

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

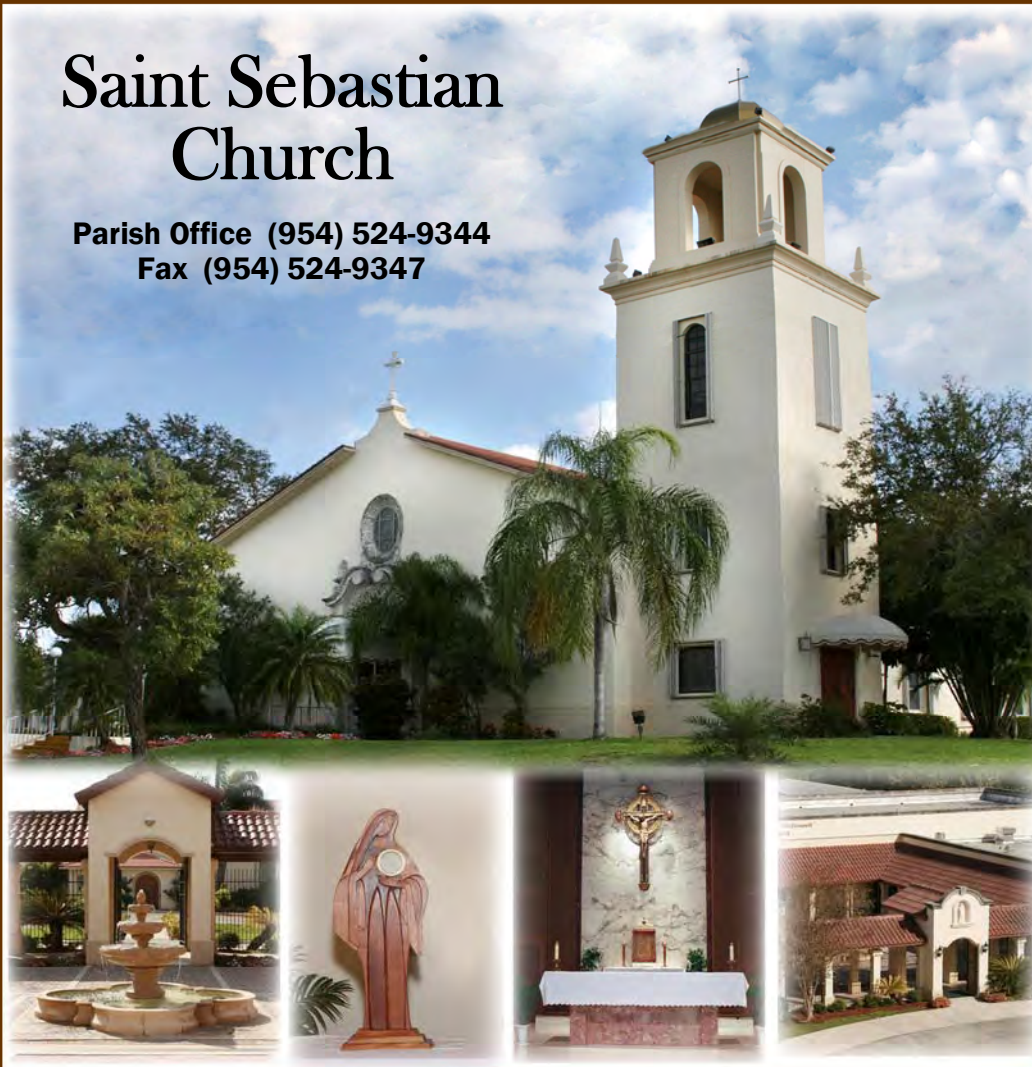
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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 am starting this *Twitch* on primary day. Voting is a happy convenience for me; all I have to do is walk across the courtyard from the office to the parish hall to vote. St. Sebastian hosts not one, but *three* polling places.

Over the years my polling places haven't been that convenient. I even remember voting absentee ballot from Rome. Nevertheless, I have rarely missed an election. Is this the moment when you start to hear patriotic music playing in the background? Corny, but you know what? Bring it on.

Meriam-Webster's definition of democracy: government by the people *especially* : rule of the majority.

In my mind, voting is one way of trying to deal with fragmentation in our society. If that's sounds strange, consider this.

At the last supper Jesus prayed for His disciples, "... that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me." (John 17:21)

For his disciples, Jesus saw that unity was a necessary requirement for being able to undertake the mission. The unity wasn't in style or language, or territory, but in a single purpose: to focus on the journey to eternal life, and to give the apostles – the *sent ones*, all the skills they needed to accomplish it, wherever and however and whatever the situation required.

What does our civil life require? By definition, a democracy requires participation. Voting lets me be a part of a process of building a society with mutual respect as its basis. Long before I get to issues and policies and personalities, I want to be encouraged by surroundings that value my presence and contributions. In today's political atmosphere, that sure can be difficult.

I think the gospel calls us to be of one mind and one heart, not one political party. The freedom to choose freely on earth gives us an opportunity to practice choosing heaven. Is that too far a stretch? I hope not. That's my approach and I'm sticking with it.

Making choices among all the candidates can be very difficult. A particular candidate may have views that both agree and disagree with my own. What to do? Well, for one thing I know I spend a little time in prayer, maybe *more* than a little time.

