

Church of St. Sebastian
May 29, 2011—Sixth Sunday of Easter

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, May 28, Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter
 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, May 29, Sixth Sunday of Easter
 9:00 am For the Parishioners
 11:00 am Helen Hildebrandt
 —requested by her sons George and John

Monday, May 30, Easter Weekday
~~~Memorial Day ~~ Holiday Schedule~~~
 9:00 am Special Intention

Tuesday, May 31, The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 7:00 am Mass

Wednesday, June 1, Saint Justin, martyr
 7:00 am Minnie Brennan, 7th anniversary

Thursday, June 2, the Ascension of the Lord
~~~A Holy Day of Obligation~~~
 7:00 am Mass
 5:30 pm Mass

First Friday, June 3, Saint Charles Lwanga and his companions, martyrs
 7:00 am Mass
 5:30 pm Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, June 4, Vigil: Seventh Sunday of Easter
 5:00 pm Richard Rotelli

Sunday, June 5, Sixth Sunday of Easter
 9:00 am For the Parishioners
 11:00 am Mary Lou Daly, 10th anniversary



This Week at St. Sebastian Church

Sunday	05/29	Coffee Hour	10:00 am
Monday	05/30	Memorial Day-Morning Mass	9:00 am
Thurs.	06/02	Ascension Thursday- Masses	7:00 am 5:30 pm
Friday	06/03	First Friday-Masses	7:00 am 5:30 pm

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

We “unofficially” begin the summer season with this Memorial Day weekend. Parish life will soon change with so many enjoying time weekends and even the entire summer season in other locales. It’s necessary to ‘decompress,’ to have a change of scenery, and to take life at a somewhat slower pace and reflect on our blessings.

Our readings drive home an important point for all of us. Whether at the parish or elsewhere this summer, we are never away from God...never. Jesus has given us a promise, “*I will **not** leave you orphans...*” This promise has strengthened me as a priest especially in the midst of the tragic days of the sexual abuse crisis. Although my desire was to return to parish life, my canonical assistance was needed by Bishops Mulvey and Tobin to help see them through the scandal. The Lord fulfilled His promise; He did not leave me even when I was tempted to leave Him. It was grace that eventually brought me to this wonderful parish where His plan for us is yet to be revealed fully.

Our parish is moving ahead with families and individuals wanting to build a faith-filled, worshipping community! The Spirit of God enlivens every congregation, but only if we are willing to follow the promptings given us. St. Peter, a man I truly long to meet and embrace, compels *us* in the Second Reading to tell others of the reason for our hope. If that is the case, what is our reason for praising God at St. Sebastian’s? Who was the last person that *you and I* personally invited to come and see our parish? Who did *we* ever invite to come with to Mass on the weekend? My core pastoral belief is the theme from the movie, “*Field of Dreams...*” *if we invite them, they will come!*

So, as the summer begins, think about us as a parish family that has ongoing responsibilities: communal, spiritual, and financial. I sincerely ask for your continued prayers and serious financial support throughout the summer. Give some thought about Parish Giving, our online opportunity for parish support. Visit the parish web site (www.stsebastianri.org) for more information.

On this Memorial Weekend, let us remember those who died in military service. Have a very enjoyable weekend...and be generous with your time, talent, and treasure.

Yours in Christ,
 Msgr. Darcy

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MEMORIAL DAY MASS

The morning Mass will be celebrated at 9 am on Memorial Day.

ASCENSION THURSDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Ascension Thursday, June 2, is a holy day of obligation, is a solemnity in the Easter Season commemorating the return of the Lord to the Father. Masses will be celebrated at 7:00 AM and 5:30 PM.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS— JUNE 3RD

The First Friday Masses are celebrated at 7 am and 5:30 pm. Members of RI Chapter of the Order of Malta will be with us for the evening liturgy.

CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL UPDATE

Our parish contribution to the Charity Appeal has surpassed \$75K with a record number of new donors. Wow! To those who have stepped up to assist the needy, our sincere thanks. Have you considered a gift to assist others? Please make your contribution as soon as possible. The blue envelopes are available at the front doors of the Church.

MONTHLY MAINTENANCE COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Our Monthly Maintenance Collection helps defray the cost of maintaining our beautiful church, rectory and parish grounds. Please be generous to this important collection to continue necessary improvements on our parish property.

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

Rosemary Wynne, Maureen Baker, Bob R., Mary P., and Carmella Cardillo.

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

MAY 21/22

# of Budget Envelopes Used	81
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$3,086
Loose Contributions	\$ 608
Total Offertory	\$3,694

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.

EASTSIDE MARKETPLACE RECEIPTS

Please remember to bring in your Eastside Marketplace grocery receipts and leave them in the marked box in the vestibule. Committee members will be tallying all receipts at their year-end meeting on June 18th. The parish receives 1% of the total, which the Outreach Committee then donates to worthy causes. Recent recipients have included Bishop Tobin's emergency heating fund and the Sophia Academy. Thank you!

WINE TASTING SUMMARY

The Wine Tasting grossed \$16,270, which will be used for modest renovations to the rectory kitchen. The summary is as follows:

127 persons attending at \$50	\$6,350.00
Special Gifts	5,400.00
Raffle	970.00
Silent Auction	<u>3,550.00</u>
Total	\$16,270.00

**Excitement is growing out there about the Fall...
and *OCTOBERFEST!***

MSGR. BOBBY BENSON

Msgr. Bobby Benson, from Ghana, who has lived at St. Sebastian's on several occasions starting in 1996, will be visiting us again in June, and assisting Msgr. Darcy with Masses.

Msgr. Bobby has been continuing his pastoral work with HIV/AIDS sufferers and their families in Koforidua. His many projects include the Youth Alive program which educates young Ghanaians about HIV/AIDS, and planning for the building of a hospice to accommodate patients.

On Saturday, June 18th, after the 5 pm Mass, we will host a potluck supper for Msgr. Bobby. A recent graduate of his Youth Alive program, who is living in Boston, will speak about the program, and Msgr. Bobby will update us on his work. Additional information to assist his pastoral ministry will be provided next week.

Please sign up in the vestibule to join us on June 18th, or call Trinkie Brueckner at 245-9954