

AUGUST 3, 2025

EIGHTEENTH 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
Maurício 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.

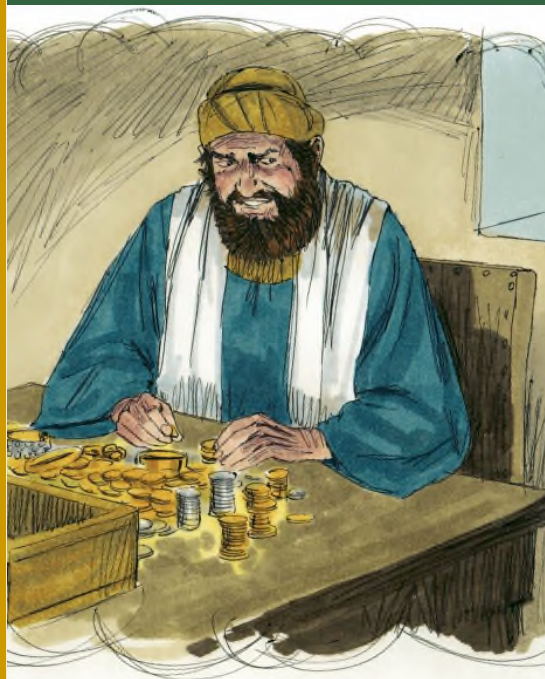
THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

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.

“It’s good to have possessions, but not to be attached to them. We need to be free to Love God more deeply”



PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL

LUKE 12: 16-21

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.

2000 Marietta Drive (S.E. 25th Ave.)

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

info@stsebastianfl.org

RETURNING WITH GRATITUDE FROM BURUNDI

My dear brothers and sisters,

First, peace to each and every one of you! I am back from my first homeland, Burundi! My travels and stay were very peaceful. I was able to visit my siblings, relatives and friends. It was a very pleasant time despite the tremendous challenge of gasoline shortage that Burundi has suffered for at least three years! You can just imagine how incredibly expensive the little gasoline that comes in through Tanzania or Congo becomes!

On a very positive note, I participated in the priestly ordination, on July 12, in my home diocese and we were blessed to have 11 new priests and 6 deacons. In fact, the Burundian Church now enjoys a lot of vocations to priesthood and religious life and is sending some abroad as Missionaries. I saw many priests who are missionaries in Spain, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and so forth. I even met a Burundian Salesian who is a missionary in Russia! The Association of the Burundian Clergy sends its deepest gratitude to you for the help you provided last March. Please, accept my deepest gratitude for your prayers and generous support for this trip.

As for the theme of this 18th Sunday in Ordinary time,

We are reminded of 'being rich in what matters to God'.

The Book of Qoheleth proclaims that message very strongly: **"Vanity of vanities! All things are vanities!"** This is a seemingly negative tone; however, it does not diminish the inherent value and goodness of material things, nor does it negate the worth of the labor each person performs to acquire what's necessary for a living. Indeed, we always pray, asking God to "give us our daily bread," as the Lord Himself taught us.

But material things become "vanity of vanities" when we consider them as our only goal in life and forget our celestial destiny with God. They become "vanity of vanities" if by greed we forget to use them to do good in helping our neighbor; or when we forget our other civic obligations and think that they belong exclusively to us for selfish enjoyment.

Saint Paul in his letter to the Colossians recommends that we set our minds on things above, in Jesus: "If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth." This corresponds to what Jesus is teaching us: "not to store up treasure for ourselves (here on earth), but to be rich in what matters to God (and his kingdom)". So, we need to set up the right priorities according to God's will and love.

Again, Saint Paul will urge us to give up what earthly goals can promise as happiness, which are "immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry; and also urges us to stop lying to one another..." In this world many may confuse true happiness with immoral actions, amount of richness, earthly glamor, and power that wealth can buy. But at the hour of God, when each will give an account about our lives (Rm 14: 12), we should fear that God may tell us "You fool... the things you have accumulated, to whom will they belong?" Even billionaires do not take a cent with them when they go. So, let us humbly pray that God may grant us the wisdom amid things of this earth, and amid whatever success we may enjoy, so as to know what 'matters to Him'.

Father Ernest

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	AUGUST 2 † Joan Fuccillo, by Family † John Koons, by Wife Rosie
Sunday 8:30 am	AUGUST 3 † Diane Burak, by Cal & Isabel Jarman † Richie Grable III, by Fr. Ernest & office staff Living and Deceased of St. Sebastian
11:00 am	
6:00 pm	† Margaret Montanaro, by Carolina Sexton
Monday 8:30 am	AUGUST 4 St. John Vianney † Peter Walsh, by Andrew Walsh
Tuesday 8:30 am	AUGUST 5 † Vicki Succurto, by Elaine Furio
Wednesday 8:30 am	AUGUST 6 Transfiguration of the Lord Wellbeing of Msgr. James Fetscher
Thursday 8:30 am	AUGUST 7 St. Cajetan Wellbeing of Bill Fuccillo
Friday 8:30 am	AUGUST 8 St. Dominic † Rev. James E. Quinn
Saturday 5:00 pm	AUGUST 9 † Joan Fuccillo, by Family Birthday Blessing of Msgr. James Fetscher, by Father Ernest & Office Staff
Sunday 8:30 am	AUGUST 10 † 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

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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.*



"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!

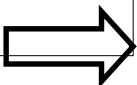
† Rest in Peace, Mrs. Margaret Montanaro 07-24-25

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.

PARISH EVENTS AND DATES

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



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 3, 2025

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI



Church News

ABCD

We encourage you to prayerfully consider how you can participate in this year's ABCD campaign. Whether through a one-time gift or a pledge, your support helps ensure that our archdiocese can continue its essential work of bringing hope and healing to our community.

May the Lord bless you for your generous hearts and your commitment to building His kingdom here on earth. Give today! Make a difference! Be the Church! www.isupportABCD.com.

Planned Giving:



Consider Your Legacy

Planned giving allows you to create a lasting legacy that extends far beyond your lifetime. Just as that young boy's offering multiplied to feed many, your planned gift can continue to nourish souls and support our parish mission for generations to come.

Ways to Give:

- *Bequests in your will or trust
- *Life insurance policies with the parish as beneficiary
- *Retirement accounts (IRA, 401k) designations
- *Charitable gift annuities that provide income for life
- *Memorial gifts in honor of loved ones

To learn more about planned giving opportunities, please contact the Development Office at Katie Blanco Bourdeau or visit www.adomgift.org.

Stewardship

Every moment is a gift from God. How do we use the hours He has given us? Consider volunteering in our parish ministries, spending time in prayer and worship, or simply being present to those who need our care and attention.

"Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." LUKE 12:15

Jesus shows us that our true joy comes from our "invisible" gifts like love, mercy, and forgiveness. True joy comes from "emptying" ourselves, giving of ourselves rather than always taking. We are called not to hoard but to share. True joy comes from living Stewardship in a grateful and generous lifestyle. Become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered."

NEW AMERICAN BIBLES!

Now available
In the parish office
for a ten dollar donation



August 4 St. John Vianney



"The Priesthood is the love of the Heart of Jesus. When you see a Priest think of our Lord Jesus Christ."

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 12 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

Joins 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**.

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**.