

## Pulse of the Parish October

Parish Council Member	Summary
Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nothing to report</b></li> </ul>
Symon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>bridge flights:</b> they are doing well, nothing to report. Usually near the end of the year they will get in contact with Fr. V. To discuss what charity or foundation to make a donation to.</li> <li>• <b>Adoration:</b> soon there will be sign up to adopt an hour since there have been times when only one person has been in attendance - rarely, nobody is there.</li> <li>• <b>marriage preparation:</b> the Diocese is going to change the way we do marriage prep to be more like OCIA. Not sure what it will look like yet. Waiting for more information - probably will mean more meetings.</li> <li>• <b>prepare and enrich:</b> we have 5 new couples doing couple to couple preparation</li> <li>• <b>vocation awareness <u>this weekend</u>:</b> Gabe Kaiser will be speaking at all the Masses. There will be a dinner for young men interested in the priesthood.</li> <li>• <b>Young adult ministry:</b> still have yet to hire someone for the position. "Cooking with the Saints" was successful with more than 10 people in attendance. Learned how to cook the 2nd best chili ever and some "zesty" corn bread. Also had the pleasure of meeting the Diocesan young adult minister Megan, who went over her role, abilities, and future plans for the Diocese.</li> <li>• Symon,</li> </ul>
Brian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Katy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marketing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Parishioners might have noticed we have updated our signage stands in the back of church. We now have two poster stands that hold up to 4 posters. One is devoted to the Musical Arts series and the other is focused on parish events and general announcements. To reserve space in these stands, they must contact me in marketing and I can work with them to determine if we have space available and if they need any printing or design assistance. Priority will be given to parish sponsored events and announcements.</li> <li>○ Please make sure that anything including the St. Sebastian logo, branding, imagery etc is routed through marketing for review and approval. This helps to ensure we're using consistent messaging and helps me promote items.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Grounds Crew:</b> No report.</li> <li>• <b>Finance Council:</b> No report.</li> <li>• <b>Foundation:</b> Campus tour given to the Class of 1966. The 2025 Annual Appeal Mailer in process. A new name plate has been ordered for the Arrow Society. Reminders were sent out to teachers about available Teacher Enrichment resources. The Annual Scholarship Mass is scheduled for March 26, 2025.</li> </ul>
Tom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Archives:</b> Items are being reviewed, scanned and digitized. The archive team is attempting to</li> </ul>

	<p>identify and date all items although some are not clearly marked. Once all items are scanned and organized, they will decide how best to share files.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Good Samaritan Hunger Center:</b> Someone cut the fencing to access the garden and stole approximately 2 pecks of grapes. Michele Smith would like to install the Garden team's own camera on the building facing the garden with Gorilla tape. Please advise.</li> <li>● <b>Garden:</b> Same update as Hunger Center</li> <li>● <b>Booster Club:</b> No update</li> <li>● <b>CYO Athletics:</b> No update</li> </ul>
<b>Barb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Alpha-</b> to date, the group has held seven of its ten regular sessions; Nov 12th is the last one. All Alpha meeting dinners are now covered. A daylong Alpha Retreat will be held on Saturday, October 25th at Guardian Angels in Copley.</li> <li>● <b>Bible Study-</b> nothing new to report.</li> <li>● <b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC)-</b> there are several new ministers, but additional ministers would be welcomed, especially for the 4:30 mass. Please forward the name(s) of anyone who might be a good candidate to Karen Bader. Training for new EMHCs will begin after the first of the year.</li> <li>● <b>Visiting Extraordinary Ministers-</b> there has been a steady response to the YouTube and bulletin notices regarding homebound visitation, BUT there hasn't been an increase in EMs to handle this need. Wondering if the current scheduler used to schedule EMs at the different masses could be used to schedule VEMs, or perhaps develop a pool of available EM's who could be available for additional requests during the week.</li> <li>● <b>Mother of Sorrows-</b> Seven Mass Intentions have been scheduled with Guardian Angels since last month's Pulse of the Parish report. Four of the Funeral Masses have already been held here at St. Sebastian, and the other three others will be held between Oct 24th and Nov 8th. Could the hymn numbers be announced during the Funeral Mass; announcements by the cantor have been inconsistent with the last two masses.</li> <li>● <b>Our Mother's Hands-</b> Rosemary Reed gave a presentation on The Holy Face of Jesus at last Monday's Theology on the Rocks. There will be another presentation at St. Rita's in Solon, OH on Dec 3rd, and there are plans to speak in Columbus sometime in Feb 2026. OMH is switching to a new server and building a new website to offer on-line scheduling for the Vocation Crucifix and the Pilgrim Virgin Statue. Sign ups for the statue will be taking place the wknd of Nov 22/23; it is hoped that the next sign up in May will be mostly filled on-line (praying to St. Isadore and St. Carlo!). The group will begin meeting at Elmdale Manor starting in December. The Nov/Dec newsletters will be in the entrance baskets by Saturday, Nov 1st. The Chaplet for the Deceased (Beads for the Dead) was going to be prayed after the 9am Mass, but it looks like members may only be handing them out after Mass. <b>Regarding Sick Calls:</b> about two dozen parishioners are contacted by OMH members on a bi-monthly basis. We want them to know that they are being remembered in prayer.</li> <li>● <b>St. Vincent dePaul Society-</b> nothing new to report. The year end statistics and financial report will be put together next month.</li> <li>● <b>Sanctuary Society-</b> preparing for the December 10th Christmas Tea.</li> <li>● <b>West Side Catholic Couples-</b> no report</li> </ul>

