

Church of Saint Sebastian
August 25, 2019 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Summer Hours

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

Friday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

CHURCH OF SAINT SEBASTIAN

PARISH ADMINISTRATION & STAFF

REVEREND FATHER JORDAN KELLY, O.P.

Pastor
(401-500-2462)

MEGAN MORROW

Cantor

ROBERT SHORT

Director of Faith Formation and
Evangelization
401-272-6062
ssricgs@gmail.com

KRISTEN GOLD

Assistant Religious Education Coordinator
401-272-6062
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MARY BRENNAN

Business Manager

PAUL CASTALDI

Maintenance

PARISH TRUSTEES

Charles Rogers
Catherine Taylor

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

James Daly
Ann Carnevale
Grace Dugan
Douglas Nani

PARISH COUNCIL

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

PARISH AUDITORS

Ellen Boyle
Jennifer Pizzuti

May the wind be always at his back...

The parish community of Saint Sebastian extends our deepest sympathies and promise of prayers to Ellen Reinhardt and her family upon the death of Ellen's Father, Donald Francis Shea. Judge Shea was buried from our Church on Tuesday. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace! And as Donald would say, God Bless!

These unrelenting attacks on the life and dignity of families – from our government or from hateful, ideologically driven people – contradict American claims enshrined in the Constitution to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Bishop Kevin Vann

Church of Saint Sebastian

Founded October 15, 1915

From Father Jordan

My Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

May the Grace of Our Lord remain always with us!

May you be Peace

Last weekend as the Masses were ending, I was asked a question about our Church, our faith, the Pro-Life teaching of the Church and the issues of immigration that bombard our discourse and attention at this time.

Joseph Cardinal Bernadine used the phrase “seamless garment” towards the Church’s economic policies and the manner in which we, the Church, care for the poor. I would like to propose for your reflection that the metaphor of a “seamless garment” is also most applicable to what it means to be Pro-Life and to strive constantly for the promotion and protection of the dignity of the human person.

If the Roman Catholic Church is truly Pro-Life, and we are, *then neither our theology nor our praxis is allowed to destroy the seamless garment of safeguarding the dignity of human life from conception until natural death.* Life in the womb is as precious as life outside of the womb, and both demand and deserve our vigilance, protection, and our advocacy.

As Roman Catholics we are rightly concerned about recent legislation read into power throughout our country concerning abortion and especially late term abortion; we need to be similarly concerned about legislation concerning immigration and the treatment of immigrants. If you have toured Ellis Island, you know it was no paradise; and there were many tragedies on that island. When we view the conditions being endured in Texas, Ellis Island might look much better.

It is this same concern that guides us to address the concerns that surround proper medical care and treatment, as well as end of life issues. I read recently poor Philadelphians are dying without insulin needed for the treatment of diabetes because of revised insurance copays and highly inflated costs of insulin.

As governments legalize assisted suicide, every Roman Catholic needs to know what the Church teaches about “ordinary” and “extraordinary” means of caring for life and preserving the quality of life that God desires for us.

I recommend to you the work of our Dominican Sisters of Peace for more information about what the Church is doing to address the immigration crisis. Please go to: opeace.org/dominican-sisters-peace-immigration-reformcommittee/. I recall for you the words of Sister Barbara Kane published recently in these pages, “Above all, Jordan, I urge you to encourage your parishioners to pray for all immigrants and immigration reform. **May you be Peace!**”

Back from Vacation

Vacation is great, but wow...reentry! Before I came home, I learned of the death of Judge Shea: my first days home centered on the passing of this great Catholic-Icon for peace and justice. At his funeral, I was taking back by the high number of Catholic Judges in our state. As Judge Shea was eulogized for his deep and active faith, may all our Catholic Judges follow his example!

I ask Mr. Bob and Ms. Kristen every day if there are more Religious Education, CGS, Confirmation Class, or RICA registrations. If you haven’t registered for any of the above and you need to, please do! And, here is where each one can reach one: who has a first grader that needs to start Religious Education; a student for Confirmation; a wee-one from 3 – 6 ready for Mr. Bob’s unbeatable CGS; or, that spouse, friend, or yourself who have thought about joining our faith, or have questions about it: On the Fence (RCIA) is for you!

I am having some health challenges, not serious but concerning, and I ask your prayers. Until we meet at the altar.... ***O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee!***

In the Lord,

Fr. Jordan, O.P.

