

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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 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
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.



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 Catechism of the Catholic Church

THE CHURCH'S ORIGIN, FOUNDATION, AND MISSION

(#758,759,761,762,763,764,765,766)

"We begin our investigation of the Church's mystery by meditating on her origin in the Holy Trinity's plan and her progressive realization in history.

A plan born in the Father's heart

"The eternal Father, in accordance with the utterly gratuitous and mysterious design of his wisdom and goodness, created the whole universe and chose to raise up men to share in his own divine life," to which he calls all men in his Son. "The Father ... determined to call together in a holy Church those who should believe in Christ." This "family of God" is gradually formed and takes shape during the stages of human history, in keeping with the Father's plan. In fact, "already present in figure at the beginning of the world, this Church was prepared in marvelous fashion in the history of the people of Israel and the old Alliance. Established in this last age of the world and made manifest in the outpouring of the Spirit, it will be brought to glorious completion at the end of time."

The Church— prepared for in the Old Covenant

The gathering together of the People of God began at the moment when sin destroyed the communion of men with God, and that of men among themselves. The gathering together of the Church is, as it were, God's reaction to the chaos provoked by sin. This reunification is achieved secretly in the heart of all peoples: "In every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable" to God.

The remote *preparation* for this gathering together of the People of God begins when he calls Abraham and promises that he will become the father of a great people. Its immediate preparation begins with Israel's election as the People of God. By this election, Israel is to be the sign of the future gathering of all nations. But the prophets accuse Israel of breaking the covenant and behaving like a prostitute. They announce a new and eternal covenant. "Christ instituted this New Covenant."

The Church — instituted by Christ Jesus

It was the Son's task to accomplish the Father's plan of salvation in the fullness of time. Its accomplishment was the reason for his being sent. "The Lord Jesus inaugurated his Church by preaching the Good News, that is, the coming of the Reign of God, promised over the ages in the scriptures." To fulfill the Father's will, Christ ushered in the Kingdom of heaven on earth. The Church "is the Reign of Christ already present in mystery."

"This Kingdom shines out before men in the word, in the works and in the presence of Christ." To welcome Jesus' word is to welcome "the Kingdom itself." The seed and beginning of the Kingdom are the "little flock" of those whom Jesus came to gather around him, the flock whose shepherd he is. They form Jesus' true family. To those whom he thus gathered around him, he taught a new "way of acting" and a prayer of their own.

The Lord Jesus endowed his community with a structure that will remain until the Kingdom is fully achieved. Before all else there is the choice of the Twelve with Peter as their head. Representing the twelve tribes of Israel, they are the foundation stones of the new Jerusalem. The Twelve and the other disciples share in Christ's mission and his power, but also in his lot. By all his actions, Christ prepares and builds his Church.

The Church is born primarily of Christ's total self-giving for our salvation, anticipated in the institution of the Eucharist and fulfilled on the cross. "The origin and growth of the Church are symbolized by the blood and water which flowed from the open side of the crucified Jesus." "For it was from the side of Christ as he slept the sleep of death upon the cross that there came forth the 'wondrous sacrament of the whole Church.' "As Eve was formed from the sleeping Adam's side, so the Church was born from the pierced heart of Christ hanging dead on the cross."



Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	March 22 † Joan Fuccillo, by family † Dick Reed, by wife Connie
Sunday 8:30 am	March 23 † Guillermo Ambat, by office staff † Edna Salg, by loving daughter Susie † Albert Gissarelli by Jack Tavone
11:00 am	† Rev. Leonard Boucher OMI Wellbeing of Msgr. James Fetscher, by Parish Office
6:00 pm	Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
Monday 8:30 am	March 24 † Msgr. Calixto Garcia
Tuesday 8:30 am	March 25 † Angelina Barcello, by family † Theresa M. Gardner
Wednesday 8:30 am	March 26 † Joan Fuccillo, by family
Thursday 8:30 am	March 27 † Rev. Harry Mullin
Friday 8:30 am	March 28 † Msgr. Martin J. Cassidy
Saturday 5:00 pm	March 29 Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
Sunday 8:30 am	March 30 † Dolores Hesse Fink, by husband Jack † James Cowgill Sr., by Bill Fuccillo
11:00 am	† Rev. Ross Garnsey
6:00 pm	† Rev. Vincent Le Gere

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for the men and women that you have called to discern 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.

