

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JUNE 21 2026

St. Sebastian Catholic Parish in Fort Lauderdale, Inc. (954)524-9344



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4 pm—Confessions
Saturday 5 pm (Sunday Vigil)
Sunday 8:30 am, 11:00 am & 6:00 pm

Weekdays

8:30 am (Monday through Friday)

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
Fabiola Osorno
Kathryn Cabrisas
Judy Fisher

Director of Music

Peter J. Manfredi, Jr.
(954) 868-6137

Vocalist

Cathy Spitzer

Maintenance

Patricio Diaz-Pizarro

Pastoral Council

Nancy Adams
Mauricio Bautista
Judy Fisher
Rosemary Guerin
John Mann, III
Johnny Mann, Jr.
Sandi Mann
Ed Rebolz

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Just stop by the office or call for arrangements.

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 last minute may be too late.**

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.

Registration form is available 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, where in the gifts and talents of all - young and old - are recognized, nurtured and used to build the Kingdom of God in the world.

DO NOT BE AFRAID!!!

A few years back, we all remember how Pope Saint John Paul II used to remind us of this message, that we should not be afraid. As witnesses of Jesus, one of our duties consist in announcing the Good News of salvation. On this weekend, Jesus insists that we should not be afraid to acknowledge him before other people.

The first reading from Jeremiah 20:10-13 indicates how the prophet was hated by his audience: *“Denounce! Let us denounce him.”* [...] Perhaps he will be trapped; then we can prevail, and take our vengeance on him.” But why were they against Jeremiah? Because Jeremiah denounced their wrongdoing. In Chapters 4, 5, and 6, for instance, Jeremiah announces to the people that they are going to suffer invasion and hardships because they did not repent and followed idols instead of giving honor to God; they ‘rebelled’ against him. Here is how the prophet describes their sins in Jeremiah 9:1-2, 4, 8:

“For all of them are adulterers, a conspiracy of traitors. They bend their tongues like a bow; not truth but falsehood holds sway in the land; yes, they go from crime to crime, but me they do not know, declares Yahweh. (...) Each one cheats his friend, never telling the truth; they have trained their tongues to lie and devoted all their energies to doing wrong. (...) Shall I fail to punish them for this, Yahweh demands, or on such a nation fail to exact vengeance.?”

So, because of his harsh words in denouncing the crimes of Israel, Jeremiah was in trouble. But he did not lose hope in what God could do to defend and protect him. “But the LORD is with me, like a mighty champion” (Jr 20:11). ‘Lord, in your great love, answer me’ (Ps 69:14). But let us be realistic: how can we have the same courage as Jeremiah? Jesus promises to be with us in all those difficult situations, but especially, he promises us to be our advocate before his heavenly Father so that we can enter into eternal glory with him. And this is very important because, in this world, we may suffer not for wrongdoing, but as a consequence of our witness to Jesus. Therefore, we should not lose hope because God will be there to support us and our final recompense is not in this world but in heaven with Jesus.

Nevertheless, with all these tremendous promises, we may be still weak and coward. We may fear men, but Jesus assures us what we should fear most is to be thrown in Gehenna, which is a place (or a state) of punishment for the accursed, it is the symbol of eternal damnation. (2Kgs 23:10; Jr7:31-32, etc.).

“But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father” (Mt 10:33). Saint John wrote that perfect love excludes fear: *“In love there is no room for fear, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear implies punishment and no one who is afraid has to perfection in love.* (1Jn 4:18). In his teachings, Jesus wants us not only to fulfill the ‘Law and the Prophets’ but also to do so out of authentic love of God and neighbor. Not only we bear witness to the Gospel but we strive to be ‘perfect as our Father is perfect’ (Mt 5:48). We will not be so arrogant and say ‘that there is nothing to fear’ as some tend to affirm; no, rather we better fear Gehenna. However, perfection means that we do not live and act out of fear, but that we overcome fear because we believe in the Lord ‘who is with us like a mighty champion’, and thus freed from fear, errors and lies, we will life in Jesus. *“If we live by the truth and in love, we shall grow completely into Christ...”* (Eph 4:15). *“If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free”* (Jn 8:31-32). Therefore, ‘Do not be afraid.’

