

**Church of St. Sebastian**  
**February 17, 2013 — First Sunday of Lent**

**Scheduled Masses For This Week**

**Saturday, February 16, Vigil: First Sunday of Lent**  
5:00 pm Mass

**Sunday, February 17, First Sunday of Lent**  
9:00 am Mass

11:00 am For the people

**Monday, February 18, Lenten Weekday**  
~~~ *Presidents Day* ~~~ *Holiday Schedule* ~~~  
9:00 am Mass

**Tuesday, February 19, Lenten Weekday**  
7:00 am Mass

**Wednesday, February 20, Lenten Weekday**  
7:00 am Mass

**Thursday, February 21, Lenten Weekday**  
7:00 am Mass

**Friday, February 22, The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**  
7:00 am Mass

**Next Weekend Masses**

**Saturday, February 23, Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent**  
5:00 pm Mass

**Sunday, February 24, First Sunday of Lent**  
9:00 am For the People

11:00 am Francis and Helen McCormick  
-requested by their family

**Please keep our fellow parishioners and friends in your thoughts and prayers:**

Anastasia Beaupre, Adam Ringguth, Denise Walker, Beverly DiLello, Kathy McCaughey, Deborah Bessette, Beatrice Calvo Crozier, James Shanni, Vilma O'Connor, Mariella, and Amy.  
*Please contact the rectory if you would like to add a person to our prayers.*

**WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT**  
**February 10, 2013**

|                                             |                |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b># of Budget Envelopes Used This Week</b> | <b>46</b>      |
| <b>Contributions-Budgets and Checks</b>     | <b>\$2,602</b> |
| <b>Loose Contributions</b>                  | <b>\$ 330</b>  |
| <b>Total Offertory</b>                      | <b>\$2,932</b> |

Please consider enrolling in *Parish Giving*, our electronic stewardship program for parish contributions. You can register online at [www.Parishgiving.org](http://www.Parishgiving.org) or on our parish website at [www.stsebastianri.org](http://www.stsebastianri.org).

***The Pastor's Corner***

A blessed Lent to all. We have begun the formal preparation period for the Resurrection. As I mentioned last Sunday, our mutual task is to invite someone back to Christ for Easter. These sisters and brothers are out there...our Lenten challenge is "to bring them in."

The Holy Father's has decided to abdicate his office as the Bishop of Rome and Universal Pastor. The announcement caught all by surprise. His reflection on the Church's need for a more vibrant and younger Shepherd is profound. May the Lord continue to bless Pope Benedict with good health, a peaceful spirit, and the gift of joy in the Lord's presence.

**Our Lenten Parish Mission will be preached next Sunday to Wednesday at 7:00 pm.** Fr. Tom Hoar will be our preacher...a great priest and evangelist. The opportunity for the Sacrament of Penance will be offered on Sunday evening to the community. *This will be the community penance service for Lent.* The weekly opportunity for Penance/Confession is every Saturday at 4:00 pm.

Here are some helpful suggestions for our Lenten discipline and we enter this holy season:

- Attend the Lenten Mission by Father Tom Hoar next Sunday to Wednesday;
- Daily prayer (Find some uninterrupted time with God);
- Celebrate the Sacrament of Penance (Be not afraid!);
- Stations of the Cross on Mondays at 6:30 PM;
- Donate the money saved if you abstain from food, alcohol, sweets during the Lent;
- Increase your gift to the Catholic Charity Fund Appeal;
- Read Psalm 139 daily (It will change you);
- Bring someone back to Christ and the parish;
- Spent quality time with your spouse, family/ friends;
- Stop making excuses...just do it, and with love;
- Strive for genuine holiness before God and self.

The ideal is to *become* someone who is genuinely striving for God during these 40 days of Lent. God will fill the gaps if we offer them.

A blessed Lent!  
Monsignor Darcy

# Church of St. Sebastian

## February 17, 2013 — First Sunday of Lent

### LENTEN SCHEDULE

#### ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

MASSES AT 7:00 AM AND 5:30 PM

Ashes to be distributed during Mass

Daily Mass Monday - Friday at 7:00 am

Stations of the Cross - Mondays at 6:30 pm

Confessions – Saturdays at 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Lenten Reconciliation Service - Sunday, March  
24th at 6:30 pm

Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule

+++ PARISH MISSION +++

Fr. Tom Hoar

Sunday to Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>  
at 7:00 PM

#### LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

A special collection for the benefit of The Little Sisters of the Poor who operate the Jeanne Jugan Residence in Pawtucket will be taken this weekend, February 16/17. The Sisters care for the poor, the sick, and the aged at their facility. Our gift today is greatly appreciated as yet another Lenten sacrifice. Thank you for your support of the ministry of the Little Sisters



#### MISSION TRIP TO AFRICA

Providence Country Day is sponsoring a Mission Trip including assisting at the HIV/AIDS ministry of Fr. Bobby in Ghana. For more information contact our parishioner, Sarah Garcia-Mata for more information (433-1707). The trip is scheduled for June 16-30 departing from Boston. An information flyer is in the front vestibule.

### ***THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH***

|        |      |                        |         |
|--------|------|------------------------|---------|
| Sun.   | 2/17 | NO Religious Education |         |
| Mon.   | 2/18 | Presidents Day - Mass  | 9:00 am |
|        |      | NO Religious Education |         |
|        |      | Stations of the Cross  | 6:30 pm |
| Tues.  | 2/19 | Prayer Shawl Ministry  | 7:00 pm |
| Thurs. | 2/21 | Choir Rehearsal        | 7:00 pm |



#### THE YEAR OF FAITH

#### OUR LENTEN PARISH MISSION

FR. TOM HOAR, SSE, PH.D.

FEBRUARY 24-27<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 PM

As we prepare to love the Gospel life, we are called to reflect upon the love of God the Father. In baptism, every Christian is called to be "holy, as Our Father in heaven is holy." This parish Mission will give you with an opportunity to rediscover and prepare for the Season of Lent as a time of healing, repentance, and prayer.

Fr. Tom, the Director of St. Edmund's Retreat, Mystic, CT will preach on these themes:

**Sunday- Reconciliation:** An Encounter with the Healing Love of Jesus Christ (Opportunity for Confession)

**Monday- Virtue:** As the Foundation of the Life of Holiness

**Tuesday- The Cross:** The Key to Victory

**Wednesday- Prayer:** Thy Will Be Done

Join us and invite a friend to prepare for the glory of Easter.

#### COLD AND FLU PRECAUTIONS

Until the cold and flu season subsides, **please refrain from shaking hands at the Rite of Peace.** If you are sick, you are dispensed from the Sunday Mass obligation.

The next meeting of the **Parish Outreach Committee** is scheduled for Sunday, February 24th at 10:00 am in the Church Hall. New members are warmly invited to attend this active parish ministry.

The next meeting of the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** is scheduled for Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm in the Father Randall Room. Please join us !

### Days of Fast and Abstinence

#### Weekdays of Lent:

There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

#### Ash Wednesday and Good Friday

These are days of **FAST and ABSTINENCE from meat.** There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18-59 inclusive.

**Days of Abstinence (All Fridays in Lent)** All who have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> year are bound to abstain totally from meat.