

Feast of the Holy Family

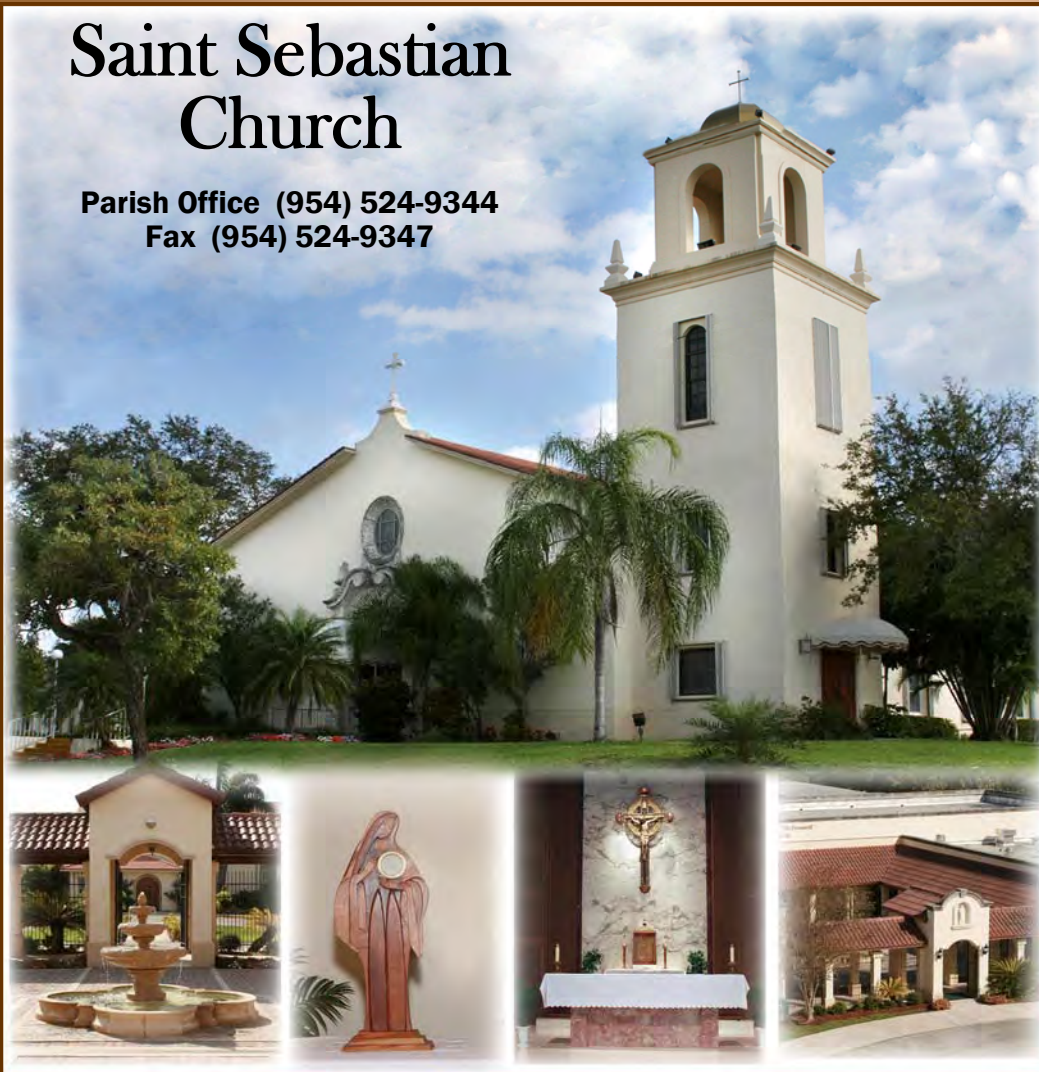
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Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

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
Ann Murry
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.

or Otherwise?

Msgr. Jim Fetischer

Dear Family,

Each week I begin the *Twitch* with 'Dear Family.' Today is the Feast of the Holy Family. For the fun of it, I took a trip to one of my favorite language sites: <https://www.etymonline.com> and checked out "family."

Boy, was I surprised! I won't quote the whole thing, but here are a few snippets:

early 15c., "servants of a household," from Latin *familia* "family servants, domestics collectively, the servants in a household," thus also "members of a household, the estate, property; the household, including relatives and servants," abstract noun formed from *famulus* "servant, slave," which is of unknown origin.

The Latin word *rarely* appears in the sense "parents with their children," for which *domus ...was used*. Derivatives of *famulus* include *famula* "serving woman, maid," *famulanter* "in the manner of a servant," *famulitas* "servitude," *familiaris* "of one's household, private," *familiaricus* "of household slaves," *familiaritas* "close friendship."

As time went on the usage evolved into what we normally use, not only referencing "kinfolk" but many types of groupings.

What touched me so much was discovering that at the core of the idea of family was people being in service to someone. When you think about Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, doesn't the notion of service ring perfectly? They were truly in service to each other.

What is it we want to celebrate on this feast day of "The Holy Family?" Service works for me. And I think I want to preface service with "Loving." I look around me and I see all my small and large families. When I am looking with a good eye, I see opportunities for service and sometimes actually do it.

