

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the multifaceted grace of God.

1 Peter 4:10

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

📍 4901 E Huffman Rd. Anchorage, AK 99516

☎ 907-345-4466

🌐 www.akseas.net

📌 Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Alaska

Parish Mission: Our Lady of the Snows

📍 370 Northface Rd. Girdwood, AK 99587

☎ 907-783-1171

🌐 www.chapelourladyofthesnows.org



MINISTRY HANDBOOK



How to use this Handbook:

Ministries are listed alphabetically in the Table of Contents and also by category in this guide. Each ministry also includes the age range of participants: Elementary, Middle School, High School, Young Adult (age 18-35), Adult (age 18+), and/or the Whole Family.

Any ministries marked with a ☀️ may require an Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau Safe Environment certification and accompanying State of Alaska background check for volunteers working with children or vulnerable adults.

Learn more online: www.akseas.net or inquire at the Parish Office at 907-345-4466.

HOW ARE YOU CALLED TO GROW AND SERVE IN CHRIST?



COMMUNITY MINISTRIES: By growing together as people of God, we support each other on the journey and learn to live in relationship. See pages 4-5.



EVANGELIZATION MINISTRIES: All of us are called and uniquely gifted. We seek to find our place on the path to heaven, grow deeper in faith, and eventually help others to become missionary disciples as we do the same. See pages 6-7.



FAITH FORMATION AND CATECHESIS MINISTRIES: We celebrate and build up our beloved Catholic traditions and rich history by sharing the knowledge of our faith with others of all walks, differing levels of need, young and old alike. See pages 7-8.



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES: Through the pinnacle of our faith, Holy Mass, we honor and worship our Lord in a welcoming and engaging celebration. See pages 8-9.



OUTREACH MINISTRIES: We serve and support specific needs of others through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. See page 10.



PRAYER MINISTRIES: To envelop our brothers and sisters in the warmth and peace of our Lord, we embrace the power of prayer. See page 11.



SERVICE MINISTRIES: We experience and share the love of God by being the hands and feet of Christ to our parishioners and to those most in need. See page 12.

MASS TIMES

WEEKENDS:

SATURDAY: 5:30p

SUNDAY: 8:30a, 11:30a, 5:30p

(One weekend Mass will be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook)

DAILY MASS:

MONDAY - THURSDAY: 9:00a

Rosary following Mass

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 4:00-5:00p

or by appointment:

please call the church office at
907-345-4466 to schedule.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

For a Perpetual Adoration hour or to become a substitute,
call/text Christina Biegel at 907-382-7608.
Adoration drop-ins are welcome during office hours
through the parish office door.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY – THURSDAY: 8:00a – 3:30p

CLOSED FRIDAYS

PARISH MISSION: Our Lady of the Snows, Girdwood

MASS: Sunday, 6:00p

ADORATION: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 6:30-7:30p,
and Wednesday 9:00-10:00a



SERVICE MINISTRIES

BEREAVEMENT

Adults (age 18+) An outreach ministry to individuals grieving the loss of a loved one. We share the love of Christ by sending cards, making telephone calls of support and lending a listening ear, and we also hold an annual Bereavement Mass honoring those who have passed away and to offer support to those processing grief.

FUNERAL RECEPTIONS

High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family This ministry provides a true blessing to families in the midst of grief and difficulty. Join us to prepare and/or serve refreshments for funeral receptions if requested by families.

GARDENING

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family Share your green thumb with our faith community and beautify our parish landscape with God’s gift of nature. Assist in prepping, planting, watering, and tending our flower beds Spring through Fall.

LIVE STREAM

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family Join “The Stream Team” and be a blessing to the homebound or to friends and family who live afar! Learn how to run the computers and cameras for an effective and seamless livestream production with this modern-day ministry.

MEALS FOR CLARE HOUSE

High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family This outreach ministry provides meals as a team to Clare House, a Catholic Social Services emergency shelter for mothers and their children. Our volunteers assemble and deliver a hot dinner to the shelter on the 31st day of any month containing 31 days, making sure delicious food will warm the bellies and hearts of the residents.

PASTOR’S WELCOME

Dear New Parishioners and Visitors,

Welcome to Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish! Your presence is a blessing to us.

We are an active and vibrant parish, deeply committed to following Christ wherever he leads us. As a result, our parishioners are dedicated to numerous ministries that support personal spiritual growth, family-centered faith formation, serving the parish, and also outreach to those in need beyond our doors. Daily weekday Mass Monday through Thursday, four weekend Masses, and weekly Reconciliation are available to our parishioners as well as Christ in the Blessed Sacrament through Perpetual Adoration, a cherished blessing among our faithful.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton is richly blessed to feature a parish school for grades Pre-K through 6, where students experience whole-person formation based on faith, family, and excellence. Our young pupils are taught to live for Christ and embrace the message of the Gospel in this faith-immersion environment, weekly school Mass, and inspiring artwork throughout the building. Come take a tour to meet our wonderful staff and see the beautiful facility!

