

SAINT Elizabeth Ann Seton



By REV. LAWRENCE G. LOVASIK, S.V.D.

Divine Word Missionary



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Elizabeth Learns about the Catholic Religion

ELIZABETH returned to Livorno with the Filicchis. She saw the Catholic Faith in action in the good example of these family friends.

They gave her books to study, and they prayed for her.



Elizabeth Starts a School

ELIZABETH embraced the Catholic Faith fully and with great joy, but, unfortunately, she met with some very negative reactions from many in her family and among her friends; they rejected her for becoming a Catholic. A good number of those who had been closest to Elizabeth left her to struggle as she tried her best to financially support her young children while living in New York City.

Three years after she became a Catholic, she heard Reverend William Dubourg preach in New York. After that encounter, the priest, who was President of St. Mary's College in Baltimore, Maryland, invited Elizabeth to open a school for girls in Baltimore.

God blessed her work. Soon the school was too small for the number of girls wishing to attend.

Several young women joined Elizabeth in educating the students attending the school.