

# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 11, 2026

**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-Rojas  
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  
John Mann, III  
Johnny Mann, Jr.  
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 contact the office at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date.

## **PARISH REGISTRATION**

If you haven't registered yet as a parishioner of St. Sebastian, we invite you to do so in order to be recognized as a member of our parish.

You can find the registration form in the church, at the office, or online.

## **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.

## **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:

## **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

### **CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH— #533 TO #537**

What we call “the hidden life of Jesus in Nazareth” indicates that Jesus was raised as a child in the family of Mary and Joseph, his legal father. He grew in stature and wisdom. And now, through his baptism, he begins his public mission. The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives us an excellent idea of his infancy and the beginning of his Public Mission;

“The hidden life at Nazareth allows everyone to enter into fellowship with Jesus by the most ordinary events of daily life:

The home of Nazareth is the school where we begin to understand the life of Jesus - the school of the Gospel. First, then, a lesson of silence. May esteem for silence, that admirable and indispensable condition of mind, revive in us. . . A lesson on family life. May Nazareth teach us what family life is, its communion of love, its austere and simple beauty, and its sacred and inviolable character... A lesson of work. Nazareth, home of the "Carpenter's Son", in you I would choose to understand and proclaim the severe and redeeming law of human work. . . To conclude, I want to greet all the workers of the world, holding up to them their great pattern their brother who is God.

The finding of Jesus in the temple is the only event that breaks the silence of the Gospels about the hidden years of Jesus. Here Jesus lets us catch a glimpse of the mystery of his total consecration to a mission that flows from his divine sonship: "Did you not know that I must be about my Father's work?" Mary and Joseph did not understand these words, but they accepted them in faith. Mary "kept all these things in her heart" during the years Jesus remained hidden in the silence of an ordinary life.

#### **The baptism of Jesus**

Jesus' public life begins with his baptism by John in the Jordan. John preaches "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins". A crowd of sinners - tax collectors and soldiers, Pharisees and Sadducees, and prostitutes - come to be baptized by him. "Then Jesus appears." the Baptist hesitates, but Jesus insists and receives baptism. Then the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, comes upon Jesus and a voice from heaven proclaims, "This is my beloved Son." This is the manifestation ("Epiphany") of Jesus as Messiah of Israel and Son of God.

The baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners; he is already "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world". Already he is anticipating the "baptism" of his bloody death. Already he is coming to "fulfil all righteousness", that is, he is submitting himself entirely to his Father's will: out of love he consents to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins. The Father's voice responds to the Son's acceptance, proclaiming his entire delight in his Son. The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from his conception comes to "rest on him". Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all mankind. At his baptism "the heavens were opened" - the heavens that Adam's sin had closed - and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit, a prelude to the new creation.

Through Baptism the Christian is sacramentally assimilated to Jesus, who in his own baptism anticipates his death and resurrection. the Christian must enter into this mystery of humble self-abasement and repentance, go down into the water with Jesus in order to rise with him, be reborn of water and the Spirit so as to become the Father's beloved son in the Son and "walk in newness of life".

Let us be buried with Christ by Baptism to rise with him; let us go down with him to be raised with him; and let us rise with him to be glorified with him.

Everything that happened to Christ lets us know that, after the bath of water, the Holy Spirit swoops down upon us from high heaven and that, adopted by the Father's voice, we become sons of God.”

**Father Ernest**

## Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY      JANUARY 10

5:00 pm      † Joan Fuccillo, by Family  
 † Michael Honan, by Rosina Fredericks  
 † Elena Loughran, by husband Bill

### SUNDAY      JANUARY 11      THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8:30 am      † Anna Maria Marchetti,  
 by Anna Marie Pierotti  
 † Richie Grable III, by Johnny and Sandi

Mann  
 Wellbeing of Nico Darras' Family,  
 by Joseph and Jennifer Borba

11:00 am      † Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

6:00 pm      † Maria Cacilda Aguiar Mora, by Family

### MONDAY      JANUARY 12

8:30 am      Wellbeing of Natasha and Dane Opel's Family,  
 by Joseph and Jennifer Borba

### TUESDAY      JANUARY 13      Saint Hilary

8:30 am      † Lloyd Potter, by Jarchow Family

### WEDNESDAY      JANUARY 14

8:30 am      † Msgr. James Fetscher

### THURSDAY      JANUARY 15

8:30 am      Wellbeing of Marleen and Frank Darras,  
 by Joseph and Jennifer Borba

### FRIDAY      JANUARY 16

8:30 am      † Catherine Lozick, By Gus Sundermeier

### 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 pray for 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,

### RCIA and FAITH FORMATION



Next class will be on **Wednesday, January 21st, 2026, at 6:00 pm** in the Parish Hall.

