

**Church of St. Sebastian**  
**September 9, 2018 - 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*From Father Jordan*

My Dear Ones,

May the Grace of our Lord remain always with us!

I am always amazed at the goodness, honesty, and concern that I find when I am with you! I am very lucky to be in your midst!!

This past weekend I experienced all of these gifts as many of you spoke to me about many different topics that are burdening your spirit. Not surprisingly, the main topic of conversation is the sexual abuse crisis that is plaguing our Church, and the way the hierarchy of the Church have, or have not, responded to this crisis.

Your pain, frustration, anger, and profound sense of devastation and dismay are palpable. Just as a parent would rather suffer themselves than see their child in pain or unhappy, as your Pastor I wish I could lift all of this from you; I wish you didn't have to learn or know about the this tortuous topic, or the fallow condition of the hierarchy. However, because you are the Church, you need to know all that has taken place. My desire to remove this pain would do you a grave disservice. Every heartbreak offers the possibility of new life, greater conviction, and more prudent judgment. May God give us such healing in abundance!

As we go through this horrific chapter in our lives, I offer you these points for consideration and prayer:

- ✠ The greatest temptation will be to walk away: **don't**. We need the Eucharist, God's Word, and one another more than ever! Come to Mass angry or in a fog, but come to Mass.
- ✠ The next temptation will be to cast this as a battle between liberals and conservatives: I believe this to be false. It **is** a battle between good and evil, and the crumbling structure of broken ecclesiastical systems.
- ✠ The next temptation will be to draw broad-stroke conclusions, or to make similar comments – do all you can to avoid this. Paint with fine lines and choose your words wisely: say and do what people need to witness and need to hear. Let our actions and our words lift up one another and not crush the other.
- ✠ Plant seeds of compassion; not seeds of violence.
- ✠ Remember: the Church is all about **Jesus!** Cling to Him, and turn off the news before it takes your spirit, and disturbs your sleep.

I am only a phone call away. And, I am here if you need me.

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

In the Lord,  
*Fr. Jordan, OP*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SAT. SEPT. 8, Vigil: 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME**

5:00 pm PRO POPULO

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 9, 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME**

9:00 am MARIE DANIELS, 13th anniversary,  
requested by her nephew

11:00 am JOSEPH R PAOLINO, SR., 6th anniversary,  
requested by his family

**Mon., SEPTEMBER 10**

7:00 am Eugene & Etta Gallant, BEQUEST

**Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 11**

7:00 am VICTIMS OF THE SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

7.25 am Novena Prayers - Our Lady of Perpetual Help

**Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 12**

7:00 am BISHOP THOMAS MALONEY, 56th  
anniversary, *3rd Pastor of St. Sebastian  
Parish*

**Thursday, SEPTEMBER 13, Saint John Chrysostom,  
Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

7:00 am INTENTIONS OF MARYANN MARALDO, in  
celebration of her birthday

**Friday, SEPTEMBER 14, The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

7:00 am KATIE A. WENNER, req. by Father Jordan

**SAT. SEPTEMBER 15**

9:00 am FOR THE HEALING OF THE VICTIMS OF  
CLERGY SEXUAL ABUSE

**SAT. SEPT. 15, Vigil: 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME**

5:00 pm BICENTENNIAL GLOBAL SERVICE  
CELEBRATION DAY IN HONOR OF ST.  
PHILIPPINE DUCHESNE, requested by the  
Elmhurst Alumnae Association

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 16, 24<sup>h</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME**

9:00 am ELIZABETH DUGAN, requested by her  
daughter Grace

11:00 am PRO POPULO

*Let us pray for the repose of the souls of  
**Eugene & Etta Gallant**  
whose love for our parish was shown in a  
bequest to St. Sebastian Church.  
We remember them in gratitude and offer  
Monday's 7:00 am Mass for them this week.  
May they rest in the peace of the Lord.*

# Church of St. Sebastian

## Founded October 15, 1915

### WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to Nathan Wante and Victoria Henderson who were married yesterday in our Church. May God bless them with many happy years together, and the abundance of graces needed for their noble vocation!

### SPECIAL RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY (SPRED)

Please consider becoming a member of SPRED. SPRED is a parish small faith community of catechists and persons with cognitive and developmental disabilities. SPRED training sessions will be held on September 15, 22; October 13, and November 3 at Saint Joan of Arc, Cumberland, RI. For more information, please contact Imma Rodriquez at [irodriguez@dioceseofprovidence.org](mailto:irodriguez@dioceseofprovidence.org).

### DAY OF PRAYER AND PENANCE

Bishop Tobin has chosen Friday, September 14, The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, as a day of prayer and penance for the Diocese of Providence. The faithful of the Diocese are invited to join the Bishop for Mass at Noon at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, followed Eucharistic Adoration concluding with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 3:00 pm.

On this same day, Friday, September 14, Saint Sebastian's will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from Noon until 6:00 pm. From Noon until 3:00 pm will be silent adoration; beginning at 3:00 pm there will be more organized prayer. Confessions will be heard from 5:00 – 6:00 pm, and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament will follow at 6:00 pm.

### MARIE AND LORI

Today our community offers a grand thank you to Ms. Marie and to Lori for their years of service to our community as cantors. They have given us so much! We offer them our thanks, our love and prayers, and great hope that we will see (and hear) them many times here at Saint Sebastian's! Thank you, Lori and Marie!

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Prayers are asked for our friends, family, and fellow parishioners, *especially Angela Martalata*. If you would like someone included in the Prayers for the Sick, please call the rectory.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Classes begin!

Grades 6 - 9 begin Sunday September 9th at 10 am.  
Grades 1 - 4 begin Monday, September 10th at 4 pm.

Registration forms are on the parish website. Please bring the completed form along with the \$60.00 registration fee, to your child's first class. If your child is a new student, please include a copy of his or her Baptismal Certificate only if they were not baptized at St. Sebastian's.

Next weekend's second collection will benefit the Senior Priest Retirement Fund, a significant source of support for priests that provides for basic needs such as food, housing, transportation and medical care. Thank you for your support.

Parish Book Club meets September 19th at 7 pm in the Father Randall Room to discuss Bleak House by Charles Dickens. All are welcome!

**The Altar Flowers today are given by Carmine & Isabel Rao in celebration of blessings from God.**

Parish Meetings and Activities			
9/9	Rel. Ed. Grades 5-9	10 am	Classrooms
9/9	Community Outreach Mtg	10 am	Rectory
9/10	Rel. Ed. Grades 1-4	4 pm	Classrooms
9/11	Christmas Bazaar Mtg	6:00 pm	Church Hall
9/14	Adoration & Benediction	12 - 6 pm	Church

### PARISH FINANCES: SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

Mass Contributions	\$ 2,926.00
Monthly Maintenance	\$ 1,213.00
Online Parish Giving	\$ 685.00
<b><u>TOTAL PARISHIONER DONATIONS</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4,824.00</u></b>
Weekly Parish Expenses	\$ 3,464.00
Elementary Tuition Assistance	\$20,000.00
<b><u>TOTAL PARISH EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>\$23,464.00</u></b>

*A sincere thank you for your continued support!*