



**Angelus Letter
14 December 2023
LETTER #252
Saint John of the Cross**

Dear Parish Family,

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THIS WEEKEND

**Friday Mass at 8 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck
Friday Confessions at 4 p.m.**

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

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

FINAL PRE-CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Sunday, December 17 - Candlelight Christmas Concert at 7 p.m.
Tuesday, December 19 - Organ Recital & Adoration at Noon

PUT YOUR OHIO TAXES TO WORK IN AKRON

The Angel Scholarship Fund program can direct your Ohio taxes to assist St. Sebastian Parish School through scholarships for our students. All that you have to do is send your donation to the Angel Scholarship Program for the amount that you are liable to the State of Ohio up to \$750. Then you will receive a voucher letter to send in with your taxes in place of a check. The funds will then go toward a St. Sebastian Parish School student who needs assistance covering the cost of tuition. It's that easy!

While donors have until Tax Day to contribute and receive the credit for that tax year, only contributions before Dec. 31st will be available for tuition assistance the following year.

Contributions before Dec 31, 2023
\$ available in 2024-2025

Contributions between Jan 2024 to Dec 31, 2024
\$ available in 2025-2026

For more information, go [HERE](#). To GIVE NOW go [HERE](#).

MEN'S BREAKFAST THIS SATURDAY

The Men's Breakfast Club meets this Saturday morning, December 16th following morning Mass in Zwisler Hall. The speaker will be Steve Myles, Chief of Akron City Police. Please RSVP to John Anderson, janderson4340@sbcglobal.net, so they have a head count for breakfast.

BLESSING OF THE MANGER BABY JESUS FIGURINES THIS WEEKEND

Bring your baby Jesus figurines to Mass this weekend. At the end of Mass, our children will be called forward with their figurines to be blessed. After the blessing there will be refreshments and a craft in the church basement.

PICTURES

It was anticipated that the chapel at the seminary was to be finished this past Immaculate Conception feast day. Unfortunately, it didn't make the deadline. As part of the celebration, our head sacristan, Karen Spangler, was commissioned to make new vestments. They decided to go ahead with a Mass in the Sacred Heart chapel (located elsewhere on the campus) at which Bishop Malesic would preside. He blessed the vestments and then wore them for Mass. You can see Karen and the Bishop below. The second photo is of the unfinished chapel at St. Mary Seminary.



FROM THE FORGOTTEN CABINET

In 1949, there was a piece of legislation proposed at the 91st General Assembly of the State of Ohio called the Barden Bill. It was also called "The Public-School Assistance Act of IMS." The purpose of the bill was to close every loophole in school funding so that not one penny went to a student at a Catholic school or any other school besides public schools. A report on the bill can be found [HERE](#).

Several members of the parish wrote letters to their congressmen concerning the bill. George C. Wolf reported to Father Zwisler,

"As requested recently, I wrote Congressman Walter B. Huber concerning the Barden Bill. Yesterday I received a reply, which I attached. The letter received from Congressman Huber has all the evidence of being a form letter; however, regardless of this it apparently did receive a little attention."

Mr. John Blandin of the parish (not to be confused with the Blandin Bill) wrote to Father, "I thought you would be interested in the enclosed copies of interchange of correspondence that I have had with Congressman Huber of Akron and Congressman Ledinski. Mr. Huber has taken a very fine attitude openly against the bill. I have heard nothing from Congressman Ledinski in reply to my wire."

The telegram that Mr. Blandin wrote was as follows:

"Believe every fair-minded American after studying Barden School Bill realize that the bill distorts the proposition regarding separation of Church and State which theory is and will continue to be unacceptable to Americans of all creeds and races. Furthermore, the Barden Bill if passed would be most unjust to large bodies of American Children who would be proscribed as pariahs because their parents educate them as loyal Americans in schools of their choice and conscience. Your opposition to the Barden Bill will be acclaimed as real American Statesmanship and appreciated by those who are free from bias and prejudice. Will appreciate your assistance in defeating the Barden Bill and placing this matter before Chairman Ledewski and his committee."

Congressman Walter Huber replies:

"I have your telegram of June 26 in which you state your opposition to the Barden Bill. It is my desire that all children be given better educational opportunities, in as much as it is they who will have to guide our country's future destiny. You can depend on me, therefore, to vigorously oppose the unfair and discriminatory Barden Bill."

This seems like an exchange that could easily have taken place in our own day. The more things change, the more they stay the same.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR 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 of our sick and distressed in your prayers:

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, Myrna Marple, Don Matis, Ken Minrovic, Toni Morlan, Betty O'Hara, Beverly & Mike Preston, Bob Rader, Mabel Randall, Monica and Thad Ricker, Mary Ricks, Aaron Salisbury, Betty Sarich, Kim Sarich, Denise Schmidt, Michael Schnetzer, Cory Schulz, Tom Smith, Keith Wisberger and Ann Zsembik.

God bless you,

Fr. Valencheck

St. Sebastian, pray for us.

Saint John of the Cross, pray for us.

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

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