

**Church of Saint Sebastian**  
**June 9, 2019 - Pentecost Sunday**

**SUNDAY MASS**

Saturday Vigil  
 5:00 pm

Sunday  
 9:00 am | 11:00 am

**DAILY MASS**

Monday - Friday  
 7:00 am

Holidays  
 9:00 am

Saturday  
 9:00 am

**RECONCILIATION**

Saturday  
 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm  
 or by appointment

**ADORATION**

Mon-Thurs. 6:30 am - 6:55 am  
 Sunday Following the 9:00 am  
 Mass until 10:55 am

**PARISH OFFICE**

Monday - Friday  
 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

CHURCH OF SAINT SEBASTIAN

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION & STAFF**

**REVEREND JORDAN KELLY, O.P.**  
 Pastor

**MEGAN MORROW**  
 Cantor

**KRISTEN GOLD**  
**ROBERT SHORT**  
 Coordinators of Religious Education  
 (401-272-6062)

**MARY BRENNAN**  
 Business Manager

**PAUL CASTALDI**  
 Maintenance

**PASTOR EMERITUS**  
 Msgr. Carlo F. Montecalvo

**PARISH TRUSTEES**  
 Charles Rogers  
 Catherine Taylor

**PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL**  
 Charles Brusso  
 Ann Carnevale  
 Grace Dugan

**PARISH COUNCIL**  
 Sarah Garcia-Mata  
 Mary Hill  
 Jamie Hill  
 Janice Opalenski  
 Patricia Recupero  
 Ellen Reinhardt  
 Fred Reinhardt  
 Robert Whelan



**THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN'S**  
**WON'T YOU JOIN US?**

SUNDAY	6/9	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	10:00 AM	CLASSROOMS
		ADORATION - FOLLOWING 9:00 AM MASS TO 10:55 AM		CHURCH
MONDAY	6/10	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	4:00 PM	CLASSROOMS
		CGS	4:15 PM	ATRIUM
TUESDAY	6/11	NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP	7:20 AM	CHURCH

# Church of Saint Sebastian

## June 9, 2019 - Pentecost Sunday

### *From Father Jordan*

My Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

May the Grace of Our Lord remain always with us!

#### Context as Text

I have often said to you that the context in which we receive something becomes the text by which what we have heard or read has meaning. For a moment, think of the last time you heard the Scripture verse, “Come to me all you who labor and are heavy burdened...” if you heard this at Sunday Mass it has one meaning, if you heard it at a funeral of a family member – a very different meaning.

Today the Church celebrates the great Feast of Pentecost, the sending of the Holy Spirit and the perfection of our Easter Journey of dying and rising to new life. What is the gift of Pentecost? The gift of Pentecost is the unity of the community of believers; one in mind and in heart on the way to God. We are witnesses to this unity in the Spirit’s gift of Universal Language, by which each one hears in his/her own language, the consuming, transforming, and conforming Fire of Love who is Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord. This is the context of the gift of the Holy Spirit that becomes the text of our lives today.

In the wake of the Clergy Sexual Abuse Crisis the universal language the Church once possessed has been disgraced and weakened to the brink of meaninglessness. The words of our Holy Father, Bishops, and Priests are received in a heightened, critical, painful, and delicate context. Because of the context of this sinful scourge every comment and possible repercussion must be considered carefully. It is the understatement of the century to say we struggle with the Spirit’s gift of unity.

#### In the Image of God and Labels

As Roman Catholics we believe that every person is created in the image and likeness of God, and because we are created in His image and likeness, we are **good**. Labels like “conservative/liberal”; “orthodox/progressive”, “men are from Mars/, women are from Venus”; or “gay/straight” can distort the way in which we remember, live, and treat one another as being made in the image and likeness of God. Our unity is weakened by labels.

#### Catholic Teaching, Same Sex Attraction, and Gay Pride

All of us are aware of the comments of our Bishop concerning Catholic presence at Gay Pride Celebrations. I do not know what led the Bishop to speak about this issue; I am aware of the aftermath of his words. As we sort through the wounds caused by these remarks, let us stand back and consider matters from a wider perspective.

What does the Church teach about people who live with same sex attraction? The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, **“Homosexual men and women must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided. Homosexual persons are called to fulfill God’s will in their lives and, if they are Christians, to unite to the sacrifice of the Lord’s Cross the difficulties they may encounter from their condition”** (CCC,#2358). Therefore, the Church has the obligation to care for and welcome those of our brothers and sisters who are same sex attracted. While the slogan, *All Are Welcome*, is confusing and misleading, every person of good will who is searching for God is welcome here at Saint Sebastian. **No one because of marital status, questions of faith, political views, or sexual orientation should be nervous about being part of our Community.** To each and every person who comes to our doors, or considers walking through these doors, please believe me when I say God loves you and wants you to follow Him; and I love you and I want to walk with you on your journey to the Lord! Neither God, the Church, nor I care about the past; God will make that new as the snow. God, the Church, and I are concerned about your present and your future: together, as one, let us find the way to live the Gospel and come to awesome Kingdom of God!

