

March 31, 2024  
Easter Sunday



# ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



## 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 (Church) • 10:30am (Hall) • 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

## 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\_sq • **YouTube** St. Martha Catholic Church Sarasota, FL

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



*From Our Pastor, Father George*

**March 24, 2024 - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

**From Deacon Vern Smith**

**Dear Parishioners of St. Martha,**

In the readings for this Easter Sunday, from Acts of the Apostles, Peter establishes his credentials as a witness to the risen Christ by saying that he *ate and drank* with Jesus after Jesus returned to life from death on the cross. There is something about eating and drinking with another person that puts one on a practical level of believability. Peter didn't simply say he saw Jesus, or that he talked to him, or that others told him that they had seen Jesus. No, he said he had real down-to-earth contact with Jesus. He ate and drank with him. Ghosts do not eat and drink. Jesus is alive; he has truly risen. Peter knows, and therefore Peter is a reliable witness.

We all enjoy eating and drinking companionship with others every day. And if you mentioned to someone that you ate and drank with someone else whom they know, they have every reason to believe that the other person is alive and well and in circulation. That's exactly the point Peter wanted to make. Shortly after Jesus died on the cross, the power of God made him alive and well again and put him back in circulation – a new kind of circulation, to be sure, we call it the risen life, but a seeable, touchable circulation that is real. And if you accept the witness of Peter, if you believe that Jesus died and rose again, you will, as Peter put it, "*receive forgiveness of sins through his name.*" So it is important that there be witnesses, like Peter, to the resurrection so that others might believe and, believing, gain eternal life.

The liturgy of the Word on this Easter Sunday invites all of us to believe – to renew and deepen our belief in the risen Lord – and the reality that we celebrate today invites us all to become witnesses in our own time and in our own way to the risen Christ. Our lives, as disciples of Christ, should witness to the reality of the resurrection. That can be done in a variety of ways, but the way I would offer for your consideration today is the simple eating-and-drinking style of witness. You eat and drink with others every day. I'm suggesting that those others can see in you some of the values Jesus embodied, some of the lessons Jesus taught. So much of what Jesus said and did was ordinary. True, the miraculous and truly extraordinary event of the resurrection brought him back to life, but the life to which he returned is the eating-and-drinking kind of ordinary life you live every day. In you – leading that life every day – others can see Jesus. They can see the kind, caring, thoughtful, generous Jesus in you, in your kindness, your caring, your thoughtfulness, your generosity. Peter was, as I said, a reliable witness. How reliable are you, how reliable am I in witnessing to the risen Jesus?

We don't have to talk about it all the time. We just have to believe and live as if we did indeed believe. Our lives as believers will be qualitatively different from the lives of those who have no faith – those who, even if they heard, do not yet believe. The problem of unbelief is an enormous one in our day – these many centuries after the fact of the resurrection. We cannot be content not to do anything about it. But doing something about it does not necessarily mean preaching or even persuading. It does, however, mean living our ordinary lives – our eating-and-drinking existence – differently because of the resurrection.

It first means living gratefully. How can we not be grateful for the gift of faith that came to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus? And how can we contemporary Catholics, who no longer show up for Mass on Sundays, have missed the obvious connection between the Holy Thursday institution of the Eucharist and the Easter Sunday resurrection? We live gratefully because we've been redeemed by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We show our gratitude liturgically – that is, we declare ourselves to be *much obliged* – every Sunday, and Sunday is Resurrection Day, the first day of the week when we give our thanks in the celebration of the Eucharist.

And those with whom we eat and drink on any day of the week, those who see us living gratefully in our ordinary daily lives, will see something not just different, but something enormously attractive, and they might – just might,

by the grace of God – begin to think about that difference and wonder why. When that happens, we are witnessing, just as Peter witnessed, to the resurrection.

The very thought of being or becoming an ingrate is both frightening and abhorrent when introduced into this Easter consideration. As believers, we have learned the resurrection lesson that *death's not what we're moving toward; it's what we're coming from!*

Ingrates no more, all we can be is grateful as we walk away now from this Holy Week Triduum more determined than ever to live gratefully every day of the year. The Lord has risen *Alleluia, Alleluia.*

**From Father George**

**Your parish clergy members pray for God's blessing to you and your families** - Together with Fr. Chris, Fr. Fausto, Fr. Jan and Fr. Joseph, as your priests in St. Martha's parish and Dn. Bill, Dn. Bob, Dn. Pat and Dn. Vern, we pray for you at this time of grace. May God bless you and renew the spirit of the resurrection in your hearts. May He be generous and merciful to you!

**May God bless you all at this time of Easter!** - We are happy to announce together with the whole Church that the Lord is indeed risen, and his tomb is empty. Life has conquered death and all God's children receive God's blessing of love and a new life. May God renew our lives and fill them with joy and confidence. May God raise back to life the victims of wars who lost their lives, bless all who suffer from war, hunger, thirst and homelessness at this time.

Come and join us for any of our solemn Masses on this special day of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, during which we will be renewing our Baptismal promises and sing many Alleluias as we praise God for the gift of new life!

