

The Epiphany of the Lord

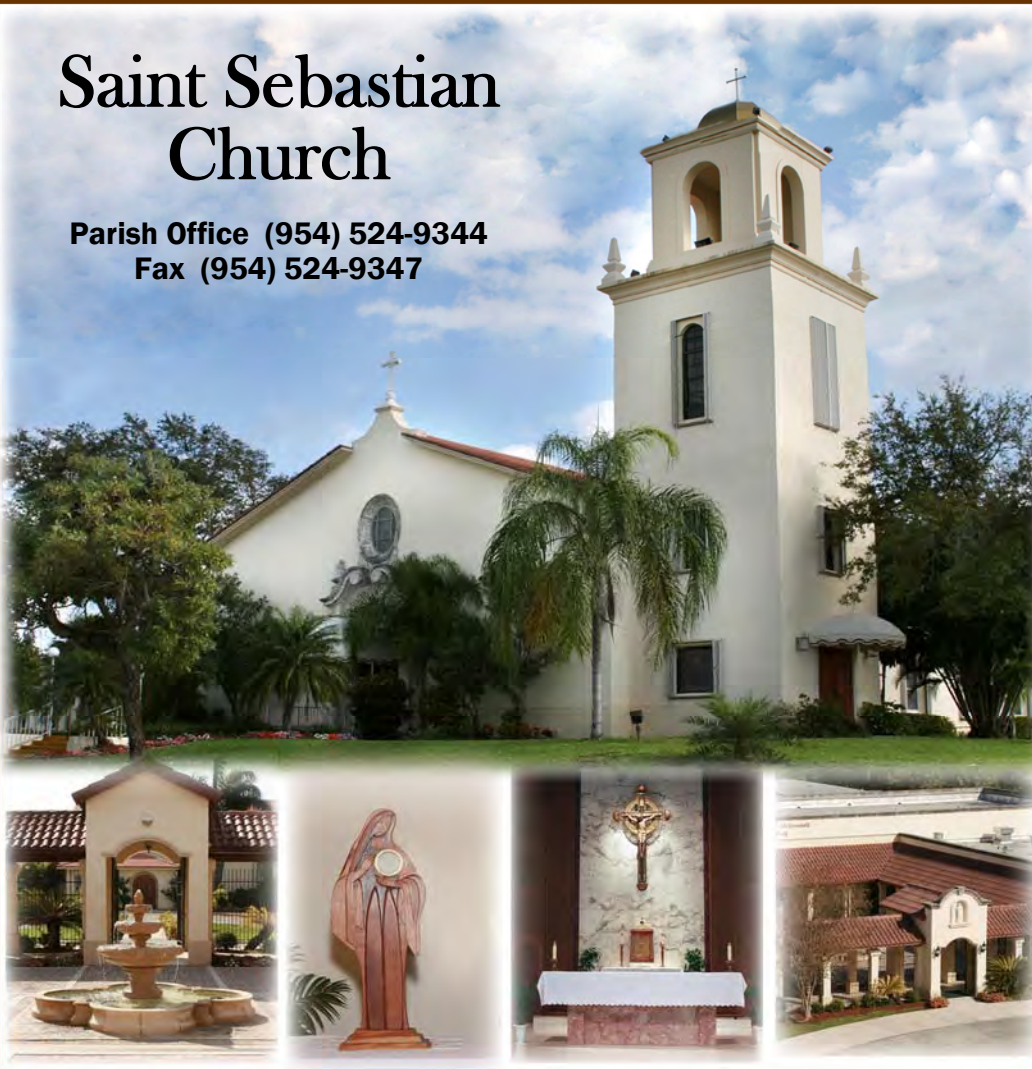
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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,

Epiphany, literally, “a coming upon light.” The Wise Men come upon the Light. They followed the Star, the light. And lo and behold, the light of eternity is revealed to them.

The gifts they bring foreshadow the destiny of Jesus. Gold is for kings. Frankincense is for worship. Myrrh is for burial rites.

The Magi were seekers. Perhaps their intense search is the point of Matthew’s story of the Magi. Only Matthew mentions them. When you do a little bit of research, you realize why. I highly recommend that you check out an article entitled, “Can Astronomy Explain the Biblical Star of Bethlehem?” Type that question into a search box and you’ll find a very interesting article reprinted in USNEWS.

Matthew’s gospel was written primarily for the Jewish community and prophecies were important. The Magi ask around in Jerusalem, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We have seen his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” Herod the King felt threatened and if Herod was threatened, then all Jerusalem feared what he would do. The Holy Innocents!...

The coming of these gentile astrologers and mathematicians becomes a powerful way of saying that the Messiah is destined to be savior for all people.

More than simple prophetic fulfillment, I think Matthew wants to underline how important this “new king” would be for all the world. I wonder if Matthew is saying to us, “See how important these foreigners thought Jesus was?” Matthew might also be saying, “Would you go to that much trouble to find someone you thought was important?”

