

The Baptism of the Lord

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

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
Patrick O'Dea
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,

Welcome to the last feast in the Christmas cycle, the *Baptism of the Lord*. I think of this feast often. In Matthew's version of the story, when Jesus presents himself for baptism to John the Baptist, John objects. "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?"

Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John allowed him.

Forgive me for quoting a long footnote from the **New American Bible Revised Edition** (NABRE) on Mt 3:14-15 but you'll see why.

"This dialogue, peculiar to Matthew, reveals John's awareness of Jesus' superiority to him as the mightier one who is coming and who will baptize with the Holy Spirit (Mt 3:11). His reluctance to admit Jesus among the sinners whom he is baptizing with water is overcome by Jesus' response. To fulfill all righteousness: in this gospel to fulfill usually refers to fulfillment of prophecy, and righteousness to moral conduct in conformity with God's will. Here, however, as in Mt 5:6; 6:33, righteousness seems to mean the saving activity of God. To fulfill all righteousness is to submit to the plan of God for the salvation of the human race. This involves Jesus' identification with sinners; hence the propriety of his accepting John's baptism."

The last sentence: Jesus identifies with sinners. You have heard me preach about this more than once and I suspect that this weekend's homily will find me saying it again.

It comes down to this. Whatever, and I mean *whatever*, sin you may have committed, Jesus is standing there saying, "I'll bear it for you. I don't want anything to get in the way of you going to my Father."

Just to put icing on the cake, Matthew, Mark and Luke all talk about the voice of the Father being heard, and saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well

pleased." In John's gospel, we hear John the Baptist say, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from the sky and remain upon him."

And here is another footnote; the dove is a symbol of new creation. And the footnote goes to remark about another word:

"Remain: the first use of a favorite verb in John, emphasizing the permanency of the relationship between Father and Son (as here) and between the Son and the Christian. Jesus is the permanent bearer of the Spirit."

Sometimes we just miss the treasures that can be found in footnotes.

I also want to put in a commercial for the bible I referred to above. It's wonderful to have a beautiful bible sitting on the coffee table, but they are usually too heavy to carry around with you much less pick up in a spare moment.

I cannot stress enough that the **Catholic Study Bible published by Oxford University Press** is a wonderful book. In addition to being the version of the scriptures that we read on Sunday (NABRE), it also has a clear and uncluttered introduction to the Old and New Testaments. You can get it in paperback. It still costs too much, (+ or - \$35) but think of it as a very good deal for an excellent meal. And it wouldn't be a bad gift to give kids. For another few bucks you can buy tabs for the paperback and the kids can have fun putting the tabs in the right place. (That should keep everyone busy.)

I had no idea this was the *Twitch* I was going to write until I began and it sort of flowed out. Bottom line: think about it. He is born into this world to be among us. The child grows up and then his heavy lifting *really* begins... for us! ...all because He wants us for eternity. That's real time.

Happy New Year!



Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	January 8 † Ellie Loughran, req. by Joan & Bill Fuccillo † Dolores Fink, req. by Jim & Rosemary Guerin
Sunday 8:30 am	January 9 † Thomas Boylan, req. by M.L. Toomey † Jerome Kettner, req. by Maynard & Rosie 11:00 am Living & Deceased of our Parish
Monday 8:30 am	January 10 † Murray Fried, req. by Rosemary & Jim Guerin Well being of Marcia Hogan, req. by Barry Hogan
Tuesday 8:30 am	January 11 † Angel Pacheco, req. by Don Bourke
Wednesday 8:30 am	January 12 † Anthony Lekay, req. by Maria & Eva Hochenburger † Souls in Purgatory, req. by Richard Schmelz Family
Thursday 8:30 am	January 13 † Cathy Havinga, req. by Don Bourke † Lloyd Potter, req. by Jarchow Family
Friday 8:30 am	January 14 † Margaret O'Neil, req. by Don Bourke
Saturday 5:00 pm	January 15 † Ellie Loughran, req. by Joan & Bill Fuccillo Intention of Ed & Jill Rebholz, req. by 8:30 am Ushers
Sunday 8:30 am	January 16 † Sister Mary Rowley 11:00 am Living & Deceased of our Parish

REMEMBER THE SICK

Nanchine McManus, Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Jim Cowgill, Jr., Peter Hanna, Sandy Rodriguez, Lee Rodriguez, 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, Alvaro Arevalo, Trebor Wright, Michelline Toulouse, Margaret Farragher, Mary McGuire, Dr. Laura Evatt

