

Church of St. Sebastian

November 11, 2018 - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

My Dear Ones,

May the Grace of Our Lord remain always with us!

The Liturgical Year and its readings make a decided change in the next few weeks as we head toward the Solemnity of Christ the King, and the following Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent. Where has another year gone?

The readings we will hear at Mass point more and more towards the consummation of all people, times and places in Jesus Christ. In frequently apocalyptic language, we are reminded that we will all have to appear before the judgment seat of God. This is the Church's time of the year for New Year's Resolutions. Think of all the preparations that we have already begun: plans for Thanksgiving Day and Dinner; remote plans for Christmas and the fast approaching "Christmas - Break". As we prepare to end one Liturgical Year and begin another, it is the perfect time to come to Confession and take a good inventory of our lives, how we have grown and how we have fallen short of who we are really called to be: God's beloved sons and daughters. Take advantage of the great grace of the Sacrament of Penance. It is not about us being so bad, but rather, about God being so good and longing to share His goodness, love, and mercy with us!

Last week in the midst of our celebrations for All Saints and All Souls, I was called to the Hospice on Main Street to anoint someone who was dying. I was called to bedside of a young man who had died after a valiant fight with brain cancer. He was 27 and November 1 was his first Wedding Anniversary. It was a graced - privilege to be with his wife, parents and mother - in - law as he slipped into the arms of God. As I left the Hospice my phone rang; one of my former parishioners was in town and wanted to surprise me with a quick visit. The day was packed with work and appointments, and I wasn't "ready" for a surprise. I instantly thought of the dear people I had just left: were they ready to let go of someone they loved so much? My parishioner offered me a real wakeup call: make time for the surprises in life! Standing by the death bed of a 27-year-old man and a surprise visit from a dear parishioner, suddenly put life into a new perspective. Pope Benedict writes in *Spe Salvi* "we have become so busy keeping our lives in order that we are exhausted and have become fanatics to the modern world, and so we lose hope. "

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT. NOV. 10, Vigil: 32nd SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

5:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, NOV. 11, 32nd SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

9:00 am PRO POPULO

11:00 am JAMES & ROSE CONBOY, anniversary remembrance, req.by son Thomas and family

Monday, NOVEMBER 12, St. Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

7:00 am WILLIAM CRAIN, SR.

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 13, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

7:00 am ALL DECEASED PARISHIONERS

7.25 am Novena Prayers - Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday, NOVEMBER 14,

7:00 am SYLVIA LOFERSKI, birthday remembrance, req. by daughter Barbara and son Robert

Thursday, NOVEMBER 15, St. Albert the Great, O.P.

7:00 am ALICE M. MCELORY, 7th anniversary, BEQUEST

Friday, NOVEMBER 16

7:00 am MARY LOU DALY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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

SAT. NOV. 17, Vigil: 33rd SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

5:00 pm PHYLLIS PILKINGTON, REV. THOMAS CARNEVAL, requested by daughter and niece

SUNDAY, NOV. 18, 33rd SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

9:00 am STEPHEN DANIELS, 5th anniversary, requested by his wife Irene

11:00 am SYLVIA LOFERSKI, birthday remembrance, requested by Belle Calenda

How has God recently surprised you? How has He tried to surprise you and you may have been in too much of a rush? Stop and find the glorious ray of hope given as we step back to know His love and mercy!

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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Founded October 15, 1915

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.

If you would like more information about Saint Sebastian's, the works we do, or joining the Parish, please talk with our Pastor, Fr. Jordan, or ask any of our parishioners. Welcome and please join us again!

May their memories be eternal

In the sure and certain hope of the Resurrection of Christ, let us offer our deepest sympathy to our parishioner Jim Daly and his family upon the death of their sister Mary Lou who was buried from our Church this past Friday. We also offer our sympathy to our parishioners Al Badre upon the death of his mother Lillie; Elliott Fleming upon the death of his mother Eileen; and Joan Fleming upon the death of her brother Paul Gallagher.

