

Mother Seton Award



Mother Elizabeth Seton

Elizabeth Ann Bayley was born in New York City on August 28, 1774 to a prominent Episcopal family. In 1794, at the age of 19, Elizabeth married William Magee Seton, a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. William died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving Elizabeth a young widow. After discovering Catholicism in Italy, where her husband had died, Elizabeth returned to the United States and entered the Catholic Church in 1805 in New York. Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, planting the seeds of Catholic education in the United States. Her legacy now includes religious congregations in the United States and Canada, whose members work on the unmet needs of people living in poverty in North America and beyond. Mother Seton, as she is often called, was canonized on Sunday, September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI. She was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "Saint."

The Mother Seton Award was created to honor those individuals whose volunteer service and dedication to home, school, and church have been exemplary. This person's character is the personification of our school's motto, "Prayer, Knowledge, and Service," for parishioners, parents, faculty, staff, and students. Each year, St Thomas More Catholic School, in coordination with the efforts of the Diocese of Baton Rouge, seeks to recognize a deserving candidate from our school family to be the recipient of the Mother Seton Award. The Diocese recognizes parent volunteers from schools throughout the Diocese every year with this incredible award. If you know someone who fits this description and you would like to see him or her honored for their commitment to St Thomas More church and school, please send nominations to the Home & School Association at stmhands@gmail.com. The deadline for accepting nominates is January 31, 2019.

**St. Thomas More Catholic School Baton Rouge Diocesan
Home and School Association Award Honorees**

1987-88	Bobbie Saizan
1988-89	Jane Mathes
1989-90	Carol Bonnecaze
1909-91	Susan Weber
1991-92	Richard Bourgeois
1992-93	Bob Bruno
1993-94	Paul Frey
1994-95	Nancy Valluzzo
1995-96	Kathy Schwartzenburg
1996-97	Cookie Uffman
1997-98	Dolly Trick
1998-99	Anne Harrison
1999-00	Dorothy Olinde
2000-01	Susan Nelson
2001-02	Cindy Divincenti
2002-03	Vicki Brooks
2003-04	Lisa Mohr
2004-05	Anne Winkler
2005-06	Claudia Larriviere
2006-07	Jackie Graugnard
2007-08	Ellen Tomeny
2008-09	Janet McGinty
2009-10	Terre Smoth
2010-11	Sharron Bucharth
2011-12	Tammy Bogan
2012-13	Jeanne Barone
2013-14	Kathleen Lovretich
2014-15	Andrea Sides
2015-16	Karen Saunders
2016-17	Jennifer Harris
2017-18	Joanne Harvey