

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

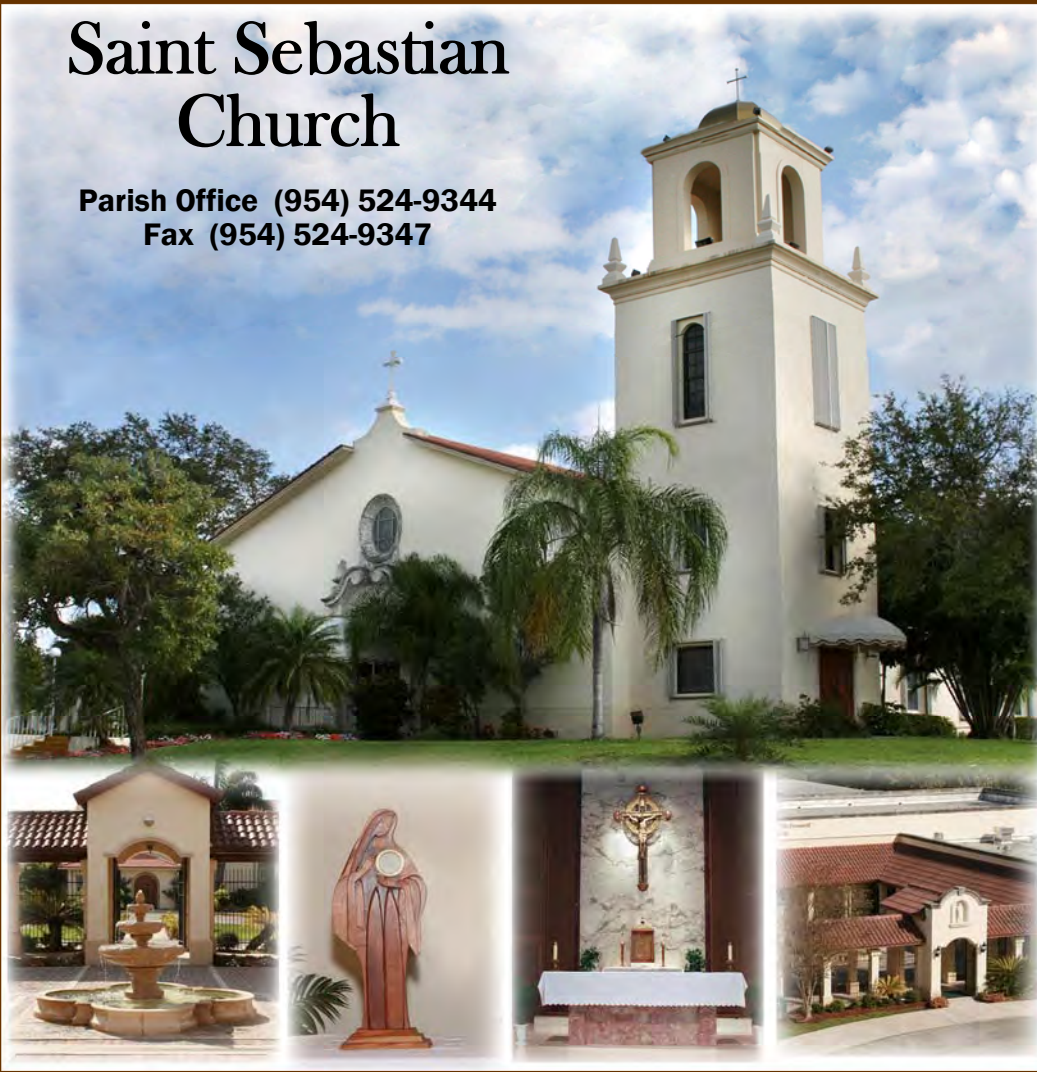
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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

Mrs. Carole Casey
Office Assistant

Ms. Judy Fisher
Office Assistant

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

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Nancy Adams
Elizabeth Calhoun
Judy Fisher
Rosemary Guerin
Frank Krauser
Ann Murry
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 Family.



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,

Once again, we begin the Holiest of Weeks. We sing, “We remember, we celebrate, we believe.”

Personally, I remember glimpses of the 53 Holy Weeks I have celebrated as a priest.

Often, I’d be so concerned about remembering all the details a ceremony required, that it was a little difficult to really - “get happy” – until it was all over. Then I’d breathe a sigh of relief and the celebration would begin for me.

I’m not sure where this *Twitch* is going to end up, but right now I’m thinking about all the people in all the parishes with whom I celebrated. Seven parishes, one of them twice, and throw in a seminary for good measure.

The big question is, did I come any closer to Christ? I certainly learned more and more about Him over the years, but did I really come closer?

In these good days of Lent 2021, I have found myself more and more focused on the Passion of Christ. Every time I pray the sorrowful mysteries, I feel the suffering Jesus went through. I’m not suffering, but I am more aware – and amazed - at just what the scriptures try to tell us about His experience. Jon Meacham’s *The Hope of Glory* has been a great companion. He recounts the seven last words. As I pray the last sorrowful mystery, I recall the words as I recite the Hail Marys.

