

St. Martha Roman Catholic Church

Pallottine Fathers and Brothers (Society of Catholic Apostolate) and U.S.A. Circus Church

200 N. ORANGE AVENUE SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34236

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WEBSITE: WWW.STMARTHA.ORG

FACEBOOK: ST. MARTHA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 AM - NOON & 12:30 PM - 4 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2016

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 22

VERY REV. FAUSTO STAMPIGLIA, S.A.C., PASTOR

MASS SCHEDULE

Church opens 30 minutes before each service and closes afterwards.

SATURDAY

7:30 a.m. & 8:30 a.m. (Vigil) 4:00 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY CHURCH

7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., Noon & 5:30 p.m.

SUNDAY PARISH HALL

8 a.m. (Spanish), & Noon (Vietnamese)

WEEKDAY

7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., Noon & 5:30 p.m.

HOLY DAY

(Vigil) 4 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., Noon, & 5:30 p.m.

TV Mass

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. on CW Network.
Check your local listings or
go to dioceseofvenice/TVMass

EXPOSITON OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Carosella Chapel:

Tuesdays 9 a.m.-Noon; Fridays 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
(The Carosella Chapel is open for quiet prayer during office hours.)

Church:

9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. on the first Friday of the month

ROSARY & MORNING PRAYER DEVOTIONS

Rosary is prayed each day following the 7:30 a.m. Mass, immediately followed by Morning Prayer. Rosary is again prayed before the Noon Mass.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 9a.m. - 10a.m.; 3p.m. - 4 p.m. (Reconciliation Room)
Sunday - Friday: 11:30 a.m. - Noon (Church Entrance)

BAPTISM

Classes are held on the 2nd Monday of each month from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Conference Room. Baptism will take place regularly every Sunday at 5 p.m. or by appointment with your choice of clergyman.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Saturdays after the 8:30 a.m. Mass

PRAYER LINE

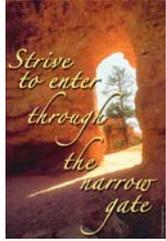
941-306-6503

From Our Pastor, Fr. Fausto ...

My Dear Friends,

THE READINGS OF TODAY express the dogma of the universal salvation of all human beings as willed by God, against those who deny such divine will. Some Israelites, for example, did not grasp the prophet Isaiah's vision of all the nations of the world coming to know the true God. They were convinced that only the Israelites had the benevolent protection of God, and that a glorious kingdom, much more splendid than the one of David and Solomon, would come back and the Israelites would dominate the entire world.

On the other side, some Christians since antiquity have been puzzled by the problem of PREDESTINATION, which St. Augustine so defines: "**Divine prescience and preparation of God's benefits by which those who are saved are most certainly saved!**" (Boy, oh boy ...! Can theologians write at the level of the good Catholics in the pews?) Both the Gospel of today, and the Prophecy of Isaiah, affirm that God has called us all, in Jesus, to the Feast of Paradise: "People from the east and the west, from the north and the south." In a word, God desires that every human being be saved in Jesus, and God offers freely such a gift of eternal life to all. This is an offer that we can refuse or accept, and then reject or embrace totally, becoming a member until death of the community of Jesus, the Church. Naturally, God knows what choice we will make, but He leaves us free to make it, and to bear the consequences of our choice. As I often have said, **God is Love**, and love by itself requires freedom, and we are free to say no to God and to choose creation instead of the Creator. In such case, when we die we are left with our choice of material things, and of other creatures who eventually will be just ashes and nothingness, and we will enter the eternal death. The confusion of some Christian theologians, like Calvin for example, is the inability to appreciate the difference between PRESCIENCE, meaning previous knowledge of good and evil, and PREDESTINATION meaning giving benefits for a job well done. In the later case, our human logic seems true, because it goes like this: "If God knew and sees now that I am making the wrong choice, then He knows that He will send me to Hell. It does sound logical, right? WRONG! God lives in eternity, where neither the past ("knew"), present (sees ...knows") or future ("will") exist, and so our anthropomorphic thinking of God cannot be applied to Him. Although we have no experience of eternity, at least we can say with certainty that "eternity is opposite of time" and so all "time categories" that we apply to God are intrinsically wrong. A little example can help here: Mom tells her child not to touch the range because she knows that the child will get a painful burn if the child disobeys. Knowing the consequences of the



child's disobedience does not follow that the mother wants the child to be burned, and the same goes for God, who doesn't want us to burn in Hell, and told us through Jesus' teachings how to avoid Hell, and instead how to achieve eternal life in paradise.

