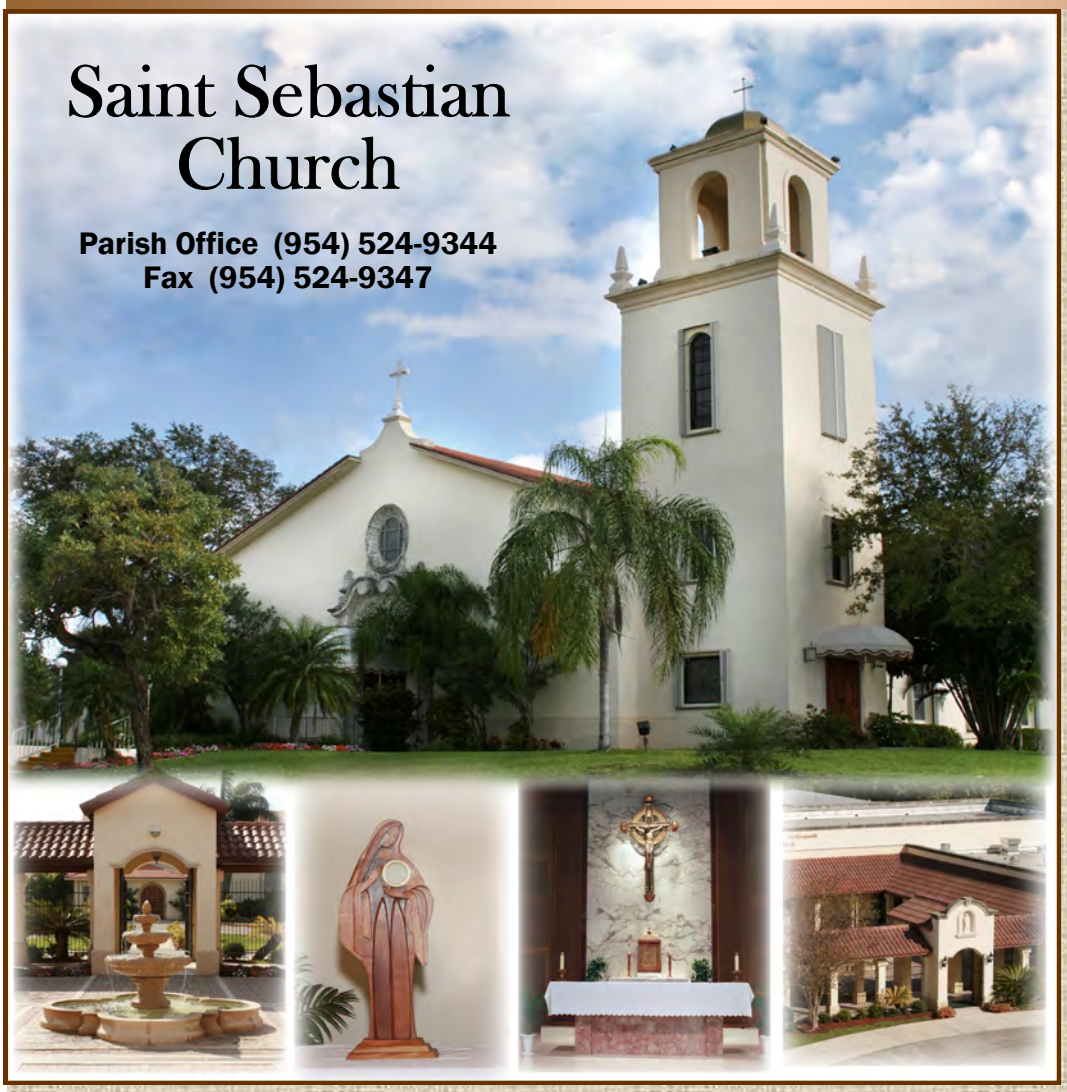
Pentecost

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 info@stsebastianfl.org



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
Richard Page
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.

THE HOLY NOW

May 28, 2023

Msgr. Jim Fetscher

Dear Family,

It sounds a little weird to say, "Happy Memorial Day" when there is no happiness over the fact that we are remembering many people who died in heart-breaking wars. Still, our hearts can make room for all the other memories that those people gave us. We focus on the generosity we see in their service, and *THAT'S* something to be *VERY* grateful for and "happy" about.

Then the challenge is getting on with our lives which those service people made possible.

In the little booklet from Liturgical Press we gave you called "Rejoice and be Glad," the writers made a point, on the May 23rd page, about how important it is to live in the "now." To make the point, the writers went so far as to say there is no such thing as eternal life. Then they said, "Don't worry."

They continued that our lives are all about "Now." Every moment is a "now," and we are already living in eternity precisely because all our moments are "now." How often have you heard me say that for God, everything is instant now?

I've used the idea in trying to reflect on why on the one hand we talk about someone who has died as being with the Lord. And then we turn around and pray for the repose of their soul in Purgatory. Why pray for someone to get to heaven if they are already there?

