Pulse of the Parish
September

Parish Council Member	Summary
Mark	• **Nothing to report**
Symon	• **Young adult ministry:** in a period of transition. Not had any applicants currently for the part time position for a coordinator of Young Adult Ministries. Fr. Marcelli will be working with the young adults over the next few weeks to establish what is desired going forward. • **Bridge Flights:** reached out and haven't heard anything back in response yet. • **Reporting on ministries that Fr. V is the chairman of:** in conversation with Father to see how to go about reporting on these things since he is on the council.
Brian	•
Katy	• **Foundation:** Legacy weekend went well in July. The 2025 #wegiveCatholic campaign will focus on a new playground. Appreciation lunch was held for Facility & Maintenance staff in July. Work continues on the "Creating Welcoming Spaces" project. • **Marketing:** No report. • **Finance:** • **Grounds Crew:** No report.
Tom	• **Booster Club:** Concessions will start with basketball season; coordinating spiritual director (who will organize team masses and help integrate teams w/ parish) with CYO/Kevin Kindbom; finances are good; branded tents were produced and have been used by cross country; may be moving fridge from storage area to concessions room; possible Byrider sponsorship being considered w graphics; requesting help w/ gym maintenance; Night At Races–Maybe ask kids to manage betting windows for service hours, looking for event volunteers and raffle basket donations; considering an Athlete of Character award; Terrier Madness went well. • **Garden:** No report • **CYO Athletics:** No Report • **Good Samaritan Hunger Center:** No report • **Archives:** no report
Barb	• **Alpha-** the Alpha Team has hosted three meetings to date; there were 19 guests signed up for the first night, and we have added two more along the way. Alpha typically does not accept new registrations after the first three meetings, as it is felt that the small groups have bonded and are comfortable by this time. Great dinners have been provided by the Parish Foundation, West Side Catholic Couples, and Grounded in Grace. Parish Council has volunteered to make dinner for Oct 1st. We still need volunteers to cook for Oct 15th through Nov 12th. Interested ministries can volunteer for any of these dates on the SignUpGenius website. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4FA9A72CA3F49-57293287-dinner. • **Bible Study-** nothing new to report. • **Extraordinary Ministers-** nothing to report.

	• **Visiting Extraordinary Ministers- no report** • **Mother of Sorrows-** four mass intentions were scheduled since last month's report (one at St. Hilary and three at Guardian Angels) for persons whose funeral masses were held at St. Sebastian. Masses have also been scheduled at Guardian Angels for upcoming funeral masses on Oct 4th and Nov 8th. • **Our Mother's Hands- Mary's birthday party** on Sep 7th was sparsely attended; besides those in the ministry, the bier carriers, and the KOC, only 15 people came (expenses were over $100). Will continue with future processions on the first Sunday of September, but balloon launch will be done only on milestone years (again in 4 yrs and then on the 15th year.) **The Candlelight Eucharistic Procession** will happen on Oct 24th at St. Paul's with a new and safer route.There are plans to design and produce a prayer card to sell to churches and individuals following the President's announcement of **America Prays** on Sep 8th. **The Vocation Crucifix Program** has been switched from the current 2 weeks to one week, and a scheduler is being developed to allow on line scheduling on OMH'S website. Sign ups in the narthex will still occur. This change will be promoted in the bulletin. OMH had its first meeting at St.Paul's. Ways of "packaging" the ministry and promoting it to other churches are being worked on, with the option of offering just parts of the ministry to their parishioners. Rosemary will present **Meditating on the Most Holy Face of Jesus** at Our Lady of Grace on Oct 13th and again at our TOR Oct 20th. About 800 people have already seen the presentation in less than 6 months. Rosemary is promoting it to churches for the Advent and Lenten seasons. • **St. Vincent dePaul Society-** Blanket Sunday is the weekend of Oct 11th/12th; envelopes will be in the pews. The bulletin will have an announcement the weekend prior. • **Sanctuary Society-** new officers are in place; nothing to report until next month. • **West Side Catholic Couples-** September Fall brunch was hosted by Dave &Kathleen Myers; small groups will begin meeting in October to discuss The Creed by Scott Hahn.
Andrew	• **Gratitude Ministry-** September Gratitude Letters 1. Pat Clark-Varga–Prayers of the Faithful, 2. Marga Bohm–Prayers of the Faithful, 3. Tim Sullivan–Cub Scouts, 4. Jill Lang–Women of St. Sebastian, 5. Mary Jo Kormushoff–Moms of Littles, 6. Roslyn Hashiguchi–Grounded in Grace, 7. Terry Tolsen–Arts and Environment, 8. Lori Oaks–Adult Bible Study • **Rectory Volunteers-** Peggy Wellemeyer and Jenny Minear have volunteered a few times during the last couple of months. Ann Traverse, May DeRose and Joanne Welsh are weekly volunteers. • **Pre-Cana-** Things are well. Grateful for the option to have participants pay online. Need a contact person from Sanctuary Society to coordinate purchase of excess supplies. Pre-Cana ending is timed to invite the couples to 4:30 Mass. However, that Mass is going to be a Catholic Appeal weekend. Do we have options to engage them Sacramentally? • **Faith and Light-** Nothing particular to report this month, monthly meetings on 3rd Friday at Byrider 7:00 pm • **Peter Maurin-** All is well, they serve in October • **HASA-** Last meeting was well attended, 45-50 parents. Bylaws vote at the next meeting. Discussion on use of excess HASA funds. Playground discussed as a potential use of funds. Parents expressing concerns with new building placement. Parents requested a Town Hall with Father Valencheck, Milissa Smith and Mr. Rohr to discuss the state of the School and address issues regarding the transparency of funds. Parents are also requesting the Parish fund a resource officer with Ed Choice money and savings from the Parish subsidizing the School. Parents asked for and received an explanation from Mr.Rohr about why we don't have consumable textbooks for Decour students for the second consecutive year.