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace!

Book of Remembrance

If you haven't had the chance to do so, please write the names of your beloved dead in the Book of Remembrance located by the Baptismal Font and Paschal Candle. If you have filled out an All Souls' Envelope with the names of your deceased, your names have already been entered in the Book of Remembrance.

Bible Study

Bible Study will begin on **Wednesday, November 14 at 7pm in the Father Randall Room**. Join Father Jordan and your fellow parishioners for a new Bible Study. The topic is, *The Bible and the Blessed Virgin Mary*. Please contact Fr. Jordan, jordan.kelly@opeast.org for more information.

Pre-registration is very helpful.

What and Why: Unfolding the Catholic Faith

What and Why has begun. The next class will be on **Wednesday, November 28th** (due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.) Contact Father Jordan, Jordan.kelly@opeast.org for more information

Christmas Bazaar Thank You

Karin Schrott reports that we have 32 volunteers for the morning shift (8:00 to noon) and 40 for the afternoon (Noon to 4:00 pm). These numbers include the committee members. THANK YOU to everyone who has already volunteered to help make the Bazaar a great success! We all have 20 days to keep our Permanent Record Cards bright and shiny! ☺ Contact Karin today to volunteer. Here's a fun challenge; if every parishioner invited 1 person we would have over 600 people pass through the Bazaar!! I know we can do it!



While waiting for your child during Religious Education or Children's Choir Practice, enjoy visiting with fellow parishioners and have some coffee and some nibbles. Every Sunday in the Parish Hall after the 9 am Mass, and on Monday during Religious Education.

Developing a Culture of Stewardship

Stewardship is **not** about equal gift, but rather **equal sacrifice**. Time, talent, and treasure are equally important. We have so many generous/sacrificing parishioners: Religious Education Teachers; Liturgical Ministers; Monday Morning Money Counters; Prayer Shawl Sewers; Community Outreach Committee Members, and more. How about YOU? Is there room

Thank You

A profound Thank You. The Nativity Set has been anonymously donated in memory of deceased loved ones. Please offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the donor and their intentions when you pray before the Manger this Christmas!

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Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.

And the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick. The Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven....

Taken from the Letter of Saint James, these words offer us the foundation for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. **On Sunday, November 25**, the Solemnity of Christ the King, the Sacrament of the Sick will be celebrated within the **11am Mass**. Who should be anointed? The elderly, those who are chronically ill, those facing surgery, and those with any psychological illness.

This is a beautiful and moving celebration. Refreshments will follow Mass in the vestibule of the Church. For more information or to have any questions answered, please contact Father Jordan at the rectory, or : jordan.kelly@opeast.org.

St. Sebastian's Church Presents
 "Warm Heart, Warm Hearth"
Christmas Bazaar

For the Benefit of the "Keep the Heat On" Program



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018
9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

- Fresh Wreaths and Poinsettias
- Advent Wreaths and Calendars
- Christmas Decorations and Ornaments
- Penny Social
- Gift Basket Raffles
- 50/50 Raffle
- Handmade Items
- Stocking Stuffers
- White Elephant Room
- Baked Goods
- Children's Crafts
- Christmas Café
- Visit from Santa Claus

St. Sebastian's Church on the East Side in Providence,
 67 Cole Avenue, Providence, RI (handicapped accessible)

Next week's collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) needs your help. CCHD was founded to end the cycle of poverty in the United States by funding organizations that help individuals help themselves. With the tradition of improving education, housing situations, and community economic development, CCHD continues to make a positive impact in communities nationwide. Your contribution will defend human dignity and reach out to those living on the margins. Please give to the CCHD collection. Please make checks payable to St. Sebastian Church

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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

The Parish Book Club will meet Wednesday November 28th at 7:00 pm at Denny Roberts' home, 132 Everett Avenue, to discuss Ella Minnow Pea by Mark Dunn. New members, as always, are invited to attend.

