

# The Ascension of the Lord

2000 Marietta (S.E. 25th) Avenue

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

[info@stsebastianfl.org](mailto: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](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*

**“JESUS ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN”**

**659** "So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God." Christ's body was glorified at the moment of his Resurrection, as proved by the new and supernatural properties it subsequently and permanently enjoys. But during the forty days when he eats and drinks familiarly with his disciples and teaches them about the kingdom, his glory remains veiled under the appearance of ordinary humanity. Jesus' final apparition ends with the irreversible entry of his humanity into divine glory, symbolized by the cloud and by heaven, where he is seated from that time forward at God's right hand. Only in a wholly exceptional and unique way would Jesus show himself to Paul "as to one untimely born," in a last apparition that established him as an apostle.

**660** The veiled character of the glory of the Risen One during this time is intimated in his mysterious words to Mary Magdalene: "I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." This indicates a difference in manifestation between the glory of the risen Christ and that of the Christ exalted to the Father's right hand, a transition marked by the historical and transcendent event of the Ascension.

**661** This final stage stays closely linked to the first, that is, to his descent from heaven in the Incarnation. Only the one who "came from the Father" can return to the Father: Christ Jesus. "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man." Left to its own natural powers humanity does not have access to the "Father's house," to God's life and happiness. Only Christ can open to man such access that we, his members, might have confidence that we too shall go where he, our Head and our Source, has preceded us.

**662** "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." The lifting up of Jesus on the cross signifies and announces his lifting up by his Ascension into heaven, and indeed begins it. Jesus Christ, the one priest of the new and eternal Covenant, "entered, not into a sanctuary made by human hands . . . But into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf." There Christ permanently exercises his priesthood, for he "always lives to make intercession" for "those who draw near to God through him." As "high priest of the good things to come" he is the center and the principal actor of the liturgy that honors the Father in heaven.

**663** Henceforth Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father: "By 'the Father's right hand' we understand the glory and honor of divinity, where he who exists as Son of God before all ages, indeed as God, of one being with the Father, is seated bodily after he became incarnate and his flesh was glorified."

**664** Being seated at the Father's right hand signifies the inauguration of the Messiah's kingdom, the fulfillment of the prophet Daniel's vision concerning the Son of man: "To him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed." After this event the apostles became witnesses of the "kingdom [that] will have no end."

—From *Catechism of the Catholic Church* paragraphs 659-664



Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>May 11</b> † J. Patrick & Nelly O'Connor, req. by Family † Joan D. Fuccillo, req. by Joanie, Gary & Bill † Dolores Davis, req. by Dale Kavatto & Stan Coniglio
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 11:00 am	<b>May 12</b> Mother's Day Novena Living & Deceased of our Parish
<b>Monday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 13</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 14</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 15</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Thursday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 16</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Friday</b> 8:30 am	<b>May 17</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>May 18</b> Mother's Day Novena
<b>Sunday</b> 8:30 am 11:00 am	<b>May 19</b> 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 Keyzers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rob Messerschmidt, Anne McCormick, Patty Marma, Diane Johnson, Susan Lochrie, Ray Wicklander, Kathy Mahoney, Lila Ferzacca, Cash Dugan, Harriette Sessa, Mary Ann Smith, Linda Spitzer, Stephanie & Savannah Kate Allen, Grace & Angelo Ferrara, Blakeleigh Riley, Melissa Mirabile, Marge Mitchell, Rasoul Karimi, Jean Gorman, Ann Star, Linda DeBold

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.

MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA

A Novena of Masses for mothers - living and deceased - begins on Mother's Day, May 12th and continues 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.



*Happy Mother's Day!*

SAVE THE DATE

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

June 15 at 6:30 pm - Annie's Retirement Reception



During the month of April, the Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament Church served 791 clients representing 2,852 individuals... and YOU helped to make that happen with your donations 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 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and closes at 3:15). First timers must provide proof of residency in Broward County.

CONGRATULATIONS NOELLE!

Congratulations to Noelle Dowers who receives Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion at the 11:00 Mass this weekend! Let us pray that she will continually grow closer to the Lord and receive Him often in the Eucharist. God bless you, Noelle!

SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Today we take up the collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps the CCC connect Catholics with Christ in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Archdiocese of Miami to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the gospel message. Support the collection today! Learn more at [www.usccb.org/cc](http://www.usccb.org/cc).

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](mailto:tmarino@stjfl.org).

"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.





# 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](mailto:qualityvacations@hotmail.com)