



**Angelus Letter
15 February 2024
LETTER #262**

Dear Parish Family,

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THIS WEEKEND

Friday Mass at 8 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck
Friday Stations of the Cross at 1:45 p.m.
Friday Confessions at 4 p.m.
Friday Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

Saturday Mass at 8 a.m. with Fr. Bozek
Saturday Confessions at 9:30 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30 p.m. with Fr. Valencheck

Sunday Mass at 9 a.m. with Fr. Bozek
Sunday Mass at 11 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck

PRESIDENT'S DAY ON MONDAY

The Mass on Monday, February 19th will be at 9:00 a.m. for President's Day. The parish offices will be closed. The offices will reopen on Tuesday, February 20th at 8:30 a.m.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL

If you were not prepared to give or were not here last weekend for our Catholic Charities Appeal, it is not too late and all the better now that we have entered into a season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving! Envelopes are still available, or you can text to give on your cell phone by sending CCGIVE to 41444 or you can simply click on [THIS LINK](#). Thank you to everybody who helped with this campaign and to all of you who participated.

AKRON GOES TO THE SEMINARY

Fr. Gearing and I went to the seminary last weekend to hear Fr. Gregory Pine O.P. speak. When we got there, the *Aula Magna* (Great Hall) was packed to the gills. An announcement was made that they were changing the venue to the Founders Room which is about the size of a good-sized ballroom, and it was still packed. The interesting part of it was how many people were from Akron and specifically from this parish! It was a great talk and fun seeing so many of you there.

WORK AROUND ST. SEBASTIAN SQUARE

Starting next week, we will begin plaster repair work in the church. The estimated amount of time for this project is one to two weeks. On Tuesdays, when they cannot work in the church due to adoration, the workers will also begin plaster repair work in the rectory which is long overdue!

Joanie and I took a walk through the Good Park development (Perkins) and noticed that all the traffic signs have been installed. The poles for the street signs are ready for the names to be added. The streetlamps are in place, but we've not seen them lit up. Work continues on Mull Avenue preparing for our streetlamps. Workers are outside this morning (Tuesday) digging in the devil strip and laying wires and power boxes.

Fix up work has begun on the Elmdale house. You may have noticed that our maintenance staff took down the wire fence that surrounded the property. It appears to have been a relief to our neighbors, who thanked our staff. Slowly you should see more progress on this property.

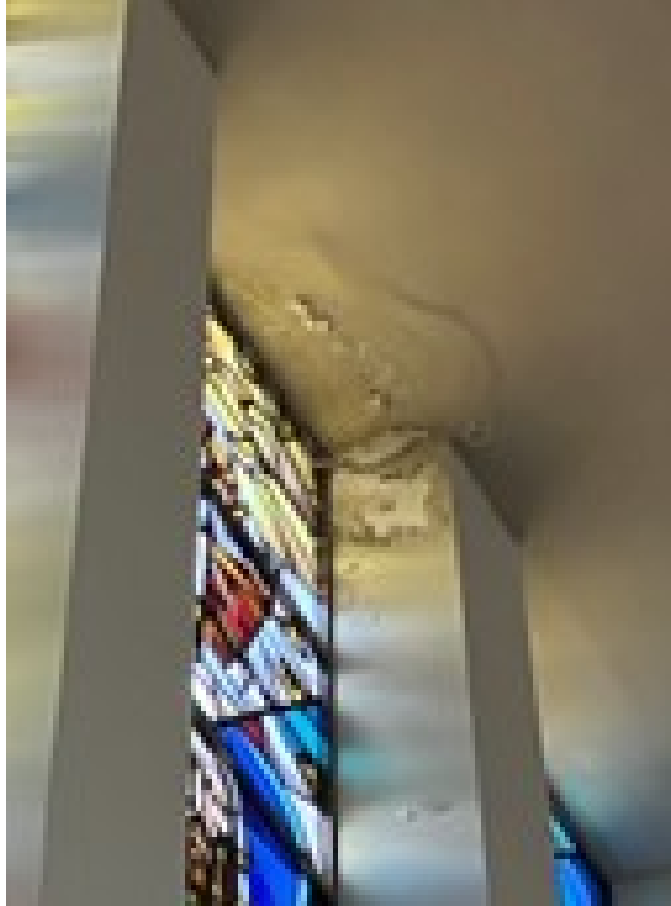
LENT HAS LANDED

Tomorrow, we begin Stations of the Cross and Benediction at 1:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. every Friday except for Confirmation weekend (March 8th.)

