February 11, 2024 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

"I do will it. Be made clean."

Mark 1:41





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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

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

**Confession** - Reconciliation Room

### 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

## ST. MARTHA

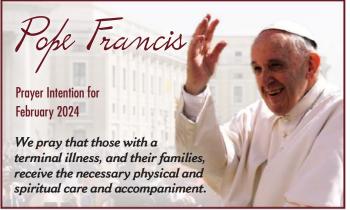
# From Our Pastor, Father George

### February 11, 2024 - 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time From Deacon Vern Smith Dear Parishioners of St. Martha,

In Jesus' days, leprosy was one of the most horrifying, incurable diseases. Leprosy was still seen as a curse and punishment from Yahweh as it was in the Old Testament. People who had the disease were not allowed to come out in the public. They were forced by law to live in leper colonies. Lepers were shunned, rejected and sadly separated from non-leprous family members. We can understand why in the gospel of Lk 17:11-12, the ten lepers (in colony) met Jesus at the border town. They were *quarantined* and they had to live outside the town. And when they saw Jesus, they did not get closer; rather, they stood at a distance shouting *Jesus Son of David, take pity on us.* This owes to the first reading of today from the book of Leviticus – ... as long as the disease lasts, he [the leper] ...must live apart: he must live outside the camp (Lev. 13:46).

Now here came a leper kneeling before Jesus to implore His mercy in these words *"if you are willing, you can cure me"*. He was very sure that Jesus was capable of making him well again. What he doubted was whether Jesus too would observe the custom that sees lepers as outcasts. Already, he had gone against the law by getting closer to Jesus when he was supposed to stay off at a distance to shout like the other ten lepers. At this point, everyone else may have given way, abandoning him to Jesus. But Jesus would not abandon him like every other person. So He said: *Yes, I am willing, be cured.* He not only spoke, He stretched out His hands and touched the leper who was supposed to be unclean.

Jesus never rejects anyone who comes to him. In your leprous situations, I mean that which has alienated you from others, all your rejections; Jesus is the only one who is ever willing to welcome, nay, and also make you qualify to count among those who matter. He did this by His work on the cross. The great mystery of the cross is that Jesus chose to become the accursed so that we would be free. He chose to become the leper, the unclean, so that we would be clean. The Prophet Isaiah said exactly: ...ours were the sufferings He bore, ours the sorrows He carried...on Him lies the punishment that brings us peace, and through His wounds, we are healed (Is 53:4-5). All it takes is for us to shun whatever barrier and be bold to come close to him like the leper who shunned every dictates of the law. He will not turn us back, and He will put a smiling face on us.





### **From Father George**

Ash Wednesday begins the time of Lent - There will be Masses at 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12pm, 5:30pm and 7:30pm in Vietnamese in our church on Wednesday February 14th to mark this special day when we receive ashes with the words: *Repent, and believe in the Gospel* or *Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will* 

*return*. The time of Lent is the time of spiritual renewal through repentance for our sins, which then will help us to prepare ourselves for Easter celebrations.

The Annual Collection, which will be taken on Ash Wednesday, is for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. The funds raised help pastoral efforts in more than 25 countries that have endured Communist oppression and occupation.

**Lenten Stations of the Cross -** On Fridays in Lent, we will have a prayerful meditation on the Stations of the Cross after the 8:30am Mass.

The Small Groups will help you to revive your love to Jesus who instituted the Eucharist - Groups of about 6 people will be created from all participants, we will watch the prepared material on video and with the help of the table facilitator, we will be sharing, discussing, listening and learning more about the Lord Jesus Christ and the Eucharist. The material (Video material, questions and comments) prepared by the Eucharistic Revival Committee on behalf of the US Bishops Conference will last about two hours. There will be seven sessions, once a week.

Next Sunday (February 18, 2024) is the 1st Sunday of Lent.