Issues surrounding a person’s sexual orientation and how they live that orientation are deeply personal and private matters. No person of faith supports displays of sexuality, sexual proclivities, or personal sexual ideologies in the public forum. These are private matters meant for the security of one’s home. Are Parades about one’s sexual orientation truly necessary; are they beneficial? Instinctively I reply, “no”. I have two gay nephews whom I love a great deal. I love them in their struggle to be faithful Catholics; and, I love them for the integrity of their lives. Outlandish parades are no more reflective of the integrity and dignity of my nephews’ lives, than a Straight Pride Parade would reflect the dignity and integrity of the lives of heterosexual persons. No person, young or old, should be exposed to either inappropriate

## Church of Saint Sebastian Founded October 15, 1915

display of sexual morality. Are such a concern for the safety of children, or a greater concern for the moral good of all people? How do these parades unite us; how do they divide?

### The Context of Our Times

At this time in the history of our Church, just as in times past, there is a need and cry for justice, healing, transparency, and accountability. These right desires place every word and action under closer scrutiny: we cannot claim ignorance in one breath and be critically vigilant in the next. Such lack of accountability is both disingenuous and insulting.

As difficult, frustrating and disheartening as the context of our times may be, it can also be a time for us to find the Truth known in Christ Jesus and our fragile-Church in a new and deeper way. The body that is the Church is wounded and infected; it needs healing and purification. When someone we love is sick we draw closer, we do not walk away – no matter how difficult it may be to care for them either physically or emotionally. If we are truly a community we remain with the body/the community administering the medicine of mercy, challenge, love and correction. Today, on the “**Birth**day of the Church” let us draw near to the Church we love – we have to love it, or we would not be so upset and saddened by all that has taken place – and let us support one another and work together to dream God’s Dream anew! Let us be **one** as Jesus and the Father are one, and as Jesus prays that we might be one in His Priestly Prayer for unity (cf. John 17: 11 – 26).

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything!

Until we meet at the altar.... *O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee!*

*Fr. Jordan, OP*

### Father’s Day Novena

A Novena of Masses will be offered for all Fathers living and deceased beginning on Saturday, June 8 at the 5:00 pm Vigil Mass and continuing until the 9:00 am Mass on June 16, Father’s Day.

Please fill out the envelopes found in the book racks of every pew and place them in the collection basket, or drop them off at the Rectory.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

#### Religious Education End of the Year Celebration

Monday, June 10 is the conclusion of this year’s Religious Education Program. Whether you attend Religious Education on Sunday Morning or Monday afternoon, all students and their parents are invited to attend the celebration beginning at 4:00 pm on June 10. Weather permitting, we will gather on the lawns of the Church.

#### Pre-Registration for Religious Education Fall 2019

Parents of students in Grades 1 – 9 are asked to pre-register their child (children) for Religious Education which begins in September of this year. Current students will be asked to re-register before the close of this school year.

The registration fee per child is \$60 and registration is open to all registered active families. New students who were not baptized at St. Sebastian’s must provide a copy of their baptismal certificate.

Please contact Bob Short at [ssricgs@gmail.com](mailto:ssricgs@gmail.com) with any questions

### Mark Your Calendars and Reserve the Date

Please circle **Saturday October 19, 2019** on your calendar! Circle for what you might ask?? Circle the date for the **Celebration of Saint Sebastian’s Founders’ Day Oktoberfest!** Our Parish was founded on October 15, 1915. Come celebrate our 104<sup>th</sup> Birthday!! Plans are being made by Karin Schrott and Father Jordan. Do you want to help? Please contact Karin or Father. Proceeds will benefit the Saint Sebastian Community Outreach Committee. The Celebration will begin with Mass at 5:00 pm, followed by cocktails, dinner, and music in the Parish Hall. Mark your calendars and see you there!

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## CATHOLIC TRIVIA: JUNE, THE MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

When I was growing up an “extra credit” question on a Religion Test would read, The month of \_\_\_\_\_ is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The correct answer is June. Just as every month of the year is dedicated to a specific grace of Christ, e.g. The Eucharist (April), The Holy Name of Jesus (January), June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart.