By their journey, the Magi challenge us to realize our own destiny, to be light bearers as well. My personal challenge is to ask myself, to what lengths am I willing

to go, to discover **light** with someone, or for someone, and then share it.

GEAR SHIFT. Speaking of shared light, I can’t thank you enough for all the Christmas cards and good wishes you sent to me, Annie, Patricio, Cathy, and Peter. We are very grateful. “You light up our lives...” (Does that sound like a song lyric?) I hope we are showing our appreciation for you as well. That’s the “sharing” I mean in the previous paragraph, two-way sharing.

All my Christmas cards go into a basket on the dining room table. Each day, I will take one of those cards and pray for the people who sent it. Remembering friends and experiences brings a little light to each day that wouldn’t have been there.

Last weekend for the first time since March of 2020, except for Christmas and Easter, our attendance topped 300, 310 to be exact. I think of you gathered within our walls, sending out lots of prayerful peace to relatives, friends, and people in need. Your prayer extends the Lord’s touch to those folk who can’t or maybe won’t come.

The phrase “holy day of obligation,” i.e., the days when we are supposed to come and celebrate Mass, always seemed to me to sound a little like a burden rather than a blessing. BUT, the idea of “obligation” can remind us how important Eucharist is for our spiritual life. An occasional reminder not to forget a most important gift we have received in the here-and-now, blesses even the most virtuous of us.

I wondered if getting out of the habit of going to Mass during the COVID period diminished the sense of the importance of Sunday Eucharist for some people. Happily, last Sunday’s 310 said we haven’t been diminished. We are more grateful than ever.

With gratitude, I’m yours in Jesus,



Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	January 7 † Thomas Caron, req. by Don Bourke † Ann Rentoumis, req. by Mimi Bauer † Jean Korosh, req. by Fuccillo Family
Sunday 8:30 am	January 8 † Kevin Rebholz, req. by Men's Club † Dr. Sister Helen Burke, req. by Don Bourke Living & Deceased of our Parish
11:00 am	† Carole Macneir, req. by Family
Monday 8:30 am	January 9 Wellbeing of the Albertson Family Peace in Ukraine
Tuesday 8:30 am	January 10 Wellbeing of Marcia Hogan, req. by Barry Hogan
Wednesday 8:30 am	January 11 † James Curley, req. by wife
Thursday 8:30 am	January 12 † Richard Christie, req. by Mary Rubino Family
Friday 8:30 am	January 13 Priests of our Archdiocese
Saturday 5:00 pm	January 14 † Lloyd Potter, req. by Jarchow Family † David Horney, req. by Don Bourke
Sunday 8:30 am	January 15 † Dolores Fink, req. by Sandra Polselli
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish

REMEMBER THE SICK

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

gill, Jr., Sandy Rodrigues, John Harris, Stephen Black, Mary Alice Zittle, Alvaro Arevalo, Michelline Toulouse, Kari Albertson, Paul Ristow, Ed Fetscher, Margaret Donato, Ted Petoniak, Matt Keyzers, Sister Maire O'Dea, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rae Pietrzak, Tom Casey, Tom Drohan, Charles Benoit, Rob Messerschmidt

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.

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. Mass starts at 5:30pm. For info. and to register, contact Susana Diaz at the Archdiocese of Miami for Parish Life at 305-762-1127 or email at sdiaz@theadom.org.

Save the Date!

Friday, January 20, 2023

Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by Men's Club

Friday, February 17, 2023

Fish Fry

Saturday, March 11, 2023

Paddy-Joe Luncheon at Tropical Acres sponsored by Council of Catholic Women

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During the month of December (4 Fridays as they were closed on Dec 23), the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank at Blessed Sacrament Church served 150 clients representing 422 people.

The donations (both financial and food) from the "regular" parishes as well as others who did a special holiday drive were overwhelmingly generous. Thanks to each and every one for the support as well as prayers for this ministry. The total number of clients assisted in 2022 was 7,581 families which represents 21,033 individuals. They would not have been able to do this without your contributions as well as the hard work of their faithful volunteers. Let's keep up the good work... 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.***



ST. JOSEPH'S RESIDENCE

A caring Assisted Living facility, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Miami, offering furnished apartments or suites, 24/7 nurse on duty and emergency pull cord systems. They provide three meals served daily, weekly housekeeping and laundry, as well as assistance in bathing, dressing, and monitoring medications. There is a beautiful chapel offering scheduled and private worship... all for a reasonable monthly rate. For more information, please call 954.739.1483.

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.



Men's Club of St. Sebastian Church Hosting Annual

SPAGHETTI  DINNER

Friday, January 20, 2023
Doors open 6:00 pm • Dinner at 6:30 pm



**Traditional
Italian Cuisine
and Live Entertainment**

\$\$ 50/50 Raffle \$\$

Reserved Tables Available

Tickets available in the Office or after all Masses

Advance Dinner Ticket: \$30

No Refunds Please

Call to reserve your Table or Individual Tickets (954) 524-9344

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