I encourage you to explore all our community has to offer, including initiation into the Catholic faith, parent groups, family outings, young adult and youth groups, service opportunities, and more. Christ calls all people into his love, and as such, we invite individuals with special needs to encounter this peace through our Special Religious Development ministry. Our journey toward heaven includes heeding God’s call to use the unique gifts he has given us, and every person has a place here.

Jesus is always calling us to grow in our relationship with him in his Church and we at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton are here to accompany you. Are you a doubting Thomas? We are here for you. Do you want to learn about the Catholic faith? We are here for you. Are you on fire for the Lord? We are here for you. Are you struggling with knowing how to raise your family in the faith? We are here for you. We want your life within our parish to be filled with a growing sense of God’s deep and abiding love for you and for the world.

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Scott Medlock
Pastor

THE NEW EVANGELIZATION



This New Evangelization reiterates the call of all church members to announce the Good News within the family and the world. Each of us is invited to re-ignite our relationship with God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit to reflect light into the darkness of a hurting world. When you hear the phrase *New Evangelization*, it should remind you that our Church is both ever-ancient and ever-new.

Our ministries are formed to feed and foster a life of intentional discipleship. Living a life of intentional discipleship requires:

1. ongoing attentiveness to his call for
2. continual conversion in our lives and
3. discernment of our particular call to act as a source of God's love and provision for those Providence has placed in our lives.

At Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, we have taken strategic steps to implement the New Evangelization by creating discipleship pathways that foster communities focused on helping each individual add intentionality to their daily walk with Christ.

No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, God has a place for you, God has a purpose for you, and he has given you something valuable to contribute! As you explore our parish ministries, remember that Mother Teresa often reminded others that our call to service should start close to home. Contact our pastoral staff for help discerning that call!



PRAYER MINISTRIES

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family

Our parish is present before the Blessed Sacrament in the Saint Pope John Paul II Chapel 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Contact the parish to sign up for an adoration hour and marvel at the wonderful fruits borne of this dedicated prayer time before our Lord.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family

Please join us to knit or crochet warm, beautiful, tangible expressions of support, love, compassion and prayer. The shawls we create are blessed and given to those experiencing new or challenging life events, whether in sorrow or joy. Our mission is to build human connection, conveying a sense of value and belonging with our yarn, needles, and love.



OUTREACH MINISTRIES

CARE & COMPASSION ☼

Adults (age 18+) We are Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who bring the Eucharist to the ill and homebound in this caring ministry. This service is provided to those with short- or long-term limited ability to attend Mass, and includes caregivers of the homebound.

HOMEBOUND MEALS ☼

*High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family* This ministry cooks and delivers meals to parishioners who are temporarily unable to cook for themselves owing to illness or injury. Love to cook? Sign up only as often as it is convenient, but know that the humblest meat loaf tastes wonderful when made and delivered with love.

OUTREACH

*Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family* This ministry coordinates food drives and delivery to support the Catholic Social Services ministries of Brother Francis Shelter, Clare House and St. Francis Food Pantry with the help of donations from our parish community. We also run a program to provide financial assistance to those in acute, short-term crisis within our parish and greater community through financial support of Saint Vincent DePaul Society.

PEACE & JUSTICE

*High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family* Explore the issues of our day in light of Catholic social teaching and get involved to help find solutions. This ministry is for individuals who seek social action and change.

PROJECT RACHEL ☼

Adults (age 18+) A fully confidential, Catholic grief ministry that offers healing and reconciliation for anyone suffering from abortion loss. This nationally-recognized program includes scripture, prayer and Christ’s healing love, but all are welcome regardless of faith beliefs. Men are welcome.

RESPECT LIFE

*High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family* Through prayer, education, and action, we proclaim the Gospel of Life that every person, from conception to natural death, is valued and loved by our Lord. We seek to end the evils of abortion, euthanasia, and assisted suicide and provide support for those struggling with these issues. This ministry includes the vibrant mission of the 40 Days for Life campaigns in the Spring and Fall. Help us to cultivate a culture of life in our community!

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COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

ALPHA

Adults (age 18+) A place for getting back to basics as we explore our Christian faith, where conversation-based sessions allow space for questioning and sharing perspectives rooted in God's truth.

