February 18, 2024 1st Sunday of Lent





PRAYER • FASTING • ALMSGIVING





## **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

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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

## ST. MARTHA

# From Our Pastor, Father George

## February 18, 2024 - 1st Sunday of Lent - Mk 01, 12-15

#### From Deacon Bill Dear Parishioners of St. Martha,

The message of Jesus today has several great truths about the Christian faith.

There is the Good News. It was mainly good news that Jesus came to bring to everyone. If we follow the gospels throughout the New Testament we can see at least something of what it means.

(a) It's good news of truth. Until Jesus came, people could only guess and grope after God. *O that I knew where I might find him*, cried Job. But with the coming of Jesus people could see clearly what God is like. They didn't need to guess and grope in the dark; they know.

(b) It's good news of hope. The ancient world was a pessimistic world. In their struggle for goodness people were defeated. The coming of Jesus brings hope to the hopeless heart.

(c) It's good news of peace. Part of the penalty of being human is to have a split personality. In human nature the beast and the angel are strangely intermingled. Our trouble has always been that we are haunted both by sin and by goodness. The coming of Jesus melds that divided personality into one. Because of Jesus, we find we finds victory over our warring selves..

(d) It's the good news of God's promise. All non-Christian religions think of a demanding God; only Christianity tells of a God who is more ready to give than we are to ask.

(e) It's good news of immortality. To the pagan of Jesus' time, life was the road to death; man was thought of as a dying man; but Jesus came with the good news that we are on the way to life rather than death.

Then there is the word *repent*. Now repentance is not as easy as we sometimes think. The Greek word *metanoia* literally means a change of mind. We often confuse two things – sorrow for the consequences of sin and sorrow for sin. We're sometimes so sorry because of the mess that sin has got us into, but we know very well that if we could be reasonably sure that we could escape the consequences, we'd do the same thing again. It's frequently not the sin that we hate – it's the consequences.

*Believe*, says Jesus, *in the good news*. To believe in the good news simply means to take Jesus at his word, to believe that God is the kind of God that Jesus has told us about, to believe that God so loves the world that he will make any sacrifice to bring us back to himself, to believe that what sounds too good to be true is really true.

# RESPECT LIFE

## **Defenders of Life**

Lent 40 Days for Life Campaign began, Ash Wednesday, outside of Sarasota Planned Parenthood, 736 Central Ave. Please join us while we exercise our First Amendment Rights for peaceful prayerful assembly to be a voice for the voiceless, the unborn. We would love you to join us and bring friends with you.

The goal is by having a prayerful, loving, hope giving presence that women and men will choose life, babies will be saved and the community will be made aware what is going on in this center of death. Women are being lied to and babies are dying. Many Abortion Clinics have closed all over the world because of the 40 Days for Life peaceful, loving PRAYERFUL presence. Please just show up and pray.



#### **From Father George**

**Lent** - The annual Lenten season is the fitting time to climb the holy mountain of Easter. The Lenten season has a double character, namely, to prepare both catechumens and faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery. Catechumens prepare to receive the Baptism, Confirmation and the First Holy Communion and the faithful, ever more attentive to the

word of God and prayer, prepare themselves by penance for the renewal of their baptismal promises (Liturgical Ordo for Florida Dioceses).

**Lenten Resolutions -** We are told to look again at the three main spiritual Lenten exercises: fasting, praying and almsgiving. But any other personal resolution is good because it shows that we have ambition to change, and we can show faithfulness to our promises. When we keep our word, we show that we are responsible believers, even if we manage to be faithful for one day.

**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 continue through Lent and help to revive our love to Jesus who instituted the Eucharist - We have started the meetings of these Groups of about 6 people, created from all participants, we watch the prepared material on video and with the help of the table facilitator, we share, discuss, listen and learn 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 25, 2024) is the 2nd Sunday of Lent.

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



#### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

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 formation and lay ministry training.

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 prayers throughout this Lenten Season.

Sincerely yours in Christ, FranlyCl. Dewane, Bishop of/thy Diocese of Venicoin Florida

## ST. MARTH



### **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





St. Vincent dePaul is quoted as saying: Go to the poor and you will find *God.* That is the Vincentian mission. Over a million Vincentians around the world go to the poor every day. Right here in Sarasota, members of the St. Vincent dePaul conferences at Incarnation, St. Thomas More and St. Michael's regularly meet that challenge for our neighbors.

Members of the St. Vincent dePaul conferences are part of a worldwide community of Catholic faithful dedicated to spirituality, friendship, and service. It is often said that no form of charity is foreign to the St. Vincent dePaul Society. Sometimes, those who need financial assistance are also seeking a listener who cares about them, offering them a sacrament of presence.

If being part of that community of Vincentians who go to the poor interests you, we invite you to join us. Call the Incarnation parish office 941.921.6631 or come to one of our meetings on the last Monday of each month at 6:30pm. Discover for yourself if being part of this ministry can provide something speciaLto your life and to the lives of others.

The harvest is indeed great, but more laborers are needed.

