

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

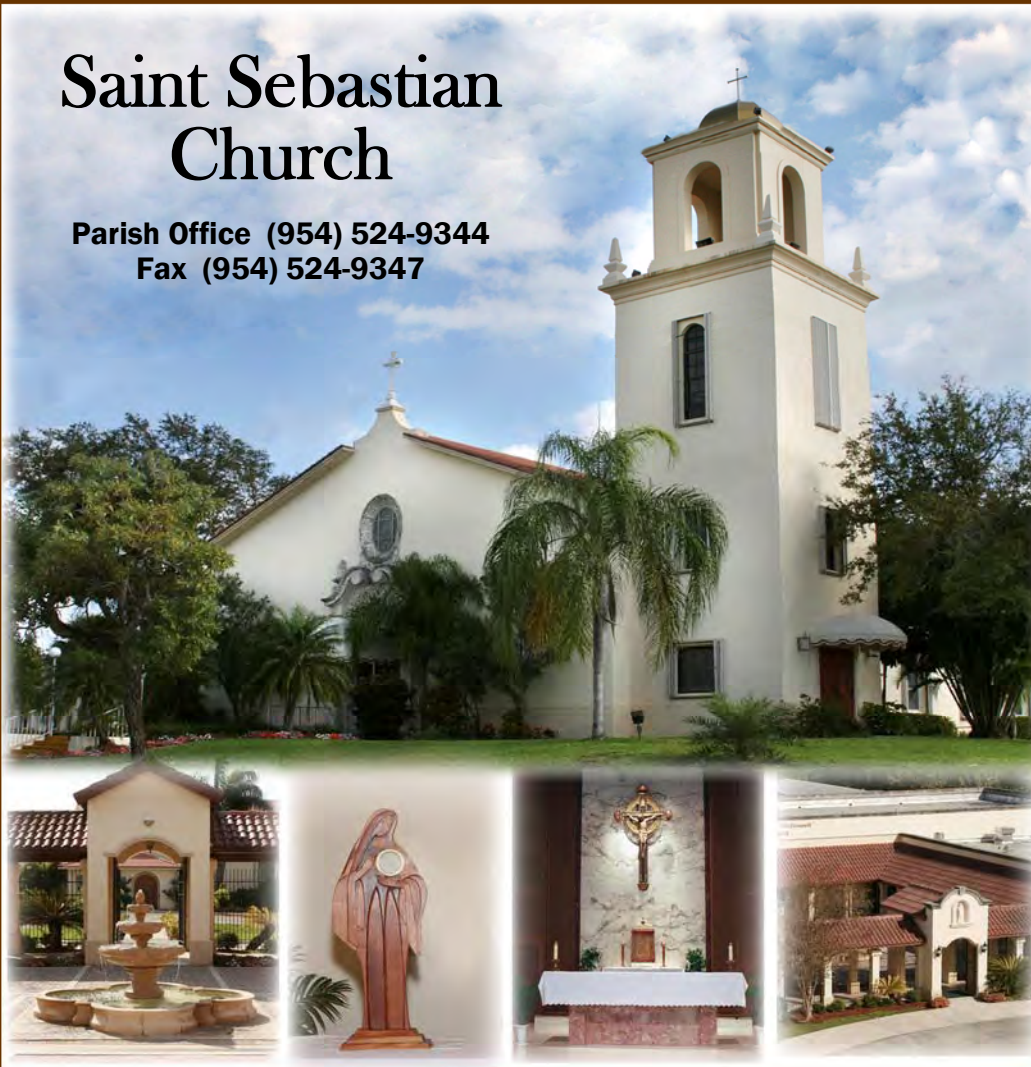
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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 8:30 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,

I went online to see if I could find some thoughts for the Fourth of July and to my happy surprise found one entry titled, **31 Patriotic July 4th Quotes for America's Favorite Holiday**. They were in Town and Country magazine.

I enjoyed the variety, especially when you realized the context in which the words were spoken, and by whom. I chuckled at this one from Erma Bombeck and yet realized its very subtle truth. She said, "You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4th, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness."

I think I have told you about my own experience while I was studying in Washington, D.C.

On July Fourth (1975) I gathered on the Mall with an intimate group of 100,00 people to watch the fireworks and hear some great music. The time of Vietnam opposition and riots in the country was fading and it seemed as though healing and rediscovery of some of the treasures of democracy were possible.

Another of the quotes was one from Abraham Lincoln: "My dream is of a place and a time where America will once again be seen as the last best hope of earth."

In our own time, when we find ourselves divided on so many levels, is it hubris (false self-confidence) to think that our country can continue on a path that Lincoln envisioned?

I've heard various pundits opining that losing our country is not beyond possibility. It's a far cry from another of the quotes: Walt Disney said, "Laughter is America's most important export." You have to wonder how the world sees us in these moments. Surely, no one is laughing.

In trying to 'hear what the Lord is saying,' I read through the quotes repeatedly wondering how

they might speak to us this weekend. There is so much going on... the social divisions... the uproar over the Supreme Court decision(s)...

Then, I came to the very first line of Isaiah from our scriptures for this weekend:

Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad because of her, all you who love her...

I believe we are a blessed country. We *can* be a New Jerusalem. When we fail to see that our blessings are gifts that are meant to be given and not simply hoarded, we run the risk of, indeed, losing our heritage.

No doubt we have had bad moments in our nation's history that challenged our very existence. Up to now we have managed to overcome. If we want to continue that existence then we must be people of prayer.

There are many who don't feel or even understand the need for prayer. There are many who think that asking someone to pray is avoiding dealing with whatever is at issue. Pious platitudes...

