



ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

U.S.A. National Circus Church

The Pallottines (Society of Catholic Apostolate)

200 N. Orange Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236

Telephone 941-366-4210 Fax 941-954-8434

Website www.stmartha.org Facebook St. Martha Roman Catholic Church

YouTube St. Martha Catholic Church Sarasota, FL Instagram [stmarthachurch_in_srq](https://www.instagram.com/stmarthachurch_in_srq)

Parish Office Hours Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Advent
WEEK 2

December 6, 2020

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Mass Schedule

Saturday

7:30 a.m. & 8:30 a.m. - Church
4 p.m. Vigil - Church & Parish Hall
5:30 p.m. Vigil - Parish Hall

Sunday

7:30 a.m. - Parish Hall
9 a.m. - Church (*Family*) & Parish Hall
10:30 a.m. - Church & Parish Hall
12 p.m. English - Church
12 p.m. Vietnamese - Parish Hall
5:30 p.m. - Parish Hall

Weekday

7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 12 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. - Church

Eucharistic Adoration

Carosella Chapel (Reservation Required)
Tuesday thru Thursday 10 a.m. - Noon

Confessions

Confessional window in Courtyard
Saturday 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. & 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday thru Friday 11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Holy Communion

Confessional window in Courtyard
Saturday 4 - 4:30 p.m. & 5:30 - 6 p.m.
Sunday 9 - 9:30 a.m., 10:30 - 11 a.m.,
12 - 12:30 p.m., and 5:30 - 6 p.m.

Baptism Class - 2nd Monday of each month from
7 - 8 p.m. in the Parish Hall. No need to RSVP

Very Rev. Fausto Stampiglia S.A.C., Pastor

Rev. R. Patrick Wilson, S.A.C.
Rev. Jan Rykala, S.A.C.
Rev. Krzysztof "Chris" Frost, S.A.C.
Rev. John Cao, C.R.M., Hospital Chaplain
Rev. George "Jerry" Hogan, Circus Chaplain
Rev. Deacon William Ladroga
Rev. Deacon C. Patrick Macaulay
Rev. Deacon Robert Gaitens
Rev. Deacon Vern Smith
Rev. Deacon Kevin Monahan
Sr. Cathy Bonfield, S.S.N.D.
Br. Lawrence Skitzki, C.S.C.
Br. William Dygert, C.S.C.

Parish Staff

Sara Brinn, Office Manager/Parish Secretary
Virginia Bray, Music Director
Gina Snode, Business Manager/Bookkeeper
Patricia Sileo, Director of Religious Education
Teresa McCoy, Administrative Assistant
Pamela Paulson, Reception/Data Entry
Rose Ann Runnells, Sacristan
Cori Stannish, Sacristan
Janet Cocco, Sacristan
Miguel Jimenez, Facilities Manager

From Our Pastor, Fr. Fausto ...

It was a Thanksgiving to be remembered! Turkey, masks, and lonely empty seats around the table! All will end in glory! Trust God!

In today's Gospel, we admired John the Baptizer, a relative of Jesus and the last prophet of the Old Testament, or covenant between God and the Jewish people. John was the precursor, or the MC, who introduces Jesus the Savior and Messiah. And, so, the season of Advent is shifting from the future second coming of Jesus, to the Remembrance of the First coming. The Church's prayer on the 2nd Sunday of Advent is "God of mercy may this Eucharist bring us your divine help, free us from our sins, and prepare us for the Birthday of our Savior ..." Our radio or TV airwaves, as also our papers, are filled with the material details of Christmas' giving spirit, but the true spirit of Christmases past, present and future, is in Christ, not just in the frenzy of gifts and parties! Christmas has become so commercialized as to create a mentality which can be expressed in the sentence: "The one with the most toys wins!" Jesus, who is after all the Birthday Boy of December 25th, doesn't need our toys or gadgets. He needs, first of all, the gift of our humble, contrite and forgiving hearts. The other gift so dear to Jesus is the care of the poor, needy, homeless, lonely and rejected lowest members of our society. The problem, then, is that now the season of Advent has lost its character of re-living the anxious waiting of the Messiah by the prophets of old. The commercial and festive development of our times cannot obscure the other meaning of Advent: our spiritual preparation for the second coming of Jesus, when all nations on earth will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds to judge the living and the dead.

