

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

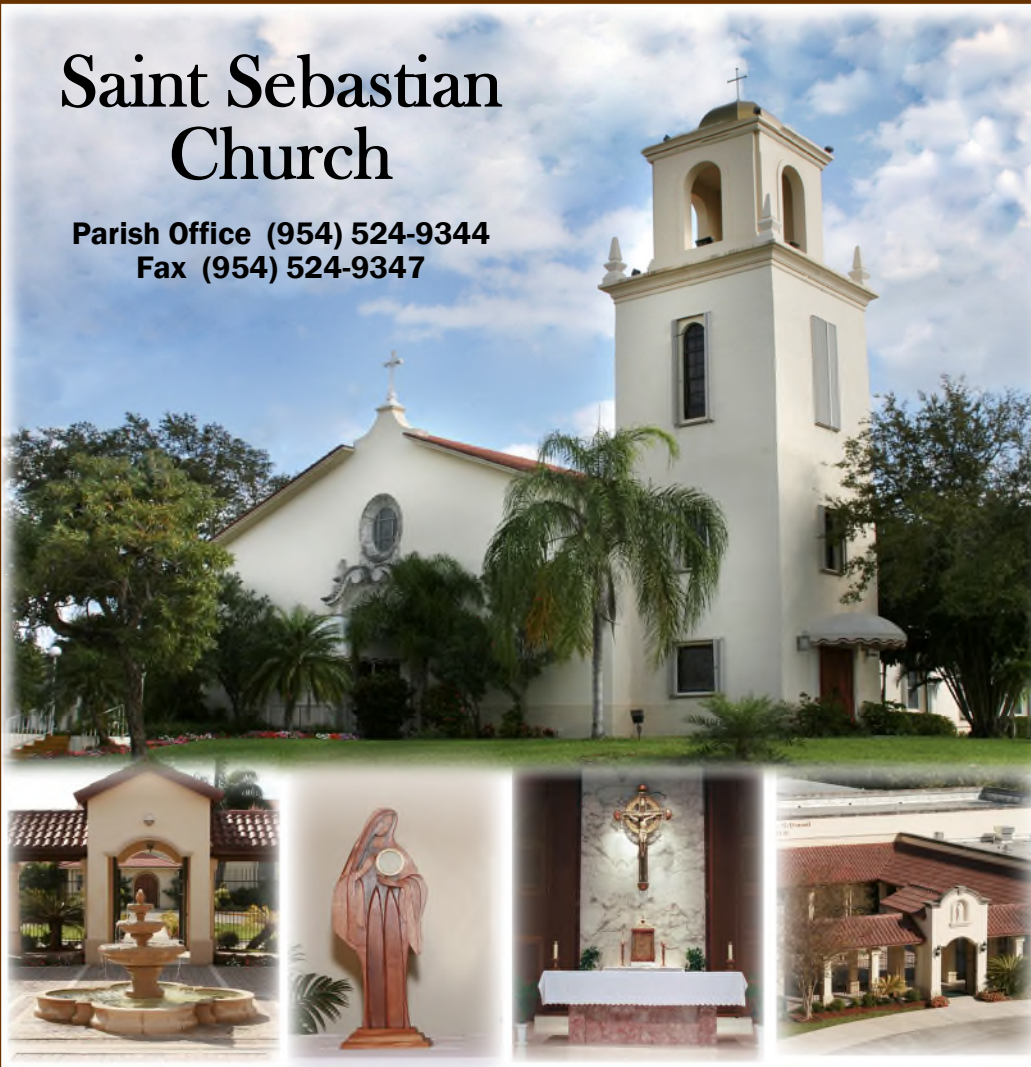
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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  
Richard Page  
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,

Happy Mother's Day. I did a little bit of reading about it, and my search reminded me that Mother's day has its origins in the early 1900's with Anna Jarvis who was not married nor a mother. She did it in memory of her own mother who was, among other things, a Civil War nurse.

The observation caught on very quickly and Woodrow Wilson made it official in 1914. Ironically, Anna was so distressed by the commercialism, (cards, flowers, gifts, etc.,) that grew up around the holiday, that she spent the rest of her life (she died in 1948) trying to reclaim the specific idea of a child simply honoring his or her own mother. Note it's Mother's and not Mothers' Day.

I read she died poor, having spent her wealth on trying to copyright the day's name, etc. The article said that florists and card-makers paid for her final days in a sanatorium in Philadelphia.

Maybe all that was too much information. As I read over it, I'm almost tempted to erase the whole story.

Perhaps what really needs to be remembered is that it all began because of her love for her own mother, and that's the point of today.

Of course, I think of my own mother today. She died in 1999 at age 87. She had seven children. I'm the oldest and some have said she had six more to prove to the world she could do better.

