

Church of St. Sebastian
September 4, 2016 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, VIGIL: 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 pm LUCY SCLAMA, birthday remembrance by Gus and Joanne Antonucci

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 am MICHAEL SHEA, month's mind, by Catherine Nagle

11:00 am ANNE C TOSELLI, 1st anniversary by her family

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

7:00 am Mass

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

7:00 am ROSE MONTECALVO

7.25 am Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

7:00 am YOLANDA SPILLARE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 am SICK OF THE PARISH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, Saint Peter Claver, Priest

7:00 am INCREASE OF VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, VIGIL: 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 pm BISHOP THOMAS F. MALONEY, anniversary

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 24TH SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am JOSEPH R PAOLINO, SR, by his children and their families

MONTHLY MAINTENANCE COLLECTION
THIS WEEKEND

Prayers are asked for these friends, family, and fellow parishioners. If you would like someone included in the Prayers for the Sick please call the rectory. **Sal Spagnoli, Jacob Kenner, Natalie Swift, Leah Davis, Frances Geary, Maureen Kenner, Sandy C., John Haddad, Bob, Sylvia L., and Bob K.**

Our Lady's Candle is lit this week for Edward W. Lawlor, 11th anniversary, requested by his daughters Patricia and Regina.

My Dear Parishioners,

Some thoughts on Labor Day from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

This Labor Day, we draw our attention to our sisters and brothers who face twin crises—deep trials in both the world of work and the state of the family. These challenging times can pull us toward despair and all the many dangers that come with it. Into this reality, the Church shares a word of hope, directing hearts and minds to the dignity of each human person and the sanctity of work itself, which is given by God. She seeks to replace desperation and isolation with human concern and true solidarity, reaffirming the trust in a good and gracious God who knows what we need before we ask him (Mt. 6:8).

We behold signs that have become too familiar in the years following the Great Recession: stagnant wages, industry leaving towns and cities behind, and the sharp decline in the rate of private-sector organized labor, which fell by more than two-thirds between 1973 and 2009 down to 7%. Millions of families still find themselves living in poverty, unable to work their way out. Poverty rates among children are alarmingly high, with almost 40 percent of American children spending at least one year in poverty before they turn eighteen. Although this reality is felt nation-wide, this year new research has emerged showing the acute pain of middle and rural America in the wake of the departure of industry. Once the center of labor and the promise of family-sustaining wages, research shows these communities collapsing today, substance abuse on the rise, and an increase in the number of broken families.

As the fruits of solidarity and our care for one another increase, as we begin to make real impacts toward policies that help individuals begin stable families and live in accord with their dignity, the tired paradigm that fuels our national politics will be challenged. As Pope Francis has written "[e]very economic and political theory or action must set about providing each inhabitant of the planet with the minimum wherewithal to live in dignity and freedom, with the possibility of supporting a family, educating children, praising God and developing one's own human potential." With time, we will begin to restore a sense of hope and lasting change that places our economic and political systems at the service of the human person once more.

Let us always remember in these difficult times the Lord's offer of "rest" for "all you who labor and are burdened." As Pope Francis writes, the Sabbath Day "proclaims 'man's eternal rest in God.'" As we advocate for all who are struggling to find sufficient work that honors their dignity, we should also affirm in society the need of all people to rest, and finally to "rest in God." In times of restlessness and discouragement, let us recall the beautiful prayer of St. Augustine, who wrote: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

There is much to be done! Let us go forth with the hopeful expectation of the Psalmist:

*Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,
that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days.
And may the gracious care of the LORD our God be ours;
prosper the work of our hands for us!
Prosper the work of our hands! (Psalm 90:14-17)*

Monsignor Montecalvo

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES begin Monday, September 12th from 4 pm to 5 pm for Grades 1-5, and on Sunday September 18th from 10 am to 11 am for Grades 6-9.

REGISTRATION FORMS are on our website. Please print out and fill in the appropriate form (NEW STUDENT or RETURNING STUDENT) and return the form and registration fee (\$30) St. Sebastian Church, 67 Cole Ave, Providence, RI 02906 Attn: Ms. Marie Brito.

TEACHER NEEDED FOR GRADE 7

We are in need of one teacher for Grade 7 which meets Sunday mornings from 10 am to 11 am. If you are interested in teaching Grade 7 please contact Ms. Marie.

CHILDREN'S LITURGISTS NEEDED

The Children's Liturgy is held during the 9:00 am Mass. We are in need of two volunteers to teach once a month in the Fr. Randall Room. If you would like to volunteer for Children's Liturgy, please contact Neile Hartman at 401-323-1150 or neilehartman@yahoo.com Thank you.

On Labor Day, Monday September 5th, the parish office will be closed. Morning Mass will be held at the usual time of 7 am.

NEW CHOIR MEMBERS ARE NEEDED

Our small but dedicated choir would appreciate singers joining us this coming year. Beginning September 18th we will rehearse on Sundays at 10 o'clock for the 11 o'clock Mass. .

If you are interested please see Bill Cooper after any Mass on weekends or speak with any of our Choir Members. Thank you.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT
AUGUST 28, 2016

# of Budget Envelopes Used This Week	73
# Online Parish Giving	23
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$ 2,715.00
Online Parish Giving	\$ 1,032.00
Loose Contributions	\$ 485.00
Total Offertory	\$ 4,232.00

A sincere thank you for your support!

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.

Parish Family Cookout

Please join us for our Annual Parish Family Cookout on Sunday, September 11th beginning after the 11:00 am Mass. We will have our two Masses that morning and babysitting services will be available at BOTH Masses.

Usual summer fare will be served (hamburgers, hot dogs, etc.) We are asking those attending to bring a side dish or dessert. We'll have a Bounce House for the kids. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the vestibule if you are able to join us. The more the merrier!

The Rhode Island Knights of Columbus is inviting all people of good will to join us for a **Prayer for Peace, Sunday, Sunday, September 11th at St. Augustine's Church, 639 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Providence RI at 7 pm.**

This one-hour program will bring together members of religious and minority communities, the military, law enforcement and first responders to pray for an end of the unrest and loss of life in our neighborhoods and around the world.

Please join us as we observe this tragic day in America's history to pray that love for one another will always defeat hatred and make our world a better place.

Go to <http://www.kofc.org> for more details.

Do your children attend Catholic School in grades K through 8? If so, please call Msgr. Montecalvo at the rectory to discuss possible tuition assistance from the parish.

BIBLE STUDY

Registration for this year's Bible Study is still open. We will cover the story of salvation from Genesis to Luke. It is a fascinating study that takes participants on a journey through the entire Bible, and is entitled. ***The Bible Timeline" The Story of Salvation.*** If you are interested and willing to commit to this study please call the rectory with your contact information to reserve your spot and received more detailed information.