



Angelus Letter
2 May 2024
LETTER #273
Saint Athanasius

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 - CANCELLED DUE TO FIRST COMMUNION
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

DEANERY OF SUMMIT COUNTY SOUTH

Currently our diocese has a dual system of governance. There are districts to which anybody representing a parish or in some cases a Catholic institution can belong and attend and a parallel grouping of priests in each district, often made up of the same people, and they work to implement directives of or disseminate information from our Bishop and, in turn, gather information to report back to the Bishop.

There are many things to commend about this system, but one thing that we have lacked in our diocese is having someone designated to look after our priests. Are they healthy and happy? Are their living conditions adequate? Is the parish and their staff functioning well? Are the sacramental records being kept up to date? Currently there are two priests "downtown" who are charged with this responsibility for 185 parishes, 411 priests, not to mention deacons, religious and other Catholic institutions, and these two poor souls can barely keep up and are often stepping in when something has already gone wrong rather than having the time to act preemptively in order to make our priests as successful as they can be. That is one of the central reasons why we are changing from a District system to a Deanery system where there will be more people reaching out to the priests and parishes. This system is much more common around the world.

This move has been in process since the time of Bishop Lennon, but changes in leadership and other priorities kept delaying the implementation. Quite suddenly it is full engines ahead. The priests of the diocese received notification this past Monday that it was taking place along with the delineation of each of the Deaneries. St. Sebastian Parish is in Summit South along with the following parishes in the order in which they were presented:

Immaculate Conception
Nativity of the Lord Jesus
Saint Bernard
St. Francis de Sales
St. Mary
St. Matthew
St. Paul
St. Vincent de Paul
St. Augustine
Guardian Angles
St. Hilary
Queen of Heaven
Prince of Peace
Saint Andrew the Apostle

Rounding off this bit of news, I have been named the first Dean of our Deanery. Rather than try to explain what all that means, I recommend [THIS SITE](#) for a brief overview. I will be away from the parish for a couple of days for formation and training after which there will be an installation. The term is only for six years but is renewable just as our pastorates are. As more things develop, I will let you know.

WORK AROUND ST. SEBASTIAN SQUARE

STONE WALKWAYS: The stone walkway between the rectory and the school is complete! It is now level and safer. Our gaze now turns to the stone walkways around the Center for Early Learning where there are uneven pavers and have a tendency to flood.

NEW POSTS: Soon you should notice new posts in the courtyard from where we will string bistro lighting. This area which was once relegated to parking and trash cans has been regularly used as a concert and gathering area in the warmer months. Every time we have an event such as the Brick Street Jazz and Wine Festival (coming again this summer) there is an enormous amount of time and energy spent digging out the lights, making sure that they still work, hanging them up, and then reversing the process at the end of the event. These will remain up all through the event and concert season.

LIGHTS IN CHURCH: I am not happy with the way the lighting has turned out in the church since our major renovation. We are planning on having a company come in and evaluate our lighting to see what might be done to brighten up our church and particularly parts of our sanctuary that appear dark.

SOME DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

4 May - First Communion at 11 a.m. - **No confessions**

5 May - Academy of Culture and Arts Recital at 2 p.m.

12 May - Mother's Day!

18 May - Priesthood Ordination at our Cathedral at 10 a.m. - **No confessions**

19 May - Lynn Steward's Final Concert and reception at 7 p.m. - Free

20 May - Theology on the Rocks - 7:30 p.m.

27 May - Memorial Day - Parish Offices Are Closed

FATHER BOZEK AWAY

Fr. Bozek is on a month-long vacation in Poland so we are a one clergy team here although next week we will be visited by Fr. Blau O.P. who will be in town to assist with the sacramental schedule.

FROM THE FORGOTTEN CABINET

Apparently, nothing of note happened in 1946. There was one sheet of paper with a list of the names of First Graders whose family names were:

Abraham
Alessio
Bachman
Case
Dierker
Jewell
Kehrle
LaRocca
Long
Mueller
Murphy
Steinac
Yahner

Two separate sets of papers fill the 1945 file. The first is a list of students and other statics of the Parish School such as:

Boys at the beginning of the year: 194

Boys at the end of the year: 206

Girls at the beginning of the year: 174

Girls at the end of the year: 177

Daily Average Attendance: 375

Teachers:

Religious: 8

Lay: 1

Total enrollment: 383

There was also a set of religious education tests for grades 3-8 sent out from the Diocese of Cleveland. Just for fun, here is an example from the 8th grade test:

PART I

Have you ever played, "Who Am I?" Descriptions of various characters are given below. Write the name of each character in the answer blank.

1. I am the ruler of England. I robbed my country of its Catholic faith because I wanted to violate the laws of marriage. My full name is:

2. I am a Catholic layman and was once chancellor of England. Now I am a canonized saint because, with God's help, I died for my religion in London in 1535. I am:

3. I am an apostle. I became a convert to the Catholic religion under exceptional and extraordinary circumstances. I established many Christian communities in Gentile countries bordering on the Mediterranean Sea. Being a Roman citizen, I was beheaded with a sword instead of dying by crucifixion (as was my superior.) I am:

4. I am a bishop and a Father of the Church. My mother, Bishop Ambrose of Milan, and two biographies helped me to cooperate with God's grace and I became a Catholic. I wrote one of the world's greatest spiritual books. Many of your American soldiers fought in North Africa where I lived. I am:

5. I am a Cardinal. I studied hard and had a great love for our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. I helped to bring the

Council of Trent to a successful conclusion and some men have called me the "saint of the Council of Trent." I died in Milan at the age of 46. My name is:

6. I am a missionary priest of the Society of Jesus. Over three hundred years ago I visited the region of the Great Lakes not far from your home. I was tortured by the Iroquois and later I was put to death along with a lay brother and a layman. I am:

7. I am the first native of the Americans to become a canonized saint. I belonged the Third Order of St. Dominic. My name is:

8. I am a young lady of the Mohawk Indians. On Easter Sunday, 1676, at the age of 20, I was received into the Catholic Church. I tried to live as a good Catholic for the four remaining years of my life. I died on Wednesday of Holy Week in 1680. Many of my friends on earth are praying for my canonization. My name is:

9. I am a missionary priest. I brought the faith to India and Japan in the sixteenth century. Today I am the patron of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. I am:

10. I am a Pope. On the First Pentecost Sunday, I did some street preaching, which, aided by the grace of God, brought 3,000 converts into the faith. My name is:

How did you do? Here are the answers:

1. Henry VIII
2. St. Thomas More
3. St. Paul
4. St. Augustine (This was written at the end of WWII hence the reference.)
5. St. Charles Borromeo (also patron saint of our minor seminary)
6. St. Isaac Jogues (of whom we have a window in our church)
7. St. Rose of Lima
8. Catherine Tekawitha (you might have been misled since she is now a saint.)
9. St. Francis Xavier
10. St. Peter

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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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.
St. Sebastian, pray for us
St. Athanasius, pray for us

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