

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

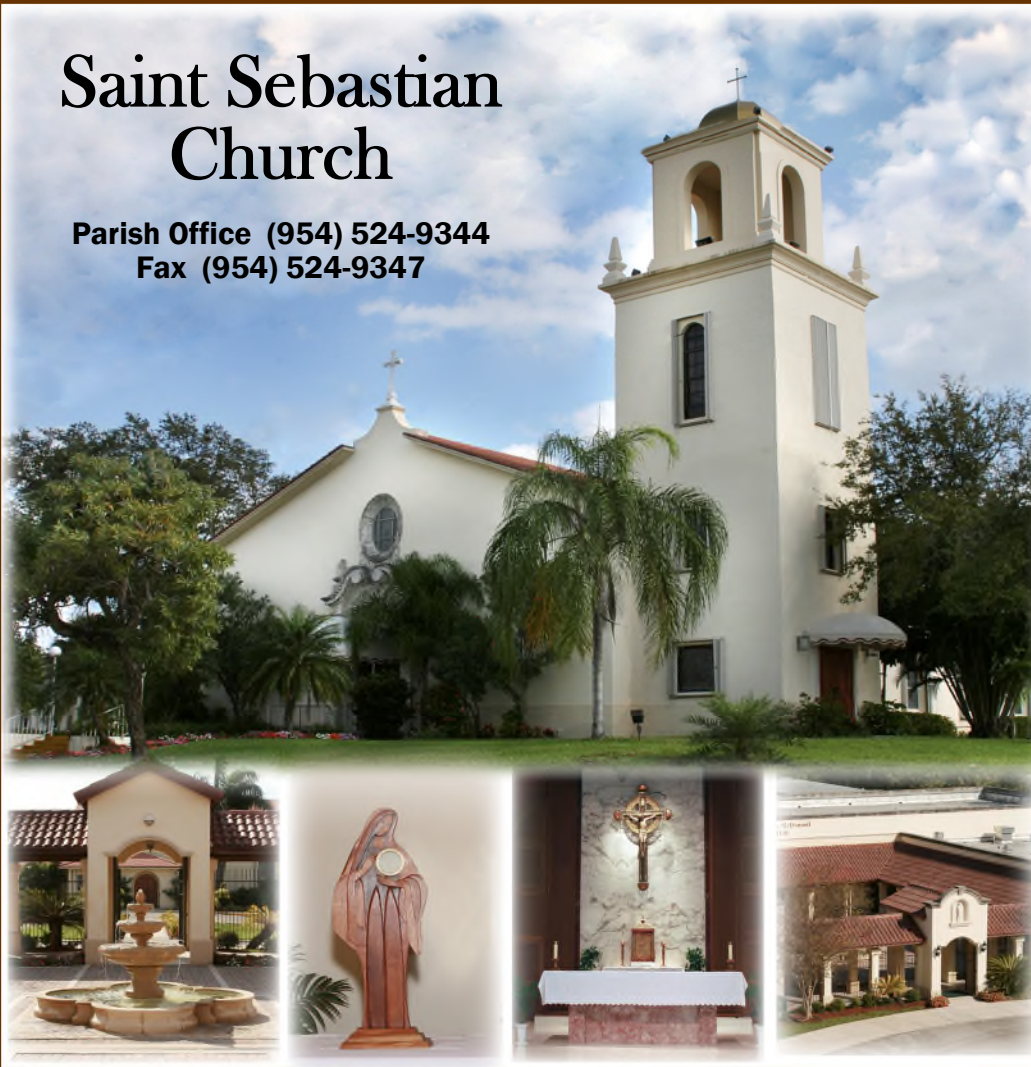
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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

POPE FRANCIS TALKS OF THE SYNOD (Part 2)

This welcoming gaze of Jesus also invites us to be a welcoming Church, not one with closed doors. In such a complex time as ours, new cultural and pastoral challenges emerge that call for a warm and kindly inner attitude so that we can encounter each other without fear. In synodal dialogue, in this beautiful “journey in the Holy Spirit” that we are making together as the People of God, we can grow in unity and friendship with the Lord in order to look at today’s challenges with his gaze; to become, using a fine expression of Saint Paul VI, a Church that “makes itself a conversation” (Encyclical Letter *Ecclesiam suam*, 65). A Church “with a gentle yoke” (cf. *Mt 11:30*), which does not impose burdens and which repeats to everyone: “Come, you who are weary and oppressed, come, you who have lost your way or feel far away, come, you who have closed the doors to hope: the Church is here for you!” The doors of the Church are open to everyone, everyone, everyone!

Brothers and sisters, holy People of God, in the face of the difficulties and challenges that lie ahead, the blessing and welcoming gaze of Jesus prevents us from falling into some dangerous temptations: of being a rigid Church – a customs post –, which arms itself against the world and looks backward; of being a lukewarm Church, which surrenders to the fashions of the world; of being a tired Church, turned in on itself. In the Book of Revelation, the Lord says, “I stand at the door and knock so that it may be opened”; but often, brothers and sisters, he stands at the door knocking but from within the Church so that we may allow him to go out with the Church to proclaim his Gospel. Let us walk together: humble, fervent and joyful. Let us walk in the footsteps of Saint Francis of Assisi, the saint of poverty and peace, the “fool of God” who bore in his body the stigmata of Jesus and, in order to clothe himself with him, stripped himself of everything. How difficult it is for all of us to carry out this interior and exterior self-emptying. The same is true for institutions. Saint Bonaventure relates that while he was praying, the Crucified One said to him, “Go and repair my church” (*Legenda maior*, II, 1). The Synod serves to remind us of this: our Mother the Church is always in need of purification, of being “repaired”, for we are a people made up of forgiven sinners – both elements: forgiven sinners –, always in need of returning to the source that is Jesus and putting ourselves back on the paths of the Spirit to reach everyone with his Gospel. Francis of Assisi, in a time of great struggles and divisions, between temporal and religious powers, between the institutional Church and heretical currents, between Christians and other believers, did not criticize or lash out at anyone. He took up only the weapons of the Gospel: humility and unity, prayer and charity. Let us do the same: humility, unity, prayer and charity!