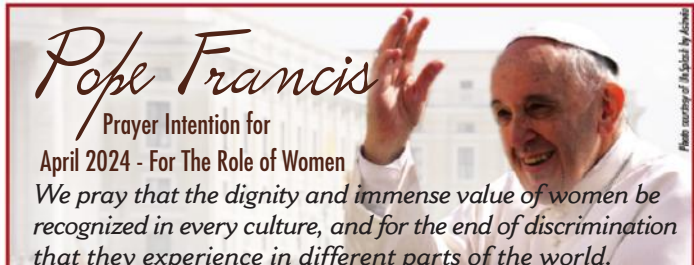
**Divine Mercy Sunday (April 7)** - We are going to hold the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the prayer of the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at 2:30pm in our church and then the special Mass at 3pm to mark this Feast of God's mercy.

When Pope John Paul II canonized Sister Faustina on April 30, 2000, he surprised everyone by proclaiming that *throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday.* He called the new feast day an invitation to Christians to face *with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come.* The Pope went on to declare, *This is the happiest day of my life.*


**We ask God to raise our Dead to everlasting life!** - The time of Easter is the time to pray for our Deceased. We believe that Jesus, after his death on the cross, reached the deepest abyss to call the dead and raised them to eternal life. Through his resurrection he has opened the gate of eternal life. May all the Faithful Departed rest in peace!.

Next Sunday (April 7, 2024) is the Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy).

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



*Pope Francis*  
Prayer Intention for  
April 2024 - For The Role of Women  
*We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.*

**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, Conference Room  
**Lindy 724.263.8285 lindydonahue@mac.com**

*The K-1 children learned about Palm Sunday and how Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey! HOSANNA!*

Join the Kids at St. Martha Church

# Camp Kindness

June 10-14, 2024 from 9am to noon  
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**For Questions & More Info Contact**  
 Patricia Sileo [sileo@stmartha.org](mailto:sileo@stmartha.org) • 941.366.4210  
 St. Martha School, Zazarino Center 4380 Fruitville Road, Sarasota

## Weekly Mass Intentions



**Sun, Mar 31** ..... **Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9**  
 6:30am ..... [FS] ..... Sunrise Service Begins in the Courtyard – For All Parishioners  
 7:30am ..... [CF] ..... For All Parishioners  
 7:45am ..... [CG] ..... (Hall/ Spanish) For All Parishioners  
 9:00am ..... [JR] ..... For All Parishioners  
 9:00am ..... [GS] ..... (Hall) For All Parishioners  
 10:30am ..... [FS] ..... For All Parishioners  
 10:30am ..... [GS] ..... (Hall) For All Parishioners  
 12:00pm ..... [JR] ..... For All Parishioners  
 12:00pm ..... [JV] ..... (Hall/Vietnamese) For All Parishioners  
 5:30pm ..... [JR] ..... For All Parishioners

**Mon, April 1** ..... **Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15 - Office Closed**  
 7:30am ..... [GS] ..... Larry Meyers by Ann Crowley  
 8:30am ..... [JV] ..... Aidan Carney by John Slattery  
 10:30am ..... [GS] ..... Nunziato Rizzo and Patrick Madden by Gary and Antonietta

**Tue, April 2** ..... **Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18**  
 7:30am ..... [JV] ..... (L) Marcella Levin by Sister in Jesus  
 8:30am ..... [GS] ..... Al Zucaro by Catherine Giblin  
 12:00pm ..... [GS] ..... Erica by Helene McCarthy  
 5:30pm ..... [JV] ..... Maya Ariella Farley by Margaret Pigott

**Wed, April 3** ..... **Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35**  
 7:30am ..... [CF] ..... Rita Polansky by Claire Collins  
 8:30am ..... [JR] ..... Raymond Wopperer by Tracy and Peter Cromwell  
 12:00pm ..... [JR] ..... Tessie and Michael Kruk by Stephanie and Milton Kruk  
 5:30pm ..... [CF] ..... Repose of the Soul of Dc Tom Grant by Dc Bill and Lu Ladroga

**Thu, April 4** ..... **Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48**  
 7:30am ..... [JR] ..... Souls in Purgatory by John and Stephanie Iacopelli  
 8:30am ..... [CF] ..... Clare O'Neil by June Isaf  
 12:00pm ..... [CF] ..... Maria Neuschel & Wilcowski Family by Magda Kovacic  
 5:30pm ..... [FS] ..... (L) Terry and Lindy Donahue by the 5:30pm Mass Team

**Fri, April 5** ..... **Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14**  
 7:30am ..... [CF] ..... Ed Benedelli by David and Paula Shigley  
 8:30am ..... [JR] ..... Catherine Lauritano by Armando Lauritano  
 12:00pm ..... [FS] ..... (L) Mary McGruder by John  
 5:30pm ..... [GS] ..... L & D Mbrs of the Julie Tierny Family by Friend  
 7:30pm ..... [JV] ..... (Vietnamese) Special Intentions

