

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

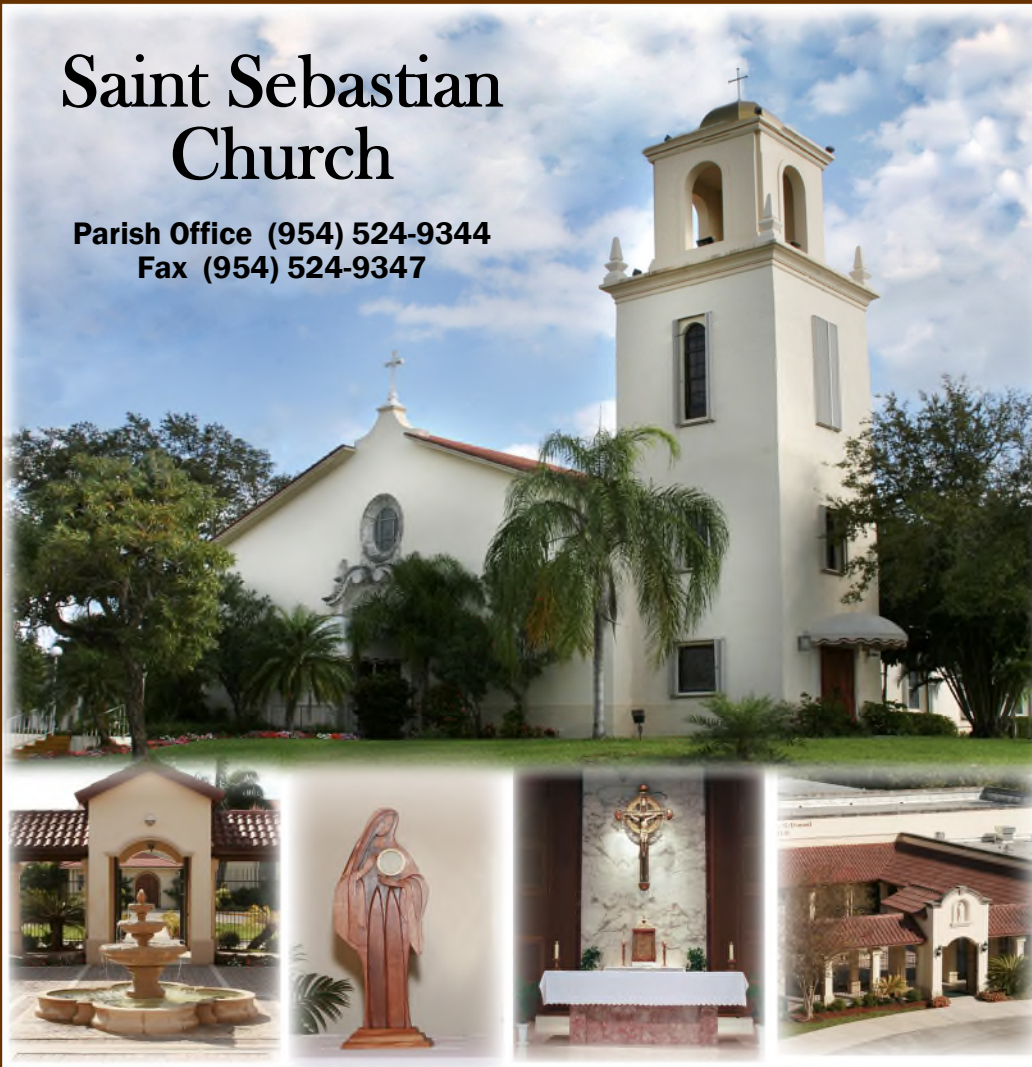
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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. Ernest Biriruka
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

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.

