



Dear varTitle varFirstName varLastName,

Greetings from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton! We hope our letter this month finds you in good health and high spirits.

The month of November begins with the Solemnity of All Saints. This is a day to remember those holy men and women that provide us with an example of how to live our lives. This year, the Gospel reading for the first Sunday of November is the Beatitudes in which Jesus lists the important values in life that lead to prosperity and salvation

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.". Matthew 5: 1-12

Pope Francis offered the following reflection on the Beatitudes during World Youth Day in February 2014. "In proclaiming the Beatitudes, Jesus asks us to follow him and to travel with him along the path of love, the path that alone leads to eternal life. It is not an easy journey, yet the Lord promises us his grace and he never abandons us. We face so many challenges in life: poverty, distress, humiliation, the struggle for justice, persecutions, the difficulty of daily conversion, the effort to remain faithful to our call to holiness, and many others. But if we open the door to Jesus and allow him to be part of our lives, if we share our joys and sorrows with him, then we will experience the peace and joy that only God, who is infinite love, can give."

By accepting God's call to serve in the Church, you are a living example of the Beatitudes. We are so thankful for you and your vocation. You have chosen to be humble, seek justice, show mercy and be selfless in your daily life. You bring hope to the world and challenge those around you to be more like Jesus. Thank you for sharing the good news of the gospel through your joyful witness. May you always know of our gratitude for your dedicated service to God and the Church.

Your Brothers in Christ,

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Men of Action