

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER THE GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

APRIL 26, 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.

Thank you!

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.

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV**Kilamba (Angola) Sunday, April 19 2026 (Extracts)**

As Good Shepherd, the Pope encourages the faithful and invites us to find hope in the Risen Lord. This Sunday we also pray for the Shepherds in our Church and for vocations.

“Brothers and sisters, in this opening scene of the Gospel, I see a reflection of the history of Angola, of this beautiful yet wounded country, which hungers and thirsts for hope, peace and fraternity. Indeed, the conversation along the road between the two disciples, who reflected with sorrow on what had happened to their Master, brings to mind the pain that has marked your country: a long civil war with its aftermath of enmities and divisions, of squandered resources and poverty.

When one is long immersed in a history so characterized by pain, one can risk losing hope and remaining paralyzed by discouragement, just like the two disciples. Indeed, they were walking, yet they remained fixated on the events of three days earlier when they saw the death of Jesus. They conversed with each other, but without hope of a solution. They continued to speak of what had happened, with the weariness of those who do not know how to start afresh or whether it is even possible to do so.

Dear friends, the Good News of the Lord, even for us today, is precisely this: he is alive, he has risen, and he walks beside us as we journey along the path of suffering and bitterness, opening our eyes so that we may recognize his work and granting us the grace to start afresh and rebuild the future.

The Lord walks alongside the two disappointed disciples, who are running out of hope. As their travelling companion, he helps them to piece together the fragments of that story, to look beyond their pain, to discover that they are not alone on the journey and that a future, still inhabited by the God of love, awaits them. When he stops to dine with them, sits at the table and breaks the bread, then “their eyes were opened and they recognized him” (Lk 24:31).

Here, too, is the path laid out for us, for you, dear Angolan brothers and sisters, to begin anew. On the one hand, there is the certainty that the Lord accompanies us and has compassion on us, and on the other, the commitment that he asks from us.

We experience the Lord’s companionship above all in our relationship with him, in prayer, in listening to his word that sets our hearts ablaze like it did to the hearts of the two disciples. This takes place especially in the celebration of the Eucharist. It is here that we encounter God. For this reason, we must always be vigilant regarding those forms of traditional religiosity that certainly belong to the roots of your culture, but at the same time risk confusing and mixing magical and superstitious elements that do not aid your spiritual journey. Remain faithful to what the Church teaches, trust your pastors, and keep your gaze fixed on Jesus, who reveals himself in the word and in the Eucharist. In both we experience that the risen Lord walks beside us and, united to him, we too overcome the “deaths” that besiege us and live as those who have “risen.”

This certainty that we are not alone on the journey includes a generous commitment on our part to sooth wounds and rekindle hope. Indeed, if the two disciples on the road to Emmaus recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, this means that we too must recognize him in this way: not only in the Eucharist, but wherever there is a life that becomes like broken bread, wherever someone offers himself or herself as a gift of compassion like him.

The history of your country, the ongoing difficult consequences you endure, the social and economic problems and the various forms of poverty call for the presence of a Church that knows how to walk alongside you and how to heed the cry of its children. A Church that, with the light of the word and the nourishment of the Eucharist, knows how to rekindle lost hope. A Church made up of people like you who give of themselves just as Jesus gave of himself in the breaking of the bread for the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Angola needs bishops, priests, missionaries, men and women religious, and lay people who carry in their hearts the desire to “break” their own lives and give them to others, to commit themselves to mutual love and forgiveness, to build spaces of fraternity and peace, and to perform acts of compassion and solidarity towards those most in need.

