

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 2025

## St. 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

### His Holiness **POPE LEO XIV**

Robert Francis, Cardinal Prevost, O.S.A.

Elected Supreme Pontiff  
May 8, 2025



## **HABEMUS PAPAM!**

*Oh God, who in Your providential design willed that Your Church be built upon blessed Peter, whom You set over the other Apostles, look with favor, we pray, on LEO XIV our Pope, and grant that he, whom You have made Peter's successor, may be for Your people a visible source and foundation of unity in faith and of communion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.*

### **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.

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

## APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION

BY, John Paul II

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. "I will give you shepherds after my own heart" (Jer. 3:15).

In these words from the prophet Jeremiah, God promises his people that he will never leave them without shepherds to gather them together and guide them: "I will set shepherds over them [my sheep] who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed (Jer. 23.4).

The Church, the People of God, constantly experiences the reality of this prophetic message and continues joyfully to thank God for it. She knows that Jesus Christ himself is the living, supreme and definitive fulfillment of God's promise: "I am the good shepherd" (Jn. 10:11). He, "the great shepherd of the sheep" (Heb. 13:20), entrusted to the apostles and their successors the ministry of shepherding God's flock (cf. Jn. 21:15ff.; 1 Pt. 5:2).

Without priests the Church would not be able to live that fundamental obedience which is at the very heart of her existence and her mission in history, an obedience in response to the command of Christ: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Mt. 28:19) and "Do this in remembrance of me" (Lk. 22:19; cf. 1 Cor. 11.24), i.e.; an obedience to the command to announce the Gospel and to renew daily the sacrifice of the giving of his body and the shedding of his blood for the life of the world.

By faith we know that the Lord's promise cannot fail. This very promise is the reason and force underlying the Church's rejoicing at the growth and increase of priestly vocations now taking place in some parts of the world. It is also the foundation and impulse for a renewed act of faith and fervent hope in the face of the grave shortage of priests which is being felt in other parts of the world. Everyone is called upon to share complete trust in the unbroken fulfillment of God's promise, which the synod fathers expressed in clear and forceful terms: "The synod, with complete trust in the promise of Christ who has said: 'Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age' (Mt. 28:20), and aware of the constant activity of the Holy Spirit in the Church, firmly believes that there will never be a complete lack of sacred ministers in the Church.... Even though in a number of regions there is a scarcity of clergy, the action of the Father, who raises up vocations, will nonetheless always be at work in the Church.

For this reason, the total trust in God's unconditional faithfulness to his promise is accompanied in the Church by the grave responsibility to cooperate in the action of God who calls, and to contribute toward creating and preserving the conditions in which the good seed, sown by God, can take root and bring forth abundant fruit. The Church must never cease to pray to the Lord of the harvest that he send laborers into his harvest, (cf. Mt. 9:38). She must propose clearly and courageously to each new generation the vocational call, help people to discern the authenticity of their call from God and to respond to it generously, and give particular care to the formation of candidates for the priesthood.

The formation of future priests, both diocesan and religious, and lifelong assiduous care for their personal sanctification in the ministry and for the constant updating of their pastoral commitment is considered by the Church one of the most demanding and important tasks for the future of the evangelization of humanity.

It can be said that through her work of forming candidates to the priesthood and priests themselves, the Church throughout her history has continued to live this passage of the Gospel in various ways and with varying intensity. Today, however, the Church feels called to relive with a renewed commitment all that the Master did with his apostles - urged on as she is by the deep and rapid transformations in the societies and culture of our age; by the multiplicity and diversity of contexts in which she announces the Gospel and witnesses to it; by the promising number of priestly vocations being seen in some dioceses around the world; by the urgency of a new look at the contents and methods of priestly formation; by the concern of bishops and their communities about a persisting scarcity of clergy; and by the absolute necessity that the "new evangelization" have priests as its initial "new evangelizers."

