



*Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God*



ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

*U.S.A. National Circus Church
The Pallottines (Society of Catholic Apostolate)*

**January 1, 2023
Solemnity of Mary**

Mass Schedule

Saturday

7:30 a.m. & 8:30 a.m.
4 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. - *Vigil*

Sunday

7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m., & 5:30 p.m.
8 a.m. Spanish - *Parish Hall*
12 p.m. Vietnamese - *Parish Hall*

Weekday

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

Confessions - Reconciliation Room

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

Eucharistic Adoration - Carosella Chapel
Tuesday thru Thursday 9 a.m. - Noon

Rosary & Morning Prayer Devotions

Rosary is prayed daily after the 7:30 a.m. Mass
followed by Morning Prayer

Baptism Class

2nd Sunday of each month from 9 - 10 a.m.
in the Parish Hall. No need to **RSVP**

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 8 a.m. to Noon and 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

From our Pastor, Fr. George...

Dear Parishioners of St. Martha,

Sunday Sermon – The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God in the Year “A”

From Dn. Bill Ladroga

There is a 5th century hymn that begins, “*Let all mortal flesh keep silence . . .*” Its opening line captures what has to be the only proper response to what we celebrate today. What it means for God to become human is so hard to get our heads around that the Church gives us different approaches in the Christmas Masses. We’re like the six blind men trying to guess what an elephant looks like by feeling different parts of it. To think that the God who created everything that exists – from quarks to galaxies – who has given them the properties that order our universe – who continues to create all living things, from bacteria to, yes, whales – should enter into created reality, should take on our flawed humanity – it is simply too much to grasp.

So we ask ourselves, not just “How could that be”, but “Why would God do that”?

The “why” of Christmas is, simply, love – not just attraction, not just affection, not just passion, but pure, self-giving love. Creation itself is a foretaste of that self-giving – sharing the existence that is eternal in God. But the incarnation takes God’s self-giving to a totally new level. In Jesus we recognize that self-giving is the very nature of God. No more partial insights, no more blind groping around trying to understand the elephant. Jesus is “the very imprint of God’s being.”

Among the great things about ministering in a place like St. Martha are the different charisms of others. Sometimes we do it rather poorly. Still, we do it -- out of love. It all flows from the self-giving of God that we celebrate today and our efforts to imitate him – as the saying goes, “A thousand roads lead out from the stable at Bethlehem.”

But there’s one difference. Some people go home again -- let the ministries be temporary and then return to “normal” lives, leaving behind the people we might have unselfishly helped. The God-man whose birth we celebrate didn’t do that. Instead, he accepted our death, “even death on a cross.” His way home took him through Calvary. It has been truly said that the stable at Bethlehem stands in the shadow of the cross. It is, after all, the cross that makes real the love shown in Bethlehem. That’s something we desperately need to understand – not as a “downer” at this joyful season, but so that we can understand that a truly “normal”, truly human, life consists of total self-giving. For Jesus is not just the “very imprint of God’s being” but the norm – as in “normal” – the very model of what true humanity should be.

The ancient hymn continues: “*...and with fear and trembling stand. For with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descending ...*”

We stand in fear and trembling at what God has done for us -- he came to us as one of us so that we might become more like him. And today we celebrate Mary's "yes" that brought us God's love in such a human way.

January 1st is the World Day of prayer for Peace.

We pray with the words of Scriptures: “*May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace*” (Numbers 6: 24-26).

We pray to the Lord for the end of war in Ukraine: Jesus, the Prince of peace, come to our help!

You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.

Hear my prayer, Lord; listen to my cry for mercy.

When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me.

Arrogant foes are attacking me, O God; ruthless people are trying to kill me - they have no regard for you. But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.

Turn to me and have mercy on me; show your strength on behalf of your servant; save me, because I serve you just as my mother did.

Give me a sign of your goodness, that my enemies may see it and be put to shame, for you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me. (*Psalms 86*)

Jesus, the Prince of peace, come to our help!

A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers

O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God’s love and compassion. Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously help us build a culture of life and a civilization of love, together with all people of good will, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen.

Thank you for Advent/Christmas decorations!

