

Church of St. Sebastian
April 3, 2011—Fourth Sunday of Lent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, April 2, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent
 5:00 pm For the People

Sunday, April 3, Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

Monday, April 4, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Tuesday, April 5, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Wednesday, April 6, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass of Healing

Thurs. April 7, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Joan Rohr

Friday, April 8, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, April 9, Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Special Intention

Sunday, April 10, Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 am Larry Broccoli

11:00 am Nora Arouth, birthday remembrance and
 2nd anniversary

Because of you and your generosity to the annual Catholic Charity Appeal, over 14,000 students and their families are served through the Catholic School Office. Thank you for your gift.

THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

Sunday	4/3	Coffee Hour	10:00 am
		Religious Education	10:00 am
		Parish Penitential Service & First Penance	6:00 pm
		Religious Education	6:30 pm
Monday	4/4	Religious Education	3:30 pm
		Stations of the Cross	6:00 pm
Thursday	4/7	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

Pope John Paul I in his book, *Illustrissimi*, tells us that, like the gospel portrayal of Jesus, the priest represents the Lord as the good Father. At the return of the Prodigal Son, the Father flings his arms around the son in a long embrace. He approaches sinners, men and women, to eat with them at their table, and to invite *himself* even if they do not dare to invite him. The priest, like Jesus, is ever to be one who is more concerned with the suffering that the sin produces in the sinner than with the offense against God. He is called to instill constantly the hope of pardon. The priest is ever mindful that, by his own bearing, he reflects the attitude of the Father, who whispers: *"You cannot imagine the joy your return gives me!"*

I have no greater joy in my priestly life at this moment than to be your pastor. I also have only one hope, and that is to extend to you healing gift of God's mercy.

We celebrate the Sacrament of Penance tonight at 6 PM with our First Communion candidates. The reason for tonight should be rather obvious; we teach them that reconciliation is for all God's People, old and young; for those who are well on the road to holiness as well those who, if but for a while, have been away.

This Lenten penitential service is an opportunity to prepare our hearts and souls for the glory of Easter. Seven priests, my dear brothers in Christ, will join us this evening. *"Do not be afraid"* are not my words, but those of the One who is waiting and longing to see us. One who is waiting and longing to see us.

Come home; do not be afraid!

Msgr. Darcy

PLEASE KEEP OUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS:

Paula, Kevin, Kelly, Anna Washington, BAW, Mary Doherty, CG, J.P. Gallagher, Hugh Taylor, Jackie, Maureen Baker, Rose Conboy, Steve, Michael Simonette, Willy, and Connie.

Prayers for the sick will be continued for an entire month. Please call the rectory if additional prayers are requested.

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2011 CATHOLIC CHARITY FUND APPEAL

The final in-pew solicitation will take place this weekend. It is our hope that we have 100% participation from our families for this most important charity appeal in the Diocese. Our present total of pledges and gifts is over \$18,000. If you are not prepared to complete your gift today, please take home an envelope and return it in the weekly offertory collection or by mail. *The Bishop's Partners in Charity*, are asked to return their major gift to the attention of Msgr. Darcy. A sincere thank you to those who *have been able* and *have given from the heart* to support the charitable works on behalf of the needy.

COMING PARISH EVENTS

Wine Tasting Festival: *A Taste of Two Worlds ~ Old and New* ~ Saturday, May 14th, 6 to 8 pm

Beginning of Summer Cookout: *Hamburgers, hot dogs, refreshments on the lawn!* June T.B.A.

OUR LADY'S CANDLE

Our Lady's Candle burns this week for a Special Intention, requested by Liz Arouth.

MARCH SANDWICH DRIVE—THANK YOU!

Thank you to the Outreach Committee for organizing the sandwich drive. Well over 300 people each Sunday were fed with our combined efforts.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

The Office of Religious Education wants to remind everyone to return all bottles for the Baby Bottle Boomerang next weekend. Thank you, Ms. Marie.

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

MARCH 26/27, 2011

# of Budget Envelopes Used	84
Contributions from Budgets and Checks	\$3,378
Loose Contributions	\$ 502
Parish Giving (February & March)	\$2,452
Total Offertory	\$6,332

In these uncertain economic times, we appreciate how loyal, faithful and generous so many continue to be in support of our Church and parish ministries.

THIS WEEK'S LENTEN SCHEDULE

Tonight, April 3rd at 6:00 pm

Parish Lenten Penitential Service and First Penance

Monday - Friday at 7:00 am Morning Mass

Monday at 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday at 4:00 pm Sacrament of Penance

EASTER FLOWERS

Donations for our Easter flowers, offered in memory of our loved ones, are gratefully received. Special envelopes are provided for those who do not utilize either the parish envelopes or **Parish Giving**, our electronic donation service.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

April 3, 2011 First Penance and Parish Lenten Penitential Service, 6:00 pm

May 1, 2011 First Communion, 9:00 am

May 7, 2011 Confirmation, 5:00 pm

PARISH BOOK CLUB

The Parish Book Club will meet next on Wednesday, April 27th at 7:30 pm in the Fr. Randall Meeting Room to discuss Sigrid Undset, *THE WREATH* (the first novel in the trilogy *KRISTIN LAVRAN'S DATTER*).

JAPAN EMERGENCY

If you would like to make a contribution to assist with relief efforts in Japan, your donation may be made to the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Annual Collection which will be taken up on Palm Sunday, April 16th and 17th. CRS supports Caritas Japan, the social service arm of the Catholic Church, and other partners who will be involved in the long-term recovery effort. Funds received will be used for humanitarian needs, recovery, and to support the local Catholic Church in its on-going mission. Catholic Relief Services stands ready to assist Caritas Japan with financial resources as well as technical expertise if requested. Through our prayers and financial support we demonstrate that the Catholic Church in the US is in solidarity with the people of Japan during this crisis.