

CELEBRATING THE HEART & SOUL OF CHRISTMAS

The Spirit of Christmas resounded in the hearts and souls of those who celebrated Christmas with Elizabeth Seton High School's music groups. The students' exquisite performance of sacred music, traditional carols and holiday favorites was spiritually uplifting as it resonated with all that we believe about Christmas.



For students, these performances began in late October with steady practices, critical reviews, and student involvement in the final selection of songs that are shared. For alumnae, faculty members, parents, and the entire Seton Community,

it began on December 5th as the Gospel Choir and the Divine Dancers presented *Rejoice*. This celebration of worship and praise music, under the direction of Mr. Samuel Cromwell, prepared our hearts and souls during the holy season of Advent.

Sacred music continued to lift our hearts and souls on December 8, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, when Seton's choral groups honored Mary, the mother of Jesus with songs of joy and thanksgiving. At this concert, under the direction of Dr. Kathleen Vadala, each choral group performed traditional carols from the United Kingdom that allowed us to freely celebrate our Christian faith and belief. The mix of both familiar and unfamiliar music delighted the audience with songs they love or remember and with songs that surprise and charm them. Among the audience favorites were *O Come All Ye Faithful*, *The Carole of The Bells*, and *The*

Twelve Days of Christmas. Exuberance and excitement filled the auditorium as hearts and souls were united in the true blessings of Christmas.

The celebration of Christmas continued on December 10 with Elizabeth Seton High School's instrumental concert, under the direction of Ms. Debra Hood. Regardless of your music preference, you were sure to enjoy this concert performed by Our Wind Ensemble, Our Orchestra, Our Concert Band, Our Jazz Band, and Our Symphonic Band. Holiday music and other practiced pieces gladdened the spirits of the audience especially when favorite carols were played in unique arrangements.

At Elizabeth Seton High School, there is no celebration of Christmas without our Christian faith. With praise and thanks, we gave God the glory and we freely performed sacred music that is the heart and soul of Christmas! S

