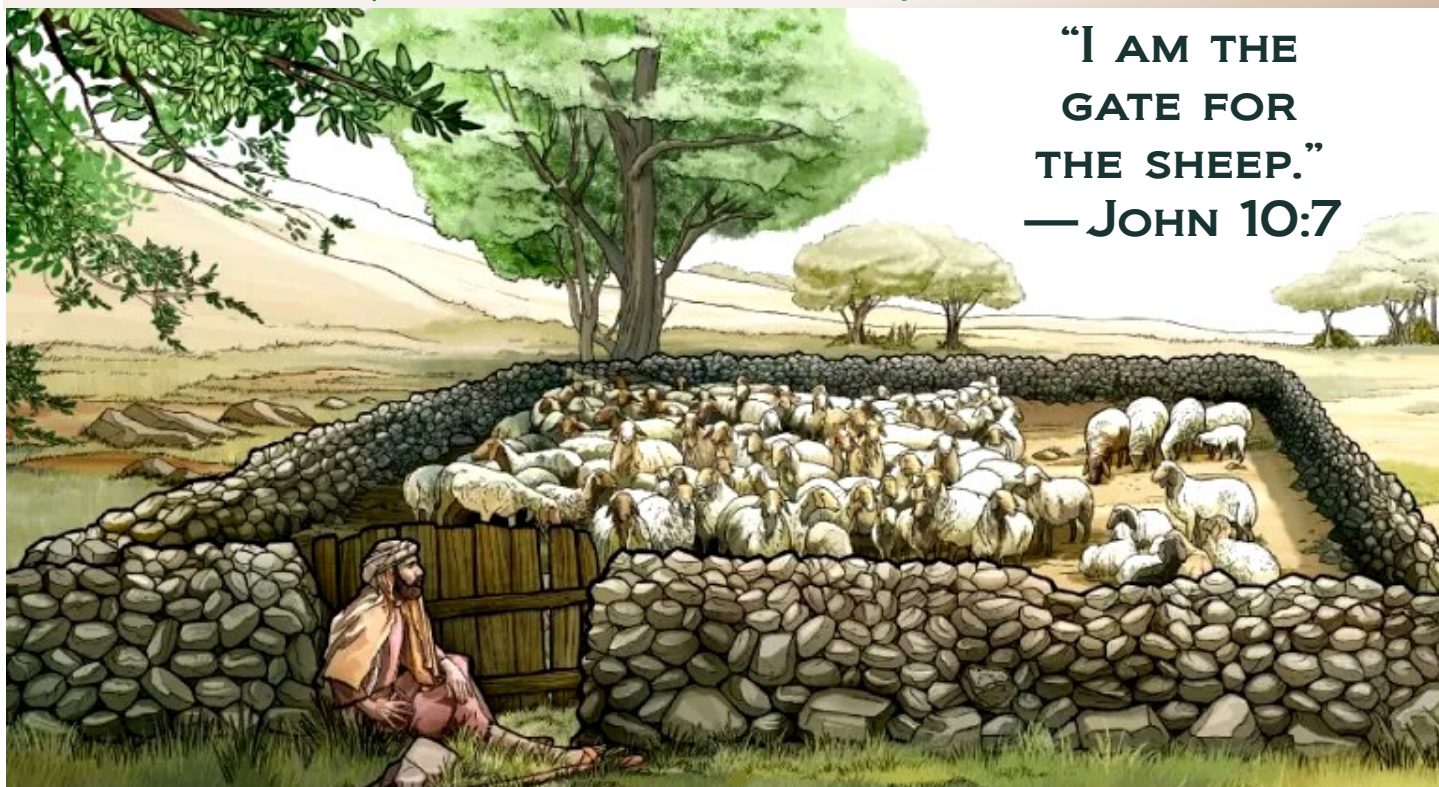


St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

April 26, 2026 Fourth Sunday of Easter



**"I AM THE
GATE FOR
THE SHEEP."
—JOHN 10:7**

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday

10:30 am Mass

11:00 am Adoration/Confession

Thursday (except 1st Friday)