We notice the **Advent Wreath** in the church, symbolizing our readiness for the Lord’s coming, other wreaths and garlands, we have the **Christmas Tree** with colorful decorative items including **doves of peace**, which to me symbolize **Jesus the Prince of peace**, whose help we ask for at this time of war in Ukraine. In a harsh Ukrainian winter millions of people are without heat, water and electricity apart from the fact that they are regularly bombarded by the Russian army. God bless them with peace! Amen.

**With prayers for God’s blessing to you
and your family,
Fr. George**



AN INDUCTION LOOP IS PROVIDED IN ST. MARTHA CHURCH FOR THE BENEFIT OF HEARING AID USERS.
TO USE PLEASE SWITCH YOUR HEARING AID TO ‘T.’



Emmaus Journey Bible Study

Please join us on Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. Bring your Bible and a desire to share and learn with fellow participants. All are welcome! Our facilitator is parishioner Lindy Donahue. For further information, contact Lindy at 724-263-8283 or lindydonahue@mac.com.



LION OF JUDAH PRESENTS

GAME NIGHT

WE INVITE ALL 6TH-8TH GRADERS TO ENJOY A NIGHT WITH A 70-FOOT VIDEO GAME TRAILER

VIDEO GAMES • OUTDOOR GAMES • MUSIC & FOOD

6 JANUARY FROM 5:30-7:30 PM

PRE-REGISTRATION BY JANUARY 3 IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND. TO REGISTER CLICK ON THE QR CODE

HOSTED AT:
 INCARNATION CATHOLIC CHURCH
 2929 BEE RIDGE ROAD
 SARASOTA, FL 34239



See the sacristan or deacon before Mass to request a gluten-free host.



POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS JANUARY 2023

For educators. We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Clergy

- Rev. George Suszko, S.A.C. Pastor**
- Rev. Jan Rykala, S.A.C.
- Rev. Krzysztof "Chris" Frost, S.A.C.
- Rev. Joseph Vu, C.R.M., *Hospital Chaplain*
- Very Rev. Fausto Stampiglia, S.A.C. (*Retired*)
- Rev. R. Patrick Wilson, S.A.C. (*Retired*)
- Rev. Deacon William Ladroga
- Rev. Deacon C. Patrick Macaulay
- Rev. Deacon Robert Gaitens
- Rev. Deacon Vern Smith
- 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
- Virginia Bray, Music Director
- Patricia Sileo, Director of Religious Education
- Teresa McCoy, Accountant
- Pamela Paulson, Reception/Data Entry
- Carole Roberts, Reception
- Rose Ann Runnells, Sacristan
- Janet Cocco, Sacristan
- Joseph Angelicola, Sacristan
- Miguel Jimenez, Facilities Manager
- Eris Nunez, Maintenance
- Blanca Goetz, Rectory Housekeeper
- Claudia Moschini, Rectory Chef

This Week in Our Parish

- Sunday, Jan 1** - *Solemnity of Mary; New Year's Day*
- Monday, Jan 2** - *St. Basil the Great; St. Gregory Nasianzen*
Parish Office Closed
6:00 p.m. OCIA Classes - Conference Room
- Tuesday, Jan 3** - *The Most Holy Name of Jesus*
10:30 a.m. Emmaus Bible Study - Conference Room
- Wednesday, Jan 4** - *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*
- Thursday, Jan 5** - *St. John Neumann*
- Friday, Jan 6** - *Epiphany; Blessed Andre Bessette*
- Saturday, Jan 7** - *St. Raymond of Penyafort*



17TH ANNUAL ST. AUGUSTINE March for Life

JAN 14 2023
MARCH BEGINS 10:30 SHARP

WE CHOOSE TO LOVE THEM BOTH!

MAIN EVENT SAT/JAN 14
Speakers, Music & Activities
National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche
101 San Marco Ave.
9AM - Mass with Bishop Eric Pakmeier
Mass outside (weather permitting)
NOON-3PM - KOC Council 611 March for Life
Spaghetti Dinner at Cathedral Parish

FRIDAY KICK OFF JAN 13
Kick Off - Shrine
2-4PM - College Leadership Training
5PM - Adoration & Praise and Worship Music
6PM - Mass
6:45PM - Illuminated Living Rosary
FOOD TRUCKS
7:30 - 9PM - Praise & Worship Concert

PACK THE TRUCK WITH DIAPERS!
PLEASE BRING A DONATION OF DIAPERS TO HELP OUR PREGNANCY CARE CENTERS IN NEED

SPEAKERS
MELISSA COLES: documentary "I Lived on Parker Ave" Movie LIFE MARK
DR. JASON PHILLIPS: Ob/Gyn-The Abortifac Pill
Wayne Friday: Sidewalk Testimony

This will be our last march!