MISSION: Our Annual Lenten Mission is coming up beginning **Sunday, February 25th. Fr. Thomas Blau O.P.**, chosen to be a national speaker by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for the Eucharistic Revival will be our presenter. Confessions will be each night at 6 p.m. followed by his talk at 7 p.m. [HERE](#) is a taste of his speaking to whet your appetite.

PICTURES

The first picture is one of the more damaged areas in the church. It is easier to see from the sanctuary than it is from the back of the church. The second picture is of my bathroom and illustrates one of the more damaged areas in the rectory that needs attention.



FROM THE FORGOTTEN CABINET

One of the biggest problems in the 1957 school year was the increasing growth of Catholic schools during the Baby Boom. In this file are letters from the city concerned about the number of students that must be bussed. There is also a general, midterm letter from the Supervisor of Catholic schools noting difficulties with burgeoning schools. Lavatories and wash basin facilities were not keeping pace with expansions. The hallways were too drafty because entrances are not properly built for winter. There are reports of a general shortage of space in

"cloakrooms" for students and storage space for teachers.

Smaller schools had their own difficulties. The Diocese of Cleveland Superintendent sent out a letter informing these smaller schools that each elementary school must have at least three teachers and that no more than two grades could share a classroom.

My sisters attended school at Sacred Heart in Barberton. There were only four classrooms but there were eight grades taught by Dominican Sisters from Our Lady of the Elms. One of my sister's duties was to go to the office and answer the phone should it ring. As she tells it, one day she heard the phone ring and went down to the office and answered it becoming the first person in the school to know of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The school closed before I was able to attend.

There was also a growing body of students who did not attend parish schools and so information and questionnaires were sent out about the parish programs to teach these students in the knowledge and practice of the faith. Today we call these classes Parish School of Religion or PSR, but back then (and when I attended) it was known as the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine or CCD. There were also questions about "Religion Discussion Groups" and convert instruction classes which, at the time, were called, "Apostolate of Good Will." This is now known as the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults or RCIA. We currently have about 12 people coming into the Church this Easter through RCIA. Please say a prayer for them, our PSR students and our parish school students!

THANK YOU FOR YOYR 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 our sick and distressed in your prayers:

Julie Acus, Gary Arman, Annette Bailey, Jill Buffa, John Buhalak, Regina Buhalak, Christopher Casey, Emilio Cheuy, Jo Cooney, Nancy Cotter, Peggy Jo Cybulski, Anthony D'Attoma, Marjorie DeLuca, Mary Katherine Dennis, Deanna Ferris, Rosemarie George, Kenneth Gessford, Rita Buhalak Gessford, John and Terry Hogan, Ann Hubiak, Carson Hutzell, James Hutzell, Carolyn Jeske, Charise Kasper, Janet Kendrick, Candace Kidd, Fred Kovacic, Jean Labate, Frank Livigni, Mary Loftus, Jolean Mahaney, Myrna Marple, Don Matis, Ken Minrovic, Toni Morlan, Betty O'Hara, Ronald O'Hearn, Beverly & Mike Preston, Bob Rader, Mabel Randall, Mary Ricks, Aaron Salisbury, Betty Sarich, Kim Sarich, Denise Schmidt, Michael Schnetzer, Cory Schulz, Tom Smith, Oscar Teves, Keith Wisberger and Ann Zsembik.

God bless you,

Fr. Valencheck
St. Sebastian, pray for us.

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

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