Andrew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Gratitude Ministry: October Gratitude letters:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Marianne Spiros – Peter Maurin Center</li> <li>2. Patti Wagner – Faith and Light</li> <li>3. Emily Marks – HASA</li> <li>4. Ro Reed – Our Mother’s Hands</li> <li>5. Karen Spangler – Cutting Garden</li> <li>6. Rebecca Sperhac and Austin Bischoff – Grounds Crew</li> <li>7. Jennifer Sullivan – St. Sebastian Garden (New person in charge)</li> <li>8. Rachel O’Neil – Donut Sunday</li> </ol> </li> <li>● <b>Rectory Volunteers:</b> The rectory is looking for a part time person to help in the office</li> <li>● <b>Pre-Cana:</b> Had an initial planning meeting this week.</li> <li>● <b>Peter Maurin Center:</b> Have a new website <a href="http://petermaurincenter.com">petermaurincenter.com</a></li> <li>● <b>HASA:</b> Tonight is Monster Mash, a dance for Moms and Sons. 130 boys expected.</li> <li>● <b>Faith and Light:</b> All is well, the last meeting was well attended.</li> <li>● <b>Secular Order of Carmelites:</b> No report</li> </ul>
Carrie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>School Choir:</b> nothing to report</li> <li>● <b>JB:</b> They just hosted their annual Chili Fest and raised close to \$3,000 for our Parent Action Committee. They started an Enrichment Program for our students. They are going to be conducting a can food drive in November. They are looking to hire an Intervention specialist and a para professional for the school. Hosting Trunk-or-Treat on Friday. They hosted their first network 5th and 6th grade overnight camp at Camp Christopher with all 4 of our schools- Akron, Lyndhurst, Westlake and Brecksville  **Julie Billiard School- Akron will receive the Father James Reymann Award on 10/25 (we were nominated by a St. Sebastian's family-- Alice Luse whose sons graduated from St. Sebastians). The Charles and Salome Reymann Foundation serves people with disabilities, their families and caregivers and the people who educate and support them.</li> <li>● <b>Band:</b> first performance with everyone will be the Halloween Parade on Oct 31.</li> <li>● <b>Academy:</b> no report</li> <li>● <b>Youth Groups:</b> Have had to cancel high school youth ministry due to no participation and middle school is struggling with participation. Looking at a candidate for the youth minister position and if that works out, it is hopeful that participation increases. Promotion/encouragement to families with kids in these age groups is appreciated.</li> <li>● <b>SAC:</b> Reaccreditation survey for parents- how can we get better participation was discussed. Parents are still very frustrated with the unclear response they have received regarding how the beginning of the school year went regarding books and lack of supports (Interventional Therapist in particular).</li> <li>● <b>Principal Rohr:</b> no report</li> </ul>
Shannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Women of St. Sebastian:</b> no updates</li> <li>● <b>Mom’s of Littles:</b> Postcards went out to families with children under 4 for the All Saints Day party. Will be passing out postcards after masses to personally invite families as well. Plan to show a movie in z-hall for advent.</li> <li>● <b>Lectors:</b> no updates</li> <li>● <b>Rectory Cooks:</b> no updates</li> <li>● <b>St. Sebastian Prayer Warriors:</b> no updates</li> </ul>

<b>Chris</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Book Rack:</b> Status quo</li> <li>• <b>Respect Life:</b> Life Chain in October</li> <li>• <b>Altar Server Training:</b> Two more servers trained this month. Total altar server count is 82 (including those off the normal rotation - college students). Total of 14 have been trained this year.</li> <li>• <b>Baptism Class:</b></li> <li>• <b>Catechist Formation:</b></li> <li>• <b>Donut Sunday:</b> Nothing to report</li> <li>• <b>Gabriel Ministry:</b> There was an outage on the livestream sound one day this month. This was a startup configuration issue that has been fixed.</li> <li>• <b>Altar Server Scheduling:</b> See above altar server training.</li> <li>• <b>Children's Liturgy of the Word:</b> N/A</li> </ul>
<b>Tony</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ARCHE:</b> The final hike is Friday October 31st and they will be having an all Saints day party at the metro park.</li> <li>• <b>Homebound Ministry:</b> Coordinating visits, and aligning with the Eucharistic ministers. Asking for continued prayer for this ministry.</li> <li>• <b>PSR:</b> Have 62 students enrolled and growing. Just a little under last year. There are a few classes with 2-3 students. Concerned with a parish of this size only has a few students in certain grades. Certainly not all children in our parish attend a Catholic school that they would not be enrolled in PSR. They experience frustration when parents only enroll their children for the 2nd and 8th grade sacramental years. There is so much to be learned in each year that we offer in PSR and it's invaluable for them to have a peer to peer environment to discuss and embrace their faith-especially for those students in a public school environment during the week. I am not sure how to shine a light on PSR and encourage it to be more of a priority for those absent families in our parish. Is there any way to determine the number of families and reach out to parents of school age children in public schools or homeschooled that are not currently enrolled in PSR.</li> </ul>
<b>Terry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chesterton Academy of Akron</b> - A scholarship has been created through the St. Sebastian Foundation for St. Sebastian Parishioners and school students.</li> <li>• Arts &amp; Environments -</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>St. Sebastian, Pray for Us!</b> 🙏</p>