COFFEE & DONUTS

Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family This ministry provides coffee, juice, donuts and fellowship after the Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Mass. Duties include ordering and picking up donuts, making coffee, serving, and clean up.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Adults (age 18+) Financial Peace University is a 9-week class developed by Dave Ramsey that uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, paying off debt, and making your money work for you.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS (KOC)

Adult Men (age 18+) Grow in friendship and personal faith as a member of Saint Paul Miki Council. We are very active in the life of the parish in prayer, service and building up the community.

MAGI WORKSHOP & BAZAAR

Adults (age 18+) The Magi craft group gathers once a week to sew and craft items for the SEAS annual bazaar held every October. Proceeds from the bazaar provide needed items for the church in addition to supporting local charities. All skill levels are invited to participate.

PARENTS' GROUP

Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family This ministry is open to all parents and caretakers and their children/charges. Weekly play dates and community for caregivers with young children. Located in the SEAS gym during the school year, and various parks throughout the summer. Come play and pray with us!



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES, cont'd

ART & ENVIRONMENT

High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family Decorate the church building and worship space to complement the liturgical calendar and enhance worship when you join this creative ministry.

EXTRAORDINARY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Adults (age 18+)
(Requirements must be met) Assist in the distribution of Holy Communion. Open to Catholics in good standing who have received Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. Must have a firm belief in and love for Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

GREETERS / HOSPITALITY

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family Greet people at Mass, usher to seats when needed, take up collection, carry up the gifts, hand out bulletins, tidy up the pews following Mass. Smiles and a friendly welcome required—a great way to help Mass attendees feel welcome and appreciated!

LECTORS

High School
Adults (age 18+)
(Requirements must be met) Boldly proclaim God's Word during Mass in the assigned readings at Sunday worship and other special liturgical celebrations. Lectors must be in good standing with the Catholic Church, have a mature presence, and be strong readers.

MUSIC / CHOIR / CHILDREN'S CHOIR ☀

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family Make a joyful noise! We welcome singers and instrumentalists of all ages to elevate the level of worship and praise in beautiful harmony at each of the weekend Masses, with additional opportunities to provide music for special liturgical celebrations. We are also blessed to have a community children's choir called Cantabile (kahn-tah-bee-lay, meaning "songlike"). Youth ages 6 to 18 may audition, and membership is open to both Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton students and parishioners. Hear us lift our voices at multiple Masses throughout the year!

SACRISTANS

Adults (age 18+) In this joyful servant role, Sacristans open the church and prepare the sanctuary before Mass, then operate behind the scenes to support the clergy and other liturgical ministry volunteers for a smooth celebration of the Mass. Other opportunities for Sacristans to serve include liturgical celebrations such as funerals, weddings, and Baptisms.



FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS MINISTRIES, cont'd

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

Adults (age 18+) Whether you join as someone who wants to become Catholic, complete the Sacraments of Initiation, or you'd like to help the leadership team guide others into the faith, this is a vital and beautiful formation and initiation ministry!

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON SCHOOL ☀

Elementary
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family As the largest ministry of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, we provide an excellent Catholic education in a Christ-like environment for students in grades K through 6. Parishioners receive priority status for enrollment. We welcome parish volunteers for events including the school's annual Auction, and love when you share your talents and gifts with the children!

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT ☀

Participant
ages vary
Adult Leaders Christ calls all people into his love, and in this ministry, we seek to create an environment of peaceful encounter with our Lord for individuals with special needs.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) ☀

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+) A week-long celebration of God's love for children in K through 6th grade - a summertime immersion in faith-filled fun. Many volunteers are needed for a successful VBS, such as Station Leaders, Group Leaders, and food preparation!



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

ALTAR GUILD

High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family This dedicated group washes and prepares the linens for worship, maintains the altar, sacristy, and holy water fonts. When you notice the brass shining and the fabrics crisp and white, you have this team to thank!

ALTAR SERVERS

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
(Requirements must be met) Those with a passion for serving can assist clergy during Mass. Open to males and females at least age 8, 2nd grade and up, who are baptized and have received First Holy Communion. A beautiful way to nurture a servant's love for the Mass in all people.



COMMUNITY MINISTRIES cont'd

SMALL GROUP

Adults (age 18+) Join a small group to grow in faith, study scripture and find true apostolic friendship as you journey with others seeking the same.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family Come meet an active, versatile and friendly group who believes in the "art of having fun." Our mission is to come together to explore possibilities and offer opportunities to the parish for fellowship, meal sharing and good times.

WELCOME MINISTRY

Adults (age 18+) Our welcome ministry is here to greet and reach out to new visitors and current parishioners alike to assure you have a sense of belonging. We're happy to help you find your place in our vibrant parish community!