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



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During Lent, we are invited to reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ and work together to help our sisters and brothers worldwide. We can do this through the Lenten tradition of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

The three Lenten pillars, identified above, allow us to grow closer to God and gain a better understanding of how our actions are impacting the lives of our brothers and sisters in need. CRS Rice Bowl - Catholic Relief Services' Lenten faith-in-action program - invites us to practice these pillars while reflecting on the needs of our sisters and brothers and how we can respond in love to support them.

This initiative gives families around the world, as well as those here in our own Diocese, the tools needed to rise above poverty and provide for themselves and their communities.

Through the efforts of our schools and parishes, Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl are used to support development projects that provide food for children, build sustainable livelihoods and create healthy and thriving futures. Twenty-five percent of the total contribution remains In the Diocese of Venice, supporting families through food pantries and soup kitchens.

Your family is invited to pick up a Rice Bowl packet at your Parish on Ash Wednesday and join in this simple yet powerful Lenten practice. Operation Rice Bowl of CRS invites us to give help to those in need. Won't you and your family join Operation Rice Bowl and help our brothers and sisters in need? I express their gratitude and my appreciation for your participation and generous support.

I take this opportunity to extend to you my continued consideration as well as my prayers throughout this Lenten Season.

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

#### Serving Sarasota Since 1913





#### Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress Indianapolis - July 17-24, 2024 with the Most Rev. Frank J Dewane Bishop of the Diocese of Venice

This represents the culmination of the Church's three-year effort to emphasize the Real Presence of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the Holy Eucharistic.

It is a pivotal moment in the Church, and a unique opportunity to draw into a deeper, more intimate relationship with Our Lord.

The Pilgrimage Package is \$1,049 includes National Eucharistic Congress 5-day pass with access to all speakers and events, and four nights' accommodations in a 4-star hotel within walking distance of the convention center.

The Package does not include transportation or meals.

Space is limited! Register today using the QR code. Contact Carrie Harkey,

harkey@dioceseofvenice.org



## Emmaus Experience



Friday, March 8 (early evening) through Sunday, March 10 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat and Spirituality Center, Venice Hosted by: Epiphany Cathedral Parish - Facilitators: Epiphany Emmaus Retreat Team Come Journey with Us On The Road to Emmaus!

Give yourself the gift of time away from the distractions of your daily routine to listen to Jesus and the Holy Spirit in an environment of sincere faith, fellowship, and worship. Based on the Gospel of Luke 24:13:35 where Jesus joins two disciples on their way to Emmaus.

The benefits will be personal to you. Women receive tremendous healing, lifting of burdens, and experiences of love and joy. This retreat is an opportunity to experience, renew, and deepen your relationship with the Lord.

Limited Enrollment • registration \$225 • double room, \$300, private room • Deadline Feb 19

Contact Donna Vodraska donnavodraska@aol.com • 941.496.4464 (home) • 630-336-0918 (cell)