Advent is then a time of crowded malls and stores, gift lists and buying sprees. There are many Christmas parties where the danger of over drinking lurks, with driving while intoxicated! It is then very hard to shut off the exuberant noises of this joyful season and concentrate on Jesus, even though Jesus is the reason for the season. We priests would like to invite all of you to find time for a good confession, if needed, and for a special sacrifice for peace in the world, an end to the slaughter of the innocents, and for the conversion of sinners.



Tuesday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This Feast celebrates the sinlessness of Mary, mother of God, since the first moment of her life. Vigil Masses will be celebrated Monday at 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. Tuesday Masses are at 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. (Vietnamese).

Please allow me to clear up some confusion about the two dogmas related to Jesus' birth. The virginal birth of Jesus tells us that Jesus was conceived in Mary's womb through the power of the Holy Spirit without any human intervention. As Catholic theologians say, "Maria Virgo ante partum, in partu, post partum" - Mary, a virgin before, during and after birth.

The Immaculate Conception of Mary, is based on the salutation of the angel "Hail Mary, Full of Grace." This term means that Mary received from God all possible graces and

favor! So, also, the favor to be born without the Original Sin, or any other stain of sin (immaculate in Latin means: without stain).

Children often ask me about Santa Klaus and they're asking if he's real! Oh yes! He's in Heaven and not at the North Pole! Santa Klaus is the English abbreviation of the Latin Sanctus Nicholas (St. Nicholas), who was born in the mid-third century to a wealthy Christian couple in Patara, a town near the southern shores of Asia Minor (modern Turkey). After the premature death of his parents, Nicholas gave up his wealth and entered a monastery, later traveling to Egypt and the Holy Land. He returned to his monastery, hoping to live quietly as a hermit. However, against his desires, he was elected Bishop of Myra, a small town near Patara. Soon he was known for his love for the poor.

One of the most powerful stories reveals Nicholas's compassion for the poor. There were three young girls whose father had lost his fortune and, consequently, their dowries. Due to their poverty, the girls were ignored by all the eligible men.

Moved by their plight, Nicholas, under the cover of darkness, went to the man's home and dropped a bag of gold through an open window. Finding the gold the following morning, the father was overwhelmed and, thanking God, married off his eldest daughter.

Several nights later, Nicholas secretly deposited a second bag of gold. Dumfounded, the man used it for his second daughter's dowry. The father, however, was determined to identify his benefactor and waited for the unknown person's appearance. Again, under the cover of darkness, Nicholas left yet another sum of gold. Hearing a thump, the man rose to his feet and caught up with his mysterious benefactor whom he recognized immediately. Nicholas demanded silence, binding the man to an oath never to reveal his identity. St. Nicholas' remains were brought in 1088 from Turkey to Italy and his tomb is in the crypt of the Cathedral of Bari.

More words from the Holy Father's Encyclical "Fratelli Tutti":

The marketplace, by itself, cannot resolve every problem. It requires a reform of the UN.

The politics we need, Francis also underscores, is one that says "no" to corruption, to inefficiency, to the malign use of power, to the lack of respect for laws (177). It is a politics centered on human dignity and not subjected to finance because "the marketplace, by itself, cannot resolve every problem": the "havoc" wreaked by financial speculation has demonstrated this (168). Hence, popular movements have taken on particular relevance: as true "social poets" with that "torrent of moral energy", they must be engaged in social, political and economic participation, subject, however, to greater coordination. In this way - the Pope states - it will be possible to go beyond a Policy "with" and "of" the poor (169). Another hope present in the Encyclical regards the reform of the UN: in the face of the predominance of the economic dimension which nullifies the power of the individual state, in fact, the task of the United Nations will be to give substance to the concept of a "family of nations" working for the common good, the eradication of indigence

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is dispensed until into the New Year (date to be given at a later time).



and the protection of human rights. Tireless recourse “to negotiation, mediation and arbitration” - the Papal Document states - the UN must promote the force of law rather than the law of force, by favouring multilateral accords that better protect even the weakest states (173-175).

