AUGUST 10, 2025

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Sebastian Catholic Parish in Fort Lauderdale, Inc. (954)524-9344

MASSES
Saturday 5 pm (Sunday Vigil)
Sunday 8:30 am,11 am & 6 pm

Weekdays
8:30 am (Mon. through Fri.)

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Lunch: 1:00 pm—1:30 pm

Pastor
Rev. Ernest Biriruka

Office Staff
Francy Gonzalez
Kathryn Cabrisas
Judy Fisher

Director of Music
Peter J. Manfredi, Jr.
(954) 868-6137

Vocalist
Cathy Spitzer

Facilities
Patricio Diaz-Pizarro

Pastoral Council
Nancy Adams
Mauricio Bautista
Judy Fisher
Rosemary Guerin
Johnny Mann
Sandi Mann
Ed Rebholz
John Mann

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 Family.

"Blessed are those servants whom the Lord, when he returns, will find being vigilant." (Luke 12:37a)

"PARABLE OF BEING PREPARED"

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 PASTOR'S DESK: NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV SPEAKS TO US

My dear brothers and sisters,

On this 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Word of God invites us to renew our faith in God. This is the kind of faith that made Abraham walk with unwavering hope in what God had promised him. It is with that same faith and hope that we are invited to carry out what Jesus wants us to do: to be faithful and prudent stewards of his gifts.
In his homily during the Holy Mass for the Jubilee of Youth on this August 3rd, Pope Leo XIV invites us to seek true happiness in God, to seek Jesus, and to have hope.

Here is an extract from his homily.

"Saint Augustine, reflecting on his intense search for God, asked himself: "What, then, is the object of our hope [...]? Is it the earth? No. Is it something that comes from the earth, such as gold, silver, trees, crops, or water [...]? These things are pleasing, these things are beautiful, these things are good" (Serrmon 313/F, 3). And the conclusion he reached was: "Seek the one who made them, he is your hope" (ibid.). Thinking of his own journey, he prayed, saying: "You [Lord] were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I searched for you […] You called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness. You flashed, you shone and you dispelled my blindness. You breathed your fragrance on me; I drew in breath and now I pant for you. I have tasted you (cf. Ps 34:8; 1 Pt 2:3) now I hunger and thirst for more (cf. Mt 5:6; 1 Cor 4:11); you touched me, and I burned for your peace" (Confessions, 10, 27).

Sisters and brothers, these are beautiful words and they remind us of what Pope Francis said to young people like you in Lisbon during World Youth Day: "we find ourselves facing great questions that have no simple or immediate answers, but challenge us to continue the journey, to rise above ourselves and to press beyond the here and now. [...] We are called to something higher, and we will never be able to soar unless we first take flight. We should not be alarmed, then, if we sense an inner thirst, a restless, unfulfilled longing for meaning and a future [...] We should not be lethargic, but alive!" (Address to University Students, 3 August 2023).

There is a burning question in our hearts, a need for truth that we cannot ignore, which leads us to ask ourselves: what is true happiness? What is the true meaning of life? What can free us from being trapped in meaninglessness, boredom and mediocrity? In recent days, you have had many beautiful experiences. You have met other young people from different parts of the world and from diverse cultures. You have exchanged knowledge, shared expectations and entered into dialogue with the city through art, music, technology and sport. At the Circus Maximus, you also approached the Sacrament of Penance and received God's forgiveness, asking for his help to live a good life.

Through all this, you can grasp an important point: the fullness of our existence does not depend on what we store up or, as we heard in the Gospel, on what we possess (cf. Lk 12:13-21). Rather, fullness has to do with what we joyfully welcome and share (cf. Mt 10:8-10; Jn 6:1-13). Buying, hoarding and consuming are not enough. We need to lift our eyes, to look upwards, to the "things that are above" (Col 3:2), to realize that everything in the world has meaning only insofar as it serves to unite us to God and to our brothers and sisters in charity, helping us to grow in "compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience" (Col 3:12), forgiveness (cf. ibid., v. 13) and peace (cf. Jn 14:27), all in imitation of Christ (cf. Phil 2:5). And in this way we will grow in an ever deeper understanding of what it means that hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us (cf. Rom 5:5).

