
Monday Dt 18:15-20 /1Cor 7:32-35 Mk 1:21-28
Tuesday 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b:24-25a, 30-19:3 Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17 Mk 6:1-6
Thursday 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 Mk 6, 7-13
Friday Mal 3:1-4 Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40
Saturday 1 Kgs 3:4-13 Mk 6:30-34
Sunday Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1Cor 9:16-19 Mk 1:29-39

Thank you for your support!

Our Gifts to the Lord
Last Week's Collection: snow day
Sunday Attendance:
Under our weekly goal:

This is based on 1500.00 needed per week.



If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, we would love to have you join us in The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults [RCIA]. Please call the office at 931-721-3769 for additional information. We look forward to walking with you on your journey into the Catholic Faith.



"We must pray literally without ceasing— without ceasing—in every occurrence and employment of our lives . . . that prayer of the heart which is independent of place or situation, or which is rather a habit of lifting up the heart to God as in a constant communication with Him."

— St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

We love having you as part of our flock!

Please text annseton to 84576 to register for our parish Flocknote account.



With this access you will be able to select those groups you are interested in, to be updated with news and happenings that you care about.

This spot can be yours

A & S CONTRACTING

ASK FOR TONY OR GARY
615-351-8649

FIRE & FLOOD DAMAGE



P:931-289-2300
www.ryeengineering.com
4210 West Main St

Seth W. Rye, P.E. Esq.
srye@ryeengine
cell:931-721-6232

Water Leak Detection, Water Tank Inspection, Construction Inspection, & more