



Angelus Letter
22 December 2022
LETTER #203

Dear Parish Family,

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THIS WEEKEND
PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES IN THE SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS!

Friday Mass at 8 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck

Friday Confessions* at 4 p.m.

***These are the final scheduled confessions before Christmas!**

Saturday Mass at 8 a.m. with Fr. Bozek

No Confessions No Confessions

Christmas Eve Mass at 4 p.m. with Fr. Valencheck

Christmas Eve Mass at 7 p.m. with Fr. Bozek

Midnight Mass* with Fr. Valencheck

Christmas Day Mass at 9 a.m. with Fr. Bozek

Christmas Day Mass at 11 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck

Christmas Day Mass at 1 p.m. with Fr. Bede OSB

*** This Mass will have Eucharist distributed under both species. This will also be the first Mass to be live streamed since our network has been restored.**

OFFICES CLOSED

Please note that the parish offices will be closed Friday, December 23-Monday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday. The parish offices will be closed Friday, December 30-Monday January 2 for the New Year's holiday.

THANKS FOR THE CONCERTS!

It was quite a season for concerts at St. Sebastian Parish. Each of the groups and organists that came commented on the beauty of our campus and what a wonderful "instrument" our church building is. They all want to return!

Of special note was our own parish choir and their Candlelight Christmas Concert. One visiting priest commented, "Do you know how lucky you are, not only to have so many talented people in your parish, but that you have a person talented enough to corral them all into such a wonderful group?" Yes, I do! Thank you for your ministry, Lynn, and congratulations on fifty years of service to the parish!

Also thank you to all who came out to support our parish choir. What a wonderful crowd in such a busy season! God bless you!

WORK AROUND ST. SEBASTIAN SQUARE

Perhaps the biggest news is that it appears that not only will there be approximately 100 homes going in on the former Perkins School property, there is scheduled to be another equal number of homes built a stone's throw from St. Sebastian Parish on White Pond Drive. News releases report that the land has been sold across from First Energy and that a developer will be putting in townhouses, ranch-style homes and shops.

The second phase of work on Mull Avenue continues on schedule. While the wastewater lines had the "inverse balloons" and hot water method to recreate the pipes (as reported earlier,) this phase for the storm sewers involves a robot traveling down the pipes and spraying new walls on the existing pipes. All of this with minimal disturbance to those who use Mull Avenue. If all goes according to schedule, new water lines will be installed in January (eeek!) and that may involve some traffic difficulties. New lines will be laid and then the old ones abandoned.

Brave souls continue to work in the cold putting down our new rectory brick driveway. Perhaps it will be finished by Christmas. I gave them a half a case of wine (yes, that wine) and I promised one more if I can get my car out of the elements by Christmas!

When we put in the new brick parking lot, the Belden Brick Company of Ohio (which has supplied all of the bricks on our campus) gave me a brick that has stamped on it, "Rev. John A. Valencheck, pastor." That was very nice. But what does one do with a brick? It has floated around the rectory since 2015 and is not the kind of thing that is thrown in the wastepaper basket. So, I asked the guys putting in our drive to stick it in "somewhere." They put it in right in front of the entrance to the rectory - which, I will admit, made me smile but I wonder if it will disturb some future pastor! Then again, he can get his own brick and exchange it!



WELCOME SEMINARIANS!

Seminarian Michael Garvin of St. Hilary, but whose brothers attend here, is staying with us for Christmas break. You might spot him playing the organ for daily Mass or serving on the altar. Mr. Joe Ho who has been with us many times in the past has also returned. Mr. Charlie Bulger who spent a few years with us, who is now staying with Jesuits, will return for a visit immediately after Christmas. Mr. Conner Scully, who was with us during his spring break, will be coming to stay during the second half of his break.

Finally, Joan of b'Arc is being introduced to the rectory. Slowly she is becoming acquainted with her new surroundings. Thank you, Ed Savitski, for all of your help finding us a new dog for this position that has been open since Chesterton left us and for taking on the task of training the new parish dog!

ANGEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

I know how attached people are to their church buildings and the art therein, but unless there is strong opposition, due to the change in location of the baptismal font, I would like to change the location of the St. John the Baptist statue. What we now call the Padre Pio Chapel was once the baptistery, hence the reason the St. John statue was located right there next to the gates. The baptismal font is now located in the front of the church. To make our artwork better reflect the liturgical workings of our architecture, I moved the Baptist's statue next to the font which necessitated moving St. Francis to the perch vacated over by the old baptistery to be along the back wall with his brother St. Anthony. If you have any strong (yet kind) opposition to this, or a further idea, please let me know.

As the end of the year fast approaches, please remember to make your charitable donation to the Angel Scholarship Fund. This "Dollar for Dollar" tax credit will allow you to mark your state tax dollars to our parish school and help provide tuition assistance to our families in need. The maximum donation for an individual is \$750 and \$1500 for a couple filing jointly. To learn more about this scholarship or to make a donation, please visit <https://www.catholiccommunity.org/angel-scholarship-fund/overview>. You may also print out the contribution form and mail your donation into the Catholic Community Foundation.

FROM THE FORGOTTEN CABINET

There was not much to report from 1950 or 1951. The only interesting letter came from C. F. Neil Brogan asking the parish to participate in a parade in a demonstration against communism which was to take place in Canton Ohio. Among those organizations already committed were the Catholic Central Marching Band, Boy Scouts, 3rd and 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, Knights of St. John of Akron, Cathedral Latin Band, Ursuline Band of Youngstown, St. Vincent's Band of Akron, Washington High School among others. The parade was to be followed by a benediction. The principal speaker would be Monsignor Fulton Sheen.

"WANTED! 15,000 CATHOLIC MEN TO PARTICIPATE IN CATHOLIC MAY DAY PROGRAM IN DEMONSTRATION AGAINST COMMUNISM. DO NOT SIT IDLY BY AND PERMIT ANY OF THE HIERARCHY OF AMERICA BE PERSECUTED LIKE CARDINAL MINDZENY AND ARCHBISHOP STEPHANIC. LET YOUR RELIGIOUS FERVOR BE INCREASED BY CONVINCING OTHER PEOPLE OF OUR SINCERITY. ALL ROADS LEAD TO MASSILLON, MONDAY, MAY FIRST."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

TO GIVE TO THE PARISH: <https://www.stsebastian.org/donate>

TO GIVE TO THE FOUNDATION: <https://www.stsebastian.org/foundation/donate>


PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please keep all of our sick and distressed in your prayers:

Annette Bailey, Jill Buffa, Regina Buhalak, Dan Canale, Christopher Casey, Emilio Cheuy, Jo Cooney, Nancy Cotter, Anthony D'Attoma, Linda Davis, Marjorie DeLuca, Mary Pat Doorley, Rita Buhalak Gossford, Robert Hickey, John and Terry Hogan, Ann Hubiak, Carson Hutzell, Carolyn Jeske, Janet Kendrick, Jean Labate, Dr. Dan Lehnhoff, Frank Livigni, John Marckel, Myrna Marple, Don Matis, Ken Minrovic, Betty O'Hara, Keith Pecek, Beverly & Mike Preston, **Bob Rader**, Mary Ricks, Aaron Salisbury, Ann Sandvick, Michael Schnetzer, Cory Schulz, Tom Smith and Ann Zsembik.

God bless you,

Fr. Valencheck
St. Sebastian, pray for us.



**Novena to St. Sebastian,
Protector Against the Plague**

Glorious Saint Sebastian, you who had great courage, help us to be witnesses of Jesus before this unbelieving world as you have brought others to Christ. Help us to have the love of neighbor that you had and to give our lives for our brothers, even in difficulties and dangers. Help us to have faith in the pains of life as you endured cruel martyrdom. Protect all soldiers, military and police against every danger in their work. Protect all nations against wars, hunger and pestilence. Intercede for the grace that I need...

[Mention your intention here...]
Amen.

St. Sebastian Parish | 476 Mull Ave, Akron, OH 44320

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