



Angelus Letter
25 April 2024
LETTER #272
Saint Mark

Dear Parish Family,

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THIS WEEKEND

Friday Mass at 8 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck
Friday Confessions from 4 to 5 p.m.

Saturday Mass at 8 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck
Saturday Confessions from 9:30 to 10 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30 p.m. with Fr. Valencheck

Sunday Mass at 9 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck
Sunday Mass at 11 a.m. with Fr. Valencheck

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK

This week is National Volunteer Appreciation Week, so I'd like to take a moment to thank the many volunteers who put in so much time helping to make this parish so amazing! Our parish has so many wonderful groups and ministries who all work together to provide a vibrant parish community for all to enjoy! **Thank you!**

SCHOOL GARDEN

Your help is needed! The Sebastian's Garden was made possible after significant donations were made back in 2011 at the school's annual fundraiser, The Spectacular. Sebastian's Garden was created as the school's outdoor learning garden, on the Byrider portion of our campus. The Sebastian's Garden, which helps feed the hungry in our area through the Good Samaritan Center, is in need of an upgrade. Good Samaritan has purchased new, raised beds for planting but they are wider than the ones we currently have. This necessitates your assistance in assembling, moving and establishing the new beds. There is plenty of work and different kinds of work to be done by the whole family or any group of people! (This would be good for service hours.)

If you would be so kind to volunteer (or volunteer someone) here is the information:

Date: Saturday, May 4th

Time: 9am – noon

Bring: Work gloves, mallet or hammer, screw drivers, possibly a shovel.

Special request: If someone has a rototiller to help turn the dirt in the 28 beds, we could really use your help to get the garden started this season!

We will provide: Water, coffee, snacks & pastries

R.s.v.p. before May 1st: Christina Mastromatteo - Text or call 412-654-1998, or e-mail cmastomatteo@gmail.com and please put "St. Sebastian Garden" in the e-mail subject line.

OTHER WORK AROUND ST. SEBASTIAN SQUARE

SANDSTONE WALKWAYS: This year's project of restoring our sandstone walkways should be finished by the time you read this. Mike D'Attoma and his crew have been working hard, removing the damaged, old sandstone, and cutting and replacing it with new stone. It is difficult, back-breaking work. God bless you for it!

The stone comes from the [Kipton Stone Quarry](#) near Oberlin, Ohio. The owner of the stone quarry said that there is about 600 years' worth of stone to quarry there, perhaps an exaggeration! The more yellow tinged stone is from near the top of the quarry while the more white/grey stone is from deeper down. Now, not only is every brick on our campus (and on Mull Avenue) made from Ohio clay and soil, we know that even our stone walkways also come from good Ohio earth!

TREES: For 15 years we have struggled with our beautiful trees for events such as the Corpus Christi and the St. Sebastian Parish Festival processions. As we would approach one of our trees, everyone would have to squat down, and duck walk to make it under the low hanging bows. Even so, last year the St. Sebastian statue lost a finger in the branches. The trees would be trimmed up, but it never seemed enough.

This year, however, we have been blessed with Bernie Garner who single handedly trimmed up all of our trees on the north and west side of our property so that we can live better in harmony with them. And they just plain look better! Thank you!

TREES II: Mr. Garner also pointed out that two of our grand pine trees are beginning to lean precipitously. While they stretch high into the sky, their roots are very shallow and leaning as they do will mean that eventually they will topple (one of them probably on the playground.) We will be seeking bids soon to remove these trees, but I sure would like to replace them (and a couple more that we have lost in recent years) with trees that will grow just as tall and majestically as these. If you would like to make a donation toward new trees for future Sebastianites to enjoy

as we have enjoyed those planted by our predecessors, please contact Cathy Sivec at 330-836-2233.

GREENHOUSE: There is a final meeting today about our new greenhouse. We received news that, "We are pleased to let you know that your glasshouse was loaded onto a container at Hartley Botanic Ltd. in Oldham, England and is on its way to the U.S. port." More news to follow.

