

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 6, 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

John Mann, III

Johnny Mann, Jr.

Sandi Mann

Ed Rebholz

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
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BROTHERLY CORRECTION

This weekend the Gospel and the first reading from the Prophet Ezekiel invite us to exercise brotherly correction. But this is a very delicate matter. So many times, we deal with difficult situations in our families and in our society that we dare not speak of them. First because the other person or persons might not be disposed to listen at all. We often find ourselves in those scenarios where we walk on 'egg shells' as they say.

So, first of all we need to be courageous: we cannot keep complete silence if we know that our brother or sister needs correction and hear the truth. However, we do not make of the truth an instrument to humiliate or ridicule the other person no matter how weak or erroneous his or her position might be. As the Church commends, we have to practice the truth with love (Eph 4:15). To speak the truth is by no means easy because we fear not only criticisms and opposition, but also retaliation and isolation. In our desire to belong and out of fear, we may 'keep our mouth shut' in order not to compromise our interests or be rejected by 'the group.'

Then we have to know what we are talking about: It is our duty to seek the right information and be sure that we know the truth as far as possible. We are submitted to all kinds of influences, whether conspiracy theories, manipulation of facts by AI and medias, political and market propagandas, and ads of all kinds. We have reached the point where people doubt even evident facts and think that 'all is fake news.' When the Pope does not say what we want to hear, we do not even listen... We are in this deep crisis about the truth, in which for personal convenience or political and business interests, we choose to deny the truth. For instance, how many people choose to deny the impact of global warming because they are in the oil industry or because they want to sell those 'humongous gas-guzzler' trucks? How often money is used to silence the truth and promote lies? So, we have to strive to know the truth so that we can be effective in our mutual dialogue and brotherly correction. For instance, in the area of politics, we cannot just say 'we do not discuss religion and politics!' We have to know more about our faith so as to feel comfortable talking about religion. Politics are not 'only lies;' politics concern areas of great importance in the life and livelihood of the people, therefore we should know principles that make a good society and the laws that protect the rights and lives of the people, promoting a better life for all or the common good. As disciples of Jesus, we cannot condone politics that dehumanize other people, trample down their rights, or that promote racism and hatred. Saint Paul reminds us: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no evil to the neighbor, hence love is the fulfillment of the law." (Rm 13:10) We should not be afraid to speak but rather seek to correct what is wrong, which means what is unjust and evil. "If I say to someone, 'Evil-doer, you are to die,' and you do not speak out to warn the wicked person to renounce such ways, the wicked person will die for his guilt, but I shall hold you responsible for this death". (Ez. 33:8) So, we have a clear obligation to help our neighbor do the right thing.

In this context, it is good also to recall one of the aspects that are a major hindrance to the truth in our culture: Relativism. Here relativism refers to wanting to do things in our own way and feelings and not in God's way. This is a fundamental mistake in our understanding of freedom, and also part of atheism because it excludes God as the foundation of Morality and the authority that guarantees the correctness of our choices. Without God as the law-giver, each one makes one's decisions according to one's conscience, feelings, and appreciation of reality. For instance, in case of same sex relations, -please, with no personal offense to no one; it is about principles-, we know that God has indicated in natural laws and in the Scriptures that marriage is between a man and a woman and that union includes openness to procreation; any other relations which do not match God's design cannot be Sacrament of Marriage. So, in the brotherly correction, are we going to say, 'nobody tells me what to do'? or are we going to admit that God has something to say? If we are atheist, God is not in the picture, but if we believe, then we should follow God's law.



An Irishman's Philosophy

There are only two things to worry about. Either you will go to heaven or hell. If you go to heaven there is nothing to worry about. But if you go to hell, you'll be so damn busy shaking hands with friends you won't have time to worry!

Reminder: Send us your joke or a good story.

Mass Intentions

Saturday
5:00 pm.

