

Seven Dolors Youth Newsletter

Ordinary Time

What is Ordinary Time and why is it so important?

Ordinary Time is when we hear about Christ's life of public ministry: The miracles he performed and the parables he used to teach. The color of Ordinary Time is green, signifying life. What better way to celebrate life than by hearing about Christ's?

Ordinary Time also allows us to appreciate more fully the celebrations of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Without this time of teaching, we wouldn't be as open to the lessons these season bring.

January Saints

Jan. 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Jan. 17 - St. Anthony, Abbot

Jan. 21 - St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

Jan. 24 - St. Francis de Sales

Jan. 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas

Saint Spotlight

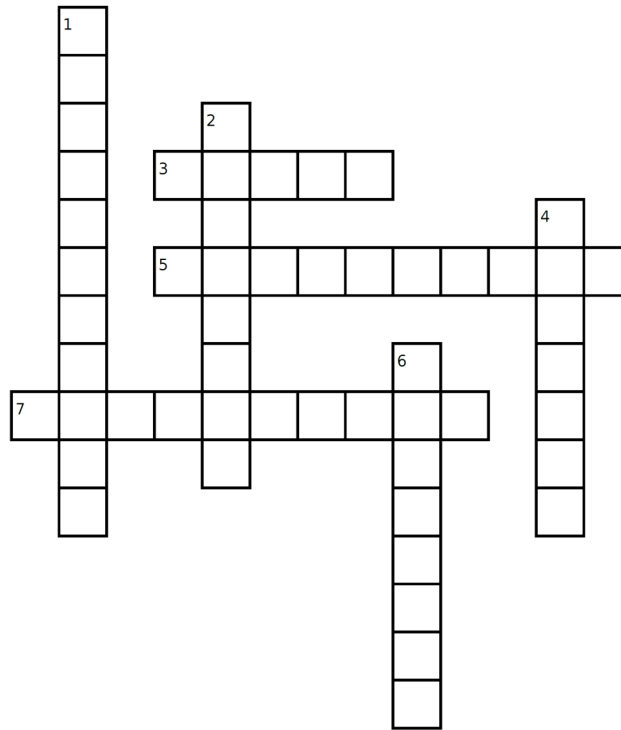
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first American to be canonized as a saint. She was raised Episcopalian, but later converted to Catholicism. Through the struggles and tragedies she faced in life, she remained devout. She is the founder of the first Catholic schools in the United States and is the patron saint of Catholic schools, widows, and seafarers.

While visiting Italy, Seton learned about Roman Catholicism for the first time. She was especially drawn to the doctrine of the Eucharist as the real body of Christ. She returned to New York in June 1804. After her return, she continued to feel conflicted between the Episcopal and Catholic faiths. After almost a year, she officially converted to Roman Catholicism on March 14, 1805. She was confirmed in 1806 and chose Mary as her confirmation name. Seton's choice to convert resulted in three years of financial struggle and social discrimination.

Seton and her family were invited by several priests to move to Baltimore, Maryland. They moved in June 1808 to open a school for girls. Catholic women from around the country came to join her work and, over time, they created a convent. The women soon moved to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where they formally began their religious life as Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's on July 31, 1809. This was the first sisterhood in the United States. Elizabeth Seton was named first superior and given the title of "Mother." She served in that role for the next twelve years. As the community took shape, Elizabeth directed its vision. On July 19, 1813, Seton and eighteen other sisters made vows of poverty, chastity, obedience, and service to the poor. They would renew these vows annually. In 1814 the community accepted its first mission outside Emmitsburg, an orphanage in Philadelphia. By 1817 sisters had been sent to staff a similar work in New York.

While in Emmitsburg, two of Seton's daughters died from tuberculosis, Anna Maria in 1812 and Rebecca in 1816. By that time, she herself was weak and increasingly subject to poor health. She spent the last years of her life directing St. Joseph's Academy and her growing community. She died January 4, 1821, at 46 years old. Anderson, Ashlee. "Elizabeth Ann Seton." National Women's History Museum, 25 Sept. 2018, www.womenshistory.org/students-and-educators/biographies/elizabeth-ann-seton.

Ordinary Time



Down:

1. Members of the Christian Church who received letters from St. Paul.
2. A book in the Old Testament.
4. Where Jesus performed his first miracle.
6. Stories that Jesus used to teach.

Across:

3. Fisherman that Jesus asked to join his ministry.
5. Spoken by Jesus during the Sermon on the Mount.
7. When Jesus went to the synagogue.