

Second Sunday of Advent

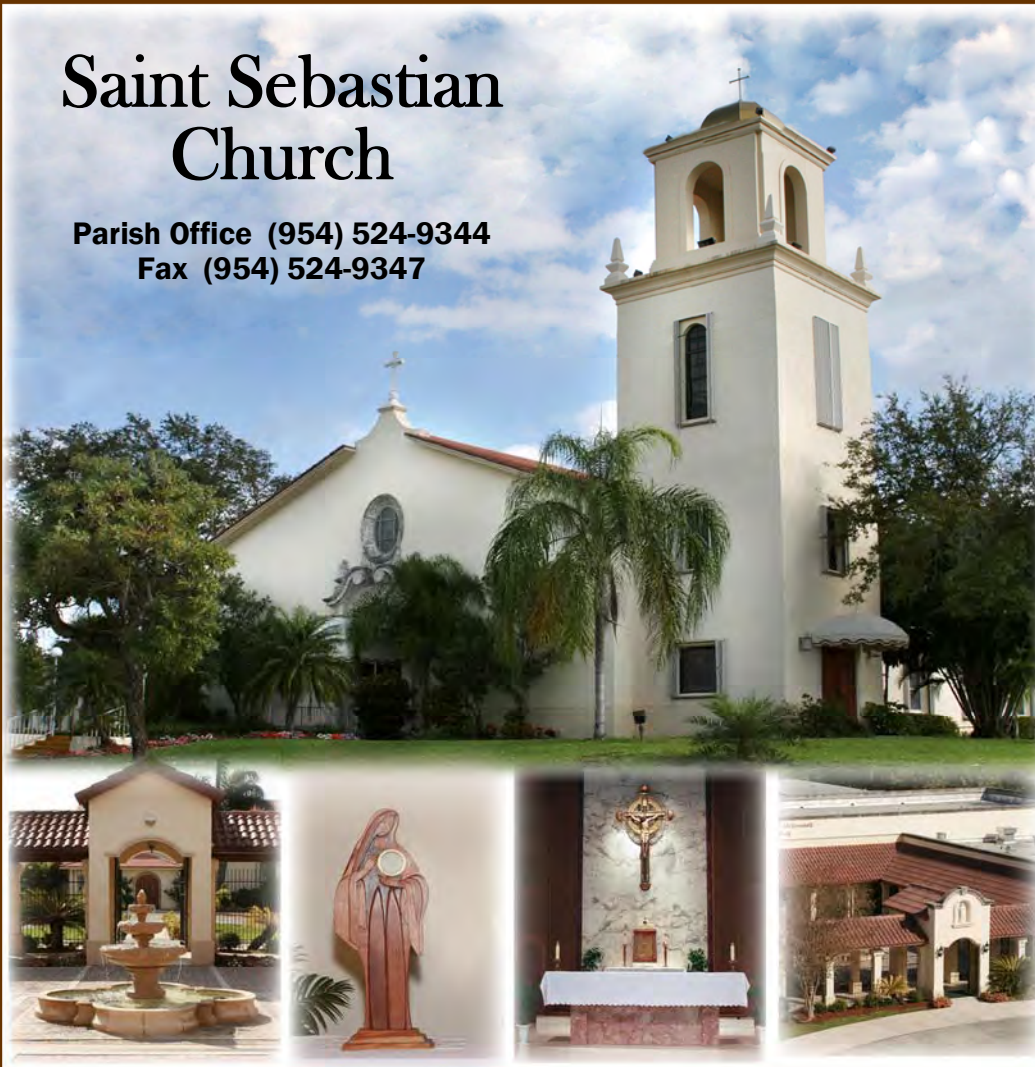
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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



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,

This Thursday is December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is a **Holy Day of Obligation.** **We will have Mass at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.** (We will NOT have a Vigil Mass on Wednesday.)

Each country adopts a set of patron saints, members of the heavenly court who are special intercessors for all those within a particular country's borders. It took the bishops of the newly created United States of America 70 years to appoint the Blessed Virgin Mary as patroness of their country. In doing so, they invoked Mary under her title of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception.

It was a choice met with unanimous support, one that was based on many different factors. The decision was reached on May 13, 1846, during the Sixth Provincial Council of Baltimore.

Having the feast in Advent time helps us focus a little better on the celebration of the great mystery of Jesus becoming man through Mary, one of us as she was one of us.

☞ Gear Change, hopefully not too abrupt. In *Give Us This Day*, the reflection for the feast of St. Andrew, Nov. 30th, was written by Jesuit Walter Burghardt. I asked permission from Paulist Press to reprint it here for you.

No Advance Script

Did Peter and Andrew, James and John actually leave their nets "immediately" and follow Jesus (Mt 4:20,22)? Not at all impossible, not when we read a bit later that a would-be disciple who wanted time to go and bury his father was told by Jesus, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead" (Mt 28:21-22).

Matthew may well be suggesting the powerful attraction of Jesus, may well be hinting at the demands made by a gospel call: no delay, leave all else now.

On the other hand, it is still possible that Matthew is compressing a longer story, possible that there may have been time for growth in attraction. We find hints of this in John's Gospel. Remember how Andrew and John spent the day with Jesus, how Andrew then brought his brother Peter to him?...

But if we are not sure how quickly each of the disciples responded to Jesus, one element in their vocation is clear as crystal. Like Mary of Nazareth before the angel Gabriel, so the Twelve before Jesus: None of them received a script, not one was given a scenario, detailing what apostleship would bring in its train. It was only gradually, only through harsh experience, that they would learn the cost of discipleship...

