

**Church of St. Sebastian**  
**September 5, 2010—Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary time**

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**Scheduled Masses For This Week**

**Saturday, September 4, Vigil: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5 pm For the people

**Sunday, September 5, 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9 am For our nation's workers who contribute to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country

11 am For the safety of travelers this holiday weekend

**Monday, September 6, Weekday**

~~~*Labor Day* ~~~ *Holiday Schedule* ~~~

**9 am** John T. Kaveny

-requested by Pat and Sal Annarummo

**Tuesday, September 7, Weekday**

7 am William R. Ceppetelli

-requested by Ann Galligan

**Wednesday, September 8, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7 am For the priests and deacons of the diocese

**Thursday, September 9, St. Peter Claver, priest**

7 am For the intentions of Msgr. Darcy

**Friday, September 10, Weekday**

7 am For the intentions of Pope Benedict

**Next Weekend Masses**

**Saturday, September 11, Vigil: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5 pm For the victims of the 9/11/2001 terrorist attack

**Sunday, September 12, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9 am For the people

11 am Eugene and Etta Champagne Gallant

**WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT**

**08/29/2010**

|                             |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| # of Budgets Used           | 54      |
| Checks and Budget Envelopes | \$2,202 |
| Loose                       | \$ 225  |
| Total Offertory             | \$2,427 |

**THE PASTOR'S CORNER**

The unofficial end of summer has students returning to school, family schedules return to "normal" and parish life accelerates. The challenge of balancing family, school, Church, and community sports begins anew for so many. All the above comes at a price.

The Gospel today mentions all of us "counting the cost." It is not merely about finances, but the critical investment of time, resources, energy, and commitment. The so-called *Pyrrhic victory* of 287 B.C. predates the comments of Jesus. He presents three specific challenges in this short Gospel. They highlight gaining a momentary "victory" while paying the **ultimate loss**...the loss of Christian discipleship, and by extension, our loss of the Kingdom of God.

Our patron, St. Sebastian, who died in 288 A.D., was a Roman soldier of rank. When the Emperor Diocletian learned of Sebastian's conversion to Christianity, the Emperor ordered him bound and shot with arrows. Sebastian survived the first attempt on his life. He survived only to confront the Emperor again about his cruelty to Christians. This time, however, he ordered that Sebastian be clubbed to death, and his body thrown into a well. He was buried in the catacombs of Rome; but you'll hear about that in a few weeks. Sebastian paid the ultimate price for his faith...he didn't count the cost...he remained faithful to the end. He is ranked as a martyr of the Church alongside the likes of the Apostles Peter and Paul.

There are "silent martyrs" sitting near you today. Who are they? A dedicated spouse never thinks of their concern as anything but the fulfillment of their marital love; the parent who sacrifices in ways known but to God for the future well-being of their children; or an elderly parishioner who always finds the time to respond to the request of neighbor, friend, or parish priest. Silent martyrs who know well the One who sets us free.

Enjoy the holiday; savor the sunshine, and be good to others...and yourself!

Msgr. Darcy

