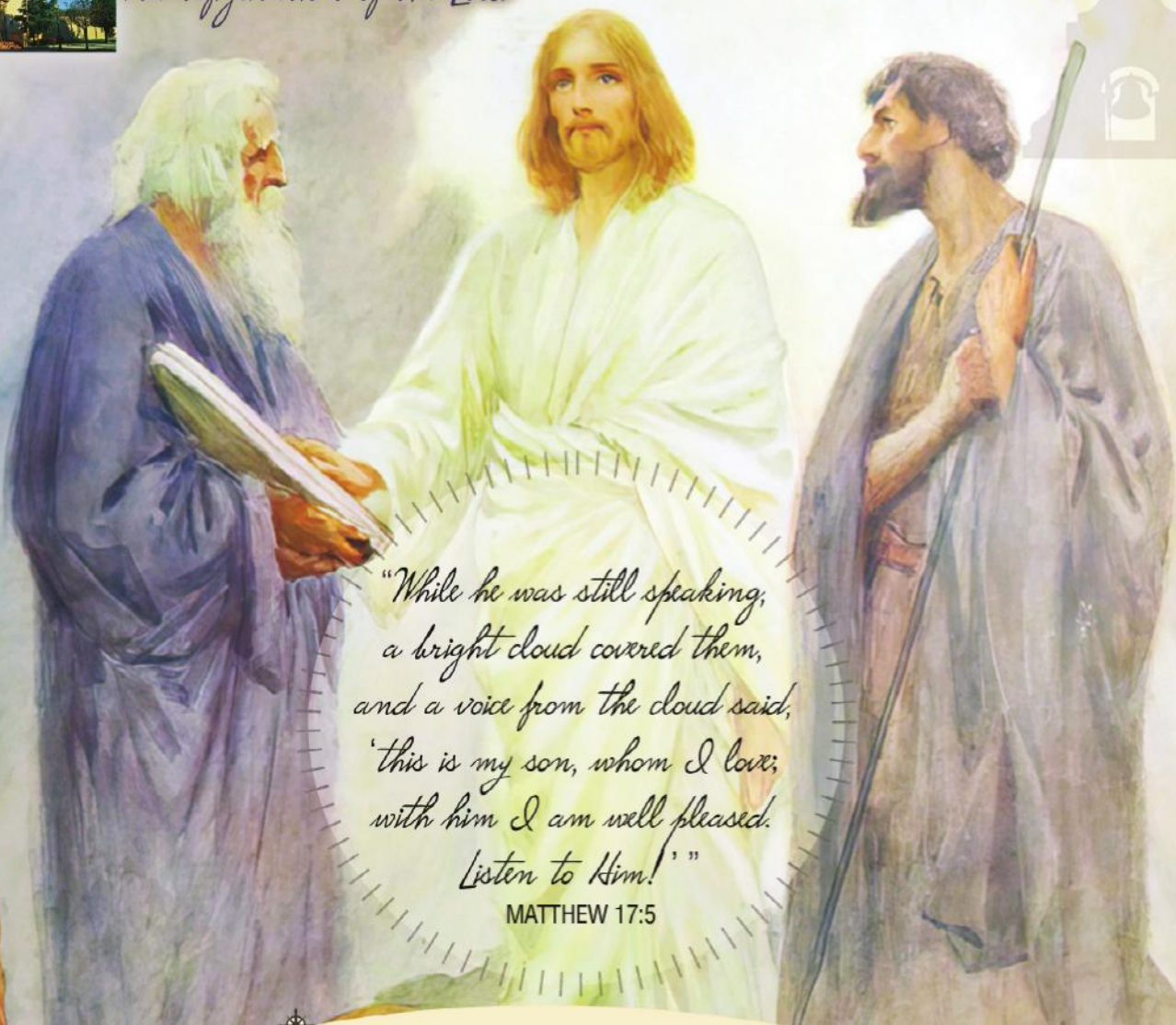




August 6, 2023

Transfiguration of the Lord



*"While he was still speaking,
a bright cloud covered them,
and a voice from the cloud said,
'this is my son, whom I love;
with him I am well pleased.
Listen to Him!'"*

MATTHEW 17:5



ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

USA National Circus Church The Pallontines (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 – The Transfiguration of the Lord

From Deacon Pat:

Events leading to the Transfiguration.