Father Ernest

Mass Intentions

<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>JUNE 20</u>
5:00 pm	† Joan Fuccillo, by Family † Dolores Hesse Fink, by Husband, Jack † Donato Montanaro, Jr. and Margaret Montanaro, by Donato Montanaro Sr.
<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>JUNE 21</u>
8:30 am	† Richie Grable III, by Mom and Dad Father's Day Novena
11:00 am	† Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
6:00 pm	Father's Day Novena
<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>JUNE 22</u> <u>ST. PAULINUS OF NOLA,</u> <u>ST. JOHN FISHER & ST. THOMAS MORE</u>
8:30 am	Father's Day Novena Birthday Blessings of Kevin Osorno, by Fabiola Osorno
<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>JUNE 23</u>
8:30 am	Father's Day Novena
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>JUNE 24</u> <u>THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST</u>
8:30 am	Father's Day Novena Birthday Blessings of Santiago Cardenas, by Family
<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>JUNE 25</u>
8:30 am	Father's Day Novena
<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>JUNE 26</u>
8:30 am	Father's Day Novena † Ann Bayha, by Grace Middlemiss
<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>JUNE 27</u>
5:00 pm.	Father's Day Novena

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, Patrick Hayes, Lilia Garcia, Maria Badilla, Maryellen Maher, Rick Morris, Richard Stockinger

SAVE the DATE

• **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY** invites everyone to pray the Rosary from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm at the Mosaic on the northwest side of the church on the following Saturdays: July 11, August 15, September 12, and October 10.

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



Registrations will open in August, and Classes are scheduled to begin in September.

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 May, 2026: served 1106 clients, representing 3648 individuals. The Expenses were \$6,505.62 This figure includes partial rent and utility requested, gift cards, and other operational costs.

God Bless you all



Are you concerned about someone else's drinking? We can Help!



Closed meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous for those who have a desire to stop drinking. Meetings are held every Monday, at 7:30 pm., at St. Sebastian Church Parish Hall.



Father's Day Novena

We invite everyone to participate. If you are interested, special offering envelopes can be found in the pews and at the church exits."

Please take one and write the name of your father or a loved one you wish to honor. The names will be placed on the Altar for the rest of the month as we offer prayers in their honor."



Happy Father's Day

Saint Sebastian Catholic Church



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 Chapel of the Divine Healer. **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

For more information, please contact **Miriam Rivas** at **954-673-1522**



FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

ABCD 2026

Our faith shines brightest when it is lived boldly. Through your support of the ABCD, countless individuals encounter Christ through ministries of education, outreach, and pastoral care. Help us continue being a visible witness of God's love by making a gift today at www.isupportABCD.com.

PLANNED GIVING:

Your legacy can become a lasting witness of faith. By remembering the Church in your estate plans, you help ensure that future generations will continue to receive spiritual guidance, education, and charitable support. To explore planned giving opportunities, please visit www.adomgift.org.

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is a joyful witness to our faith. Through our words, actions, and generosity, we are called to reflect Christ in our daily lives and courageously share His love with others.

"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father." (Matthew 10:32)

True stewardship is rooted in courage and faith. By living generously and openly sharing our faith, we inspire others to encounter Christ through our example.

Pilgrimage to BEATIFICATION OF VENERABLE ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

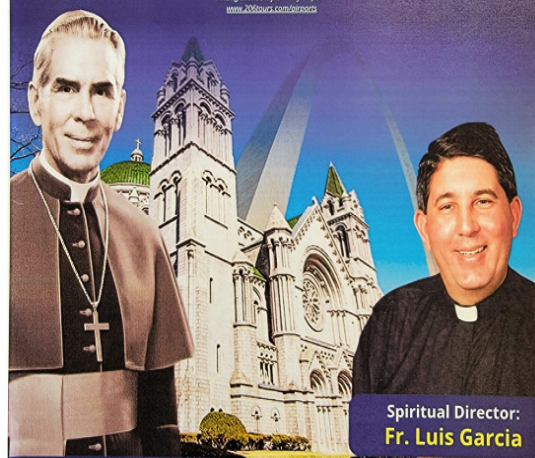
Sep 22 - 26, 2026

\$3,648 per person

From Fort Lauderdale (FLL)



*All Pricing Based on Double Occupancy. Pricing available from any airport. www.206tours.com/tours



Spiritual Director:
Fr. Luis Garcia

Contact Information:
cream@206tours.com
(800) 206-8687

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION



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

SANDWICH MINISTRY



Hello Everyone,
Just a little reminder that we will be meeting on **Saturday, June 27, 2026 at 8:30 am. in the parish hall.**

Lois Pittler: 561-307-2128

Thank you all and BLESSINGS!!

PRAYER TO AVERT HURRICANES

Father, all the elements of nature obey your commands. Protect us and all your people during this season of storms and hurricanes. Calm our fears and help us prepare our hearts as well as our homes. Help us see you in all we may encounter, and help us to minister to each other in your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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).