

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Plano, TX

**Capital Campaign for
Building a New Church**

Living Our
FAITH

Building Our
FUTURE



ARTIST CONCEPT ONLY

FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parish family and friends,

Throughout history God has given His people vision and support to move forward. We continue with the help of God to make a positive impact on the world around us.

Our new campaign ***Living our Faith, Building Our Future*** is a door of opportunity to make our vision real. The goal of this campaign is to heighten the use of our parish facilities and create a beautiful church for the worship of God in the direct center of our local community.

Please take time to study this brochure. As you reflect and study, pray:

“Lord, what do you want me to do, to accomplish Your will, for my parish family, community and the Church of Dallas.”

This campaign will be of real spiritual value to you, your family and our community. Your participation in the future work of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish begins a new opportunity for us all.

May this brochure assist you to reflect on what we can do as a community. Prayerfully may we begin this journey of discovery. We have an exciting opportunity to make our vision real by doing something beautiful for God.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Bruce Bradley, Pastor



PARISH HISTORY

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was founded during the bicentennial year, February 28, 1976. Our parish was named in memory of the first native-born American to be canonized. Fr. Leon Duesman was the founding pastor of the church, and remained in this post until 1984. The church began with a little over 100 families. The first Mass was held at Haggard Middle School Palm Sunday, April 11, 1976. A little over a year later the first Mass was held onsite in the gym of



the Religious Education building on April 24, 1977.

“When the faith community comes together, we give praise to God, and we should do it in the settings that are the best for it. This is a good setting, but we could have a better setting. People would appreciate the liturgy more in a church that was designed for liturgy.”

Fr. Duesman

It was important for the first phase of the project to house the meeting rooms and offices allowing the Seton community a place for religious education, and the

space required to build a community until the actual church was built.



We began the next phase of expanding the parish on May 17, 1980. Church parishioners were pleased to experience their first Mass in the new church on November 8, 1981. The Seton community continued to grow and flourish and is now over 5,000 families strong. Two Catholic churches have been formed from the Seton Parish, which are Prince of Peace (1991) and Our Lady of Angels (2000). Seton continues to remain a strong and vibrant parish today.



In response to continued parish growth, ground was broken in 2004 for the next phase of development, a new Activity and Education building, dedicated in 2006. The parish also added a beautiful Columbarium and Garden that opened on

All Souls day in 2009. In 2014 the Parish Activity Center was renovated and updated with state of the art lighting and equipment, new flooring and woodworking.



“Many people would drive by here and think it’s a library, so much so that we had to put the big signs there that say, “St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church” on the wall so people would say, “Oh, that’s a Catholic church!” That was even way back from ’80 to ’82”

Fr. Petter

The parish has had the support of five pastors since the church was formed: Msgr. Leon Duesman (1976-1984), Msgr. Glenn “Duffy” Gardner (1984-1992), Rev. John Libone (1992-1997), Msgr. Henry

Petter (1997-2011), and Rev. Bruce Bradley (2011-present). Many parochial vicars have also served the parish over the years, and have gone on to preside over their own churches because of the knowledge and experience gained at Seton.

“If you ask why you should support this campaign or this project, remember that we want to speak to the community, we want to make our building more usable, we want it to be more beautiful. In order to do that, we need both your support and your prayers.”

Fr. Bradley

ST ELIZABETH ANN SETON VISION

Mission – Our mission as a parish family is to continue building God’s Kingdom in the Plano area. We have been since 1976 proclaiming the Gospel, worshipping and sharing the Sacraments, and serving the needs of our community. The celebration of the Eucharist binds us together and strengthens us as followers of Christ.

Challenge – We have been using our present church since November of 1981. Our parish has grown to more than 5,000 families and our buildings serve 4,000–5,000 people each week. With eight weekend services, eleven daily Masses, funerals and weddings, we have thousands of people using our church – EACH WEEK!

Many needs and desires were expressed during our feasibility focus groups conducted in early 2019, including

- A new and inspirational church to celebrate Mass, weddings and funerals
- A welcoming presence to the main street that is clearly identifiable as a Catholic church
- A larger gathering space (Narthex) for fellowship before and after liturgies
- More ministry space for clergy and liturgical ministers
- New pews, and more space between them
- More space for the musicians and organ
- Adequate areas for devotional art and personal prayer

Solution - We expanded the campus significantly when we dedicated our beautiful Faith Formation Center in 2006. The pastor at that time, Fr. Henry Petter, promised that we would build a complementary church of equal dignity and beauty. The time has come for us to consider deeply the challenge to fulfill the promise made in 2006.