From the sixth chapter, “Dialogue and friendship in society”, further emerges the concept of life as the “art of encounter” with everyone, even with the world’s peripheries and with original peoples, because “each of us can learn something from others. No one is useless and no one is expendable” (215). True dialogue, indeed, is what allows one to respect the point of view of others, their legitimate interests and, above all, the truth of human dignity. Relativism is not a solution - we read in the Encyclical - because without universal principals and moral norms that prohibit intrinsic evil, laws become merely arbitrary impositions (206). From this perspective, a particular role falls to the media which, without exploiting human weaknesses or drawing out the worst in us, must be directed toward generous encounter and to closeness with the least, promoting proximity and the sense of human family (205). Then, of particular note, is the Pope’s reference to the miracle of “kindness”, an attitude to be recovered because it is a star “shining in the midst of darkness” and “frees us from the cruelty...the anxiety...the frantic flurry of activity” that prevail in the contemporary era. A kind person, writes Francis, creates a healthy coexistence and opens paths in places where exasperation burns bridges (222-224).

Smile, God loves you and so does Fr. Fausto with your St. Martha clergy:

**Fathers Patrick, Jan, Chris, John, & Jerry
Deacons Bill, Patrick, Robert, Vern and Kevin
Sister Cathy and Brothers Lawrence & William**



Don't forget your mask!

Our Mother’s House of Catholic Charities is looking for people who want to make Christmas special for single mothers and their babies by providing gifts from their wish list.

If you are interested in adopting a family for Christmas or want to donate a gift, please contact Rita Millner, at 941-485-6264, or rita.millner@catholiccharitiesdov.org.

All wrapped gifts must be delivered before December 9. Our Mother’s House is committed to helping homeless mothers and their children achieve self-sufficiency.



**The Knights of Columbus
Roast Beef Dinner**

Columbus Hall, 4880 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota
Friday December 11th from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m

Cost is \$12

Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, and Green Beans

*You may dine in Columbus Hall
or get your dinner To Go.*



A full cash bar with soda, beer, wine & liquor will be available for Dine In.

For daily readings visit:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/032020.cfm>



**My Choice Pregnancy Center
needs your support!**

*Supporting those who need our help is
easier than you think!*

My Choice Pregnancy Center needs your support! Many of the moms who participate in the programs at our center are in great need of medication for their children as we enter into flu season. The pregnancy center is asking for your help with the donation of gift cards for Walgreens, CVS, or Publix so that we can help moms have the things they need to keep their families healthy throughout this season.

Gift card donations may be mailed to My Choice Pregnancy Center, 5277 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34234. Or please call us to set up a time to drop off your donation.

To learn more about us, please call 941-351-3007 or visit our website at: www.mychoicepregnancycenter.com.

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www.stmarthaschool.net

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SOLVE NEWS

Unfortunately this year, due to concerns about COVID-19, SOLVE will not be able to sell poinsettias here at St. Martha. This is an important fundraiser for them, so if you would like to donate to their growing ministry, please send a check to

Solve Maternity Homes

1335 Manatee Ave., Bradenton, FL 34205

They have exciting news about the opening of a new SOLVE home in Sarasota which you can view at www.facebook.com/Solvematernityhomes. This is a 4000 square foot home that is being renovated to accommodate 6 moms-to-be. They are beginning a special appeal to raise funds for this project.

Church of the Incarnation at 2929 Bee Ridge Rd. will be selling SOLVE poinsettias on Dec. 6, 2020



Great visit with the WTL founders Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret and their children, Zellie, Andre, Melode, Maelle and Loic



WTL - Ambassadors, Advisors and Mentors wanted. WTL Mentors and Senior Advisors always needed. Be a Buddy Couple to a newly engaged couple. Share your marriage love recipe that works for you.

