**Pulse of the Parish**

**January 2022**

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| **Parish Council Member** |  | **Summary** |
| **Christina** |  |  |
| **Dave** |  | * CYO Athletics: CYO season was put on hold due to Covid. Restart of the season was last weekend. 18 teams with 173 players participating.
* Cub Scouts: PInewood Derby is January 29th.
* Boy Scouts: Andrew Powell will be celebrating his Eagle Scout designation.
* Boosters: no report.
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| **Sue** |  | * West Side Catholic Couples: We are having a Couples Day Out sponsored by West Side Catholic Couples Saturday April 30 9-1:30 at St Sebastian in the church. It will include 3 talks on topics related to marriage given by Fr. Patrick Schultz and Fr. Ryan Mann who are both diocesan priests. It will also include times of prayer and confession. Promotions and online registration will begin February 1.
* emHC: no report
* Good Samaritan Hunger Center: no report
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| **Ed** |  | * SVDP is running smoothly with between 8 and 15 assignments per week. Akron Cares has started a NGO partial water bill payment program to be used in cases of a water shut off notice. Funds are privately donated. The HEAP program is still in effect and is used to help avoid gas and electric shut off notices. SVDP often supplements these payments. Made a mortgage payment on behalf of a former parishioner at the request of Fr. Valencheck.
* St. Sebastian/St. Vincent Social Justice Ministry met on Jan. 16. The group continues its discussion of Pope Francis’s Fratelli Tutti, his Social Encyclical. A clarification of the November minutes was made regarding the former diocesan priest, Fr. McWilliams now laicized. Also Fr.Norm Douglas was present and spoke on the “Synod process” in the diocese with discussion on whether we are a “teaching church or a listening church.” St. V and St. Seb parishes will be participating in the process. Other topics included the Summit County Collaborative Against Human Trafficking event; the Catholic Commission update; and the currant direction of the Vatican regarding celebration of the Latin Mass In the diocese. Detailed minutes are available from Mary Tschantz.
* No further reports at this time.
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| **Marcy** |  | * No updates
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| **Tracie** |  | * Pre-Cana is 2/12/22. Need Father V. to sign certificates during the day and perform an opening and/or closing prayer? Also, the group is now attending 4:30 mass if the priest would like to do a special prayer at the end of mass.
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| **Ivan** |  | * Keith Johnson needs volunteers for confirmation retreat in February.
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| **Natalie** |  | * Spectacular in person but limited. Finance Council donating a $1000 for Grill basket. Asked if Parish Council wants to give.
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| **Jennie** |  | **Finance Council -** meeting 1/27/22School* Enrollment at 334 – moving to 336 (family moving back to ohio)
* Registrations begin for next school year this weekend
* Spectacular – Feb 26th – live but will limit the # of people; invites are being mailed
	+ Foundation gave school $10,000 for paddle raise
	+ Finance Council donating $1000 worth of value for a grill auction
* School got the safety and security grant for $100,000 – can use for security systems

Financials -* YTD as of Dec 31, 2021 – halfway through the fiscal year
* Church revenue is up $20,000 from LY at this time - contributing to that is the Heart of the Shepherd campaign contributions and Government payroll credit
	+ Transferred $250,000 in to Parish savings due to the extra funds from revenue and invested earnings.
	+ Church expenses in line with budget
* School Revenue
	+ Have 8 more students than last year
	+ Utilities and maintenance are up compared to budget.
	+ Significant capital improvements in safety and security.
	+ Added 3 new custodial staff this school year
	+ FACTS program reporting is significantly better than Smart Tuition which gives a better way to analyze the finances.
	+ Will raise tuition $200/family for next school year; Total cost per student is $6,180
* Next meeting is 2/17

**Foundation Updates:*** Thank you for the support of the 2021 WeGiveCatholic project. We had 99 donors and raised $20,210 towards the Zwisler Hall light and sound system upgrade project.
* Help Wanted! If anyone is interested in joining the Parish Archive Team – let me know! We have a goal of getting everything organized by the 100th Anniversary in 2028!
* Scholarship application season has just ended – student deadline for submitting applications was 1/25/2022.
* The Foundation will sponsor “Pastries with Parents” during the upcoming Catholic Schools Week.
* The Foundation will once again provide a $10,000 donation to the 2022 Spectacular for the paddle raise match.
* March 24th will be the Annual Foundation Scholarship Mass to recognize the scholarship recipients.

**Sanctuary Society*** International festival has been postponed. It’s sad but the board felt it’s better and safer to just wait a bit to see how things go. As it is right now, we are looking into dates. Everyone has been out on hold. People are eager to have it though.
* Current board is stepping down and will invite ladies who are interested on being part of the board and helping them through the whole process.
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| **JIm** |  | Altar Servers  - 70 students on the roster; Covid created Christmas/New Year’s scheduling havoc; Parent concerns over servers missing 1st period math class (all grades); accolades to 5-8 returning highschoolers serving on weekendsGabriel Ministry- Streaming hardware working correctly after network cable replaced for one camera; total of 11 techs working for now, but young recruits are welcome; no feedback on school events…self-sustaining; TriCaster is oldest hardware…working fine now, replacement budget is 7-8000kAltar Servers - Extraordinary Form….nothing to reportFaith and Light - nothing to reportPSR - everything running smoothlyCub Scouts 3096 - nothing back from Tim |
| **Alex** |  | **Bridge Flights:** Several people have mentioned to me that they can’t go to church because of back trouble and the wooden benches are too uncomfortable. Perhaps several benches in the front Blessed Virgin’s side could be padded. bridge flights are in full swing and all is well. Ann |
| **Susan** |  | * **Lectors:no report**
* **Ushers:some gaps but finding help**
* **Girl Scouts: Maybe Brownie group is meeting.Group 7 8th grade girls. Partipated in City Christmas parade. Looked being sold.**
* **Women of St. Sebastian: going strong. Had Christmas party.**
* **Votives:**
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