

## Pulse of the Parish August 2023

Parish Council Member	Summary
Linda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>No report.</b></li> </ul>
Dave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Boosters:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2022/23 Recap: 185 total kids participated in CYO athletics. 15 total champions were awarded across all sports, St. Sebastian won 4 despite not being in the top 15 in size for with boys or girls.</li> <li>○ 2023 kick-off: 15 teams with 165 kid participating Most seasons kicked off last weekend</li> <li>○ New for this year was day or service. 50+ kids packed 1,500 food bags, garden cleared out, equipment room cleaned. Big success, will look to continue for winter sports.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Children's Liturgy of the Word</b> - Has not started back up. Not enough volunteers to start up again. No plans to restart until there is more interest.</li> </ul>
Sue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>emHC - no report</b></li> <li>● <b>Peter Maurin Center-</b> Bruce Eitman is no longer leading this group, Marianne Spiros and Susan Flowers are. He will be letting Cathy Sivec know, I will reach out to her for their contact info. He said they enjoy having a mention in the bulletin once in a while to find new volunteers. On the 20th, they served about 110 hungry people and left food for PMC to serve the following week.</li> <li>● <b>Prayer Warriors-</b> The Prayer Warriors will be sponsoring again this year the Rosary Coast to Coast Prayer Rally! It will be Sunday, Oct. 8 beginning at 3:00 in the church with Exposition then at 4:00 we will be processing to Hawkins and Mull Ave to pray the Glorious Mysteries. Rain or shine!</li> </ul>
Barb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>West Side Catholic Couples (WSCC)-</b> added new couples; annual kick off brunch following Sep 10th 9am Mass. This year's selections: Edw Sri's <u>Biblical Walk Through the Mass</u> followed by Bp Barron's <u>This is My Body: A Call to Eucharistic Revival</u>.</li> <li>● <b>Sanctuary Society-</b> monstrance replated (1st of Father V's 'three wishes'); Karen Spangler is working on the other two: a new cope and a funeral pall. Seeking new officers for 2024-2025; planning Christmas Tea; membership envelopes should be going out in Sept.</li> <li>● <b>Giving Tree-</b> no report.</li> <li>● <b>St. Vincent dePaul Society-</b> as of FY ending Oct 2022, conference helped 1100 people and spent abt \$124K (normally \$90K-\$100K). Low funds an issue in late June; spending limits readjusted and assistance prioritized to maintain ability to meet requests. An unexpected August donation plus anticipation of Red Envelope donations has allowed for an increase for certain requests. Red envelope reminders placed in bulletin.</li> <li>● <b>Our Mother of Sorrows-</b> those in our group of 14 continue to attend (as they are able) funerals held at St. Sebastian as a way of showing support.</li> </ul>
Patrick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Girl Scouts &amp; Brownies</b> - Nothing to report.</li> <li>● <b>Kindergarten Brownies</b> - Nothing to report.</li> <li>● <b>Lectors</b> - Nothing to report.</li> <li>● <b>Women of St. Sebastian</b> - Had the Pray and Play! Event, a homeschool Q&amp;A, an Opus Dei</li> </ul>

