



Angelus Letter
23 June 2022
LETTER #177
Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Dear Parish Family,

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THIS WEEKEND

Friday Mass at 8AM with Fr. Bozek
Friday Confessions at 4PM

Saturday Mass at 8AM with Fr. Bozek
Saturday Confessions at 9:30AM
Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30PM with Fr. Valencheck

Sunday Mass at 9AM with Fr. Valencheck
Sunday Mass at 11AM with Fr. Bozek
Sunday Mass at 1PM with Fr. Bede OSB

CONCERT TONIGHT!

Peggy Coyle will be performing *tonight*, Thursday, June 23rd 7PM in the school courtyard. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, or sit on one of the new picnic tables! Bring dinner or a snack or what have you. Bring family, friends and neighbors! Free and open to the public.

WANTED!!! DONUT SUNDAY COORDINATOR!

Here is the perfect volunteer opportunity for somebody! We need someone to coordinate our once a month the Donut Sunday schedule. Please contact Cathy Sivec at (330) 836-2233 in the rectory office for more information or to offer your services. (Just think of how many kids you will make happy!)

WAY TO GO ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH SCHOOL!

Your parish school has ranked in the top 15 percentile in the United States in testing this year! A number of our eighth graders tested in the top 5 percentile in the nation and a good number of them received merit scholarships to local Catholic high schools. (*And this was accomplished as we recover from a pandemic!*) Our 8th grade parish school students also earned over \$281,000 in awards and scholarships to use over the next 4 years at an area Catholic high school. And this is not even to mention the other outstanding awards they won over the past year, a list of which I hope to get to you sometime soon.

HEADS UP!

I am going to be taking some vacation and continuing education time during the month of July, so it may become difficult to make contact with me during this time. In addition, Fr. Bozek will be gone on vacation and unavailable for most of August.

ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH FOUNDATION 2022 EVENTS

Please save the date for the St. Sebastian Foundation's parish events:

Legacy Weekend is scheduled for the July 9-10 weekend. I hope you will join us for a brief overview before each mass on The Foundation's Arrow Society (The Foundation's planned giving program that supports our parish for generations to come). Information tables will be located in the back of the church.

Save the Date! The Foundation's Annual Arrow Society celebration is scheduled for September 15, 2022 from 6:30-9:00pm in Zwisler Hall. All are welcome. More details will follow.

Questions? Please contact Kathleen Zehenni Holaday 330-836-2233 113
or holadayk@stsebastian.org

INFORMED AND PREPARED

In the parish bulletin letter this week I will be mentioning that in this Angelus Letter I would be giving you a couple of websites to explore to help you be well informed for when the Supreme Court announces its decision on the *Dobbs vs Jackson* case. What follows are just a few suggestions.

The Diocese of Lansing, Michigan has a post with a number of informative links contained within it, which you can find [HERE](#).

The Catholic News Agency has something like a primer on the *Dobbs vs. Jackson* case [HERE](#).

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has provided [THIS STATEMENT](#) which also has a link to free, online resources for ecumenical prayer services and suggestions for community involvement.

LETTERS FROM THE FORGOTTEN CABINET

The Great Depression hit the parish five years into her existence, just when she was in considerable debt for building her church, convent, school and office complex. Adding to the general state of affairs, the bank at which the parish held her money, failed. In the Forgotten Cabinet is both a draft letter and the actual letter that was sent out to parishioners of this new parish of St. Sebastian explaining what happened and asking for assistance to help the parish out of her difficulties.

The draft and actual letter are pretty similar. There were corrections in the draft such as this: "The success ~~or~~ failure of the Appeal will vitally ~~effect~~ save your parish . . ." which came out in the final draft, "The success of this Appeal will save your parish . . ." Thank heavens those in the parish at the time heeded the letter and kept the parish solvent! God bless them! Here are excerpts from that letter:

St. Sebastian Parish
Akron, OH

May 1st, 1933

Dear Parishioner,

A grave Emergency has arisen. Your parish faces a serious crisis, which you alone can, and, I have confidence, will avert. This Emergency occasions an Urgent Appeal, and a brief statement of the facts. The success of the Appeal will save your parish with its efficient Church, School and Convent.