## **Eucharistic Conference** March 16, 2024



Steven Ray, Keynote Speaker **English and Spanish Sessions Bishop Verot High School** 5598 Sunrise Drive, Fort Myers. FL For more information contact:

Jim Gontis 941.486.4754 aontis@dioceseofvenice.org









**Crystalina Evert** 

Kathnia Aranga

Fr. Elvis Gonzalez Tim Glemkowski

**QR Code to Register!** 

dioceseofvenice.org/

eucharistic-conference-2024

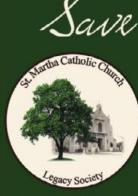


**N.E.T.** Confirmation Spring Retreat



## Weekly Mass Intentions

	Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15	
	Ryan Halstead by Mother	
	(Hall/ Spanish) Special Intentions	
	Lena Spero by Ann Crowley	
	(Hall) (L) Fiorella Duarte by Mom and Dad	
10:30am [GS]		
	Ken and Kathleen Collins by Claire Collins	
12:00pm [JV]	(Hall/Vietnamese) (L) Nguyen Van Chan by David & Paula Shigley	
	L & D Mbrs of the Burch Family by Joe & Betty Plouffe	
	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46	
	Tony Caragiulo by the Caragiulo Family	
	Poor Souls in Purgatory by Javier Olivos	
	(L) Erick Dunn by Rita Dunn	
	ls 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15	
	(L) Eamon Fennell by Pat Flannery	
	(L) Joshua Duarte by Mom and Dad	
12:00pm [CF]	Bill and Laura Masterson by Ann Crowley	
5:30pm [CF]	(L) Quinn McGruder by John and Mary McGruder	
Wed, Feb 21	Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32	
	Prabhat Superkar by John and Pauline Groetelaars	
	Catherine Lauritano by Paul Lauritano	
	Jim Norris by Joann Desrosiers	
5:30pm [CF]	Luigi Del Ben by Rita Dunn	
Thu, Feb 22	1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19	
7:30am [JV]	Shawn Michael Kelly by Claire Collins	
	Betty Moore by Emil Efthimides	
12:00pm [JR]	Lillian Dowdell by Terri Baldwin	
5:30pm [FS]	Nickholas di Cianni by Carmella Scarongella	
Fri, Feb 23	Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26	
	Herman Heibel by the Heibel Family	
8:30am [JR]	Herman Heibel by the Heibel Family	
	(L) Marilyn Kneafsey by Jack Buckingham	
5:30pm [CF]	Heather Gerding by Pauline Groetelaars	
Sat, Feb 24	Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48	
7:30am [CF]	Workshop Polish Women	
8:30am [JV]	William Gianino by Bernie Gismondi	
	William Salomone by the Salomone Family	
	(Hall) Bill and Helen Casey by the Casey Family	
5:30pm [JR]	Jose Juan Vilar Martinez by Jack and Hank	
Sun, Feb 18	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18;	
,	Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10	
7:30am [JR]	R yan Halstead by Mother	
	(Hall/ Spanish) Special Intentions	
	St. Martha's Volunteers by the Clergy	
	(Hall) Special Intentions	
10:30am [GS]		
	Rosetta Barbera by Cathy Giblin	
	(Hall/Vietnamese) Ba Cd Maria Tran Thi Tho by Thuy Hartnell	
·	Onofria Lupo by Alda Stipanov	
Fr. George (GS), Fr. Jan (JR), Fr. Chris (CF), Fr. Joseph (JV), Fr. Celestino (CG),		
Fr. Fausto (FS), Fr Richard	Notter (KN)	



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• 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

Save the Date

## 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.



SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024 GROVE, 10670 BOARDWALK LOOP 6:00 PM





#### 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**

Altar Servers Dn. Vern Smith dcvern@stmartha.org
Altar Society Parish Office 941.366.4210
Archivist941.366.4210
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
Herrig Caritas (9-11am, M-F) Tony Cocco, Chair 941.366.5620
Hospitality Ministry Beth Cannata 941.321.2953
Knights of Columbus
Lectors
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
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	ı, 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





## Emmaus Experience



## Women's Retreat 2024

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)

In or Take-Ou

## • Every Friday, Through, March 22nd • 4:30-7pm

•Adults \$14, Children (8 and under) \$10

Annual Lenten Fish Fry -

- Fish & Shrimp Combo \$15
- Shrimp Dinner <sup>\$</sup>16
- Choice of hand battered fish (fried or baked), Shrimp, Coleslaw, roll, coffee
- Choice of fries or rice
- Full cash bar Weekly 50/50 raffle
- Knights of Columbus Council #3358
- 4880 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota, FL 34232

Image courtesy of UnSplash by Julia Karnavusha

## HELP WANTED Usher Volunteer



We are looking for a friendly and personable person to serve as an usher at weekend liturgies. As a member of a four-person team, the duties include welcoming, assisting with seating, collecting the offertory, distributing bulletins, and insuring a safe environment for all worshippers.

Shifts last 1 ½ hours. Volunteers are needed to join the Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 12pm, and 5:30pm usher teams. No experience required. Training provided.

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

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