Dear young people, Jesus is our hope. It is he, as Saint John Paul II said, "who stirs in you the desire to do something great with your lives [...] to commit… to improving yourselves and society, making the world more human and more fraternal." (XV World Youth Day, Prayer Vigil, 19 August 2000). Let us remain united to him, let us remain in his friendship, always, cultivating it through prayer, adoration, Eucharistic Communion, frequent Confession, and generous charity, following the examples of Blessed Piergiorgio Frassati and Blessed Carlo Acutis who will soon be declared saints. Aspire to great things, to holiness, wherever you are. Do not settle for less. You will then see the light of the Gospel growing every day, in you and around you.

I entrust you to the Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Hope. With her help, as you return to your countries in the coming days, in every part of the world, continue to walk joyfully in the footsteps of the Savior, and spread your enthusiasm and the witness of your faith to everyone you meet! Have a good trip home!"

Father Ernest

Keep praying and continue your special devotions during this time of the year!

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — AUGUST 10, 2025

Mass Intentions

Saturday — **AUGUST 9**
5:00 pm
† Joan Fuccillo, by Family
Birthday Blessing of Msgr. James Fetscher, by Father Ernest & Office Staff

Sunday — **AUGUST 10**
8:30 am
† Fernando Tarazona, by his Daughters
† Margaret Montanaro, by Anna Marie Pierotti
11:00 am
Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
6:00 pm
† Rev. Timothy Geary

Monday — **AUGUST 11 St. Clare**
8:30 am
Wellbeing of Georgianna Eschen, by Donald Bourke

Tuesday — **AUGUST 12**
8:30 am
Birthday Blessing of Sean Ennis, by Family

Wednesday — **AUGUST 13**
8:30 am
Wellbeing of Msgr. James Fetscher
Birthday Blessing of Peter Kidd, by Anna Marie Pierotti

Thursday — **AUGUST 14 St. Maximillian Kolbe**
8:30 am
Wellbeing of Bill Fuccillo

Friday — **AUGUST 15 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
8:30 am
† Carol Sica, by SSCCW
6:00 pm
Wellbeing of Msgr. James Fetscher
(Masses in the Church)

Saturday — **AUGUST 16**
5:00 pm
† Joan Fuccillo, by Family
† Ossi Pierotti, by Anna Marie Pierotti

Sunday — **AUGUST 17**
8:30 am
† Kay Lesnick, by Broward Serra Club
11:00 am
† Carol Sica, by Judy Fisher
† Dr. Jairo Casas, by Gloria Casas
6:00 pm
Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian

REMEMBER THE SICK

Msgr. James Fetscher, Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Gail Mills, Don Loughran, Jr., John Harris, Stephen Black, Alvaro Arevalo, Paul Ristow, Matt Keysers, Judy Flood, Sister Frances Voss, O.S.C., Rob Messerschmidt, Anne McCormick, Ray Wicklander, Kathy Mahoney, Linda Spitzer, Blake-Leigh Riley, Melissa Mirabile, Marge Mitchell, Rasoul Karimi, Jean Gorman, Ed Kidd, Mary Beth Vogler, Joel Rivera, Fred Zagone S.J., Anthony Cotilus, Mark Bromage, Jonathan Hughes, Donato Montanaro, William Hirsch, Gary Demberg, Bill Fuccillo, Lawrence Biondi S.J., Angela Cowherd, Mauricio Bautista, Michael Fisher, Sean Ennis. Georgianna Eschen, Ruth Mckelvie

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for the men and women that you have called to discern the calling to priesthood and religious life. We beg your continued blessing on our Archdiocese of Miami and on all our families. Call forth more women and men of generous spirit and fervent love whom you desire for this holy work. We make this prayer in Jesus' name,
Amen.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Takes place in our **chapel of the Divine Healer** on **Fridays** after morning Mass until 5:00 pm.

We still need adorers of the **Holy Eucharist** for the following times: 1-2 pm, 2-3 pm & 3-4 pm

Please contact the office if you are able to come to any of those hours.

Thank you!

