

Sixth Sunday of Easter

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

info@stsebastianfl.org

Saint Sebastian Catholic Parish in Fort Lauderdale, Inc.

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
Johnny Mann
Richard Page
Connie Reed

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

The Beautiful Prayer of the Rosary

My dear brothers and sisters, this weekend I would like to continue our meditation on the Rosary. Last week we had an extract from the writings of Sister Lucia, one of the visionaries of Fatima. It was a straight to the point explanation of the content of the prayers we use in the Rosary: The Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Glory be to the Father... It was an additional confirmation that the Rosary is based on the Gospel since it uses the prayer our Lord taught us and refers to what happened to Mary in Luke, Chapter one, and the so called 'Mysteries' are the various instances and deeds of our Redemption.

Pope John II, in recent times, wrote the most beautiful and powerful teaching on the Rosary in his Apostolic Letter, Rosarium Virginis Mariae (October 2002). In Article 12, here is how Pope John Paul II described the Rosary:

"The Rosary, precisely because it starts with Mary's own experience, is an exquisitely contemplative prayer. Without this contemplative dimension, it would lose its meaning as Pope Paul VI clearly pointed out: "Without contemplation, the Rosary is a body without a soul, and its recitation runs the risk of becoming mechanical repetition of formulas, in violation of the admonition of Christ: 'In praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think they will be heard for their many words' (Mt 6:7). By its nature the recitation of the Rosary calls for a quiet rhythm and a lingering pace, helping the individual to meditate on the mysteries of the Lord's life as seen through the eyes of her who was closest to the Lord. In this way the unfathomable riches of these mysteries are disclosed".

Let us take a look at how the Rosary Prayer unfolds:

The Apostle's Creed: With strength we profess that Creed to remind us that we are praying the Rosary to give praise and glory to the only One God in Three Persons

We Say the Our Father, because it is fitting that the Lord's prayer should be at the heart of our prayers.

The Hail Mary is the greeting of the Angel Gabriel together with a short Church petition to Mary to pray for us

We pray 'Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit...' because Mary herself gave us the perfect example when she answered to the Message of the angel that she was the humble servant of the Lord and that all should be done according to his word. All glory should be given but to God alone.

Now there is a short invocation that was given by the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima: '*Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those who are in need of thy mercy*'. Do we all need to be saved from the fires of hell?

Anyway, what are the Mysteries that we meditate on?

The Joyfully Mysteries: *Annunciation, Visitation, Nativity of Jesus, Presentation and Finding of Jesus in the temple.* They are about how Jesus, the only Begotten Son of God, became incarnate and came into this world for our salvation.

The Sorrowful Mysteries: *The Agony in the Garden, the Scourging at the Pilar, the Crowning with thorns, the Carrying of the Cross and Death of our Lord on the Cross.* It is a straightforward meditation of the ultimate and fundamental deed that Jesus did for our salvation, by accepting the sacrifice on the Cross.

The Glorious Mysteries: *The Resurrection, the Ascension in heaven, The Coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven and her Crowning as Queen of Heaven and earth.* Our faith proclaims that Christ died and rose from the dead. Then he ascended into heaven and sent us the Holy Spirit from the Father. That Holy Spirit will lead the Church into the Glory of heaven where Mary has been the first human being to enter: Mother of God, Mother of the Church she is our advocate and intercessor before God.

Finally we have the Luminous Mysteries: *The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, the Wedding of Cana in Galilee, the Proclamation of the Kingdom, the Transfiguration and the Institution of the Eucharist.* These were introduced by Pope John Paul II in 2002. Clearly they're about the Ministry of Jesus.

Truly the Rosary is a contemplation on the Life of Jesus and how he worked out our salvation. All those Mysteries are in the Gospel.

I hope we will make a point to pray the Rosary as we should. I like very much that prayer of the Church in each Hail Mary: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of death. Amen"

-- Fr. Ernest

Mass Intentions

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| Saturday 5:00 pm | May 4 † Joan Fuccillo, req. by Bill, Joanie, & Gary |
| Sunday 8:30 am 11:00 am | May 5 † Sister Marguerite McGilly, S.C. Living & Deceased of our Parish |
| Monday 8:30 am | May 6 † Cassie Pollakis, req. by children |
| Tuesday 8:30 am | May 7 † Eduardo Garcia |
| Wednesday 8:30 am | May 8 Wellbeing of Nicholas Kidd, req. by Anna Marie Pierotti Wellbeing of Christine Loughran & Will Burnham, req. by Bill Loughran |
| Thursday 8:30 am | May 9 † Eduardo Garcia |
| Friday 8:30 am | May 10 Wellbeing of Marcia Hogan, req. by Barry Hogan Wellbeing of Anita Kidd, req. by Anna Marie Pierotti |
| Saturday 5:00 pm | May 11 † J. Patrick & Nelly O'Connor, req. by Family † Joan D. Fuccillo, req. by Joanie, Gary & Bill † Dolores Davis, req. by Dale Kavatto & Stan Coniglio |
| Sunday 8:30 am 11:00 am | May 12 Mother's Day Novena Living & Deceased of Our Parish |

REMEMBER THE SICK

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

Rodrigues, John Harris, Stephen Black, Alvaro Arevalo, Paul Ristow, Matt Keysers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Tom Casey, Charles Benoit, Rob Messerschmidt, Anne McCormick, Patty Marma, Diane Johnson, Susan Lochrie, Ray Wicklander, Kathy Mahoney, Lila Ferrazza, Cash Dugan, Harriette Sessa, Mary Ann Smith, Linda Spitzer, Stephanie & Savannah Kate Allen, Grace & Angelo Ferrara, Blakeleigh Riley, Connie Reed, Melissa Mirabile, Marge Mitchell, Rasoul Karimi, Jean Gorman, Ann Star

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 Gospel of Mark with Angela McNaughton facilitating.

