



THE INQUISITOR

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The March for Life

Mary Curran

The March for Life is an annual event where thousands of people from all over gather in Washington D. C. to protest against abortion and to defend the lives of the unborn.

This year of 2022, the March for Life took place on January 21, and Seton School traveled together on buses reserved by St. Andrew's Catholic Church.

Around 150,000 people gathered at the National Mall in Washington D.C. to rally and hear the inspiring voices of guest speakers, including Kirk Cameron, Katie Shaw, Fr. Mike Schmitz, and others. The theme for this year's March was "Equality Begins in the Womb.". This means babies in the womb deserve the right to live just like everyone else. The March for Life began

at 1 PM, and went from the National Mall to the Supreme Court, which is several blocks away. It was truly inspiring to see the masses of people fighting for the unborn at the March for Life, even in the biting cold.

Throughout the March for Life, people gathered together to pray the rosary, sing songs, play music, and do anything to show that they were there and ready to fight for the defenseless.

Every year, the March for Life has thousands of people protesting for the unborn, and these people are not going to stop or give up until abortion is illegal. The March for Life always has an tremendous turnout, and it is so inspiring to see so many people united to fight for a good cause.



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Santa Claus at Seton

Annalise Dean

Every school has its own ways of celebrating Christmas. Of course Seton has its own traditions that the community looks forward to every year. If you're a student at Seton during Christmas time, you may be surprised to open your locker and find candy or other neat gifts! Every year at the start of the Advent season, classes organize Secret Santas, or Advent Angels, and every student picks someone in their class to secretly get them little gifts, pray for them, and do nice things for them throughout the season. This is probably one of the most popular traditions, not only because of the tangible items, but because of the mysteriousness of it all. The junior high students are especially eager for St. Nicholas' feast day, since on that day, all seventh and eighth graders will put one shoe out in the hallway- and the next period- their shoes will be mysteriously filled with candy.

Another popular Christmas tradition at Seton is the St. Nick's Festival. This fun event includes the entire Seton community, including The Santa

Claus Himself, and is open to visitors. There are many creative crafts and games available for young children, fake snow, hot chocolate, and a wide variety of cookies! It's typically in December before Christmas break at Seton in the gym, and a joy for the whole family.

There is also the much looked forward to Christmas Band Performance! Families came together to watch the Seton band and choirs perform many classic Christmas songs with their beautiful voices and their impressive instrumental skills! This experience is nothing short of inspiring, especially if you enjoy good music.

While Seton does practice these Christmas traditions, the true meaning of Christ's birth is never undermined. As much as gifts and cookies are nice, they will never be able to compare to the real gift of Christmas; Jesus, as a little baby, being born into our souls.



Christmas Around the World

Clara Luetkemeyer

Christmas is a very popular holiday worldwide. It doesn't matter your religious or political beliefs, it's a time for everyone to come together. All across the world, countries have various traditions they celebrate. These are some of the most interesting:

Austria, Germany, Slovenia, Hungary and the Czech Republic:

These countries believe in Krampus; an old tradition of dispelling the ghosts of winter by dressing up in fur clothes with demon-like masks. Their equivalent of Santa, Krampus, roams the streets during the Krampuslauf, or the Krampus Parade, and punishes the children who are deemed to be on the naughty list.

Iceland: In Iceland, folklore says that "The Yule Cat" prowls around the country around Christmas. If you had been good all year, you would be gifted new clothing; but if you were bad, you would be eaten by the Yule Cat. The tradition originated from a poem written by Jóhannes úr Kötlum in 1899. The story has mostly died away in intensity, but it is still customary to receive clothes on Christmas Day.

Philippines: Filipino Catholics begin their Christmas celebrations on December 16 with a nine day novena of Masses. Every morning between 3:00 am and 5:00 am, the faithful would rise and go to Mass in preparation for Christmas. Simbang Gali, as it is traditionally called, goes from December 16- December 24. After these Masses, everyone gathers to eat breakfast in the churchyard.

Africa: While many Christmas traditions in Africa are the same as in the United States, the main thing that sets us apart is the fact that many countries in Africa do not believe in Santa Claus. The countries that do, Kenya in particular, believe Santa arrives on a camel or on a bike rather than a sleigh. Another interesting thing is that instead of saying "Merry Christmas" to each other, they say "My Christmas on You!"

Overall, each country has unique Christmas traditions that we should consider using for our own future Christmas celebrations!!



Obscure Saints: St. Margaret Bourgeoys

Ava Hudson

Do you know who St. Margaret Bourgeoys is? She is one of many obscure saints of the month of January. St. Margaret was born in 1620 on Good Friday to her very busy parents Abraham and Guillemette Bourgeoys. Her father, Abraham, was a candle maker. Margaret was the seventh of thirteen children. In 1640 during a procession for Our Lady of the Rosary, she had a life-changing experience with a statue of the Virgin Mary. When she passed the threshold of Notre-Dame Abbey, she was so taken aback at the sight of a beautiful stone Virgin Mary statue that she instantly changed and didn't recognize herself. Later that year, she joined the "non-cloistered" branch of the Congregation of Notre Dame. There was never a time when she turned an opportunity to practice charity. In late 1699, one of her fellow sisters fell sick and Margaret prayed to God to suffer instead of her sister. On January 12, 1700, she died, and Pope John Paul II canonized her in 1982.



Winter Wardrobe

Maggie Gibbons

Eventhough we've had some warmer days recently, winter isn't over yet and we still have a few weeks to show off our favorite cozy outfits! Fashion is a way to express oneself if taught how to style things correctly. Fashion can be cute but the modern world has crippled and distorted the beauty of fashion, and modesty needs to be the new trend!