For Peter and the rest, [it was] nothing but a grace – an extraordinary grace – grace to say yes to a most extraordinary man. Grace to leave a profitable job – fishing, for example, or collecting taxes – and follow this strange, attractive teacher wherever he might lead.

From *Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters* Paulist Press, 1998

Father Burghardt died Feb. 16, 2012 at the age of 93. He was one of the major theologians of the 20th century. Google his name if you want to meet a great man in more depth.

For me, the reason I was so struck by Father Burghardt's short excerpt is that it reminded me of something I've mentioned before, namely, "Man proposes and God disposes." For me now, it's more than a maxim: it is the truth of how my life has played out. You think you are doing the planning, and you even pray for Divine Guidance. But now that I have a bit of history, as I look back, I realize that while I thought I was planning it all out each day, in fact there was (and is) a subcurrent that really is worth singing about: "He's got the whole world, in his hands..."

Mary of Nazareth knew that. So may we!
In Jesus,

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	December 3 † Patricia Calhoun † Dr. Alice Von Hildebrand, req. by Don Bourke Wellbeing of Suzanne Loughran Plum, req. by Bill Loughran
Sunday 8:30 am	December 4 † Sister Mary Rowley Morrissey Family, req. by Karen † Jack McMahon, req. by Paul McMahon & KC Living & Deceased of our Parish
11:00 am	
Monday 8:30 am	December 5 Wellbeing of Claire Oliverio
Tuesday 8:30 am	December 6 Wellbeing of Frank Krauser
Wednesday 8:30 am	December 7 People of Ukraine
Thursday 8:30 am	December 8-Immaculate Conception † Kevin Rebholz, req by Men's Club † Dorothy Gannon, req. by Kathy Coniglio Living & Deceased of our Parish
6:00 pm	
Friday 8:30 am	December 9 † Grace & Murray Toomey, req. by M.L. & Helen Toomey
Saturday 5:00 pm	December 10 † Pauline & Elizabeth Bourke, req. by Don Bourke Wellbeing of Marcia Hogan, req. by Barry Hogan Wellbeing of Suzanne Loughran Plum, req. by Bill Loughran
Sunday 8:30 am	December 11 † Michael Azif, req. by Barbagallo's In Thanksgiving, req. by Maher Family Wellbeing of Richard F. Black, DMD, req. by Steve & Suzi Black Living & Deceased of our Parish
11:00 am	

REMEMBER THE SICK Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Jim Cowgill, Jr., Peter Hanna, Sandy Rodrigues, John Harris, Stephen Black, Mary Alice Zittle, Alvaro Arealo, Michelline Toulouse, Kari Albertson, Paul Ristow, Ed Fetscher, Margaret Donato, Ted Petoniak, Jean Armstrong, Matt Keyzers, Marianne Dougherty, Sister Maire O'Dea, Loretta Polizano, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rae Pietrzak, Tom Casey, Tom Drohan, Charles Benoit, Francisco Viseda

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#. For more info, please call Mary Kennedy at 954-290-1194. We will be sharing from the Gospel of Matthew, with Arthur Cholakakis facilitating.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration takes place in our Chapel of the Divine Healer on Fridays from after the 8:30 am Mass until 5:00 pm. Please consider this opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord in prayer. If you'd like to commit to a specific time slot each week, please call the office.

Save the Date!

MINISTRY FAIR: Saturday & Sunday
Dec. 3 & 4 after each Mass

NOVA SINGERS: Tuesday, December 6th,
7:30 pm in the church

S.S.C.C.W. Friday, December 9th at 9:00 am in
the Parish Hall with a performance by
St. Anthony Middle School Choir.

Advent is here. Please be as generous as possible with non-perishable food items ensure that needy families have food for their Christmas table. Our church shopping carts await your gifts! 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.*



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - HOLY DAY

This Thursday, December 8th, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a holy day of obligation, which honors our Blessed Mother's conception without sin. Masses at St. Sebastian will be celebrated at 8:30 am and 6:00 pm.



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

The special collection next weekend will be for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Across the U.S, hundreds of Religious Communities lack sufficient resources to meet the retirement and health care needs of aging members. Please give generously to next week's collection in gratitude for the sisters, priests and brothers who have so generously given of themselves. Plan to use the specially designated envelopes either in your boxed set, or those which will be in the pews next weekend.

NOVA SINGERS HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Nova Singers will present their Holiday Concert with Brass & Percussion at St. Sebastian on Tuesday, December 6th, beginning at 7:30 pm in our church. The concert will feature favorites from "Christmas at the Movies" and Kevin Memley's "Gloria", a New Arrangement of Silent Night, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, Ocho Kandelikas, and audience favorites including Rudolph, Jingle Bells, African Noel. Tickets are available in advance in the Parish Office for \$20. (\$25. on Concert Day). Children 12 & under free, as well as students of any age with a school ID. Tickets may also be purchased at Nova.edu/novasingers.

For unto us a Child is born.

Unto us a Son is given.

*And there was a multitude of Angels
singing Glory to God in the highest.*

St. Sebastian Council of Catholic Women

Invites Parishioners and Guests

Friday, December 9, 2022

9:00 am Continental Breakfast

9:30 am Concert



**St. Anthony Middle School Choir
Presents their Christmas Program in Msgr. McDonnell Hall**