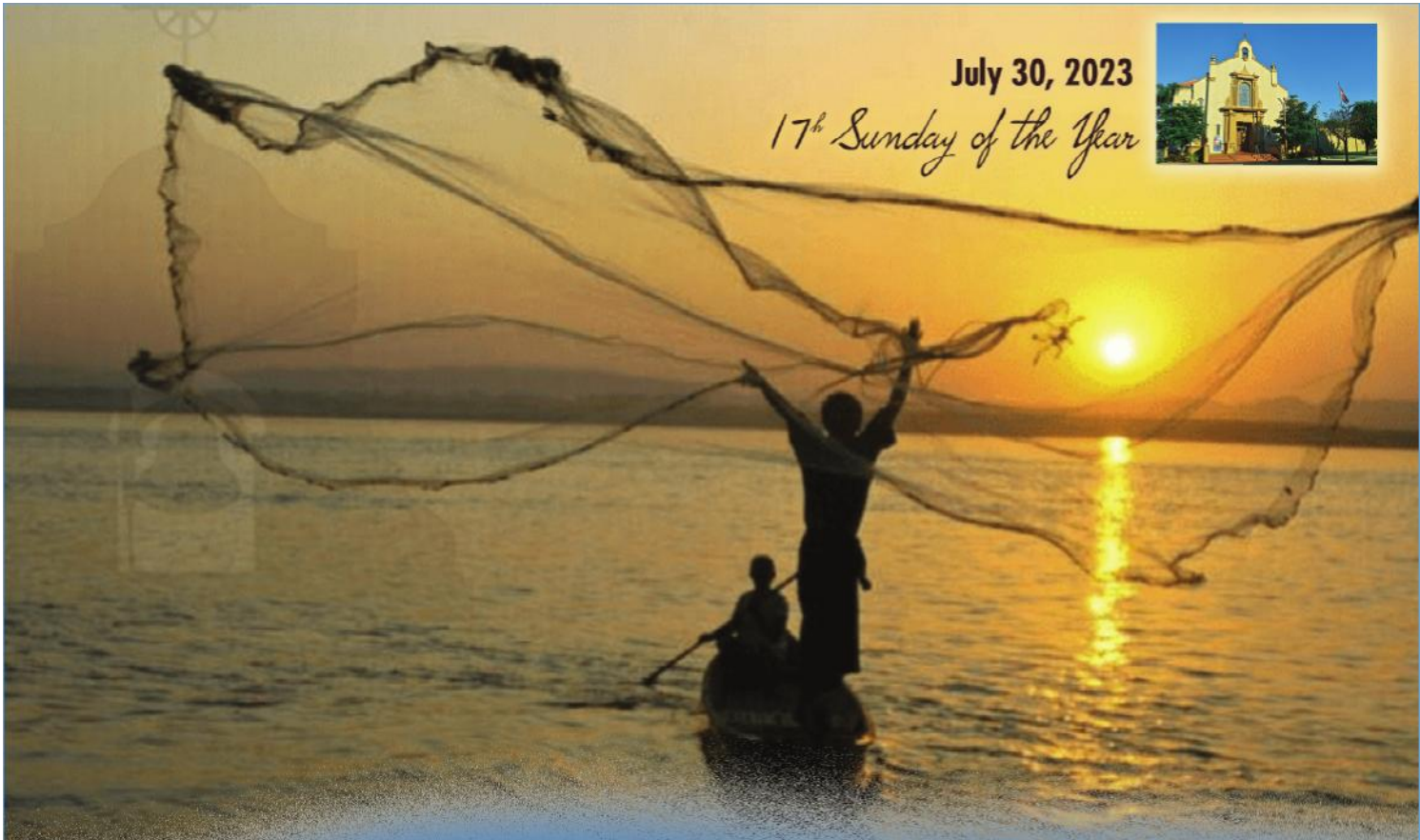


July 30, 2023

17th Sunday of the Year



"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it"

Matt 13:44-46



ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

USA National Circus Church The Pallottines (Society of Catholic Apostolate)

