

EASTER SUNDAY

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

APRIL 5, 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.

St. Sebastian Catholic Church

**JESUS IS RISEN
ALLELUIA!!!
Happy Easter!**



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.

JESUS IS RISEN!!!

“The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon” - (Luke 24: 34,36)

On the Third Day He Rose from Dead

“We bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this day he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus.”(Acts 13:32-33)The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community; handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament; and preached as an essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross:

Christ is risen from the dead!
Dying, he conquered death;
To the dead, he has given life.

THE HISTORICAL AND TRANSCENDENT EVENT

The mystery of Christ's resurrection is a real event, with manifestations that were historically verified, as the New Testament bears witness. In about A.D. 56 St. Paul could already write to the Corinthians: "I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve..."(1 Cor 15:3-4)The Apostle speaks here of the living tradition of the Resurrection which he had learned after his conversion at the gates of Damascus (Acts 9:3-18).

The empty tomb

"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."(Lk 24:5-6)The first element we encounter in the framework of the Easter events is the empty tomb. In itself it is not a direct proof of Resurrection; the absence of Christ's body from the tomb could be explained otherwise. (Jn 20:13) Nonetheless the empty tomb was still an essential sign for all. Its discovery by the disciples was the first step toward recognizing the very fact of the Resurrection. This was the case, first with the holy women, and then with Peter. (Lk 24:3,12,22-23)The disciple "whom Jesus loved" affirmed that when he entered the empty tomb and discovered "the linen cloths lying there", "he saw and believed". (Jn 20:2, 6, 8) This suggests that he realized from the empty tomb's condition that the absence of Jesus' body could not have been of human doing and that Jesus had not simply returned to earthly life as had been the case with Lazarus. (Jn 11:44)

The appearances of the Risen One

Mary Magdalene and the holy women who came to finish anointing the body of Jesus, which had been buried in haste because the Sabbath began on the evening of Good Friday, were the first to encounter the Risen One. (Mk 16:1) Thus the women were the first messengers of Christ's Resurrection for the apostles themselves. (Lk 24:9-10) They were the next to whom Jesus appears: first Peter, then the Twelve. Peter had been called to strengthen the faith of his brothers, (1 Cor 15:5) and so sees the Risen One before them; it is on the basis of his testimony that the community exclaims: "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" (Lk 24:34,36)

Everything that happened during those Paschal days involves each of the apostles — and Peter in particular — in the building of the new era begun on Easter morning. As witnesses of the Risen One, they remain the foundation stones of his Church. The faith of the first community of believers is based on the witness of concrete men known to the Christians and for the most part still living among them. Peter and the Twelve are the primary "witnesses to his Resurrection", but they are not the only ones — Paul speaks clearly of more than five hundred persons to whom Jesus appeared on a single occasion and also of James and of all the apostles.(1 Cor 15:4-8)"

May the peace and love of the Risen Lord be in our hearts, in our homes, in our church and communities!

Father Ernest

HAPPY EASTER!

Mass Intentions

<u>SATURDAY</u> 5:00 pm	<u>APRIL 4 EASTER VIGIL</u> † Bill Loughran, by Fr. Ernest and Staff † Joan Fuccillo, by Family Wellbeing of Harold Gentry Ryan, by Rossanna Ryan
<u>SUNDAY</u> 8:30 am	<u>APRIL 5 EASTER SUNDAY</u> † Bea Biondi, by Anna Marie Pierotti † Lori Quaranta, by Donna Iodice † Charles, Marie, and Ann Maher, by Maher Family
11:00 am	† Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
6:00 pm	Wellbeing of Msgr. Michael Hippee, by Friends For the health of Fr. Liam Quinn
<u>MONDAY</u> 8:30 am	<u>APRIL 6</u> † Brad Leal, by Joseph & Jennifer Borba † Al Harmon and Cheryl Harmon-Fields, by Page Family For all who are sick in our Parish, by Rosie Koons
<u>TUESDAY</u> 8:30 am	<u>APRIL 7</u> † Roy Biondi, by Anna Marie Pierotti † Pamela Kelly Jennings, by husband James
<u>WEDNESDAY</u> 8:30 am	<u>APRIL 8</u> † Albertina Biondi, by Anna Marie Pierotti † John Koons, by Rosie Koons † Bill Loughran, by Grace Middlemiss
<u>THURSDAY</u> 8:30 am	<u>APRIL 9</u> † Mary Ann Vazzano, by Loretta Polizano † Joseph and Angelina Barcello, by Angela Zolluccio
<u>FRIDAY</u> 8:30 am	<u>APRIL 10</u> † Brand Leal, by Joseph and Jennifer Borba † Mary Kennedy, by the Karcher Family For all who are sick in our Parish, by Rosie Koons

REMEMBER THE SICK

Fr. Liam Quinn, 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, 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, Lawrence Biondi S.J., Angela Cowherd, Sean Ennis, Danielle Barisch, Deborah Castillo, Georgianna Eschen, Ruth McKelvie, Cathy Day, Mona Terry, Douglas Ham, Taylor Ellis, Monica Albelo, Jul Lenihan, Marian Lenihan, Isabel Cruz, Rich Stockinger.