Classes are held on the **first and third Wednesday of each month** for adults who wish to become Catholic, and for adults who are baptized Catholic but have not received Communion and/or Confirmation.

### 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.
- We should also make an effort to have the right attire and be punctual for Mass.



"... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matt. 25:35,40).

These words of Jesus can be seen as relevant to our current times.

How much food do you have in your pantry, or counter-tops that will expire, or you'll throw out after losing your appetite for it. 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 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 for your donations!**

## REMEMBER THE SICK

Suzanne Plum, Gail Mills, 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, 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, Danielle Barisch, Deborah Castillo, Georgianna Eschen, Ruth McKelvie, Cathy Day, Mona Terry, Bill Loughran, Bill Poulson, Douglas Ham, Taylor Ellis. Monica Albelo, James Lauber.

## SAVE the DATE

- Saint Sebastian Feast - January 20
- Fr. Ernest's Birthday - January 20
- Men's Club, Italian Dinner - January 23
- Trinkets and Treasures - February 6, 7 & 8
- Annual Luncheon at Coral Ridge Yacht Club March 21, 2025

SAINT SEBASTIAN  
COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

# Ladies NIGHT OUT

THURSDAY  
JAN. 15  
5-7 PM

At St. Sebastian Parish Hall  
We will have free drinks,  
appetizers, surprises, and  
friendship.

**SSCCW TRINKETS AND TREASURES**

**ST. SEBASTIAN  
COUNCIL OF  
CATHOLIC WOMEN**

Is currently collect-  
ing items for our  
Annual Trinkets and  
Treasures Rummage  
Sale. If you have  
items to donate,  
please contact Sandi  
at 954-235-4005

**FEB. 6 - 8, 2026**

**Please - no books, clothing  
or furniture**

January 23, 2026  
Doors Open at 6:00 PM  
Dinner Served 6:30 PM

SAINT SEBASTIAN CHURCH

# Italian Dinner

**Enjoy Real Italian Food from  
Osteria Acqua E Farina**

Romain Salad | Italian Bread  
Authentic Pasta and Meatballs  
Italian Dessert | Coffee

\*Beer, wine, and soda will be available  
for purchase at an additional cost.

**Live Entertainment:** | **Door Prizes | 50/50 Raffle**  
Marcel Rasa

- \$50 per person
- Reserved tables of 8, 10, or 12 available
  - (tables of 8 and 10 include 2 bottles of wine, tables of 12 include 4)
- Call 954-524-9341 or visit the parish office for tickets or table sales
- Tickets Also Available Online

To order tickets online, scan the QR code with your phone  
or go to: <https://st-sebastian-italian-dinner.eventbrite.com> >>>

**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

**LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY**

We invite everyone to join us in **pray-  
ing the Rosary, Monday - Friday, at  
7:50 am, before  
daily Mass, in the  
main Church.**

**A Rosary a day  
keeps the devil  
away.**

**Fr. Ernest**

**SANDWICH MINISTRY**

*Hello Everyone,  
Just a little reminder that we will be meeting on  
Saturday, JANUARY 24th in the Parish Hall at  
8:30 AM to make sandwiches.  
Thank you for keeping our Ministry going. For  
those of you who will be in town, please let me  
know if you plan to be there on the 24th.*

*Lois Pittler: 561-307-2128*

*Thank you all and BLESS YOU!!*

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR DONATION**

You may use this  
QR code to  
donate to our  
Parish →



**FOR BETTER PARTICIPATION IN THE MASS**

With your smart phone or computer, you can find Daily  
Mass Readings and Prayers easily. Search for: **Daily Bi-  
ble Readings USCCB or WWW.USCCB.ORG** For Prayers,  
go to **Mass Prayer or Order of Mass.** USCCB, stands for  
US Conference of Catholic Bishops.