The building of a new church, with a sacred feel and modern updates, will complement our Faith Formation Center and bring our total complex to a proper balance, both in use and appearance. A new and more beautiful church will be an inspirational place in which to celebrate the Mass and the other liturgical events in our lives, such as weddings and funerals.

Our new church could face the main thoroughfare and distinctly welcome the surrounding community to enter. It would stand at the geographical center of Plano, and its appearance would inspire people to charity and prayer. A solidly built new church, with noble materials and appearance, would express our commitment to our Faith, our God, and would be a beautiful gift for our children and future generations.

Financial Projection – At this time, the projected cost is **\$16,500,000**. This cost includes construction of a new church, removal of the existing church to replace and realign parking, and creation of a unified connection to the remaining building and gardens. This is a cost estimate as of January 2019 and is subject to change. Diocesan financial policy requires that we collect 50% of the construction cost (not pledges) before beginning construction. Planning for the new building will occur as funds are raised.

Future Action - The dream of our new church may seem too big for us as individuals, but together we can accomplish great things with God’s help. May we move forward boldly.



SEAS Q&As

What will we be asked to consider through the Living Our Faith, Building Our Future Campaign?

All of us will be asked to prayerfully reflect upon God's countless blessings, to join in the ongoing mission of St. Elizabeth's, and to prayerfully consider a generous financial response.

Will the SEAS community support a capital campaign at this time?

As has been said in other places, the founding pastor and people did what they could to build a new church in the 80s when there were 500 families in the parish and interest was 18%. It was always their hope and intention to build a bigger, more beautiful church someday. Our spring feasibility study discovered that 86% believed our plan was the right or acceptable plan and 80% of respondents indicated they would show a high or medium level of support for a capital campaign.

How will we donate to the capital campaign?

Our response to God is based on prayer and the awareness of His gifts. In other words, there is a strong stewardship component to every successful capital campaign. Your capital campaign pledge would be over-and-above your regular stewardship to the parish and the diocese. Gifts or pledges can be one-time gifts; three year pledges; a three year pledge with an initial payment; stocks, bonds, or other gifts; bequests; or a combination of these things.

How will the funds be used?

Funds collected through the capital campaign will be restricted for the building of our new church.

Will any of the funds raised be sent to the Diocese?

No, the diocese does not collect assessment on capital campaign funds.

Do we intend to take on debt to build our church?

Ideally, if we reach our goal, we will not need to take on any debt. To begin to break ground, we would need to have 50% of the project cost collected. As in buying or building a new home, there will most likely be a need for a loan to complete the project.

When can we begin breaking ground for a new church?

The amount that must be collected before "breaking ground" is 50% of the project cost with no more than a \$7,500,000 loan projection. As the project cost is further refined, we will have a more accurate number, but our goal is to collect at least \$8,000,000 before beginning construction.

SEAS Q&As

Will we receive any funds from the diocese?

The Diocese does not provide any funds for the project. We have reserved the balance of our rebate from the Our Faith, Our Future diocesan campaign for the Building Fund. Those funds will equal approximately \$620,000 if the remaining pledges are fulfilled in 2019.

How long can we take to pay our pledge?

The pledge fulfillment period will be three years beginning in January 2020. Many will choose to make an initial payment in the beginning and then pay the balance in another increment (monthly, quarterly, or annually). Others may choose to make one-time gifts. These initial payments and one-time gifts will be very important to reach the amount we need to begin construction sooner.

What if I can't contribute as much as other parishioners?

We want everyone to become involved in building our church for our future. No donation is too small or too big. One way to think of giving is sacrificial giving. In other words, not simply giving from your excess (which is fine) but possibly combining the giving with a sacrifice. For example, can you give up one meal out each week and give that to our campaign? Maybe you will go to one less movie per month, or give up a few days of your weekly morning coffee drinks and use that toward our parish campaign. By giving up something and using that money towards our goal, you will be sacrificing something you like and gifting that sacrifice towards God's Kingdom.

Can I consider a gift of stock or securities?

