

Church of St. Sebastian
February 24, 2013 — Second Sunday of Lent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

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

Monday, February 25, Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am Irene Lacombe
 -requested by a friend

Tuesday, February 26, Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, February 27, Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, February 28, Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am Joseph Bartolucci, anniversary remembrance
 -requested by his family

First Friday, March 1, Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am Mass
 5:30 pm Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, March 2, Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent
 5:00 pm Peggy Corrigan
 -requested by Carol and Vincent Ferraioli

Sunday, March 3, Second Sunday of Lent
 9:00 am For the People
 11:00 am Mary Alice and Colleen Mullaney

THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

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|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sun. | 2/24 | Religious Ed., Grades 6-8 | 10:00 am |
| | | Community Outreach | 10:00 am |
| | | Religious Ed., Grades 9-10 | 6:30 pm |
| | | Lenten Penance Service | 7:00 pm |
| | | Parish Mission | 7:00 pm |
| Mon. | 2/25 | Religious Ed., Grades 1-5 | 3:30 pm |
| | | Stations of the Cross | 6:30 pm |
| | | Lenten Mission | 7:00 pm |
| Tues. | 2/26 | Lenten Mission | 7:00 pm |
| Wed. | 2/27 | Lenten Mission | 7:00 pm |
| Thurs. | 2/28 | Choir Rehearsal | 7:00 pm |
| Fri. | 3/1 | First Friday Mass | 7:00 am |
| | | | 5:30 pm |

The Pastor's Corner

We welcome this weekend Fr. Tom Hoar, our guest preacher for the Lenten Mission. As noted elsewhere in the bulletin, Fr. Tom is the Director of Ender's Retreat, Mystic. He's a great priest and homilist...you'll enjoy his message.

Suffice to say, everyone is urged to attend the Lenten Mission beginning today, Sunday to Wednesday evening. We meet in the Church at 7:00 pm. Our common Lenten goal is to invite and accompany one, just one person back to the Christ this Lent. She/he could be a spouse, a family member, a close friend, a colleague from work.... Invite them back to Christ (and perhaps to St. Sebastian's!) this Lenten Season. We know they are out there...BRING THEM TO THE MISSION. Fr. Hoar will begin with a presentation on reconciliation. Four priests will be available for the Sacrament.

This the last week of the pontifical ministry of Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI. We are participating in Church history at every moment. The Spirit will guide the Cardinal-electors in their prayer and decision. We, the People of God, raise our minds and hearts in prayer for them as they enter the conclave to elect the 267th Pontiff of the Catholic Church. I reprint for you a sample of Benedict's vision, hope, and love for the Church:

"History has shown that, when the Church becomes less worldly, her missionary witness shines more brightly. Once liberated from her material and political burdens, the Church can reach out more effectively and in a truly Christian way to the whole world, she can be truly open to the world. She can live more freely her vocation to the ministry of divine worship and service of neighbor. The missionary task, which is linked to Christian worship and should determine its structure, becomes more clearly visible. The Church opens herself to the world not in order to win men for an institution with its own claims to power, but in order to lead them to themselves by leading them to him of whom each person can say with Saint Augustine: he is closer to me than I am to myself (cf. Confessions, III, 6, 11). He who is infinitely above me is yet so deeply within me that he is my true interiority. This form of openness to the world on the Church's part also serves to indicate how the individual Christian can be open to the world in effective and appropriate ways."

*From an address at a Meeting with Lay Catholics Engaged in the Church and Society
 Freiburg, 25 September 2011*

May God continue to guide you, Holy Father. Be at peace and remember us in prayerful solitude.

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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
Lenten Reconciliation Service - Sunday,
February 24th at 7:00 pm

Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule

+++ PARISH MISSION +++
Fr. Tom Hoar
Sunday to Wednesday, February 24th - 27th
at 7:00 PM

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

ST. SEBASTIAN BOOK CLUB

The Parish Book Club will meet Wednesday, March 6th at 7:30 pm in the Fr. Randall Room to discuss Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton. On April 17th to discuss After This by Alice McDermott, and on May 15th to discuss At Last by Edward St. Aubyn.

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

Anastasia Beaupre, 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 17, 2013

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| # of Budget Envelopes Used This Week | 67 |
| Contributions-Budgets and Checks | \$2,785 |
| Loose Contributions | \$ 261 |
| Total Offertory | \$3,046 |
| Ash Wednesday | \$1,024 |

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.



THE YEAR OF FAITH

OUR LENTEN PARISH MISSION
FR. TOM HOAR, SSE, PH.D.
FEBRUARY 24-27TH 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.

ANNUAL SANDWICH DRIVE IN MARCH

The Outreach Committee is seeking volunteers for our **Annual Sandwich Drive** to benefit Crossroads RI. Each Sunday in March, we ask parishioners to make 10 hearty sandwiches and bring them to church before the 11 AM Mass. An Outreach Member will deliver them to Crossroads in time for lunch. Because most soup kitchens are not open on Sundays, this may be the only meal of the day for the homeless men, women, and children at Crossroads. Fee; free to add fruit, chips, cookies or other snacks to your donation. Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule. This is an excellent Lenten family project.

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.

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.