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Our Monthly Maintenance Collection takes place next weekend, August 31st-September 1st.

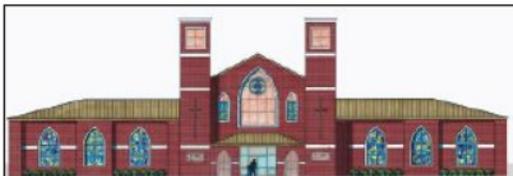
This collection helps to defray the cost of maintaining our beautiful church, rectory and parish grounds. Your ongoing generosity is appreciated greatly and needed deeply.

September Deadlines Are Approaching

As the summer begins to wind down and the School Year is about to begin, have you:

1. Registered for Religious Education?
2. Registered for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?
3. Enrolled in the new Confirmation Program?
4. Joined the RCIA Group?
5. Signed up to be an Altar Server?
6. Requested financial aid for Catholic Elementary School Tuition?

If you purchase space in the new mausoleum and mention this advertisement, St. Sebastian's will receive \$250 per space.



**Catholic
Cemeteries**



Diocese of Providence

Pre-need arrangements ensure your wishes are met. Call now for information on our new mausoleum.

Main Office: St. Ann's Office
(401) 944-8383 (401) 942-3625

ricatholiccemeteries.org

Elementary School Tuition Assistance

Saint Sebastian offers tuition assistance for those parents who have children attending Catholic Elementary School. Based upon taxable income, this assistance is part of the parish's assessment to the Diocese. Families seeking tuition assistance are asked to contact Father Jordan.

Tuition Assistance Instructions from the Diocese of Providence states:

All tuition assistance is to be **based on demonstrated economic** need objectively assessed and awarded in a graduated manner according to that need. **The FACTS Grant & Aid program is to be used for this purpose. Applications for Tuition Assistance are available online at www.online.factsmgt.com.** Students must be registered at one of our Catholic Schools to apply for aid. Those applying for assistance are to pay the application fee.

Any individual applying for tuition assistance using the FACTS Grant & Aid program will be considered for financial aid from his/her parish, and all Diocesan tuition assistance fund accounts, including Frances Warde, Anchor of Hope, FACE of RI tax credit, and all others.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Prayers are asked for our friends, family, fellow parishioners, and especially for **Mabel Nippert, Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, Patricia Maciel, Timothy Hangsterfer, and Robert Davis**. If you would like someone included in the Prayers for the Sick, please call the Church Rectory.

Are You Sitting on the Fence?

Are you a life long Catholic but have questions about our Catholic Faith? Have you thought about becoming Catholic but questioned about when/how/ or even why you should answer these questions? Join our RCIA/Inquiry Group to find some answers, meet fellow pilgrims with questions, and see where God might be leading. Please contact Bob Short at 401 – 272 – 6062, or: ssricgs@gmail.com. for more information and to find out when the group will be meeting.

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Calling all First Graders!

Is your son or daughter beginning First Grade this school year? If you have answered "yes" to this question, please contact Kristen Gold to enroll your child in Religious Education. Kristen can be reached at: 401-272-6062, or: ssriprimaryre@gmail.com.

Students for First Holy Communion

Is your child in second grade? Do you want him/her to make First Holy Communion in May?? Call Kristen Gold yesterday at: 401-272-6062, or: ssriprimaryre@gmail.com.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Level 1

Montessori based Religious Education, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Level 1 is for all children ages 3 – 6. Please contact Mr. Bob at 401 – 272 – 6062, or: ssricgs@gmail.com. to register your child or for more information.



Our Parish was founded on October 15, 1915. Come celebrate our 104th Birthday!!

Be sure to circle **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH** on your calendar for our first annual **ST. SEBASTIAN'S FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION!**

Plans are being made for an Oktoberfest-style celebration by Karin Schrott and Father Jordan. Do you want to help? Please contact Karin or Father. Proceeds will benefit the St. Sebastian Community Outreach Committee. The Celebration will begin with Mass at 5:00 pm, followed by cocktails, dinner, and music in the Parish Hall. Tickets will be going on sale soon. Mark your calendars and see you there!

Students for Confirmation Program

Is there someone in your family from grade 7 to 10 who needs the Sacrament of Confirmation? We are registering students to begin a two-year program of preparation for receiving the sacrament in the Spring of 2021. Confirmation classes will begin this September and will be held from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. The program will be taught by Michael Bonitati and Bob Short and is based on learning, prayer, and service.