Visit our WTL website at <https://witnessstolove.org/>

Thank you all...and thank you Jesus!

Caritas Food Pantry

First Baptist Church
1661 Main St, Sarasota, FL 34236
(Food pantry located on Adelia Ave)

Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

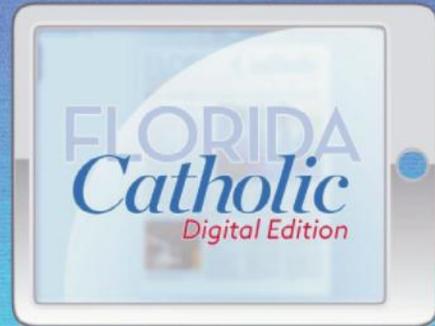
If your family is in need of food due to Covid-19, please visit the Caritas Food Pantry. The food pantry window is located on Adelia Ave. The volunteers will distribute the packages of non-perishable food items through the window.



Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Victory Council #3358

Attention all practicing Catholic men over the age of 18- are you interested in joining the Knights of Columbus? We invite you to an online 30-minute ceremonial exemplification. If interested contact Anthony Cocco, Grand Knight at 941-504-6960 or anthonycocco@aol.com.

DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA



Sign up for the FREE e-edition of the Florida Catholic at www.dioceseofvenice.org/news



Have you considered a Charitable Remainder Trust?

If you want a portion of your estate to eventually go to St. Martha, but you also want to provide income for one or more surviving loved ones, you can establish a charitable remainder trust through your will. The trust pays income to your designated beneficiaries for a set period of time, usually the duration of their lives. At the death of the designated beneficiaries, the remaining principal is then distributed to St. Martha. This type of trust is an excellent way to provide for family members for the remainder of their lives, and then directing a portion of your remaining estate to St. Martha.

If you are interested in more information about a Charitable Remainder Trust, please contact Teresa McCoy in the Parish Office at 941-366-4210 or tmccoy@stmartha.org.

Thank you for your support of St. Martha Parish. Our parishioners are our only source of funds and your contributions keep the lights on, enable parish ministries, and support our outreach to the poor.



POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS DECEMBER 2020

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



Jesus calls each of us to ‘care for the other as a person for whom God has made us responsible’ (EV 87). The encyclical The Gospel of Life recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. Particular emphasis, however, is placed on threats to life at its beginning and end - precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers’ wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the ‘least of these’ in our world’s estimation.



We are so grateful to receive the generous legacy gift from
Paul and Mary Louise Blower
 May their generosity to God’s people be matched by
 God’s generosity to them and those they loves.
 May God welcome them into paradise and the light
 of His face shine upon them for all eternity.

Prayer Against Coronavirus

Lord Jesus Christ, our Divine physician, we ask you to guard and protect us from Coronavirus COVID-19 and all serious illness. For all that have died from it, have mercy; for those that are ill now, bring healing. For those searching for a remedy, enlighten them; for medical caregivers helping the sick, strengthen and shield them. For those working to contain the spread, grant them success; for the afraid, grant peace. May your precious blood be our defense and salvation. By your grace, may you turn the evil of disease into moments of consolation and hope. May we always fear the contagion of sin more than any illness. We abandon ourselves to you infinite.
 Amen



Theology on Tap Sarasota - Thursday, December 17 at 7 p.m. at the Mandeville Beer Garden in Sarasota, 428 N. Lemon Ave, Sarasota. Join us outside in the garden for free refreshments and food, presentations, and discussions about the faith. Please contact Joshua Mazrin at evangelization@dioceseofvenice.org with any questions.

Grow in Holiness? - The Office of Evangelization is hosting an 8-week online discussion about Catholic Mysticism for everyday Catholics. Do you want to know how you can grow in holiness in a way that can be seen? This is exactly right for you. Each session will involve a live streamed video series and a live group discussion. The series will air at 10 a.m., Tuesdays through December 8. The videos will remain available any time you would like to view them. Visit www.dioceseofvenice.org/prayer to register and for more information about how to participate.