**Sat, April 6** ..... **Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15**  
 7:30am ..... [JV] ..... Fr. Patrick Wilson by John Corey  
 8:30am ..... [CF] ..... Pete Linsky by the Corsaro Family  
 4:00pm ..... [GS] ..... (L) Serge Lochard by Friend  
 4:00pm ..... [FS] ..... (Hall) Special Intentions  
 5:30pm ..... [JR] ..... Janice Long & Jack Quinn by Tom, Kathleen, Jerry, Sharon Roush

**Sun, April 7** ..... **Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31**  
 7:30am ..... [JR] ..... Ryan Halstead by Mother  
 7:45am ..... [CG] ..... (Hall/ Spanish) Special Intentions  
 9:00am ..... [GS] ..... (L) Margaret Henderson by Margaret  
 9:00am ..... [CF] ..... (Hall) Henry and Chesterine Drabicki by the Ordonez Family  
 10:30am ..... [CF] ..... For All Parishioners  
 10:30am ..... [FS] ..... (Hall) (L) God's Blessing for the Marengo Family by Fr. George  
 12:00pm ..... [GS] ..... Dino Ippolito by the Alaimo Family  
 12:00pm ..... [JV] ..... (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions  
 5:30pm ..... [GS] ..... Gerald Boryszewski, Jr. by the Boryszewski Family  
 Fr. George (GS), Fr. Jan (JR), Fr. Chris (CF), Fr. Joseph (JV), Fr. Celestino (CG), Fr. Fausto (FS)



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The Diocese has a zero-tolerance policy, and works to prevent any instances of abuse, particularly against minors and vulnerable adults. Report any abuse against minors to the Florida Department of Children and Families at 800.962.2873. If Diocesan personnel or volunteers are involved, notify the Diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, Susan Benton, at 941.416.6114.

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**This Week**  
at St. Martha Catholic Church

**Sunday, March 31**

• Easter Sunday

**Tuesday, April 2**

• 10:30am Emmaus Bible Study - Conference Room

**Thursday, April 4**

• 10am - Lectio Divina - Geenen Hall

**Friday, April 5**

• 9:30-10:30am Rosary Maker - 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*  
 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  
 Archivist . . . . . Parish Office . . . . . 941.366.4210  
 Armathean Ministry . . . . . Parish Office . . . . . 941.366.4210  
 Catholic Charities . . . . . Joan Piere . . . . . 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 . . . . . coreyjj5@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 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  
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**Neighboring Diocesan Parishes**

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## HELPING HOMELESS FAMILIES

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If you are a family in danger of eviction, call 211.



Learn More / Donate  
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## St Martha's Caritas Pantry

### Volunteers Needed for Caritas

contact [volunteer@stmartha.org](mailto:volunteer@stmartha.org)

*Caritas*, an outreach ministry providing assistance with utility payments, food, transportation, prescriptions, and work attire for thousands of Sarasota in acute financial need.

This is a joint effort by First Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church, Church of the Redeemer, St. Martha Catholic Church, and First United Methodist Church

We are honored to serve our community. **Great work all and thank you!**

January 2024 we served **677** households  
and **1,185** individuals **169** Children and **1,016** Adults.

## HELP WANTED

### Hospital 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 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 12:00 PM, and 5:30 PM usher teams.

No experience required. Training provided.

Photo courtesy of iStock by Dominik Ling

Interested persons should contact  
**Stuart Love**, Volunteer Coordinator  
**941-780-7834 • [volunteer@stmartha.org](mailto:volunteer@stmartha.org)**

## 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.**

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[harkey@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:harkey@dioceseofvenice.org)

Register Today



## Information for Families with Students in Catholic School

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that *parents receive the responsibility of evangelizing their children and calls them the first heralds of the faith.* The family is also called domestic church – the church of the home. It is so important for parents to be strong role models as active Catholics, becoming the primary catechists in the faith development of their children.

In keeping with this important role of parents, there will be two requirements to qualify for the Practicing Catholic Tuition Discount when submitting the Parish Affiliation Form.

The first requirement is 50% attendance at Sunday Mass for the year. To confirm your attendance, please place your offertory envelope in the basket during the offertory collection (an offertory contribution of at least a quarter should be included in the envelope).

The second requirement is participation in at least one parish ministry.

Please see the list (right) of qualifying ministries for parents, children, and families.

### Ministries for Children

*Altar Server* Assigned to serve at a Saturday Vigil Mass or Sunday Mass (training program provided)

*Frequency* at least once a month.

### Ministries for Families

*Greeters & Offertory Gift Bearers* Before Mass, greet and welcome parishioners/visitors at the main entrance of the church, and during Mass bring offertory gifts to the altar.

*Frequency* once a month.

### Family Ministry

Parents and children serve coffee and donuts to parishioners on Sunday morning for a ninety-minute shift between 7am & 1pm.

*Frequency* once a month.

To enroll in a ministry, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator  
**Stuart Love at [volunteer@stmartha.org](mailto:volunteer@stmartha.org) or 941.780.7834**

## Wedding Banns

(2) Joel Rivera & Danielle Morris 04/06/2024

(2) Sergio Perera & Emily Walser 04/20/2024

(2) Mason Simon & Noelle Di Grazia 04/27/2024



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