



# St. Sebastian Parish Council

## Meeting Minutes

### 8/31/2023

**In attendance: Fr. Valencheck, Susan, Patrick, Terry, Hannah, Jim, Sue, Barb, Will, Dave, Linda, Chris**

**Excused: Ana**

7:00PM - 7:05PM

Welcome

- Opening Prayer (Sue Sassano)
- Refreshments (Ana Borges)
- Approval of July minutes Minutes approved
- Approval of Agenda Agenda approved

7:05PM - 7:20PM

Father's update

- State of the Souls Report: 1836 households represents continued growth over the last 15 years. 5079 members of St. Sebastian. Average ages of St. Sebastianites: Head of Household (57 years old); Average Age overall (40 years old); 25 years old was the most reported age. Average household size is 3 people. Counting only married couples, the average household size is 4 people.
- Mull Avenue should be open to traffic this weekend.
- What does it mean to be a parishioner? Some of the Scholarships for the school come from the parish. Also, coming to mass is part of the students' education.
- New office downtown for keeping the faith. Many things that St. Sebastian is doing now, they want to implement. One item is to Catholicize the school.
- Latin Mass. The Extraordinary form will be moved to St. Mary's on November 1st. No details on who is saying the Mass, what time the Mass is, etc. Maybe keep an extraordinary ordinary form at St. Sebastian. Doesn't have to be at 1 pm. Is there an interest in this form of Mass and at what time? Extraordinary ordinary form Mass has most of Mass in Latin; it is more formal than the 9 am Mass (communion at the rail); not necessary to have extraordinary ministers.
- November vote. Change to enshrine abortion in the state constitution. Bishop wants to have the church talk about it. Discuss

with ministries and ask people to make sure that they vote in November.

7:20PM - 7:40PM

New Business

- 100th Anniversary - Guest Lynn Steward
  - CD Recording of music led by Lynn Steward
  - 3 recording sessions with instrumentals including flute, trumpet, bagpipe, violins/cello, and viola.
  - CDs and digital downloads are available. 120 CDs made initially (more can be made as demand permits)
  - 10 months to make the CD which has 19 tracks featuring organ music and some with the parish choir.
  - The target date to start selling CDs is November 1st.
  - Discussion on amount to charge for one CD or digital download. Same cost for either CD or download and will get all 19 tracks on the download (can't download just select songs).
  - Lynn will handle the roll out November 1st.
  - Information is on the website for the sale.
- EdChoice
  - Town Hall meeting was held recently to explain program to parents.
  - St Sebastian is participating in the program; one person in the school is currently handling all of the applications. Application process is complicated.
  - About half of the school has applied. Deadline to apply is October 15th.
  - Tuition was raised so that more EdChoice funding is available - funding gives up to the lowest tuition amount so raising tuition allows for a higher threshold for funds. No family will pay more than they did previously for tuition.
  - School is full but new parishioners will still be accepted.

7:40PM - 8:00PM

Old Business

- Discussion of Evangelization Plan - Jim Lundy
  - Review of Draft plan reviewed.
  - Process of evangelization can be long and of great commitment by the committee leaders.
  - Further discussion of the plan at future meetings.

8:00PM - 8:25PM

Pulse of the Parish/Commission Reports

8:25PM – 8:30PM

Compline (Sue Sassano)

Next Meeting:

Thursday, September 28, 2023 7PM – 8:30PM  
St. Sebastian Rectory

## Prayer, Compline and Refreshments – Barbara Panzner