Mass Schedule

Saturday 7:30am • 8:30am • 4pm Vigil • 5:30pm Vigil

Sunday 7:30am • 9am • 10:30am • 12pm • 5:30pm
12pm Vietnamese Parish Hall

Weekday 7:30am • 8:30am • 12pm • 5:30pm

Confession - Reconciliation Room

Saturday 9-10am • 3-4pm **Sunday-Friday** 11:30am-12pm

Eucharistic Adoration - Carosella Chapel

Tuesday-Thursday 9am-12pm

Rosary

Rosary prayed after 7:30am Mass

St. Martha Catholic Church

200 North Orange Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236 • Tel 941.366.4210 • Fax 941.954.8434 • StMartha.org

Facebook St. Martha Roman Catholic Church • **Instagram** stmarthachurch_in_srq • **YouTube** St. Martha Catholic Church Sarasota, FL

Parish Office Hours Monday-Friday 8am-12pm and 12:30-4pm

From Our Pastor, Father George



Dear Parishioners of St. Martha,

Sunday Sermon – 17th Sunday of the Year

From Father Jan: *Get Wise or Gain Wisdom*

First reading This weekend's First reading is Solomon's famous encounter with God in a dream early in his reign. Faced with the invitation to make any request of God, Solomon asks for wisdom to rule well. God is pleased with this request and grants it to him. We are reminded here of Jesus's words from the sermon on the Mount: *Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well* (Matt 6:33) Solomon's first thought is for the welfare of God's kingdom: to rule it beneficially, he needs divine wisdom. Since Solomon puts interests of the kingdom first, God honors him.

II. Psalm: Solomon is remembered for his zeal and devotion of his youth. The sacred author describes his early years this way: Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father (1 Kgs 3,3). The psalm encourages us to remember this side of Solomon, the Solomon who loved God and God's revelation.

III. The second reading promises that God's providence attends those who love him, as Solomon did. Not all things are good or work out well, but for those who love God, he causes all things to contribute to our ultimate good – even sickness, failure, persecutions, and death itself.

IV. The Gospel: These three parables are obviously speaking of the kingdom manifested on earth as the Church, not the kingdom consummated in the world to come. These parables are favorites of converts because the experiences described in them seem so parallel to some of their own experiences of finding their way into the Catholic Church. The first of these parables tells us that the kingdom is not always obvious. It's like *treasure buried*. There is no billboard saying: *True Church, Exit Left 1 Mile*. In fact, those speeding up on highway of life will never find it. You have to be digging. Digging in the vineyard, perhaps. Suddenly you hit something with your spade. Can it be? Is it? Yes! You are willing to leave everything you have to buy the field with this treasure. The second parable is similar to the first. The third parable is one of the most important for Catholics to understand and embrace. It tells us that the kingdom, for all its value, is also going to be a mixed bag during this age. Like net thrown into the sea that catches fish of many kinds, so the church is like a net thrown by Peter, his coworkers the Apostles, and their successors, which brings many – both saints and sinners – into God's kingdom. Not all brought in during this age will persevere through the final judgment, however. The seven parables of the kingdom in Matthew 13 are not about The Church Triumphant, glorified in heaven; nor are they speaking of the kingdom manifested in the person of Christ the King. No these parables of a kingdom hidden, starting small, growing slowly, hard to find, mixed with weeds and bad fish, is a description of the Church Militant – perhaps even our local parish. It takes wisdom to recognize that the Church Militant is, for all its rents and wounds, the kingdom of heaven come to earth. This wisdom can only come from God, granted by Him to those who love him. If we are docile to the teaching of Jesus, the one who is greater than Solomon, he will teach us the wisdom of the kingdom.

“ Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well. ”
– Matt 6:33

July 30, 2023

Respect Life Decline to Sign Petition for Dangerous Pro-Abortion Ballot Initiative - An extremely grave initiative is underway in Florida that seeks to erase pro-life protections by banning government regulation of abortion in our state constitution. Abortion activists are working to gather petition signatures to have a pro-abortion constitutional amendment placed on the statewide ballot in the November 2024 election. Floridian Catholics should not sign the petition. The amendment would hinder the Florida legislature's ability to protect women and children from abortion. Please also continue your prayers for the protection of the unborn and spread the word to your spheres of influence!

