

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 8:00 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

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 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.



Dear Family,

Here I am on a Tuesday, (last Tuesday for you,) thinking about next weekend, (today for you,) and wondering what will be happening... COVID-19... deeper discussions on racial injustice... tropical depression that could be here by next weekend in some sort of storm configuration...

Then I looked again at the scripture readings for this weekend, and out pops Romans 8. Please let me quote it here.

Brothers and sisters:

What will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor present things, nor future things,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

With all we have on our plate, I couldn't think of a better Word to help me take a deep breath and ask myself, "After all this time, do you really still not understand who is in charge?"

How powerless and helpless we can feel. They're not good feelings; powerlessness, helplessness. Why? I won't try answering for you, but for myself somehow, it's related to control. I don't think I'm a 'control freak' but I don't like feeling helpless either.

In the Sunday scriptures, today is the last time we hear from Romans 8. I've been suggesting that you take a few minutes and sit down and slowly read through the chapter, like you're praying. It takes some attention but it's worth the time.

Paul tells us that precisely because Jesus became one of us, no matter what happens in our lives, God can no more look away from our trials

than he can look away from His Son. And we call out, "Abba," Papa, Daddy. That's a very familiar and personal way of speaking.

Paul talks about flesh and spirit. It's his way of speaking about 'old self' and 'new self.' The old self panics in the face of life's challenges. The new self realizes we have been adopted through Jesus, and we have a 'high destiny.' In other words, "what can separate us from the love of Christ?"

I'd like to do a commercial here. I hope you are aware of being able to find the NAMRE version of the bible online. NAMRE is New American Bible Revised Edition. It is the Catholic version of the Scriptures. What's important are the notes. You can easily find this excellent version at

USCCB.org

Then click Bible

Under Bible click Books of the Bible

Then (for today's homework) you pick Romans

Then click 8.

THE NOTES ARE EXTREMELY GOOD AND WORTH YOUR ATTENTION. And the nice thing is you can blow up the print size.

At night I sit on my porch. I used to see five planes minimum take off (or land depending on the wind) during my five decades of the rosary. Now maybe I see one flight and I offer a decade for the people on that flight. This thought came to mind because the single flight instead of five+ makes such a dramatic statement about just how changed things are. So often, people fear change.

Paul tells us today very simply, nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord," and I add for myself, "especially the unknown."

You have my constant prayers and I ask yours,

Fr. Jim

Mass Intentions

- Saturday August 1**
5:00 pm Living & Deceased of our Parish
- Sunday August 2**
8:30 am Intention of the Cowgill Family
11:00 am † Bethel LaVerle,
req. by Josephina Valdes
† John Leierzaph,
req. by Daryl & Charlie Roukema
- Monday August 3**
8:00 am Special Intention,
req. by Joe & Patti Garrihy
- Tuesday August 4**
8:00 am † Maureen Kelman,
req. by Ed & Kathy Heberg
- Wednesday August 5**
8:00 am † K.J. Olson,
req. by Richard Smyth & Family
- Thursday August 6**
8:00 am Living & Deceased Priests of our
Archdiocese
- Friday August 7**
8:00 am † Rowley & Gardner Families
- Saturday August 8**
5:00 pm † David Horney, req. by Donald Bourke
† Mario Calderon,
req. by Rosemary & Jim Guerin
- Sunday August 2**
8:30 am Living and Deceased of our Parish
11:00 am Intention of Msgr. Jim
Intention of Marcia Hogan,
req. by Barry Hogan



“You shall open wide your hand to your brothers, to the needy and poor in your land.” (Deuteronomy 15:11) There are so many references in the Bible regarding the responsibility to assist the needy; how Jesus cared so much for them. With our weekly contributions of non-perishable food and hygiene items, we can join with Jesus in our caring. Please place your donations in the grocery carts at the church doors.

PLEASE REMEMBER...

The Parish Office is closed on Thursdays during the summer.


HELP DEALING WITH COVID-19

Children’s Home Society recently launched their Family Support Warm Line, a *FREE, confidential resource that provides support for youth, adults and families - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.* Through text or a phone call, individuals can connect with a CHS counselor in their time of need, whether they need a listening ear or connections to ongoing counseling or other services. This service is offered throughout the state to provide support to families in dealing with COVID-19, and coping with related issues like domestic abuse and mental health issues. A CHS counselor can be reached 24/7 via phone or text at 1-888-733-6303 or at www.chsfl.org/ support. It’s free and anonymous... callers and texters don’t even need to give their name.

HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE

Here’s the “Hurricane Prayer” to help us through the season. Please cut it out and attach it to your missalette, so we can recite it together at Mass.

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.



Please be careful and stay safe!

REMEMBER THE SICK

Donn Taylor, Colt Becker, Nanchine McManus, Robert Re-
al, Mary Lou Mann, Peggy Lynch, Denise Bergeron,
John Orozco, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr.,
Hayden O’Connor, Jim Cowgill, Jr., John Graff, Eliza-
beth Shotmeyer, Peter Hanna, Sandy Rodriguez, Nil-
sa Pagan, Grayson Jack, Lee Rodriguez, Noah Aus-
tin, Tommy Greene, Agatha Taglienti, Regan Gallo,
John Masna, Bharti Patel, Beverly Bang, Margaret
Reitz, Helena Hughes, Donna Wasowicz, Frances
Rohleder, John Harris, Charlotte Newbury, Stephen
Black, Jo Neumann, Jane Abitabilo, John E. Hurley



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