WWW.MARCHFORLIFEESTAUGUSTINE.COM



Scholarship Announcement

The Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida has just launched their 2023 scholarship program. This year the foundation has multiple scholarships available.

- The Mary Fran Carroll Scholarship is a \$3,000 renewable scholarship to graduating high school seniors and recent high school graduates living in Sarasota County, Florida who wish to pursue an undergraduate degree in any credited college or university.
- The Mary Fran carol Non- Traditional Scholarship is a \$3,000 renewable scholarship for adult learners living in Sarasota County who have been out of high school for 3+ years and are trying to obtain a college degree or vocational certification.
- The Barry L. Carey MD scholarship is a \$400 renewable college scholarship for practicing Catholic High School seniors graduating this year from Catholic, private, home school, or public schools within the counties of the Diocese of Venice in Florida. Scholarship recipients must be the first generation in their family to attend a college or university.

Students must apply online at www.ccfdioceseofvenice.org. To receive more information about eligibility you can contact the Catholic Community Foundation by calling 941-486-4722, CCFdioceseofvenice.org or by website www.ccfdioceseofvenice.org



St. Martha Legacy Society

The St. Martha Legacy Society which has been established to ensure the future support of the parish and our many ministries and to recognize and thank our generous legacy donors.

There are many ways to leave a legacy gift. St. Martha can be named as a beneficiary in your will, trust, life insurance policy, retirement account; or St. Martha can be named as a recipient of any financial or brokerage account with a POD designation. Endowments, charitable gift annuities, charitable lead trusts, and charitable remainder trusts are additional legacy options that can be established for the benefit of our parish. We will be pleased to answer your questions or direct you to an expert that can advise you for your specific situation.

It doesn't take millions of dollars to leave a legacy gift and no gift is too small. Any contribution you make, combined with those of other parishioners, becomes a substantial amount. As our parishioners are the only source of funds to operate our parish and its ministries, legacy gifts are very critical to the future of St. Martha.

Parishioners that plan to leave a legacy gift will be inducted into the Legacy Society at Mass and your name will be engraved on the legacy tree in the courtyard.

If you plan to remember St. Martha with a legacy gift, or have any questions about the Legacy Society, please contact Teressa McCoy in the Parish Office at 941-366-4210 or legacy@stmartha.org.

DIocese OF VENICE IN FLORIDA
Eucharistic Congress
The Word Made Flesh - John 1:14

Youth Rally
Friday, March 24, 2023
5:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Keynote Speaker
Father Timothy Anastos
Music
The Vigil Project

Bishop
Frank J. Dewane

Eucharistic Congress
Saturday, March 25, 2023
9:00 a.m.- 6:00p.m.
Renowned National Speakers
English and Spanish Tracks
Mass & Eucharistic Procession
Men's and Women's Breakouts

Caloosa Sound Convention Center and Luminary Hotel
1365 Monroe Street, Fort Myers
www.dioceseofvenice.org
941-484-9543



RESPECT LIFE

respect • love • protect

O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion.



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is a magnificent blessing for the Diocese of Venice to have many dedicated Priests who have responded to Christ's call to follow Him in the Priesthood. Further, the Diocese continues to be blessed with a number of vocations; twelve men are presently in formation, studying for the Priesthood. As we begin this new year, I am asking for your support for these men, and those recruited for entry this coming year, through the Annual Seminary Collection.

This Collection helps to ensure the continued availability of Priests to serve you and your family, and future generations of Catholics throughout Southwest Florida. Every year, the Diocese works to recruit and evaluate committed young men who may have potential vocations. Further, Diocesan Seminarians, the potential future Priests of the Diocese, receive assistance with tuition, room and board, health care, transportation, and other expenses. Your gift to the Collection helps to offset these costs.

