

First Sunday in Lent

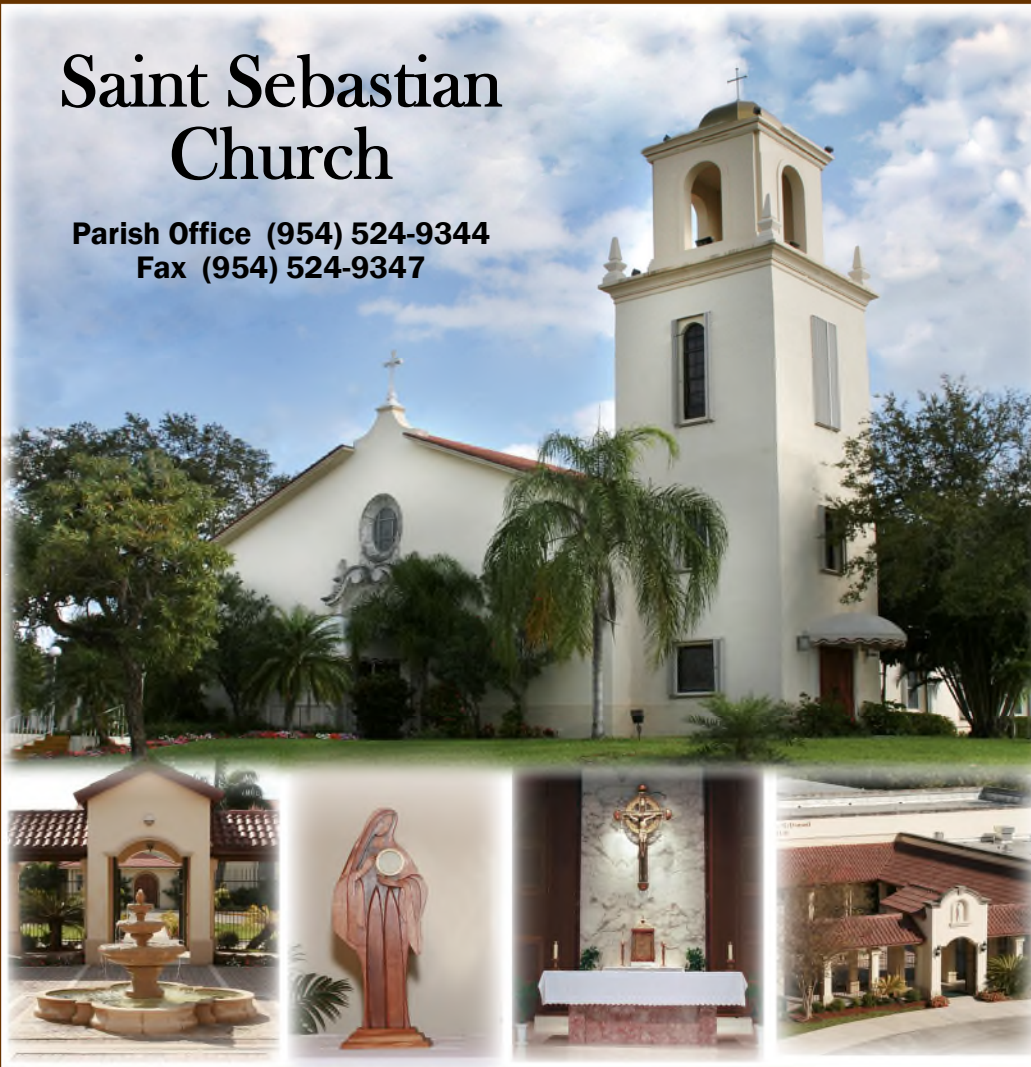
2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

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

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT:

My dear Parishioners,

We have just begun our Lenten journey. On Ash Wednesday, Jesus invited us to repent so as to welcome his Kingdom. Yes, Lent is a 40-day journey where we are all invited to renew our prayer life, to fast if our health allows and to improve our spiritual life through repentance. One important way to do so is to attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Penance. On Wednesday 28th of this month, we will have a guest speaker to help us meditate on that aspect of our Christian faith, Father Hector Perez, who is associate Pastor at the church of Nativity in Hollywood. Then in the following week, we will have Parish Confessions on March 5th starting from 6pm. It is recommended by the Church that we should attend confession so as to be able to receive the Most Holy Eucharist on Easter. In fact, the Lenten season leads us to the summit celebration of our Redemption on Easter, the celebration of the Paschal Mystery or of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ.

This is why I invite each one of us to live this Lenten Season according to Jesus' recommendation, so as to obtain the good fruits of this holy Season. I suggest as well that we continue to meditate on the sacramental life because the Sacraments give us divine life with the specific graces that each brings to us. We have already started with Baptism, the Eucharist and Confirmation. The other Sunday we had one section of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Today, we continue a little bit with that Sacrament. The extracts from the Catechism of the Catholic Church are but an invitation to go further in our meditation. So, *Bon appétit!!!*

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION (continued), CCC #1427 To 1429

1427 Jesus calls to conversion. This call is an essential part of the proclamation of the kingdom: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel." In the Church's preaching this call is addressed first to those who do not yet know Christ and his Gospel. Also, Baptism is the principal place for the first and fundamental conversion. It is by faith in the Gospel and by Baptism that one renounces evil and gains salvation, that is, the forgiveness of all sins and the gift of new life.