IN MEMORIUM

**+ Ed Glancy +
January 4, 2022**

*May his soul, and the souls of
all the faithful departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



“As it is written; he has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” (2 Corinthians 9:9). Let us continue to care for our less fortunate brothers and sisters in our community by purchasing non-perishable food (no glass containers, please) and hygiene items and delivering them to our church shopping carts each week. To care is to share. If you know of any one in need, please tell them that a drive thru grocery distribution takes place every Friday from 1:30-4 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1701 E. Oakland Park Blvd (entrance to parking lot on NE 33rd Street and closes at 3:45). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES ARE HERE!

2022 boxed sets of Offertory envelopes have arrived and are available for pick up in the main vestibule for those who used them in 2021. If you wish to begin using Offertory Envelopes, please print your name and phone number on the pad you'll find by the envelopes and we'll be happy to issue a set for you.

ST. JOSEPH'S RESIDENCE

A caring Assisted Living facility, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Miami, offering furnished apartments or suites, 24/7 nurse on duty and emergency pull cord systems. They provide three meals served daily, weekly housekeeping and laundry, as well as assistance in bathing, dressing, and monitoring medications. There is a beautiful chapel offering scheduled and private worship... all for a reasonable monthly rate. For more information, please call 954.739.1483.

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

Are you suffering from the pain of abortion? God's greatest gift is to forgive you and show you his mercy. Confidential help is available. Contact Project Rachel Ministries at 1-888-456- HOPE. Don't wait. Our God is a loving and merciful God.

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 will be sharing from the Book of Jeremiah. Call Mary at 954.290.1194 or Carole at 954.529.6547 for info. Please join us!

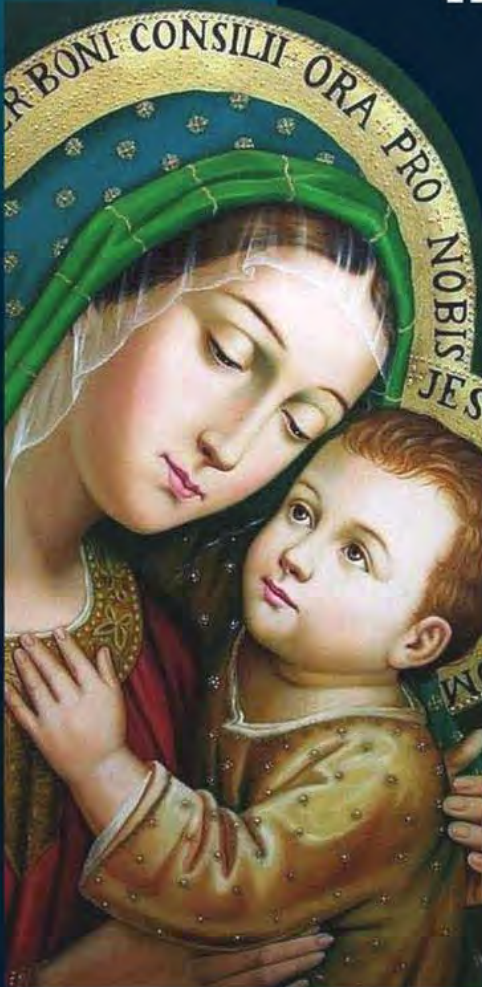
JUST A THOUGHT...

“The Eucharist educates us to...love in a deeper way; it shows us, in fact, what value each person, our brother or sister, has in God's eyes, if Christ offers Himself equally to each one, under the species of bread and wine.”

From “A Moment's Peace” by Pope John Paul II

A DAY OF REFLECTION

Presented by MACCW



"Never Be Afraid To Trust An Unknown Future To A Known God"

22 JANUARY 2022
11 AM - 3 PM

ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

2001 S OCEAN BLVD, POMPANO BEACH,
FL 33062

11 AM MASS CELEBRATED BY



Very Rev. Michael J. Greer, V.F.



LUNCH AT 12 NOON

Guest Speakers



Sister Karla Maria Icaza, SCTJM



Most Rev. Enrique Delgado



Rev. Msgr. Terence Hogan



Please Make Checks Payable To: MACCW

Also Accepting CashApp To: \$beaves7

R.S.V.P By Wednesday January 12, 2022
Contact: Bonnie Eaves | beaves7@yahoo.com