*Please note that May is dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary. Let us make an effort to pray the Rosary.*

**Mass Intentions**

<u>Saturday</u> 5:00 pm	May 10 † Joe Cowgill, by Sandy & Matt Keyzers Wellbeing Anita Kidd, by Anna Marie Pierotti
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 11 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY</b> 🌹 🌹 Mother's Day Novena
11:00 am	Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
6:00 pm	Mother's Day Novena
<u>Monday</u> 8:30 am	May 12 Mother's Day Novena
<u>Tuesday</u> 8:30 am	May 13 Mother's Day Novena
<u>Wednesday</u> 8:30 am	May 14 Mother's Day Novena
<u>Thursday</u> 8:30 am	May 15 Mother's Day Novena
<u>Friday</u> 8:30 am	May 16 Mother's Day Novena
<u>Saturday</u> 5:00 pm	May 17 Mother's Day Novena
<u>Sunday</u> 8:30 am	May 18 Mother's Day Novena
11:00 am	Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
6:00 pm	Mother's Day Novena

**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, Jay Hoover, Ed Kidd, Mary Beth Vogler, Joel Rivera, Fred Zagone S.J., Anthony Cotilus, Mark Bromage, Jonathan Hughes, Margaret & Donato Montanaro, William Hirsch, Msgr. James Fetscher, Pamela Jennings, Gary Demberg.

**A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**



Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for the men and women that you have called to discern the calling to 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**



Please note that our **last two sessions** will be held on:

Wednesday, **May 7** and Tuesday, **May 20** at 6:00 pm.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**FIRST COMMUNION CLASS**



Registrations will open in August, and Classes are scheduled to begin in September.

**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 are married in the Church.*
- *Note: For any question or to begin the annulment process for a previous marriage, please contact the Pastor.*

**Thank You  
Dear Parishioners!**



I want to express my deepest gratitude for your generosity in support of the **Burundian Clergy**. A total amount of **\$13,140.41** was sent to them a few weeks ago.

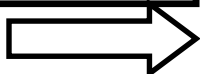
For sure these funds will greatly help them in their mission of spreading the Good News of our Lord.

May God continue to bless your generosity and dedication to our parish.

With heartfelt thanks,

Fr. Ernest

**PARISH EVENTS AND DATES**



**LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY**



We invite everyone to join us in praying the Rosary, **Monday - Friday, at 7:50 am**, before daily mass, in the Chapel of the Divine Healer. Let us come together in prayer and deepen our devotion to Our Blessed Mother.

All are welcome!

**WEEKDAY 8:30 AM MASS**

**IN THE CHAPEL OF THE DIVINE HEALER**



**Happy Mother's Day**

*"Her children rise up and call her blessed."*

As we honor all mothers, we also turn our hearts to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Her love, strength, and humility serve as an example for us all.

On this special day, may every mother feel the warmth of our gratitude, and may Mother Mary's intercession bring peace, guidance, and grace to every home.

Wishing all mothers a blessed and joyful **Mother's Day**

**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#.

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

For more information, please contact **Miriam Rivas** At **954-673-1522**



**WE NEED LECTORS**

Lector training will be held on **Saturday, June 14 at 9:30 am**. In the Church. For more information, Please call Rosemary, 954-816-4166

**ADORATION OF THE HOLY**



Eucharist Adoration takes place in our chapel of the Divine Healer on **Fridays** after morning Mass until 5:00 pm.

We still need adorers of the **Holy Eucharist** for the following times: 1-2 pm., 2-3 pm & 3-4 pm

Please contact the office if you are able to come to any of those hours.

Thank you!

**ST. SEBASTIAN MEN'S CLUB**

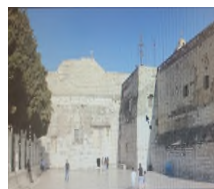
This **Friday, May 16 at 9:30 am**. will be the last meeting, until next fall.

**Breakfast at Lago Mar. \$30.00 per person**

**Commissioner Ben Sorenson, Speaker.**

**LAND OF PEACE and BCF MISSION**

**Next weekend May 17-18,2025**



This mission aims to bring hope and support to Christian families and churches in the Middle East, who are enduring continuous violence and a decline in tourism. Your participation can help make a profound difference. Available for purchase will be religious articles made from Olive Wood, a material native to the Holy Land and Bethlehem.

***Mother's Day Novena***

This month, we invite everyone to participate in our **Mother's Day Novena**. For those who are interested, special envelopes are available at the church exits and on the pews for your offering.

Please take one and write the name of your mother or a loved one you wish to honor. The names will be placed on the Altar for this month as we offer prayers in their honor.



**FOR BETTER PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS**

With your smart phone or computer, 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.