The Facts are these: Your parish began five years ago (and your parish) assumed a sizable obligation on behalf of immediate and future parish development. Fall from prosperous days unforeseen, also by business and industry, financial crash came before (the) new building could be occupied. Four years of economic depression and unemployment followed. Yet the parish weathered the financial storm. Made possible by the good will and helpfulness of 60% of the more fortunate parishioners. Economy measures helped. Ordinary Parish Expenses reduced by \$4,000 in 1932. All hands paid (except the pastor.)

Then another unforeseen storm breaks. The Bank crashes. Our heaviest obligation due June 1st - \$8,000. \$7,000 carefully nursed over a five-month period and placed in the Bank ready to meet the above obligations. Now frozen and unavailable. Parishes did not fail, the bank did.

This is the Appeal: We must meet this obligation. A bank loan might be made to wait. Ours is a Gold Certificate Bond Issue with Mortgage as Collateral. This cannot wait. Parish solvency and Credit are at stake. You have maintained your Parish credit until now. You cannot default. Failure to meet this obligation is disastrous. You will not fail. You will be generous in relieving a tense situation, created by the Bank, not by you.

How Much? An average \$10.00 Special Assessment per solvent adult will solve your parish's problem. (*Note: That would be equivalent to about \$225 in 2022 dollars.*)

When? The \$8,000 must be in St. Louis not later than 29th inst. (3 weeks hence.)

How? You will receive the Appeal kindly and respond to it generously in view of the fact that during the depression years, we have appreciated your own personal, domestic and business problems. For two years we have hesitated to have recourse to any Special Appeals or Special Means to raise money but now we are forced to do so by sheer necessity.

With your very generous response, you may also make it possible for your Pastor to draw on some of his long past due allowance, and thus enable him to continue to maintain his Ford in the better interest of the parish.

Please to remember that this Problem is yours. Your Pastor has the worry. You will solve your Problem and relieve his worry, I am sure.

Trusting that God will bless you and soon restore us all to better days, I beg to remain,

Yours very gratefully,

Needless to say, those were some very dark days for our nation and faith community, but our Parish rallied and answered the call! Today, we are very blessed to have continued that tradition of support and generosity. It is such a pleasure to be your pastor and to have your support. I have included quick on-line links if you are interested in donating!

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:

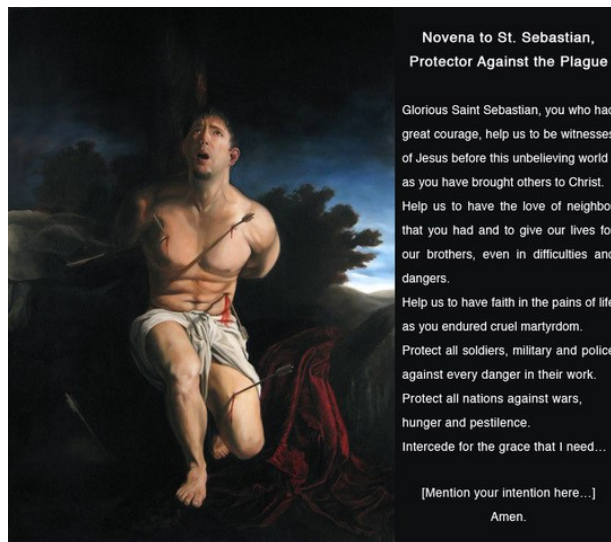
Annette Bailey, Marilyn Bohling, Jill Buffa, Regina Buhalak, Dan Canale, Christopher Casey, Emilio Cheuy, Jo Cooney, Anthony D'Attoma, Linda Davis, Marjorie DeLuca, Mary Pat Doorley, Rita Buhalak Gossford, Robert Hickey, Phil Hochstetler, John and Terry Hogan, Ann Hubiak, Carolyn Jeske, Janet Kendrick,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

God bless you,

Fr. Valencheck

St. Sebastian, pray for us.

St. John the Baptist, pray for us.



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

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