All parishioners can make stock or security gifts. Parishioners age 70 ½ or older may also choose to direct a required retirement distribution to the parish. These types of gifts may provide you a tax benefit while allowing the parish to receive an even larger gift. Everyone wins!

When will we see what the new church will look like?

The Parish Building Committee has been formed from parish members with experience in architecture and construction. As a first step, we have hired our project manager. The project manager will guide the committee in selecting an architect who will prepare conceptual drawings. These plans we hope to have by mid-September. Throughout the design process, there will be many opportunities for the parish to submit ideas and comments. The initial concept ideas from both the 2015 Parish Update and 2019 Feasibility Study focus groups will be included as an important part of the visioning process. Additionally, there will be an open survey available on the parish website.



GO HIGHER, GO FARTHER!

God is calling us to something monumental, to the building of a beautiful new church, to a once-in-a-lifetime involvement. It will take God's help and our collective sacrifice to accomplish this! Some have been given little, so they can share little; some have been given much, so they can share much. But all of us can give like kings, if we give sacrificially!

To start thinking about your sacrificial gift, seek to do the following:

- A) Review the gift scale.
- B) Let your eyes rest on the manageable 3-year Pledge gift you think you can make.
- C) Now, consider a sacrificial gift. That is, consider going one level higher: from the more comfortable level to the more sacrificial level.
- D) Let the Holy Spirit lead you to a place that is both satisfying and sacrificial! Pray "Lord, what do you want to do – through me – for my parish?"
- E) The only way most of us can go one level higher is by giving something up for a while or putting off purchasing something for a while.

GIVING EXAMPLES

MONTHLY	YEARLY	3-YEAR PLEDGE
\$13,889	\$166,667	\$500,000
\$8,333	\$100,000	\$300,000
\$6,944	\$83,333	\$250,000
\$4,167	\$50,000	\$150,000
\$3,333	\$40,000	\$120,000
\$2,500	\$30,000	\$90,000
\$2,083	\$25,000	\$75,000
\$1,667	\$20,000	\$60,000
\$1,250	\$15,000	\$45,000
\$1,000	\$12,000	\$36,000
\$833	\$10,000	\$30,000
\$600	\$7,200	\$21,600
\$500	\$6,000	\$18,000
\$400	\$4,800	\$14,400
\$300	\$3,600	\$10,800
\$250	\$3,000	\$9,000
\$200	\$2,400	\$7,200
\$150	\$1,800	\$5,400
\$100	\$1,200	\$3,600
\$75	\$900	\$2,700
\$50	\$600	\$1,800
\$25	\$300	\$900

PRAYER FOR BUILDING A NEW CHURCH

Eternal Father, we place our needs before you. We are thankful for all you have given us.

As we begin this journey to build a new sanctuary, give us wisdom and strength. May the Holy Spirit guide us to achieve our goals, and fulfill our needs. May we accept challenges with confidence, knowing that you will help us in our work.

In our worship may we hear the Word of God with faith. May we celebrate the Sacraments with hope. May we serve one another with love. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. *Amen*

Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

St. Joseph, Protector of the Universal Church, and patron of workers and families, pray for us.

St. Francis of Assisi, Called to rebuild the Church, pray for us.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, pray for us.

CONSIDER AN ESTATE GIFT!

The dream of a new church, dedicated to God, is a monumental undertaking. Very often, people will write, "Enclosed is my gift. I wish I could do more. But also I have to keep an eye on my future care needs as I get older."

A great way to continue the mission of Jesus here at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is to consider an estate gift or bequest. By remembering Seton in your will, you can take care of your present and future needs, AND continue the mission of Jesus right here at your parish church.

These are some helpful ideas:

- **A Will Lets You Distribute Earthly Gifts as You Wish!**

If you do not have a will, the State of Texas has one for you.

- **Estate Gifts Can Offer Tax Benefits to Donors**

For example, a bequest is 100% deductible from a donor's estate and can reduce potential estate taxes.

Our legal title and address, for your reference, is:

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish
2701 Piedra Dr
Plano, Texas 75023

- **Think of SEAS as One of Your Children** – Any easy way to bless SEAS is to think of the church as one of your children. If you have two children, think of SEAS as your third child; if you have five kids, think of SEAS as your sixth child.

- **Residual** – You may also remember SEAS through a residual of 5%, 10%, 20%, or more of your estate.

SEAS has been and is a special Christian family. Together we continue the mission of Christ in Plano, both now and in the future!

