



Angelus Letter
17 March 2022
LETTER #163
St. Patrick

Dear Parish Family,

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THIS WEEKEND

Friday Mass at 8AM with Fr. Valencheck

Friday Stations at 1:45PM

Friday Confessions at 4PM

Friday Stations at 7PM

Saturday Mass at 8AM with Fr. Valencheck

Saturday Confessions at 9:30AM

Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30PM with Fr. Bozek

Sunday Mass at 9AM with Fr. Valencheck

Sunday Mass at 11AM with Fr. Bozek

Sunday Mass at 1PM with Fr. Paschal OSB

HELP FOR UKRAINE

FUNDRAISER CONCERT FOR UKRAINE AT ST. SEBASTIAN: **Singers Companye & Northeast Ohio's Best Instrumentalists** have joined together and partnered with St. Sebastian Parish as host to perform a concert the proceeds of which will be sent to relief efforts for Ukraine. The forty-five-minute concert is on **Sunday, March 20th at 4:30PM** and is free and open to the public. A free-will donation will be taken, with 100% of the proceeds going toward relief efforts in the Ukraine through Red Cross International and the World Food Bank.

WHERE ELSE TO DONATE FOR HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS IN UKRAINE

Catholic Relief Services makes it easy to donate through their website. Click here:

<https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine>

The Catholic Extension Service provides this site to donate:

<https://www.catholicextension.org/stories/how-to-help-ukraine-through-the-catholic-church/>

Information can also be found on the homepage (where you will see the above concert promoted) of Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church on Brown Street in South Akron. It might also be nice to go celebrate Mass (Divine Liturgy) with them to show support. It would also give you a chance to experience Mass at one of the eastern branches of Catholicism:

<http://www.hgucc.org>

If you would like to do your own research, here is at least one website that suggests various Catholic venues for getting aid to those in need in Ukraine from the Catholic News Service:

<https://www.catholicnews.com/update-where-to-give-to-help-ukraine/>

GAS LINE REPLACEMENT ON MULL AVENUE

We were visited this past week by a gentleman who informed us that work on the gas lines along Mull Avenue in front of St. Sebastian Parish would be beginning soon. Here is what you need to know:

There should be no active work or road closures during school drop off or pick up, or during Mass. There will be very limited torn up sidewalks and such. If you need handicap access or easy walking into the church, there should be no disturbance to Greenwood or Elmdale, our parking lot will be unaffected and there is always the option of parking in the brick parking lot, though I think that would be largely unnecessary. Perhaps the most important thing to keep in mind is to simply be aware and give yourself an extra minute.

CELIAC DISEASE?

If you have celiac disease, our parish does have low gluten hosts. Please come to the sacristy before the five-minute bells ring (otherwise we are headed to the back of the church for the procession) and let the priest know. Then be sure to be in the priest celebrant's line.

TAX TIME! EXCITING NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Soon you will be receiving information on how to take advantage of the Angel Scholarship Fund. This allows you to direct \$750 of your liable state income tax to tuition assistance at St. Sebastian Parish School. This tax year, you can get an idea of your liable tax income, then for next tax year direct up to \$750 of that liability to the Angel Scholarship Fund. They will send you a voucher. Then the following tax season, send that voucher in to receive your tax credit back. These are funds that you must pay anyway and will simply give you the ability to apply your taxes to something you wish to support more directly. Please talk to your tax advisor. More information coming soon! More information can be found here: <https://www.catholiccommunity.org/angel-scholarship-fund/overview>

AT HOME VERSION OF THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Our meetings for the world-wide Synod on Synodality will be on two Wednesdays, March 23rd and March 30th from 7 to 9PM in Zwisler Hall. If you cannot make those dates, the diocese is providing an at home version: <https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/synod/individual-participation>

FROM THE FORGOTTEN CABINET

Here are some excerpts from more letters in the file, "PARISHIONERS IN THE ARMED FORCES." I should note that all of these letters have scribbled in the top corner, "Answered," with the date and the initials "H. A. Z." (Hilary Zwisler.)

FIRST LETTER

The first letter this week was written on thick paper with no letterhead:

Jacksonville, Florida
September 8, 1944

Dear Father,

I have now been in the Navy Air Corps for over two weeks. I like the Navy very much, although there is a lot of hard and dirty work in it. I have enclosed two envelopes for the Military Shrine, one for my brother, who is in England and one for myself.

Very sincerely yours,
Karl Rohrer

SECOND LETTER

This letter was written on half sheets of onion paper in ball-point pen and very elegant, "Palmer Method" handwriting.

