

Alleluia!

Christ is Risen.

Christ is Risen Indeed.



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

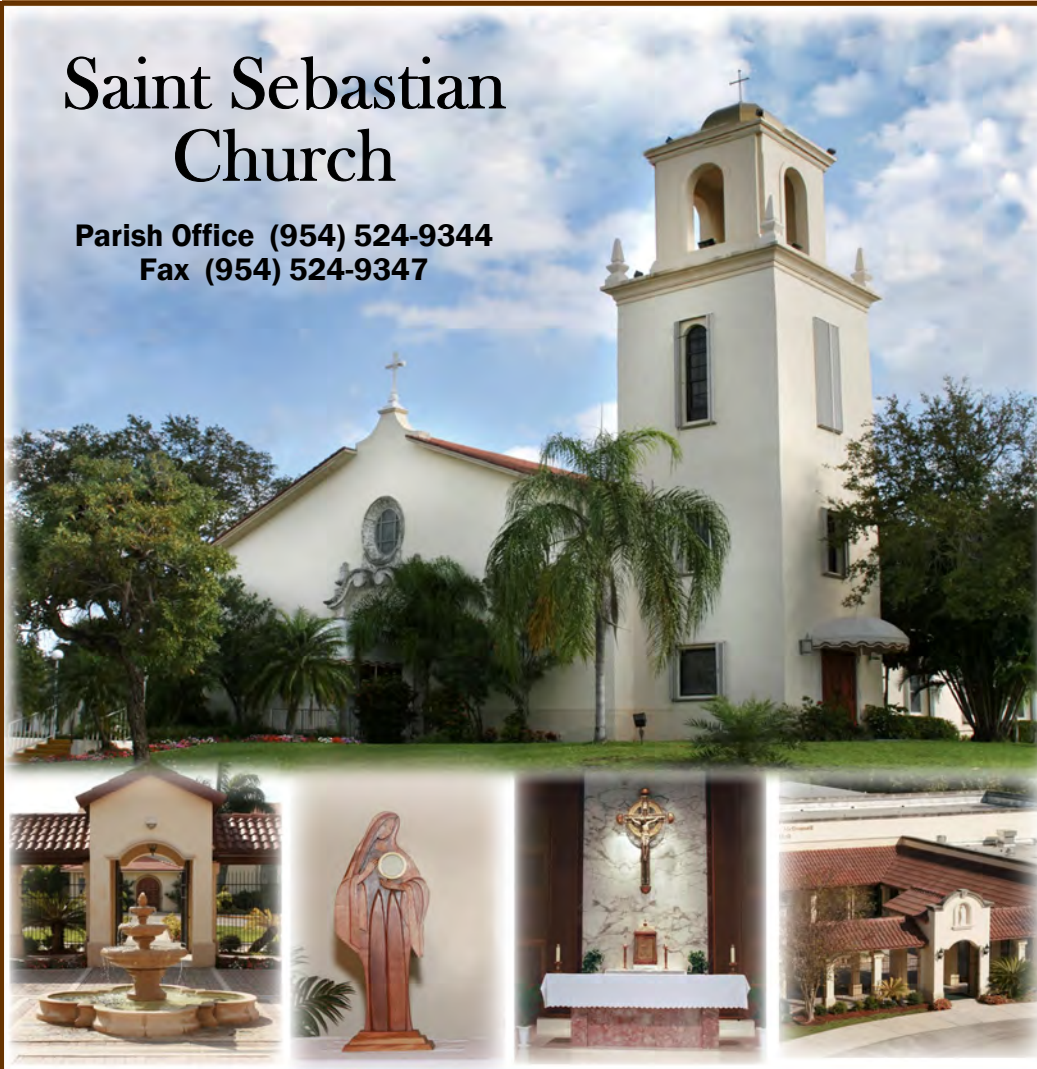
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

info@stsebastianfl.org

Saint Sebastian Church

Parish Office (954) 524-9344

Fax (954) 524-9347



MASSES

Saturday 5 pm
(Sunday Vigil)

Sunday 8:30 & 11 am

Weekdays 8:30 am
(Mon. through Fri.)

