

2009 STEWARDSHIP HANDBOOK & MINISTRIES CATALOG

(PLEASE KEEP UNTIL WINTER 2010)



ST. SEBASTIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



One Body in Christ

“**W**e are one body, one body in Christ, and we do not stand alone.” These are the words sung by millions at the annual World Youth Day. It is truly a Catholic anthem, one which emphasizes that we are a universal church with room for every person.

Just as Jesus welcomes every person with open arms, we at St. Sebastian welcome the presence and involvement of all our members – whether they are longtime members, new families, or just recently returning to the Church.

Part of being a welcoming community is being open to the gifts and talents of each member. This is why each year we invite all parishioners to make commitments of time, talent, and treasure. Your gifts are what make St. Sebastian a vibrant parish community.



We at St. Sebastian are emphasizing the virtue of hospitality. Our goal is to become a welcoming community that extends a friendly invitation to each member to become active in building the Body of Christ. In our parish, “All are Welcome.”



Stewardship of Time

Have you ever noticed that couples who have recently fallen in love spend every possible minute together? Among the simplest ways to show love is to simply be with a person; to spend time with him or her.

Being a steward of time means making time for the things we love most. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, strength, and love your neighbor as yourself.” If we truly love the Lord, we will make time to be with Him in prayer. If we love our neighbor, we will find ways

to help our community. If we love our parish, we will seek out opportunities to spend time with our parishioners. During this year’s Renewal, under the category “Stewardship of Time,” we are primarily focusing on how we spend time in personal prayer and family prayer. Think about what you love most. If God and family are near the top of the list, resolve to make prayer – the lifeblood of Christian life – a part of your own daily life and the life of your family.

Our model for prayer is Jesus, who prayed with his disciples and often went aside to pray by himself. Listed on your Commitment Card are some suggestions for spending time with God in prayer.





Stewardship of Talent

Most Catholics who attend Mass regularly also want to be involved in their parish during the week. Of course, not all of us can spend a whole weekday morning volunteering. But intuitively, we know that the Gospel preached on Sunday needs to be put into action Monday through Saturday.

We all have different schedules, different abilities, different interests — but we all share a common obligation to be active members of the Body of Christ. A good steward is one who takes this obligation seriously and finds ways to put his or her talent to work.



In the following pages you will discover dozens of ministries — from educational opportunities to community outreach programs.

You don't need to be an artist or musician to have "talent." You don't even need a special hobby or skill. All you need is the conviction that you do in fact, have a role to play, and the willingness to seek it out.

With over 90 different ministries in the parish, there's sure to be a place where you can use your talent! When you use your commitment card to sign up for a ministry, someone will contact you and explain how to get involved.

Stewardship of Treasure

At St. Sebastian we are encouraging each other to be better stewards of our money, setting aside a generous offering to the parish each week. This is an important part of our Stewardship Renewal.

Talking about money in a church setting is distasteful to some people – but it shouldn't be. Jesus himself spoke about money quite frequently, for the very simple reason that money plays a very large role in our lives. Precisely because of this, it needs to be aligned with our most deeply held beliefs.

After all, Jesus asks us to give Him our hearts; why should it be harder to give him our dollars? "Where treasure is, there also lies your heart."



Why Give a Percentage?

Why should we determine the amount of our gift based on a percentage of income? First, because the tithe (10%) is a scriptural benchmark which the Church has honored for centuries (see Malachi 3:10). Secondly, we give a percentage of income because it is a common-sense standard by which everyone can equitably support the parish, each according to his or her ability.

As a parish, St. Sebastian breaks down the tithe as follows:

5% to the parish
1% to the diocese and 4% to other charities

If the goals above seem difficult to attain, consider increasing your gift incrementally until you reach your goal. It may take some time (even several months) but eventually you can reach an amount that adequately reflects God's generosity to you.

As you move toward your goal, the most important thing is to choose a regular amount to give each week or month, and be faithful to it. Families who have reached the tithe will tell you that it brings peace and blessing, because they know they have made God their top priority.