Distribution/Receiving of the Holy Communion during each Mass in St.

Martha In our church we have priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion who give out the Host. Additionally, if you take place in the front pew on the right side of the church, you will have a priest coming to you to give you the Host before he goes to distribute Hosts to everyone else. Nobody else is allowed to give out Host or part of it to another person. Remember that this also causes disturbance in the church community.

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster. During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father.

Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, our beloved Mother we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a storm-less eternity awaits us.

Amen.

Next Sunday (August 6) – Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

**With prayers for God's blessing to you and your family,
Father George**

Pope Francis
Prayer Intention
for July 2023
We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.



This Week

at St. Martha Catholic Church

Mon, July 31 *Saint Ignatius of Loyola*
Tue, Aug 1 *Saint Alphonsus Maria de Liguori*
 10:30am - Emmaus Bible Study - Conference Room

Wed, Aug 2
Saint Eusebius of Vercelli & Saint Peter Julian Eymard

Thu, Aug 3 10am - Lectio Divina - Geenen Hall

Thu, Aug 4 *Saint Jean Vianney*

Sat, Aug 5 *Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major*



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- 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. 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.

St. Martha Parish Staff

- Samantha McDonald, Business Manager
- Patricia Sileo, Director of Religious Education
- Pamela Paulson, Reception/Data Entry
- Maxine Brand, Reception
- Virginia Bray, Music Director
- Rose Ann Runnells, Sacristan
- Janet Cocco, Sacristan
- Joseph Angelicola, Sacristan
- Miguel Jimenez, Facilities Manager
- Eris Nunez, Maintenance
- Carlos Sierra Naploes, Maintenance
- Blanca Goetz, Rectory Housekeeper
- Claudia Moschini, Rectory Chef

Communal First Saturdays

Saturday, August 5th and every 1st Saturday thereafter is an opportunity to answer our Lady's call.

Our Lady said, *Many souls will be saved and there will be peace. If we satisfy her special request for Communal First Saturdays.*

Fulfill the *First Saturday Devotion* at the Church of Incarnation through these four practices:

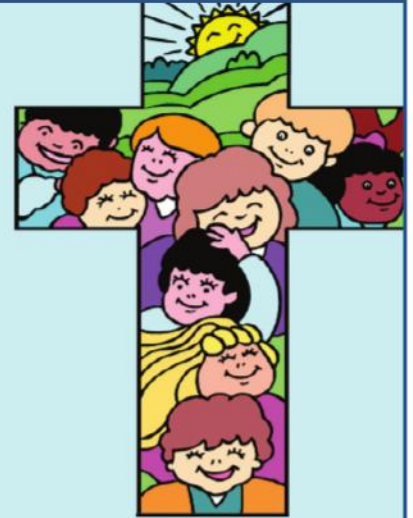
- **Holy Rosary** 7:30am
- **Holy Mass** with Communion of reparation 8:30am
- **Confession** after Mass and
- An additional fifteen minute scriptural **meditation** on the mysteries of the rosary in Our Lady's company 9:20am *with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*



Our Lady of Fatima

If you are interested in volunteering to help bring this message to the Parrish contact **Joe** at **941.444.0506** • devoted2mary@gmail.com

Religious Education Classes



2023-2024
Registration
Information
stmartha.org

or
permission.click/OK5Mn/us/signee-info

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Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

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 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 . . . Principal Mrs. Mari Jo Hanson 941.953.4181
 St. Mary Academy Principal Mrs. Rebecca Reynolds 941.366.4010

Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School

4171 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34232 941.371.4917

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
Catholic Charities	Joan Pierece	941.366.4210
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	kerschg55@gmail.com
Herrig Caritas (9-11am, 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 Kizsak	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	Kate Shaver	ksshaver@comcast.net
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