SAVE the DATE

- A Weekend Retreat for the Women of St. Sebastian at Our lady of Florida Spiritual Center on April 10-12, 2026
- The Men's Club of St. Sebastian will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast after the 8:30 & 11:00 am. Mass on April 19, 2026
- The SSCCW inviting to experience "Reel Joy" in a showing of 'Sarah's Oil' on Thursday April 16th at 6 pm in the parish hall.

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

CONGRATULATIONS!



To all our candidates who were Baptized and Confirmed during Easter Vigil, as well as those who will be Confirmed next Saturday, April 11th.

HAPPY EASTER and CONGRATULATIONS!!

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!

St. Vincent de Paul report for February, 2026: served 917 clients, representing 2786 individuals. The Expenses were **\$6,824.62**. This figure includes partial rent and utility requested, gift cards, and other operational costs

God Bless you all

BRIDGE TO RECOVERY



Are you concerned about someone else's drinking or using drugs or your own? We can Help!
Meetings are held every Monday, at 7:30 pm. at St. Sebastian Parish Hall.



EASTER SUNDAY—THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD APRIL 5, 2026

SAINT SEBASTIAN CHURCH
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Pancake Breakfast

April 19, 2026
After the 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Masses

Adults \$10 - Kids \$5

Includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, coffee, and juice.

Supported by the Saint Sebastian Men's Club & Saint Sebastian Council of Catholic Women

DIVINE MERCY MASS

Sunday, April 12 at 3pm.

Jesus, I Trust in You!

OFFICE OF RESPECT LIFE

PREGNANCY HELP CENTER WISHLISTS

Please have items sent to your nearest Pregnancy Help Center.

<p>AMAZON</p>	<p>DIAPERS/WIPES/LOTIONS</p>
<p>WALMART WISHLIST</p> <p>SOUTH BROWARD 4747 HOLLYWOOD BLVD. SUITE #101 HOLLYWOOD, FL 33021</p>	<p>WALMART WISHLIST</p> <p>CENTRAL BROWARD 2151 E COMMERCIAL BLVD. SUITE #301 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33308</p>
<p>WALMART WISHLIST</p> <p>SOUTH DADE 7385 SW 87TH AVE. SUITE SUITE #300 MIAMI, FL 33173</p>	<p>WALMART WISHLIST</p>

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY

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

A Rosary a day keeps the devil away.

Fr. Ernest

Bill Loughran

passed away peacefully on March 31, 2026

Our deepest Condolences to his Family and Friends

He will be remembered by our community as one of our most beloved parishioners, a man of deep faith and kindness. His presence will be greatly missed in our pews and in our hearts. May his soul rest in God's eternal peace.

St. Sebastian Catholic Church

BIBLE SHARING

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

Now sharing about: **The Gospel According to Saint John.**

The facilitators are: **Madlean Boutram and Lourdes Fenandez,**

You may also join us online by dialing 848-777-1212; when prompted, put in 1431434#.

For more information, please contact **Miriam Rivas**

THE SSCCW PRESENTS A SHOWING OF

"SARAH'S OIL"

REEL JOY

FREE ENTRY

THURSDAY 6 PM

APRIL 16, 2026

PARISH HALL THEATER

SARAH'S OIL
A TRUE STORY
Zachary Levi & Naya Desir-Johnson

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

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

ABCD 2026

Your support of the ABCD allows us to be His eyes, hands and feet in our efforts to preserve the dignity of all human life, and in our commitment to the poor, homeless, needy, elderly and sick. Join us in making a gift to the ABCD today! www.isupportABCD.com.

PLANNED GIVING:

You can give to a charity, such as a church, college, or other qualified charitable organization in your will or during your lifetime. It's important to balance your income needs and the needs of your beneficiaries with the tax benefits of giving now, as well as the ability to enjoy the act of giving during your lifetime. Talk to a Financial Advisor today or visit www.adomgift.org to learn more.

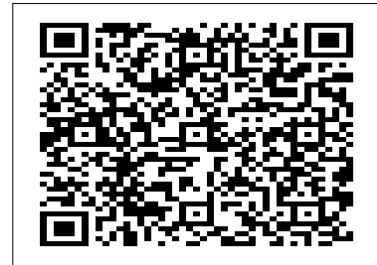
STEWARDSHIP

The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I may know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them," says Isaiah in today's first reading. The gifts God has given us are likewise given for the good of others. How am I using my gifts?

"This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead." Acts 10:40-41 The first disciples were people who witnessed the risen Christ in the flesh. The author of Acts emphasizes that they ate and drank with the risen Christ. How we take care of each other "in this life" is an important part of our spiritual life. Stewardship is not about having pious thoughts, but about making life better for others in the flesh.

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).