We make those prayers because for God, *everything* is instant "Now." In His instant "Now," God hears every prayer that will ever be prayed for those who have died. I'm not quite sure of my theological precision here, but it works for me. Call it an aging pastor's take. Who's going to argue you with an aging pastor?

And speaking of aging…

Last Thursday so many of you blessed the celebration of my 55th ordination anniversary. What a wonderful evening! I hardly know where to begin to say thank you. I'm sure I'll never know all that went into it.

Heartfelt thanks to Judy Fisher and her team for the beautiful decorations and set-ups. She coordinated with Debbie at Kelly's Landing who provided all the food. They cooked, they came, they served, they cleaned up. Thanks to Christy I and Christy II and Jake. Doesn't get better than that. (You ought to check them out for your next bash.)

The Women's Club provided the paper goods and the wonderful Publix cake, (my favorite: carrot.) The Men's Club came through with the wine. (There was the funny moment when Al Ferzacca came to fill my wine glass and I thought he was gifting me with a bottle that was only one quarter full.) Frank K. was chuckling for a while after that one.

As usual, Annie Gardner stood at the core of the undertaking. As I told you who came to the Mass, I didn't realize that the event would have overtones of my impending retirement. FYI, I expect to be leaving around early August. No more parties because the memory of last Thursday night is one of the best I could have.

So, with reverence for the memories of all those who gave us their lives while serving in the Armed Forces, I will also personally associate Memorial Day with memories of all of you and of so many wonderful people that have crossed my ministerial path.

I will also be grateful for those occasional twinges of pain in my rear end that challenged ministry. After all, my rear end is ample enough. God has been good in providing all I have needed, including a widened derrière.

In Jesus,

Fr. Jim

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm — **May 27**
† Marie & Albert Bourke, req. by Don Bourke
Wellbeing of Gisella Reyes
Wellbeing of Joan Cook, req. by Grace Middlemiss

Sunday 8:30 am — **May 28**
† Dolores Hesse Fink, req. by husband, Jack
† Jim Cowgill, Jr., req. by McGowan Family

11:00 am — Living and Deceased of our Parish

Monday 8:30 am — **May 29**
† Lives given for our Nation
People of Ukraine

Tuesday 8:30 am — **May 30**
Wellbeing of Victor Garay, req. by Judy Fisher

Wednesday 8:30 am — **May 31**
† Sister Marguerite McGilly
Wellbeing of Arthur Cholakis, req. by Don Bourke
Wellbeing of Joan Cook, req. by Mary Kennedy

Thursday 8:30 am — **June 1**
Wellbeing of Patty Marma, req. by Judy Fisher

Friday — **June 2**
Wellbeing of Margaret Barrosse

Saturday 5:00 pm — **June 3**
† Pasquale Polselli, req. by Sanda Polselli
† David Horney, req. by Don Bourke
Wellbeing of Nancy Pecorelli, req. by Grace Middlemiss

Sunday 8:30 am — **June 4**
† Jim Cowgill, Jr., req. by Ruth Bresnahan & Mary Jeude Vine
† Adelayda Lovell, req. by Paul & Linda DeBold

11:00 am — Living and 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, Paul Ristow, Ed Fetscher, Margaret Donato, Matt Keysers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rae Pietrzak, Tom Casey, Charles Benoit, Rob Messerschmidt, Mary Pat Connolly. Anne McCormick, Margaret Barrosse, Patricia Moss, Patty Marma, Joan Cook, Diane Johnson

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 Cholakis facilitating.

Happy Memorial Day!

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, June 18, 8am-1pm - Bloodmobile will be here.
Weekend of June 24-25 - St. Vincent de Paul truck scheduled to be here.

"He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry." (Psalm 146:71) How many Bible verses have we seen pointing to the need to care for those unable to provide for themselves? Let us answer the call by filling our church shopping carts with non-perishable food and hygiene items. To care is to share. ***ALSO:*** The Pantry needs **plastic grocery bags** for food distribution and empty, clean **egg cartons**. The Pantry receives donations of eggs in bulk, so egg cartons are needed to pass them along. You can place these 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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The special collection next weekend will be for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Catholics in the US can show their solidarity with the people of Ukraine by participating in this collection. It will help the Church in Ukraine bring the light of Christ to the faithful affected by the darkness of war, violence, and loss of families and homes and provide other essential funding in the region. Your support of this collection is a tangible way of assisting the Church's response and outreach to those affected and displaced by the violence.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration takes place in our Chapel of the Divine Healer on Fridays from after the 8:30 am Mass until 5:00 pm. Please consider this opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord in prayer. If you'd like to commit to a specific time slot each week, please call the office.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN…

Let's remember to say the Prayer to Avert Hurricanes daily during hurricane season, which begins on June 1st!

PRAYER TO AVERT HURRICANES

Father, all the elements of nature obey your commands. Protect us and all your people during this season of storms and hurricanes. Calm our fears and help us prepare our hearts as well as our homes. Help us see you in all we may encounter, and help us to minister to each other in your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/StsebastianFL

HAPPY
MEMORIAL DAY
RECOUNTING THE SACRIFICE OF SOLDIERS
WE WILL NEVER FORGET