10:30am Mass

11:00 am Adoration/Confession

First Friday

10:30am Mass

11:30am Adoration/confession

WEEKEND MASS

Sunday, 11:30am Mass

CONTACT US

755 Hwy 49

Tennessee Ridge, TN

37178

931-721-3769

stfroa@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday 9:00 am—1:00pm

Thurs 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Bookkeeper Wed 10:00am

– 2:00pm

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



Pastor's message: The Voice That Leads us to Life John 10:1-10

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In this Sunday's reading, from Gospel of St. John, Jesus presents Himself using a simple yet powerful image: the shepherd and the gate. In a world filled with many voices competing for our attention, Jesus reminds us that not every voice leads to life. Some voices confuse, distract, or even harm. But His voice—the voice of the Good Shepherd—is different. It is a voice that calls each of us by name, a voice that leads, protects, and gives life.

Jesus says, "I am the gate." This means that He is not only the guide but also the way to safety and salvation. To enter through Him is to step into a life of grace, purpose, and peace. The image of the sheep recognizing the shepherd's voice invites us to reflect: do we truly know the voice of Christ? Are we attentive to Him in prayer, in Scripture, and in the teachings of the Church?

The Lord continues to speak to us not only in our hearts but also through the shepherds He has given His Church. It is important for us to listen attentively to the voice of our pastors, who care for the flock entrusted to them. In union with them, we are also guided by our bishops, the successors of the Apostles, and by the Holy Father, Pope, who serves as the visible sign of unity in the Church. When we remain attentive to these voices, we are more securely rooted in the truth that comes from Christ Himself.

Often, the noise of daily life can make it difficult to hear Him clearly. Responsibilities, worries, and even good things can crowd our hearts. Yet the Lord continues to call us gently. He does not force us; He leads us. Like sheep who trust their shepherd, we are invited to follow Him with confidence, knowing that He walks ahead of us.

Jesus also warns about "thieves and robbers"—those influences that draw us away from truth and goodness. These can take many forms: false promises of happiness, selfish pursuits, or attitudes that distance us from God and one another. When we stay close to Christ and remain united with His Church, we learn to recognize what is not from Him. His voice brings clarity, peace, and a deeper sense of love.

Most beautifully, Jesus says, "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." This is the heart of our faith. Christ does not merely offer survival; He offers fullness of life—joy that endures, hope that sustains, and love that transforms. In Him, we find the pasture that truly satisfies the hunger of our souls.

Let us ask for the grace to listen more attentively to the Lord this week. Spend a few moments each day in silence, allowing His voice to reach your heart. Trust Him enough to follow where He leads, even when the path is uncertain.

Prayer

Good Shepherd,
You know each of us by name and call us to follow You.

Open our ears to recognize Your voice
in prayer, in Scripture, and in the voice of Your Church.

Help us to listen with humility
to our pastors, our bishops, and our Holy Father.
Protect us from all that leads us away from You,
and bring us safely through the gate into the fullness of life.

May we always walk in Your love
and lead others gently toward You.
Amen.

Fr. Aby Thanickal CMI



Pastor



NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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

MASS INTENTIONS

St Elizabeth Ann Seton

Sun, Apr 26 St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parishioners

11:00am Rosary/confession

11:30am Mass

Mon, April 27 Priest Intention

10:30am Mass

11:00am Adoration/Confession

First Friday May 1 The Holy Marriage of Lisa and Michael Smith

10:30am Mass

11:00am Adoration/Confession

Sun, May 3 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parishioners,

11:00am Rosary/confession

11:30am Mass

St Francis of Assisi

Sat, Apr 25 Priest Intention

4:45pm Confession

5:30pm Mass

Sun, Apr 26 The Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

8:30am Mass

Wed Apr 29 The Healing of Ric Jessup

4:30 Adoration/Confession

5:30 Mass

First Friday, May 1 Priest Intention

4:30pm Adoration /Confession

5:30pm Mass

Sat, May 2 Priest Intention

4:45pm Confession

5:00pm Rosary

5:30pm Mass

Sun, May 3 The Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

8:00am Rosary

8:30am Mass

WEEK IN A GLANCE

No Thursday mass

First Friday mass 10:30am

followed by adoration

Friday May 1st

Money counters needed

Please see Father Aby or Diane Lill to volunteer.



