

NINETEENTH Sunday in Ordinary Time

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
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MASSES

Saturday 5 pm

Office Staff

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

“WHO EVER EATS THIS BREAD WILL LIVE FOR EVER”

My dear brothers and sisters,

Today I would like to share a few thoughts on what Jesus said that *‘who ever eats this bread will live forever (Jn 6: 51)*, obviously talking of eating his body and drinking his blood. Jesus will insist and clarify: *“Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I will raise that person up on the last day”*. *Jn 6: 54*. Very often we focus on the faith in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and on the liturgical celebration, which are extremely important. But today I would like to invite you to reflect more on how the Eucharist leads us to the resurrection and eternal life.

First and foremost, we have to think of the human destiny and fulfillment: As human beings, our true fulfilment is in God. True happiness is only in God; He created us not just to end up in dust (or in ashes, when we think of cremation), but to be able to share eternal life with Him. And the only way to God, our Father, is through Jesus his Son. *“I am the Way; I am the Truth and Life. No one can come to the Father except through me”* *Jn 14: 6*. He is the only one who overcame the enemies of humankind, Sin and Death, by dying on the Cross and rising from the dead. *“No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me and I will raise that person up on the last day”* *Jn 6:44*

So, Jesus promised to raise from the dead anyone who feeds on his body and drinks his blood. The Eucharist is the pledge of immortality. It nurtures grace or divine life in us and therefore confirms that we will share in God’s eternity. Natural food sustains us in this life, allow us to grow and live but all along we grow older and some day we will die. In some cases, what we eat or drink may cause sickness in our body and death. It is different with the Eucharist which nurtures our spiritual life for eternal life. We may realize that the Eucharist can even bring physical healing. Some mystics like Marthe Robin (in France) lived on the Eucharist for years. While natural food brings growth to physical body, the Eucharist nurture divine life in us and leads us to that “maturity” that Saint Paul talks about until we can get the full stature of Christ (Eph 4:13); this means that receiving Holy Communion and living according to Who we receive leads to the transformation (or transfiguration) of our lives to be like Christ himself. Again Saint Paul said: *“I have been crucified with Christ and I am alive; yet it is no longer I, but Christ living in me”*. Gal 2:20. Also in Eph. 4:15 *“If we live by the truth and in love, we shall grow completely into Christ, who is the head, by whom the whole Body is fitted and joined together...”*.

Again, here we are talking of the mystery of faith and not of magic: *“In all truth I tell you, everyone who believes has eternal life”* *Jn 6:47*; And if we refer to verse 54 as quoted above, we can ask ‘how will Jesus raise us up’? We cannot know exactly ‘how’ but we can understand that in the same way that Jesus rose from the dead, we too shall rise with him, and we obtain that capacity because of divine life that we receive from Him, especially through the Eucharist. Not only the Eucharist gives us life and strength in our daily struggles but also begins eternal life in us: As we receive the Eucharist, the seeds of sin and death diminish or perish in us while the power of the resurrection grows stronger in us. We can have a ‘glimpse’ of this if we refer to how Saint Paul understood his apostolic work that *‘In us death is at work; in you life’* *2Co4:12*; in the same way Jesus dies for us in sacrifice and thus enable us through the Eucharist to be a new creation; a new creation that will enjoy the life of the resurrection for ever in heaven. According to DS 846, Pope Urban said: *“...in this sacrament we celebrate in thanksgiving the memory of our Saviour, we are drawn away from evil, we are strengthened in what is good, and we advance and increase in virtue and grace.”* (J. Neuner, S.J. & Dupuis, S.J., [The Christian Faith... Art. 1511](#))

This life, we receive it in the Church. ‘The Church make the Eucharist but the Eucharist make the Church’. We need to participate in the Mass so that we can receive the Eucharist. God makes an offer; He invites us to his banquet and our indispensable duty consists in [going to Him with faith](#) to receive the Bread of Life.

Fr. Ernest, 08/06/2024

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	August 10 † Joan Fuccillo, req. by the Family † Hector & Elvira Cabrisas, req. by Family † Rolando Augusto Contreras Avila
Sunday 8:30 am	August 11 † Albert J. Mainellie, req. by Jack Tavone † Conor Griffith, req. by Sajdera Family † Juana Esperanza Madera Posada, req. by the Family
11:00 am	Living & deceased of our Parish
Monday 8:30am	August 12 † Verly Phillip, req. by Johnny & Sandi Mann
Tuesday 8:30 am	August 13 † Elias Paiva, req. by Johnny & Sandi Mann
Wednesday 8:30 am	August 14 † Connie Rowe, req. by Johnny & Sandi Mann
Thursday 8:30 am	August 15 † Mary E. Gabriel, req. by Kathy Cabrisas † Tom Middlemiss, req. by Grace Middlemiss
6pm	† Juana Esperanza Madera Posada, req. by the Family
Friday 8:30 am	August 16 † Wellbeing of Barry Hogan, req. by Marcia Hogan
Saturday 5:00 pm	August 17 † J. Patrick & Nelly O'Connor, req. by family † Isabel Odabashian, req. by Fuccillo family
Sunday 8:30 am	August 18 Living & deceased of our Parish
11:00 am	† Conor Griffith, req. by Sajdera Family † Juana Esperanza Madera Posada, req. By the Family

REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Linda Grable, Suzanne Plum, Gail Mills, 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, Ray Wicklander, Kathy Mahoney, Lila Ferzacca, Mary Ann Smith, Linda Spitzer, Blakeleigh Riley, Melissa Mirabile, Marge Mitchell, Rasoul Karimi, Jean Gorman, Linda DeBold, Jay Hoover, Ed Kidd, Mary Beth Bogler, Joel Rivera, Amparo Leon.

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 Colossians with patty Taylor 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.



The St. Vincent de Paul truck will be here on August 24-25.

During the (very hot!) month of July, we were able to serve 759 clients representing 2515 individuals. Our expenses for the month were \$4459.07. In addition to assisting several people with partial rents and utility bills and giving gift cards to homeless/non-cooking

clients, we were able to replace a few old donated freezers with new (and much more efficient) ones. All of this is possible because of the continual food and financial donations from surrounding parishes and many generous donors. In the name of our grateful clients, I thank each of you for that.

Every month we have a Mass celebrated for past and present members and benefactors of our St. Vincent DePaul chapter. The next one will be on Wednesday, August 21 at 8:00 AM at Blessed Sacrament Church. Please join us in person or in prayer.

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 only (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.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY MEETING

WHEN: August 24, Saturday at 10am

WHERE: In the Church

FOR WHO: All Lectors, EMHC'S, Sacristans, and all who have gracefully volunteered.



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

August 15, this coming Thursday, is the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our masses will be at 8:30am and 6pm in the Church.. A Solemnity in the liturgical year is a feast day of the highest rank celebrating a mystery of faith such as the Trinity, an event in the life of Jesus, the Blessed Virgin Mary, or important saints.

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.



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

*On November 1, 1950 Pope Pius XII solemnly defined as a dogma of faith Mary's bodily Assumption into heaven. The precise words of the definition, found in the apostolic constitution **Munificentissimus Deus**, teach just what we are called to believe as a matter of divine Catholic faith. "We pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.*