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Conditions to receive the Eucharist

- *Be a practicing Catholic and without mortal sin.*
- *Must confess mortal sins before receiving.*
- *Divorced who are single can receive.*
- *Those in a civil marriage or cohabitating cannot receive until they are married in the Church.*
- *Note: For any question or to begin the annulment process for a previous marriage, please contact the Pastor.*

SAINT SEBASTIAN CHURCH
DRIVE OUT HUNGER!
HELP PUT FOOD ON THE TABLE IN BROWARD COUNTY

"*For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink.* (Matt. 25:35). How often have we heard these words spoken by Jesus? Through our weekly contributions of non-perishable food and hygiene items to the needy of Fort Lauderdale, we respond to Jesus. 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**. You can also place these items in the shopping carts. If you know of anyone in need, please tell them that a drive thru grocery distribution takes place every Friday from 1:30-4:00 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, and closes at 3:15 PM. The Food Bank is currently in special need of canned meat, fish or similar protein items.

First time must provide proof of residency in Broward County.

Thank you! Your donations are greatly appreciated!

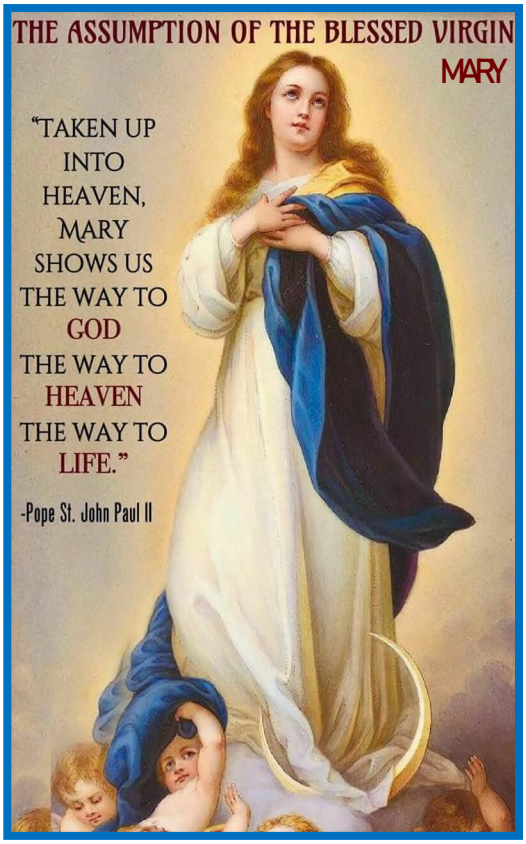
PARISH EVENTS AND DATES

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/StsebastianFL

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 10, 2025

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE –August 14

"Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin Mary too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did." St. MK.



All of the community of Saint Sebastian would like to say

Happy "84th" Birthday

Msgr. James Fetscher

NEW AMERICAN BIBLES!

Now available
In the parish office
for a ten dollar donation

WEEKDAY 8:30 AM MASS

IN THE CHAPEL OF THE DIVINE HEALER

Located in THE PARISH CENTER

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY

We invite everyone to join us in praying the Rosary, **Monday - Friday, at 7:50 am,** before daily mass, in the Chapel of the Divine Healer. Let us come together in prayer and deepen our devotion to Our Blessed Mother.
All are welcome!

PARISH PICNIC AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Join us on **August 17, 2025 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm** in the Parish Hall. Tickets are $10.00 each and can be purchased at the Parish office or after Masses. Children 10 and under eat free. Grilled Hot dogs and Hamburgers will be served along with Ice Cream and all the toppings. Enjoy refreshing Ice Tea and Lemonade.

If you would like to share your favorite Picnic Side Dish there will be a sign up sheet at all the entrances of the church or you can call Sandi at 954-235-4005

All are Welcome!

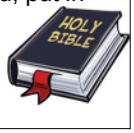
BIBLE SHARING

Join us for **Scripture sharing every Thursday** in the Parish Hall **from 9:15 to 10:30 am.**

We are sharing **The Acts of the Apostles.** **With the help of Fr. Ernest**

You may also join us online by dialing 848-777-1212; when prompted, put in 1431434#.

For more information, please contact **Miriam Rivas At 954-673-1522**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

You may use this QR code to donate to our Parish

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 to 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.

FOR BETTER PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS

With your smart phone or computer, you can find Daily Mass Readings and Prayers easily. Search for: Daily Bible Readings: WWW.USCCB.ORG

For Prayers, go to Mass Prayer or Order of Mass.

USCCB stands for US Conference of Catholic Bishops.