Guide for Giving 5%

Annual income 5% Weekly Gift

\$10,000	\$10
20,000	19
30,000	29
50,000	48
75,000	72
100,000	96
125,000	120
150,000	144
200,000	192

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers

Altar servers assist the priest for daily and weekend liturgies. Interested boys and girls, grade 5 through high school, must participate in training sessions and periodic refreshers. Adults welcome, too. **Contact: Larry Furman, 330-864-3041, makronym@yahoo.com**

Art & Environment

Members plan and prepare the church for liturgical and secular seasons with an appreciation and understanding of Catholic liturgy. Parishioners are welcome to contribute their gifts of designing, decorating, sewing, woodworking or other visual arts. **Contact: Barb Whitney, 330-836-3635, bwhitney@neo.rr.com; Jim & Jane Casey, 330-867-6083, cjanie1203@aol.com**

Children's Liturgy of the Word

During the Scripture readings and homily at Sunday Mass, children in kindergarten through 6th grade hear the Word of God at an age-appropriate level. Adults need to lead and assist in proclaiming the Word and engage children in faith-filled activities. **Contact: Elaine Fekko, 330-836-2233x103, fekhoe@stsebastian.org**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

EMHCs distribute the Eucharist under both species for liturgies and special events. (Visiting Eucharistic Ministers take Communion into the community.) Parishioners are nominated by current EMHCs and must be approved by the pastor. Both diocesan and parish training are required. For those seeking more involvement, an EMHC may take extra training to become a Mass Coordinator, one who oversees the duties of the liturgical ministers at the weekend or holy day liturgies. **Contact: Karen Bader, 330-864-1863, karenliturgy@aol.com**

General Intercessions

This committee meets to pray, reflect on the Sunday readings and write the Prayers of the Faithful proclaimed at the Sunday liturgies.

They meet every few weeks at the convenience of the committee. **Contact: Marga Bohn, 330-867-7081, margabohm@neo.rr.com; Pat Clark-Varga, 330-873-1475, patcv1984@yahoo.com**

Greeters

Greeters create a hospitable environment by cheerfully welcoming parishioners and visitors as they enter the church for Mass. **Contact: Virginia Scott, 330-745-0067, verde1@att.net**

Lectors

These men and women proclaim the Scriptures during the Mass. As the Word is a central element of the liturgy, lectors must be willing to study the readings and proclaim them with understanding. Training is provided. Passion is required. **Contact: Ted Varga, 330-873-1475, tedv1984@yahoo.com**

Sacristans

Sacristans work quietly behind the scenes, keeping the sanctuary and altars clean and dusted. They order and replace candles and hosts; clean and repair linens, priests' albs and servers' robes; set-up for daily Mass, funerals and weddings with proper vessels. Sacristans work hand in hand with Arts and Environment. **Contact: Karen Spangler, 330-836-0038, spangrila276@yahoo.com**

Transportation to Mass

Volunteers are needed to take individuals to Mass who cannot drive due to health or other reasons. This important ministry ensures that every member of our parish family is present at Mass as we celebrate together. **Contact: Steve Marks, 330-867-1536, smarks1@neo.rr.com**



Ushers

The ushers' ministry is one of welcoming and service. Responsibilities include assisting special needs people, distributing and collecting material, etc. Ushers are trained in using a defibrillator. Parishioners of all ages are welcome. **Contact: Jim Dettling, 330-666-2952, jmdett7@verizon.net**

Music Ministries

Contact Lynn Frey, 330-836-2233x111, freyl@stsebastian.org

Cantors

Cantors lead the assembly in worship and song. A pleasant voice and a welcoming demeanor are essential. The ministry is open to anyone Junior High age or older. Training is provided; rehearsals are held seasonally.

Children's Choir

Children of the parish, grades 2 through 8, are invited to be part of the Children's Choir, a seasonal group that sings for Christmas and Easter. Students may be involved in the choir for one or both seasons. Rehearsals are held seasonally.

Handbell Choir

Through the unique sounds of bells, members enhance liturgies during the year and participate in other musical outreach programs. The ability to read music is not required. Rehearsals are weekly from September to June. Membership is open to teens and adults.

Men's Quartet

This group sings both traditional and cross-cultural repertoire from all style periods. They sing occasionally for Sunday Liturgy as well as for other special occasions. Rehearsals are held twice a month from September to June.