Parishes in the Diocese of Venice will conduct this annual Collection for the Seminary and Seminarian Support the weekend of January 7 and 8, 2023, and I pray you will be generous. Thank you and may God bless you and your family for the support of our Seminarian Collection.

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you my blessings and assurances of my prayers in this New Year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida

MARRIAGE BANNS

Clarke Horne & Rachel Misch (1)

Clayton Johnson & Dieu Vo (1)

Nicholas Mason & Allison Hartrick (1)

Alexander Dabrowski & Barbara Sroka (1)



Theology on Tap Sarasota takes place on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Mandeville Beer Garden in Sarasota, 428 N. Lemon Ave, Sarasota. All **YOUTH** are invited to the garden for food and refreshments, presentations, and discussions about the Catholic Faith. Email evangelization@dioceseofvenice.org with any questions.

Sanctify Your Driving - St. Joseph's Shelf, a website which offers a collection of articles focused on living the Catholic Faith in daily life, has published an enlightening article titled, "How to sanctify your driving". The article offers practical ways on how to sanctify your driving by making it a time to encounter opportunities to grow in virtue. The article can be found by following the link, <https://stjosephshelf.com/how-to-sanctify-your-driving/>.

Permanent Diaconate Class - The Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida, has approved the call for applicants to the Permanent Diaconate, Class of 2028. There are currently ten men studying in the five-year program. The new class will begin in September 2023. Further information is available from the Diaconate Office at the Catholic Center in Venice by calling Deacon Bob Gaitens, Director of Diaconate Student Formation, at 941-350-2634 or Gaitens@dioceseofvenice.org

Anniversary Mass - All couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor. The Masses will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on February 4 at St. Leo the Great Parish, 28290 Beaumont Road, Bonita Springs and at 11:00 a.m. on February 18 at Epiphany Cathedral, 350 Tampa Avenue, Venice. Please contact your local parish office for reservations no later than a week prior to the event you choose to attend.

World Youth Day - Registration is open for World Youth Day 2023 to Lisbon, Portugal. You are invited to join Bishop Frank J. Dewane for the trip to Lisbon with two nights in Fatima. This 11-day pilgrimage is from July 29 to August 8, 2023. Travel arrangements are facilitated by Peter's Way Tours. Space is limited and registration must be completed by Saturday, December 31. Please visit <https://dioceseofvenice.org/offices/offices-departments/evangelization/world-youth-day-2023/> for registration and further information.