To properly understand the Gospel reading of the Transfiguration, we have to turn to the Gospel's previous chapter. Turning to the passage that starts where the divinely inspired Peter acknowledges that Jesus is the Messiah. After this acknowledgment, Jesus predicted his passion by informing the twelve that *he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.* The apostles' faith in Jesus was weakened by this proclamation. Peter rebuked Jesus as, after all, he was the Messiah. Jesus told Peter: *Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.* Jesus, after talking about the Conditions of Discipleship, makes an interesting prediction: *Amen, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.*

The Transfiguration Event

Now the *table is set* to better understand today's Gospel passage which occurred six days later. *In this context the mysterious episode of Jesus' Transfiguration takes place on a high mountain, before three witnesses chosen by himself: Peter, James and John. Jesus' face and clothes become dazzling with light, and Moses and Elijah appear, speaking 'of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem. A cloud covers him and a voice from heaven says, 'This is my Son, My Chosen; listen to him!'*

Unpacking the Transfiguration Event

In his Transfiguration:

- Jesus, in effect, discards his humanity and presents the Glory of his Divinity to his three disciples thereby fulfilling his promise that *there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom.*
- The disciples witness the complete Trinity: Father (the voice from heaven), Son (with his humanity discarded), and Holy Spirit (in the cloud).
- Moses (representing the Law) and Elijah (representing the Prophets) are there to:
 - Indicate that Jesus fulfills the Law and the Prophets.
 - Foretell the Passion by His departure which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem.

The Transfiguration's Meaning for Us

St. Paul teaches "For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection."

But being Baptized into Jesus' death is not enough. Baptism is a spiritual foundation. People build on foundations. Let's flesh out Jesus' Conditions of Discipleship which I referenced above: *Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay everyone according to his conduct.*

How do we do this?

St. Mark tells us: *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* The second is this: *'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'* *There is no other commandment greater than these.*

Implementing this *Great Commandment*, we see that our Faith Tradition is one of relationships and as such we are called to enhance our relationship:

- With God by having a robust daily prayer life. We must have an intimate relationship with God!
- With our neighbor by passing God's unflinching:
 - love to others and
 - mercy to others through forgiveness (as found in the Lord's Prayer).

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself"
– St Mark

August 6, 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

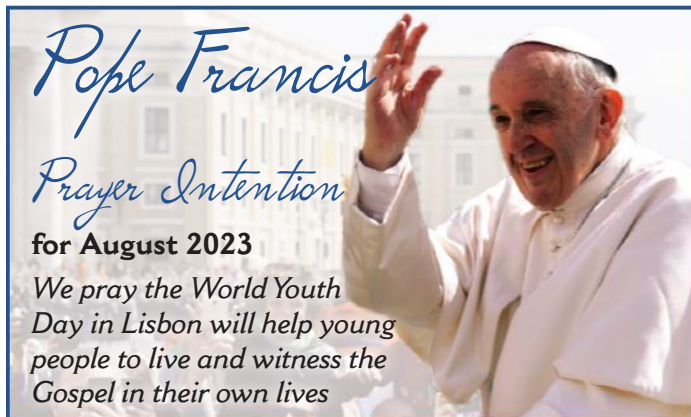
legislature's ability to protect women and children from abortion. Please also continue your prayers for the protection of the unborn and spread the word to your spheres of influence.

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 first pew on the right side of the church, when you look at the altar from the side of congregation, on both side pews on the same side, you will have a priest coming to you to give you the Host before he goes to distribute Hosts to everyone else. **No one else is allowed to give out Host or part of it to another person.** Remember that this causes disturbance in the church community. (Fr. George)

Amen.