Here are some facts about the devotion of which you might not be aware:

- Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus began in earnest in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries, at which time it was primarily a private devotion.
- The devotion took on a new life in the 1600s due to the visions of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690).
- Jesus appeared to her several times and granted her the same privilege he had granted to St. Gertrude: she was allowed to rest her head upon his heart.
- “He requested to be honored under the figure of His Heart of flesh, as well as frequent Communion, Communion on the First Friday of the month, and the observance of the Holy Hour. However, it wasn’t until 1856 that Pope Pius IX would extend the feast to the whole church. “Finally, on 11 June, 1899, by order of Leo XIII, and with the formula prescribed by him, all mankind was solemnly consecrated to the Sacred Heart.”
- St. Margaret Mary was canonized by Benedict XV in 1920. The Lord Jesus revealed to Saint Margaret Mary the following promises to those souls who would honor the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus:
  1. I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
  2. I will establish peace in their homes.
  3. I will comfort them in all their afflictions.
  4. I will be their secure refuge during life and above all in death.
  5. I will bestow a large blessing upon all their undertakings.
  6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source and the infinite ocean of mercy.
  7. Tepid souls shall grow fervent.
  8. Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.

9. I will bless every place where a picture of My Heart shall be set up and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart, never to be blotted out.
12. I promise you in the excessive mercy of My Heart that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who communicate on the First Friday in nine consecutive months, the grace of final perseverance; they shall not die in my disgrace nor without receiving their Sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

## WELCOME AND THANK YOU, FR. BERNARD MULCAHY, O.P.

Please join me in welcoming my Dominican Brother and dear friend, Father Bernard Mulcahy, O.P. Father Bernard is a professor of Theology at the Pontifical Faculty of the Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. Father Bernard is graciously covering the Parish while I am on vacation June 14-22.

## LETTER TO A SUFFERING CHURCH

Bishop Robert Barron has written a brief book entitled, *Letter to a Suffering Church: A Bishop Speaks on the Sexual Abuse Crisis*. I have ordered the book for the Parish, and I hope you will take the opportunity in these summer days to read and reflect upon this thoughtful and timely reflection by Bishop Barron. Here is a statement I find to be extremely important:

*“In the end, we are not Catholics because our leaders are flawless, but because we find the claims of Catholicism both compelling and beautiful. We are Catholics because the Church speaks of the Trinitarian God whose very nature is love; of Jesus the Lord, crucified and risen from the dead; of the Holy Spirit, who inspires the followers of Christ up and down the ages; of the sacraments, which convey the Christ-life to us; and of the saints, who are our friends in the spiritual order. This is the treasure; this is why we stay.”*

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## PARISH FINANCES: 6/2/2019

### WEEKLY OFFERING

Mass Contributions	\$ 4,150.00
Online Giving	\$ <u>1,040.00</u>
<b><u>TOTAL WEEKLY OFFERING</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>5,190.00</u></b>

NUMBER OF REGISTERED FAMILIES	318
TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS	91
MEDIAN OFFERING	\$ 25.00

### Other Offerings This Week:

Monthly Maintenance	\$ 1,614.00
Ascension Thursday	\$ 675.00

### PARISH EXPENSES

Monthly Wages	\$ 5,425.00
Bi-Weekly Wages	\$ 3,852.00
Benefits	\$ 1,250.00
Music Expenses - includes \$700.00 Substitute Organist	\$ 836.00
Other Expenses	\$ 664.00
Parish Assessment - Quarterly	\$ 1,885.00
Property Insurance - Quarterly	\$ <u>4,533.00</u>
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>18,445.00</u></b>

**NET WEEKLY INCOME**  
**(EXPENSE)**

**\$ 13,255.00**

These above expenses are fixed and accurately represent Saint Sebastian Parish's Financial Obligations. Last week's collection covers just over 28% of these expenses. As I have mentioned on countless occasions, this is not about equal gifts, but equal sacrifice. I acknowledge that there are many financial requests and obligations, but I know we can more successfully meet our financial commitments. Please call me with any questions or concerns.

*Fr. Jordan, OP*

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR FALL 2019

As we celebrate the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation during these Easter Days, we are already preparing for the celebration of these Sacraments in 2020 and 2021.

Unless your child is enrolled in a Catholic School, preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation requires attendance of Religious Education Classes for two years. If you have any questions or concerns about this policy, please contact Father Jordan.