OTHER PROJECTS: If you haven't seen, the work at Good Park (Perkins) is accelerating. There is one house with a rough roof on it already and more basements and foundations being constructed. Some of the bases for our streetlamps have been set into place so the lights must be on their way! Interesting upside down "U" shaped bars have been set up on the corners of Schneider Park igniting curiosity as to what they are. (My guess is something along the lines of a porch swing.) And if you have not been past our new fire station, drive by and take a look. It is really taking shape.

MICHELLE HUBER TO RETIRE

After well over a decade in the role of St. Sebastian Parish Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Michelle Huber will be retiring. Over fifteen years ago, a volunteer marketing group was established to help promote parish programming at the school. This team worked hard but recommended that we hire one person for these marketing duties as it needed better coordination and effort. I will admit that I was opposed to the idea, not wanting to add another paycheck to the parish budget, but I was wrong. The work that Michelle has done (and all the volunteers that began and assisted in this endeavor) has made a huge impact in the public awareness of our parish and school.

There was a time when I would be outside in the summer and come across very angry people who couldn't figure out where they needed to be on our campus. It was the campus signage that came out of Michelle's office that brought that largely to an end. The mailings from the parish have all been branded and become uniform so that any mailings or groups in the parish are clearly identified. There were also all the posters and banners, focused advertisements, tours of the school, promotion of our events, concerts and liturgies, interior signage, the redevelopment of our parish crest and a far greater and better presence on the internet just to name her more obvious accomplishments. Thank you, Michelle, for everything you have done (and will continue to do!) for the parish. We were certainly very blessed to have you as the founding person in this position!

FATHER BOZEK AWAY

Fr. Bozek is on a month-long vacation in Poland, so we are a one clergy team here. And if you hadn't heard, Father has been assigned to St. Barbara in Cleveland beginning June 30th and he will not be replaced *at least* for the next year. Be prepared for longer lines in the confessional and such. Cathy Sivec and I are currently working on bringing in help, particularly on Saturdays so that we can keep the morning Mass.

PICTURES

The first picture is of the St. Sebastian's Garden. This is the section that needs to be rebuilt. The second picture is one of the new stones in our walkway. The light color suggests that it came from deeper down in the quarry and the "jellyfish-like" markings are from ore deposits that were trapped in the stone.





FROM THE FORGOTTEN CABINET

There was some concern in 1947 about the "Illustrated Revised Baltimore Catechism No. 2" that was being assigned as the course of study in Catholic schools but there was a difficulty in getting enough published in time for every school and what might be done in the interim. It was also mentioned that only eight schools in the entire diocese expressed interest in participating in a Diocesan School Film Library. Because of this, the program was being dropped.

At this time, there were 402 students in the school 1st through 8th, about 70 more than we have today, though we also include lower grades. There were also **only nine teachers, 8 religious and one lay**. That means there were about 45 students per teacher!!! The poor souls were vastly outnumbered. (The seventh and eighth grades shared an additional hand.) Sister Mary Cleophas H.H.M. was the principal at the time.

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 our sick and distressed in your prayers:

Julie Acus, Gary Arman, Annette Bailey, Irene Berger, Jill Buffa, John Buhalak, Regina Buhalak, Emilio Cheuy, Jo Cooney, Nancy Cotter, Peggy Jo Cybulski, Anthony D'Attoma, Marjorie DeLuca, Mary Katherine Dennis, Deanna Ferris, Kaylee Gains, Rosemarie George, Kenneth Gessford, Rita Buhalak Gessford, John and Terry Hogan, Ann Hubiak, Carson Hutzell, James Hutzell, Carolyn Jeske, Charise Kasper, Janet Kendrick, Candace Kidd, Jean Labate, Frank Livigni, Mary Loftus, Myrna Marple, Don Matis, Ken Minrovic, Toni Morlan, Betty O'Hara, Ronald O'Hearn, Beverly & Mike Preston, Bob Rader, Mary Ricks, Jeanne Sabet, Aaron Salisbury, Betty Sarich, Kim Sarich, Denise Schmidt, Michael Schnetzer, Cory Schulz, Tom Smith, Oscar Teves, Brian Walsh, Keith Wisberger and Ann Zsembik.

God bless you,

Fr. Valencheck

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