

Fourth Sunday of Advent

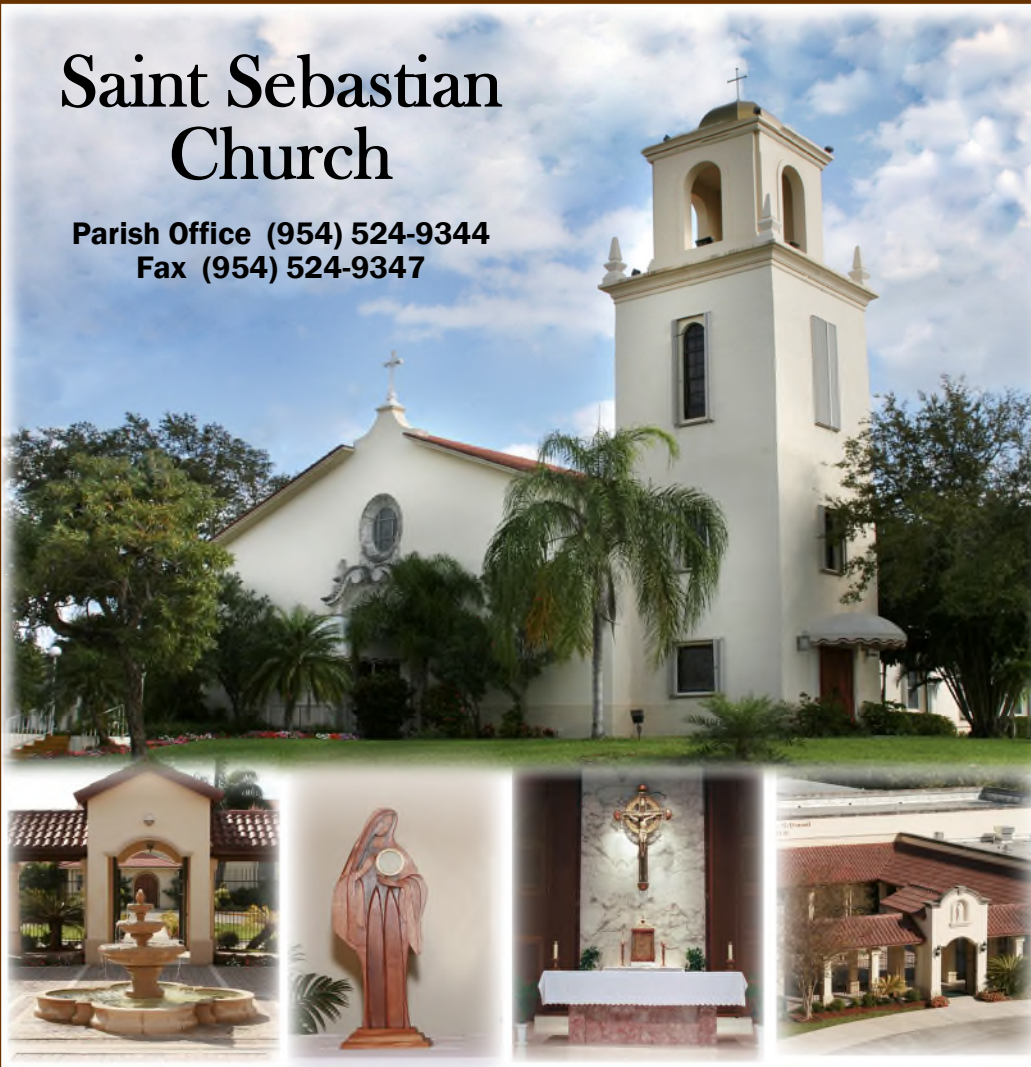
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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,

With one week to go we ask the Lord to help us ramp up our anticipation of the feast of Christmas 2022. I found a great reflection by Christopher Wells about a homily Pope Francis gave five years ago today. The Pope spoke of St. Joseph.

In difficulties, in troubles, in darkness, we learn from St Joseph who knew “how to walk in darkness,” “how to listen to the voice of God,” “how to go forward in silence.” Jesus, he explained, was born of Mary, the spouse of Joseph, the son of David.

The Pope reflected on the emotions felt by Joseph when the signs of Mary’s pregnancy appeared after she returned from the house of Elizabeth: He spoke of his “doubts,” his “sorrow,” of his “suffering,” while all around him people began to murmur – the “gossip of the neighborhood.” He “did not understand,” but he knew that Mary was “a woman of God”: and so, he decided “to send her away quietly,” not accusing her publicly. Such was his intention until “the Lord intervened,” through an angel, in a dream, who explained how the child had been conceived in her through the Holy Spirit. And so “he believed and obeyed”:

“Joseph fought within himself; in that struggle, the voice of God is heard: ‘But get up’ — that ‘Get up’ which is heard so many times in the Bible at the beginning of a mission — ‘Take Mary, bring her to your home. Take charge of the situation; take this situation in hand and go forward.’ Joseph didn’t go to his friends to be comforted, he didn’t go to a psychiatrist so that he could interpret the dream. No... He believed. And he went forward. He took the situation in hand. But what must you take in hand, Joseph? What was the situation? What was it that Joseph had to take up? Two things: fatherhood, and mystery.”

