

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 25, 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.

EXTRACTS FROM MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV **FOR THE LIX WORLD DAY OF PEACE**

Peace be with you all: Towards an “unarmed and disarming” peace

“Peace be with you!” (Jn 20:19-21)

The peace of the risen Christ

The Good Shepherd, who gives his life for the flock and has other sheep not of this fold (cf. Jn 10:11,16), is Christ, our peace, who has conquered death and broken down the walls of division that separate humanity (cf. Eph 2:14). His presence, his gift and his victory continue to shine through the perseverance of many witnesses through whom God's work carries on in the world, becoming even more visible and radiant in the darkness of our times.

Dear brothers and sisters, whether we have the gift of faith or feel we lack it, let us open ourselves to peace! Let us welcome it and recognize it, rather than believing it to be impossible and beyond our reach. Peace is more than just a goal; it is a presence and a journey. Even when it is endangered within us and around us, like a small flame threatened by a storm, we must protect it, never forgetting the names and stories of those who have borne witness to it. Peace is a principle that guides and defines our choices. Even in places where only rubble remains, and despair seems inevitable, we still find people who have not forgotten peace. Just as on the evening of Easter, Jesus entered the place where his disciples were gathered in fear and discouragement, so too the peace of the risen Christ continues to pass through doors and barriers in the voices and faces of his witnesses. This gift enables us to remember goodness, to recognize it as victorious, to choose it again, and to do so together.

An unarmed peace

Shortly before being arrested, in a moment of intimate confidence, Jesus said to those who were with him: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.” And he immediately added: “Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid” (Jn 14:27). Their distress and fear were certainly connected to the violence soon to befall him. But, more deeply, the Gospels do not hide the fact that what troubled the disciples was his nonviolent response: a path that they all, Peter first among them, contested; yet the Master asked them to follow this path to the end. The way of Jesus continues to cause unease and fear. He firmly repeats to those who would defend him by force: “Put your sword back into its sheath” (Jn 18:11; cf. Mt 26:52). The peace of the risen Jesus is unarmed, because his was an unarmed struggle in the midst of concrete historical, political and social circumstances. Christians must together bear prophetic witness to this novelty, mindful of the tragedies in which they have too often been complicit. The great parable of the Last Judgment invites all Christians to act with mercy in this awareness (cf. Mt 25:31-46). In doing so, they will find brothers and sisters at their side who, in different ways, have listened to the pain of others and freed themselves inwardly from the deception of violence.

A disarming peace

Goodness is disarming. Perhaps this is why God became a child. The mystery of the Incarnation, which reaches its deepest descent even to the realm of the dead, begins in the womb of a young mother and is revealed in the manger in Bethlehem. “Peace on earth,” sing the angels, announcing the presence of a defenseless God, in whom humanity can discover itself as loved only by caring for him (cf. Lk 2:13-14). Nothing has the power to change us as much as a child. Perhaps it is precisely the thought of our children and of others who are equally fragile, that cuts to the heart (cf. Acts 2:37). In this regard, my venerable predecessor wrote that “human fragility has the power to make us more lucid about what endures and what passes, what brings life and what kills. Perhaps for this reason, we so often tend to deny our limitations and avoid fragile and wounded people: they have the power to question the direction we have chosen, both as individuals and as a community.”

“And whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, [namely] “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.” (Romans 13:9b-10)

Father Ernest

ABCD DRIVE WILL BE HELD THIS WEEKEND, JANUARY 24 & 25

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY	JANUARY 24
5:00 pm	† Joan Fuccillo , by Family † Helen Mary Orza, by Paula Murphy † Josephine Facarazzo, by Family
SUNDAY	JANUARY 25
8:30 am	† Rosina Pierotti, by Anna Marie Pierotti Wellbeing of Victoria Loughran, by Bill Loughran
11:00 am	† Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
6:00 pm	† Msgr. Edmond Whyte
MONDAY	JANUARY 26 St. Timothy & St. Titus
8:30 am	† Charles McGary, by Family Wellbeing of Christine and Jill Loughran, by Bill Loughran
TUESDAY	JANUARY 27 Saint Angela Merici
8:30 am	Wellbeing of Erika Bells, by Bill Loughran
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 28 Saint Thomas Aquinas
8:30 am	† Hugo Biondi, by Anna Marie Pierotti Wellbeing of Bill Loughran by Barry and Marcia Hogan Wellbeing of Jorge Rave, by Barry and Marcia Hogan
THURSDAY	JANUARY 29
8:30 am	† Mary Kennedy, by Susan Karcher † Vito Furio, by Elaine Furio Wellbeing of Bob Dempsey, by Bill Loughran
FRIDAY	JANUARY 30
8:30 am	Wellbeing of Peter and Ann Essaff, by Bill Loughran

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.

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



NOTE: FEBRUARY classes will be on Wednesday, 4th & 11th, 2026, at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

The change to the 11th is due to Ash Wednesday on the 18th.

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.



"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!

2025 ANNUAL TAX RETURN LETTERS

If you would like, please stop by the Parish Office and pick up your letter, or let us know if you prefer that we mail it out to you. They will be mailed out by January 30th. Please contact the parish office if you need your letter sooner.

Thank you for your contributions.

SAVE the DATE

- Reel Joy - January 29
- Trinkets and Treasures - February 6, 7 & 8
- Ash Wednesday - February 18
- Annual Luncheon at Coral Ridge Yacht Club March 21, 2026



LET US COME TOGETHER TO BRING...

LIGHT
WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS



DISCIPLES IN FAITH

PEACE
WHERE THERE IS CONFLICT



MISSIONARIES OF HOPE

LOVE
WHERE THERE IS NEED



SERVANTS FOR CHARITY

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

ABCD 2026

This weekend is Commitment Weekend for the 2026 ABCD Campaign. Prayerfully consider your gift and join us in continuing Christ's mission, bringing His mercy and care to countless lives in our Archdiocese. Help families break the cycle of poverty today by making a gift to the ABCD. www.isupportABCD.org

PLANNED GIVING:

Consider Planned Giving as part of a lasting expression of gratitude that supports Christ's work and the future of the Church. Appreciated Securities Donations Donating shares of publicly traded appreciated stock or mutual funds can be a meaningful gift for your parish, a ministry or the Diocese. The tax benefits could make it less costly than a comparable cash gift. Capital gains tax is not assessed. Plus, for a security held for more than 12 months, the fair market value of the gift is deductible if you exceed the threshold for deductions. Contact us and your financial advisor today! 305-762-1054.

STEWARDSHIP

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Humility helps us become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered" for the sake of others. "He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him." Matthew 4:22

In Stewardship to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.

THE SSCCW PRESENTS A SHOWING OF "THE LOST BUS" **REEL JOY**

FREE ENTRY

THURSDAY JANUARY 29, 2026 | 6 PM

PARISH HALL THEATER

THE LOST BUS
DRAMA MOVIE
Matthew McConaughey & America Ferrera

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT NANCY SICA 301-233-9448

BIBLE SHARING

Join us for **Scripture sharing every Thursday** in the Parish Hall from 9:15 to 10:30 am.

We are sharing **The Act 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 **praying 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



SSCCW TRINKETS AND TREASURES

ST. SEBASTIAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
Is currently collecting 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

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 Bible Readings USCCB or WWW.USCCB.ORG For Prayers, go to Mass Prayer or Order of Mass. USCCB, stands for US Conference of Catholic Bishops.