Catholic Days at the Capitol in Tallahassee, March 7-9, 2023. The three-day trip includes a legislative briefing on important bills relating to human life and dignity, a breakfast with legislators and the Florida Bishops, tours of the capitol and museum, scheduled visits with legislators and the annual Red Mass of the Holy Spirit with the Florida Bishops and public officials. Bus transportation is provided while space is available at no cost. For more details contact Jeanne Berdeaux at 941-374-1068 or Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Sun., Jan. 1,	Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
7:30 a.m.	[CF] Ryan Halstead by Mother
8:00 a.m.	[CG] (Hall/Span) Gail Anderson by the Heibel Family
9:00 a.m.	[CF] Mary and Nick Greci by Maria Greci
9:00 a.m.	[GS] (Hall) For Ukranian immigrants to the U.S. by Terry and Maureen
10:30 a.m.	[GS] For All Parishioners
12:00 p.m.	[JR] Ronnie Sharp by Ollie and Debbie Griffith
12:00 p.m.	[JV] (Hall/Viet) Special Intentions
5:30 p.m.	[JR] Liv & Dec'd Mbrs of the Plouffe Family by Joe & Betty
Mon., Jan. 2	1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
7:30 a.m.	Br. Thomas Moser C.S.C. by Bros. of Holy Cross
8:30 a.m.	Marie Hoffberg
12:00 p.m.	Liv & Dec'd Mbrs of the Thomas Fam. By Joe & Betty
5:30 p.m.	Gerald Boryszewski, Jr. by the Boryszewski Family
Tues., Jan. 3	1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34
7:30 a.m.	(L) Fr. Frank by Rita
8:30 a.m.	Salvatore Riccardo by Jackie Rogers
12:00 p.m.	Ann Leugers Cerone by Emily Anton
5:30 p.m.	(L) George Thomas by Mini George
Wed., Jan. 4	1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
7:30 a.m.	(L) Peggy Fitzmaurice by Marge and Paul Lortie
8:30 a.m.	(L) Fr. Fausto by Friend
12:00 p.m.	Odea and Iris Narcisi by Maria Greci
5:30 p.m.	(L) Jobin Thomas by Mini George
Thurs., Jan. 5	1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
7:30 a.m.	(L) Sean & Mary Ann White by Friend
8:30 a.m.	Liv & Dec'd Mbrs of the Thomas Fam. by Joe & Betty
12:00 p.m.	Teresa Kennedy by Mary and Eddie McGough
5:30 p.m.	Ronnie Sharp by Ollie and Debbie Griffith
Fri., Jan. 6	1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11
7:30 a.m.	(L) Marge Lortie by Kate Shaver
8:30 a.m.	(L) Staff at St. Martha Church by Mollie O'Connell
12:00 p.m.	Elizabeth Love by Stu Love
5:30 p.m.	(L) Fr. Chris by David and Paula Shigley
7:30 p.m.	(Viet) Special Intentions
Sat., Jan. 7	1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11
7:30 a.m.	(L) Victoria Sancho by Daughters
8:30 a.m.	Teresa Wiltowska by the Corsaro Family
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Confession
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Confession
4:00 p.m.	Bill Walton by the C.C. Gala Committees
5:30 p.m.	Stephanie Bell Consie by CMHS Class Of 1977
Sun., Jan. 8	Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12
7:30 a.m.	Dec'd Mbrs of Bros. of Holy Cross by Bros. of Holy Cross
8:00 a.m.	(Hall/Span) Marie Hoffberg
9:00 a.m.	(L) J. T. Roberts by Mom
9:00 a.m.	(Hall) Joseph Dormeyer by David and Paula Shigley
10:30 a.m.	For All Parishioners
12:00 p.m.	Janet Underwood by Rich and Sandy
12:00 p.m.	(Hall/Viet) Special Intentions
5:30 p.m.	Liv & Dec'd Mbrs of the Burch Family by Joe & Betty

Fr. George (GS), Fr. Jan (JR), Fr. Chris (CF), Fr. Joseph (JV),

Fr. Celestino (CG), Fr. Fausto (FS), Fr. Patrick (PW)

DIOCESE OF VENICE

1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285

941-484-9543

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Altar Servers	Dn. Vern Smith	dcvern@stmartha.org
Altar Society	Parish Office	941-366-4210
Archivist	Parish Office	941-366-4210
Arimathean Ministry	Parish Office	941-366-4210
Bethesda House	Colleen McMenamin	941-366-1886
Catholic Charities	Joan Pierse	941-355-4680
Community Pregnancy Clinics		941-260-5427
Casa Santa Marta		941-366-4448
Choir/Cantor	Virginia Bray	941-366-4210
Council of Catholic Women	Parish Office	941-366-4210
Development Committee	Parish Office	941-366-4210
Eucharist Adoration	Parish Office	941-366-4210
Extraordinary Ministers	Dc. Pat Macaulay	dcpatrick@stmartha.org
Finance Council	John Corey	coreyjjj5@gmail.com
Family Ministry	Gary Kerschner	fmosm@comcast.net
Herrig Caritas (9-11 a.m., M-F)	Tony Cocco, Chair	941-366-5620
Hospitality Ministry	Beth Cannata	941-321-2953
Jail Ministry	Dc. Kevin McKenney	kmckenney55@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus	David Kiszak	941-928-8388
Lectors	Dc. Pat Macaulay	dcpatrick@stmartha.org
O.C.I.A.	Sue Thompson	suehome2@verizon.net
Parish Council	Beth Cannata	941-321-2953
Prayer Line	Parish Office	941-366-4210
Respect Life Ministry	Joseph Gina	941-702-1700
Rosary Makers	Maxine Brand	941-374-6605
Solve Maternity Homes	Peggy Kerwin	941-748-0094
Ushers	Dc. Bill Ladroga	dcbill@stmartha.org
Volunteer Coordinator	Stuart Love	941-780-7834
Witness to Love	Jim & Agnes Rutushni	941-960-5128

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

Principal: Mrs. Siobhan Young

St. Mary Academy

941-366-4010

Principal: Mrs. Rebecca Reynolds

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