And how much service I receive from Annie and Patricio, and the gently enlarging circles of family to Judy and Miriam and Peter and Cathy, to the 50+ people who lead and share ministries, to the peacocks (weekly cruising visitors), the snowbirds, and of course the year-round sunbirds.

I think of my blood family of brothers and sisters and their family circles in turn: what a blessing. We are seven as you know, and I find myself sitting here laughing at memories of Daddy trying to get the attention of one or another of us if he was annoyed. He would have to run thru the list until he got to the person he was after: "Jimmy, Dennis, Patty, Eddie, Peter, Judy, Cathy..." He died too early, but he made the remark before he died that he hoped he had passed along whatever it was he was supposed to teach us by that time. He did.

I've remarked here before how blessed I know I am to have the family and the families I have. It is so painful to see situations where that is not the case. Too often, ruptured family situations can be the most hurting of all.

May the Holy Family help us be forgiving. I go back to one of my regular "wisdoms." Forgiveness is a decision, not a feeling. I *decide* to forgive with my head, my will. You can say you don't wish someone in hell and that's the truth no matter how hurtful things might have been. "God, don't let there be anything between you and Harry as a result of anything that has passed between me and Harry."

You might still *feel* bad about Harry, but one of the biggest mistakes people make is thinking that because they may still feel bad, that somehow, they are not capable of forgiving. It's the perfect temptation of the Devil. Once you can realize that truth, I think painful hurts and memories can ease, maybe even heal. You can forgive although you still feel bad. That's when you call in the heavy artillery and ask the Holy Family to be there. You don't have to figure it all out. You just need to let them be there with you. That's what families do, and we have a Holy One!!!

This is the last time you'll see 2021 on a *Twitch*. Here's to holiness and health in 2022!

In Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,



Mass Intentions

Saturday 8:30 am	December 25 - Christmas Day † Charles & Marie Maher, req. by Family † Alfonso Castaneda, req. by Family
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish
Sunday 8:30 am	December 26 † Intentions of the Cowgill Family
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish
Monday 8:30 am	December 27 † Murray Fried, req. by Rosemary & Jim Guerin † Joan Duva, req. by Mimi Klein
Tuesday 8:30 am	December 28 † Kenneth McGinity, req. by Mary Kennedy
Wednesday 8:30 am	December 29 † Souls in Purgatory, req. by Richard Schmelz Family
Thursday 8:30 am	December 30 † Joan Duva, req. by Ann Murry
Friday 8:30 am	December 31 † Regina McDonald, req. by Frank Maguire
Saturday 8:30 am	January 1 In Thanksgiving
5:00 pm	Living & Deceased of our Parish

REMEMBER THE SICK

Nanchine McManus, Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Jim Cowgill, Jr., Peter Hanna, Sandy Rodriguez, Lee Rodriguez, John Masna, Margaret Reitz, John Harris, Charlotte Newbury, Stephen Black, Jo Neumann, John E. Hurley, Sophia Schwab, Jonathan Hughes, Kathleen Gerium, Mary Alice Zittle, Michael Cavallaro, David Calhoun, Alvaro Arevalo, Trebor Wright, Michelline Toulouse, Margaret Farragher, Mary McGuire

DIAL-IN FOR BIBLE SHARING

Participate in our teleconferencing Scripture sharing: Call in starts at 9:05 and sharing begins at 9:15 each Thursday morning. Dial 848-777-1212. When prompted, put in 1431434 #. We will be sharing from the Book of Jeremiah. Call Mary at 954.290.1194 or Carole at 954.529.6547 for info. Please join us!

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

Are you suffering from the pain of abortion? God's greatest gift is to forgive you and show you his mercy. Confidential help is available. Contact Project Rachel Ministries at 1-888-456- HOPE. Don't wait. Our God is a loving and merciful God.

Best Wishes for a happy, holy and healthy New Year!



"Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty...and did not take care of you?" (Matt. 5:44) We know the answer to that question; when we ignore the hungry in our community. Let's not be guilty of ignoring the Lord. Let's keep filling our church shopping carts with non-perishable food (*no glass containers, please*) and hygiene items to help our less fortunate neighbors. To care is to share. If you know of any one in need, please tell them that a drive thru grocery distribution takes place every Friday from 1:30-4 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1701 E. Oakland Park Blvd (entrance to parking lot on NE 33rd Street and closes at 3:45). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.

IS JANUARY 1 A DAY OF OBLIGATION?

It can be confusing to remember which of the Holy Days we are expected to participate in Mass. Following is an excerpt from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, which may be helpful. "On December 13, 1991 the members of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops of the United States of America made the following general decree concerning holy days of obligation for Latin Rite Catholics: ... **"Whenever January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, or August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption, or November 1, the solemnity of All Saints, falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, the precept to attend Mass is abrogated."**

*However, since this is a special day in the life of the Church, we will **celebrate Mass on Saturday, January 1 at 8:30 am.***

So, in summary, the Church doesn't say you are obligated, to attend, but we will celebrate Mass on January 1st for those wishing to attend.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Our **2022 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are still in production at the company.

PLEASE USE THE TEMPORARY ENVELOPES IN THE PEWS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022.

If you wish to have us keep a record of your donation for 2022, Your 2021 ENVELOPE NUMBER and NAME are essential.

Thanks for your patience.

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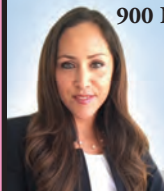
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