From the desk of our Pastor, Father Ernest

Continuing the Meditation on the Eucharist

Introduction

1. The sacrament of charity, the Holy Eucharist is the gift that Jesus Christ makes of himself, thus revealing to us God's infinite love for every man and woman. This wondrous sacrament makes manifest that "greater" love which led him to "lay down his life for his friends" (*Jn 15:13*). Jesus did indeed love them "to the end" (*Jn 13:1*). In those words the Evangelist introduces Christ's act of immense humility: before dying for us on the Cross, he tied a towel around himself and washed the feet of his disciples. In the same way, Jesus continues, in the sacrament of the Eucharist, to love us "to the end," even to offering us his body and his blood. What amazement must the Apostles have felt in witnessing what the Lord did and said during that Supper! What wonder must the eucharistic mystery also awaken in our own hearts!

The Food of Truth

2. In the sacrament of the altar, the Lord meets us, men and women created in God's image and likeness (cf. *Gen 1:27*), and becomes our companion along the way. In this sacrament, the Lord truly becomes food for us, to satisfy our hunger for truth and freedom. Since only the truth can make us free (cf. *Jn 8:32*), Christ becomes for us the food of truth. With deep human insight, Saint Augustine clearly showed how we are moved spontaneously, and not by constraint, whenever we encounter something attractive and desirable. Asking himself what it is that can move us most deeply, the saintly Bishop went on to say: "What does our soul desire more passionately than truth?" Each of us has an innate and irrepressible desire for ultimate and definitive truth. The Lord Jesus, "the way, and the truth, and the life" (*Jn 14:6*), speaks to our thirsting, pilgrim hearts, our hearts yearning for the source of life, our hearts longing for truth. Jesus Christ is the Truth in person, drawing the world to himself. "Jesus is the lodestar of human freedom: without him, freedom loses its focus, for without the knowledge of truth, freedom becomes debased, alienated and reduced to empty caprice. With him, freedom finds itself." In the sacrament of the Eucharist, Jesus shows us in particular the *truth about the love* which is the very essence of God. It is this evangelical truth which challenges each of us and our whole being. For this reason, the Church, which finds in the Eucharist the very centre of her life, is constantly concerned to proclaim to all, *opportune importune* (cf. *2 Tim 4:2*), that God is love. Precisely because Christ has become for us the food of truth, the Church turns to every man and woman, inviting them freely to accept God's gift.

The Church's Eucharistic Faith

6. "*The mystery of faith!*" With these words, spoken immediately after the words of consecration, the priest proclaims the mystery being celebrated and expresses his wonder before the substantial change of bread and wine into the body and blood of the Lord Jesus, a reality which surpasses all human understanding. The Eucharist is a "mystery of faith" par excellence: "the sum and summary of our faith." The Church's faith is essentially a eucharistic faith, and it is especially nourished at the table of the Eucharist. Faith and the sacraments are two complementary aspects of ecclesial life. Awakened by the preaching of God's word, faith is nourished and grows in the grace-filled encounter with the Risen Lord which takes place in the sacraments: "faith is expressed in the rite, while the rite reinforces and strengthens faith." For this reason, the Sacrament of the Altar is always at the heart of the Church's life: "thanks to the Eucharist, the Church is reborn ever anew!" The more lively the eucharistic faith of the People of God, the deeper is its sharing in ecclesial life in steadfast commitment to the mission entrusted by Christ to his disciples. The Church's very history bears witness to this. Every great reform has in some way been linked to the rediscovery of belief in the Lord's eucharistic presence among his people.