And if God's holy people with their shepherds from all over the world have expectations, hopes and even some fears about the Synod we are beginning, let us continue to remember that it is not a political gathering, but a convocation in the Spirit; not a polarized parliament, but a place of grace and communion. The Holy Spirit often shatters our expectations to create something new that surpasses our predictions and negativity. Perhaps I can say that the more fruitful moments of the Synod are those connected to prayer, an atmosphere of prayer, through which the Lord works in us. Let us open ourselves to him and call upon him, the protagonist, the Holy Spirit. Let us allow him to be the protagonist of the Synod! And let us walk with him, in trust and with joy.

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

OPENING OF THE ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Mass Intentions

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday **October 21**
5:00 pm Living and Deceased of our Parish

Sunday **October 22**
8:30 am † Charles & Marie Maher, req. by Family
† Dr. Richard Black & Family
req. by Stephen & Susan Black
Wellbeing of Edward Bestoso,
req. by Al & Lila Ferzacca

11:00 am Success of the Synod on Synodality

Monday **October 23**
8:30 am Wellbeing of Jean Gorman,
req. by Grace Middlemiss

Tuesday **October 24**
8:30 am Wellbeing of Patty Marma,
req. by Carole Duksta

Wednesday **October 25**
8:30 a.m. Peace in the Middle East and Ukraine

Thursday **October 26**
8:30 am † Hugo & Albertina Biondi,
req. by Anna Marie Pierotti

Friday **October 27**
8:30 am † Roy, Bea, & Larry Biondi,
req. by Anna Marie Pierotti

Saturday **October 28**
5:00 pm † Alejandro Carvajal, req. by Rave Family

Sunday **October 29**
8:30 am † Dolores Fink, req. by husband, Jack
† James & Jackie Reeves,
req. by Al & Lila Ferzacca
† Steve Sjoblom.
req. by Jill & Ed Rebholz

11:00 am Living and Deceased of our Parish

Saturday, Oct. 28 - 8:30 Sandwich Ministry

Thursday, November 2 - 9:00 a.m. Men's Club Meeting

Thursday, November 2 - Nov.10 All Saints Novena

Friday, November 3- 11:00 am Mass
12:00 SSCCW Luncheon

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.

"I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Matthew 25:31 These are the words of our Lord but they could be the words of the needy in our city when they acknowledge the non-perishable food and hygiene items given weekly by our parishioners. Fill our church shopping carts to the brim.. To care is to share. **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. 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 1:30-3:45 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.



REGISTRATION

If you attend Mass at St. Sebastian regularly, please become a registered member of our parish. Complete a registration form (found at the Welcome Table at the main entrance of the church) or by calling the office. Thank you.

SOCIAL DANCING

Social Dancing Instruction and Practice is a continuation of last November's group instruction for those without two left feet in the Parish Hall. This activity is being sponsored by the Men's Club.

ALL SOULS NOVENA

Masses will be said for all family and friends who have died beginning Nov. 2 - 10. Please fill out the slip to place the names of your loved ones and place it in the basket which will be located on the altar.

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.

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, Ray Wicklander, Kathy Mahoney. Lila Ferzacca, Cash Dugan.

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.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

I want to thank you for your incredibly generous support to our Respect Life Ministry. Almost \$6,100 was collected. "God loves a cheerful giver." Cor. 9:6-8. This will help so many in need. God bless you abundantly! Your Respect Life Representative, Carole Duksta

SANDWICH MINISTRY

The Sandwich Ministry will meet on Saturday, October 28 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.



ATTENTION

Women of St. Sebastian Parish

St. Sebastian Council of Catholic Women

Invites you to a luncheon of our
first meeting of the 2023-24 Season

Nov. 3rd Mass 11(Chapel) Lunch 12

We would love it if you would [consider joining us as a member](#) of the St. Sebastian Council of Catholic Women. We meet from [November through April on the First Friday of every month at 9:00 am](#), following the 8:30 am daily Mass.

Our membership fee is [only \\$20.00 per year](#). The many benefits of becoming a member of SSCCW include spiritual enrichment, fellowship, social events, and empowerment. It is a great way to socialize with like-minded women and enjoy spectacular events throughout the year.

You will also benefit by putting your skills toward helping those in need.
SSCCW assists:

[Covenant House](#) – You will help bring smiles to the faces of children who are now off the streets because of this wonderful organization. SSCCW donates needed and desired items every Christmas.

[Respect Life](#) – You will help us collect clothing and other needed items for babies at our annual baby shower as this organization helps young mothers to raise their child through education and donations.

[Turning Point](#) – You will help this organization which assists children 18 years of age who are timed out of the foster care program and transition to independence. Some of them are still in high school when this happens.