

# EASTER SUNDAY THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

April 20, 2025

Saint Sebastian Catholic Parish in Fort Lauderdale, Inc.  
Parish Office (954) 524-9344



## **MASSES**

Saturday 5 pm  
(Sunday Vigil)  
Sunday 8:30 am, 11 am & 6 pm

## **Weekdays**

8:30 am (Mon. through Fri. )

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 3 pm

## **Pastor**

**Rev. Ernest Biriruka**

## **Office Staff**

Francy Gonzalez  
Kathryn Cabrisas  
Judy Fisher

## **Director of Music**

Peter J. Manfredi, Jr.  
(954) 868-6137

## **Vocalist**

Cathy Spitzer

## **Facilities**

Patricio Diaz-Pizarro

## **Pastoral Council**

Nancy Adams  
Mauricio Bautista  
Judy Fisher  
Rosemary Guerin  
Johnny Mann  
Sandi Mann  
Ed Rebholz  
John Mann

## **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.



We wish all our  
parishioners and visitors  
**A Happy Easter!**

**Christ is Risen!**  
**Alleluia!!!**

## **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.

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

[info@stsebastianfl.org](mailto:info@stsebastianfl.org)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

## JESUS IS RISEN!!! ALLELUIA!!!

My dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Easter! May the Light of the Risen Lord illuminate your hearts, your homes, all your lives and the lives of all your family members and loved-ones.

Yes, Jesus is risen as he announced several times when he was talking about his future sufferings and death. *"The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised"* (Lk 9: 22). All that the prophets foretold about him were accomplished, and his work of redemption was thus fulfilled. *"[He] suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead (...)"* (from the Apostles' Creed). After his resurrection, Jesus explained to the Emmaus disciples that 'the Christ had to suffer those things before those things and then enter his glory' (Lk 24:26). Can we imagine if Jesus had not risen from the dead? Those who crucified him would have triumphed; they would have said that he was an imposter indeed. No, for sure, he rose from the dead. The brave women who went to his tomb, and subsequently some of his disciples, witnessed the empty tomb. But more importantly, they saw him alive; he appeared to them in so many instances and times. Thomas was able to touch his side and see the marks of the nails. Then, with the power of his Holy Spirit, they were able to preach to all that he was risen; it did not matter if they had to endure mistreatment even death. They proclaimed to their fellow Jews and to the whole world that Jesus is risen.

Now it is our turn to proclaim to the world that Jesus is risen. But before we proclaim, we have to believe as they did. We have to realize the incredible value that this faith adds to our lives. With the Risen Lord, we know that our goal is no longer here below on earth but there above, with him, in heaven. That is what Saint Paul wrote to the Colossians: *"If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God (Col 3:1)"*.

If we live a new life in Jesus, then we are no longer dominated by earthly impulses of pleasures, greed, power and selfishness. On the contrary, we look for integrity, purity and truthfulness. We truly love our neighbor and seek to do good, whether directly through acts of charity, or by caring for the common good of our nation, striving to respect the rule of the Law (when the law is just) and bringing our fair share to the betterment of our nation and of our Church.

Like the apostles, we should be fearless and tell the world about our faith and the beauty of our life in Jesus. So many around us can be in the wrong and we say nothing, we dare not open our mouth!! How then, can they be saved? Here is how Saint Paul put it in the Romans: *"(...) because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ... But how are men to call upon him whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?"* Rom 10: 9.14). Through our baptism and confirmation, we have all a share in prophetic mission of Jesus and we are all called, to bear witness to his Resurrection, in words and deeds. We have to carry on the mandate he gave to his apostles: *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time"* (Mt 28: 18-20). Alleluia, Jesus Christ is risen indeed!

Fr. Ernest

## Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 8:00 pm	<b>April 19 Easter Vigil</b> † Dr. Jairo Casas, by Gloria Casas For Our Parishioners & Benefactors
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am	<b>April 20 Easter Sunday</b> † Charles, Marie and An Maher † Elena Loughran, by her husband Bill Wellbeing of Helen McGrady, by Atlantic Tower Residents
11:00 am	Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
6:00 pm	† Rev. Jose Hualde
<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>April 21</b> † Mary Kennedy, by Bill Fuccillo † Maria C. Gonzalez, by Rosina Fredericks † Henry Salvione, by Rosina Fredericks
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>April 22</b> Wellbeing of Jordan Karimi, by Anna Marie Pierotti Wellbeing of Nicholas Eschbacher, by Anna Marie Pierotti
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>April 23</b> † Mary Kennedy, by Judy Fisher
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>April 24</b> Wellbeing of Sandra and Rajesh, by Sandra K.
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>April 25</b> Wellbeing of Msgr. James Fetscher
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>April 26</b> † Joan Fuccillo, by Family † Grace and Murray Toomey, by Helen and Mary Louise Toomey
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am	<b>April 27 "DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY"</b> † Dolores Hesse Fink, by her husband Jack † Kelly Breas, by Albert and Lila
<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Mass and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy</b>
11:00 am	Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
6:00 pm	† Christopher Glynn, by Barbara Lee

### REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Gail Mills, Imelda Anaya, Don

Loughran, Jr., John Harris, Stephen Black, Alvaro Arevalo, Paul Ristow, Matt Keyzers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rob Messerschmidt, Anne McCormick, Patty Marma, Ray Wicklander, Kathy Mahoney, Linda Spitzer, Blake-Leigh Riley, Melissa Mirabile, Marge Mitchell, Rasoul Karimi, Jean Gorman, Linda DeBold, Jay Hoover, Ed Kidd, Mary Beth Vogler, Joel Rivera, Fred Zagone S.J., Anthony Cotilus, Mark Bromage, Jonathan Hughes, Mary Kennedy, Margaret & Donato Montanaro, William Hirsch, Msgr. James Fetscher, Pamela Jennings.

## A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for the men and women that you have called to discern priesthood and religious life. We beg your continued blessing on our Archdiocese of Miami and on all our families. Call forth more women and men of generous spirit and fervent love whom you desire for this holy work. We make this prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.

## RCIA and FAITH FORMATION CONGRATULATIONS!



To all our candidates who were baptized and confirmed during the Easter Vigil, as well as those who will be confirmed next Saturday, April 26.

**HAPPY EASTER and CONGRATULATIONS!**  
Fr. Ernest

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST Conditions to receive the Eucharist

- Be a practicing Catholic and without mortal sin.
- Must confess mortal sins before receiving.
- Divorced who are single can receive.
- Those in a civil marriage or cohabitating cannot receive until they either marry in the Church or have their marriage convalidated.
- *Note:* Should you need the annulment of a previous marriage, please contact the Pastor.

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Eucharistic Adoration takes place in our Chapel of the Divine Healer on Fridays after the 8:30 a.m. Mass until 5:00 p.m.

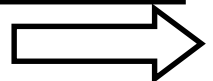
## CARLO ACUTI, the Catholic Church's first millennial saint,



He is scheduled to be canonized on **Sunday, April 27, 2025**, during the Jubilee of Teenagers in St. Peter's Square. On this day, he will be officially recognized as a saint by Pope

Francis. Carlo was a teenager with deep love for the Eucharist, who used technology to share his faith. He died at the age of 15 and continues to inspire young people around the world.

## PARISH EVENTS AND DATES



Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/StsebastianFL](http://www.facebook.com/StsebastianFL)

## CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY



### SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### OPENING PRAYER

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us. Amen.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

### HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

### APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, (All bow) Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified; died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

On the large bead before each decade:

V. Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

R. In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the 10 small beads of each decade:

V. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion

R. Have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding Doxology after five decades (said 3 times): Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

### CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.



### BIBLE SHARING

Come for coffee and Scripture sharing each Thursday in the Parish Hall at 9:15 a.m. Everyone is invited. You may also join us online by dialing 848-777-1212; when prompted, put in 143143#.

We are sharing from the Gospel of Luke with Arthur Cholakis facilitating.



### ADORATION AND ROSARY

We need adorers of the Holy Eucharist on Fridays. There is a sign-up paper at each exit of the Church; please sign up. We still need Adorers for the following times: 1-2 p.m., 2-3 p.m. & 3-4 p.m. Please also join us for the Rosary, Monday - Friday, at 7:50 a.m. in the church. All are most welcome.



### SANDWICH MINISTRY

Meets once a month to make sandwiches for the needy.

Saturday April 26th at 8:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Please email Lois Pittler at: [Lois.pittler@gmail.com](mailto:Lois.pittler@gmail.com) for more information.



### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MINISTRY

In March they served 870 clients. They also help several of them with partial rents, utility bills, etc. Once again, we could not do this without the incredible generosity of many individuals, who support us on a regular basis. **SVDP Thrift Store and Truck Donation Ministry will no longer be accepting any donations at the retail store or via their truck program. We are still collecting your non perishable food items for the Feeding the Hungry, the carts at the entrances of our church.** We thank you for all you do and wish your families a blessed Easter. Pat Burke

### The St Sebastian Men's Club

invites parishioners to attend a session with Victor DeBianchi, an attorney, who specializes in Elder Law. Victor has spoken at Saint Sebastian's in past years and always brings insightful updates to changes in the law regarding wills, probate and trusts. He also works in the area of Guardianships.

The meeting will be on Wednesday, April 30 at 9:15 AM following the morning Mass.

Coffee and sweet treats will be available.

Note: if you have any questions, I will be in the parish office Tuesday, April 29 after the morning Mass.

See you then,

John Mann

### FOR BETTER PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS

With your smart phone, you can find Daily Mass Readings and Prayers easily. Search for: Daily Bible Readings USCCB. For Prayers, go to Mass Prayer or Order of Mass. USCCB stands for US Conference of Catholic Bishops.