

Aug 24, 2025, 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

Strive
to
enter
through
the
narrow
door.

Luke 13:24

Twenty First Sunday of
Ordinary Time.

For Behold, some are last who will be first, and
some are first who will be last.
Luke 13-30

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, 8:00am
8:30-9:30am Adoration
& Confession

Thursday, 8:00am
8:30-9:30am Adoration
& Confession

WEEKEND MASS

Sunday, 11:30am

CONTACT US

755 Hwy 49
Tennessee Ridge, TN 37178
931-721-3769

www.seastnoffice@aol.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday and Thursday
9:00am-3:30pm

OUR CLERGY

12TH BISHOP OF NASHVILLE

Most Rev. J. Mark Spalding,
DD, JCL

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Aby Thanickal, CMI
frabyfrancischurch@gmail.com

ONLINE GIVING

Go to our website or scan QR
code



St Elizabeth Ann Seton Tn



www.seastn.com

From the Pastor's Desk Rev. Fr. Aby Thanickal, CMI



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 13:22-30) gives us one of the most sobering teachings of Jesus. As He makes His way to Jerusalem, someone asks Him a question that echoes in every human heart: "Lord, will only a few be saved?" Jesus does not give a number or a statistic. Instead, He shifts the focus back to the one asking and to all of us: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate."

The Lord reminds us that salvation is not about vague association with Him but about true discipleship. It is not enough to say, "We ate and drank in your company" or "You taught in our streets." Familiarity with Jesus is not the same as following Him. It is possible to know about Christ without really knowing Him or allowing His grace to transform our lives.

The "narrow gate" represents the path of faith, humility, repentance, and daily conversion. It is narrow because it requires surrender — laying aside pride, selfishness, grudges, and attachments that weigh us down. It is narrow because it calls us to put God first, even when it is inconvenient. But it is also the gate that leads to true freedom, lasting peace, and eternal joy.

Jesus warns that the door will not remain open forever. The time of mercy is now. When the Master rises and locks the door, there will be no bargaining or excuses. The Gospel invites us to live in readiness, to take our faith seriously, and to bear fruit in our lives. Our prayer, worship, works of charity, forgiveness, and perseverance are all ways of walking toward that narrow gate.

There is also great hope in this passage. Jesus says that people will come from east and west, north and south, to sit at the banquet of the Kingdom. The invitation is universal. No one is excluded by race, language, or status. The only barrier is our refusal to respond. Even those who seem "last" in the eyes of the world may be welcomed first in God's Kingdom if they live with faith and humility.

As a parish community, let us encourage one another to walk through the narrow gate. We do not do it alone. Christ gives us His Word, His Sacraments, and His Church to strengthen us. The journey may be challenging, but the destination is glorious: eternal communion with God.

Let us pray for the grace to stay faithful and to enter through the gate that leads to life.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

You call us to follow your Son through the narrow gate that leads to eternal life. Grant us the courage to walk in His footsteps with humility and perseverance. Strengthen us when the path feels difficult, and free us from every burden that keeps us from You. May we never be content with mere words of faith, but live out our love through daily acts of mercy and obedience. Gather us, with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the saints, into Your Kingdom, where we may rejoice at the banquet of eternal life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Peace of Christ!

Fr. Aby Thanickal CMI

Pastor St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic churches.

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Tennessee Ridge, Tn. 37178

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Common election soon

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tony Arthon
Gregg Lill
Marilyn Jurgovan

PARISH STAFF

SECRETARY/ BOOKKEEPER/DRE

Valerie Brown

MASS INTENTIONS

St Elizabeth Ann Seton
Sunday, Aug 24, St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parishioners

11:10am Rosary

11:30am Mass

Mon, Aug 25, Future Pastoral Committee

8:00am Mass

8:30-9:30am Adoration/
Confessions

Thurs, Aug 28, Bill & Sue Resler

8:00am Mass

8:30-9:30am Adoration/
Confessions

St Francis of Assisi
Sunday, Aug 24, St Francis parishioners

8:10am Rosary

8:30am Mass

Wed, Aug 27, Music Ministry group

4:30-5:30pm Adoration &
Confessions

5:30pm Mass

Fri, Aug 29, + Fr. Jerry Timmel

8:00am Mass

8:30-9:30am Adoration/
confessions

Saturday, Aug 30, Ken Simpson

5:10pm Rosary

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Mt 11:28



One Hour of Adoration

Join us for one hour of Adoration on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30-9:30am. Mass at 8:00am

Bookkeeper Position Available.

