

Fourth Sunday of Lent

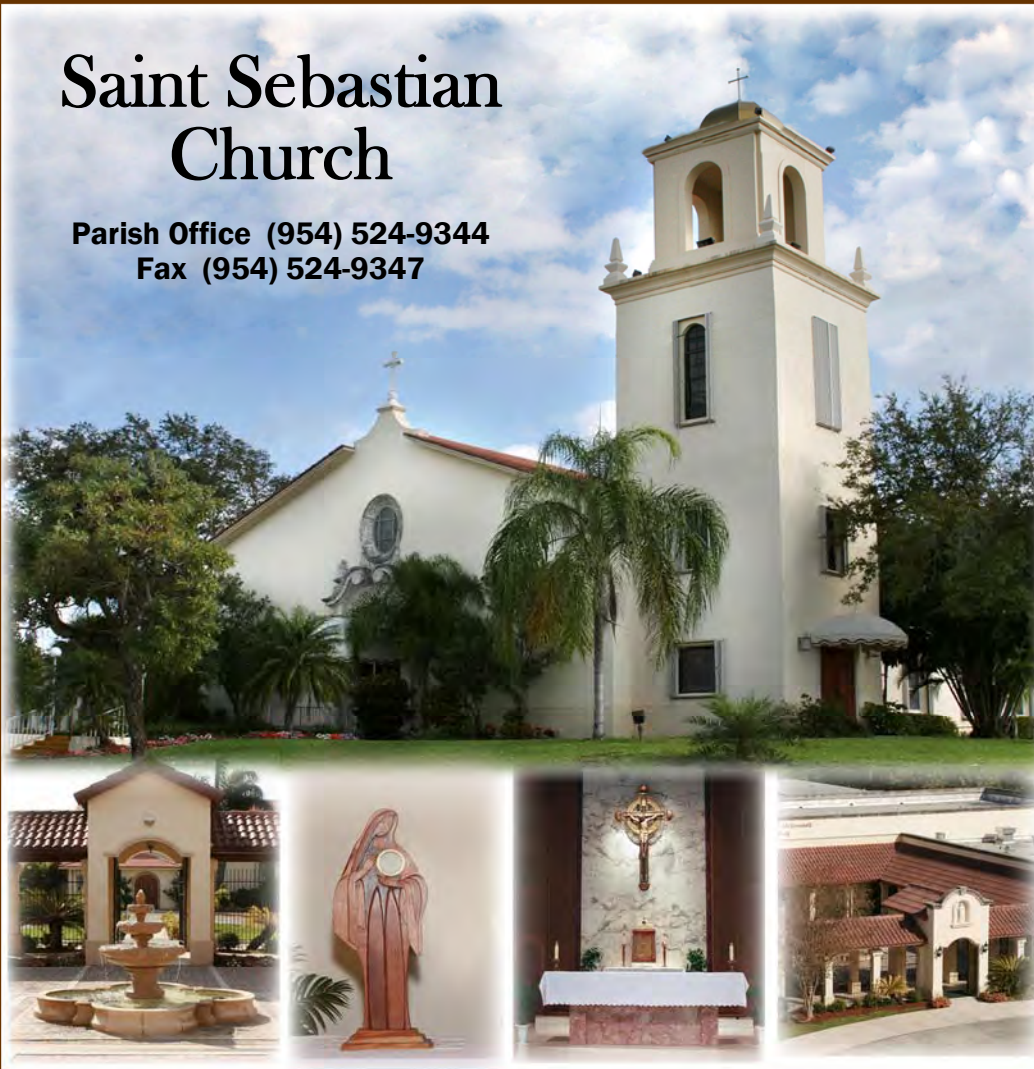
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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,

Normally March 19th is the feast of Saint Joseph. The great feast day is moved to tomorrow, the 20th, so we can continue on our Lenten journey. May Patrick and Joseph be our guides.

Our gospel story today is about the man born blind and his cure. It is the fourth of the five great Lenten stories, the gospel accounts of

- 1 - the temptation of Jesus,
- 2 - the Transfiguration,
- 3 - the woman at the well,
- 4 - today's story of the man born blind, and
- 5 - the raising of Lazarus from the dead,

offer us a basic catechism about Christian living.

Can you pick out a line from those stories to reflect on? For me, I got:

- 1 - "Get behind me , Satan."
- 2 - "Do not be afraid."
- 3 - "Give me living water."
- 4 - "Go wash in the Pool."
- 5 - "Lazarus, come out."

Hopefully, in today's homilies I can stretch out a little of what's going on between Jesus and the leaders of the temple. I suspect one aspect that challenges me is dealing with legalisms that keep us from seeing the truth, or if we see the truth, then being able to act on it.

The blind man's parents were caught in a total no-win situation, and perhaps to inject a current phrase into a biblical story, they were simply engaging in serious CYA activity. We just don't understand how serious it would have been for anyone in the time of Jesus to have been thrown out of the temple. It was social and economic ostracism at its worst.

A most encouraging scene for me was Jesus going and looking for the cured blind man after the authorities threw him out of the temple. Imagine hearing Jesus say that the Son of Man is the one speaking with you. Talk about getting your sight *AND* your insight kicked up a notch.

We still have three weeks until Easter to clean up our acts. In terms of "giving up things for Lent," have you seen these suggestions from Pope Francis?



Boy, what a blessing it would be to "fast" like this. I think just slowly reading this list through may help me a lot in being more sensitive to the Spirit's promptings.

