

# Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

[info@stsebastianfl.org](mailto: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

Ann Murry

Connie Reed

Chuck Wobby

### PARISH WEBSITE:

[stsebastianfl.org](http://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,

I have a new special prayer intention. I pray that those of you who need to renew your driver licenses may be spared the in-person process. For some reason, which I never figured out, I couldn't do it by mail as I usually did. I think it has something to do with my age. Maybe they need visible proof that I was still capable of independent movement.

Anyway Dr. Lang certified my sight and off I went. First, one hour outside the office. I stupidly went at 11:30 so you can imagine the heat. We all wound around hoping for the A.C. Then inside three more hours. The people who work there are all very nice. Still, you have no idea how much I kept praying, "O Lord, please let them call F701." Is that how you feel waiting for your Bingo number to be called?

Finally, the voice came: "F-701, go to window 12." The last time I moved that quick... actually, I don't remember moving that quick before. After you turn in your documents, you go to another waiting area. In a little while, another voice from behind me called, "James... James Fstchur." I knew she meant me and 'Voila' there it was, my new license with not one but TWO pictures of me. It's good for eight years. I hope I will be here to use it.

I have no idea why I am telling you all this. Maybe it's nice to have something to talk about other than Covid-19 and new variants.

I suspect that this week's second reading from Ephesians might give me a clue: "... live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love,..."

Why wouldn't that encouragement from Paul apply to me in the Driver License Office? Not only did I need patience, but I could look around and see the example of a lot of people being

patient too. I wasn't in love with all those people, but knowing the Lord loves me lets me see them with eyes that tell me, "They all are me and I am one of them." Who knew the Department of Motor Vehicles could offer such possibilities?

The first and third readings both tell of the wonderful feedings of many. Elisha and Jesus both tell their disciples, "After you feed them, pick up the left-overs." Abundance. That's the point. Precisely because I have experienced abundance, I'm enabled to try and return the favor, even to the folks in the DMV.

Speaking of people coming into my life, today we celebrate the "WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY." Tomorrow, July 26<sup>th</sup>, is the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Pope Francis wrote a wonderful message which is called, "I Am With You Always." Our own Anne (Gardner) went to the trouble of printing copies of the message and you can also find it at [USSCB.org/resources](http://USSCB.org/resources). Our Annie is named after St Anne.

I only knew one grandparent very well, my Mom's mom. Gram was a remarkable woman. She came to this country as a young 18 year-old "lass," and by the time she was 30, she was a widow with four young children to raise.

She worked at the Children's Center in New York and later at Farm Colony on Staten Island, a care facility for the elderly. When she retired, she came to Florida to live with us and her caring never stopped. I've told you the story about Gram being close to her death, and one day after I had told her I missed her - I had been away - she said, "Don't waste your time missing people. Pay attention to the one's around you."

So, what do Gram and the DMV have in common? I have no idea, but if she were here Gram could tell you. In Jesus,

*Fr. Jim*

**Mass Intentions**

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>July 24</b> † Deceased members of the Yen Family, req. by Don Bourke † Victims of Surfside Condo Collapse req. by Hero Family † Billy Fuccillo
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 11:00 am	<b>July 25</b> † Theresa M. Gardner Living & Deceased of our Parish
<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>July 26</b> † Helen & Austin Carlin, req. by Helen & M.L. Toomey Intention of Laura Jarchow, req. by Family
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>July 27</b> † Donato Tulino, req. by Pellegrino Marino
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>July 28</b> † Michael Barham, req. by Frank Maguire
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>July 29</b> † Souls in Purgatory, req. by Richard Schmelz Family
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>July 30</b> † Billy Fuccillo, req. by Maureen & Michael Cavallaro
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>July 31</b> † Theodore & Gail Brees, req. by Frank Krauser † Scott Anselmo, req. by Rosemary & Jim Guerin
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 11:00 am	<b>August 1</b> Living & Deceased of our Parish † Rema Williams, req. by Lila, Millie & Anita

**REMEMBER THE SICK**

Nanchine McManus, Mary Lou Mann, Denise Bergeron, 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, John Harris, Charlotte Newbury, Stephen Black, Jo Neumann, John E. Hurley, Sophia Schwab, Jonathan Hughes, Kathleen Gerium, Mary Alice Zittle, Michael Cavallaro, David Calhoun, Dolores Fink, Skip Randolph, Michael Larsen

**DIAL-IN FOR BIBLE SHARING**

Participate in our teleconferencing Scripture sharing: Call in starts at 9:05 and sharing begins at 9:15 each Thursday morning. Dial 848-777-1212. When prompted, put in 1431434 #. We are in the Gospel of John. Call Mary 954.290.1194 or Carole 954.529.6547 for info. Please join us!



Let's not go back to the times before the pandemic struck; let's go forward to when giving to our needy brothers and sisters in our city is a joy and not a burden. Non-perishable foods and hygiene items purchased by our parishioners and placed in the carts at the church doors brings joy to the less fortunate. To care is to share.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND**

There will be a special collection next weekend for the Parish Burse Seminary Appeal which helps to pay for the education of future Archdiocesan priests. Please plan to use the specially designated envelopes for your donation to this appeal.

**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.

**PRAYER FOR THE FIRST WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY**

*I thank You, Lord,  
for the comfort of Your presence:  
even in times of loneliness,  
You are my hope and my confidence,  
You have been my rock and my fortress  
since my youth!*

*I thank You for having given me a family  
and for having blessed me with a long life.  
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,  
for the dreams that have already come true in my life  
and for those that are still ahead of me.  
I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness  
to which You call me.  
Increase, O Lord, my faith,  
make me a channel of your peace,  
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than  
me, to never stop dreaming  
and to tell of your wonders to new generations.  
Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,  
that the light of the Gospel might reach  
the ends of the earth.*

*Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,  
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,  
the poor consoled and wars ended.  
Sustain me in weakness  
and help me to live life to the full  
in each moment that You give me,  
in the certainty that you are with me every day,  
even until the end of the age. Amen.*

**Happy World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly!**

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