

# St. Henry Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2015



## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - St. Henry Mass Schedule and Intentions

	Monday, Dec. 21,	6:30 AM:	Gary Pruitt RIP by Sandy Volner
	Tuesday, Dec. 22,	6:30 AM:	Wilma Wright RIP by Josh Pruitt
	Wednesday, Dec. 23,	6:30 AM:	Family and Friends by De. Tim and Penny Vaughn
	Thursday, Dec. 24,	4:00 PM:	Christmas Vigil — For the people of the parish
	Thursday, Dec. 24,	8:00 PM:	
St. Henry	Friday, Dec. 25,	8:30 AM:	For the people of the parish
	Friday, Dec. 25,	11:00 AM:	Christmas — John Volner RIP by Sandy Volner
	Saturday, Dec. 26,	5:00 PM:	Johnny, Susan and Sidney Bajjalieh LIV
St. Henry	Sunday, Dec. 27,	8:30 AM:	For the people of the parish
	Sunday, Dec. 27,	11:00 AM:	For the people of the parish

As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you. John 15:9



NO Eucharistic Adoration December 22, 29 or January 5. Adoration will resume Jan. 12, 2016.

### Roman Catholic Inquiry and Answers! (RCIA)

**Holiday Break!** Join us and invite your family and friends to come to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Hall and learn about our faith as we begin the new year with two wonderful videos: **Common Ground I and II on Tuesday, January 5 & 12, 2016.**

Join us for **St. Henry Friday Night Nights** 6:30pm on the second Friday of every month!

**CONFESSIONS** – Two Priests will be available both evenings **This Tuesday & Wednesday, December 22 & 23—5pm til .....** at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church.

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24 - 4:00pm & 8:00pm  
Christmas Day: Friday, December 25  
St Henry: 8:30am — St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: 11am

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton — St. Henry  
**ADULT RETREAT**  
January 29 - 31, 2016

Retreat Master: Fr. Leonard Mary  
Cost is \$75.00 per person. **Sign up today!**



Thank you for bringing your nativity. You may take it home after the social hour. Thank you for sharing!

**FATHER DEERING'S SUNDAY HOMILIES** are now available on our website: [www.seasgardendale.org](http://www.seasgardendale.org)

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From the Pastor's Desk

Today begins the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Advent ... but it's not really a full week ... it's actually just 4 days long ... because it ends at 4:00 PM on Thursday afternoon when we begin to offer the Vigil Mass for the great day of Christmas.

At that time ... our Advent preparation will be replaced by ... our Christmas celebration! That will be the time to rejoice and give thanks to God for sending us the Greatest Present of all ... His Son, Jesus.

And even though His Birthday ... December 25<sup>th</sup> ... falls on a Friday, we Catholics will gladly gather together in Church the day before or the day of ... to sing His Birthday praises!

So special is the Birthday of the Savior that we consider it a Holy Day of Obligation meaning that all Catholics are bound to attend Mass either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Masses will be offered at 4PM and 8 PM on Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> and at 8:30 AM (at St. Henry) and 11 AM on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Christmas is the second highest Solemnity of the year, second only to Easter, and so we offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass to thank God for His Gift in the most powerful way possible ... through, with and in His Beloved Son, Jesus ... who will be truly present on our Altar at Mass.

So special is this day to God the Father that the Saints tell us that more souls are released from Purgatory on Christmas Day than on any other day of the year!

Therefore, remember to pray for all your dearly departed family members and friends at your Christmas Mass ... so if they're not yet in the blessedness of Heaven they soon will be.

And realize that Christmas Day marks the beginning ... not the end of the Christmas Season!

So leave your Christmas Tree up and lit and your Christmas music playing throughout the Octave of Christmas, which is the 8 days following Christmas Day ... and even through the Epiphany on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, that marks the coming of the three Wise Men bearing gifts for Baby Jesus ... and even through the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday January 10<sup>th</sup>.