Jeans in and of themselves are a simple item, but when paired with a crewneck sweatshirt and a puffer vest it can become a cute, simple winter outfit.



This outfit is very trendy, with the oversized leather jacket, statement pants, and the combat boots. It is perfect for the winter season because it is modest, and fashionable.



For a more classy look, you can wear a brighter colored turtleneck with a light blue puffer coat with a nice pair of light colored slacks.



Shoes that are super cute and trendy are Doc Martens combat boots.



Another cute pair of shoes are Doc Martens low rise platforms.

Charity at Seton

Anabel Clune

During this winter season, Seton has done quite a few things for charity. Hoops for Haiti is a big event Seton hosts every year to raise money for our sister school in Haiti. Care packages for the homeless, made by students and teachers, were organized, and distributed by Mrs. Duran, and this year, Mrs. Reyes ran Christmas cards for the military.

Hoops for Haiti is a fun basketball event hosted by Seton. Seton students, alumni, and parents are able to sign up on teams of three and have a tournament, competing against each other. This year many teams signed up and we raised over \$1,000! The bleachers were full of spectators and this year's event was particularly entertaining.

Mrs. Duran, during the Christmas season, gathers donations to make care packages for the homeless. The bags come from Catholic Charities. Mrs. Duran has been working with Sr. Ann for several years on this project. She requests families to help by making bags full of toiletries and basic necessities to distribute to the homeless. This year, the tenth grade girls made Christmas cards with sweet notes for each bag.

Also this year, Mrs. Reyes ran a Christmas cards for the military program. Each student was requested to make a card for deployed men and women during the holidays. The tenth-grade girls made 145 cards and the 7th grade class made completely handmade cards. Hundreds of cards were made and many men and women who were away from their families during Christmas were given the assurance of prayers and love.

Seton does many things for charity all throughout the year. Students, teachers, and parents all donate and participate in these events and truly live out their faith by giving of their time, talent and treasure.



Winter in Manassas

Faith Godeaux

Manassas is a great location to enjoy the winter season. It provides nice scenery, things to do, and events to enjoy. Winter is a great time to explore your hometown and with your loved ones.

Things to Do

- There is an outdoor ice skating rink located in Old Town Manassas. Ice Skating is a great activity to do with friends and family, especially when it's snowing. The town is decorated with Christmas lights and festive colors during the winter months!
- Another activity to do with friends and family is visiting your local coffee shop or cafe to grab a cup of warm, delicious hot chocolate or other seasonal beverages.

Events

- Every year, Old Town Manassas has a Christmas Parade in the beginning of December. Organizations such as dance studios, high school marching bands, and church groups participate and provide entertainment. This is a great way to get into the festive mood and see everything going on in your town.
- In December 2021, Manassas provided carriage rides! It is a free, easy outing that's family friendly and is a great way to get out of the house and enjoy the fresh winter air.

Weather

- This year in particular, winter weather has affected things such as transportation, roadways, and school closings. In 2022, snowfall has been more common than in recent years. So far Manassas, VA, along with many other regions, has experienced two snow storms.

Enjoy our cute town of Manassas with family and friends as the cozy season comes to an end and spring gets closer.



Bethlehem Comes to Gainesville

Catherine DeWolf

Holy Trinity Catholic Church, located in Gainesville, Virginia, has been bringing a small part of Jesus' life to their parish for the last 6 years. The Bethlehem walk was started by Margi Loesel, Lisa Gogal, and Carrie Hall. It is an interactive display of what life would have looked like in Bethlehem at the time of Christ's birth. Each December, groups of people are taken through the halls of the beautiful parish and are able to interact with any of the "villagers". At the end, there's a real stable with live animals and everyone is encouraged to greet the Holy Family to end the walk. Every December, hundreds of families stop by Holy Trinity to be reminded of the true meaning of Christmas and transport themselves into the life of Christ. Fr. Vander Woude, the pastor of the Church, said, "The Bethlehem Walk makes Christmas real for so many families, especially the young! It is an event that helps the young and old, the guests and characters, to have an experience of Our Lord's Birth." This year, the Bethlehem walk was better than ever and everyone is excited to go next year!



VEX Robotics Competition

Maddie Zadnik

On December 18th, Seton's own Vex Club entered the VRC Christmas Seton Tournament. There were 38 teams, six of which were Seton teams. The tournament started after the opening ceremony that began at 8:45. The game this year was "Tipping Point". The object of the game was to attain a higher score than the opposing alliance by each using their team of two robots to perform various activities such as scoring rings, moving mobile goals to alliance home zones, and balancing on platforms at the end of a match. The teams had to move rings to stand goals around the field to earn points. There were two sections to the game, the first is an autonomous period where the robot has to react to sensory input and perform pre-programmed movements to try to pick up rings and score points. This lasts for the first 15 seconds of the match. The second is the driver-controlled period where a student controls the robot with a remote. This lasts for 1 minute and 45 seconds adding to a total of 2 minutes per match. The robot can also score points by moving the goals themselves and balancing them on a tipping platform by the edge of the playing field. The teams have the option to balance their robot on the platform at the end of the match for even more points. This year the tournament champions were SharkBots from Colgan High School and Korvex, a team from Ashburn, Virginia. The finalists were Terminal Velocity from our very own Seton School and Graviton from Langley High School. The Design Award was given to Exobits from Montclair, Virginia, and the Judges Award was given to RoboLeopards from Langley High School. The event lasted most of the day and ended at 5:30. A full day of programming and robotics! Congratulations to our Seton teams!!