Parish Choir

Parish Choir sings traditional and multicultural music for Sunday Liturgy as well as for other special occasions, funerals and weddings. Open to teens and adults with pleasant singing voices, they rehearse weekly from September to June. They offer prayer and social gatherings. No audition is necessary and the ability to read music is optional.

Praise and Worship Ensemble

This group provides a wide variety of instrumental, vocal, and ensemble presentations for Sunday Liturgies, special occasions, funerals and weddings. Teens and adults with a pleasant singing voice or capable instrumental skills are welcome. Vocal audition or the ability to read music is not required. Rehearsals are held weekly year round and include time for fellowship and prayer.

Spiritual Ministries

Book Rack

The parish bookrack in the church vestibule provides a means of adult faith formation by offering Catholic periodicals for sale, including newspapers and monthly Bible study booklets. Pamphlets from Christian social service organizations and prayer cards are available free of charge. Volunteer duties include restocking, organizing, and record-keeping. The parish office oversees the suitability of materials placed here. **Contact: Pat Clark Varga, 330-873-1475, patcv1984@yahoo.com**

Eucharistic Adoration

Parishioners are invited and encouraged to spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday following Mass from 8:40am until 7:45pm ending with Benediction. Volunteers are needed as the Blessed Sacrament cannot be left unattended. Eucharistic Prayer 7:00-7:45 **Contact: Marga Bohm, 330-867-7081, margabohm@neo.rr.com; Vinceen Davis, 330-864-4116**

McDonough Resource Center

This library, located in the rear of the church, is the perfect quiet spot to read or study about the Catholic Faith. It houses an extensive collection of books, periodicals, audio and video tapes, and equipment for the use of parishioners and catechists. Additional volunteers are needed to help maintain this valuable resource. **Contact: Joseph Kastelic, 330-865-1837**

Memorial of Fresh Flowers

Remember your loved ones, honor our patron saints, and brighten our church. Donations of cash, bouquets, planters, cuttings from your garden, or your time are welcomed. **Contact: Marga Bohm, 330-867-7081, margabohm@neo.rr.com**

Prayer Line

When parishioners request special prayers, their intentions are passed to many people via the Parish Prayer Line. This is an effective way to intercede for important prayer intentions. New intercessors are always welcome. **Contact: Annette Brady, 330-867-2757, abrady2000@neo.rr.com**

Retreats

Retreats, held at Loyola of the Lakes Jesuit Retreat House in Portage Lakes, are offered to parishioners as a way to deepen and continue their spiritual journey and build a faith community. Both the men's and women's retreats are held on a weekend in Lent. Additional retreats are scheduled in autumn pending interest. Volunteers are essential in the success of these retreats. **Contact: (Men) Tom Burkley and (Women) Marge Barkley, 330-864-8694, martom315@aol.com**

Rosary Cenacle of Prayer – Church

Based on Fr. Gobi's "Marian Movement of Priests"; parishioners meet in Church every Friday from 1:00 – 2:15pm to pray for the needs of the Church, vocations and individual intentions. The Rosary is also prayed daily after 8:00am Mass, Tuesday during Eucharistic Holy Hour from 7:00 – 8:00pm and on Saturday before the Vigil Mass at 4:00pm. **Contact: Marga Bohm, 330-867-7081, margabohm@neo.rr.com; Vinceen Davis, 330-864-4116**

Rosary Cenacle of Prayer – Home

The in-home version of our church cenacle seeks to facilitate prayer groups in homes throughout our parish and community.

Where two or three gather...the power of the rosary is amazing! Join an existing group or start your own.

Contact: Joan Brownfield, 330-864-1708, rbsdad@aol.com

Vocations Promotion

This group fosters vocations to the priesthood and religious life by providing material for the bulletin, arranging speakers to share inspirational testimony, and providing prayers and the Traveling Vocation Cross. **Contact: Marga Bohm, 330-867-7081, margabohm@neo.rr.com**

Votive Lights

Volunteers are needed daily after the 8:00am morning Mass to maintain the votive candles in the church and collect donations. **Contact: Don Adams, 330-867-9342**