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 for available times.

*"This I command you:
Love one Another."*

—Jesus

SAVE THE DATE

May 18-19- St. Vincent de Paul Truck in our parking lot



"If you bestow your bread on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted; then light shall rise for you in the darkness, and the gloom shall become for you like midday." (Is. 58:10). How can we ignore these words from the Old Testament? We have been blessed with the ability to do what this verse commands. Let's fill our shopping carts with weekly contributions of non-perishable food and hygiene items! To care is to share.

PLEASE REMEMBER: In addition to food and hygiene items, 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 also 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.

ROSARY RALLY SATURDAY

SSCCW invites St. Sebastian parish to a Rosary Rally on Saturday, May 11, at 12noon-1pm at the shrine/mosaic of Our Lady, Star of the Sea at St. Sebastian. This event commemorates the first vision of the Virgin Mary to the children at Fatima, Portugal in 1917. Please bring your rosary and a folding chair. Programs will be provided.

MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA

A Novena of Masses for mothers - living and deceased- will begin on Mother's Day, May 12th and continue through May 20th. If you wish to include your mother, please write her name on the envelope you will find in the pews, and place it in the Offertory basket or give it to an Usher. Envelopes will be placed on the altar during the Novena.

FIRST GRADE TEACHER NEEDED

St. Jerome Catholic School in Fort Lauderdale is looking to hire a qualified 1st Grade Teacher for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year that is passionate about teaching, can help students learn, and apply a curriculum for elementary students. The Elementary Teacher performs all duties and responsibilities in alignment with the mission, vision, and values of the Catholic Archdiocese of Miami. To apply, send resume with cover letter to the Principal at: tmarino@stjfl.org.

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Next week our special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects Catholics with Christ in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Archdiocese of Miami to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! Learn more at www.usccb.org/cc.

"AN APPOINTED TIME FOR EVERYTHING..."

After more than 28 years of ministry at St. Sebastian Parish, and after much prayer, Annie Gardner has decided that it is time to retire. Her last day will be Saturday, June 22, 2024. Annie thanks you for your support over the years, and trusts that you will all continue to work together to keep St. Sebastian the wonderful Parish Family that it is. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide Father Ernest in his search for a replacement for Annie. You will be hearing details about a Retirement Reception soon stay tuned.



RELIGIOUS FRANCE PILGRIMAGE

UNDER THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTION OF THE REV. ERNEST BIRIRUKA

WE WILL VISIT:

In Paris: The Montmartre neighborhood and its Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The Chapel of "Notre Dame de la Medaille Miraculeuse. Enjoy the dinner cruise on the Siene river.

In Lisieux: The Basílique of Saint Therese (known as Saint Therese of the child Jesus), the Sanctuary (les Buissonests) of Lesieux and the "Cathedrale of St Pierre".

In Parial Le Monial: Visit places dedicated to "Sainte Marguerite Marie Alacoque", in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Margaret Mary Alacoque was a French Catholic Visitation nun and mystic who promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

In Ars Sur Formens: The wax museum, the Basílica, both deededicated to "St. Jean Vianney". Transfer to Dardilly where we will visit the house of St Jean Vianney, and the church.

In Avignon: Visit the Palace of the Popes; It is one of the largest and most important medieval Gothic buildings in Europe. Once a fortress and palace, the papal residence was a seat of Western Christianity during the 14th century. Six papal conclaves were held in the Palais.

In Lourds: Sanctuary of our Lady of Lourdes. In the afternoon visit of church of St. Bernadette, and her paternal house. the Marian (torchlight) procession at 9:00 pm.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Round trip Air France ticket in the route: Miami, Paris and Paris, Miami. And a airlines ticket from Lourdes to Paris with taxes and airports chargers included.
- 6 nights in 4* hotels in Paris, Avivgon and Lourdes.with taxes included
- 2 nights in 3* hotel in Paray le Monial with axes included.
- 7 breakfast at the hotels
- 7 dinners at the hotels .
- English speaking guide throughout the tour.
- Admissions to all sites included in the itinerary.
- Baggage handling (except at the airports)
- Cable car to reach Montmartre Basilica
- Modern motor coach service exclusive for the group.
- Daily Mass

DEPARTURE DATE: SEPTEMBER, 22, 2024 -RETURN DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
9 DAYS / PRICE PER PERSON: 4,375.00
(SPACE IS LIMITED / PAYMENT OPTIONS)



For more information or to book your reservation please contact the parish office or Antonio o Lilliam Morales at QVI Travel Group, Inc.

Ph: (305) 274-0453 or email: qualityvacations@hotmail.com