View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



### Weekly Mass Intentions

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Weekiy mass	
Sun, Feb 11	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31–11:1; Mk 1:40-45
	Alina DeRivera by the Cantwell Family
	(Hall/ Spanish) Lena Spero by Ann Crowley
	Maria Concetta Occhino by Gary and Antoniela
	(Hall) Michael Houlihan by Michael Houlihan
10:30am [JR]	
12:00pm [RN]	Aldo Giovanucci by Loretta Haddad
12:00pm [JV]	(Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
5:30pm [CF]	L & D Mbrs of the Plouffe Family by Joe & Betty Plouffe
Mon, Feb 12	Jas 1:1-11; Mk 8:11-13
7:30am [JV]	Barry John Murphy by the Groetelaars Family
	Steve Linderman by Joe and Nora Stephan
12:00pm [GS]	In Thanksgiving by Cristina Valdes
5:30pm [RN]	Jim Norris by David and Paula Shigley
Tue Feb 13	Jas 1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21
7·30am [IR]	Walter & Rose Szczesny by Friend
8:30am [CF]	Inocente Diaz Conlespcion by Carmella Scarongella
	Graham White by Marie White
5:30nm [IR]	Elisha Giard by Javier and Gloria
	JI 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20–6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
	(L) Chan Nguyen by Marge and Paul Lortie
	(L) Minnie Alberto by Rose Arellano
	Walter Engel by Lynne Klitzman
	(L) Hannes and Karen Jelinek by Rose Arellano
12.00µ111 [CF] 5.20nm [ID]	(L) Ed Stephens by John and Mary McGruder
	(Vietnamese) Special Intentions
	Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25
	Wanda Kinczel by Stepanie and John Iacopelli
	Jim Norris by Mollie and Peggy
12:00pm [JV]	Barbara Maggio by James Maggio
	Jim Norris by 5:30 PM Mass Team
	ls 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15
	Famiglia Stragapede by Carmella Scarongella
	(L) Jim and Gladys Weir by Jack Buckingham
	Poor Souls in Purgatory by John and Stephanie Iacopelli
5:30pm [FS]	
Sat, Feb 17	ls 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32
7:30am [JV]	Stephanie Gruters by the Salomone Family
	Warren Burgress by Terry and Maureen Aldrich
4:00pm [CF]	
	(Hall) Walter and Rose Szczesny by Friend
5:30pm [JR]	Tom Fuerst by Ann Crowley
Sun, Feb 18	Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15
7:30am [CF]	Ryan Halstead by Mother
7:45am [CG]	(Hall/ Spanish) Special Intentions
	Lena Spero by Ann Crowley
9:00am [JR]	(Hall) (L) Fiorella Duarte by Mom and Dad
10:30am [GS]	
12:00pm [FS]	Ken and Kathleen Collins by Claire Collins
12:00pm [JV]	(Hall/Viet) (L) Nguyen Van Chan by David & Paula Shigley
	L & D Mbrs of the Burch Family by Joe & Betty Plouffe
Fr George (GS) Fr Jan (IR)	, Fr. Chris (CF), Fr. Joseph (JV), Fr. Celestino (CG),
Fr. Fausto (FS), Fr Richard N	
,	

### **3rd Annual Fat Tuesday Dinner Party**

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Drinks & Appetizers 6pm • Dinner 7pm 4880 Fruitville Road, Sarasota 34232



New Orleans/Creole-Style Food Specialty Drinks • Prizes • Music • Dancing • Public Welcome \$35 per person / \$240 table of 8

Contact Ken Nota: kennota@kennotalaw.com • 401.206.9056

The Columbus Association of Sarasota, Florida, Inc. Home of Our Lady of Victory Council K of C \*3358



Wednesdays in Geenen Hall 9:30-11:30am More information? stmarthawwp@yahoo.com = 941.525.2697

Please foin Us!

Thursday mornings at 10am for Lectio Divinan classes in Geenen Hall.



egacy Society

Seminars from 11am-12pm

in the St Martha Parish Hall

**Conference** Room

• No Charge • Refreshment served

• To register please contact

Samantha McDonald, parish office

941-366-4210 or

smcdonald@stmartha.org



### The St. Martha Legacy Society Finance Seminars

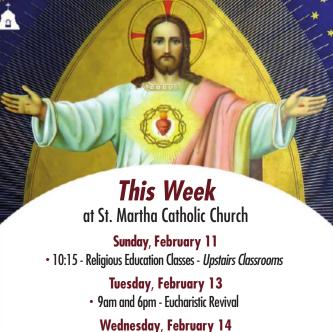
Come attend two complimentary workshops of one hour each, free of charge, on financial topics that are important to your life..

Wed, Feb 21 Wills, Trusts and Estates Attorney Jon Anderson from the law firm of Wood, Seitl and Anderson will discuss all aspects of estate planning, and answer any questions you may have.

Wed, Mar 20 Financial Planning Michael Morse, Executive Director of the Catholic Community Foundation at the Diocese of Venice, will provide you with the knowledge you need to make critical health, legal and financial decisions for yourself and loved ones.