This week celebrates our Hope of Glory with tears and smiles. Please God, we end up with more of the latter. Our Holy Week becomes more special when we realize we didn’t even have one last year. It’s hard to believe what we’ve been through. Every time I begin to edge around a “Poor us” thought, the image of Jesus struggling with the Cross blots out self-pity. I’m grateful for

in that gratitude, I can’t overlook the price Jesus paid... as I said, more and more aware.

Over the years, some ideas have hung on. For example, one is that his agony in the garden was about a lot more than physical suffering. I’ve always believed that mixed in with the dread of the physical is the heart-wrenching realization that everyone He had come to say anything to about His Father’s love, for one reason or another, couldn’t or wouldn’t hear him. There he was, in a quiet space, alienated, isolated, lonely and separated. Even his three friends had fallen asleep. Does it get worse than that? No wonder He prays, “Father, let this cup pass...” The next words he speaks proves that He wasn’t alone after all. “Father, not as I will, but as you will.”

How many times do you find yourself in some sort of quandary, and you want to put it into the Lord’s hands. And yet, as hard as you will it, you can’t quite let go. When I hear Jesus speaking those words to His Father, not only can I see the possibility of trusting the Father, but I realize – for me, anyway – that Jesus will do the trusting for me.

For years you have heard me quote Father John Fuelenbach’s personal Creed:

*I am loved unconditionally,
I am forgiven completely,
I am never alone.”*

At a meeting with my spiritual director last week, he encouraged me to think about that Creed and turn it over in my mind. Eventually, what came out was:

*I love you unconditionally.
I forgive you completely.
I will never leave you alone.*

Active voice makes a difference, doesn’t it?

In Jesus,



Mass Intentions

Saturday March 27
 5:00 pm † Thomas McElhinney,
 req. by Ann Murry
 † Jim Hmielewski,
 req. by Claire Ryder
 † Anthony Marzilli,
 req. by Hero Family

Sunday March 28
 8:30 am † Jackie Schoettle
 11:00 am Living & Deceased of our Parish

Monday March 29
 8:30 am † Peggy Krauss,
 req. by Bill & Ellie Loughran, Sr.

Tuesday March 30
 8:30 am † David Conley,
 req. by Helen & M.L. Toomey

Wednesday March 31
 8:30 am † Souls in Purgatory,
 req. by Richard Schmelz Family

Thursday April 1 - HOLY THURSDAY
 8:00 pm *Mass of the Lord's Supper*

Friday April 2 - GOOD FRIDAY
 3:00 pm *Celebration of Our Lord's Passion*

Saturday April 3 - EASTER VIGIL
 8:00 pm For our Parishioners & Benefactors

Sunday April 4 - EASTER
 8:30 am † Charles & Marie Maher,
 req. by Family
 11:00 am Living & Deceased of our Parish

REMEMBER THE SICK

Nanchine McManus,
 Mary Lou Mann, Peggy
 Lynch, Denise Ber-
 geron, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Hayden O'Connor,
 Jim Cowgill, Jr., John Graff, Elizabeth Shotmeyer, Peter
 Hanna, Sandy Rodriguez, Lee Rodriguez, Noah Austin,
 Tommy Greene, Agatha Taglienti, John Masna, Margaret
 Reitz, Donna Wasowicz, John Harris, Charlotte Newbury,
 Stephen Black, Jo Neumann, John E. Hurley, Joan Memo-
 lo, Sophia Schwab, Jonathan Hughes, Kathleen Gerium,
 Mary Alice Zittle, Linda B. Grable

HOLY THURSDAY COLLECTION

The collection on Holy Thursday will benefit the work of Bread For The World, which is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Pope Francis has asked for our support of the Pontifical Good Friday Collection which helps Christians in the Holy Land, and helps preserve Sacred Shrines.

RICE BOWLS

Please return your filled "Rice Bowl" via the basket in the sanctuary or drop it by the office by Monday, April 12th. Your donations will be combined and sent to the Catholic Relief Services to help the many needy people they serve.

*** HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE ***

Monday, March 29:
 Mass at 8:30 am
 Reconciliation after Mass

Tuesday, March 30:
 Mass at 8:30 am
 Reconciliation after Mass

Wednesday, March 31:
 Mass at 8:30 am

Holy Thursday, April 1:
 Celebration of the Lord's Supper
 at 8:00 pm (NO MORNING MASS)

Good Friday, April 2:
 Celebration of the Lord's Passion
 & distribution of Communion
 at 3:00 pm (NO MASS)

Holy Saturday, April 3:
 Easter Vigil at 8:00 pm
 (NO 5:00 MASS)

Easter Sunday, April 4:
 Masses at 8:30 & 11:00 am

***IMPORTANT - PLEASE NOTE:**

- Your hands will be squirted with hand sanitizer upon entry to the church and/or Parish Hall.
- Masks - covering both nose and mouth- are required while in the church and/or Parish Hall
- There are specific spaces designated for seating to observe social distancing. Kindly sit in designated places only. Overflow seating will be available in the Hall with livestreaming.
- If, for any reason, you are unable to abide by these rules, we respectfully request that you view services online at home.
- **Thank you** for your understanding as we all do our part to put an end to the pandemic.

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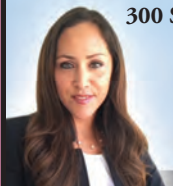
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