September 5

† Joan Fuccillo, by Family
† Haiden Lee Nicholes,
by Amy Carroll and Frank Krauser
† Albertina Biondi,
by Anna Marie Pieriotti

Sunday
8:30 am

September 6

† Rose and John Fink, by Jack Fink
Wellbeing of Richard Grable,
by his wife Gredys Grable
Wellbeing of Citsy Castro,
by Gredys Grable

11:00 am

Living & † Deceased Members of our Parish

6:00 pm

† Mary Elizabeth Swenson,
by Mark and Cathy Horne

Monday
8:30 am

September 7

Brad Leal,
by Jennifer and Joseph Borba

Tuesday
8:30 am

September 8 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

† Roy, Bea and Larry Biondi,
by Anna Marie Pierotti

Wednesday
8:30 am

September 9 St. Peter Claver

† Anne Calabro, by Diane Jarchow Family

Thursday
8:30 am

September 10

† Ann McGarry, by Family Madelyn Facarazzo
† Kevin Hogan, by Grace Middlemiss

Friday
8:30 am

September 11

† Brad Leal, by Jennifer and Joseph Borba
Wellbeing of Casey Rebholz, by Grace Middlemiss



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.

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 Albello, Jul Lenihan, Marian Lenihan, Patrick Hayes, Lilia Garcia, Maria Badilla, Maryellen Maher, Rick Morris, Richard Stockinger, Edward Heyden, Loretta Polizano, Johanna Donson, Linda Schaan and Lila Ferzacca.

Saints' Corner

09/09: Saint Peter Claver

(+1654) "Catalonian Jesuit who served in the Colombian mission in Cartagena; for thirty-eight years devoted to caring for African slaves, baptizing over 300,000; called himself "the slave of the slaves forever"; patron of Colombia and of all missions to black peoples."

August 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.

ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI NEWS. ABCD TWENTY-THIRD Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings remind us that authentic Christian love is expressed not only in words but through action. St. Paul tells us that the fulfillment of the law is love of neighbor. Through the Archbishop's Charities & Development Drive (ABCD), we put that love into practice by supporting ministries that care for the poor, educate our children, accompany families, and bring hope to those most in need throughout the Archdiocese of Miami. Every gift, no matter the size, becomes an act of charity that transforms lives. Make a difference today! Visit www.isupportABCD.com.

Planned Giving: Today's second reading reminds us that love leaves a lasting impact. Planned Giving is an opportunity to extend that love beyond our lifetime by ensuring that the ministries of the Church continue for future generations.

Whether through a bequest in your will, naming the Church as a beneficiary of a retirement account, or another planned gift, your generosity becomes a lasting witness to your faith and commitment to Christ's mission. For more information, contact Katie Blanco Bourdeau at 305-762-1053, email kblancobourdeau@theadom.org, or visit www.adomgift.org.

Stewardship Everything we have is a gift from God, and stewardship is our grateful response to those gifts.

"Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law." ROMANS 13:10

Christian stewardship begins with love. Every blessing we have received is an opportunity to serve God by serving others. When we generously share our time, talent, and treasure, we become instruments of God's love in our families, our parish, and our community.

Next RCIA Session: will be held on **October 7 at 6:00 PM** in the **Parish Hall**. Please remember to bring your **Bible** and your **Catechism of the Catholic Church**.

Job Opportunity: Part Time Parish Secretary, please contact Fr. Ernest

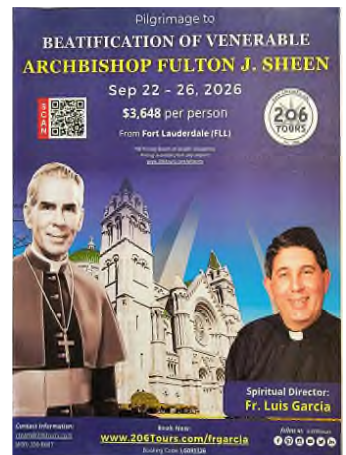
Parish News & Ministries

SANDWICH MINISTRY: TBA

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**

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: **September 12, and October 10.**



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR DONTION**

QR code to
donate



**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 Bish-
ops).

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.**