Faith Formation Ministries

Baptism Preparation Team

A dedicated group of lay leaders prepare parents and godparents to understand and appreciate the responsibilities that come with the Sacrament of Baptism. Members prepare the sacramentals to be used during the baptism and assist the families that day. **Contact: Marival Ciarlariello, 330-865-6539, marivalquesada2002@yahoo.com**

Bible Study

Participants of this ministry are given an opportunity to grow in their faith through an understanding and appreciation of Sacred Scripture. **Contact: Larry Furman, 330-864-3041, makronym@yahoo.com**

Catechist Formation

Certification for teaching all levels of religious education is provided through this program of the Diocese of Cleveland. Required for grades K through 12 and PSR. Strongly recommended for Children's Liturgy of the Word. Learn the process of faith formation and how to pass Catholic beliefs and traditions to our young people. **Contact: Carolyn Humston, 330-836-8394, chumston@stmaryhudson.com**

Christian Faith Formation Team

The mission is to coordinate the spiritual needs of the St. Sebastian community. Through study, education and the strengthened power of prayer life of all parishioners, we will be led into a deeper relationship with Christ and a better understanding of our Catholic Faith. People of strong faith are needed to assess opportunities for spiritual growth on a parish-wide basis.

Contact: Elaine Fechko, 330-836-2233x103, fechkoe@stsebastian.org

Marriage Preparation

Established married couples meet with engaged couples to spend an evening and discuss the results of their diocesan marriage assessment. Training is provided. *Contact: Elaine Fechko, 330-836-2233x103, fechkoe@stsebastian.org*

Parish School of Religion (PSR)

1st through 8th grade public and home-schooled students have the opportunity to grow in their faith by attending weekly PSR classes. Students participate in sacramental programs, discover the richness of their faith, and learn how this faith will become the foundation of their lives.

Volunteer teachers and assistants are vital to the program.

Teachers must be certified or in the process of certification. Classes meet September to May.

Contact: Melanie Francis, 330-836-9107, francism@stsebastian.org; Elaine Fechko, 330-836-2233x103, fechkoe@stsebastian.org

Pre-Cana/Cana II

An important part of wedding preparation is the Pre-Cana session. The program helps couples entering marriage for the first time to better understand each other and the importance and dignity of married life.

If one partner has been married previously, Cana II is the more appropriate preparation program. Volunteer couples are needed for a variety of tasks in the support of this program.

Contact: Cindy & John Kendrick, 330-864-6575, kendric@ccf.org

Pre-school Religion

This program gives 3 to 5 year olds an opportunity to share the love of Jesus with others and supports home learning in the early stages of Christian formation. Classes are held during Mass from September to May. Volunteers teach and share their faith with these young children. Teachers must be certified or in the process of certification.

Contact: Melanie Francis, 330-836-9107, francism@stsebastian.org

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is the process by which adults become Catholic, return to the Church, or receive sacraments they missed as a child. Catechists and sponsors are needed to provide education, hospitality, and support and to guide catechumens on their journey toward a fuller practice of their faith. The program runs from fall through spring.

Contact: Elaine Fechko, 330-836-2233x103, fechkoe@stsebastian.org

Vacation Bible School

VBS is offered in the summer for any child in grades 1-5. Adult and teen volunteers lead activities which encourage children to grow in their relationship with Christ while having fun.

Contact: Elaine Fechko, 330-836-2233x103, fechkoe@stsebastian.org

Parish Life Ministries

Archivist

Archivists compile the history of the parish family through words,

photos and videos. They review parish records and documents to preserve the history of the parish for future generations.

Contact: Ralph Witt, 330-864-6019, ralphwitt@aol.com

Athletics/ CYO Coach

Catholic Youth Organization is a group that fosters participation in athletics for youth. All children of the parish, no matter what school they attend, may participate in CYO sports. The program is always in need of women and men to coach all sports.

Contact: Mark Constance, 330-869-6328, mconstance@yahoo.com

Booster Club

The boosters are a group of interested parents and parishioners devoted to maintaining a sports program at St. Sebastian School. Through their fund-raising programs, sports equipment and uniforms used in sports programs are purchased.

Contact: Don Coughlin, 330-864-6120, cough75695@aol.com

Boy Scouts Troup 96

For young men in grades 6 through high school, the mission of the Boy Scouts is to prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Volunteers help with all activities.

