

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

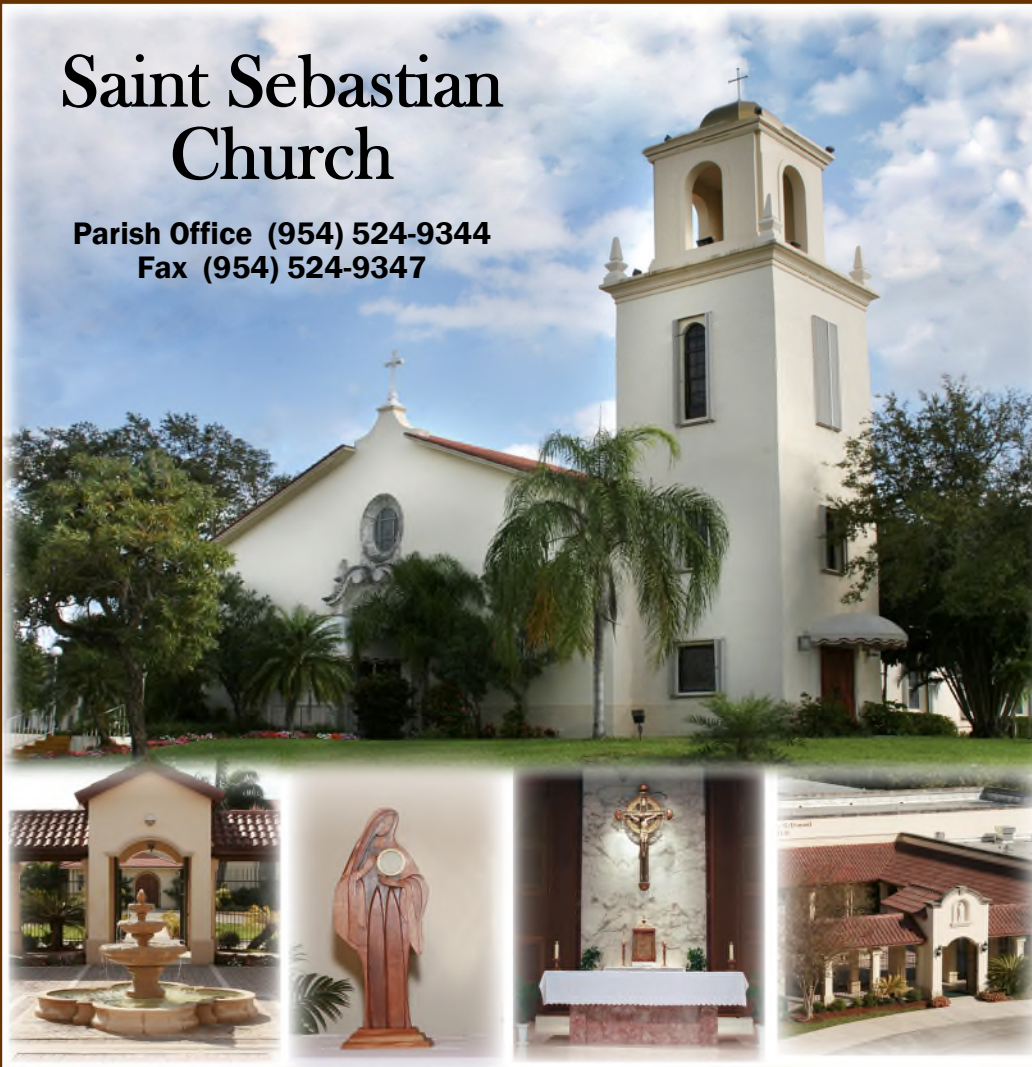
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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

Ms. Cathy Spitzer
Vocalist

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

BAPTISM

Last Monday the Church celebrated the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. That feast concludes the Christmas Season and now we have just started the short Ordinary Season which will lead us to the Lenten Season, starting on Ash Wednesday on February 14th.

This Sunday we hear the calling of Samuel and how the first disciples approached Jesus. Our Baptism was our first calling by making us born of God and the Church through water and the Holy Spirit. These articles of the Catechism may help us meditate again on our baptism.

1223 All the Old Covenant prefigurations find their fulfillment in Christ Jesus. He begins his public life after having himself baptized by St. John the Baptist in the Jordan. After his resurrection Christ gives this mission to his apostles: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you ."

1224 Our Lord voluntarily submitted himself to the baptism of St. John, intended for sinners, in order to "fulfill all righteousness." Jesus' gesture is a manifestation of his self-emptying. The Spirit who had hovered over the waters of the first creation descended then on the Christ as a prelude of the new creation, and the Father revealed Jesus as his "beloved Son."

1226 From the very day of Pentecost the Church has celebrated and administered holy Baptism. Indeed St. Peter declares to the crowd astounded by his preaching: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." The apostles and their collaborators offer Baptism to anyone who believed in Jesus: Jews, the God-fearing, pagans. Always, Baptism is seen as connected with faith: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household," St. Paul declared to his jailer in Philippi. And the narrative continues, the jailer "was baptized at once, with all his family."

1227 According to the Apostle Paul, the believer enters through Baptism into communion with Christ's death, is buried with him, and rises with him: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. The baptized have "put on Christ." Through the Holy Spirit, Baptism is a bath that purifies, justifies, and sanctifies.

1263 By Baptism all sins are forgiven, original sin and all personal sins, as well as all punishment for sin. In those who have been reborn nothing remains that would impede their entry into the Kingdom of God, neither Adam's sin, nor personal sin, nor the consequences of sin, the gravest of which is separation from God.

