

PARISH PROFILE

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Community grows in members, ministry

Parish that opened home for homeless pregnant women has history of involvement

BOTHELL
BY TERRY MCGUIRE

Parishioner John "Jack" Robinson recently counted the number of meetings planned in a given week at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

"There were 23 separate meetings scheduled this week alone," said Robinson, who with his wife, Janet, has been a member for almost 20 years and active in its Serra Club, St. Vincent de Paul Society conference, stewardship council, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults team and other efforts.

"We come over to the church at dif-

ferent times of the day and night and there are always cars in the parking lot," he said. "It's a sign of vibrancy."

In fact, adding more meeting space is among their future goals, said the parish's Mexico-born priest administrator, Father Edgar Sanchez of the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit.

"The church was filled as soon as we built it."

FATHER OLIVER DUGGAN

"There are a lot of people committed to minister."

The 27-year-old faith community has always been a parish on the grow. When now-Seattle Auxiliary Bishop Eusebio Elizondo of the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit was appointed pastor in 2000, the parish numbered 1,000 households. The number was close to 1,700 when he left in 2005 after being elevated to bishop. Now it's approximately 1,900, many of them young families, said Father Sanchez.

Father Oliver Duggan, who served as pastor for 15 years, remembers when they were building the current church on the site of an old dairy farm after years of meeting in leased space. He told then-Archbishop Raymond G. Hunthausen they would need a building seating at least 900 — thrice the parish population at the time.

"It grew very quickly because people invested themselves in it," he said. "The church was filled as soon as we built it."

It was during Father Duggan's pastorate that the parish put its pro-life beliefs into action with the planning of Seton House, a home for up to eight homeless pregnant women and their children. Operated by the parish and Catholic Community Services, it ran from 2000 to 2006.

SETON, See page 15

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Founded: **1983**

Households: **1,900**

Street address:
2316 180th St. SE
Bothell, WA 98102

Phone: **425-481-0303**

Web site: www.easbothell.org



Ground is broken for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, which opened in 1987.

PASTORS

Father Jarlath Heneghan **1983**

Father Oliver Duggan **1985**

Father Eusebio Elizondo,
M.Sp.S. **2000**

PRIEST ADMINISTRATORS

Father Conrad
Aquino, M.Sp.S.
2005

Father Edgar
Sanchez **2008**



Father Edgar Sanchez M.Sp.S.

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