AUGUST 24, 2025

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

THANK YOU MONSIGNOR JAMES FETSCHER

With heavy hearts we say goodbye to our beloved Monsignor James Fetscher, who passed away on August 16, 2025. He was a true gift to our Church and communities. Msgr. Fetscher was an excellent spiritual leader and an amazing preacher with some added humor. His love of God and neighbor shines as a testament to his vibrant spirit.

We will deeply miss his compassionate guidance, and the light he brought into our lives both at St. Louis and St. Sebastian. We are so grateful for all his years of priestly service and the countless lives he touched. We extend our Condolences to his family and to everyone who knew him. In his honor, let us continue to carry on the message of love and joy he so beautifully shared with us! “No one should go hungry”.

It is our hope and prayer that the Lord tells him: “Well done, good and faithful servant...enter into the joy of your Master”. (Mt 25:21)

Fr. Ernest

A Tribute to Monsignor Jim Fetscher

August 9, 1941- August 16, 2025

Former Pastor of St. Sebastian Catholic Parish

Monsignor Fetscher epitomized what being the Shepherd of St Sebastian Catholic Community was about. He loved gathering with his flock and considered his life as a priest in the service of the Lord and His people his greatest joy, faithfully lived out in love for the poor, in his daily Rosary and celebration of the Eucharist. He consistently witnessed with gratitude the love of his family that nurtured his vocation, the Church with her people and his brother priests all working together for the glory of God.

Monsignor Jim had a wonderful sense of welcome and humor. We recall his St. Sebastian aviary of "sunbirds, snowbirds, peacocks and emus" (that is, year-round residents, seasonal residents, vacationers, and those "rarely seen in the western hemisphere" – meaning those who join us only rarely). He had a knack for sharing the love and joy of the Lord that enabled us to feel uplifted when we left Mass on the weekend.

The Holy Spirit was Monsignor's constant guide. We remember how he began his homilies with "Pray that God will help me preach and pray that we will hear what He is saying whether I say it or not." Some may have felt that his homilies were too long, but he strove to be the vessel of the Holy Spirit to touch each member of the congregation. Those who were privileged to participate in the Communal Reconciliation Service with individual Confession with Monsignor experienced a deep and intimate sense of God's love, mercy and forgiveness. Let us also remember the "Personal Creed" attributed to Father John Fuellenbach, S.J.D., that he shared with us so often: "I am loved unconditionally, I am forgiven completely, I am never alone." How blessed we are!

He loved to cook (and eat!) and thrived on those occasions that brought parishioners together to share a meal – and thus build community. Monsignor was very generous, including with his culinary skills. He instituted "Simple Suppers" of his homemade soup and bakery bread after Stations of the Cross during Lent. Members of the Pastoral Council rarely missed a meeting because – after the meeting – members were treated to the sharing of a delicious meal prepared by Monsignor Jim. He was a great builder of community.

Whenever Monsignor Jim would preach at a funeral, he would always stop and smile, and wonder aloud, "What must they see now?" ***Now he knows, and we rejoice for him!***

Monsignor Mike Hippee wrote "…We now take comfort in knowing that he is held gently in the arms of our loving, Heavenly Father, who early Saturday morning said, "Welcome home, Jim, Welcome home…."

"Capiche?"

Annie Gardner

† FUNERAL SERVICES FOR MONSIGNOR JAMES F. FETSCHER †

Thursday, August 28, 2025 at St. Sebastian Catholic Church

Viewing with Prayer Service from 9:00-11:00 am

Funeral Mass at 11:00 am

Reception following in the Parish Hall

Burial beside Monsignor's parents and grandmother at Dade Memorial Cemetery

"How can we thank God enough for you
in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?"

(1 Thes. 3:9)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — AUGUST 24, 2025

Mass Intentions

Saturday — **AUGUST 23**
5:00 pm
† Msgr. James Fetscher
† Joan Fuccillo, by Family

Sunday — **AUGUST 24**
8:30 am
† Msgr. James Fetscher
† Dolores Hesse Fink, by Husband Jack
† Grace and Murray Toomey, by Helen and Mary Louise Toomey
Wellbeing of Angela Cowherd, by Family

11:00 am
† Carol Sica, by Charlene Griffin
† Mitchell John Sajdera, by Sajdera Family
† Carolina Malpica, by Husband Kelvin

6:00 pm
Living and Deceased of the Parish

Monday — **AUGUST 25**
8:30 am
† Mary Ladd, by Isabel & Claude Jarman
† Gladys Carey, by Linda and Jim Hatlan
† Carolina Malpica, by Husband Kelvin

Tuesday — **AUGUST 26**
8:30 am
† Msgr. James Fetscher
† Carolina Malpica, by Husband Kelvin
† Joseph Polizzi, by Lois Polizzi

Wednesday — **AUGUST 27 St. Monica**
8:30 am
† Msgr. James Fetscher
† Carolina Malpica, by Husband Kelvin

Thursday — **AUGUST 28 St. Augustine**
8:30 am
CANCELED

† Msgr. James Fetscher's Funeral †

9:00 to 11:00 am † **Viewing with Prayer Service**
11:00 am **Funeral Mass**

Friday — **AUGUST 29 The Passion of St. John The Baptist**
8:30 am
† Msgr. James Fetscher
† Ralph Sargol, by Diane Jarchow Family
† Carolina Malpica, by Husband Kelvin
Birthday Blessing of Atina Marquart, by Anna Marie Pierotti

† Rest in Peace, Msgr. James Fetscher 08-16-25

REMEMBER THE SICK

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, Michael Fisher, Sean Ennis, Richard Kurzenberger.

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.

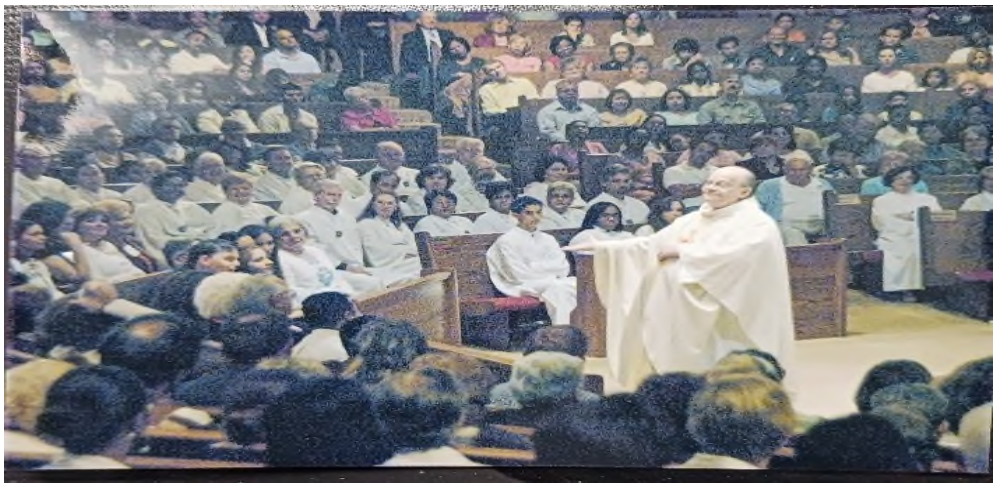
Thank you! Your donations are greatly appreciated!

St. Vincent DePaul report for July, serving **645 clients** representing 2092 individuals, **expenses** were **$4196.14**

PARISH EVENTS AND DATES

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

In Loving memory of **MONSIGNOR JAMES FETSCHER**



Thank you, Msgr. Fetscher. We will always keep you in our hearts!