And realize that January 1<sup>st</sup> is way more than just New Year's Day ... it's when we celebrate Mary - the Mother of God one week after Jesus - the Son of God.

Like the Solemnity of Christmas, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is another Holy Day of Obligation, meaning all Catholics are once again bound to attend Mass ... on either New Year's Eve or New Years Day.

Mass will be offered at 5 PM on Thursday the 31<sup>st</sup> ... and at 8:30 AM (at St. Henry) and 11 AM on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup>.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
Love, Father Deering

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## Please Pray for our Sick and Homebound

Patsy Clark Mary Jo Sparks

YOU MAY ADD TO OUR LONG TERM CAREBOOK located on the table at the side entry-way of the Church. **PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:** A list of our loved ones serving in the Military is posted on the Knights' bulletin board.

## PARISH MEETINGS

**PARISH COUNCIL:** To be announced

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

General Council: Wednesday, January 6, 6:30pm

**LADIES ALTAR SODALITY:**

Every second Sunday each month after Mass  
Our Sodality email address is:  
[sthenryladies@hotmail.com](mailto:sthenryladies@hotmail.com)



**Right to Life** "God's love does not distinguish between the infant in the mother's womb or the child or the youth or the adult or the older person. In each one God sees His image and likeness. Human life is a manifestation of God and His glory."

~ Pope Benedict XVI

### Annual Respect Life Mass and March

lead by Bishop Baker — Saturday, January 16, 2016

Pray and Unite for Life Mass at Cathedral of St. Paul: 9am  
Birmingham March for Life: 10:45am

Brother Bryan Park—22nd Street South at 10th Avenue, B'ham  
[www.BirminghamMarchforLife.com](http://www.BirminghamMarchforLife.com)—205 705-9158



Our Knights of Columbus are asking your help in providing Christmas meals to those less fortunate than ourselves during this holiday season.

Donation Forms are in the Vestibule on the shelf

for your convenience.

"Give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you."

Luke 6:38

Father Deering will be available to hear confessions at St. Henry's the first Sunday of each month from 7:45 until 8:15am.



## GET YOUR CANS TO CHURCH!

Please bring empty aluminum drink cans to Church. We crush and recycle!

## YOUTH HAPPENINGS

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

December 20th—PSR and Play Practice  
December 20th—Church Christmas Play at 4:00 pm with supper following at 5:00 pm.  
December 27th—January 3rd: NO PSR



2016 COLLECTION ENVELOPES are available this weekend! These envelopes must NOT be used until 2016 or someone else will receive credit for your contribution. PLEASE continue to use your 2015 envelopes until the last day of December then throw them out!! If you do not find your envelopes, please contact the Church office.



**Susan's Fund** -- Don't forget to bring in food items, gently used clothing, diapers, paper products and small appliances for our Parish support of the Catholic Centers of Concern. We have placed plastic bins in each PSR classroom and in the parish hall and front vestibule. Let's all be active in sharing our blessings with the poor of our diocese.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE AT PRINCE OF PEACE SPONSORED BY ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Italian American Heritage Society will host its 2nd annual NYE party from 9-12 on Thursday December 31st. Tickets are \$25 which includes music, snacks and a light breakfast. BYOB. Get your tickets ahead of time from any board member.. more information provided on the website...[www.iahsbham.com](http://www.iahsbham.com) or contact Anthony Graffeo at 902-0129.

## LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE

DATE	LECTOR	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	USHERS (Captain = C)	ALTAR SERVERS
Christmas, Friday, December 25, 2015 and New Year's January 1, 2016: To be announced				
Sun. December 27 <i>Holy Family</i>	David Shaner	Pat Townes Josh Stump Dominick Viruleg Pat Stump	Tony Smith C Duane Holy Paul Foti	Joseph Holy Daniel Bamberry
Sun. January 3 <i>Epiphany</i>	Mike Jolly	Josh Stump Bo Grant Harold Gray Erin Grant	Tony Smith C Wendell Cox Kurt Keeney	Caleb Gray Chase Jordan Daniel Bamberry