

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 16, 2026

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



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!



MASS SCHEDULE

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

Weekdays

8:30 am (Monday through Friday)

OFFICE : SUMMER HOURS

Monday , Tuesday 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday, Friday 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Weekends Closed

Pastor

Rev. Ernest Biriruka

Office Staff

*Fabiola Osorno
Kathryn Cabrisas
Judy Fisher*

Director of Music

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

Vocalist

Maintenance

Patricio Diaz-Pizarro

Pastoral Council

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 16, 2026

A CATECHESIS ON THE CREED

The Church , Mystery, Sacrament, Community BY John Paul II

Women Bear an Effective witness to Faith

When speaking of the dignity and mission of woman according to the teaching and spirit of the Church, one must always look to the Gospel. The Christian sees, examines and judges everything in its light.

In the preceding catechesis we cast the light of revelation on woman's identity and destiny, presenting the Virgin Mary as the symbol according to what is indicated in the Gospel. However, in that same divine source we find other signs of Christ's will toward women. He speaks of them with respect and goodness, showing by his attitude his willingness to accept women and to seek their involvement in establishing God's kingdom in the world.

First we can recall the many cases in which women were healed (cf. Mk 5:34), and those others in which Jesus revealed his Savior's heart, full of tenderness in his encounters with the suffering, be they men or women. "do not weep!" he said to the widow of Nain (Lk 7:13). Then he gave her back the son he raised from the dead. This episode allows us to glimpse what must have been Jesus' personal feelings toward his mother Mary, in the dramatic setting of her sharing in his own passion and death. Jesus said tenderly to the deceased daughter of Jairus: "Little girl, I say to you, arise!" Having raised her, he "told them to give her something to eat" (Mk 5:41, 43). He showed his sympathy for the stooped woman whom he healed. In this case, by referring to Satan he also called to mind the spiritual salvation he was bringing that woman (cf. Lk 13:10-17).

On other pages of the Gospel we find Jesus expressing his admiration for the faith of some women. For example, in the case of the woman with a hemorrhage, he told her: "Your faith has made you well" (Mk 5:34). This praise has all the more value because the woman was subject to the segregation imposed by the old law. Jesus freed women from this social oppression too. In her turn, the Canaanite received this recognition from Jesus: "O woman, great is your faith!" (Mt 15:28). This praise has an altogether special meaning, if one considers that it was addressed to a stranger to Israel's world. We can also recall Jesus' admiration for the widow who gave her mite to the temple treasury (cf. Lk 21:1-4), and his appreciation of the service he received from Mary Bethany (cf. Mt 26:6-13; Mk 14:3-9; Jn 12:1-8). He announced that her action would be known throughout the world.

In his parables too Jesus did not hesitate to draw examples and comparisons from the feminine world, unlike the rabbis' midrash, where only male figures appear. Jesus referred to both women and men. If one wishes to make a comparison, it could perhaps be said that women have the advantage. This at least means that Jesus avoided even appearing to attribute inferiority to women.

Again, Jesus allowed women as well as men to enter his kingdom. When he said: "Let the children, come to me" (Mk 10:14), he was reacting to the watchfulness of the disciples, who wanted to prevent the women from bringing their children to the Teacher. It could be said that he agreed with the women and their love for children!

Father Ernest

Please if you have some feed back, good stories and joke to share, email us at info@stsebastianfl.org

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm.	August 15 Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary † Joan Fuccillo by Family † Ossi Pierotti, by Anna Marie Pierotti † Isaiah & Marina Farfan by Gloria Gruebel
Sunday 8:30 am	August 16 † Msgr. James Fetscher by Gredys and Richard Grable † Marlene Maria Fernandez by Sajdera Family † Dolores Hesse Fing, by her husband Jack
11:00 am	† Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
6:00 pm	† Dr. Jairo Casas by Gloria Anabel—Casas
Monday 8:30 am	August 17 † Brad Leal by Jennifer and Joseph Borba † John Cavaluzzi, by Kari & Philip OConnell
Tuesday 8:30 am	August 18 Wellbeing of Sean Regan, by Sandra Key Keyser
Wednesday 8:30 am	August 19 † Mitchell John Sajdera, by Sajdera family † Ralph Sargol, by Jarchow Family
Thursday 8:30 am	August 20 † Henriette Kerba by Mona Hamawy † Rido Nasser by Mona Hamawy
Friday 8:30 am	August 21 † Brad Leal, by Jennifer and Joseph Borba

REMEMBER THE SICK

Fr. Liam Quinn, Suzanne Plum, Jr., John Harris, Stephen Black, Alvaro Arevalo, Paul Ristow, 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, Sean Ennis, William Hirsch, Gary Demberg, Lawrence Biondi S.J., Angela Cowherd, 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, Edward Heyden, Loretta Polizano.

