



Proclamation

To The People of Akron:

Whereas: St. Sebastian Parish, located in the heart of West Akron, is celebrating the milestone of 90 years as a parish. A special gala will be held for parishioners on November 10, 2018, to celebrate this special occasion. St. Sebastian has served as a cornerstone in our community since its founding in 1928, and today remains a strong, vital force in West Akron; and

Whereas: On July 6, 1928, with just 15 years of priesthood under his belt, Reverend Hilary Zwisler became the founding pastor of St. Sebastian Parish. On February 10, 1929, an 8-acre property on Mull Avenue was purchased, along with a bit of swampy land across S. Hawkins Ave., and a groundbreaking for St. Sebastian Church and School was held on April 28, 1929; and

Whereas: In 1957, a letter was sent to parishioners of St. Sebastian parish launching a fund drive for the present day church, and the first mass was celebrated on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1929; and

Whereas: In May 2017, Pastor John Valencheck announced a \$1,000,000 restoration project entitled “The Cornerstone of Our Faith” capital campaign to give the church some needed updates to restore it to its full grandeur and beauty. Parishioners of all ages answered the call, and today can be very proud of their efforts as they celebrate the many new renovations to their church.

Now, Therefore: I, Daniel Horrigan, Mayor of the City of Akron, Ohio, do hereby proclaim, November 10, 2018, as:

“St. Sebastian Parish 90th Anniversary Day”

in the City of Akron and ask all residents to congratulate St. Sebastian on reaching the milestone of 90 years and exceeding their goal of \$1,000,000 raised for the church restoration project.

In Witness Whereof: I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Akron to be affixed hereto this 24th day October, 2018.

*Mayor
City of Akron*