



St. Sebastian Parish Council

Meeting Agenda

10/23/2025

In attendance: Symon, Tony, Carrie, Tom, Shannon, Brian, Andrew, Barb, Katy, and Terry.

Excused: Chris Slattery, Mark Adamczyk

7:00 – 7:05 pm Welcome and Opening Prayer (Tom)

7:05 – 7:15 pm Father Valencheck's Update

- Discussion on taking on extra diocesan responsibilities and the related impact on parish operations. Taking on these extra responsibilities supports the need for our parish to have a Parochial Vicar.
- Concern over the collapsing cathedral parking area prompted plans to hold the Tuesday Holy Week blessing of the oils "Chrism Mass" to be held at St. Sebastian's.
 - There is a call for extensive volunteer help for this event.
- Worry expressed over numerous school principal resignations in the Diocese of Cleveland and preparation of new leaders for the future.
- Announcement of Priesthood Sunday featuring a seminarian from our parish.
- Introduction of a diocesan capital campaign that will begin in 2026, proposed funding splits are still being discussed including overall timelines.
- A generous donation has been earmarked for landscaping improvements over three years, pending prioritization of specific enhancements.
- Explanation of the scheduled upcoming audit and clarification that the parish foundation is treated separately. This audit follows a pre scheduled plan implemented several Bishops ago, in respect to timing and depth. Each newly appointed Bishop has continued to follow this process. This is our scheduled time for this audit.

7:15 – 7:25 pm Father Marcelli's Update

- Emphasis on preserving the parochial vicar role to maintain smooth parish operations.
- Overview of Tuesday young adult gatherings that include adoration, benediction, night prayer, and social time; attendance has been low and may be reduced to one or two sessions after October. The emphasis is to empower young adults to take a leading role.
- The Cooking Like the Saints event was well attended and in attendance was Dr. Bolin, the Director for Young Adults from the Diocese of Cleveland.
 - Dr. Bolin brought up World Youth Day in South Korea 2026. The young adults are discussing with the diocese plans to attend.
 - Plans were discussed to host a welcome-home college student gathering in December.
- Introduction of the Lilly Grant opportunity for leadership training through potential courses, lecture series, workshops, or hosting a college intern.
- The Pretorium is still taking place on Wednesdays at 6 a.m. in Byrider with 4-6 participants.

7:25 – 7:35 pm

New Business

New Building/Gym

- This was discussed at great length. We need to understand what the public wants to know and that some are aware of this project already. The concern is that this needs to be brought out to the greater public sooner rather than later. We understood from Father that there is a process that is being followed to balance outside factors that include the diocese and fundraisers. Many of these outside factors are asking Father to hold off so that a proper presentation can be given to the entire parish. Given this information we understood that this process is being followed and it has been difficult to keep this balance. We believe that this will be presented fully in the near future.

7:35 – 8:00 pm

Old Business

Town Hall for School

- A school town hall meeting is scheduled for November 13, 6:30p.m.

Youth Ministry update

- We made an offer to a highly qualified youth group candidate who is weighing a transition away from current commitments.

Passive Evangelization ideas - Moved to the next meeting on December 11th.

- o Prayer Rocks
- o Nature walk
- o Pet owners

8:00 – 8:20 pm

Pulse of the Parish/Commission Reports

8:20 – 8:30 pm

Compline (Tom)

Next Meeting:

December 11, 7:00-8:30 pm

St. Sebastian Rectory

Prayer and Compline – Brian