

# Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

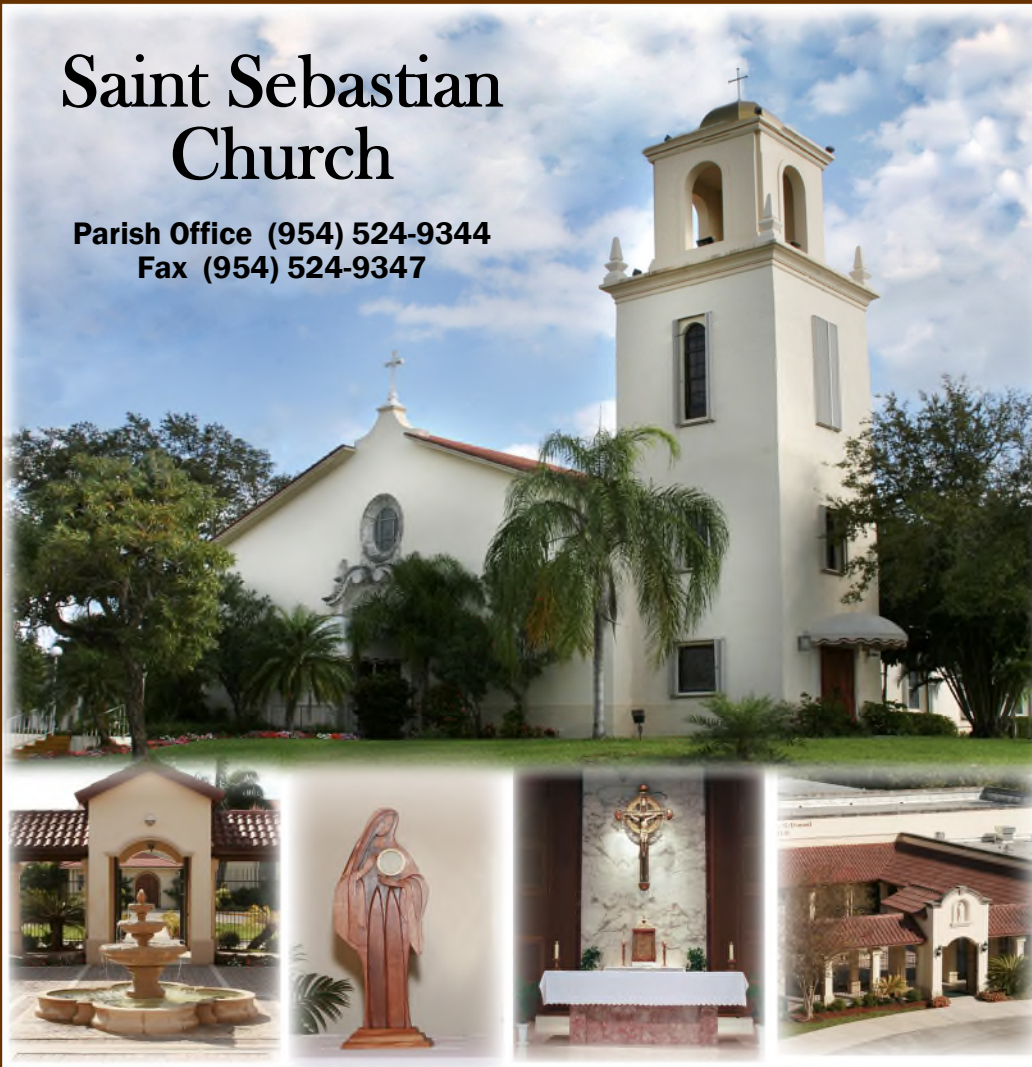
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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. 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](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.

# ***From the desk of our Pastor, Father Ernest***

## A NOTE OF GRATITUDE

My dear parishioners of Saint Sebastian, my dear former parishioners of Saint John XXIII:

I would like to recognize the extraordinary time we had last weekend here at Saint Sebastian's Parish. But before I do, let me express my deepest gratitude to our Archbishop, The Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski, D.D., who never misses our birthdays as priests; as usual, he sent me a note of congratulation and of unity of prayers on my birthday. God be praised, Archbishop, for the love and pastoral support you provide so faithfully for us, your priests.

The Men's Club organized that Spaghetti Dinner which was a great success. Many parishioners were able to participate and we had an amazing time. Personally, I got to see with my own eyes the incredible goodness of our parishioners. We had good cheer and delicious food. Even though it was not a dinner-dance, some of us got up and danced the Italian music. But you should have seen how the youth who came to serve enjoyed the music! They moved around, they jumped on the stage and danced the music; and that brought so much joy to all of us who were at the dinner.

Those youngsters go to school at St. Anthony's or some other school in our neighborhood; they could have enjoyed a quiet Friday at home, but they chose to come and serve at our tables. It was really touching to see their kindness and spirit of service. I admired them so much. Now, forget the prejudice that our Parish has no children; we have grandchildren!!! They made me appreciate how great this community is. The whole party was a wonderful success and brought not only great cheer and energy in the community, but also suggestions of possibilities when our new kitchen will be inaugurated.