The warning we find in today's Gospel should awaken us from the slumber of our sinful life, to be alert to meet our maker at any time! Let us then live in the grace of God. If we are in a state of mortal sin, let us go to confession. Here at St. Martha's we have scheduled confessions daily, but just call a priest for a couple of minutes of his time, day or night, and be reconciled with God. You, dear parishioners, do not impose on us priests when asking for confession. The reason we are ordained priests is to confer the sacraments that you need, which means that we are here to serve you, and not be served or revered. **God is immensely forgiving!** As Pope Francis recently said: "...So, the love of God in Jesus always opens us up to hope, ... In this way even our struggles and falls have a meaning. Our sins too, have meaning in the love of God, because this love of God in Jesus Christ always forgives; it loves us so much that it always forgives us."

Please pray for the children of our Religious

Education Program, which will start on Sunday, September 18 following the 9:00 a.m. Mass in Fr. Fausto Parish Hall. They are growing up in very trying times, both politically and



spiritually. And I, born during the depression, and raised under the bombing in World War II, thought that I had it rough, but (and I am sure many of you with white-hair will agree with me), I grew up with a clear knowledge of right and wrong, strong family and social ties and deep appreciation of all God's gifts to us. We should never take God or His generous gift for granted. The entire fabric of society was solid, although not perfect, what with racism, war, dictatorships and the holocaust. But we knew of truth and moral good, and our consciences were not in a vacuum as it seems today, with the politically correct statements that make mockery of God, and of responsible moral choices. Please support our Catholic school and our Religious Education Office, and all the teachers who work hard to bring God to the little ones.

Maybe some of these pupils of St. Martha one day will become priests and serve your spiritual needs. Pray then for vocations and remember that the priesthood and the diaconate offer possibilities of ministry, not only to the young people, but also to the elderly.

Our Bishop will have the blessing and ribbon cutting ceremony of the Zazarino Center on Monday, September 12 immediately after the school Mass at 8:15 a.m. All of you are invited! A Dinner and Dance

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

will take place at 6 p.m. in St. Anne's Hall on Saturday, October 22 to benefit our students needs.

A more modest, but family friendly affair is our traditional Oktoberfest which our Hospitality Ministry is organizing for Saturday, October 8 at 6:30 p.m. in Fausto's Hall. We hope you join us for this fun annual event!

To commemorate the 15th anniversary of the infamous 9/11, our Bishop will take part of an Ecumenical Prayer for Peace on Sunday, September 11 at 6 p.m. at the Sarasota National Cemetery. Please join him to remember and pray for all those who were lost or affected by this senseless act.

**Smile, God loves you and so does Fr. Fausto with your St. Martha clergy:
Fathers Patrick, Wojciech, Sebastian, Philip & Jerry
Deacons Bill, Patrick, & Kevin
Brothers Bill, Tom & Lawrence
Sisters Cathy & Marianne**

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Dreams Are Free is now St. Mary Academy

Join us as we celebrate our
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Blessing



Monday, August 29, 2016
8:15 a.m. Mass in St. Anne Hall
celebrated by Most. Rev. Frank J. Dewane
Followed by the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Please RSVP
by Thursday, August 25th
to Connie Toft at
(941) 366-4010 ext. 318 or
ctoft@stmarysarasota.org



St. Mary Academy
4380 Fruitville Road
Sarasota, Florida 34232



Year of Mercy
Dec. 8, 2015 - Nov. 20, 2016

"I want to remind priests that the confessional must not be a torture chamber but rather an encounter with the Lord's mercy which spurs us on to do our best. A small step, in the midst of great human limitations, can be more pleasing to God than a life which appears outwardly in order but moves through the day without confronting great difficulties. Everyone needs to be touched by the comfort and attraction of God's saving love, which is mysteriously at work in each person, above and beyond their faults and failings."

— Pope Francis

Prayer Line: 941-306-6503

This Week in Our Parish

Sun., Aug 21

11:30 a.m. Confession - Fr. Sebastian

Mon., Aug 22 - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tues., Aug 23 - St. Rose of Lima

Wed., Aug 24 - St. Bartholomew

Thurs., Aug 25 - St. Louis of France & St. Joseph Calasanz

Fri., Aug 26

8:00 p.m. AA (Spanish) - Geenen Hall

Sat., Aug 27 - St. Monica

9:00 a.m. Confessions - Fr. Sebastian

9:15 a.m. Legion of Mary - Meeting Room

3:00 p.m. Confessions - Fr. Patrick



ST. BARTHOLOMEW FEAST DAY: AUGUST 24

Matthew, Mark, Luke and Acts count him as one of the twelve apostles, associating his name with Philip. But John's gospel links the name Nathanael with Philip and never mentions Bartholomew. What is certain is that Bartholomew left everything to follow Jesus, becoming his disciple, his intimate friend and an apostle entrusted with the continuation of his mission. May we imitate his desire to be with Jesus and continue the mission of Jesus without seeking notoriety.