Next Sunday (August 13) – 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time With prayers for God's blessing to you and your family, Father George





This Week

at St. Martha Catholic Church

Sun, Aug 6 Transfiguration of the Lord

Mon, Aug 7 Saint Sixtus II, Pope & Saint Cajetan
5pm - Knights of Columbus - Silver Rose pilgrimage - Church

Tue, Aug 8 Saint Dominic

10:30am - Emmaus Bible Study - Conference Room

Wed, Aug 9 Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Thu, Aug 10 Saint Lawrence 10am - Lectio Divina - Geenen Hall

Fri, Aug 11 Saint Claire

Sat, Aug 12 Saint Jane Frances de Chantal



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- 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

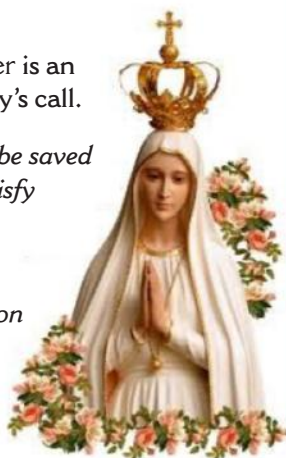
Communal First Saturdays

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.*

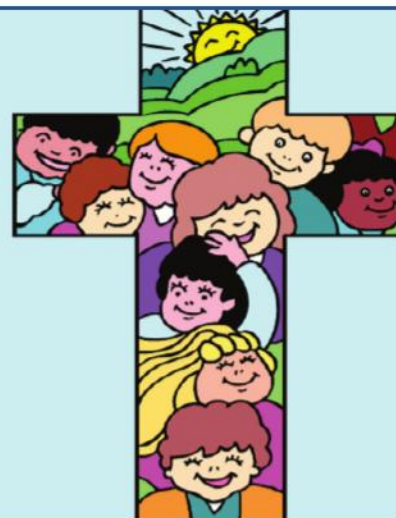


Our Lady of Fatima

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



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Need assistance for food, tele-mental health counseling, or financial assistance?

Please call **Catholic Charities 844.385.2407**



Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Diocese of Venice

1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285 941.484.9543

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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 Piersse	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

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**.

Scam Alert - There have been recent incidents where parishioners have been contacted supposedly by their pastor and/or parish staff to send gift cards, cash or money orders via email or text. These requests are a scam and under no circumstances should you reply to these emails or comply with these requests. Nor should you divulge any personal information to anyone that is not a trusted source. If you are contacted with a request for money via email or text, and the message appears as though it is from a Diocesan priest or employee, do not reply. Instead, make direct contact with the person by calling the Parish and asking to speak with the priest or employee.

Catholic Charities *Summertime and the Giving is Easy Appeal* - Every day, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc., serves its most vulnerable population by feeding, housing, empowering, and helping all in need. This summer, you can be the one that makes a difference. Your acts of kindness have the power to transform lives and leave a positive impact in our community. The Catholic Charities *Summertime and the Giving is Easy Appeal* is asking for your support. The giving is easy! Your gift will make a positive impact on our less fortunate brothers and sisters! Please visit catholiccharitiesdov.org or mail a check to Catholic Charities, 1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285.



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Are you from another denomination and want to explore and embrace the Catholic Faith?

The O.C.I.A. fall classes begin **Sep 4** • 6pm-7:15pm
Contact Fr. George to meet and start your journey!
frgeorge@stmartha.org

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Hospital Volunteer

We are looking for a caring and compassionate person to serve the Catholic patients at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

As a member of a three-person team, the duties include a weekly visit with patients to comfort, pray, and distribute the Holy Eucharist.

Visits last three hours. Volunteers are needed for Thursday morning team.

No experience required.

Training and mentoring provided.



