

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF 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
Fax (954) 524-9347



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 8:30 am-3:00 pm

Pastor

Rev. Ernest Biriruka

Office Staff

Gredys Grable
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
Elizabeth Calhoun
Judy Fisher
Rosemary Guerin
Johnny Mann
Sandi Mann
Ed Rebholz

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.



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 :

A Catechesis on the Creed John Paul II, The Church Mystery, Sacrament, Community

Jesus Is the Bridegroom of His People

“For he who has become your husband is your Maker; his name is the Lord of hosts; your redeemer of the Holy One of Israel” (Is 54:5). Once again we quote these words of Isaiah to recall that the prophets of the Old Testament saw Goas as the spouse chosen of the Chosen People. Israel was depicted as the bride, often an unfaithful one due to her sins, especially her falling into idolatry. However, the Lord of hosts remained faithful to be his Chosen People. He continued to be their Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

On the groundwork laid by the prophets, The New Testament presents Jesus Christ as the spouse of the People of God. He is the “redeemer, the Holy One of Israel” who was foretold and announced from afar; in him the prophecies were fulfilled. Christ is the bridegroom.

The first one to present Jesus to the light was John the Baptist, in his preaching on the banks of the Jordan: “I am not the Messiah,” he told his listeners, “but I was sent before him. The one who has the bride is the bridegroom; the best man, who stands and listens for him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice” (Jn 3:2:28-29). As is apparent, the spousal tradition of the Old Testament is reflected in the awareness that this austere messenger of the Lord had of his mission in relationship to Christ's identity. He knew who he was and “what had been given him from heaven.” His entire service among the people was directed to the bridegroom who was to come. John presented himself as “the best man,” and confessed that his greatest joy was to have been allowed to hear Jesus' voice. Because of this joy he was ready to accept his own “decrease,” that is, to make room for hm who was to be revealed, who was greater than he, and for whom he was ready to give life. He knew that according to the divine plan of salvation the bridegroom, the Holy One of Israel, must increase.” “He must increase; I must decrease” (Jn 3:30).

Therefore, Jesus of Nazareth was brought into the midst of his people as the bridegroom who had been announced by the prophets. He himself confirmed this when, in answer to the question raised by John's disciples, “Why do your disciples not fast” (MK 2:18), he said: “Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast” (Mk 2:19-20). With this answer Jesus made it clear that the prophetic message about God the Spouse, about the “Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel,” was fulfilled in himself. He revealed his awareness of being the bridegroom among his disciples, from whom at the end, however, “the bridegroom will be taken away.” He was of both his messiahship and the cross on which he accomplished his sacrifice in obedience to the Father, as foretold by the prophets (cf. Is 42:1-9; 49:1-7; 50:4-11, 52:13-53, 12).

What appears from John's declaration on the banks of the Jordan and from Jesus' answer to the question raised by the Baptist's disciples, namely, that the bridegroom announced by the prophets had already come, is also confirmed by the parables. In them the spousal motif is indirect, but obvious enough. Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son” (Mt 22:2).



Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	February 15 † Leo McGinity, by Phyllis Keeth † Tim La Ganke Sr., by Family Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary to Charles and Louise Rosewell
Sunday 8:30 am	February 16 † Charles, Marie & Ann Maher, by Maher Family † Dolores Hesse Fink, by husband Jack † Georges Dermarkar & Marilene Dermarkar-Azer, by sisters and Family
11:00 am	Wellbeing of Mery, by Rosie Koons
6:00 pm	Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
Monday 8:30 am	February 17 † Larry Biondi, by Anna Marie Pierotti Wellbeing of Delilah Brynn Borba, by Joseph & Jennifer Borba Wellbeing of Don Loughran, by Bill Loughran
Tuesday 8:30 am	February 18 † Jerry R. Dempsey, by Bill Loughran Wellbeing of Annaliesa Eliane Borba, by Joseph & Jennifer Borba
Wednesday 8:30 am	February 19 Wellbeing Elliana Rayne Borba, by Joseph & Jennifer Borba
Thursday 8:30 am	February 20 Wellbeing Sarah Ann Borba, by Joseph & Jennifer Borba
Friday 8:30 am	February 21 Wellbeing Klye & Heather Borba, by Joseph & Jennifer Borba
Saturday 5:00 pm	February 22 † Grace & Murray Toomey, by Helen & Mary Louise Toomey † Sunny Kinnaman, by Frank Krauser
Sunday 8:30 am	February 23 † Linda Grable, by the Grables'
11:00 am	Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
6:00 pm	† Rev. Seamus Ward, SJ

REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Gail Mills, Angela Cowherd, 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, Linda Spitzer, Blake-Leigh Riley, Melissa Mirabile, Marge Mitchell, Rasoul Karimi, Jean Gorman, Linda DeBold, Jay Hoover, Ed Kidd, Mary Beth Vogler, Joel Rivera, Fred Zagone S.J., Anthony Cotilus, Mark Bromage, Jim Cowgill, Jonathan Hughes, Mary Kennedy, Margaret & Donato Montanaro., William Hirsch.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The Vincent the Paul truck's next scheduled pick up for gently used household items and clothing is the weekend of February 22—23, 2025. Thank you for your donations. *Pat Burke*

RCIA and FAITH FORMATION



Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., in the Parish Hall. The next one will be next Wednesday, February 19th. Theme: The Church and the Sacraments.