St Francis of Assisi is in need of a bookkeeper for the church. This paid position is part time, generally up to 5hrs weekly. For more information or to apply, contact Fr Aby.



Online Giving. Another way to support our parish....



Bishop's Annual Appeal 2025

Our Bishop's Annual Appeal goal for 2025 is \$5500.00. As of now we have committed **\$1586.00** which is **28.84%** of our goal.

We need **\$3914.00** to meet our goal.

Our donation will go to different ministries, seminarian education, etc. If you would like to donate and help us meet our goal, please grab flyer/envelope from the table in the narthex.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Are you or do you know of someone who would be interested in being on our Pastoral Council?

You have until **Monday, August 25**, to nominate yourself or another parishioner to be on the Pastoral Council. There is an election box in the narthex. You can either put your name if you are interested in being on the Pastoral Council or a another member of our parish who you think would make a great member for our Pastoral Council. After the names are collected they will be posted. Then it is up to those whose names are on the list if they are interested and if they are interested, they are to attend the retreat and the first meeting. The retreat and the first meeting will cover the duties of the Pastoral Council and an election will take place for the positions of chair, co-chair and secretary. The date of the meeting will be announced later.

We are getting a Family Directory!

In the next couple months, we plan to work on a new directory for our parish. In order for this project to be successful we will need your participation. We will need to have a certain number of families to participate in order for this to be a success. Please sign your name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex if you to participate!

CCD 2025-2026

This Year's CCD year is right around the corner. The first day of CCD is Sunday, September 7.

We will meet from 10:00am until 11:15am.

Sign up sheets in Narthex.



OCIA

We will begin OCIA [formally RCIA] in September. The date will be announced soon. If you or someone you know is interested in the Catholic Faith, please call the office.

Liturgical Ministers

Minister	August 24	August 31	Sept 7	Sept 14	Sept 21
Lector	Diane Lill	Bill Resler	Bonnie Lill	Tom Vorholt	Seth Rye
E.M.H.C	Janet Hake	Diane Lill	Gregg Lill	Sue Resler	Glenn Hake
E.M.H.C	Sue Resler	Bonnie Lill	Dave Higingbottom	Bonnie Lill	Janet Hake
Gift Bearer	Hakes	Higingbottoms	Jurgovans	Bonnie Lill	Gregg & Diane Lill
Money Counters	Arthons /Jurgovan	Lill/Walker	Arthon/Jurgovans	Lill/Walker	Arthon/Jurgovans
Greeters	Gregg/ Diane	Zwolak	Larry & Tony	Gregg/Diane	Zwolak

READNGS FOR THE WEEK/FEAST DAYS

Aug 24 thru Aug 31

- Sunday Is 66:18-21 Heb12:5-7,11-13, Lk 13:22-30
- Monday 1Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 Mt 23:13-22 **St, Louis, St Joseph Calasanz**
- Tuesday 1 Thes 2:1-8 Mt 23:23-26
- Wednesday 1 Thes 2:9-13 Mt 23:27-32 **St Monica**
- Thursday 1 Thes 3:7-13 Mt 24:42-51 **St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**
- Friday 1Thes 4:1-8 Mk 6:17-29 **The Passion of St John the Baptist**
- Saturday 1 Thes 4:9-11 Mt 25:14-30
- Sunday Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a Lk 14:1,7-14

Prayer Intentions

Tammy Arthon, Bonnie Lill, Gregg Lill, David Russell, Dale Edwards & Ken Simpson.

Thank you for your support!

Our Gifts to the Lord

Last Week's Collection: Online \$ 231.10

Cash & checks: \$ 1304.25

Assumption of BVM \$ 345.00

Total: \$ 1880.25

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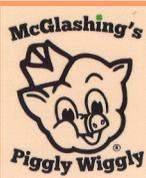
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For more info contact :
931-721-3769
or

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Flocknote:



If you are not receiving our emails or texts and would like to receive our communications, please let the office know. We send out texts for any changes, reminders, etc., and once a week there is an email which comes out on Friday which contains the bulletin and any other news. Emails may also arrive in your box for a parish announcement, etc.

Would you like to advertise with us?

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