Holy Days
(Schedule varies)

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Msgr. James F. Fetscher
Pastor

Miss Anne M. Gardner
Pastoral Assistant

Ms. Judy Fisher
Office Assistant

Mr. Peter J. Manfredi, Jr.
Director of Music
(954) 868-6137

Mr. Patricio Diaz-Pizarro
Maintenance

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Nancy Adams
Elizabeth Calhoun
Judy Fisher
Rosemary Guerin
Frank Krauser
Connie Reed
Chuck Wobby

PARISH WEBSITE:

stsebastianfl.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

is arranged by appointment. Please call the office.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(Confession) 4:00-4:45 pm on Saturday, or by appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK Please call the office as soon as anyone is seriously ill.

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Please call the office at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date.

PARISH REGISTRATION We invite anyone wishing to register in our Parish to visit or call the Parish Office, or stop by the Welcome table when you come for Sunday Mass to complete a census card and learn more about our Parish



Mission Statement

We, the family of St. Sebastian Parish, are a stewardship parish, sharing God's Gifts. We are the hands and feet of Christ on Earth. In union with the Universal Roman Catholic Church, we endeavor to become a prayerful and unified community deeply committed to Jesus Christ, and loving service in His name. We hope to be a welcoming, caring and friendly Parish Family, wherein the gifts and talents of all - young and old - are recognized, nurtured and used to build the Kingdom of God in the world.

Dear Family,

Jesus Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

Every person who has made an Emmaus Retreat knows that victory shout all too well. As St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians "... if Christ has not been raised, then empty [too] is our preaching; empty, too, your faith." (I Cor.15:14)

That's why you are here today. That's why we gather here every Sunday, some of us every day, to share the table of the Lord, to celebrate the truth that lays at the very heart of our faith life: He is risen from death, and over-coming death means we have the promise of life, **Life Eternal**.

There are all kinds of jokes about Christmas and Easter Catholics, but I guess a sign of my age is that I can't remember any of them right now. Maybe that's a very good thing because the bottom line is that I am very glad to see everyone who comes today. I keep telling the regulars to be nice to our extra folks because hopefully they liked what they found so much that they will keep coming.

We want to create the environment of **WELCOME**.

Did you ever think about the empty tomb being a sign of welcome? In John's Gospel which we read today, Mary Magdalene and the women came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled aside. They ran back to the Apostles. John's gospel says Peter and the "other disciple" ran to the tomb and Peter went in first.

It's almost touching that John the Evangelist only refers to himself as the "other disciple." For me, the extraordinary lines are what follow:

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

Emptiness...

I wonder if just for a flash, just the fact that Jesus was not there really created a huge empty space that begged to be filled.

I don't mean that someone else should die to fill the tomb. I mean that the very personality of Jesus was so great that His very absence created a *huge* vacuum that pulled the disciples in.

What next? Where would they go? What would they do?

Maybe that's just a personal pondering, but I think I want to stay with the thought for a while. I would like to try and imagine the experience of Peter and John and ultimately the other apostles and the women.

Look what the empty tomb did in their lives. Before the tomb they were literally hiding. (Interesting that the women came out first in the dark to go to the tomb...) But the "other disciple" gave a very personal testimony: "He saw and believed."

They were already on their way to being totally dedicated followers even before the Pentecost experience which ultimately explodes and blows them all out of the hiding places of hesitation.

I hope my pondering and yours will bring us to a deeper sense of realizing just how much God loves us. We say it all the time. We are loved Unconditionally. But how can we give even deeper meaning to those words? How can we get closer?

Annie, Patricio, Judy and I all pray that you can experience a new "angle" on God's love for you. We will be praying for that, especially for our beloved "visitors."

Hope your Easter eggs came out beautifully. My mom took a deep breath every year and let us do our own. Moms are great!