Advent Retreat and Monthly Days of Prayer - Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat and Spirituality Center (Venice, FL) continues to offer single days of prayer and overnight retreats in a safe, tranquil setting along the Myakka River. Encounter Mary and her Son in a deeply personal and transformative way on our Advent retreat, December 7-8. This retreat includes Mass, presentations, ample time for personal prayer, an opportunity for Confession and/or spiritual direction, and sharing. A Monthly Day of Prayer is offered on both the second Sunday and the second Wednesday of each month (Dec. 9 and 13). For more info or to register, call (941) 486-0233, or visit our website (www.olph-retreat.org) and click on “Schedule of Events.”

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Sunday Offertory as of 7-1-2020 thru 10-31-2020

Sunday Offertory & Unrestricted Donations	\$450,737.19
Operating Expenses	\$546,468.93
Operating Shortfall	-\$95,731.74

2020 Catholic Faith Appeal as of 11-19-2020

Goal	\$379,000.00
Contributions	<u>-\$263,171.92</u>
Needed to Reach Goal	\$115,828.08

Weekly Mass Intentions

Sun., Dec. 6	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8
7:30 a.m. [JR]	(Hall) John Lanzetta by Sheila Heimbudt
9:00 a.m. [JH]	(Hall) Mary Baisley by Jane Baisley
9:00 a.m. [CF]	(Church) My Dear Friends and Family by Christina Kirkman
10:30 a.m. [FS]	(Hall) For All Parishioners
10:30 a.m. [CF]	(Church) For All Parishioners
12:00 p.m. [JC]	(Hall/Viet) Linh Hon Guise Truc by Ac Khoa Quynh
12:00 p.m. [JR]	(Church) For all essential workers
5:30 p.m. [PW]	(Hall) Lvg & Dec'd Mbrs of the Plouffe Family by Joe & Betty
Mon., Dec. 7	Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
7:30 a.m. [JH]	Marie Hoffberg
8:30 a.m. [FS]	Lvg & Decd Members of Altar Society
12:00 p.m. [JC]	Luis Ricardo Pael by Nancy Truillo
4:00 p.m. [FS]	(Vigil) Public health officials and all civic leaders
5:30 p.m. [PW]	(Vigil) Jacqueline Letourneau by Lynda Blouin
Tues., Dec. 8	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
7:30 a.m. [JC]	Lillian Massara by Aldo Massara
9:00 a.m. [JH]	George Murikami by Margaret Fasano
10:30 a.m. [CF]	For All Parishioners
12:00 p.m. [JR]	(L) Louise and (L) Joanie by Friend
5:30 p.m. [PW]	Deborah Dietz by Friend
7:30 p.m. [JC]	(Hall/Viet) Those suffering from addiction
Wed., Dec. 9	Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
7:30 a.m. [JR]	Catherine Wilkens by Claire Collins
8:30 a.m. [PW]	Estelle Hartnett by Magda Kovacic
12:00 p.m. [CF]	Thumper Clift by Ginny Alexandre
5:30 p.m. [JR]	Robert & Marguerite Romaine by Gail & Fr. Robert
Thurs., Dec. 10	Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
7:30 a.m. [FS]	David Kruse by Diane and Bob
8:30 a.m. [JC]	Ken Collins by Claire Collins
12:00 p.m. [JR]	Manuel DeJesus Roman by the Family
5:30 p.m. [CF]	Mary LoCicero by Helene Halpern
Fri., Dec. 11	Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
7:30 a.m. [JC]	Rita Hengesch by Paul and Marge Lortie
8:30 a.m. [FS]	(L) Fr. Jan by Maureen and Terry Aldrich
12:00 p.m. [CF]	Alice Tercijonas by Stephanie and Milton Kruk
5:30 p.m. [JR]	(L) Bogdana Tchakarova by Bill and Edna Koury
Sat. Dec. 12	Zec 2:14-17 ; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38
7:30 a.m. [JC]	Marie Hoffberg
8:30 a.m. [CF]	Dorothy M. Gray by Husband
4:00 p.m. [FS]	(Hall) Joshua Baker and Jeffrey Baker by Friend
4:00 p.m. [JR]	(Church) Robert S. Roma by Eileen
5:30 p.m. [PW]	(Hall) Alex Ellingson by John Celio
Sun., Dec. 13	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
7:30 a.m. [JH]	(Hall) Fred Schroeder by Glen and Keri Drake
9:00 a.m. [JR]	(Hall) Diana Orama by the Orama Family
9:00 a.m. [CF]	(Church) For All Graduates
10:30 a.m. [FS]	(Hall) For All Parishioners
10:30 a.m. [CF]	(Church) For All Parishioners
12:00 p.m. [JC]	(Hall/(Viet) Paul Neuschel by Magda Kovacic
12:00 p.m. [PW]	(Church) Victims of human trafficking
5:30 p.m. [PW]	(Hall) Michael Joseph Griffin by Mother, Kathleen
<i>Fr. Fausto (FS), Fr. Patrick (PW), Fr. Jan (JR), Fr. Chris (CF), Fr. John (JC), Fr. Victor (VC) Fr. Jerry (JH)</i>	