This program has been specially developed by Father Jordan and Bob Short with the families of this parish in mind. Don't expect corny videos that do not speak to your teenager. Do not expect loads of homework to add to their pile of school-work. Do not expect bland and watered-down clichés. Expect thought provoking learning about why it is reasonable to believe in God, how to live a life of happiness, how to deal with suffering and disappointment, how to read the Bible, how to pray, and how to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit with the openness required to truly change your life!

As is custom at St. Sebastian Parish, Confirmation **cohorts** begin study *every other year* -- so do not wait. Another session of this class will not begin until the Fall of 2021. Please email us at ssricgs@gmail.com with questions and comments. We hope to see your adolescents there!

New Cell Phone Number for Father Jordan and for Sacramental Emergencies

If you need to call Father Jordan for any reason, and especially in the case of a Sacramental Emergency, please call Father's new cell phone number: **(401) 500-2462**.

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PARISH FINANCES: 8/18/2019

WEEKLY GIFTS	
Mass Contributions	\$ 2,510.00
Online Giving	\$ 825.00
<u>TOTAL WEEKLY OFFERING</u>	<u>\$ 3,335.00</u>
TOTAL REGISTERED FAMILIES	
	327
NUMBER OF GIFTS RECEIVED (19% OF REGISTERED FAMILIES)	
	63
MEDIAN OFFERING	
	\$ 25
PARISH EXPENSES	
Wages and Benefits	\$ 2,764.00
Music Expense	\$ 350.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 864.00
Parish Office	\$ 199.00
Household Expenses	\$ 1,110.00
Other	\$ 155.00
<u>TOTAL WEEKLY EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$ 5,442.00</u>
<u>WEEKLY NET INCOME (EXPENSE)</u>	<u>\$ 2,107.00</u>

**Brown University/Saint Sebastian
 Medical Meet and Greet**

Are you a Brown University Medical Student, doctor or nurse? Do you know someone who is? Please join the Catholic Chaplaincy of Brown University and Saint Sebastian Parish on Tuesday, September 3, beginning at 6:30 here on the grounds of Saint Sebastian. We will bring food, drink, grills, etc. You bring: yourself, a friend, and the willingness to meet new people! 😊



**UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF
 CATHOLIC BISHOPS**

Student organizations on college and university campuses should be able to select leaders who share the organizations' goals. Would it make sense to force College Democrats to allow a Republican to lead the organization? Must the Libertarians admit Democratic Socialists to leader positions? Of course not. Yet religious groups - including Jewish, Muslim, and Catholic groups - are being kicked off campuses for requiring that leaders uphold the teaching of the group.

This is not only a matter of fundamental freedoms, it's also a matter of common sense.

The Equal Campus Access Act of 2019 protects ALL students by withholding certain federal funding from public universities that discriminate against religious student groups. Tell your senators and representatives to support H.R. 3243/S. 1168, the Equal Campus Access Act!



Diocese to Host Mass for Public Safety

The Diocese of Providence will host a Mass for Public Safety to honor police, fire, and first responders on Sunday, September 29 at 10 am in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence.

The Mass provides the opportunity for everyone to come together to give thanks to the men and women who risk their lives to protect us, and to pray for their continued safety. Everyone is invited to attend.

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MASS Intentions

Saturday	Aug. 24	5:00 pm	Vigil: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠ John Walsh, anniversary
Sunday	Aug. 25	9:00 am 11:00 am	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Pro Populo ✠ Nina & Mario Marcone, anniversary
Monday	Aug. 26	7:00 am	Weekday ✠ Paul Shanley
Tuesday	Aug. 27	7:00 am	Saint Monica For All Mothers Living and Deceased
Wednesday	Aug. 28	7:00 am	Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church ✠ Donald Francis Shea
Thursday	Aug. 29	7:00 am	The Passion of Saint John For All Who are Persecuted for Their Faith
Friday	Aug. 30	7:00 am	Weekday For the Recovery of Lynette Kelly
Saturday	Aug. 31	9:00 am	Weekday For the Healing of Victims of Clergy Sexual Abuse
Saturday	Aug. 31	5:00 pm	Vigil: 22nd Sunday in Ord. Time Pro Populo
Sunday	Sept 1	9:00 am 11:00 am	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠ Edward Michael Fogarty, 2nd anniversary William James Stenger, III - in celebration of his birthday

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 ssriprimaryrc@gmail.com or Mr. Bob Short at 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

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.