The church is looking for a Director of Religious Education and Safe Environment Coordinator for both churches for the 2026/2027 School year. This will be a paid job with around 3-4 paid hours a week. You will be required to be present at staff meetings and coordinate CCD, OCIA, Safe Environment training, related sacraments, and VBS. If you are interested in this part-time position, please see Father Aby or contact the church office.



PARISH STAFF

Secretary: Marie Young

Tues: 9:00am– 1:00pm

Thurs: 9:00am-2:00pm

Bookkeeper: Debra Burkhalter

Wed: 10:00-2:00pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to the Walker Family for your generous donation to our flooring project.

Congratulations
Matthew Zwolak!



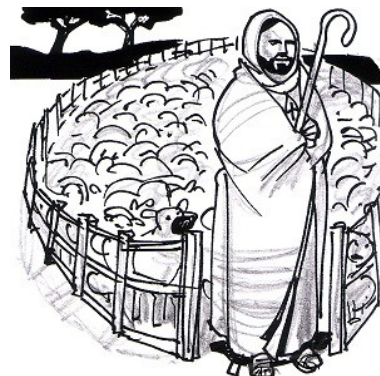
**Is God calling you
to a ministry?**

Join a church ministry and participate more fully in our church. See Father Aby for details.



Let's celebrate our Graduates!

Send a picture and/or a short write-up to stfroa@gmail.com. We will say a mass for them on Thursday, May 21st.



Minister	April 26	May 3	May 10	May 17
Lector	Sue R.	Bonnie L.	Tom V.	Seth R.
E.M.H.C	Bill R.	Connie V.	Glenn H.	Bonnie L.
E.M.H.C	Sue R.	Janet H.	David H.	Diane L.
Gift Bearer	Arthon	Cauthen	Covington	DelGaudio
Money	Lill/Walker	T Arthon/Jurgovans	Lill/Walker	T Arthon/Jurgovans
Greeters	Gregg & Dianne	Zwolak Family	Larry & Tony	Gregg & Diane

READINGS FOR THE WEEK/FEAST DAYS

Apr 26-May 3

- Sunday 2:14a, 36-41/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10
- Monday Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:11-18
- Tuesday Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30 *St Peter Chanel, St Louis Grignon de Montfort,*
- Wednesday Acts 12:24—13:5a/Jn 12:44-50 *St Catherine of Siena*
- Thursday Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20 *St Pius V*
- Friday Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6 *St Joseph the Worker*
- Saturday Acts 13:44-52/Jn 14:7-14 *St Athanasius*
- Sunday Acts 6:1-7/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

www.usccb.org/readings/calendar

Thank you for your support!

Our Gifts to the Lord
Last Week's Collection:
Online \$ 410.66
Cash & checks \$ 1,017.00
Total \$ 1,427.66

Prayer Intentions

Michael & Lisa Smith, +Henry Garrett (may his soul rest in peace), Tammy Arthon, Gregg Lill, Dale Edwards, Frank Visconi, Robin Frederick Laws and Sue Resler.



Download the Laudate app to see daily readings, Daily Saints, prayers, and much more!



If you would like to have a mass said for your loved one or a special intention there are forms in the Narthex. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per mass. Please turn forms into the office or put in the collection plate in a labeled envelope. If no requests are made, the mass will be for the priest's intentions.

Thank you for your donations to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. You can continue throughout the year to give so we can meet our goal for the year using the envelopes in the Narthex and pews.