Parish Activities and Meetings

Tuesday	11/13	Christmas Bazaar Meeting	6:00 pm	Church Hall
		Prayer Shawl Ministry	7:00 pm	Fr. Randall Room
Wednesday	11/14	Bible Study	7:00 pm	Fr. Randall Room
Thursday	11/15	Women's Morning of Recollection	9 am	Church

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMORIALS

- ✠ The current Paschal (Easter) Candle Stand is bent and is made for a tiny Paschal Candle. Like the Nativity Set, to have it repaired would be almost as much as a new, more noble, stand and candle. The Paschal Candle burns not only during the Easter Season, but at every baptism and funeral. What a wonderful way to remember a deceased loved one, or to say “thank you” for God’s many blessings.
- ✠ The beautiful new Green Vestment and altar cloth used at Sunday Mass. Perhaps you would like to donate this vestment in honor of a loved one.
- ✠ An appropriate vestment and altar cloth that would be used during the Christmas and Easter Seasons.
- ✠ The new crucifix in the daily Mass Chapel. The San Damiano Crucifix that will hang in the daily Mass Chapel is a replica of the one which spoke to Saint Francis of Assisi saying, “***Go! Rebuild my Church!***” At this critical time in the history of our beloved Church, this crucifix will be a constant reminder for all of us to share in the work of the New Evangelization.
- ✠ All memorials will be properly inscribed.

Congratulations to Patrick and Patricia Ehlen on the Baptism of their daughter Maeve Kathleen on Saturday. Welcome to the Faith and to Saint Sebastian Parish, Maeve!

NEW Bulletin Deadline Please submit any information for the Bulletin ***by 3:30 pm on Monday afternoon***. This will allow Mary and Father Jordan greater flexibility to see what and how much information needs to be in the Bulletin for a given week. It will also allow more time to check on any questions there may be about information submitted for the Bulletin. Please note that the bulletin will published during Mary’s absence by Teresa Testa.

Mary Brennan, our Parish Business Manager, is out of the office until Monday November 26th. Teresa Testa and I try to be in the office as much as possible during Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9 am to 4 pm. If we are in the rectory we will answer the phone. Thank you.

Father Jordan

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITIES

PARISH WINTER COAT DRIVE If you’re cleaning out your closets, save any winter coats that are in good condition and bring them to the Parish Winter Coat Drive taking place during the month of November. There is a coat rack **in the Fr. Randall Room** for your donations through Thanksgiving Day. The coats collected will be delivered to and benefit the Rhode Island Buy Nothing Day Winter Coat Exchange held the day after Thanksgiving.

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE The Outreach Committee thanks parishioners for their ongoing contributions of food for the hungry in our community. All donations assist Mary’s House Meal and Kitchen Pantry at Saint Patrick’s Church. At this time of year in which we give thanks for our many blessings, Saint Sebastian Parish remembers those who are hungry in our **ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE**. The Drive begins this weekend and continues through Nov. 25th. There are several ways you can participate: for those who wish to donate by cash or check, please use one of the envelopes found in the pews and place it in the collection basket; food may be placed in the back of church; or, when you come to Mass on Thanksgiving Day bring your food donations with you, and during the Offertory Procession bring them to the foot of the altar. All of the food will be blessed and taken to Saint Patrick’s.

EMBRACE A FAMILY Our Parish tradition continues as we make part of Christmas a reality for those who are not able. If you would like to “Embrace a Family” this holiday season, please RSVP to saintsebastian@cox.net to indicate your willingness to participate in this wonderful program! .

PARISH FINANCES: NOVEMBER 4, 2018

Mass Contributions	\$ 3,520.00
Monthly Maintenance	\$ 1,602.00
Online Parish Giving	<u>\$ 2,007.00</u>
<u>TOTAL PARISHIONER DONATIONS</u>	<u>\$ 7,129.00</u>
<u>TOTAL PARISH EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$ 7,262.00</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.