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.

SAINTS' CORNER:

08/16 Stephen of Hungary (+1038) -Husband and father, born pagan, king of Hungary. He is a national hero and spiritual patron of Hungary, for his charity toward the poor, model of justice and piety.

08/19 St. John Eudes- (+1680) Priest-founded the Congregation of Jesus and Mary, devoted to the formation of the clergy.

08/20 St. Bernard, Abbot and Dr. of the Church- (+1153) Abbot and Doctor: Bernard of Clairvaux was an adviser popes, preacher of the Second Crusade, defender of the faith, healer of a schism, reformer of monastic order. Scripture scholar, theologian and eloquent preacher, wrote about the Blessed Mary and ascetism.

08/21 St. Pius X, Pope (+1914): He undertook liturgical and canonical reforms, especially communion of children and encouraged frequent reception of Holy Communion for adults.

08/22 Queenship of the Bl. Virgin Mary- Established in 1954 by Pius XII. Pius XII points out that Mary deserves the title because she is Mother of God and she is closely associated, as the New Eve, with Jesus' redemptive work, because of her preeminent perfection and because of her intercessory power, she is the 'Mediatrice' through whom the grace from God flow to us.

In Memoriam: +Matthew Keyzers, may his soul rest in peace.

July was a very challenging month for our food distribution program due to extreme heat and heavy summer storms. We were closed for the July 4th holiday (no truck deliveries), but were open 4 Fridays when we served 884 clients representing 2847 individuals. Our expenses for the month were \$15,382.64. This figure is significantly higher than usual because we gave Publix gift cards to all of our registered clients during the last week of June. This was in addition to rents, utilities, etc. for several people with serious emergency needs as well as our usual operational expenses. The incredible generosity (both financial and food) from so many individuals, parishes, and businesses as well as a dedicated team of volunteers allow us to continue to provide this ministry. We are very grateful for the spiritual and material support.

Each month we have a Mass said for past and present members and benefactors. The next one will be on Wednesday, August 19 at 8:00 AM at Blessed Sacrament Church. Please join us if you are able.

Pat Burke

"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.

RCIA and FAITH FORMATION

Registrations will open in August, and classes are scheduled to begin this Wednesday August 19, 2026 with and introductory meeting at 6 pm in the Parish Hall.

ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI NEWS .[ABCD](#) twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The ministries of the Archdiocese of Miami reflect Christ's love for every person. Through your support of the ABCD, countless individuals receive spiritual care, Catholic education, charitable assistance, and opportunities to grow in faith. Thank you for helping us share Christ's mercy with our community. Donate today at www.isupportABCD.com.

Planned Giving

The ministries of the Archdiocese of Miami reflect Christ's love for every person. Through your support of the ABCD, countless individuals receive spiritual care, Catholic education, charitable assistance, and opportunities to grow in faith. Thank you for helping us share Christ's mercy with our community. Donate today at www.adomgift.org.

Stewardship Good stewards realize the extraordinary love and graciousness with which God showers us. We need never convince God to be generous. God is already that generous friend. His abundant love bathes us in goodness.

"Do you think I have come to give you peace on Earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." [LUKE 12:51](#)

Faith-filled stewardship invites us to trust God's timing while generously serving others.

Bethlehem ART will be at our Parish on August 29 & 30



We will host representatives of the Catholic Christian Community from Jerusalem and Bethlehem in the Holy Land who will be displaying handcrafted olive wood religious figurines and articles. Due to the political conflict and the reduction of tourism, the Catholic Community has come to depend more on the sale of these articles abroad to survive and to keep their faith and Christian presence in the holy land, The woodcarvings are beautiful and reflect faith and love for the Lord.

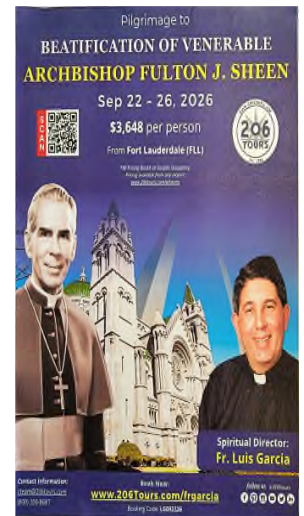
Parish News & Ministries

SANDWICH MINISTRY: *Hello Everyone, **OUR NEXT MINISTRY GATHERING WILL BE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH, 2026** . Lois Pittler: 561-307-2128 Thank you all and have a blessed summer!*

BI BLE 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**

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

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.



**WEEKDAY MASS 8:30 AM
IN THE CHAPEL OF THE
DIVINE HEALER**

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).

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR DONA-
TION**



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.



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.**