We should not lose the perspective that this was organized to celebrate our Parish whose patron saint, Sebastian is celebrated on January 20<sup>th</sup>. On the liturgical calendar, Saint Sebastian shares the celebration with Saint Fabian (Pope); both were martyred in the third century. And it happens that I was born on January 20<sup>th</sup>!!!

So, Saturday, you organized my birthday party. My former parishioners of Saint John XXIII came in large number to pray with me and celebrate my 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday! "Yeah, Father, 7-0!!!" some shouted to me! I am infinitely grateful to all of you, and to my former parishioners. The organizers themselves worked long hours of planning and putting things together for the day. The presence and participation in the 5 pm Mass were incredible. Then followed the dinner and the music. It was also very exciting to share the birthday with one amazing lady of Saint Sebastian: Grace Middlemiss. She does not miss her Rosary and Daily Mass; she is truly a treasure to our community.

I was deeply moved by your presence, love and generosity. That is how a community of believers should be; in other words, how the Church should be a community of brotherhood committed to care for one another and to make Christ's light shine for everyone. My heart is full of gratitude for each and everyone of you. I felt loved so much but also very appreciated in my priestly ministry. May all glory be given to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. I wish I could return the same affection a million times over to each one of you. I was so 'humbled' by your kindness that I felt that 'I gave to you like one per cent and you gave back to me more than a hundred per cent'.

I just pray that our Loving God may keep each and everyone in good health, and reward you all for your generosity to me, multiply and keep that joy in your hearts and grant you to see your dreams fulfilled for you and all dear to you. Thank you, Thank you, Infinite thanks to you all. Ad multos Annos.

**Mass Intentions**

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>January 27</b> † Billy Fuccillo, req. by Bill Fuccillo † Daniel Murray, req. by Rosemary & Jim Guerin
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 28</b> † Dolores Fink, req. by Husband Jack † Hugo Biondi, req. by Anna Marie Pierotti Wellbeing of Mary Jeu de Vine, req. by Joan Morris and Lourdes Cowgill
11:00 am	Living & Deceased of our Parish
<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 29</b> † Vito Furio, req. by Elaine Furio † Angelo Recine, req. by Natalina
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 30</b> † Teresa Benedetto, req. by Grace Middlemiss
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>January 31</b> † Joan Fuccillo, req. by Mary Kennedy
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30	<b>February 1</b> † Ruth Gorman, req. by Badyrna Family
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>February 2</b> † Christine Miller, req. by Jarchow Family
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>February 3</b> Living & Deceased of our Parish
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am	<b>February 4</b> † Jim Cowgill Jr. † Roy Biondi, req. by Anna Marie Pierotti
11:00 am	† Joan Fuccillo, req. by Judy Fisher

**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, Linda Spitzer

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

**IN MEMORIUM**

**+ JOAN FUCCILLO +  
January 19, 2024**

*May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen .*

**A.B.C.D.**

ABCD is a powerful reminder of our shared responsibility as Catholics to place our blessings at His service. ABCD unites us, as one faith community. In our commitment to serve and support the needs of our brothers and sisters in need and allows the Archdiocese of Miami to share God's love with others regardless of who they are or where they live. Let us be generous to this year's ABCD and be a beacon of hope and love for all. Please ask the Lord this week to guide you I making your commitment to ABCD next weekend.



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**SAVE THE DATE**

**February 3-4 SSCCW -Trinkets & Treasures Sale**

**Friday, February 9 - Men's Club Dance Class**

How can we thank God for all of the blessings He has given us? One way is to share our gifts in the form of non-perishable food and hygiene items to those in need in our city. God loves a cheerful giver. So let us show our love to Him by filling our shopping carts full to overflowing. To share is to care. **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 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and closes at 3:15). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.



**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!

**TRINKETS & TREASURES**

It is time to clean out your closets! The Women's Club is having their annual sale of books, scarfs, purses, linens and household goods on February 3-4. Items can be dropped off in the Parish Hall January 31, February 1, and February 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**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.

**ANNIVERSARY MASS - FEBRUARY 10, 2024**

All couples married in the Catholic Church celebrating their first, 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> or 50 plus Wedding Anniversary in 2024 are invited to come to a Mass on February 10, 2024 at St. Mary's 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

**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, on our website, or by calling the office).

**BALLROOM DANCING -  
GROUP INSTRUCTION AND PRACTICE  
FRIDAY FEB 9, 2024 7-9 PM PARISH HALL**

You are invited to learn basic steps to such dances as the fox-trot, waltz, cha-cha, swing, taught by Julia. This will be our third session, please attend even if you missed the first two. Sponsored by the Men's Club. For questions please text Jack at 732-213-4522. Don't wear sneakers, Julia will correct your mis-steps.



*Have a blessed week!*





# TRINKETS AND TREASURES SALE

Saturday February 3rd  
from 8am to 3pm

Sunday February 4th  
from 8am to 1pm

## St Sebastian Council of Catholic Women

St Sebastian Parish Hall  
2000 Marietta Dr (SE 25th Ave)  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

Come find treasures and trinkets for a great price! Gently used household items, decor, jewelry, books, and much more are waiting for a new home.

### **\*ATTENTION\***

Gently used items needed. Please deliver your articles to the parish hall beginning January 31st through February 2nd between 9am and 1pm.

Questions please contact:  
Sandi Mann 954-235-4005