WOMEN AT THE WELL

Adult Women
(age 18+) Our parish women's ministry centers on Jesus' commands to love God and love others. We provide a channel for women to grow in faith, be spiritually nourished and enriched, and break bread together. Bring a friend!

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adults
(age 18-35) Meet with other young adults exploring the faith through fellowship, formation, service, scripture and prayer. Discern your vocation and role in the church as a lifelong Catholic.

YOUTH MINISTRY ☀

Middle School
(grades 6-8)
High School
(grades 9-12) Weekly fellowship with age-appropriate, faith-based activities. Lead by a core team of youth ministers trained by the parish. Come join the fun!



EVANGELIZATION MINISTRIES

CALLED & GIFTED

Adults (age 18+) The Called & Gifted™ Discernment Process has been used since 1993 by over 200,000 lay, ordained, and religious Catholics to discern charisms, or special spiritual gifts, and how to exercise them in the service of God.

FAITH JOURNEYS (CAREGIVERS)

Children
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family As a parent or caregiver, you are in a perfect position to evangelize! Our family-centered catechesis program that provides parents and caregivers the mentorship and support they need to fulfill their role as their child's first catechist. Grow in faith and journey with Christ as a family!

FAMILY GUIDES

Adults (age 18+) Help guide families who have students in our Faith Formation's Faith Journeys program. A ten-week training will teach you how to offer support through prayer, curriculum understanding, community meetings, and accompaniment. This ministry not only aids parish faith formation but creates beautiful, lasting bonds between families.

ONE-ON-ONE MINISTRY

Adults (age 18+) This vital ministry pairs individuals to meet and enjoy one another's company as they walk together in faith and develop what we call an "apostolic friendship." This could be at coffee, on a stroll, or even over a beer, and is unique to an individual's needs on a journey toward a deeper connection to Christ.

REACH MORE

Adults (age 18+) This relational ministry process helps to form those in search of the next step on their discipleship pathway. For those who are already beyond the beginning stages of formation and feeling a call to serve, this is for you!

RETREAT MINISTRY

Adults (age 18+) Be a part of spirit-driven leadership for annual men's and women's retreats, and help create a time and space dedicated to God for attendees. Beautiful conversion moments are often just as profound for the team members as they are for those on retreat!

VERSO L'ALTO PODCAST ☀

High School
Adults (age 18+) Assist with the programming, filming, sound, editing and graphic design of our podcast. *Verso l'Alto* is a Catholic podcast for teens, by teens that is published weekly on YouTube, Spotify, Amazon Music & Samsung Podcasts, straight from our custom studio at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton!

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY CORE TEAM

Young Adults (age 18-35)
Adults Receive a faith-deepening Reach More training and join this awesome group focused on leading our Young Adult population toward discipleship in a way that meets the needs and interests of this specific age group.



EVANGELIZATION MINISTRIES, cont'd

YOUNG ADULT REACH MORE

Young Adults (age 18-35)
Adults Young adults receive small group facilitation training with Reach More. It is intensive, faith-deepening instruction for those who are faithful, teachable, and available, and will enhance your personal apostolate.

YOUTH MINISTRY CORE TEAM ☀

Adults (age 18+) Volunteers who are called to minister to the young church and have the heart of Saint John Bosco. Reach More training is not required but highly encouraged. Available to assist with week night activities, retreat, lock-ins and possible travel with conferences, missions and pilgrimages.



FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS MINISTRIES

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Adults (age 18+) Deepen your faith in Christ and your understanding of the Church through Bible study. Fall and winter programs include video presentations and supplemental materials to stimulate lively small group discussion and faith sharing.

FAMILY-CENTERED FAITH FORMATION (K – 12th grades) ☀

Elementary
Middle School
High School
Adults (age 18+)
Whole Family As a central priority at our parish, this includes not only K-12 student formation but also that of parents and caregivers as the primary catechists of their children. Programs that fall under this umbrella are: Faith Journeys K-8 formation, First Reconciliation and First Communion sacramental preparation, Children's Catechumenate sacramental preparation, High School faith formation, and Confirmation sacramental preparation. We are always looking for Confirmed Catholic adults to serve as Catechists and small-group leaders. Even if you're only available as an occasional substitute, we'd love to have you join our team!

HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FELLOWSHIP ☀

High School Open to High School students interested in growing in virtue and exploring questions of faith. Stands apart from Faith Formation requirements and meeting times, and follows an inspiring curriculum designed for separate male and female groups.

NURSERY DURING FAITH FORMATION PARENT MEETINGS ☀

Adults (age 18+) Staff the nursery for siblings younger than kindergarten-age while parents/caregivers are in Faith Formation parent meetings, and be a blessing to these parents as they focus on personal formation to become strong faith leaders for their families.