In Jesus,

P. S. Our heartfelt prayers and thanks go with Patrick O'Dea as he moves to Spain this week. Vaya con Dios y sus santos!

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	March 18 Wellbeing of Leo F. McGinity, req. by Grace Middlemiss Wellbeing of Joseph Rubino, req. by Mary Rubino Family Wellbeing of Jeffrey Lamp, req. by Abernethy Family
Sunday 8:30 am	March 19 † Jim Cowgill, Jr., & the wellbeing of his family, req. by Joan Morris † Charles & Marie Maher, req. by Maher Family † George W. Dermakar, req. by Anne Trainor
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish
Monday 8:30 am	March 20 † Michael Koons, req. by Cooney Family
Tuesday 8:30 am	March 21 † Michael & John McHugh, req. by Valerie and Richard
Wednesday 8:30 am	March 22 † Sara Martinez, req. by Bob & Kimberly Van Epps
Thursday 8:30 am	March 23 † James T. Cowgill, Jr., req. by Dana Mullaney & Family
Friday 8:30 am	March 24 Wellbeing of Lourdes & Jim Cowgill, req. by Barry & Marcia Hogan
Saturday 5:00 pm	March 25 † Angelina Barcello, req. by Family
Sunday 8:30 am	March 26 † Theresa M. Gardner † Dolores Hesse Fink, req. by husband, Jack † James T. Cowgill, Jr., req. by Shelley, Andrea, Ruby & Suzanne
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish

REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Sandy Rodrigues, John Harris, Stephen Black, Mary Alice Zittle, Alvaro Arevalo, Michelline Toulouse, Paul Ristow, Ed Fetscher, Margaret Donato, Matt Keyzers, Sister Maire O'Dea, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rae Pietrzak, Tom Casey, Charles Benoit, Rob Messerschmidt, Mary Pat Connolly, Joan Cooney, Matthew Mann, Anne McCormick

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.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Whatever You Ask In My Name

March 24-26 at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center. Space is limited. \$50. deposit. 561-626-1300 or www.ourladyofflorida.org. Carpool from the church.

SAVE THE DATE!

Weekend of March 24-26, 2023-Women's Retreat
Our Lady of Florida-Call Linda 954-604-5507.

March 25-26 - St. Vincent de Paul truck here

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (Hebrews 13:16) Our weekly contributions of non-perishable food and hygiene items to help those less fortunate than us must be pleasing to God. Let's keep filling our church shopping carts, especially during this season of Lent! 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.



SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The Catholic Relief Services Collection supports Catholic Church organizations that carry out international relief and solidarity efforts. Programs include relief and resettlement for victims of persecution, war, and natural disasters; development projects to improve living conditions for the poor; legal and support services for poor immigrants; peace and reconciliation work for people suffering from violence; and advocacy on behalf of the powerless.

PARISH CRUISE

Scheduled for October 12-27. Ports of call in Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Aruba and ending in Port Everglades. \$600. deposit due by March 24th. See more information on the back of this bulletin. Contact Lou Abitabilo at 570-955-0470 or 570-237-5128 or at labitabilo@dreamvacations.com

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowls – which are at the church doors - families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all. Please consider donating the money you save by your Lenten fasting to the CRS Rice Bowl. Return the filled Rice Bowl at Mass beginning March 26th. We'll combine all the donations and send a check to CRS.

SANDWICH MINISTRY

Sandwich Ministry will meet on Saturday, March 25th at 8:30 am in the Parish Hall to make bagged lunches for some of our homeless brothers and sisters. All willing hands and hearts are welcome!

There will be an Appreciation Party for "Sandwich Makers" on Thursday, March 23 at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Please RSVP to Lois Pittler at 954-779-7225 by Wednesday, March 22, so she will know how much pizza to order!

SSCCW CASH RAFFLE WINNERS

First Prize: (\$500.) John Miller
Second Prize: (\$300.) Teresita Kelly
Third Prize: (\$100.) Mary Alice Zittle
Fourth Prize: (\$100.) Josephine Valdes
Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to both those who coordinated and supported this event!

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/StsebastianFL

St. Sebastian Church Cruise

**October 12, 2023 16 Day Panama Canal on Holland America Eurodam
sailing from San Diego CA to Ft. Lauderdale, FL**

Ports of Call:

- Puerto Vallarta, Mexico •
 - Huatulco, Mexico •
- Puerto Chiapas (Tapachula), Mexico •
 - Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala •
 - Corinto, Nicaragua •
- Puerto Caldera (Puntarenas), Costa Rica •
 - Enter Panama Canal •
 - Exit Panama Canal •
 - Oranjestad, Aruba •
- Ft. Lauderdale (Port Everglades), Florida

Highlights:

- Exceptional cuisine at Pinnacle Grill, Canaletto, Rembrandt Main Dining Room and innovative Tamarind Restaurant.
- Lincoln Center Onstage, Billboard Onboard, and B.B. King Blues Club new music venues.
- Expanded fitness center and extensive Greenhouse Spa and Salon.
- Outstanding service and terrific entertainment.

Your Package Includes:

Your package includes shipboard accommodations, ocean transportation, entertainment and daily activities, on-board meals and some beverages. It does not include shore excursions, personal expenses, gratuities, insurance, or alcoholic beverages.

Limited Balcony cabins available starting at \$3254 per person, which includes all taxes and fees plus \$175 on board cabin credit. "Have it All" promotion, insurance and transportation not included.

Contact

Lou Abitabilo

Independent Vacation Specialist

Dream Vacations

labitabilo@dreamvacations.com

570-955-0470 or 570-237-5128