

Pulse of the Parish January

Parish Council Member	Summary
Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ushers: No update ● Collection Counters: No update ● Socials: No update ● Music Ministries: Nothing to report other than the Musical Arts Event on Sunday, Feb. 8: Keller Consort. Eleven weeks until Holy Week!
Symon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare and enrich - four more couples signed up. ● Adoration - no update ● Christian faith formation/evangelization - no update ● Marriage preparation - no update ● Sacramental preparation - no update ● Vocations promotion - no update ● Bridge flights - no update
Brian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cub Scouts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pinewood Derby at noon 01/23. 9:00am to around noon. ○ 2nd year WEBELOS cross over to boy scouts 02/09. ● Boy Scouts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Isaac Sullivan is officially an Eagle Scout. ○ Competed against 35+ patrols at Canal District Klondike Derby 01/16-01/18. Gold medal for orienteering. Silver medal in plant identification. 3rd place for mechanical bull riding. They camped two nights in tents with the low overnight temperature reaching 10° F. ○ Next Campout is 02/27-03-01.
Katy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Foundation: 2024 #weGive “Creating Welcoming Spaces” Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current Project: radiators painted, basement hallways & bathrooms painted, etc. - Future: Finalizing framed items for the Bride’s Room ● 2025 #weGive “Playground Project” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total donations received equals \$10,776.58 from 137 donors! ● 2026-2027 Scholarship Season <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scholarship deadline is January 23rd - Annual Foundation Scholarship Mass is March 26, 2026

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update: Foundation Centennial Capital Campaign – \$3.18million raised so far ● Finance Council: No report. ● Marketing: Enrollment is now open for the 2026-27 school year. Open House will be held on Sunday, January 25 from 10am - 12pm. Spectacular is asking the Parish Council to donate a gift for this event. The theme is spring garden. Looking for something for an outdoor patio. (ie. Patio Set, Outdoor Pizza Oven, Solo Fire Pit) ● Grounds Crew: No report. ● 100th Anniversary Committee: First annual Casino Night held last Friday. Eighty guests attended. The evening went well. Guests expressed interest in having it again next year.
Tom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Archives: Almost finished examination of all items. Some items are scanned, many others need to be. May need to outsource the scanning for a cost TBD. ● Garden: Starting a new after school club called “Growing In Christ” to focus on hands-on service projects like working in the garden, Catholic social teaching and time to pray during Eucharistic adoration. ● Good Sam Hunger Center: No update ● Booster Club: No update ● Athletics: No update
Barb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alpha- it appears that all team members from last Fall’s Alpha sessions will be returning in 2026. A Feb 2nd meeting is scheduled to start planning for this Fall. ● Bible Study- nothing new to report. ● Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion- nothing to report. ● Visiting Extraordinary Ministers- recruitment of more VEMs and formalization are still a challenge. The notice included during our streamed Mass has helped in reaching several of our homebound, but there are still not enough VEMs. ● Mother of Sorrows- nine masses have been scheduled with Guardian Angels since December’s council meeting for those whose funeral/memorial/requiem Masses were held at St. Sebastian; otherwise, nothing to report. ● Our Mother’s Hands- no update. ● Giving Tree- thank yous will appear in the bulletin ● St. Vincent DePaul Society- Per the Diocese, the IRS now requires each SVDP conference to notify landlords that they may have to file a W-9 with the Diocesan SVDP; from now on, our treasurer will include a written reminder to that effect with each check written to a landlord. (It is the landlord’s responsibility to determine if he/she has to file the W-9). On the positive side, we recently received generous donations. ● Sanctuary Society- preparing for the International Festival; food booths are coming together. Shannon Schlueter is again helping with the school activities at the festival; volunteers are being sought for this activity. ● West Side Catholic Couples- planning continues for the April Spring Speaker Series with Bishop Malesic; continuing to meet and discuss <u>The Creed</u>.
Andrew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gratitude Letters: Kathleen Myers-Westside Catholic Couples; Lauren Franceschi-Visiting Eucharistic Ministers; Karen Spangler-Sacristans; Jeff Beshore-School Choir; Keith Johnson-Baptism Class for New Parents; Kathy Holaday-Foundation ● Rectory Volunteers: Volunteers are coming in to help and assist as needed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HASA: 1) HASA is assisting more with Catholic Schools Week this year. They have added activities for existing families at the open house like a Saint Scavenger Hunt and donuts. They have planned service projects for all students during buddy activities, art classes for the week, and a pep rally for Friday. 2) Read-a-thon starts 2/9 and all proceeds go to the new playground. 3) HASA is bringing in an author during the read-a-thon whose books focus on 'exploring grammar in humorous ways' for all students. This includes two large group presentations, three grade level workshops, and a teacher lunch workshop on student writing. ● Pre-Cana: Final planning meeting a couple weeks ago. All of the presentations have been covered, some new couples have stepped up to present those. This year we have 23 couples signed up to take the Pre-Cana. (I have 4 questions for Father Valencheck and Father Marcelli can ask at council to fill in a few gaps for the new crew running this ministry.) ● Secular Order of Carmelites: No problems or concerns ● Peter Maurin Center: Next meal is Sunday 2/15 ● Faith and Light: No report
<p>Carrie</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Choir: nothing to report ● JB: -Catholic Schools week activities: Monday -Visit St. Sebastian for Prayer and Worship. Dr. Cheeseman (NCEA) will visit JB in the afternoon. Wednesday- Lunch for Peter Maurin Center-making over 100 lunches for the homeless. Thursday-Mass. Friday- Whole School Bowling Trip -JB Teacher Retreat Feb 13 -Culture Project is visiting on Feb 26 for 5th-8th Graders ● Band: Band will be performing next at the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 14 ● Academy: ACA Recital was Jan 11 due to weather on the original date. We had performances by Ballet, Flute Trio, Saxophone soloist, Piano students and String ensemble. ● Youth Groups: no report; Youth ministry and high school ministry are both on hiatus until a youth minister is in place. ● SAC: Latest survey results were reviewed. Parent's committee planned many of the Catholic Schools week activities to get more families involved ● Principal Rohr: School Updates ●
<p>Shannon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Moms-of-Littles: Passed out flyers for open house at the masses last week. They are considering re-naming themselves, "Little Saints," because many fathers have expressed interest in coming to meetings. ● Women of St, Sebastian's: ● Lectors: no updates ● St. Sebastian Prayer Warriors: No updates ● Rectory Cooks: no updates
<p>Chris</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Book Rack: Status quo ● Respect Life: Life Chain in October ● Altar Server Training: ● Baptism Class: ● Catechist Formation: ● Donut Sunday: ● Gabriel Ministry:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Altar Server Scheduling:• Children's Liturgy of the Word:
Tony	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
Terry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <p>St. Sebastian, Pray for Us! 🙏</p>