

# Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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*

## THE EUCHARIST AND ECCLESIAL COMMUNION

34. The Extraordinary Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in 1985 saw in the concept of an “ecclesiology of communion” the central and fundamental idea of the documents of the Second Vatican Council. The Church is called during her earthly pilgrimage to maintain and promote communion with the Triune God and communion among the faithful. For this purpose she possesses the word and the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist, by which she “constantly lives and grows” and in which she expresses her very nature. It is not by chance that the term *communion* has become one of the names given to this sublime sacrament.

The Eucharist thus appears as the culmination of all the sacraments in perfecting our communion with God the Father by identification with his only-begotten Son through the working of the Holy Spirit. With discerning faith a distinguished writer of the Byzantine tradition voiced this truth: in the Eucharist “unlike any other sacrament, the mystery [of communion] is so perfect that it brings us to the heights of every good thing: here is the ultimate goal of every human desire, because here we attain God and God joins himself to us in the most perfect union”. Precisely for this reason it is good to *cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist*. This was the origin of the practice of “spiritual communion”, which has happily been established in the Church for centuries and recommended by saints who were masters of the spiritual life. Saint Teresa of Jesus wrote: “When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you”.

35. The celebration of the Eucharist, however, cannot be the starting-point for communion; it presupposes that communion already exists, a communion which it seeks to consolidate and bring to perfection. The sacrament is an expression of this bond of communion both in its *invisible* dimension, which, in Christ and through the working of the Holy Spirit, unites us to the Father and among ourselves, and in its *visible* dimension, which entails communion in the teaching of the Apostles, in the sacraments and in the Church's hierarchical order. The profound relationship between the invisible and the visible elements of ecclesial communion is constitutive of the Church as the sacrament of salvation. Only in this context can there be a legitimate celebration of the Eucharist and true participation in it. Consequently it is an intrinsic requirement of the Eucharist that it should be celebrated in communion, and specifically maintaining the various bonds of that communion intact.

36. Invisible communion, though by its nature always growing, presupposes the life of grace, by which we become “partakers of the divine nature” (2 Pet 1:4), and the practice of the virtues of faith, hope and love. Only in this way do we have true communion with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Nor is faith sufficient; we must persevere in sanctifying grace and love, remaining within the Church “bodily” as well as “in our heart”; what is required, in the words of Saint Paul, is “faith working through love” (Gal 5:6).

Keeping these invisible bonds intact is a specific moral duty incumbent upon Christians who wish to participate fully in the Eucharist by receiving the body and blood of Christ. The Apostle Paul appeals to this duty when he warns: “Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup” (1 Cor 11:28). Saint John Chrysostom, with his stirring eloquence, exhorted the faithful: “I too raise my voice, I beseech, beg and implore that no one draw near to this sacred table with a sullied and corrupt conscience. Such an act, in fact, can never be called 'communion', not even were we to touch the Lord's body a thousand times over, but 'condemnation', 'torment' and 'increase of punishment’”.

*From: Ecclesia de Eucharistia by Saint John Paul II*

### ***A Heartfelt Message from Father Ernest:***

*I want to acknowledge and thank the St Sebastian Men's Club, the Council of Catholic Women, and our Pastoral Council for hosting Annie Gardner's retirement reception. Those groups as well as individual members contributed financially in addition to their labor to make the evening a first-class event for our Parish Community. In the future with your support we will have equally enjoyable events.*

Mass Intentions

Table with 2 columns: Day and Intention. Rows include Saturday (June 22), Sunday (June 23), Monday (June 24), Tuesday (June 25), Wednesday (June 26), Thursday (June 27), Friday (June 28), Saturday (June 29), Sunday (June 30).

REMEMBER THE SICK

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

John Harris, Stephen Black, Alvaro Arevalo, Paul Ristow, Matt Keyzers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rob Messerschmidt, Anne McCormick, Patty Marma, Ray Wicklander, Kathy Mahoney, Lila Ferzacca, Mary Ann Smith, Linda Spitzer, Blakeleigh Riley, Melissa Mirabile, Marge Mitchell, Rasoul Karimi, Jean Gorman, Ann Star, Linda DeBold, Jay Hoover, Ed Kidd, Mary Beth Bogler

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.

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.

SAVE THE DATE

June 23 - Bloodmobile in parking lot. Please donate.
July-13-14 - St. Vincent de Paul truck scheduled to be here.



The month of May had 5 (very hot!) Fridays. The Food Pantry at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church serve 952 clients representing 3,007 individuals. Surrounding parishes continue to support the pantry with food and hygiene items. The pantry also receives donations from Publix, Fresh Market, ad BJ's. They receive deliveries from Feeding South Florida weekly and Farm Share biweekly. Because of this, their clients receive a substantial amount of a variety of foods, and they are grateful for the support they receive. 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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Next week we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including helping Pope Francis to carry out his charitable works. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

WE WANT YOUR BLOOD!

The Oneblood Bloodmobile will be in front of our church this Sunday, June 23rd, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm for your donation of blood. Please take about one half hour, roll up your sleeve and give the gift of life. Every two seconds of every day, someone needs blood.

Decorative border of hearts surrounding the text: Sincerest Thanks! What a fabulous celebration you blessed me with last Saturday evening! Thank you to all who worked so hard to make it such a success, and to each of you who took the time to express your love and appreciation. Thank you for so many overwhelming gifts! As I retire from St. Sebastian, my heart is full of many memories and much gratitude. May the Lord continue to hold us all together in the palm of His hand. With much love and gratitude, Annie Gardner

Decorative border of palm trees surrounding the text: PRAYER TO AVERT HURRICANES Father, all the elements of nature obey your commands. Protect us and all your people during this season of storms and hurricanes. Calm our fears and help us prepare our hearts as well as our homes. Help us see you in all we may encounter, and help us to minister to each other in your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



*Give thanks to  
The Lord,  
His Love is  
Everlasting!*