Dad died after 28 years of their marriage, and over the next 31 years she continued raising her children including returning to work when the youngest entered school. I remember her cautioning us at one point that her becoming a grandmother didn't mean we all automatically had a babysitter.

With all my heart I hope each of you have happy memories of your parents and especially your moms today. We will also recall our dads in June. Sometimes memories can hurt.

There are many stories of parents that we have known. Some were nothing less than heroic. Most would probably say that they were simply doing what being a parent required.

When I baptize babies, I tell the parents that they are the special environment of faith for their children. Everything a child learns about God's love begins with their love.

It happens in many different ways, like my non-Catholic father driving his Catholic wife and children to Mass every Sunday (and having the bacon and eggs ready when we got home from Mass.)

I remember Mom in a blue maternity dress with five of her children kneeling next to her at Mass. My duty as the oldest was to be at the other end. We were all very good in church, because it was a whole lot simpler. I don't know whether it was instinct on our part or maybe occasional clear warnings. Whatever, we knew it was simpler and wiser to be good.

As I said, I don't think Mom felt like she was nurturing our faith alone because Dad was always there. He chose to enter the Church later on, but that was a celebration of who he was and not what he was "becoming." Mom had a central part in that journey.

The happiest Mother's Day thought I can have now is that I know with as much certainty as I can have this side of the grave, that Mom and Dad are in the embrace of the Lord. May your memories be as rich. I know some are not, but now is the time to forgive if that's what is needed, for yourself as well as them.

Happy Mother's Day, Mom.

In Jesus,





## Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>May 13</b> † Grace & Murray Toomey, req. by M.L. Toomey † Marie Bourke, req. by Don Bourke Wellbeing of Barry Hogan, req. by Marcia Hogan
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 11:00 am	<b>May 14</b> Mother's Day Novena Living & Deceased of our Parish
<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 15</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 16</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 17</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 18</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Friday</b>	<b>May 19</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>May 20</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 11:00 am	<b>May 21</b> Living and Deceased of our Parish Mother's Day Novena

## SAVE THE DATE!

**Sunday, May 14th at 11:00 Mass -  
First Holy Communion**

**Saturday, May 20th at 8:30 am - Sandwich Ministry**

**Weekend of May 20-21 - St. Vincent de Paul truck in  
our parking lot.**

**Thursday, May 25 at 5:00 pm - Msgr. Jim's 55th  
Anniversary of Ordination Mass & Reception**

During the month of April, the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank at Blessed Sacrament served 623 clients representing 1757 individuals. All of this is possible because of the generous food and financial donations from individuals and surrounding parishes. They also have a very dedicated team of loyal volunteers who help with distribution each Friday as well as doing the preparation work every other day of the week. **ALSO:** The Pantry is in need of **plastic grocery bags** for food distribution and empty, clean **egg cartons**. At times, the Pantry receives donations of eggs in bulk, so egg cartons are needed to facilitate passing them along. You can place these items - along with your donations of food and hygiene items - in the shopping carts. Thank you! **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 residence in Broward County.



## 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, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rae Pietrzak, Tom Casey, Charles Benoit, Rob Messerschmidt, Mary Pat Connolly, Anne McCormick, Margaret Barrosse, Patricia Moss, Patty Marma, Joan Cook, Diane Johnson

## 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.

CONGRATULATIONS  
FIRST COMMUNICANTS!

*Congratulations to  
Marius Garbayo  
Ava Gutierrez*

As they receive Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time this Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Mass. Let us pledge to support them with our prayers, asking that they will always remain close to Our Lord and receive them often.

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**

## SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The Special collection next weekend is for the Catholic Communications Campaign. Through websites, social networks, television, radio, and print, the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) helps the Church spread the Gospel message through the media locally and nationally. Half of all donations to the CCC collected in your diocese stay in your diocese to support your local communications needs, such as radio and television programming and diocesan publications. Please plan to use the specially designated envelopes for your donation.

## MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA

A Novena of Masses for your mothers - living and deceased - will be celebrated beginning on Mother's Day and continuing through Monday, May 16th. If you would like to include your mother in the Novena, please write her name on the card which you can find in the pews and place it in the basket in the sanctuary. The basket will be placed on the altar during the Novena.

## PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

If you submitted a picture for our Parish Photo Directory back in February, your Directory is ready for pick-up! Please see Annie after Mass, or stop by the office during the week.

Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/StsebastianFL](http://www.facebook.com/StsebastianFL)

*Please join us on Thursday, May 25th  
for Mass at 5:00 p.m.  
& reception following in the Parish Hall  
in gratitude for*

*Monsignor Jim Fetscher  
on his  
55 years of  
Priesthood*

*and his Dedicated and loving Service  
to the Lord and God's people.*

*R.S.V.P. for Reception by Sunday, May 21st using  
the sign-up sheet at the church doors or at*

*954.524.9344*