Through the grace of the risen Christ, we can become like this broken bread that transforms reality. Just as the Eucharist reminds us that we are one body and one spirit, united to the one Lord, so it is possible to build together a country where old divisions are overcome once and for all, where hatred and violence disappear, and where the scourge of corruption is healed by a new culture of justice and sharing. Only in this promising future be possible, especially for the many young people who have lost hope. Brothers and sisters, today we need to look to the future with hope and to build the walks the path nesses of his hope of the future. Do not be afraid to do so! The risen Jesus, who with you and breaks himself as bread for you, encourages you to be witnesses of his Resurrection and protagonists of a new humanity and a new society.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY APRIL 25
 5:00 pm † Joan Fuccillo, by Family
 † Leo and Mishael Fink, by Jack Fink
 † Marie and Albert Bourke, by Donald Bourke

SUNDAY APRIL 26
 8:30 am † Grace and Murray Toomey,
 by Helen and Mary Toomey
 † Robert Schehrer,
 by his sister Carolyn
 Wellbeing of Richie Stockinger, by Carolyn
 † Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
 11:00 am Wellbeing of Charles Travis,
 by Grace Middlemiss
 6:00 pm

MONDAY APRIL 27
 8:30 am † Brad Leal, by Joseph and Jennifer Borba
 † Doreen Steele, by Barry and Marcia Hogan
 Wellbeing of Dick Marcella,
 by Barry and Marcia Hogan
 Wellbeing of Joe Toscano, by Joanne Moss

TUESDAY APRIL 28 ST. LOUIS GRIGNION DE MONFORT
 8:30 am † For Souls in Purgatory, by Rosie Koons
 Wellbeing of John Smith,
 by Barry and Marcia Hogan
 Wellbeing of Joe Toscano, by Joanne Moss

WEDNESDAY APRIL 29 ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA
 8:30 am Wellbeing of Taylor Ellis,
 by Grace Middlemiss

THURSDAY APRIL 30 SAINT PIUS V, POPE
 8:30 am Wellbeing of Santiago Cardenas,
 by his mom, Francly

FRIDAY MAY 1 SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER
 8:30 am † Brad Leal, by Joseph and Jennifer Borba

REMEMBER THE SICK

Fr. Liam Quinn, Suzanne Plum, Gail Mills, 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, 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, Patrick Hayes, Lilia Garcia.

SAVE the DATE

• Father Ernest and the Pastoral Council invite those who participate in the parish liturgical ministries to attend an evening reception in the parish hall on Wednesday, April 29th at 6:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. RSVP 954-524-9344 parish office.

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, Amen.

RCIA and FAITH FORMATION



The last concluding sessions for this Class 2025-2026 are scheduled for Wednesdays, May 6th and 13th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please make plans to attend.

Fr. Ernest

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 March, 2026: served 915 clients, representing 2907 individuals. The Expenses were \$7874.31 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.





JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

ABCD 2026

There are so many people who do not have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus, who do not receive him as the Bread of Life. There is much to be done, many opportunities to announce our Eucharistic faith and the beauty of Catholic teaching. Make a difference by donating to www.isupportABCD.com.

PLANNED GIVING:

Retirement assets may be good candidates for charitable bequests because they can be among the highest taxed assets in any estate. Leaving your retirement assets to a charity has two distinct advantages: Increasing the impact of your bequest and decreasing the estate tax burden for your family. Visit www.adomgift.org to help you gather the information your attorney will need to plan for your future.

STEWARDSHIP

The more deeply one grows in love for God, the more one grows in heart to see stewardship as a way of life. Stewards see everything good as gifts received from God and they respond in gratitude with the gift of self.

"... I came so that they may have life and have it more abundantly." John: 10:10

An abundant life comes not from gathering or hoarding possessions but in giving of ourselves.

SANDWICH MINISTRY



*Hello Everyone,
Just a little reminder that we will be meeting on Saturday, **May 23th** in the Parish Hall at **8:30 a.m.** to make sandwiches.*

*Lois Pittler: 561-307-2128
Thank you all and BLESS YOU!!*

LET'S PRAY THE ROSARY

We invite everyone to join us in **praying the Rosary, Monday - Friday, at 7:50 a.m. before daily Mass.**

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



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**



PREGNANCY HELP CENTER WISHLISTS

Please have items sent to your nearest Pregnancy Help Center.

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

SUNDAY DONUTS & COFFEE RETURN



Coffee and Donuts are back after the 8:30 AM Sunday Mass.

Come and meet fellow parishioners.

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).