	<p>Evening of Recollection, and a book discussion on the <i>Harvest of Rubies</i> by Tessa Afshar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Votive Lights</b> - Candle ministry is running smoothly, they will keep us updated.</li> <li>● <b>Chesterton Academy</b> - They have fourteen students enrolled, seven freshmen and seven returning. They are also conducting outreach to local parochial schools.</li> </ul>
<b>Ana</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The Academy of Culture &amp; Arts</b> - Fall session begins the week of Monday, September 11th. New additions for this year are 3 levels of ballet for kids and Painting with Paula - a journey into visual art as a way to find inner peace. Painting class is on Monday evenings and open to kids ages 12 years to adult. There are also the usual lessons for violin, guitar and piano. Martial arts and Fit-and-Fun will also be offered this year again.</li> <li>● The School Band is doing well with 39 kids signed up between 4th and 8th grades. Registration is still open though. 7th and 8th grade Band class have already started this week. Cadet and beginner band start September 12th.</li> <li>● <b>School Advisory Committee</b> - there are no updates for now.</li> <li>● Student led masses are planned to be scheduled again starting in September. This would be on the last Sunday of the month.</li> </ul>
<b>Will</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Scouts: No update, first meeting likely Sept 11th or 12th</b></li> <li>● <b>KoC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Another trivia night being planned in October</li> <li>○ Volunteering at St. Bernard soup kitchen on Sept 24th. Anyone from the parish is invited and welcome to join</li> <li>○ Fill the Crib campaign for November in planning stages</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>HASA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Still looking for confirmation of Father daughter dance timing</li> <li>○ Successful open house and a success for backpack blessing at 9am mass. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Would like to find ways to continue to include parish in these events (enhance the blessing with holy water, kids take up offertory, work with choir to include songs from school mass, etc...)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ EdChoice topic covered in Parish Council New business</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Terry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Music Ministries</b>- Lynn will be at our meeting to play some of her CD. As of 8/21, there were 6 resumes submitted for Lynn's position, one from as far away as Ghana.</li> <li>● <b>Little Flower Garden Club</b> would like to change their name to Little Flower Garden Ministry as it is really no longer a "club". The zinnias are finally blooming enough for arrangements.</li> <li>● <b>Arts and Environment</b> is working on reorganizing the storage area of the boiler room with a donated rolling cart and 2 purchased clothing racks to store wreaths more efficiently. We are working on upgrading the large wreaths that hang above the pillars and Mary and Joseph. We will be scheduling a couple of days of tree lighting repair to get a jump on Christmas decorating.</li> </ul>
<b>Chris</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No Report.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Jim</b></p>	<p><b>Altar Servers -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 53 servers heading into 2023/24</li> <li>● 16 newly trained from the past school year...kudos!</li> <li>● Random scheduling will continue as requested by teachers and parents</li> <li>● The server camp intended for this year was moved to June, 2024</li> </ul> <p><b>Audio Visual - Business as usual</b></p> <p><b>PSR -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Enrollments continue</li> <li>● An additional volunteer has been added during the last 10 days</li> <li>● Additional assistance is always welcome for PSR</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hannah</b></p>	<p><b>Grounds Crew</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tail end of the season</li> <li>● All shrubs and hedges are trimmed, and the flowers are doing well</li> <li>● Wrap up at the end of October</li> </ul> <p><b>Parish Foundation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nothing substantial to report</li> </ul> <p><b>Finance Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Losing the 1pm Latin Mass and moving to St. Mary's</li> <li>● Financials – down \$13K YOY due to construction/economy (volume is up; gifts are less)</li> <li>● Preschool is full at 53 with a waiting list; 330 in school</li> <li>● Should hear about the Blue Ribbon School award in September!</li> <li>● April 20, 2024 is the Spectacular</li> <li>● This morning's meeting primarily covered School EdChoice – applications due October 14; work is still progressing on this</li> </ul> <p><b>Marketing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● New Family Picnic welcomed over 100 guests</li> <li>● Welcome Back Coffee was held last Monday to a great crowd</li> <li>● Working with HASA to bring a Parent Ambassador program to support recruitment events</li> <li>● Grandparents Day is Thursday, September 7th</li> <li>● August edition of the BrickLot Bulletin is available</li> <li>● Our Parish Directory for 2024-25 will be scaled down because of limited pages</li> <li>● Kindergarten/Preschool Dinner will be October 6th in Z hall</li> <li>● Explorer Day is November 3rd</li> </ul> <p><b>Ushers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nothing back</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Parish Council Email</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New email will be ParishCouncil@stsebastian.org per Milissa</li></ul>
<p><b>Susan</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Young Adult Ministry: This ministry is very active. They sponsor Theology on Tap once a month, and being a relatively new project for them, they've only had two so far, with the challenge being finding speakers. The young adults have helped with many parish events (Fr. Valencheck's Jubilee, mulching day, VBS, and Brickstreet Jazz Fest). They will continue volunteering with parish events</li><li>• . . . And Justice for All: No response, no report.</li></ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>St. Sebastian, Pray for Us!</b> 🙏</p>