

Church of St. Sebastian

September 11, 2011—Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, September 10, Vigil: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 pm Eugene and Etta Gallant

Sunday, September 11, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Tenth Anniversary of the September 11th attacks in New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania

11:00 am Joseph Arouth, 23rd anniversary
Noreen Gallagher, birthday remembrance
-requested by Elizabeth Arouth

Monday, September 12, Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Tuesday, September 13, Saint John Chrysostom, bishop and doctor

7:00 am Mass

Wednesday, September 14, The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

7:00 am Mass

Thursday, September 15, Our Lady of Sorrows

7:00 am Mass

Friday, September 16, Saint Cornelius, pope and martyr

7:00 am Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, September 17, Vigil: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, September 18, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am John Walsh, birthday remembrance
-requested by his family

11 am Mae and Al Badeau, anniversary remembrance
-requested by their daughter Belle

THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

Sunday	9/11	Religious Education	10:00 am
		Religious Education	6:30 pm
Monday	9/12	Religious Education	3:30 pm

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

This weekend is solemn one for the entire nation as we commemorate the loss of nearly 3,000 Americans killed during the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Similar to the assassination of President John Kennedy, we all remember where we were and what we were doing when the towers were struck and collapsed that sunny Tuesday morning. Our world has changed since those very tense days. Two wars are ongoing, lives have been sacrificed, and families continue to mourn. It is a solemn day, and *we as a nation must always remember...and pray for justice and peace.*

The Mass readings today are most appropriate as a backdrop for this weekend. The grace of healing always takes time. Whether the hurt be within our personal lives, our families, our Church, our nation...we need time to heal. As long as the anger festers and consumes us, we have no internal harmony or peace. The Wisdom Tradition of Sirach and the Gospel from Matthew are today's hinges for a reflection on genuine Christian forgiveness. Why do we hug tightly to wrath, and anger if "they are hurtful things?" (Sirach 27:30). The simple theological answer is because of sin. Sin inserts a wedge between us and God, between neighbor and self. Sin, the result of our fall from grace, is an enemy of God. If we fail to forgive the faults and failures of others, the consequences are disastrous in terms of our relationship with God. As generous or as stingy as we are to others with the gift of forgiveness, the same measure will be mirrored back to us. I know I have to work on this in my own priestly life. Perhaps you do, too.

St. Paul reminds us that in the end "faith, hope and love, these three remain; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor. 13:13). Easy to say, difficult to perfect without the example and witness of Christ, Himself.

May you be at peace this week.

PLEASE KEEP OUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS; ESPECIALLY

Maureen Baker

Please contact the rectory if you would like to add a person to our prayers. Prayers for the sick will be continued for an entire month. Please call the rectory if additional prayers are requested..

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SEPTEMBER 11: A PASTORAL REFLECTION

Following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issued [*A Pastoral Message: Living With Faith and Hope After September 11*](#). The message remains extremely relevant as we reflect on what happened ten years ago today. Visit www.usccb.org and search on "9/11" to re-read, reflect on, and pray with the bishops' statement, for only with God's help can we have the strength to forgive and the ability to live in hope instead of fear and hatred.

CHOIR REHEARSALS TO BEGIN-PRAISE THE LORD!

The parish choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday, September 22 at 7:30 pm in the Fr. Randall Room. Parishioners who would like to assist in the ministry of music are cordially invited to sing at our 11:00 am Sunday Mass and at the major solemnities of the Church Year. Our small volunteer parish choir needs voices in all vocal ranges. Please speak with Mr. Bill Cooper, the organist/director after any Mass or call him at 258-2023 for more information.

PARISH BOOK CLUB

Summer reading: [The Brothers Karamozov](#), by Fyodor Dostoyevski. There will be an organizational meeting of the Parish Book Club on September 21st. New members welcome!!

HUMAN LIFE GUILD DAY

All are invited to attend the 6th Annual Human Life Guild Day on Saturday, September 24 at St. Philip Church, Greenville. The day will begin with a 9:00 a.m. Mass with Bishop Thomas J. Tobin as main celebrant. Rev. Francis C. Santilli, pastor of St. Philip Parish will present the homily. The annual conference includes guest speakers presenting topics such as physician assisted-suicide and the aging population, healing after an abortion, respecting all human life and much more. For information or to register, please call the Diocesan Respect Life Office at 421-7833 ext. 218.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES BEGIN THIS WEEKEND.

If you have not registered:

Registration forms are available on our website: www.stsebastianri.org. Please download the applicable form and bring both the completed form and the registration fee with you to your first class.

New students who were not baptized at St. Sebastian must also bring a copy of their Baptismal Certificate.

Returning students, please bring the completed re-registration form with your payment.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact msmarie06.stseb@gmail.com and she will get back to you. Thank you.

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

September 3/4, 2011

# of Budget Envelopes Used This Week	79
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$ 3,330
Loose Contributions	\$ 427
Total Offertory	\$ 3,757
Monthly Maintenance Collection	\$ 1,319

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

ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION MASS

On Saturday October 1st at 10:00 am, the Diocese of Providence will be hosting the 2nd Annual Altar Server Appreciation Mass at the Cathedral of SS Peter and Paul. Bishop Tobin will celebrate the Mass. Refreshments will follow in the cathedral hall. In recognizing their service to the Church, this event presents a great opportunity to strengthen pride in the parishes, to unite young people in prayer, and to expose the servers to the Diocesan Church. **If you are a server and would like to attend, please contact Msgr. Darcy by September 15th.** Parents and family are encouraged and welcome to attend the Mass.