



Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton's Journey to Kingdom Builders

Our journey to becoming Kingdom Builder Co- Chairs began on parallel tracks that converged at a healing service given by Father Drew Curry and Father Ben Muhlenkamp. We were both touched deeply in unique ways by the love the Holy Spirit, experiencing inner healing of our deep woundedness. Our lives would never be the same.

This shared excitement for what the Lord had done for us drove us to seek more. We went to the Encounter Conference in Toledo in January 2020, where we met a woman who would be one of our fellow KB Core Team members. We became fast friends and felt a new boldness to share with others the freedom that Jesus had given to us. As we brainstormed how to bring this experience to others in our parish, we had many ideas, but God had a plan.

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck and seemed to derail our plans, God used this time for further transformation. All three of us had received and became trained in inner healing prayer, allowing us to be aware where we are the most vulnerable and have the need to rely on God alone.

In September 2020, we went to our first Kingdom Builders Gathering. After Eucharistic Adoration, we looked at each other without needing to say a word and knew that this was God's plan.

We emailed the founder, Mary Jo Parrish, to find out where to begin and were told we needed a team of seven women. We were almost halfway there. As we continued praying for wisdom, the Holy Spirit brought us a team of ten! We all went into our first meeting thinking we were just going to arrange the dates and turn on the lights, but to our surprise, our roles in building the Kingdom exceeded our expectations and comfort zones! We went through the process of discerning our roles through prayer and reflection while forming our Mosaic Small Group at the same time. This allowed us to get to know one another, share our strengths and weaknesses and encourage and pray for one another as we developed our spiritual gifts.

As obstacles arose, whether technical, physical, emotional, or spiritual, the Holy Spirit led us and walked beside us. Before the Gathering a flock of birds came to rest on a large tree, silhouetted against the sunset.

"Although it is the smallest of seeds, yet it grows into the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches." Matthew 13:32

God was giving His assurance to trust in Him, and He would bring His birds, His beautiful daughters, into His Kingdom.

We are blessed with the support of our parish priests, staff and Kingdom Builders Central allowing our Gathering to be more than a success. Women expressed gratitude for bringing "*just what my soul needed.*" Our team was filled with joy to hear women crying healing tears during Exposition and felt convicted to go to confession. They loved being together as women, His beloved daughters, to worship Him.

Come Holy Spirit! We cannot wait to see all You will do.