In **OUR RISEN LORD**,



Mass Intentions

Saturday 8:00 pm	April 8 - EASTER VIGIL Our Parishioners and Benefactors
Sunday 8:30 am	April 9 - EASTER † Charles & Marie Maher, req. by Family † Dolores Fink, req. by Sandra Polselli † James Curley, req. by wife
11:00 am	† John Koons, req. by Rosie † Billy Fuccillo, req. by Fuccillo Family
Monday 8:30 am	April 10 † Joseph L. Barcello, req. by Family Wellbeing of Marcia Hogan, req. by Barry Hogan
Tuesday 8:30 am	April 11 † Barbara Bihus, req. by S.S.C.C.W.
Wednesday 8:30 am	April 12 † Mary Donohue, req. by Grace Middlemiss
Thursday 8:30 am	April 13 Wellbeing of Dottie Plaktoris, req. by Judy Fisher
Friday	April 14 People of Ukraine
Saturday 5:00 pm	April 15 † Pasquale Polselli, req. by Sandra Polselli † Grace & Murray Toomey, req. by M.L. Toomey † Guillermo Torres, req. by Rosemary & Jim Guerin
Sunday 8:30 am	April 16 † Edna Salg, req. by her loving daughter, Susie † Jim Cowgill, Jr., req. by Janet Stokoe † Marilene Azer, req. by Anne Trainor
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish

REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Sandy Rodrigues, John Harris, Stephen Black, Mary Alice Zittle, Alvaro Arevalo, Michelline Toulouse, Paul Ristow, Ed Fetscher, Margaret Donato, Matt Keyzers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rae Pietrzak, Tom Casey, Charles Benoit, Rob Messerschmidt, Mary Pat Connolly, Anne McCormick, Stephen Sjoblom

BIBLE SHARING

Come for coffee and Scripture Sharing each Thursday in the Parish Hall at 9:15 am. Everyone is invited. You may also join us online by dialing 848-777-1212. When prompted put in 1431434#. For more info, please call Mary Kennedy at 954-290-1194. We will be sharing from the Gospel of Matthew, with Arthur Cholakakis facilitating.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Our CRS Rice Bowl journey has ended, but our prayers, fasting and almsgiving continue as we seek a closer relationship with God and our global family. Let us hold in our hearts our sisters and brothers in those parts of the world suffering from war and famine and commit to share our Easter joy with others. Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl by next Sunday, April 16th. Thank you for making a difference!

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, April 16th at 11:00 Mass - Confirmation

**Sunday, May 14th at 11:00 Mass -
First Holy Communion**

He is Risen! Our time of fasting is over. Unfortunately for the needy families in our city, "forced fasting" is never ended. In celebration of Jesus' Resurrection, let us be extra generous with our donations of non-perishable food and hygiene items. Let's fill our shopping carts to the brim! To care is to share. **ALSO:** The St. Vincent de Paul Pantry is in need of **plastic grocery bags** for food distribution and empty, clean **egg cartons**. At times, the Pantry receives donations of eggs in bulk, so egg cartons are needed to facilitate passing them along. You can place these items - along with your donations of food and hygiene items - in the shopping carts. Thank you! **If you know of anyone in need, please let them know that The St. Vincent DePaul Society conducts a drive thru grocery distribution every Friday from 1:30-4 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1701 E Oakland Park Blvd (entrance to the parking lot is located on NE 33rd Street and will be closed at 3:45). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.**



CONFIRMATION NEXT WEEK!

We are delighted to welcome Bishop Enrique Delgado, the Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Miami, next Sunday, April 16th at 11:00 am Mass to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation for three of our young people:

Brendan Gipps

Aleksandra Rohleder

Jasmine Trang

We hope that you will support them in this step in their journey of Faith with your prayers and presence. Since red is the color of the Holy Spirit, you may wish to show your support for our young people by wearing red to Mass. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall and all are welcome.

GROUNDBREAKING!

Great news! We are FINALLY ready to "put a shovel in the ground" and build our new kitchen and storage area! The groundbreaking ceremony will be on Saturday, April 22nd after the 5:00 pm Mass. All are welcome to join us for this event. Let's pray that all goes well with the construction and we all enjoy many happy meals prepared in our new facility.