1264 Yet certain temporal consequences of sin remain in the baptized, such as suffering, illness, death, and such frailties inherent in life as weaknesses of character, and so on, as well as an inclination to sin that Tradition calls concupiscence, or metaphorically, "the tinder for sin" (james peccati); since concupiscence "is left for us to wrestle with, it cannot harm those who do not consent but manfully resist it by the grace of Jesus Christ." Indeed, "an athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. "

A new creature

1265 Baptism not only purifies from all sins, but also makes the neophyte "a new creature," an adopted son of God, who has become a "partaker of the divine nature," member of Christ and co-heir with him, and a temple of the Holy Spirit.

From The Catechism of the Catholic Church

Mass Intentions

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday January 13
5:00 pm Living & Deceased of our Parish

Sunday January 14
8:30 am † Pat Ciccì, req. by Anna Marie Pierotti
11:00 am For Peace in the World

Monday January 15
8:30 am † Tim Sargol, req. by Jarchow Family

Tuesday January 16
8:30 am † Sister Mary Rowley, S.C.

Wednesday January 17
8:30 am Wellbeing of Barry Hogan, req. by Marcia Hogan
Wellbeing of Lee Sidor, req. by John & Sandi Mann

Thursday January 18
8:30 am † Paul Garner, re. by Sandi & John Mann

Friday January 19
8:30 am † Grace & Murray Toomey, req. by Helen & M.L. Toomey

Saturday January 20
5:00 pm † William Bihrlé, req. by Hero Family
Wellbeing of Father Ernest

Sunday January 21
8:30 am † Margaret Barrosse
† Ossi Pierotti, req. by Anna Marie Pierotti
11:00 am Living & Deceased of our Parish

Friday, January 19 - Men's Club Italian Dinner

Saturday, January 20 - Father Ernest's 70th Birthday Celebration

Weekend of January 27-28 - St. Vincent de Paul truck here.

Friday, February 9 - Men's Club Dance Class

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament Church had a very gratifying 2023 in serving the community with weekly food distributions. During the year, they were open on 50 Fridays and served 8902 clients representing 26,755 individuals. These incredible numbers are the result of the generosity of parishes and individuals with their contributions of food and money as well as a dedicated group of loyal, hard-working volunteers. We thank each and every one of you for your weekly donations of non-perishable food and hygiene items! **PLEASE REMEMBER:** The Pantry needs **plastic grocery bags** for food distribution and empty, clean **egg cartons for 6 or 12 eggs** (they cannot use the cartons for 18 eggs). You can place these items in the shopping carts. Thank you! If you know of anyone in need, please tell them that a drive thru grocery distribution takes place every Friday from 1:30-4 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1701 E Oakland Park Blvd (entrance to parking lot on NE 33rd Street and closes at 3:15). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.



REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Don Loughran, Jr., Sandy Rodrigues, John

Harris, Stephen Black, 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, Barry Hogan, Ann Maher, Mary Ann Smith, Kyle Ray, Linda Spitzer

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 the Book of Daniel with Miriam Rivas facilitating.

MASS STIPENDS

As of January 1, 2024, we ask that a donation of \$10. be given when a Mass is requested at St. Sebastian. This should be done at the time the Mass is requested through the Parish Office.

SANDWICH MINISTRY

The Sandwich Ministry will meet on Saturday, January 27th at 8:30 am in the Parish Hall to make bagged lunches for some of the homeless in Broward County.

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).

MEN'S CLUB ITALIAN DINNER

The Men's Club Italian Dinner is scheduled for Friday, January 19th. Tickets are \$40. per person and includes Italian Spaghetti with 2 meatballs, salad, bread, dessert, and beer & wine. Tickets are available at the church doors this weekend and next, and in the Parish Office during the week.

FATHER ERNEST WANTS VOLUNTEERS!

Father Ernest is looking for volunteers to help with numerous tasks. If you are willing to help, please let him know by writing your name on the sign-up sheets at the church doors. Father will contact you to discuss his needs and your talents. Thank you!

ANNIVERSARY MASS - FEBRUARY 10, 2024

All couples married in the Catholic Church celebrating their first, 25th, 50th or 50 plus Wedding Anniversary in 2024 are invited to come to a Mass on February 10, 2024 at St. Mary Cathedral to receive a blessing from Archbishop Thomas Wenski. Please arrive by 4pm if you would like to take a photo with the Archbishop. For more information and registration, please contact Claudia Shaw, The Archdiocese of Miami, Secretariat for Parish Life, 305-762-1128 or email: cshaw@theadom.org

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS!

Several of our parishioners have received emails - supposedly from Father Ernest - asking for gift cards. **THIS IS A SCAM!** No one associated with St. Sebastian will make this kind of request, so please do not be fooled. If you are in doubt, you should phone the office and speak with a "real live person" to check it out.



Men's Club of St. Sebastian Church Hosting Annual

SPAGHETTI  DINNER

Friday, January 19, 2024

Doors open 6:00 pm ~ Dinner at 6:30 pm



**Traditional
Italian Cuisine
and Live Entertainment**

\$\$ 50/50 Raffle \$\$

Reserved Tables Available

Tickets available in the Office or after all Masses

Advance Dinner Ticket: \$40

No Refunds Please

Call to reserve your Table or Individual Tickets (954) 524-9344

St. Sebastian Church * 2000 SE 25th Avenue, Ft. Laud. 33316