First, the Pope continued, Joseph had to take charge of “fatherhood.” And this is already

implied in the genealogy of Jesus, which explains how He “was thought to be the son of Joseph:

“He took on a paternity that was not his own: it came from the Father. And he went ahead with that fatherhood and all it signified: not only supporting Mary and the Child, but also raising the Child, teaching Him his trade, bringing Him up to manhood. ‘Take up a paternity that is not yours, but God’s.’ And this, without saying a word. In the Gospel, there is not a single word spoken by Joseph. A man of silence, of silent obedience.”

Joseph is also the man who “takes in hand” the mystery. The first Reading explains that it is the mystery of “bringing the people back to God,” the mystery of the re-Creation — which, as the liturgy tells us, is “even more wondrous” than the first.

“Joseph took in hand this mystery and helps with silence, with his work, up to the moment when God called him to Himself. It is said of this man, who took up fatherhood and mystery, that he was the shadow of the Father: the shadow of God the Father. And if the man Jesus learned to say ‘daddy,’ ‘father,’ to His Father Who He knew as God, He learned it from life, from the witness of Joseph, the man who took care of Him, the man who raised Him, the man who carried forward every paternity and every mystery, but took nothing for himself.”

This, Pope Francis said, is “the great Joseph,” who God needed to carry forward “the mystery of leading the people anew to the new Creation.”

Talk about being needed! As I think about it, I realize that Joseph was a model for me. God chooses me, too, as well as each one of you. He chooses to need us! Imagine that.

Reconciliation Service Tuesday Night at 6:30! Your Sins are most welcome!!!!

Happy Preparation!

In Jesus,

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	December 17 † Luigi Salvaneschi, req. by Mimi Bauer Wellbeing of Barry Hogan, req. by Marcia Hogan Wellbeing of Suzanne Loughran Plum, req. by Bill Loughran
Sunday 8:30 am	December 18 † Dolores Fink, req. by Sandra Polselli † Irving Waldman, req. by Al & Lila Ferzacca † Larry Morriessey, req. by Wife, Karen, and children
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish
Monday 8:30 am	December 19 † Jean Armstrong
Tuesday 8:30 am	December 20 † Deceased of the Rowley & Gardner Families
Wednesday 8:30 am	December 21 People of Ukraine
Thursday 8:30 am	December 22 Priests of our Archdiocese
Friday 8:30 am	December 23 † Souls in Purgatory
Saturday 5:00 pm	December 24 † Marie & Alfred Caron, req. by Don Bourke † Pasquale Polselli, req. by Sandra Polselli Wellbeing of Suzanne Loughran Plum, req. by Bill Loughran
8:00 pm	Our Parishioners and Benefactors
Sunday 8:30 am	December 25 † Charles & Marie Maher, req. by Maher Family † Dolores Hesse Fink, req. by The Fink Family
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish

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 Arevalo, Michelline Toulouse, Kari Albertson, Paul Ristow, Ed Fetscher, Margaret Donato, Ted Petoniak, Matt Keysers, Marianne Dougherty, Sister Maire O’Dea, Loretta Polizano, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rae Pietrzak, Tom Casey, Tom Drohan, Charles Benoit

IN MEMORIUM

+ JEAN ARMSTRONG +
December 7, 2022

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

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 Cholakis facilitating.

Save the Date!

Tuesday, December 20th, 6:30 pm -
Advent Reconciliation Service

Friday, January 20, 2023
Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by
Men’s Club

Saturday, March 11, 2023
Luncheon at Tropical Acres
sponsored by
Council of Catholic Women

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“He who has a generous eye will be blessed for he gives of his bread to the poor.” (Proverbs 22:9) Let’s use our generous eye to fill our church shopping carts with non-perishable food and hygiene items to benefit our less fortunate neighbors in the community. 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

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.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

All couples married in the Catholic Church celebrating their first, 25th, 50th or 50 plus Wedding Anniversary in 2023 are invited to a Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023 to receive a blessing from Archbishop Thomas Wenski. Couples interested in having their picture taken with Archbishop Wenski should arrive by 4:00pm with Mass starting at 5:30pm. For more information, and to register, please contact Susana Diaz at the Archdiocese of Miami for Parish Life at 305-762-1127 or email at sdiaz@theadom.org.

HELP FOR UKRAINE

As Ukrainians flee from the Russian bombardments **Catholic Relief Services** and its Caritas partners are on the ground ready. Across Ukraine and in bordering countries, they provide safe shelter, hot meals, hygiene supplies, transport to safe areas, counseling and more. Donations can be made directly to CRS: Online: support.crs.org/ukraine; Phone: 1-877-HELP-CRS; By check: Ukraine Response, Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, Maryland 21297-0303.

Prepare the Way of the Lord!

Christmas Schedule

Communal Reconciliation Service:

Tuesday, December 20th at 6:30 pm.

Saturday, December 24th, Christmas Eve ~

Masses will be celebrated at:

5:00 pm

8:00 pm

Sunday, December 25th, Christmas Day ~

Masses will be celebrated at:

8:30 am

11:00 am