Upcoming Events

Theology on Tap Sarasota - All young adults are invited to the Garden for food, refreshments, presentations, and discussions about the Catholic Faith. **Third Thursday, Monthly** at 7pm **Mandeville Beer Garden**
428 N. Lemon Ave, Sarasota

Prison Ministry - Volunteers Needed! Join the team of Diocesan volunteers who enter county jails and state prisons within the Diocese of Venice to do pastoral ministry, distribute the Eucharist and facilitate programs. Priests, Deacons, and Lay volunteers are encouraged to assist in this ministry. You will participate in an orientation before entering the facility and will shadow experienced volunteers until you feel comfortable. Times and days vary by facility. Please contact **Joe Mallof 224.217.7139** or **Bob Hiniker 863.558.0407** to learn where you can fit into this joyful opportunity.

Youth and Young Adults - Totus Tuus Summer Camp Program! Totus Tuus (a Latin phrase meaning *totally yours*) is a summer Catholic youth camp program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through evangelization, catechists, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. The week long Parish summer catechetical camp program assists parents and parishes in evangelizing and catechizing youth by complementing the work they are already doing at the parish and at home. To register for one of the camps, or for additional information, please visit the **Diocese of Venice website**.

Rooted - St. John XXIII Parish in Fort Myers hosts a once-a-month gathering for young adults called *Rooted*, in the church at 4pm on the second Sunday of each month (August 13, 2023). The gathering includes praise and worship, along with Eucharistic Adoration. In addition, the outreach program is looking to expand its offerings to young adults, such as college students, those 20-30, young adults who are married with/without children (children welcome), and older adults aged 30 years and up. If you are interested in helping to organize, lead, or participate in this effort, please contact Kelly Evers, St. John XXIII Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, at kelly@johnxxiii.net or **239.561.3022**.

Vocational Retreat - St. Paul Catholic Church is hosting a one-day Vocational Retreat, *Encounter with Christ* from 8am to 7pm, Saturday, August 26 for males and females ages 15 to 30. The retreat takes place in the Parish Hall located at 1208 East Oak Street, Arcadia. The cost for the day is \$20 and includes meals and materials. Pre-registration is available by emailing retreatreg20@gmail.com. For further information contact the parish office at **863.494.2611**.

EWTN Family Celebration - EWTN is hosting a one day event beginning at 8am and ending with a Eucharistic Procession at 6:30pm on August 26 at the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex, 22100 Richard Arrington Blvd. North, Birmingham, Alabama. The day includes an opportunity to meet EWTN hosts and authors, for Confession and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and to attend Mass with Bishop Steven Raica. There is no cost to attend. Please visit ewtn.familycelebration or **1.800.447.EWTN** for further information, or to register.

HELP WANTED

Care Facility Volunteer

We are looking for a caring and compassionate person to serve the Catholic residents at a long-term care facility.

The duties include weekly visits with residents to lead a Communion Service in the activities room and make room visits to distribute the Holy Eucharist to the bedridden.

Visits last two hours. Volunteers are needed for Friday or Saturday morning scheduled visits.

No experience required. Training and mentoring provided.



Photo courtesy of English by Danis Long

Interested persons should contact
Stuart Love, Volunteer Coordinator
941-780-7834 • volunteer@stmartha.org

Marriage Banns

Andrea Chretien & Paloma Barcelo (3)



Caritas Food Pantry

Herring Caritas

First Baptist Church, 1661 Main St, Sarasota 34236 (food pantry on Adelia Ave)
Monday - Friday • 10am to Noon

If your family is in need of food, please visit the Caritas Food Pantry. The volunteers distribute packages of non-perishable food items through the window.

