"This is My Beloved Son, Listen to Him......."

Mark 9:7

February 25, 2024 2nd Sunday of Lent





Mass Schedule Saturday 7:30am • 8:30am • 4pm (Church) Vigil 4pm (Hall) Vigil • 5:30pm Vigil Sunday 7:30am • 9am (Church) • 9am (Hall) • 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

ST. MARTHA

From Our Pastor, Father George

February 25, 2024 - 2nd Sunday of Lent -*Transfiguration* - Mark 9:2-8 From Deacon Bob

Dear Parishioners of St. Martha,

On this second Sunday of Lent, the Church offers us Mark's version of the Transfiguration. The event of the Transfiguration occurs directly after Jesus first speaks of His Passion to come, and the conditions of Discipleship. We read Jesus goes up the mountain and converses with Moses who represents the law of the Old Testament, and Elijah who represents prophecy of the Old Testament. Prior to Jesus conversing with these two, he is transfigured. We witness a changing of the guard if you will.

Jesus tells us He did not come to abolish the law or the Prophets, but to fulfill them. This moment is a gateway from the old to the new. It is no wonder that the Church offers this Gospel as we dig into our Lenten journey. Lent is a time to prepare ourselves for our own conversion or transfiguration. Through these forty days we are called to change.

Again, turning back to the verses and the teaching He offers directly before the Transfiguration, Jesus tells those wanting to follow Him: *whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will find it* and *whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this faithless and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of when he comes in his Father's glory with the angels.*

Not a single one of us enter Lent unstained. But all of us, whether we realize it or not, long to have a deeper relationship with God. We all try to search out joy. The world tries to redirect us form the true path of joy. It pushes us to think joy is found in things, finances, power, and all activities outside of God. But when we do are own real soul searching, none of us have found it there. Every time we really found joy, we found it in Him.

We found it in the most unlikely of places. We found it in self-giving. We found it when we realized how much God loves us. We found it, when we truly communicated with Him throughout the day in just talking to Him. We found it when we, like Jesus said, lost our lives for His sake and that of what He teaches.

Like you, my most joyous times have not been when I focused on myself, but on others and God. That is when my joy radiated like it was *dazzling white*. Yet throughout the year I get lost in this world that tries to promote everything but what truly brings joy: God!

The season of Lent is a time to reset and allow us to refocus on how much God absolutely loves us and wants the best for us. He wants us to find what we are looking for: Him. He is right with us, and Lent can be that time we are reminded of that. This Lent, aside from the other things we are doing to prepare for His Passion and Resurrection, let us make more time just to talk to Him. He is always listening and willing to talk to us.

The start of our own personal journey from old to new starts with communicating with the one who loves us more than we can ever imagine. Just talking to Him constantly throughout the day in conversation can transfigure us. It will allow us to focus on what brings joy. I love the rote prayer, *Father creator of unfailing light, give that same light to those who call to you, may our lips praise you, our lives proclaim your goodness, our works give you honor, and our voices celebrate you forever.* This prayer calls us to be the shining light for Him. And in it, we can find our joy and be transfigured!



From Father George

Please, pray for our G 2 children ... who will celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**, the First Confession the next Sunday, March 3, 2024. in St. Martha's church. May they experience a merciful love of Jesus, the Good Shepherd and learn about forgiveness.

Last Thursday of the month Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (February 29, 2024) Come and spend some time in quiet adoration with other parishioners. We start it after 5:30pm Mass and conclude it at 7pm. This gives us the opportunity of fulfilling the Lenten spiritual exercise of praying.

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, 2nd Session - You can join in any time in the meetings of these Groups of about 6 people, 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.

Next Sunday (March 3, 2024) is the 3rd Sunday of Lent.

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

receive the necessary physical and

spiritual care and accompaniment.

Please foin Us! Thursday mornings at 10am for Lectio Divina classes in Geenen Hall. Payer Intention for February 2024 We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families,

ST. MARTH



The Rite of Sending and The Rite of Election for St Martha's OCIA and Adult Sacramental Prep.





Over a million Vincentians around the world go to the poor every day. In Sarasota, members of the St. Vincent de Paul conferences at Incarnation, St. Thomas More and St. Michael's regularly meet that challenge for our neighbors.

Our Members are part of a worldwide community of Catholic faithful dedicated to spiritualty, friendship, and service. It is said that no form of charity is foreign to the St. Vincent de Paul 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 Revival Tuesdays during Lent 9am or 6pm

St. Martha Service Club Hearty Meals Project

 During Lent, the St. Martha Service Club is collecting non-perishable food items for the Hearty Meals Program for the clients of Resurrection House. Students decorate lunch bags and fill with non-perishable foo items.

These lunches are given to Resurrection House for distribution. Please drop items off at the St. Martha Parish Office: Donations of single serve items: tuna packets, peanut butter packets,

crackers, granola bars, applesauce, dried fruit, etc.

 To make a monetary donation, please send a check to: St. Martha Church, 200 N. Orange Ave, Sarasota, FL 34236 Attn: Patricia Sileo with memo Hearty Meals Project. • Questions / more info, contact Director of Religious Education,

Patricia Sileo at sileo@stmartha.org or 941.366.4210 ext 3236

Come as you a

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

God can write straight with crooked lines. So regardless of what has occurred in the past or is happening in your present, there is always hope. Lisa Brenninkmeyer, Founder and Chief Purpose Officer, Walking with Purpose

If we were created for relationships, why is it so incredibly hard? Perhaps what we are looking for in others and what we expect of others can only be found in God. Married or not, join the women of Walking with Purpose as we dive into all things relationship!

