



Angelus Letter
6 January 2022
LETTER #153
Saint André Bessette

Dear Parish Family,

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THIS WEEKEND*

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

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

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

LATEST COVID NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Due to COVID running rampant through the presbyterate, the Bishop sent out an emergency procedures memo. In it, he stated that the diocese is stretched tight and that weekday Mass help is no longer available and advises parishes to put signs on their doors if they cannot have Mass due to priests testing positive. Large group gatherings and events are recommended to be postponed for the next few weeks. The diocese recommends each person **should take** all precautions to avoid becoming ill and strongly advises anybody who is not feeling well to remain at home and that anybody who **“has significant fear or anxiety about contracting the coronavirus in a large group of persons are not obligated to attend Mass.”**

On a local Diocesan level, our Bishop has cancelled all diocesan district meeting and social gatherings. He further requests that prayers be offered at Mass for the end of the pandemic.

BAPTISMAL FONT UPDATES

Henniger's Religious Goods is sending a scout out to the parish this week to put together a plan for the moving of the baptismal font. The marble is here and ready to be installed! The plan, at the moment, is for the base to be installed next Wednesday and Thursday so that by the following weekend it should be ready for use.

CRAZY CHRISTMAS ESCAPADES

This Christmas was unique around St. Sebastian not the least of which was due to COVID wreaking havoc with our Eucharistic Minister schedule! The day before Christmas, messages starting coming in from servers, lectors, cantors, choir members and ushers, “I just tested positive for COVID and can't be there for my Mass this weekend!” For those who were unfortunately under the weather for Christmas, my prayer goes out to you! And thank you to those who wore multiple hats to get us through so wonderfully over the holy days.

As crazy as that was, it did not match the Christmas wreaths escapades. Thanks to a generous donor, we were able to have the wreaths in the church replaced! (Thank you.) The “old” ones were then going to be used to gussy up the rest of the parish grounds that, admittedly, are not all that decorated for Christmas. So one of our wonderful Arts and Environment crew members made a whole bunch of new and beautiful bows and Joe the seminarian and I went about hanging up the old ones all across the campus. All that was needed now was for the new ones to be delivered.

Ah! There's the glitch! Close to the date for decorating the church, a UPS truck pulled up and dropped off a couple of stacks of boxes about the height of a person full of brand new Christmas wreaths. Upon opening the boxes, we were disappointed to see wreaths that we did not order. They looked plastic and

were full of berries and branches and glittery things. They looked terrible and further, they were not all there!

As it turns out, two more boxes of wreaths traveled through more of the United States than I saw during the past two years and never did make it to the parish. To make a long story short (too late) all the old Christmas wreaths had to be taken down (thanks Joe) and once again took pride of place in our church and the other were sent back from whence they came.

Thanks again to everybody who helped make it a great Christmas during another unusual year!

MISC.

Take a look at the trees on our campus! They have all received New Year's haircuts, being trimmed back from roofs, from each other and from covering signs. It looks great.

There is still some work being done on the roof of Byrider but it is moving along nicely and the air conditioning is finally finished.

Bids are being accepted for the replacement of our disintegrating back driveways at the rectory and it appears that a little bit of work happened at Perkins (Chester and I noticed on our walk.)

Finally, this weekend marks the end of the Christmas celebrations at Mass, which means, according to the Order (the little book that gives us yearly instructions on such things), that ordinary time begins on Monday.

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, Svetlana Barber, Marilyn Bohling, Jill Buffa, Regina Buhalak, Dan Canale, Christopher Casey, Emilio Cheuy, Rita Cummings, Anthony D'Attoma, Linda Davis, Marjorie DeLuca, Mary Pat Doorley, Melane Francis, Rita Buhalak Gossford, Robert Hickey, Phil Hochstetler, John and Terry Hogan, Ann Hubiak, Carolyn Jeske, Janet Kendrick, Jean Labate, Myrna Marple, Don Matis, Ken Minrovic, Betty O'Hara, Keith Pecek, Beverly & Mike Preston, Robert Rader, Mary Ricks, Nancy Ropchock, Beatrice Laura Ryan, Aaron Salisbury, Ann Sandvick, Michael Schnetzer, John Schultz, Cory Schulz, Tom Smith, Victor Strelbicki, Steve Watral and Dona Wolff.

God bless you,

Fr. Valencheck.

St. Sebastian, pray for us.

St. André Bessette, 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.