1428 Christ's call to conversion continues to resound in the lives of Christians. This second conversion is an uninterrupted task for the whole Church who, "clasping sinners to her bosom, [is] at once holy and always in need of purification, [and] follows constantly the path of penance and renewal." This endeavor of conversion is not just a human work. It is the movement of a "contrite heart," drawn and moved by grace to respond to the merciful love of God who loved us first.

1429 St. Peter's conversion after he had denied his master three times bears witness to this. Jesus' look of infinite mercy drew tears of repentance from Peter and, after the Lord's resurrection, a three-fold affirmation of love for him. The second conversion also has a communitarian dimension, as is clear in the Lord's call to a whole Church: "Repent! "

St. Ambrose says of the two conversions that, in the Church, "there are water and tears: the water of Baptism and the tears of repentance. "

Mass Intentions

- Saturday**
5:00 pm **February 17**
† J. Patrick & Nelly O'Connor,
req. by Family
† Joan Fuccillo, req. by Husband Bill
Wellbeing of Barry Hogan,
req. by Marcia Hogan
- Sunday**
8:30 am **February 18**
† Dolores Hesse Fink,
req. by Husband Jack
† Larry Biondi, req. by Anna Marie Pierotti
† Jim Cowgill Jr., req. by Joan Morris

11:00 am Living & Deceased of our Parish
- Monday**
8:30 am **February 19**
† Grace & Murray Toomey,
req. by Helen & M.L. Toomey
† Baby Victoria Arias,
req. by Jorge Rave
- Tuesday**
8:30 am **February 20**
Wellbeing of Yulian Arias,
req. by Jorge Rave
- Wednesday**
8:30 am **February 21**
† Margaret Barrosse
- Thursday**
8:30 **February 22**
Priests & Religious of Our Archdiocese
- Friday**
8:30 am **February 23**
† Elena Loughran, req. by Husband Bill
- Saturday**
5:00 pm **February 24**
† Father Albie Schempp, req. by Richard
Bowes & Freddie Morales
† Joan Fuccillo,
req. by Steve & Nancy Weber
- Sunday**
8:30 am **February 25**
Living & Deceased of our Parish

11:00 am † Jim Cowgill Jr.

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, 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, Ann Maher, Mary Ann Smith, Linda Spitzer, Stephanie & Savannah Kate Allen, Grace & Angelo Ferrara, Blakeleigh Riley

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.

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).

SAVE THE DATE

- February 24** - 8:30 am - Sandwich Ministry
- February 24-25** St. Vincent de Paul Truck in our parking lot
- February 28** - 6:00 pm—Parish Mission with Fr. Hector Perez
- March 5** - Parish Reconciliation
- March 9** - SSCCW Fashion Show & Luncheon

We hope the new year has gotten off to a good start for all of you. The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament Church had a busy month, serving 772 clients representing 2361 individuals. They continue to be blessed with food and financial contributions from surrounding parishes and many individuals. The Pantry also receives regular donations from BJ's, Fresh Market and Publix. Each week they have deliveries from government agencies as well. They are grateful for all of this and for the dedicated team of loyal volunteers which allows them to serve clients every Friday. 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 33rd Street and closes at 3:15). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.



A. B. C. D.

This Lent, let us challenge ourselves to make a difference in the lives of others. In addition to giving up something, please also consider giving back through the ABCD. By supporting the ABCD, we can provide assistance to individuals and families who are in need. Let us embrace the spirit of selflessness and compassion this Lent, ensuring that our actions reflect the true meaning of this holy season, by making a gift to the ABCD today. Please carefully complete the pledge envelope in the pews for your contribution to ABCD, and place it in the Offertory basket. **Our Parish goal this year is \$131,799.** We need the sacrificial commitment of everyone to reach this goal. Your support is greatly appreciated...Thank you!



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EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Eucharistic Adoration takes place in our Chapel of the Divine Healer on Fridays from after the 8:30 am Mass until 5:00 pm. Please consider this opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord in prayer. If you'd like to commit to a specific time slot each week, please call the office as there are available times.

SANDWICH MINISTRY

Sandwich Ministry will meet this Saturday, February 24th, at 8:30 am to make bagged lunches for some of our homeless sisters and brothers. The bagged lunches are then delivered to Hope South Florida for distribution. All willing hands and hearts are welcome!

Remember the P.F.A Challenge for Lent
Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving

St Sebastian Council of Catholic Women Presents our
Easter Parade Luncheon and Fashion Show

March 9, 2024

11:30pm - 3:00pm

Coral Ridge Yacht Club

2800 Yacht Club Blvd.

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

\$50.00 per person



Fashions by Patchington Boutique
Prizes for best Easter Bonnet
Gift Raffles Galore
Parish Cash Raffle

Wear your best Easter bonnet! Award for the most creative Easter Bonnet!

Registration Form

Luncheon Tickets (\$50/ea.) No. _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Lemon Basil Chicken (Sautéed Chicken Breast with Garlic, Olive Oil and Lemon Zest)

If you have special dietary needs please contact Sandi Mann 954-235-4005

Sponsorships

\$1,000 (8 complimentary lunches) *\$500 (4 complimentary lunches)*\$250 (2 complimentary lunches)*

\$150 (1 complimentary lunch)*

Sponsorship \$ _____ Support Donation \$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed _____

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone No. _____

Send order form and checks payable to: SSCCW at St Sebastian Parish, 2000 SE 25th Avenue, FT Lauderdale, FL 33316

For more information call Sandi Mann at 954-235-4005

NOTE: You will receive your tickets at the door

* Tax Deduction Statement will be sent by email