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers	Dn. Bob Gaitens	941-350-2634
Altar Society	Janet Cocco	941-366-4210
Archivist	Ann Crowley	941-366-4210
Arimathean Ministry	Gerri Roberts	941-600-8479
Bethesda House	Colleen McMenamin	941-366-1886
Catholic Charities	Joan Piere	941-355-4680
Community Pregnancy Clinics		239-262-6381
Casa Santa Marta	Paula Jaramillo	941-366-4448
Choir/Cantor	Virginia Bray	941-366-4210
Council of Catholic Women	Marcia Stokes	334-648-4328
Development Committee	Parish Office	941-366-4210
Eucharist Adoration	Vicki Hatch	734-646-6188
Finance Council	John Corey	coreyjjj5@gmail.com
Family Ministry	Gary Kerschner	941-961-8713
Herrig Caritas (9-11 a.m., M-F)	Tony Cocco, Chair	941-366-5620
Hospitality Ministry	Beth Cannata	941-321-2953
Jail Ministry	Bob Hiniker	863-558-0407
Knights of Columbus	Tony Cocco	941-504-6960
Lectors	Ryan Winkler	stmarthalectors@gmail.com
Legion of Mary	Sharon Foster	941-713-3447
Parish Council	Beth Cannata	941-321-2953
Prayer Line	Diane Domagala	941-306-6503
R.C.I.A	Maggie Gallucci	941-355-5957
R.C.I.A	Sue Thompson	suehome2@verizon.net
Respect Life Ministry	Joseph Gina	941-702-1700
Rosary Makers	Doreen Maxine Brand	941-755-9749
Solve Maternity Homes	Peggy Kerwin	941-748-0094
St. M. Early Learning Center	Jamie Van Dyke	941-366-1395
Ushers	John Whitfield	941-400-1472
Witness to Love	Jim & Agnes Rutushni	941-960-5128

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Parish, Nursing Home, and Homebound	Dn. Kevin Monahan	dckevin@stmartha.org
Hospital	Calvin Kreider	941-928-6995

NEIGHBORING DIOCESAN PARISHES

St. Jude	Sarasota	941-955-3934
Christ the King	Sarasota	941-924-2777
Incarnation	Sarasota	941-921-6631
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs	Sarasota	941-755-1826
St. Patrick	Sarasota	941-378-1703
St. Mary Star of the Sea	Longboat Key	941-383-1255
St. Thomas More	Sarasota	941-923-1691
St. Joseph	Bradenton	941-756-3732
St. Michael the Archangel	Siesta Key	941-349-4174
Our Lady of the Angels	Lakewood Ranch	941-752-6770

BISHOP NEVINS ACADEMY

4380 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34232	
St. Martha Catholic School	941-953-4181
<i>Principal: Mrs. Siobhan Young</i>	
St. Mary Academy	941-366-4010
<i>Principal: Mrs. Rebecca Reynolds</i>	

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