I believe we "praying folk" stand next to the people in turmoil. Our mission is to take our needs to the Lord. We ask for His Presence on behalf of all those who cannot or will not go to Him. That's our job as people who have been given the freedom to believe and worship.

Whatever freedoms we enjoy can never be taken for granted or else they will be taken away. Maybe better phrased, they won't be taken; we'll just let go and not realize what we let happen until too late...

In his state of the union address in 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt spelled out the four freedoms that were essential to the marrow of our country.

Freedom of speech, Freedom of worship.

Freedom from want, Freedom from fear.

If you have a moment go check out his speech online.

Having those freedoms is one thing. Using those freedoms is something else. I hope that tomorrow as I look at explosions of light in the sky, I can remember to say a little prayer, something like, "Lord, help us keep our country at the service of all those in need, whether political or social or material. Let generosity be the flag that flies over our heads."

In Jesus,



Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	July 2 † Nicolas Cartusciello, req. by Family † Father Paul Bourke, req. by Don Bourke
Sunday 8:30 am	July 3 † Charles & Marie Maher, req. by Family † Dolores Fink, req. by Sandra Polselli † Grace & Murray Toomey, req. by M.L. & Helen Toomey
11:00 am	Living and Deceased of Our Parish
Monday 8:30 am	July 4 † David Donohoe, req. by Helen & M.L. Toomey
Tuesday 8:30 am	July 5 † Aristine Hale, req. by Jocelyn Hale
Wednesday 8:30 am	July 6 † Ellie Loughran, req. by husband, Bill
Thursday 8:30 am	July 7 Wellbeing of the Priests & Religious of our Archdiocese
Friday 8:30 am	July 8 † Kevin Rebholz, req. by Men's Club † Scott Anselmo, req. by Jacquie Anselmo
Saturday 5:00 pm	July 9 Wellbeing of Suzanne Loughran-Plum, req. by Bill Loughran Wellbeing of Elizabeth Simon, req. by Don Bourke † Marie & Albert Bourke, req. by Don Bourke
Sunday 8:30 am	July 10 † Joseph Iemolo, req. by 8:30 Ushers Wellbeing of Marcia Hogan, req. by Barry Hogan
11:00 am	Living and Deceased of Our Parish

REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Jim

Cowgill, Jr., Peter Hanna, Sandy Rodrigues, Margaret Reitz, John Harris, Stephen Black, Jo Neumann, Mary Alice Zittle, Alvaro Arevalo, Michelline Toulouse, Dr. Laura Evatt, Kari Albertson, Paul Ristow, Craig & David Mitchell, Carol Houghton, Mary Connors, Ed Fetscher, Joan Morrison, Margaret Donato, Mark & Ariana Gotley, Margaret Rose Goldman, Ted Petoniak, Jean Armstrong

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

The special collection next weekend is for the Black & Indian Missions. This Collection is to help local African American and Native American throughout the United States spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and respond to real and pressing needs on the ground. Please use the specially designated envelopes for your gift.

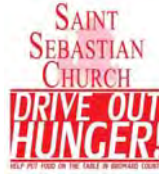
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PRAYER TO AVERT HURRICANES

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.

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SAVE THE DATE!
Sunday, July 17 - Picnic (indoors!)/Ice Cream Social.



Let's say "Happy Birthday" to our country on July 4th by giving gifts of non-perishable food and hygiene items to the needy in our city. Fill our church shopping carts with these items which will be our thanks to God for the many gifts He has given to us. To care is to share. *If you know of anyone in need, please let them know that The St. Vincent DePaul Society conducts a drive thru grocery distribution every Friday from 1:30-4 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1701 E Oakland Park Blvd (entrance to the parking lot is located on NE 33rd Street and will be closed at 3:45). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION UPDATE

A note of thanks to our 22 parishioners who have already signed up for Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays. Hopefully, it won't be too much longer before all the time slots are filled and we can resume Adoration in our Chapel of the Divine Healer. Listed below, you will see the times that have no coverage to date. Please call the office if you are able to spend a half hour with The Lord in the Chapel at any of the following times.:

- ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH:**
10:00-10:30
11:00-11:30
1:00-1:30

- ON THE SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH:**
10:00-10:30
11:00-11:30
11:30-12:00
1:00-1:30
2:30-3:00
3:30-4:00

- ON THE THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH:**
10:00-10:30
11:00-11:30
11:30-12:00
2:30-3:00
3:30-4:00

- ON THE FOURTH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH:**
11:00-11:30
11:30-12:00
1:00-1:30
2:30-3:00
3:30-4:00

- IN THE MONTHS HAVING A FIFTH FRIDAY:**
10:00-10:30
11:00-11:30
11:30-12:00
1:00-1:30
2:30-3:00
3:30-4:00





HERE'S THE SCOOP !

**YOU'RE
INVITED TO SAINT
SEBASTIAN CHURCH**



**~PICNIC AND ICE
CREAM SOCIAL
IN THE PARISH HALL~**

SUNDAY : **4:00 PM**
:
:
JULY 17 : **UNTIL**
:
:
: **6:00 PM**

Grilled Hotdogs and Hamburgers will be served along with Ice Cream and all the toppings, Iced Tea, Lemonade and Beer.

All are invited to this social gathering. Bring Family & Friends

Please use the SIGN UP Sheets at the Church doors to allow for headcount for food purchase. A basket will be available for donations to defray food costs.



St. Sebastian Church * 2000 SE 25th Avenue, Ft. Laud. 33316 (954)524-9344