	• **Secular Order of Carmelites-** No report
Carrie	• **School Choir:** nothing to report • **JB:** Their annual chili fest is October 11th. It is their 10th anniversary, and they are looking forward to the raffle baskets and the winner of the best Chili! -Their 5th and 6th grade students are going to Camp Christopher on Oct 2nd-3rd. -They have started a Girls on the Run Program for our 3rd-8th graders. They have reached out to Mary Heffern to see if there is interest in doing a Spring group with St. Sebastians after the new year. -They are continuing to build enrollment. • **Band:** We have 74 kids signed up in the Band program. 10 of our students participated in the St V/M Band Night, and our first performance with everyone will be the Halloween Parade on Oct 31. • **Academy:** Fall session classes include lessons for Piano, Violin and Guitar as well as 3 sessions of Ballet . We will begin sessions of Irish Dance-taught by Hannah Reese-on October 15. • **Youth Groups:** They are having struggles getting the high school youth group off the ground. No one came to the last meeting and there has been no feedback about the one coming up. -The middle school is doing well, meeting Tuesdays after school for Adoration. Our next middle school meeting will be October 5. • **SAC:** Will meet in October. • **Principal Rohr:** New Staff Administrative Assistant - Kathleen Reitz New School Psychologist - Allison Barstow New Gifted Intervention Specialist - Mary Jennie Barnhart New Intervention Specialist will be starting October 6 -Report Card Proficiency Data was released last week. We have excellent proficiency scale scores for the 24-25 school year that will be released very soon. We scored higher on 14 out of the 14 benchmarks than Ohio Public Schools, the DOC Catholic Schools, and Akron Public Schools. -Lt. Governor Jim Tressel presented at a special kickoff assembly for the Team Tressel Fitness Challenge yesterday to help get the students excited about the fitness challenge. -Grandparents Day - Thursday, Oct. 2 -Hoban Senior Retreat Day with 4th and 5th grade students - Friday, Oct. 3 -Enrollment has increased 4.1% with the diocesan average at 2.7%. Official numbers and data will be reported in October once the official state and diocesan reporting windows are completed in the coming weeks.
Shannon	•
Chris	• **Book Rack:** Status quo. Advent seasonal booklets will be coming out soon. • **Respect Life:** Life Chain first Sunday in October. October 5th after the 11am mass • **Altar Server Training:** New altar server training for 5th - 12th grade students scheduled for October 6th • **Baptism Class:** Nothing to report. • **Catechist Formation:** Nothing to report. • **Donut Sunday:** • **Gabriel Ministry:** Nothing to report. • **Altar Server Scheduling:** Nothing to report. • **Children's Liturgy of the Word**: Nothing to report. Still on hold lacking volunteers.

Tony	• **Nothing new to report**
Terry	• **St. Sebastian, Pray for Us!**