Living with Christ

THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AUGUST 22

Now however, let us ask ourselves: what does "Mary Queen" mean? Is it solely a title, together with others, a crown, an ornament like others? What does it mean? What is this queenship? It is a consequence of her being united to the Son, of her being in heaven, that is, in communion with God; she shares in God's responsibility for the world and in God's love for the world. There is a worldly or common idea of a king or queen: a person with great power and wealth. But this is not the kind of royalty of Jesus and Mary. Let us think of the Lord; the royalty and kingship of Christ is interwoven with humility, service and love. It is above all serving, helping and loving. Let us remember that Jesus on the Cross was proclaimed king with this inscription written by Pilate: "The King of the Jews" (cf. Mk 15:26). On the Cross, at that moment, he is shown to be King; and how is he King? By suffering with us and for us, by loving to the end, and in this way governing and creating truth, love and justice. Let us also think of another moment: at the Last Supper he bows down to wash the feet of his followers.

His Holiness Benedict XVI, Pope Emeritus.



This Thursday, Aug. 25, is the fifth-month anniversary of the Annunciation. In his 5th month, Jesus in the womb is now is kicking hard enough for Mary to feel Him. In another four months, He will be born as our Savior.

FOR ADULTS INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC

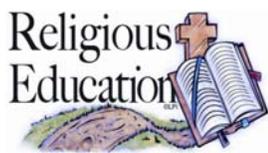


Do you know someone who is age 18 or over and may be considering joining the Catholic Church? Do you know someone who has not received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation? If so, then please consider bringing them to one of the informational meetings to be held:

Sunday, September 11 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass or Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m.

These meeting will provide information about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program and the Sacramental Preparation Classes for adults. Meetings will be held in the conference room next to Father Fausto Parish Center.

All who wish to investigate the Catholic faith for the first time or those who wish to complete their sacraments of Communion and Confirmation are encouraged to attend. Please contact Maggie Gallucci 941-355-5957, maggie.gallucci@gmail.com or Sue Thompson suehome2@verizon.net for more information.



ST. MARTHA RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2016/2017

Registration is now open for the 2016/2017 Religious Education classes. Class will begin after the Family Mass in the Parish Hall on September 18, 2016. Families need to be registered parishioners of St. Martha Parish. Classes are available for children Grades K-12. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or online at www.stmartha.org. For more information contact Patty Sileo, Director of Religious Education at 366-4210, or email: sileo@stmartha.org.

Congratulations!



A big congratulations to Marcella Byzewski, one of our St. Martha School students,



who won an art award for Snooty's 68th Birthday Bash birthday card competition!

Prayer for Peace Within

May today there be peace within.
 May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.
 May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.
 May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you
 May you be confident knowing you are a child of God.
 Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.
 It is there for each and every one of us.
 Amen.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has announced that a plenary indulgence can be obtained by performing a Spiritual or Corporal Work of Mercy.

Corporal Works of Mercy

These are kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs.

- To feed the hungry
- To give drink to the thirsty
- To clothe the naked
- To harbor the harborless
- To visit the sick
- To ransom the captive
- To bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

These are acts of compassion by which we help our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs.

- To instruct the ignorant
- To counsel the doubtful
- To admonish sinners
- To bear wrongs patiently
- To forgive offences willingly
- To comfort the afflicted
- To pray for the living and the dead

To obtain the indulgence the following conditions must be met within a week before or after the act:

- Receive the Holy Eucharist
- Go to Sacramental Confession
- Pray for the Holy Father's Intentions
- Have the intention be completely detached from sin

Mary leads us by the hand as a mother, our Mother, to the embrace of our Father, the Father of Mercies.
-Pope Francis

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 3 - Magnificat Breakfast All women are invited to a breakfast sponsored by Magnificat from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Airport, Ft. Myers. Cost is \$20, payable to Magnificat Ft. Myers and can be sent to Joanne Tarantino at 3315 Bermuda Isle Circle, Unit 128, Naples, FL 34109. For more information or questions, call Joanne at 239-631-6661.