Do you remember the very first words of the readings we heard at Mass this weekend? The book of Sirach said: "My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts."

I guess it's kind of hard to expect a politician who has a need to be seen and heard to be humble. And yet, I think some do it. In their humility they seem to know that what they are seeking to do in being elected is a privilege and a 'sacred' trust. That helps me want to 'entrust' them with making laws and judging cases and all the myriad of challenges they face.

I said I spent time in prayer. Before they are elected, I'm praying I make a good choice. After they are elected, I am praying they will make good choices.

Anything we can do as a community to help one another in the process of electing leaders is something we should value.

It's funny how you'll hear people talking about the separation of church and state. Don't forget your history. It comes from religious leaders dictating choices. For us, I think we need to be instruments for promoting discussion, to wit our Sept. 28th candidate forum. See you there.

In Jesus,



Mass Intentions

Saturday August 27 5:00 pm Living and Deceased of our Parish
Sunday August 28 8:30 am † Dolores Hesse Fink, req. by The Fink Family
† Fred & Winifred Fetscher
11:00 am † Charles & Margaret McElhinney, req. by Ann Murry
† Roberto Kamia, req. by Richard Page
Monday August 29 8:30 am † Douglas Taylor, req. by Mary Kennedy
Tuesday August 30 8:30 am † Michelle Maus, req. by Frank Krauser
Wednesday August 31 8:30 am † Ellie Loughran, req. by husband, Bill
Thursday September 1 8:30 am Priests & Religious of our Archdiocese
Friday September 2 8:30 am † Lee Martin, req. by Virginia Gallenberger
Saturday September 3 5:00 pm † Charles & Marie Maher, req. by Maher Family
† Marie & Albert Bourke, req. by Don Bourke
Wellbeing of Suzanne Loughran Plum, req. by Bill Loughran
Sunday September 4 8:30 am † Dolores Hesse Fink, req. by Sandy Polselli
Wellbeing of Barbara & Bob Morman, req. by Jarchow Family
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, Carol Houghton, Mary Connors, Ed Fetscher, Joan Morson, Margaret Donato, Margaret Rose Goldman, Ted Petoniak, Jean Armstrong, Matt Keyzers, Marianne Dougherty, Sister Maire O'Dea, Loretta Polizano

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 on-line by dialing 848-777-1212. When prompted put in 1431434#. For more info, please call Mary Kennedy at 954-290-1194. We will be sharing from the Gospel of Luke.

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.

Save the Date!

CANDIDATES' FORUM

for City Commissioners.
September 28th at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall

OKTOBERFEST

Friday, October 21, 2022
In the Parish Hall & on the grounds!
Details to follow...

"He who is generous will be blessed. For he gives some of his food to the poor." (Proverbs 22:9). Let's be sharers and put non-perishable food and hygiene items in the church shopping carts. Our church shopping carts are awaiting these necessities. 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 HAS RESUMED!

Thanks to those who have committed to be present before the Blessed Sacrament for a specific time, we have resumed Eucharistic Adoration in our Chapel of the Divine Healer on Fridays. If you wish to sign up for Adoration at a specific time, please call the office (954.524.9344) or use the sheet that can be found in the Chapel.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Religious Education classes for children attending non-Catholic school, in grades 1-8 are scheduled to begin on Sunday, September 18, from 9:45-10:45 am. Please call the office this week to register your child.

MEN'S CLUB MEETING

St. Sebastian Men's Club will hold its monthly meeting this Thursday, September 1st in the Parish Hall, after the 8:30 am Mass - at 9:00 am. All men of the Parish are invited to attend.

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The special collection next weekend is for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs in the heart of Washington, D.C. By giving to the collection, you are supporting future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education and the University's various research and training initiatives that support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. Please plan to use the specially designated envelopes for your gift.

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Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this world-wide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for creation. We are co-creatures, and part of all that God has made. Our wellbeing is interwoven with the wellbeing of the Earth. We rejoice in this opportunity to safeguard our common home and all beings who share it. This year, the theme for the season is

Listen to the Voice of Creation.

The burning bush is the Symbol for the Season of Creation 2022. Today, the prevalence of unnatural fires are a sign of the devastating effects that climate change has on the most vulnerable of our planet. Human greed, desertification, and land misuse lead to the disintegration of ecosystems, the destruction of habitats, and the loss of livelihoods and species at an alarming rate. Creation cries out as forests crackle, animals flee, and people are forced to migrate due to the fires of injustice that we have caused.

the fire that called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mt. Horeb did not consume or destroy the burning bush. This was a flame of the Spirit that revealed God's life sustaining presence. This holy fire affirmed that God heard the cries of all who suffered, and promised to be with us as we followed faithfully to deliverance from injustice.

During the Season of Creation, this symbol calls us to listen to the voice of creation, and faithfully respond through worship, repentance and action. Moses was told to remove his sandals, for he was standing on holy ground in God's presence. May this symbol move us to remove the "sandals" of our unsustainable lifestyles that disconnect us from creation and our Creator, contemplate our connection to the holy ground where we live, and listen for the voice of creation.

As we celebrate this Season of Creation, let us be filled with hope to quench the fires of injustice with the light of God's healing love that sustains our common home.