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• Ash Wednesday • 9:30-11:30am - Walking with Purpose - Geenen Hall

Thursday, February 15 • 10am - Lectio Divinan - Geenen Hall

#### St. Martha 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. 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 Blanca Goetz, Administrative Assistant Pamela Paulson, Reception/Data Entry Maxine Brand, Reception Virginia Bray, Music Director Susie Runnells, Sacristan Janet Cocco, Sacristan Joe Angelicola, Sacristan Miguel Jimenez, Facilities Manager Eris Nunez, Maintenance Carlos Sierra Napoles, Maintenance Bożena Borowiecka, Rectory Housekeeper Claudia Moschini, Rectory Chef



#### **Diocese of Venice**

1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285. . . . . . . . 941.484.9543

#### **Outreach Ministries**

oon each ministries
Altar Servers Dn. Vern Smith dcvern@stmartha.org
Altar Society Parish Office 941.366.4210
Archivist
Arimathean Ministry Parish Office 941.366.4210
Catholic Charities Joan Pierse 941.366.4210
Community Pregnancy Clinics
Casa Santa Marta
Choir/Cantor
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 (9-11am, M-F) Tony Cocco, Chair 941.366.5620
Hospitality Ministry Beth Cannata 941.321.2953
Knights of Columbus
Lectors Dc. Pat Macaulay dcpatrick@stmartha.org
0.C.I.A
Parish Council Beth Cannata 941.321.2953
Prayer Line
Respect Life Ministry
Rosary Makers Maxine Brand 941.374.6605
Solve Maternity Homes Peggy Kerwin 941.748.0094
Ushers
Volunteer Coordinator Stuart Love 941.780.7834
Witness to Love Jim & Agnes Rutushni 941.960.5128

### **Neighboring Diocesan Parishes**

St. Jude
Christ the King
Incarnation
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs
St. Patrick
St. Mary Star of the Sea Longboat Key 941.383.1255
St. Thomas More
St. Joseph
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. MariJo 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





DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA FFICE OF THE BISHO

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

The special Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe will take place on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024. This annual collection supports projects in more than 25 countries which endured 70 years of communist oppression and occupation, and helps the Church accompany people to an encounter with Christ that is filled with hope.

Funds raised in this Collection go to restore Churches, and especially worship spaces. Further, help is given to form youth ministries and pastoral centers which enliven the faith of children and young people, and form disciples who help others encounter the Lord. Creative outreach and heroic acts of compassion are given to those in desperate need of assistance, including meals and emergency shelter for those fleeing war.

Participation in the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe expresses your care and support for the people and their families in this region. Please be generous, and may God continue to bless you for your generosity.

I take this opportunity to extend to you my continued consideration as well as my prayers on this Ash Wednesday, as we begin our Lenten Journey.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Frank J. Dewane, Bishop / Diocese of Venice in Florida The annual Black & Indian Mission Collection exists to assist African American. Native American and Alaskan Native communities in their parishes and schools.

This Collection assists parish-based catechetical programs, helps educators reach students in remote villages, empowers ministries to sponsor events and formation that encourage living the Christian life In culturally appropriate ways, and encourages vocations to the priesthood and religious life. However, your generosity is needed to help, particularly with religious education, seminary

The Diocese of Venice will be taking up the collection for the Black and Indian Mission the weekend of February 17 and 18, 2024. By contributing to the Collection, together we can give hope, which is often difficult to find in these areas. Thank you for your generosity and my God bless you and your family.

I take this opportunity to extend to you my continued consideration as well as my

Frank J. Dewane, Bishop / Diocese of Venice in Florida



Events to help us grow closer to Jesus in the Eucharist

Are you longing for growth in your spiritual life? Come, join us! Join fellow parishioners for a special Lenten program. A chance to dive more deeply into the richness of our Eucharistic faith.

Participants meet Tuesdays, starting February 13 at 9am or 6pm. This is a seven-week Lenten program that renews your worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

To register: 941.366.4210 or mbrand@stmartha.org.

### **HELP WANTED Care Facility Volunteer**



We are looking for caring and compassionate people 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 Thursday or Saturday morning scheduled visits. 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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