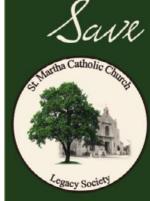
As usual, the coffee will be on, the conversation fulfilling, the hope abounding, and the video, Marriage – Transformed By Grace, utterly inspiring! Never been to Walking with Purpose? Perfect! We look forward to seeing you!



Our mission is to help every Catholic woman and girl in America encounter Jesus Christ through our Bible studies.

Weekly Mass Intentions

WEEKIY MUSS	
Sun, Feb 25	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18;
	Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10
7:30am [JR]	. Ryan Halstead by Mother
	(Hall/ Spanish) Special Intentions
9:00am [FS]	. St. Martha's Volunteers by the Clergy
9:00am [CF]	(Hall) Special Intentions
10:30am [GS]	
12:00pm [CF]	Rosetta Barbera by Cathy Giblin
12:00pm [JV]	. (Hall/Vietnamese) Ba Cd Maria Tran Thi Tho by Thuy Hartnell
5:30pm [GS]	. Onofria Lupo by Alda Stipanov
	Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
	(L) Chan Nguyen by David and Paula Shigley
	(L) Claire Collins by Jack Buckingham
	Thomas J. Kirchner by Jeffrey and Tracy Kirchner
	Bob Corey by John Corey
	. ls 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
	Ed Wilkens by Claire Collins
	(L) Fr. David Steinwach, O.S.B., by Friend
12:00nm []	L & D Mbrs of the Thomas Family by Joe & Betty Plouffe
5.20nm []	Heather Gerding by Mary and Patrick Dwyer
Wed, Feb Zo	Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
	Paul Beauvais by Terri Baldwin
	Lyney Macera by Donald Gliottone
	Richard Hunt by Delores Gast
	Jose Galvez by Felly Cruz
	Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
	Michael Strumolo by John Tacopelli
8:30am []	Missing and exploited children by Joe & Betty Plouffe
12:00pm []	(L) Alex Dunn by Rita Dunn
5:30pm []	(L) Suzie Schwitters by Matthew and Diana Buchanan
	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
	. Claudette B. Rodney by Sister
	Herman Heibel by the Heibel Family
	Salvatore Iacopelli by Stephanie & John Iacopelli
5:30pm []	L & D Mbrs of the Julie Tierney Family by Friend
7:30pm []	. (Vietnamese) Special Intentions
Sat, Mar 2	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
7:30am []	. Marilyn Berger by Jeffrey & Tracy Kirchner
8:30am []	Kyle Angeles by the Corsaro Family
4:00pm []	
4:00pm []	(Hall) Angelika Refey by Gina
5:30pm []	Edward Barrett by Elizabeth Jeselson
Sun, Mar 3	Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25
	Ryan Halstead by Mother
	(Hall/ Spanish) (L) Barbara Romano by Nicole Romano
	. (L) Barbara Kraft by Margaret Stauffer
	(Hall) (L) Charles Dubs by Fr. George
10:30am []	
	Edward Maggi by Rita Giovanucci
	(Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
	. Gerald Boryszewski, Jr. by the Boryszewski Family
	R), Fr. Chris (CF), Fr. Joseph (JV), Fr. Celestino (CG), Fr. Fausto (FS)
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• To register please contact Samantha McDonald, parish office 941-366-4210 or smcdonald@stmartha.org

Save the Date

The St. Martha Legacy Society Finance Seminar

Come attend a **complimentary** one-hour workshop, refreshments served

Wed, Mar 20 • 11am-12pm St Martha Parish Hall, Conference Room *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.

Wedding Banns

(2) Evan Young & Julia Smith 3/2/24
(2) Jordan Mehl & Kelli Kennedy 3/9/24
(2) Patrick Baumann & Anneliese Klingener 3/23/24



View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com





Sunday, February 25 • 10:15 - Religious Education Classes - Upstairs Classrooms

> Tuesday, February 27 • Saint Gregory • 9am and 6pm - Eucharistic Revival

Wednesday, February 28 • 9:30-11:30am - Walking with Purpose - Geenen Hall

> Thursday, February 29 • 10am - Lectio Divina - *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



Outreach Ministries
Altar Servers Dn. Vern Smith dcvern@stmartha.org
Altar Society
Archivist
Arimathean Ministry
Catholic Charities
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 David Kiszak 941.928.8388
Lectors
O.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

1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285. 941.484.9543

Neighboring Diocesan Parishes

Diocese of Venice

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



HELPING HOMELESS FAMILIES

Family Promise of Sarasota-Manatee (FPSM) takes a holistic approach to the crisis of families with children facing homelessness. In partnership with multiple social service agencies, FPSM offers families with children a variety of services: case management, affordable child care referrals, negotiation strategies with debt agencies and landlords, emergency funds and other community resources to stay in or obtain safe, sustainable housing. FPSM is supported by 20 interfaith congregations, including St. Martha. If you are a family in danger of eviction, call 211.



Learn More / Donate familypromisesarasota-manatee.org

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)

Columb

Annual Lenten Fish Fry -In or Take-Ou

- Every Friday, Through, March 22nd
- 4:30-7pm
- Adults \$14, Children (8 and under) \$10
- Fish & Shrimp Combo \$15
- Shrimp Dinner ^{\$}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 lituraies. 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 1/2 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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