

Church of St. Sebastian
February 22, 2015 - First Sunday of Lent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, February 21, Vigil: First Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Teresa Evangelista, 6th anniversary
-requested by her family

Sunday, February 22, First Sunday of Lent

9:00 am John McConnell, month's mind
11:00 am Francis and Helen McCormick
-requested by their family

Monday, February 23, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Tuesday, February 24, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Wednesday, February 25, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Thursday, February 26, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Donald G. Rohr

Friday, February 27, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, Feb. 28, Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm For our Parishioners

Sunday, March 1, Second Sunday of Lent

9:00 am Brianne Houle, month's mind
-requested by Marie Brito

11:00 am Rev. Angelo D'Agostino, MJSD
-requested by Belle Calenda

Have you considered having Mass offered for a deceased or living family member? Call the office to reserve your intention. The offering is \$20.

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 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

Can you believe it's Lent? With this mounting snow, Easter **WILL** be glorious and welcome! There are some major issues as a result of the snow that we must address as soon as possible. We can't do anything about them now...hope for a slow thaw!

Notice the sense of urgency or compunction in today's Gospel. "The Spirit *drove* Jesus into the desert..." What did he encounter there? The details in Mark are not as specific or dramatic as in Matthew (4:1-11). What do we encounter in our deserts...when we're alone emotional, spiritually, or physically (even when we are in the midst of others)? What are the demons...unbridled human appetites or yearnings, the lust for power, the love of money, or our own version of *50 Shades of Grey*? What entices or allures us to be less than we can be as a person of faith? These are real questions of the soul that you and I are invited to face during this privileged time that we prepare for Easter. No matter what we find in our desert, I hope we have the realization that "the kingdom of God" is offered to us. From over thirty -three years of listening and ministering to laity and clergy, I haven't met one person who *wanted* to remain in their desert. Why? Because the desert may for a time seem inviting, but it always kills...the body as well as the soul. We, too, have messengers (*angelus* in Latin, *ángelos* in Greek) who are eagerly waiting to minister to us throughout these forty days.

Finally, as I mentioned last week, I have noticed many new faces among us. Some of you may be new to the area. We invite you to pray with us and, if moved, to become a part of our parish. Some may be returning after a 'detour in life.' Your journey (and for some your desert) has brought you to this holy place. Rest among us, if but for a while... and believe!

A blessed Lent to all.
~ Monsignor Darcy

COLD AND FLU SEASON

During the cold and flu season, we will verbally offer each other the Sign of Peace. Communion will be restricted to the Body of Christ. Pray for those who are sick during this winter season.

Church of St. Sebastian
 1915 ~ Celebrating 100 Years of Faith ~ 2015



SAINT PATRICK'S DAY
 SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 6-9 PM
 Live music provided again by Jesse Jack'son

Reservations required by March 18th \$25/person

Name: _____

of Tickets: _____ Phone: _____

Corned beef n' cabbage, Irish Bread,
 and 'Holy Water!'

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE SPRING!!!

LENT 2015
 LENTEN SCHEDULE

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

Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule.

+++ **PARISH LENTEN MISSION** +++
To Be Announced

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the Bake Sale the weekend of February 7th and 8th. A special thank you to those who brought baked goods and ran the sale on Sunday, February 8th, despite the weather. Between the two days we brought in over \$530 through the generosity of our parishioners. The Religious Education parents, students, and I are very grateful for your support.
 Ms. Marie

2015 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

“Faith and Good Works”

The start of the 2015 Catholic Charity Appeal is fast approaching. Our parish goal is again **\$87,000**.

Your gift to the 2015 Appeal reaches out to countless people in need throughout our diocese. No matter where you turn, you find someone who will benefit from your kindness.

Please give generously to the 2015 Catholic Charity Appeal.

THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

Sun.	2/22	Religious Ed, Grades 6-8	10:00 am
		Religious Ed, Grades 9-10	6:30 pm
Mon.	2/23	Religious Ed, Grades 1-5	3:30 pm
Thur.	2/26	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm

PARISH BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Parish Book Club takes place Wednesday, March 4th at 7:00 pm in the Fr. Randall Room to discuss ***A Prayer for Owen Meany*** by John Irving.



WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT
 February 15, 2015

# of Budget Envelopes Used This Week	36
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$ 2,112.00
Loose Contributions	\$ 192.50
Total Offertory	\$ 2,304.50

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

MONTHLY PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Names of friends, family, and fellow parishioners for whom prayers are asked will be listed monthly. If you would like a person included in next month's Prayers for the Sick please call the rectory. ***Jim P., John Haddad, Deborah Bessette, Debbie, Tim Cannon, Jack, Mary M., Peter Pizzarello, Virginia Gallagher, Maureen, Betty Mullaney, M. Rachel, Lisa Turbitt, Paula C., Heather, and Carmella Cardillo.***