

**Church of St. Sebastian**  
**March 2, 2014 — Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Scheduled Masses For This Week**

**Saturday, March 1, Vigil: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 pm Special Intention

**Sunday, March 2, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am For the People

11:00 am Special Intention

-requested by Joe and Kathy Moniz

**Monday, March 3, Weekday**

7:00 am Mass

**Tuesday, March 4, Weekday**

7:00 am Mass

**Wednesday, March 5, Ash Wednesday**

7:00 am Mass

5:30 pm Mary Allison and Colleen Mullaney

-requested by their family

**Thursday, March 6, Thursday after Ash Wednesday**

7:00 am Mass

**Friday, March 7, Friday after Ash Wednesday**

7:00 am Edna McLaughlin and family

**Next Weekend Masses**

**Saturday, March 8, Vigil: First Sunday of Lent**

5:00 pm Mario Lizarraga, anniversary remembrance  
-requested by his children and grandchildren

**Sunday, March 9, First Sunday of Lent**

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am for the People

**Please keep our fellow parishioners and friends in your thoughts and prayers:** Michael, Frances, Lauren, Yvette Wilburn, Maureen Kenner, Jane Martin, Carol Anne Theroux, Nicole Ruffine, Beverly DiLello, Elizabeth Dugan, Deborah Bessette, Beatrice Calvo Crozier, James Mullaney, Mariella, Amy, and Ursula Shea. *Please contact the rectory if you would like to add a person to our prayers.*

**WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT**

February 23, 2014

<b># of Budget Envelopes Used This Week</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Contributions-Budgets and Checks</b>	<b>\$3,584.00</b>
<b>Loose Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 561.00</b>
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$4,145.00</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**

Worrying is a major part of our ordinary Christian lives. We worry about employment; about the kid's getting (and staying) in college, about our health, about our retirement, and about our "final days." It's fascinating how we torture ourselves; many times needlessly!

In today's final selection from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus uses the word "**worry**" four times...and some of them related to things in the first paragraph. How many of us (me included) worry about things that have never come to pass! So, why did we worry? Basically, it is a form of unbelief.


If you re-read the Gospel carefully, Matthew uses the biblical argument "from lesser to greater." Its key phrase is: "How much more..." Indeed, how much more do we need to grow in faith? The genuine answer is: "A lot!"

The Church Year provides the opportunity to move from lesser to greater...it is called Lent. We desire to be better Christians as we move from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Lent begins with a day of fast and abstinence for the Christian faithful. These forty days prepare us for the holiest night of the year, the Easter Vigil, which we will celebrate on April 19th

As highlighted elsewhere in today's bulletin, the Lenten schedule includes: Morning Mass at 7:00 am, Stations of the Cross, the Rice Bowl Program, the Parish Mission, support of Fr. Luke and the troops in Afghanistan, our weekly food collection, the Sandwich Program of the Parish Outreach Committee, the weekly opportunity for Confession, daily prayer, and our private works of charity; all of which help us intensify our spiritual life during this penitential season. I'll have more suggestions for you next week, but there is something here for all of us.

Fr. Ernie will be with us at the 7 am Mass on Ash Wednesday! He's home for a visit with family and friends. We welcome him warmly (he's serving on the tropical Caribbean island of Nevis!). Lent is Old English for springtime! If Lent is here, spring is only a month away. Now that, too, is something really to celebrate!

Happy Mardi Gras!  
Monsignor Darcy

Ash  
Wednesday 

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**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARISH PARTY**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH FROM 6—9 PM**  
 is the date for a great ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY. A traditional corned beef dinner and Irish Bread will be served. Some typical Irish "refreshments" will be available at a cash bar. Live entertainment provided by one of Rhode Island's up and coming groups; *The Jesse Liam Band*.

Tickets: \$20 per person. All are welcome!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN THIS FORM TO THE RECTORY  
 WITH YOUR RESERVATION CHECK.**

The Parish Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet this month on Tuesday, March 5th and Tuesday, March 19th at 7:00 pm in the Fr. Randall Room. These beautiful shawls surround others with the prayers of our parish. Can you help with this ministry here at the church or maybe even at home? If so, please contact Pat Capece (274-8632) or Elaine Kehoe (273-4259). If you are aware of someone you feel would benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, please call the rectory.

**ST. SEBASTIAN BOOK CLUB**

The Parish Book Club will meet on Wednesday, March 12th at 7:30 pm in the Fr. Randall Room to discuss The Painted Veil by W. Somerset Maugham. All are welcome.

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

Sunday	3/2	Religious Ed., Grades 6-8	10:00 am
		Religious Ed., Grades 9-10	6:30 pm
Monday	3/3	Religious Ed., Grades 1-4	3:30 pm
Tuesday	3/4	Prayer Shawl Ministry	7:00 pm
Thurs.	3/6	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm

**LENT 2014**  
**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**

**Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule  
 beginning Ash Wednesday**

+++ PARISH MISSION +++  
**Fr. Joseph Paquette**  
**Sunday to Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> -April 1<sup>st</sup>  
 at 7:00 pm**

**ANNUAL LENTEN 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 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. Feel free to add fruit, chips, cookies or other snacks to your donation. **Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule with additional details. This is an excellent Lenten family project.**

**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.