Sunday, September 11 - Interfaith Commemoration Service This year marks the 15th Anniversary of the attacks of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. In honor of all those who lost their lives and are still affected, a service will be held at the Sarasota National Cemetery at 6 p.m. Bishop Frank J. Dewane will pray the Benediction. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

September 16 - 18 - At the Well Healing Retreat The Office of Family Life will be hosting a retreat for the divorced and separated at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center, Venice. Visit the diocese webpage to register, www.dioceseofvenice.org/atthewellretreat.

Saturday, September 24 - Catechist Enrichment Day at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Naples from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All catechists are invited to attend this event which includes breakfast, exhibits, a keynote speaker and interactive workshops. Call Kristi at 239-261-5831 for more information.

ST. MARTHA CLERGY AND STAFF

Very Rev. Fausto Stampiglia, S.A.C. *Pastor*
Rev. R. Patrick Wilson, S.A.C., *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Wojciech Stachura, S.A.C., *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Sebastian Szczawinski, S.A.C., *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Philip M. Lam Ba Trong, C.M.C., *Hospital Chaplain*
Rev. George "Jerry" Hogan, *Circus Chaplain*
Rev. Deacon William Ladroga
Rev. Deacon C. Patrick Macaulay
Rev. Deacon Kevin McKenney
Br. William Hudspeth, S.A.C.
Br. Tom Flanagan, S.A.C.
Br. Lawrence Skitzki, C.S.C.
Sr. Cathy Bonfield, S.S.N.D.
Sr. Marianne Baehr, C.S.J.
Sara Brinn, *Office Manager/Parish Secretary*
Virginia Bray, *Music Director*
Gina Snode, *Business Manager/Bookkeeper*
Patricia Sileo, *Director of Religious Education*
Maria DeSanto, *Director of Development*
Teresa McCoy, *Administrative Asst./Media Coordinator*
Sabrina Gibson, *Reception/Data Entry*
Pamela Paulson, *Reception/Data Entry*
Rose Ann Runnells, *Sacristan*
Tom Patt, *Sacristan*
Janet Cocco, *Sacristan*
Miguel Jimenez, *Maintenance Supervisor*

Vigésimo Primer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario 21 de agosto de 2016

Robustezcan sus manos cansadas
y sus rodillas vacilantes; caminen
por un camino plano, para que el
cojo ya no se tropiece, sino más bien se alivie.
— *Hebreos 12:12-13*



DISCIPLINA

No es accidente que las palabras "discípulo" y "disciplina" sean casi idénticas. Su relación en la fe y la vida cristianas, sin embargo, ha caído en desuso en la generación pasada debido a que ciertas reglas y regulaciones prescritas en la fe cristiana se han reducido o relajado. Estas reglas con frecuencia eran llamadas "disciplinas". Nos equivocamos, sin embargo, si pensamos que ya no se necesita disciplina para seguir a Cristo. La Carta a los Hebreos nos lo asegura hoy. Nuestra disciplina es como la de un atleta que persigue una victoria o quiere ser el mejor, o como la de un músico que lucha por hacer carrera como concertista o por perfección en la ejecución de una nueva obra musical. Esta disciplina se basa en el deseo, no en las reglas. Fue el deseo de hacer la voluntad de Dios lo que motivó a Jesús en el camino hacia el calvario. Es ese mismo deseo el que él inspira en nosotros hoy: luchar por entrar por la puerta angosta, para encontrarnos en el Reino con muchas personas que están allí no solamente por observar las reglas, sino por un sincero deseo de reclinarse a la mesa del celestial banquete.

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THE FIRST MAY BE LAST AND THE LAST MAY BE FIRST

"For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last" (Luke 13:30). With those words Jesus makes it clear to us that there are no lines, no privileges in heaven. Today's Gospel from the Book of Luke, in fact all of our readings for today, this 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, have to do with salvation. It is difficult to be faithful and Catholic without thinking about heaven on occasion, and the Lord and St. Paul often in his letters, remind us over and over that we are to be striving for that, that our thoughts should be as much on the next life as on this one. Yet when we hear that Gospel, that the first will be last and the last will be first, we may think there is some lack of justice there. Jesus does not state this as a definite. He actually is telling us that the first may be last and the last may be first. The truth is that it really is not important. Our faith, the Lord, our sense of stewardship repeatedly remind us that what we think is important on earth may not be important in heaven at all. There is a Greek proverb that says, "Being first is good, but being last is perfect." We are all called to discipleship and we need to answer that call. Responding before someone else does not make us better, but responding is very important.



Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc.

