

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

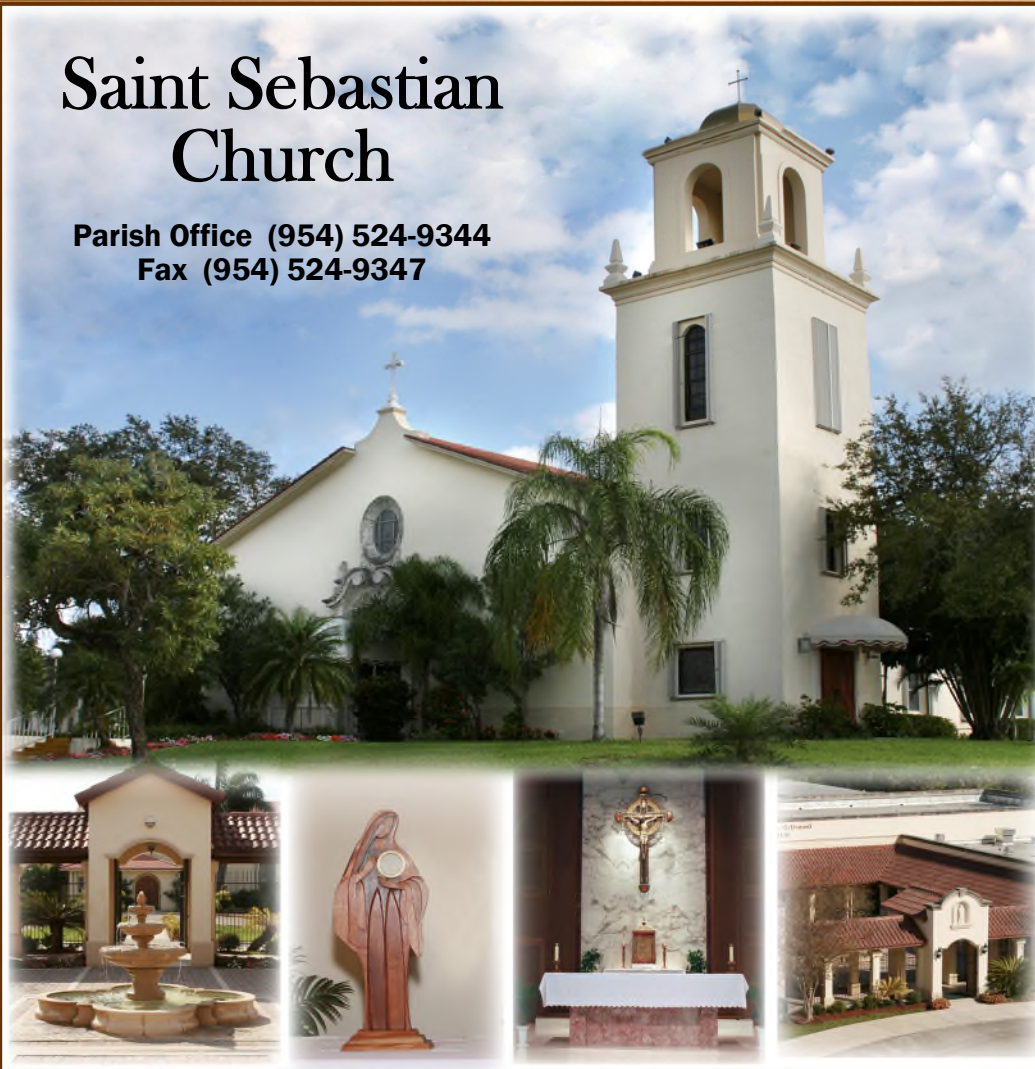
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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

Excerpt from the Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis at the conclusion of the Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

Brother Cardinals, Bishops and priests, men and women Religious, dear brothers and sisters, at the conclusion of this stage of our journey, it is important to look at the “principle and foundation” from which everything begins ever anew: by loving. Loving God with our whole life and loving our neighbour as ourselves. Not our strategies, our human calculations, the ways of the world, but love of God and neighbour: that is the heart of everything. And how do we channel this momentum of love? I would propose two verbs, two movements of the heart, on which I would like to reflect: *to adore* and *to serve*. We love God through adoration and service.

The first verb, adore. *To love is to adore*. Adoration is the first response we can offer to God’s gratuitous and astonishing love. The amazement of adoration, the wonder of worship, is something essential in the life of the Church, especially in our own day in which we have abandoned the practice of adoration. To adore God means to acknowledge in faith that he alone is Lord and that our individual lives, the Church’s pilgrim way and the ultimate outcome of history all depend on the tenderness of his love. He gives meaning to our lives.