Please contact Kristen Gold ([ssriprimaryre@gmail.com](mailto:ssriprimaryre@gmail.com)) or Bob Short ([ssricgs@gmail.com](mailto:ssricgs@gmail.com)) concerning classes for First Holy Communion in the Spring of 2020, and Confirmation in the Spring of 2021.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

If your child is entering First Grade in the Fall of 2019, he/she needs to be enrolled in Religious Education for First Holy Communion taking place in the Spring of 2021;

If your child is entering Second Grade in the Fall of 2019, and you are planning for First Holy Communion taking place in the Spring of 2020, please contact Kristen Gold at [ssriprimaryre@gmail.com](mailto:ssriprimaryre@gmail.com), or call 272-6062 as soon as possible.

### CONFIRMATION

If your son or daughter will begin 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade in September 2019, they need to be enrolled in Religious Education for Confirmation taking place in the Spring of 2021. Please contact Bob Short at ([ssricgs@gmail.com](mailto:ssricgs@gmail.com)) or 272-6062 for more information.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Prayers are asked for our friends, family, fellow parishioners, and especially for *Baby Taylor Keiley, Timothy Hangsterfer, Fr. Urban Voll, O.P., Marilyn Childs, Robert Davis, and Catherine Taylor*. If you would like someone included in the Prayers for the Sick, please call the Church Rectory.

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## Mass Intentions

Saturday	June 8	5:00 pm	<b>Vigil: Pentecost Sunday</b> Fathers' Day Novena
Sunday	June 9	9:00 am 11:00 am	<b>Pentecost Sunday</b> ✠ John Francis Kelly, 2nd anniversary ✠ Patricia Patton, 2nd anniversary
Monday	June	7:00 am	<b>Mary, Mother of the Church</b> Fathers' Day Novena
Tuesday	June 11	7:00 am	<b>Saint Barnabas, Apostle</b> Fathers' Day Novena
Wednesday	June 12	7:00 am	<b>Weekday</b> Fathers Day Novena
Thursday	June 13	7:00 am	<b>Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church</b> Fathers' Day Novena and ✠ Thomas H. Roberts, II
Friday	June 14	7:00 am	<b>Weekday</b> Fathers' Day Novena
Saturday	June 15	9:00 am	<b>Weekday</b> For the Healing of Victims of Clergy Sexual Abuse
Saturday	June 15	5:00 pm	<b>Vigil: The Most Holy Trinity</b> Pro Populo
Sunday	June 16	9:00 am 11:00 am	<b>The Most Holy Trinity</b> All Fathers Living and Deceased ✠ Thomas Corrigan, Sr. 4th anniversary

## Welcome!

In my own name and on behalf of the People of Saint Sebastian's, welcome to our Parish! If you are visiting, coming back to the Church and Mass after some time away, or looking for a Parish, you are most welcome here at Saint Sebastian's.

### BAPTISM

Congratulations of the birth of your child!

We require all parents and godparents to attend Sacramental Preparation Classes. Once you have called the rectory to plan for the baptism of your child, we will have someone contact you to set up a special appointment for Preparation Classes. These classes are usually done one on one with each family and are conducted by a couple who are well prepared to teach and assist in Baptismal Preparation.

### MARRIAGE

Congratulations on your engagement and decision to enter into a Catholic marriage! St. Sebastian Parish will help you in your preparation to ensure that you make this serious and sacred step in your life a holy and happy one.

The day and time of your wedding must be arranged in person by the prospective bride and groom themselves as soon as they feel called to marry. No arrangement can be made by phone or parents. All arrangements should be made nine months prior to the wedding date and done prior to scheduling the reception.

The first meeting with the Pastor may be scheduled by calling the Parish Office at (401) 751-0196.

Spiritual preparation is a key part of this special time. Frequent participation in the sacraments during this time is important, particularly weekly Mass attendance. It is also strongly recommended that you bring yourselves to the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this time of preparation.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

By their word and their example, parents are the first and principal teachers of their children concerning our Catholic Faith. The Religious Education of Saint Sebastian's stands ready to assist parents in their sacred and most important responsibility.

Should you have any questions about the program please contact Ms. Kristen Gold at [ssriprimaryre@gmail.com](mailto:ssriprimaryre@gmail.com) or Mr. Bob Short at [ssricgs@gmail.com](mailto:ssricgs@gmail.com)

### CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Saint Sebastian's also offers Level One, ages 3 - 6, of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, commonly referred to as CGS. CGS is a Montessori-based program of faith formation. Please contact Mr. Bob Short, Catechist, at [ssricgs@gmail.com](mailto:ssricgs@gmail.com)

### PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration is the official way we join a parish community, please stop in the Parish Office or register online to become a registered parishioner. To be considered an active registered member of the parish, members are asked to give of their time, talent and treasure. The parish is in need of and welcomes all three parts of your stewardship.