*From Pope Benedict XVI
Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation
Sacramentum Caritatis
(Sacrament of Charity)*

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	September 9 † Pasquale Polselli, req. by Sandra Polselli † Rose & John Fink, req. by Family
Sunday 8:30 am	September 10 † Dolores Fink, req. by Sandra Polselli † Margaret Reitz, req. by son Frederick Wellbeing of Marcia Hogan, req. by Barry Hogan
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of St. Sebastian
Monday 8:30 am	September 11 † Needham Ward, req. by Johnny and Sandi Mann
Tuesday 8:30 am	September 12 † Annamarie Crocker, req. by Jonny and Sandi Mann
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.	September 13 † Vito Furio, req. by Loretta Polizano
Thursday 8:30 am	September 14 Priests of our Archdiocese
Friday 8:30 am	September 15 † Grace & Murray Toomey, req. by M.L. Toomey
Saturday 5:00 pm	September 16 † Father Cyril Hudak
Sunday 8:30 am	September 17 † Frank Gardner
11:00 am	Living and 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, Paul Ristow, Matt Keyzers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Tom Casey, Charles Benoit, Rob Messerschmidt, Mary Pat Connolly, Anne McCormick, Patricia Moss, Patty Marma, Diane Johnson, Jim Guerin, Susan Lochrie, Agnes McCauley, Teri Beth Gooch, Mary Luet Remeyer

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, call Mary Kennedy at 954-290-1194. We will be sharing from Esther with Angela McNaughton facilitating.

REMEMBER: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

takes place on Fridays, from after the 8:30 am Mass until 5:00pm in the Chapel of the Divine Healer. Come spend some quiet time in the presence of The Lord!

PRAYER TO AVERT HURRICANES

Father, all the elements of nature obey your commands. Protect us and all your people during this season of storms and hurricanes. Calm our fears and help us prepare our hearts as well as our homes. Help us see you in all we may encounter, and help us to minister to each other in your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, September 17 - Religious Education Classes begin.

Weekend of September 23-24 - St. Vincent de Paul truck here.

Saturday, October 7 - 5:30 pm - 65th Anniversary of the Archdiocese of Miami Mass, Cathedral of St. Mary, Miami

Saturday, November 11 - 6:30 pm - Archdiocese of Miami 65th Anniversary Gala & Concert, Miami Beach Convention Center

Friday, November 17 - 7:00 pm Social Dancing, Instruction and practice

During the month of August, the Food Pantry served 811 clients representing 2,392 individuals. This is a significant increase so they have had to add a time when clients must be on the property in order to be served. **Access to the parking lot will now close at 3:15. If you know of anyone in need, please let them know that The St. Vincent De-Paul Society conducts a drive thru grocery distribution every Friday from 1:30-3:45 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 3:15).** First timers must provide proof of Broward County residency. **PLEASE REMEMBER:** The Pantry needs **plastic grocery bags** for food distribution and empty, clean (6 or 12) **egg cartons**. You can place these items in the shopping carts along with your donations of non-perishable food and hygiene items. Thank you!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Religious Education Classes for children in grades one through eight attending non-Catholic school **begins next Sunday**, September 17th, from 9:45-10:45 am in the Parish Hall. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY.** Please phone the office (954.524.9344) at your earliest convenience to register your child (ren) for these classes.

SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation spans five weeks between the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (September 1) and the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4). This "time for creation" offers, in the words of Pope Francis, "individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live." Let us spend time during this season reflecting on how our actions and attitudes impact the planet.

feeding minds & healing hearts



as missionary disciples

■ SAVE THE DATES ■

In celebration of our 65th Anniversary,
the Archdiocese of Miami will be hosting the following special events:

Mass

65TH ANNIVERSARY MASS

Saturday, October 7, 2023 • 5:30 p.m.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY

SOLEMN VESPERS

*Pontifical &
Archdiocesan Honors*

Sunday, October 22, 2023 • 5:00 p.m.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY

*Solemn
Vespers*

Gala

SPECIAL
PERFORMANCE BY
EARTH
WIND
AND FIRE

65TH ANNIVERSARY GALA & CONCERT

Saturday, November 11, 2023 • 6:30 p.m.

MIAMI BEACH CONVENTION CENTER

Special Concert Performance
by the legendary musical group

EARTH WIND & FIRE

www.adomdevelopment.org/65gala

For more information contact
(305) 762-1051 or events@theadom.org