Contact: Dave Tschantz, 330-836-0646, dtschant@neo.rr.com

Bridge Flights

Both singles and couples with an interest in bridge, fellowship and fun are encouraged to join! The flights meet once a month from October through May. A portion of the dues are donated for parish needs.

Contact: Ann Traverse, 330-836-9463, monica1896@aol.com

Cub Scouts Pack 3096

Through participation in den meetings and outings, boys in grades 1-5 play games, build crafts, earn advancement, and learn to do their best. Activities are used to achieve the aims of scouting: citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness.

Many parent volunteers needed. *Contact: Don Salyers, 330-865-0780, salyersjr@neo.rr.com*



Girl Scouts & Brownies

In an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adult volunteers, Girl Scouts cultivate leadership, social conscience, and conviction about their own self worth. They enjoy outdoor fun, crafts, and community service projects, as well as the ever-popular cookie sales!

Contact: Pam Wilde, 330-836-7163, wpamwilde@sbcglobal.net

Home and School Association (HASA)

The purpose of this organization is to foster and continue the basic concepts of Catholic education while enhancing the parents' and teachers' role in the education of children by increasing their mutual understanding of children. It provides an opportunity for parishioners and parents, in an advisory and service capacity, to work together with the faculty and administration for the good of children. HASA works toward funding projects which benefit the children and the school. **Contact:** Bobbie DeKemper, 330-865-6539, bdekemper@sbcglobal.net

Junior High Youth Ministry

Jr. High Youth programs provide a safe, caring and accepting environment for 7th & 8th graders in the parish and offer a wide range of activities designed to promote the spiritual, social, and service components integral to effective Catholic youth ministry. Activities include monthly faith-based meetings, social and service activity, as well as one annual retreat. Volunteers help chaperone, drive, and assist at meetings.

Contact: Cathy Sivec, 330-835-1427, cathy@stvincentchurch.com

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal service organization of men, founded under the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. This organization provides men with a vehicle for building up the parish community and family life with an emphasis on family, youth, church, council, and community activities.

Contact: John Anderson, 330-836-4705, janderson4340@sbcglobal.net

Little Flower Garden Club

Under the patronage of Saint Theresa, the Little Flower, the mission of this ministry is to stimulate the knowledge and understanding of all growing things. Volunteers, with or without gardening experience, help promote gardening and conservation efforts in the parish and community. The nationally sanctioned garden show held in August is the one of the area's premier gardening events.

Contact: Dorothy Aylward, 330-864-3559

Sanctuary Society

Sanctuary Society, which includes all women of the parish, is financially responsible for all items relating to the sanctuary: altar breads, wine, candles, flowers, vestments for the clergy, etc. Monies are raised through various functions, dues and donations. Sanctuary Society is always looking for volunteers to help with their fundraisers as well as serve on the operating board. **Contact:** Jenny Minear, 330-836-5312,

jensue66@sbcglobal.net

Stewardship Council

Disciple's Response promotes the concept of gratefulness for gifts received from God and the responsibility of displaying this gratitude by sharing these gifts with others. Activities include the annual Stewardship Renewal and promoting the stewardship message of time, talent and treasure throughout the year. The committee meets monthly.

Members need an earnest desire to help others appreciate their God-given gifts and guide them in using those gifts.

Contact: Jim Large, 660-668-9664, jlargedds@yahoo.com

Ski Club

All parishioners are invited to hit the local slopes during the winter months. **Contact:** Katrina Stoneman, 330-869-8705,

stonemank@stsebastian.org

Senior High Youth Ministry

Sr. High Youth programs provide a safe, caring and accepting environment for high school students of the parish and offer a wide range of activities designed to promote the spiritual, social, and service components integral to effective Catholic youth ministry. Activities include monthly faith-based meetings, social and service activity, as well as an annual retreat. Adult volunteers are needed for the success of this ministry. **Contact:** Cathy Sivec, 330-835-1427,

cathy@stvincentchurch.com

Welcoming Committee

Members of this committee welcome new parishioners through personal contact and by hosting various events to make them feel at home.

