



THE DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

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A New Catholic High School to be built in the Grand Strand ~ Officials hope to open St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic High School in 2016 ~

The Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone, Bishop of Charleston, has announced that the Grand Strand will be the home of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic High School. The new Catholic High School will be built on 50 acres of land located on Carolina Forest Boulevard. “St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic High School will be authentically Catholic, academically challenging, and fulfill an urgent need. This project has the full support of our Diocese and I look forward to the opening of Seton Catholic High School in the future,” said the Bishop Guglielmone.

The idea of a Catholic high school in the Myrtle Beach area dates back to 2000 when a consulting group studied the region and found that there was the need for a Catholic high school in Horry County. After more than 13 years of research, planning and prayer, the Horry County Catholic parishes and the diocese are now moving forward with a capital campaign to fund the project. The goal is to raise a minimum of \$3.5 million to cover the costs of construction of the 15,400 square foot phase 1 building; furniture; fixtures; equipment; administrative, fundraising, architectural and engineering fees; and an operational subsidy for the first 3 years. “Dependent upon reaching fundraising benchmarks, we hope to open the new school in the fall of 2016 with a ninth grade class. Each year, an additional class and grade will be added until the full four-year program is attained,” said Father James Leblanc, School President and Pastor of St. Andrew Catholic Church.

The mission of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic High School will be to provide a safe and nurturing environment in which its students will be educated both in character and in conscience, to be steadfast in their faith, dedicated to social responsibility, and committed to developing all their

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God-given talents. “The school will boast a rigorous, college preparatory curriculum which will follow the guidelines established by the Catholic Diocese of Charleston and the South Carolina Department of Education,” said Sister Pamela Smith, Secretary of Education. “Moreover, it will concentrate on the students’ Christian faith development, so that they may live Christ’s command to love one another, and become responsible members of both Church and society,”

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the school patron saint, is the founder of the Sisters of Charity. She started the first parochial school in the United States, in Baltimore, MD, in 1808. In 1975, she became the first American born citizen to be canonized. Her feast day is January 4th.

Seton Catholic High School will serve all Grand Strand students, both Catholic and non-Catholic. Its Catholic feeder schools are St. Andrews, St. Michael and Holy Trinity Catholic Schools.

About the Diocese of Charleston

The Catholic Diocese of Charleston comprises the entire state of South Carolina with Charleston as its See city. Founded in 1820 by Pope Pius VII, it is one of the oldest Catholic dioceses in the United States.

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