

# Christmas-The Nativity of the Lord

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

[info@stsebastianfl.org](mailto: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](http://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,

In the midst of all the things we do to prepare for celebrating Christmas, I'm very aware that under all the "Merrys," I feel a wonderful "Happy."

I hope I haven't already lost you so early in the *Twitch*.

"Merry" reminds me of all the wonderful things past that I recall from a long line of Christmases. Tree shopping with Dad... the smell of real pine throughout the house... fancier ornaments toward the top of the tree out of reach of the latest toddler...

Saving ten dollars and buying Christmas presents for the *whole* family - nine other people, for that \$10... I think Old Spice for Dad was \$1.00

Riding my bike to Church to serve Midnight Mass and no one being worried about my being out at that time of night...

Reruns of all the old Christmas movies, with Jimmy Stewart's angel, Clarence, in "It's a Wonderful Life" ... "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street" when Santa sent folks to Gimbels from Macy's because Macy's was out of something (or was it the other way around?)...

Waiting for the Christmas season to start as soon as you finished the Thanksgiving turkey... although now somewhat sadly, it seems Halloween is the new starting time...

Asking Mom what she wanted for Christmas and getting the standard (and maddening) answer: "Good children"...

Fast forward to last Tuesday and my finding Sue and Scott Martinez, Ann Murry, Carolyn Kervin, Susie O'Leary and Fr Del Provino all decorating the Main Sanctuary... (Fr Del pastors a small community, but loves to do arrangements and you see his work every Sunday)... also, part of the décor are the poinsettias that Sandy and Matt Keyzers sent, as Matt continues to work at

recovering... in the past they have always done our courtyard hanging baskets...

Imagine all those wonderful impressions and memories on one quick visit to a great group of people...

SO, I'm greeting people with "Happy Christmas." I say Happy Christmas because somehow, that helps me see beyond all the visible beautiful decorations and customs, and go to the heart of the 'reason for the season.'

As they say,

Jesus, come among us,  
Jesus who comes to the human family,  
Jesus who makes us His brothers and Sisters,  
Jesus who takes us home to His Father,  
and our Father.

**That makes me "Happy."**

I am enjoying all the cards we are receiving and I save them for the coming year when each day I will take one of the cards and pray for the people who sent it.

I had been trying to send a postcard to folk when their day came up, but I got a little behind and I finally said to myself, I know they will get the prayers whether I send them a note about it or not.

SO next April 15<sup>th</sup> when you get a little twinge, maybe it WON'T be the IRS, but my little prayer for you.

Anyway, maybe you'd think about doing that, too. Save your cards. Then each day during the year, pick a card and pray for the people who sent it, one each day. It makes a nice gift that lasts.

We (Annie, Patricio, Cathy, Peter, Her Yippyness, and me) wish you a **HAPPY Christmas**,

In Jesus,



Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 24 - Christmas Eve</b> † Marie & Alfred Caron, req. by Don Bourke † Pasquale Polselli, req. by Sandra Polselli Wellbeing of Suzanne Loughran Plum, req. by Bill Loughran
<b>8:00 pm</b>	Our Parishioners and Benefactors
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 25</b> † Charles & Marie Maher, req. by Maher Family † Dolores Hesse Fink, req. by The Fink Family † Kay Anselmo, req. by Jacquie Anselmo
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish
<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 26</b> † Jean Armstrong, req. by Tom & Shirley Gleason
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 27</b> People of Ukraine
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 28</b> Wellbeing of the Albertson Family
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 29</b> † Larry Pietrzak, req. by Sundermeier, Fadden, Jordan & McKay Families
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>December 30</b> † Jean Armstrong, req. by Judy & Loretta
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 31</b> Priests of our Archdiocese
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 1, 2023</b> † Dolores Fink, req. by Sandra Polselli † Pasquale Polselli, req. by Sandra Polselli
11:00 am	Peace in Ukraine

REMEMBER THE SICK

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

gill, 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, Sister Maire O'Dea, Loretta Polizano, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rae Pietrzak, Tom Casey, Tom Drohan, Charles Benoit

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.

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!

**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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What gifts shall we give to Jesus on His birthday? He has already been given gold, frankincense and myrrh, so that's out. Let's give a very, very generous amount of non-perishable food and hygiene items to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank in Jesus' name, via our church shopping carts. Thanks to all our loyal parishioners who have so generously given to the needy in our community. **Merry Christmas!** 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 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and will be closed at 3:45). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.**



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

All couples married in the Catholic Church celebrating their first, 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> 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](http://support.crs.org/ukraine); Phone: 1-877-HELP-CRS; By check: Ukraine Response, Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, Maryland 21297-0303.

*To all who join us today,  
we wish you Christmas Blessings  
in abundance!*

*O Come let us adore Him...*



*Christ the Lord!*