Contact: Virginia Scott, 330-745-0067, verde1@att.net

Young Adult Group

This group seeks to welcome all in Christian hospitality and grow in the Catholic Faith. Group members are single or married, between 18 and 39 years old, living in the greater Akron area that are committed to deepening their relationship with God through weekly study of scripture and teachings of the Church. **Contact:** Matt Fedak, 330-923-1240,

chewie78@sbcglobal.net

Social Issues & Community Outreach

Bereavement

This ministry reaches out to those who have recently lost a loved one. Its purpose is to make the Church present in this time of grief. Members send cards and offer condolences, or help in other ways. **Contact:** *Elaine Fechko*, 330-836-2233x103, fechkoe@stsebastian.org

Ecumenical Efforts

The purpose of this group is to develop and maintain relationships with neighboring Christian churches, affording our parish the opportunity to meet, greet, promote harmony, celebrate and worship together. Events include picnics, book reviews, speakers and joint worship services. Volunteers are needed to help plan as well as assist with physical needs of such events. **Contact:** *Larry Furman*, 330-864-3041, makronym@yahoo.com

Funeral Luncheons

Easing the pain of grieving families, this group coordinates the receptions or luncheons which accompany parish funerals. Volunteers are needed to set-up, serve, and clean-up after the event. **Contact:** *Fran Sawaya*, 330-864-2298, fmsawaya@aol.com, *Anne Hergenrother*, 330-836-5834, abhgergen@sssnet.com

Giving Tree

Many of our neighbors have little, often lacking even life's bare necessities. The Giving Tree offers parishioners the opportunity to meet those needs during the Christmas Season. The work of this seasonal ministry (Advent), which requires some coordination

with local charities and parish organizations, entails setting up, maintenance and clean-up of three trees, construction of ornaments, gathering of gifts and, finally, delivery to these charities on two weekends in December. **Contact:** *Larry Furman*, 330-864-3041, makronym@yahoo.com

Good Samaritan Hunger Center

The Good Samaritan Hunger Center provides food to Akron area residents faced with hunger; low-income individuals and families, the homeless, the unemployed, the elderly, the mentally and physically disabled. Volunteers, age 14 and older, are needed to serve hot meals and distribute bags of food Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm at the Hunger Center on the parish grounds. **Contact:** *Nan Bartlett*, 330-864-8520, goodsamhunger@aol.com

Legion of Mary

Through a devotion to the Blessed Mother, members seek a sanctified life through prayer and service. They attend weekly meetings and also perform the apostolic work of taking Communion to area nursing homes, hospitals and senior day care centers while promoting their devotion to Mary. **Contact:** *Maralyn Yanko*, 330-864-0305

Mother of Sorrows Support Group

Mother of Sorrows is a support group for the bereaved. This ministry is one of worship, service and healing. Members attend all parish funerals to offer support and consolation through prayer, song and group presence. **Contact:** *Lillian Kosley*, 330-867-6824

Nazareth Housing

The Nazareth Housing Development has programs for the poor and disadvantaged for home construction, home repairs, financial literacy classes, and down-payment assistance. Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks including, but not limited to, help with grant writing and an annual reverse raffle. **Contact:** *Mike Steel*, 234-678-6934, masteel@goldman-rosen.com

Open M

Feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, nurturing children, supporting families and strengthening neighborhoods for 40 years. You can help! **Contact:** *Hank Hudson*, 330-836-3111

Parish Nursing (New Ministry)

Description to come. **Contact:** *Cory Schulz*, 330-836-1211, coryathome@sbcglobal.net

Rankin Tutoring Program

Members of this program reinforce reading, writing and math skills for at-risk children in kindergarten through 5th grade attending Rankin School. They work with children Monday through Thursday mornings for 2 hours per day with subjects directed by a teacher. **Contact:** *Mary Loraditch*, 330-836-0886

Respect Life Committee

This ministry is dedicated to defending human life from conception to natural death. The committee works to build a "culture of life," primarily through prayer, but also by educating the community about practices that uphold the dignity of life. With volunteer help, activities are organized throughout the year: Life Chain, Mother's Day carnation sale and Akron Beacon Journal pro-life advertisement. **Contact:** *Pat Clark-Varga*, 330-873-1475, patcv1984@yahoo.com



Separated & Divorced Ministry

Find support and fellowship through this diocesan program of faith and action. Gather for prayer, social activities, networking and service.

