

# FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 8, 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.

**"YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH, (...) YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD" Mt. : 13.14**

On this fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Gospel invites us to bear witness to Jesus in the world. For Lay people, this prophetic mission is powerfully explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, which describes their identity and role in the Church.

**THE LAY FAITHFUL**

**EXTRACTS FROM THE CATHECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH #897 to #906**

“The term 'laity' is here understood to mean all the faithful except those in Holy Orders and those who belong to a religious state approved by the Church. That is, the faithful, who by Baptism are incorporated into Christ and integrated into the People of God, are made sharers in their particular way in the priestly, prophetic, and kingly office of Christ, and have their own part to play in the mission of the whole Christian people in the Church and in the World.

**The vocation of lay people**

By reason of their special vocation it belongs to the laity to seek the kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and directing them according to God's will.... It pertains to them in a special way so to illuminate and order all temporal things with which they are closely associated that these may always be effected and grow according to Christ and may be to the glory of the Creator and Redeemer.

The initiative of lay Christians is necessary especially when the matter involves discovering or inventing the means for permeating social, political, and economic realities with the demands of Christian doctrine and life. This initiative is a normal element of the life of the Church:

Lay believers are in the front line of Church life; for them the Church is the animating principle of human society. Therefore, they in particular ought to have an ever-clearer consciousness not only of belonging to the Church, but of being the Church, that is to say, the community of the faithful on earth under the leadership of the Pope, the common Head, and of the bishops in communion with him. They are the Church.

Since, like all the faithful, lay Christians are entrusted by God with the apostolate by virtue of their Baptism and Confirmation, they have the right and duty, individually or grouped in associations, to work so that the divine message of salvation may be known and accepted by all men throughout the earth. This duty is the more pressing when it is only through them that men can hear the Gospel and know Christ. Their activity in ecclesial communities is so necessary that, for the most part, the apostolate of the pastors cannot be fully effective without it.

**The participation of lay people in Christ's priestly office**

Hence the laity, dedicated as they are to Christ and anointed by the Holy Spirit, are marvelously called and prepared so that even richer fruits of the Spirit maybe produced in them. For all their works, prayers, and apostolic undertakings, family and married life, daily work, relaxation of mind and body, if they are accomplished in the Spirit - indeed even the hardships of life if patiently born - all these become spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. In the celebration of the Eucharist these may most fittingly be offered to the Father along with the body of the Lord. and so, worshipping everywhere by their holy actions, the laity consecrate the world itself to God, everywhere offering worship by the holiness of their lives.

In a very special way, parents share in the office of sanctifying "by leading a conjugal life in the Christian spirit and by seeing to the Christian education of their children.

Lay people who possess the required qualities can be admitted permanently to the ministries of lector and acolyte. When the necessity of the Church warrants it and when ministers are lacking, lay persons, even if they are not lectors or acolytes, can also supply for certain of their offices, namely, to exercise the ministry of the word, to preside over liturgical prayers, to confer Baptism, and to distribute Holy Communion in accord with the prescriptions of law.

**The participation in Christ's prophetic office**

Christ . . . fulfills this prophetic office, not only by the hierarchy . . . but also by the laity. He accordingly both establishes them as witnesses and provides them with the sense of the faith [sensus fidei] and the grace of the word. To teach in order to lead others to faith is the task of every preacher and of each believer. Lay people also fulfill their prophetic mission by evangelization, "that is, the proclamation of Christ by word and the testimony of life." For lay people, "this evangelization . . . acquires a specific property and peculiar efficacy because it is accomplished in the ordinary circumstances of the world. This witness of life, however, is not the sole element in the apostolate; the true apostle is on the lookout for occasions of announcing Christ by word, either to unbelievers . . . or to the faithful.

Lay people who are capable and trained may also collaborate in catechetical formation, in teaching the sacred sciences, and in use of the communications media.

Mass Intentions

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 7</b>
5:00 pm	† Joan Fuccillo, by Family † Susan Judson, by Rosina Fredericks Wellbeing of Bill Fuccillo, by Anna Marie Perotti
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 8</b>
8:30 am	† Angela Lauro, by Patricia and Tim Collins † Howard Hermes, by Wife Lorraine Hermes Wellbeing of Schenkel Family, by Abernethy Family
11:00 am	† Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
6:00 pm	Birthday Blessing of Brandon Newman, by Family
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 9</b>
8:30 am	† Jean Baxter, by Judy Fisher † Living and Deceased member of Hreso and Price Family, by Price Family Wellbeing of Fernando Aranibar, by Rossanna Ryan
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 10</b> <u>St. Scholastica</u>
8:30 am	Wellbeing of Eva and Olivia Strano, by Price Family
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 11</b> <u>Our Lady of Lourdes</u>
8:30 am	† Living and Deceased member of Strano Family, by Price Family † Esperanza Vega de Aranibar, by Rossanna Ryan
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 12</b>
8:30 am	† Howard Hermes, by Wife Lorraine Hermes
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 13</b>
8:30 am	† Msgr. James Fetscher

**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. Please continue your support of our neighbors in need through the SVDP poor boxes in the church.

