

## Pulse of the Parish February 2024

Parish Council Member	Summary
Linda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Pre-Cana:</b> We successfully hosted 15 couples at our February Pre-Cana. Almost half were couples planning to wed at St. Sebastian.</li> <li>● <b>Archives:</b> They are slowly progressing with getting everything organized so information can be accessed. Contributions are welcome - provide as much information about the document/picture/artifact. There are many brochures, programs, etc. that are undated. For informational purposes, when items are created, identification on the document, at least date, will help with properly organizing items.</li> <li>● <b>Good Samaritan Hunger Center:</b> They are on the last step for the new shed - where to put it. Milissa Smith has asked to meet with the board in March about renovations at Byrider Hall.</li> <li>● <b>Rectory:</b> The new parish directory/handbook is at the printer. We will be able to distribute it soon. Only 12 Masses left in 2024 Mass book, we will open the 2025 Mass book in May.</li> </ul>
Dave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Spring sports registration is open for all sports. Registration ends March 4th.</li> <li>● 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament is March 2nd and 3rd. Registration has started. 8 teams so far; 2 from St Sebastian. More teams will register as the event gets closer.</li> <li>● Bishop Gries grant application for lacrosse equipment is being considered. Application is due to the CYO Athletic Office either March 1st or May 1st.</li> <li>● DD Soccer/Soccer Stars will need new uniforms once the final number of participants are determined.</li> </ul>
Sue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Peter Maurin - served 90+ people at their meal last Sunday, their goal is 0. Their next meal will be April 21st.</li> <li>● Prayer Warriors - NR</li> <li>● emHC - NR</li> </ul>
Barb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>West Side Catholic Couples-</b> completed <u>A Biblical Walk Through the Mass</u> this month and will start Bp. Robt. Barron's <u>This is My Body. A Call to Eucharistic Revival</u> in March. Planning has begun for WSCC's Speaker Series on April 6th with Dr. Peter Kreeft.</li> <li>● <b>Sanctuary Society-</b> waiting for final figures for the International Festival; will be doing Easter Memorials; seeking new officers in the Fall.</li> <li>● <b>St. Vincent DePaul Society-</b> Year end 2023 and early 2024 donations put the Society in a better financial position allowing modest increases in spending limits. We continue to be generous yet prudent.</li> <li>● <b>Our Mother of Sorrows</b> -nothing new to report.</li> <li>● <b>Bible Study-</b>currently reading <u>The Beatitudes. Developing Spiritual Character.</u></li> </ul>
David	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>
Ana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Catholic Schools Week</b> - went well.</li> <li>● There is a student-led Mass this Sunday at 9am. 5th and 1st grades leading the way.</li> <li>● The academy is getting ready for a new set of students in dance and exercise, should be starting</li> </ul>

	<p>in the coming week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school band is busy getting ready for the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Akron on March 9th.</li> </ul>
<b>Will</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scouts</b> - 40+ boys active in Cub Scouts. Pinewood Derby held in January + Cross-over ceremony. 20+ boys in boyscouts</li> <li>• <b>KoC</b></li> <li>• <b>HASA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Baminelli blessing after each mass on Gaudete Sunday. Good response but hoping to make this a bigger tradition in future years</li> <li>○ Catholic schools week end of January. HASA helped sponsor extended lunch for teachers and had over 20 parent volunteers cover lunchroom, recess, and cross activity with students. Great response from teachers and parent volunteers.</li> <li>○ Parent volunteers are also helping with Prayer Chain/kindness project during lent. Students submitting acts of kindness</li> <li>○ HASA working with Our Mothers Hands to support May Crowning and International Pilgrim Marian statue</li> <li>○ Initial planning stages for our Father/Daughter dance, board elections, school supply fundraiser over next few months</li> <li>○ HASA meeting 2/29 in Z-Hall, 7pm.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Terry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Music Ministries - Parish Choir, Praise and Worship, Cantors and Handbell Choir</b> - Chardon Polka was a great success. Next concert is Pitch Blend Barbershop Group in April.</li> <li>• <b>School Choir</b> - They are looking into new choral risers.</li> <li>• <b>Sacristans</b> - Nothing to report</li> <li>• <b>Little Garden Club/Cutting Garden</b> - Waiting to hear from Eagle Scout on improving area around the fountain and possibly building outdoor Stations of the Cross using pieces from Julie Billiard chapel.</li> <li>• <b>Arts and Environment</b> - Plant and flower orders for Easter in the works. Begonias might not be ready since Easter is early, but we will figure it out. Prices are up from last year.</li> </ul>
<b>Chris</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Jim</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Servers operating according to plan</b></li> <li>• <b>Streaming will continue...anticipating the purchase of a new Tricaster soon</b></li> <li>• <b>PSR running business as usual</b></li> </ul>
<b>Hannah</b>	<p><b>Finance Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Meeting today was canceled</li> <li>· Finance Council is donating another Weber grill for the Spectacular</li> <li>· Hired a new Music Director</li> <li>· Building fixes</li> <li>· Collecting data re: what to do with the Elmdale House</li> <li>· \$70K in 2022 raised; \$103K in 2023 YTD and people can still donate through April</li> <li>· Blue Ribbon signage</li> </ul>

- EdChoice: 260 applications were approved and awarded and 237 checks came in this past week
  - \$4,800 average award
- STEM redesignation visit is in March
- Preschool: at \$4,350 full-day; 4% increase for 2024/2025; half-day also raised
- Through December 2023:
  - Down 2% YTD; should meet the \$1.3M budget
  - Church expenses on budget YTD
  - School is \$1.1M short in case due to the timing of EdChoice and families didn't pay tuition while they waited for EdChoice
  - School expenses are doing well
  - Raising teacher salaries: a few teachers are making less than the minimum requirement
- Parishoner YE statements have gone out
- Portfolio gain in December
- Greenhouse: \$150K raised by the Foundation; breaking ground in May

### **Marketing**

- Open House was very successful, lots of new faces, letters mailed out to attendees
- Passport Program received very well at open house
- Designing preschool postcard for welcoming
- Lots of scheduled Tour of the school
- Spectacular Invites just finalized
- Gift Card Palooza kicks off end of February
- 2025 Spectacular will be March 1
- School Facebook page has been locked...have sent appeals
- Easter material in design
- Blue ribbon outdoor sign almost done...school sign needs dry weather to protect lawn

### **Parish Council Nominations**

- Katy Karg, self-nominated
- David A. Redle, nominated by Rosemark Downing
- Rachel O'Neill, nominated by Katie Timperio
- Lori Ann Oakes, nominated by Barb Panzner
- Sarah McGervey, self-nominated
- Jerry D'Antonio, nominated by Tracie D'Antonio
- Jerry Giltner, self-nominated

### **Parish Council Email**

- New email is ParishCouncil@stsebastian.org

Parish Foundation

**Annual Report – in process**

**Alumni Newsletter – in process**

	<b>Scholarship Season – selection in process</b>
<b>Susan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul> <p><b>St. Sebastian, Pray for Us!</b> 🙏</p>