Contact: Carolyn Humston,
330-836-8394,
chumston@stmaryhudson.com

Social Justice

This group seeks to lead the parish and community effort that responds to the call of Jesus – through prayer, education, advocacy and action – to raise awareness of today’s social issues and implement the Church’s mission of justice. Together, members read, study and discuss issues of social justice locally, nationally and internationally, in order to educate themselves, the parish and the community. They meet monthly. **Contact:** Dave and Mary Tschantz, 330-864-0646, dtschant@neo.rr.com

St. Vincent De Paul Society

A traditional Catholic organization, it provides care for the poor within the parish boundaries through the distribution of funds, blankets and food. Referrals to outside social service agencies may provide additional assistance for clients.

Contact: Mike Bedell,
330-869-9703,
patbedell@yahoo.com

Surviving Spouses

This group for widows and widowers is committed to providing encouragement, with spiritual and social support, to those who have lost their spouse. They gather for a variety of activities in the spirit of prayer, fun and fellowship.

Contact: Ruth Ann Struglinski,
330-867-3479, rstrug@aol.com

Transportation – Medical

Volunteers are needed during the week to take parishioners, who cannot drive due to health or other reasons, to their doctor and/or other medical appointments. **Contact:**

Betty Regan, 330-864-8019,
bettyregan@sbcglobal.net



Administrative Ministries

Collection Counters

Our weekend collection is counted on Sunday morning with a rotating team on a once a month schedule. Members gather at 10:30 am on Sunday to count all three weekend Masses usually ending by 12:00 noon. Volunteers are needed in both routine and substitute capacities.

Contact: Steve Marks,
330-867-1536, smarks1@neo.rr.com;
Jim Petit, 330-665-0640,
jepmares@aol.com

Facilities Committee

The team provides long-range planning and goal setting for the St. Sebastian campus. They help manage any parish “work days” and individual volunteer activities. They also provide parishioner input to the pastor and Parish Council concerning facility related issues.

Contact: Tony Viscomi,
330-869-2584,
aviscomi@kendaleinc.com

Finance Council

It is the responsibility of the Parish Finance Council to advise and aid the pastor in the administration of the parish finances in order to carry out the mission of the parish.

Contact: Ken Contrera,
330-867-1543,
kcontrera@myersind.com

Grounds Crew

St. Sebastian takes tremendous pride in its campus. Volunteers work one Saturday morning a month from April to October to plan, plant, and mulch flower beds.

A small group works weekly to maintain the beds by weeding, watering, etc. All parishioners are invited to help keep our grounds in tip-top shape. **Contact:** Dan McCorkle, 330-836-4551,
dmco86@att.net

Parish Council

Parish Council is an advisory group for the pastor. It seeks to foster parish unity, access parish needs, develop parish programs, coordinate parish activities, encourage parish participation in spiritual and apostolic life, and provide a forum for parish dialogue.

Contact: Tony Mastromatteo,
330-714-9293,
mastromatteo@gmail.com

Parish Newsletter

Good communication is the lifeblood of a stewardship focused parish or any vibrant organization. Your writing, editing and management skills are welcome as we seek to highlight the talents and treasures of our parish in print form. **Contact:** Marga Bohm, 330-867-7081, margabohm@neo.rr.com;
Mike Palko, 330-836-3281,
papapalko@yahoo.com

Rectory Cooks

Cooks are needed to prepare dinners for our priest. Volunteer to help out once a month or more to fit your schedule. This is a great opportunity to serve those who selflessly serve this parish. **Contact:** Catherine Paparella, 330-873-1875
cpaparella@acn.net

Rectory Volunteers

Volunteers are periodically needed in the parish rectory to perform a variety of tasks, including stuffing bulletins, clerical work, help with mailings, answering the phone and cleaning.

