



do justice • love tenderly • walk humbly with God Micah 6:8

January 2, 2025

We begin all of our prayer in the presence of our loving Creator; because we are all created in the very image and likeness of God!

As a Christian community, we know this:

God's love is for everyone!

Daily reflection:

(St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)

This coming weekend, we will celebrate the feast day of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Mother Seton, the first American-born saint, was a wife and mother who lost her husband to tuberculosis. After her husband's death, she converted to Catholicism and soon afterward she founded a religious community, adopting the Rule of the Daughters of Charity as their guide.

Mother Seton and her Sisters of Charity (later joining the Daughters) helped establish many schools and hospitals. Their Vincentian legacy has brought God's love and care to anyone who has sought their assistance.

Daily decision for action...

At the beginning of this new year, the Church takes a moment to recognize Mother Seton and her great dedication to those in need; particularly, her dedication to educating children. Mother Seton was driven by her belief that education was one of the best ways to change systems that perpetuate poverty.

Let's take a moment to consider which systems perpetuate poverty in our current time. What can we do together to change those systems?

Intercessions/ our prayer for our world:

For the Church as we celebrate these days of joy, may we also be people of peace.

For all nations in the world, for an end to conflict and suffering.

For everyone who has lost a loved one this past year, may the peace and love of Christ rest in their hearts.

For all of us, that we will be sources of light and love to those who endure hardship.

Blessing: *(the prayer of Aaron upon the people: Num. 6:23b-26)*

May the Lord bless you and keep you!

May the Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

And we say together with all of the people of God:

Amen!