**First time must provide proof of residency in Broward County.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!**

**In the final 3 months of 2025** your poor box donations have contributed to the St Vincent de Paul Blessed Sacrament Hotline providing financial assistance of over \$13,000 to 42 clients in Broward County. 6 of those clients were in St Sebastian's Parish boundaries providing over \$1300 for electric, water and other bills for those in need.

**St. Vincent de Paul report for January, 2026 (5 Fridays)** served 1087 clients representing 3429 individuals. The Expenses were \$4746.23 Each month, Mass is celebrated for the past and present benefactors. The next Mass will be on Wednesday, February 25, at 8:00 AM at Blessed Sacrament Church.

**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, Douglas Ham, Taylor Ellis. Monica Albello, James Lauber.

**SAVE the DATE**

- **Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit - February 11 –13**
- **Ash Wednesday - February 18**
- **Parish Lent Mission - March 3**
- **Annual Luncheon at Coral Ridge Yacht Club**  
**March 21, 2026**



LET US COME TOGETHER TO BRING...

**LIGHT** WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS



**PEACE** WHERE THERE IS CONFLICT



**LOVE** WHERE THERE IS NEED



FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

**ABCD 2026**

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that faith must be lived from the heart. Through ABCD, we put our faith into action by supporting ministries that serve the poor, form future leaders, and strengthen our Church. You can help people in their time of need in countless ways by supporting the ABCD today. Visit [www.isupportABCD.com](http://www.isupportABCD.com) to make a gift now.

**PLANNED GIVING:**

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to live our faith from the heart. Planned Giving is one way to express that commitment by thoughtfully providing for the Church and ministries that form, serve, and strengthen our community for years to come. An experienced estate-planning lawyer, also known as a trusts and estates attorney, can work with you to create an estate plan customized to your needs, financial affairs, and family situation. Visit [www.adomgift.org](http://www.adomgift.org) today for the interactive Wills Planner.

**STEWARDSHIP**

Contagious Stewardship

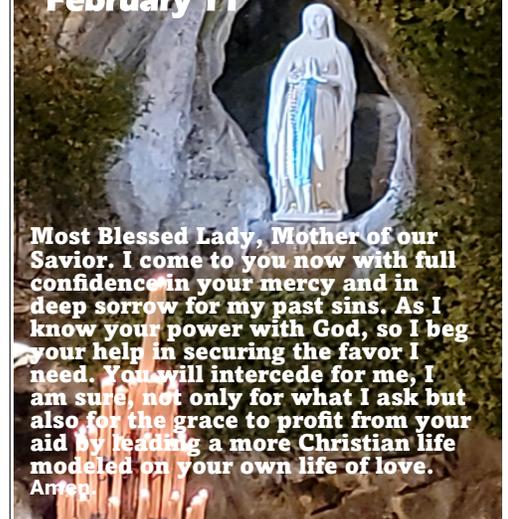
Stewardship is our response freely giving what God has entrusted to us to serve others, build community, and spread peace.

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." MATTHEW 5:16

The generosity of being a good Steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people, and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Generosity is a by-product of a grateful lifestyle. The more we recognize God's gifts, the more we want to share them. Good stewards recognize that God is working through them, and they don't put themselves above the people they have been called to help.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES**

February 11



Most Blessed Lady, Mother of our Savior. I come to you now with full confidence in your mercy and in deep sorrow for my past sins. As I know your power with God, so I beg your help in securing the favor I need. You will intercede for me, I am sure, not only for what I ask but also for the grace to profit from your aid by leading a more Christian life modeled on your own life of love. Amen

**BIBLE SHARING**

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

The Ministry started a new book on Thursday, February 5, 2026. Don't miss it!

The Gospel According to Saint John.

The facilitators for this book will be Madlean Boutram and Lourdes Fernandez, 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



**EUCCHARISTIC**

**MIRACLES EXHIBIT**

February 11 - 13, 2026

In the Parish Hall



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION**

You may use this QR code to donate to our



**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.