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 either marry in the Church or have their marriage convalidated.*
- *Note: Should you need the annulment of a previous marriage, please contact the Pastor.*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Eucharistic Adoration takes place in our Chapel of the Divine Healer on Fridays after the 8:30 a.m. Mass until 5:00 p.m. Please consider this opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord in prayer.

THANK YOU TO THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE ST. SEBASTIAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN, THE MEN'S CLUB AND ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS WHO ASSISTED WITH THE TRINKETS AND TREASURES SALES. IT WAS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EVENT!

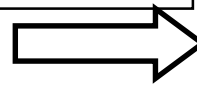


FOR BETTER PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS

With your smart phone, you can find **Mass Readings and Prayers** easily.

Search for :
Daily mass Readings USCCB
Mass Prayer or Order of Mass
(USCCB = US Conference of Catholic Bishops)

PARISH EVENTS AND DATES



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

February 16: The Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

ABCD

We invite you to reflect on how we, as a community, can respond to this call, especially through our support of the Archbishop's Development Drive (ABCD). The ABCD is a vital initiative that enables our Archdiocese to continue its work of spreading the Gospel, caring for those in need, and building up the Church. From supporting Catholic education and formation to aiding the most vulnerable in our society, your contributions help to bring the light of Christ to many. Make a difference by donating to www.isupportABCD.com.

Planned Giving

If you are considering planned giving, we encourage you to explore the many ways you can contribute to the lasting mission of the Church. Whether through a bequest, a charitable trust, or other means, your planned gift will have a lasting impact, advancing the work of the Gospel and ensuring that the light of Christ continues to shine brightly in our world. For more information on how you can make a planned gift, please get in touch with us via email at Kblanco@theadom.org or please visit www.adomgift.org.

Stewardship

Stewardship is about recognizing that everything we have, our time, talents, and treasures, comes from God. Through our stewardship, we become partners with God in His mission, bringing His light into the world and touching the lives of others with compassion and love.

"Blessed are you when people hate you...exclude and insult you, and denounce your name...on account of the Son of Man." – LUKE 6:22

All of us have been in situations when someone has made a negative comment or joke about God or our Catholic faith. How did you respond? Did you stay silent or pretend to go along with the crowd because you didn't want to cause waves and then, later, you felt bad? Know that God is with you all the time; the Holy Spirit will put the right words in your mouth. Pray for the strength and courage to live Stewardship. Proclaim our faith to others, especially during uncomfortable situations.

ABCD ANNUAL APPEAL

We are excited to share the results of our parish's ABCD campaign! Thanks to your generosity and commitment, we have met our goal! Let us celebrate this achievement! This would not have been possible without YOU! Thank you for your sacrificial giving and your selfless support.



BIBLE SHARING

Come for coffee and Scripture sharing **each Thursday in the Parish Hall at 9:15 a.m.** Everyone is invited. You may also join us online by dialing 848-777-1212; when prompted, put in 143143#. For more info call Mary at 954-290-1194. We are sharing from the Gospel of Luke with Mary Ann Leseke facilitating.

ADORATION AND ROSARY

We need adorers of the Holy Eucharist of Fridays. There is a sign-up paper on the exits of the church, please sign-up. Join us also for the Rosary, **Monday - Friday, at 7:50 a.m.** in the church. All are most welcome.



SANDWICH MINISTRY

Meets once a month in the **Parish Hall at 8:30 a.m. -9:30 a.m.**; to make sandwiches for the needy. Please email Lois Pittler at: lois.pittler@gmail.com for more information.

ST. SEBASTIAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (SSCCW)

Annual St Sebastian Council of Catholic Women Luncheon

Will be held on **March 22, 2025** at Coral Ridge Yacht Club. If you have any questions, please contact Sandi Mann at 954-235-4005.

Weekend Retreat for Women of Our Lady of Florida Center

Ladies of St Sebastian parish and all other parishes are welcome to attend a weekend retreat, **March 28-30, 2025**. For more information contact Linda; 954-604-5507. **Please register at:** www.ourladyofflorida.org

REGISTRATION

If you attend Mass at St. Sebastian regularly, please become a registered member of our parish. Complete a registration form (found in the welcome table at the entrance of the church or by calling the Parish office.) Thank you.