In worshiping God, we rediscover that we are free. That is why the Scriptures frequently associate love of the Lord with the fight against every form of idolatry. Those who worship God reject idols because whereas God liberates, idols enslave. Idols deceive us and never bring to pass what they promise, because they are “the work of men’s hands” (*Ps 115:4*). Scripture is unbending with regard to idolatry, because idols are made and manipulated by men, while God, the Living God, is present and transcendent; he is the one “who is not what I imagine him to be, who does not depend on what I expect from him and who can thus upset my expectations, precisely because he is alive.

We must constantly struggle against all types of idolatry; not only the worldly kinds, which often stem from vainglory, such as lust for success, self-centredness, greed for money – let us not forget that the devil enters “through the pockets”, the enticements of careerism; but also those forms of idolatry disguised as spirituality – my own spirituality: my own religious ideas, my own pastoral skills... Let us be vigilant, lest we find that we are putting ourselves at the centre rather than him. And let us return to worship. May worship be central for those of us who are pastors: let us devote time every day to intimacy with Jesus the Good Shepherd, adoring him in the tabernacle. May the Church adore: in every diocese, in every parish, in every community, let us adore the Lord! Only in this way will we turn to Jesus and not to ourselves. For only through silent adoration will the Word of God live in our words; only in his presence will we be purified, transformed and renewed by the fire of his Spirit. Brothers and sisters, let us adore the Lord Jesus!

The second verb is to serve. *To love is to serve*. In the great commandment, Christ binds God and neighbour together so that they will never be disconnected. There can be no true religious experience that is deaf to the cry of the world. There is no love of God without care and concern for our neighbour; otherwise, we risk becoming pharisaic. We may have plenty of good ideas on how to reform the Church, but let us remember: to adore God and to love our brothers and sisters with his love, *that* is the great and perennial reform. To be a *worshiping Church* and a *Church of service*, washing the feet of wounded humanity, accompanying those who are frail, weak and cast aside, going out lovingly to encounter the poor. We heard in the first reading how God commanded this.

Mass Intentions

Table with 2 columns: Day/Time and Intention. Rows include Saturday 5:00 pm (Nov 4), Sunday 8:30 am (Nov 5), Monday 8:30 am (Nov 6), Tuesday 8:30 am (Nov 7), Wednesday 8:30 a.m. (Nov 8), Thursday 8:30 am (Nov 9), Friday 8:30 am (Nov 10), Saturday 5:00 pm (Nov 11), and Sunday 8:30 am and 11:00 am (Nov 12).

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, Harriette Sessa

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.

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 Romans with Arthur Cholakis facilitating.

JOY OF SOX



Beginning the weekend of November 18 – 19, we shall begin collecting NEW SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS in Fort Lauderdale St. Sebastian will partner with Hope South Florida which offers a continuum of care for our

homeless brothers and sisters. In his letter to the Galatians (5:13), St. Paul wrote, "serve one another humbly in love."

SAVE THE DATE!

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

Wednesday, November 15 - 6:00pm - RCIA meeting.

Friday, November 17 - 7:00 - 9pm Ballroom Dancing, Group Instruction and practice.

Saturday, November 18 - December 16 Joy of Sox

The Food Bank is requesting that during the months of November and December, you consider donating items that would be appropriate for a holiday dinner. Some suggestions would be stuffing mix, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin, and green beans. Also, a few suggested guidelines: only items weighing one pound or less, avoid glass, boxed cereals and pasta are always needed, and pop top cans are needed (particularly for the homeless clients). To care is to share. PLEASE REMEMBER: The Pantry needs plastic grocery bags (Unfolded) 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.

BALLROOM DANCING

Ballroom Dancing Instruction and Practice is for couples and singles. You will learn basic ballroom dance steps taught by an experienced instructor with an opportunity to practice with direction and observation. Classes begin Nov.17 - 7-9pm. This activity is being sponsored by the Men's Club. If you have any questions, please text Jack at 732-213-4522.

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.

Have a Wonderful Week!



In the Catholic Church the month of November begins with the Solemnity of All Saints' on November First. It is followed by the 'Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed – All Souls' Day' on November 2nd. Together these days mark the start of a **Month of the Holy Souls**, which ends either at the end of November, or the start of the season of Advent, depending on which comes first each year.

We have hope in the resurrection and therefore praying for those who have died is an important part of our faith.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,

through the mercy of God,

rest in peace. Amen.