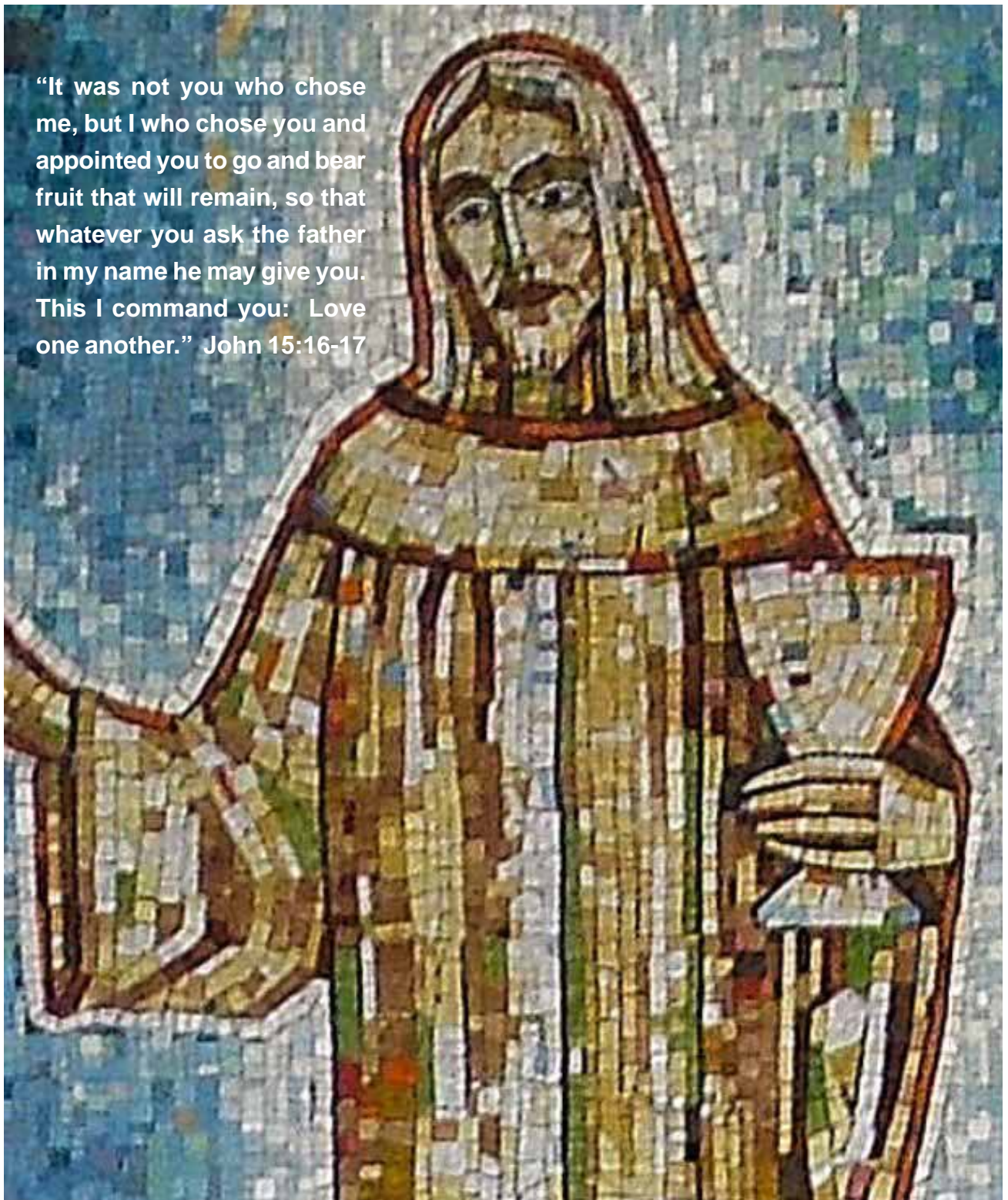
Contact: Jennifer Jones, 330-836-2233,
jonesj@stsebastian.org

Website Team

Keeping communications flowing to the parish family and community takes a focused effort. Writers, artists, PR specialists, website professionals, photographers and community liaisons are just some skills needed. Volunteer your expertise for a specific project or on an on-going basis.

Contact: Carol Seaman, 330-869-2070
caseaman@e-grp.com

“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the father in my name he may give you. This I command you: Love one another.” John 15:16-17



St. Sebastian Catholic Church

473 Mull Avenue - Akron, OH - Phone 330-836-2233 - www.stsebastian.org