

Church of St. Sebastian
September 16, 2018 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

My Dear Ones,

May the Grace of our Lord remain always with us!

Today I would like to begin a “discussion” with you about the most important part of our Catholic lives: *The Divine Liturgy: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass*. There is a great deal to consider when we discuss and pray about the Liturgy. Let’s begin by posing this question: *What would a non-Catholic Christian see from our example if they watched us in the Church at Mass?”*

1. Do we see Sunday as a joyful occasion that we have the privilege to participate in as sons and daughters of Christ?
2. Is Sunday special – *different from all other days*?
3. Do we dress for Mass not by putting on whatever clothes happen to be available, but by *dressing outwardly and inwardly for the wedding feast of the Lamb*?
4. Do we realize each one of us was *created by God to worship Him* and that all time belongs to Him? Or, do we begrudge Him one hour of our week for Mass?
5. Do we arrive early for Mass to pray, focus and prepare for the most important thing we do each week? Or, are we running around like a chicken with its head cut off sailing into Mass distracted and not ready to pray? [*Parents, I totally get it that with 2, 3, 4, or 5 children running around is a way of life! Thank God for baby sitting at the 9 am Mass!*]
6. Mass is not a spectator sport. The *fruitfulness of the Mass within us depends on the disposition of our heart* that we bring to it. We have to choose to engage it by disciplining our wandering minds by focusing on every word, gesture and ceremony of the Mass.
7. Are we watching the Mass with eyes of faith?
8. Are we listening to Mass with ears and hearts open to the truth proclaimed in the readings and prayers?
9. Do we receive Holy Communion with reverence and devotion?

Let me know your thoughts about these ideas. Our discussion will continue next week.

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. 15, Vigil: 24th 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^h SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

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

11:00 am PRO POPULO

Monday, SEPTEMBER 17

7:00 am MASS

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 18

7:00 am INTENTIONS OF RICHARD & DEBORAH
ALLISON, req.. by Ron & Til Cartwright

7.25 am Novena Prayers - Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 19

7:00 am MASS

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 20, Saints Andrew Kim Tae Gon, Priest & Paul Chong Ho-San, & Companions Martyrs

7:00 am MASS

Friday, SEPTEMBER 21, St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

7:00 am

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

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

SAT. SEPT. 22, Vigil: 25th SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

5:00 pm MASS

SUNDAY, SEPT. 16, 25^h SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

9:00 am PRO POPULO

11:00 am MAE & AL BADEAU, req. by Belle Calenda

14TH ANNUAL HUMAN LIFE GUILD DAY

This year's event will be held on Saturday, September 29th from 9 am to 2 pm at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul. Bishop Tobin will be the main celebrant and homilist for the 9 am Mass. Following mass there will be a reception with the Bishop in the Cathedral Hall with presentations covering Humane Vita - 50 Years Later. The Modern Debate - Understanding Transgenderism from a Catholic Perspective. Hope for the Future, and Being a Pro-Life Feminist. All are invited to attend the Mass but pre-registration is required for the conference that will follow and the cost is \$25 per person. Deadline to register is Friday September 21st - call Carol Owens at 421-7833x218

Church of St. Sebastian

Founded October 15, 1915

LETTERS OF GOOD STANDING

I often receive requests for “letters of good standing” when a parishioner is asked to be a Godparent at Baptism, or a sponsor at Confirmation. I’m happy to offer such a letter, for registered parishioners.

Registered parishioners are:

- Parishioners who have filled out a parish registration form;
- Attend Mass
- Are listed in the parish data base:
- Who support the parish through using envelopes, electronic giving, and/or the generous sharing of time and talent.

Have you just read this and thought, woops! I thought I was registered but have never formally registered. It’s easy, please call the Parish Office or register online on our website www.stsebastianri.org and click on Parish Info.

The Office of Life and Family will offer the *Our Lady of Sorrows Bereavement Support* program at St. Thomas More Church, 53 Rockland St (parking lot side entrance), Narragansett, on Wednesday evenings 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, October 10, 2018 through December 12, 2018 (no meetings on Oct. 31 and Nov. 21). This support group provides a peaceful place to share and learn about grief with the spiritual comfort of our Catholic faith. It is most appropriate for adults at least three months beyond their loss. There is no cost to attend! For registration/information, contact: Peter A Magnotta at 421-7833, ext. 217

DIOCESE TO HOST MASS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

In thanksgiving for all current, retired and fallen Police, Fire, and First Responders and their families, the Diocese of Providence will celebrate **The Mass for Public Safety on Sunday, September 30th at 10:00 am** in the Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul, Providence.

Rhode Island federal and local law enforcement officers, firefighters, first responders, families and representatives are invited to join us in prayer and bestow blessings upon our police officers, firefighters, and first responders, and in support of those who serve. Everyone is invited to come together to honor these men and women for their courageous service and pray for their safety.

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 Grace Dugan in memory of her mother Elizabeth Dugan.

Morning of Recollection for Women: Women from any parish are invited to the monthly Morning of Recollection, this Thursday, September 20th, here at St. Sebastian’s from 9:30 am to 12 noon. These recollections are opportunities to spend quiet time with Christ in prayer. They include two meditations by a priest of Opus Dei, and a talk by a lay woman about a practical aspect of living our faith. Confessions are available and Mass is offered at 11:30 am. If you need onsite child care, contact Mary at 646-453-9345.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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

Parish Meetings and Activities			
9/16	Rel. Ed. Grades 6-9	10 am	Classrooms
9/17	Rel. Ed. Grades 1-5	4 pm	Classrooms
9/18	Prayer Shawl Ministry	7 pm	Fr Randall Rm
9/18	Christmas Bazaar Mtg	6 pm	Church Hall
9/19	Parish Book Club	7 pm	Fr Randall Rm
9/20	Women’s Morning of Recollection	9:30 am	Church

PARISH FINANCES: SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

Mass Contributions	\$ 3,616.00
Online Parish Giving	\$ 2,437.00
<u>TOTAL PARISHIONER DONATIONS</u>	<u>\$ 6,053.00</u>
<u>TOTAL PARISH EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$ 7,963.00</u>

A sincere thank you for your continued support!

Please consider enrolling in Parish Giving, our online stewardship program for parish contributions. You can register online at www.Parishgiving.org or on our parish website at www.stsebastianri.org.