June 2023: 999 Adults and 159 Children;
Total: 1,158 of our brothers & sisters receiving food

Parish Office at 941.366.4210



Weekly Mass Intentions

Sun, July 30 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

7:30am [JR] Molly Heraty by Peter Heraty
 9:00am [JR] Harry E. Hammond by Ursula and Bob
 10:30am [GS] For All Parishioners
 12:00pm [FS] Andrej Grzeslo by Wife and Sons and Family
 12:00pm [JV] (Hall/Viet) Special Intentions
 5:30pm [GS] (L) Margie May Stephens & Aidhilyn by Mary & John McGruder

Mon, July 31 Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Mt 13:31-35

7:30am [GS] Mary VonLindren by David Beesley
 8:30am [JV] L & D Mbrs of the Molaro and Paul Families by Roberta
 12:00pm [JV] Ja Shin by Grandmother
 5:30pm [GS] Kathleen Mislyan by Stephen Mislyan

Tue, Aug 1 Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43

7:30am [JR] Robert and Ann Corey by John and Shelly Corey
 8:30am [GS] Janine Kowalski by Susie
 12:00pm [GS] Fr. Maggio by James Maggio
 5:30pm [JR] Norys Cumare by Caroline Rangel

Wed, Aug 2 Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46

7:30am [GS] Shirley McIntosh by Helene McCarthy
 8:30am [JR] Fr. Patrick by Annette and Dennis Barth
 12:00pm [JR] Victoria Sancho by Ann Crowley
 5:30pm [GS] Tim Donahue by Mom and Dad

Thu, Aug 3 Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53

7:30am [GS] (L) David Shigley by Paul and Marge Lortie
 8:30am [JR] Donald, Jr. by Mom
 12:00pm [GS] Jill Rex by Bill Rex
 5:30pm [JR] Robert and Ann Corey by John and Shelly Corey

Fri, Aug 4 Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt 13:54-58

7:30am [JR] Amanda Brown by Paul and Marge Lortie
 8:30am [GS] Poor Souls in Purgatory by Javier and Gloria Olivos
 12:00pm [JR] Poor Souls in Purgatory by Javier and Gloria Olivos
 5:30pm [GS] Domingo Tengco by Romie Tengco

Sat, Aug 5 Lv 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12

7:30am [GS] Joe Arch by Terry and Lindy Donahue
 8:30am [JR] Bosko by Ljubica
 4:00pm [JR] L & D Mbrs of the Furman Family by Melissa Furman
 5:30pm [FS] L & D Mbrs of the Julie Tierney Family by Friend

Sun, Aug 6 Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

7:30am [GS] Ryan Halstead by Mother
 9:00am [JR] (L) Nick Corsaro by the Corsaro Family
 10:30am [FS] For All Parishioners
 12:00pm [JR] Maria P. Cueva by the Family
 12:00pm (Hall/Viet) Special Intentions
 5:30pm [GS] L & D Mbrs of the Plouffe Family by Joe and Betty Plouffe

Father George (GS), Father Jan (JR), Father Chris (CF), Father Joseph (JV),
 Father Celestino (CG), Father Fausto (FS), Fr. John Belmonte (JB)

Day of Reflection

For Sacramental Marriage

September 9 from **9:30am-3pm** Register by Sept 1
 St John the Evangelist, 625 11th Avenue, Naples, FL

- \$50 per couple includes all registration, materials, and lunch

Couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church. A volunteer team of married couples and a priest, share information, enabling couples to be more aware of the responsibilities of marriage.

Pre-registration is required, see QR code
 Contact Carrie Harkey, Family Life Coordinator
 941.484.9543 ext 4748 • Harkey@dioceseofvenice.org

Emmaus Journey Bible Study

Bring your Bible and a desire to share and learn with fellow participants with facilitator and parishioner **Lindy Donahue**. All are welcome!
Tuesdays 10:30-11:30am (including Summer)
 St. Martha Catholic Church, in the Conference Room
 Contact Lindy 724.263.8285 • lindydonahue@mac.com

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Women's Bible Study

Walking with Purpose

Join women parishioners for an evening Bible study: *Walking With Purpose*
 First Wednesday of the month • 5:30-7pm • Bring your Bible
 Selby Library, 1331 First St, Sarasota, Room: Group Study 2, 2nd floor
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