Interested persons should contact

Stuart Love, Volunteer Coordinator
941-780-7834 • volunteer@stmartha.org



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All are welcome to attend. For more info, contact

FN John T. Gearon Jr at **941.210.3500**

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Women in the Bible



Summer Bible Study Series

When: Wednesdays
following the 9am Mass
Aug 16, 23 • Sep 13, 20
Oct 18, 25

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and the New Testament

Where: St Michael the Archangel Church
5394 Midnight Pass Rd., Siesta Key

Contact: St. Michaels for more information
stmichaelssiesta.com • **941- 349-4174**



Weekly Mass Intentions

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

Mon, Aug 7 Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21

7:30am [JR] (L) Christa Pontius by Paul and Marge Lortie
 8:30am [GS] (L) Suzanne Roberts by Mom
 12:00pm [FS] Frances Link by Stu Love
 5:30pm [JR] Nagib and Philip Doss by Heide Doss

Tue, Aug 8 Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36

7:30am [JR] Liebgard Greenough by Marisa Dawson
 8:30am [GS] Joe Russo by Barbara
 12:00pm [JR] Marie Hofferger
 5:30pm [JR] Tom Patt by Sean and Mary Ann

Wed, Aug 9 Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35; Mt 15:21-28

7:30am [GS] Joseph and Sarah Dormeyer by David and Paula Shigley
 8:30am [JR] Christina Vieders by Claire and William Power
 12:00pm [GS] Magali and Rudolfo Garmendia, Jr. by Alina Urdaneta
 5:30pm [GS] Sabah Ghali by Grace Antoon

Thu, Aug 10 2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26

7:30am [GS] (L) Bro. Lawrence Skitzki, C.S.C by Friend
 8:30am [JR] Frank Herrera by Annette and Dennis Barth
 12:00pm [GS] Edna Koury by Bill Koury
 5:30pm [FS] Henrietta K. Smotzer by Nancy Connors

Fri, Aug 11 Dt 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28

7:30am [JV] Virginia Maguire by Peter and Jennie Caufield
 8:30am [FS] (L) Rosemary Rodney by Liberty
 12:00pm [GS] Donna Casciani Carden by Family
 5:30pm [GS] (L) Miriam Toro by Maria

Sat, Aug 12 Dt 6:4-13; Mt 17:14-20

7:30am [JV] Robert and Ann Corey by John and Shelly Corey
 8:30am [JR] Poor Souls in Purgatory by Javier and Gloria Olivos
 4:00pm [FS] Herve Lochard by Friend
 5:30pm [JR] Ray Cruet by Bradford and Cynthia Larson

Sun, Aug 13 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-23

7:30am [GS] Robert and Ann Corey by John and Shelly Corey
 9:00am [GS] Jennifer White by Boudreau
 10:30am [JR] For All Parishioners
 12:00pm [FS] Lucy Salamy by Jo and Harmon
 12:00pm [JV] (Hall/Viet) Special Intentions
 5:30pm [JR] Gerald Boryszewski, Jr. by the Boryszewski Family

*Father George (GS), Father Jan (JR), Father Chris (CF),
 Father Joseph (JV), Father Fausto (FS)*

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

Silver Rose Pilgrimage

The Knights of Columbus share the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and promote **Respect for Life**. We invite you to pray the *Rosary with us!*

- Monday, **August 7th** at **5pm** (prior to the 5:30pm Mass)
- **St Martha Church**

The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity among the Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Have you included St. Martha in your will or trust or designated us as a beneficiary?

Thank You!

We are blessed and grateful that you have chosen to leave a legacy gift in support of St. Martha. Please contact our Parish office at (941) 366-4210 to inform us of your gift and how you would like it used.

To learn more about including St. Martha in your estate plans, please scan the QR Code to the right, visit cfdioceseofvenice.org/giving/planned-giving/ or call the Catholic Community Foundation at: (941) 441-1124.

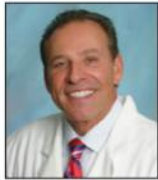
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