France
July 27, 1944

Dear Reverend Father,

My wife, Geraldine M. Sturmi, has recently informed me that my name (has) been added to the list of servicemen and women of St. Sebastian Parish now serving their country. I should like to express my appreciation for the honor as well as for being among those who benefit from the Masses said for all of us. I know that it must be the powerful pleas of that Mass directed to the Almighty that has caused us to be spared. No doubt the intercession of the patron saint of soldiers, St. Sebastian, has brought us through many a trial safely.

Prior to arriving in Normandy, I was stationed in England and I am pleased they (are) so much more devoted to the Catholic faith in this country. No doubt you are familiar with the habits of the French but this is my first experience at finding a majority of the people practicing the Universal religion.

The towns are numerous with only short distances between but every village, no matter how small, has its Catholic church. I have had an opportunity to visit only one church thus far but our chaplain, Father Daniel F. Kielty tells me that the majority he has seen were in fairly good condition. Unfortunately, the enemy has used many as military installations resulting in partial destruction of a number of them.

It seems that everybody in the neighborhood is on their way to Mass on Sunday mornings. The balance of the day seems to be observed very strictly as a day of rest. Many children I have seen are wearing crucifixes and a few have the Scapular Medal pinned on their clothes. A United States collar insignia

comes into use to pin the Medal.

There are numerous tall crucifixes and statues depicting Calvary along the roadsides and at intersections but none of them seem to have suffered any damage.

A goodly number of the boys in our unit are Catholic and attend every Mass or service possible. We have a wonderful chaplain, loved by all, to guide and to encourage us. He says Mass as often as possible and last Sunday morning gave those present the grace of general absolution. Services are somewhat limited because of the large territory which Father Kielty is obliged to cover.

We are also rather fortunate to have a fellow as the chaplain's assistant who is a talented organist and who had, prior to leaving England, organized a very good choir amongst us. Under present conditions, we have been unable to continue it.

I have been able to keep fairly well abreast of the news of home and St. Sebastian by letters from my wife, wonderful brother Edwin, as well as the Beacon Journal. Needless to say, however, I miss greatly the many facilities at St. Sebastian and the numerous opportunities you afford everyone for practicing their religion and to obtain the grace, which the Lord is so ready to bestow upon all. I, for one, appreciate their absence and am determined to take full advantage of them when I return. I sincerely hope and pray that God will spare us and restore us to our homes and family very soon.

May I again say, "Thank you Father" for the many favors granted. I hope to express my appreciation in person someday. May God continue to bless you with good health and allow you to carry on your wonderful efforts in His service.

Sincerely,
Francis E. Sturmi.

NOTE FROM FR. VALENCHECK: A reoccurring theme in many of these letters has been the help the faith has been to those who face such difficult trials. As we see the world still involved in turmoil, imagine the hardship of our fellow Catholics in the Armed Services that have terribly limited access to priests and sacraments. The Archdiocese of the Military is looking for men to be ordained to serve our service men and women in the faith that they need and deserve. As a side note, [Archbishop Timothy Broglio](#), is a native of Diocese of Cleveland as is one of the Auxiliary Bishops, [Neal Buckon](#) with whom I went to seminary.

For more information, click here: <https://www.milarch.org>

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:

Annette Bailey, Marilyn Bohling, Jill Buffa, Regina Buhalak, Dan Canale, Christopher Casey, Emilio Cheuy, Leslie Clark-Wolf, Rita Cummings, Anthony D'Attoma, Linda Davis, Marjorie DeLuca, Mary Pat Doorley, Rita Buhalak Gossford, Robert Hickey, Phil Hochstetler, John and Terry Hogan, Ann Hubiak, Carolyn Jeske, Evan Kaufman, Janet Kendrick, Jean Labate, Dr. Dan Lehnhoff, John Marckel, Myrna Marple, Don Matis, Ken Minrovic, Betty O'Hara, Keith Pecek, Beverly & Mike Preston, Mary Ricks, Nancy Ropchock, Aaron Salisbury, Ann Sandvick, Michael Schnetzer, John Schultz, Cory Schulz, Tom Smith, Steve Watral, Dona Wolff and Ann Zsembik.

God bless you,

Fr. Valencheck
St. Sebastian, pray for us.
St. Patrick, pray for us.

**Novena to St. Sebastian,
Protector Against the Plague**



Glorious Saint Sebastian, you who had great courage, help us to be witnesses of Jesus before this unbelieving world as you have brought others to Christ. Help us to have the love of neighbor that you had and to give our lives for our brothers, even in difficulties and dangers. Help us to have faith in the pains of life as you endured cruel martyrdom. Protect all soldiers, military and police against every danger in their work. Protect all nations against wars, hunger and pestilence. Intercede for the grace that I need...

[Mention your intention here...]

Amen.