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 Wednesday, April 16th.

Theme: 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.

EUCHARISTIC 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. We still need people to sign up for Eucharist Adoration from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.



SEMINARIAN INITIATIVE

During March, our Church is supporting the Seminarians by providing them with a yearly stipend. This charity gives directly to our future priests. Checks can be written to the **Seminarian Initiative, a 501 (c) (3) charity.** On the table at the Church entrance, place cash or checks in the red lockbox or mail it: Carol McMahon: 1300 N. Rio Vista Blvd. Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316

REMEMBER THE SICK

Mary Lou Mann, Suzanne Plum, Gail Mills, Angela Cowherd, Don Loughran, Jr., 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, 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, Jonathan Hughes, Mary Kennedy, Margaret & Donato Montanaro, William Hirsch, Msgr. James Fetscher, Pamela Jennings.

SCHEDULE FOR LENT & EASTER

Stations of the Cross— Friday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the Church . Adoration in Chapel after stations.

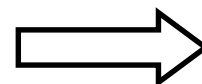
Holy Thursday — April 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil— Saturday, April 19, 8:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday and Easter Masses— 8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.



PARISH EVENTS AND DATES



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

March 23: Third Sunday of Lent

ABCD

The ABCD is crucial in sustaining the many ministries of our Archdioceses ministries that reach out to the most vulnerable, strengthen the faith of our community and ensure the ongoing formation of priests, deacons, and lay leaders. Your contribution to the ABCD helps support vital programs such as outreach to the poor, education for our children, the formation of seminarians, and so much more. As we reflect on the many gifts God has given us, we invite you to prayerfully consider your support of the ABCD. Visit the ABCD today to make your donation. www.isupportABCD.com.

Planned Giving

As we journey through the season of Lent, a time of prayer, penance, and reflection, we are invited to examine how we are living out our faith in ways that honor God. Lent calls us to consider our actions, but also our legacy—what we are doing now to ensure that the work of the Church continues for future generations. One way we can make a lasting impact is through planned giving. Please feel free to contact us via email at kblanco@theadom.org or call us at 305-762-1053 today!

Stewardship

Today's readings remind us that true discipleship requires us to offer ourselves in service to God's kingdom. In the same way that Jesus gave Himself for us, we are called to offer our lives in service to Him, reflecting His love and generosity to those around us.

"He said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.'" - LUKE 13:7
only are we called to be generous; we are called to develop and nurture our gifts as Stewards; and return them with increase. We are called to be generous with all of gifts; especially the one that means the most to you.

PLEASE HELP BURUNDIAN PRIESTS

With the authorization of His Excellency Thomas Wenski, Archbishop of Miami, we have extended the special collection to assist the Burundian clergy in their needs. For any questions, please refer to Fr. Ernest. I greatly appreciated your generosity. **Fr. Ernest**



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 Arthur Cholakis facilitating.

ADORATION AND ROSARY

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



SANDWICH MINISTRY

Meets once a month to make sandwiches for the needy. Please email Lois Pittler at: Lois.pittler@gmail.com for more information.

Vincent the Paul

The Vincent the Paul truck will be here this weekend, please bring your gently used household items.

ST. SEBASTIAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (SSCCW)

The Annual St. Sebastian Council of Catholic Women Luncheon and Beach Bag Bash Fashion Show was held this Saturday, at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club. They had a great turn out, and was a huge success. Thank you to the chair Kate Heffner, for her hard work and dedication to the success of the event.

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

FOR BETTER PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS

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

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