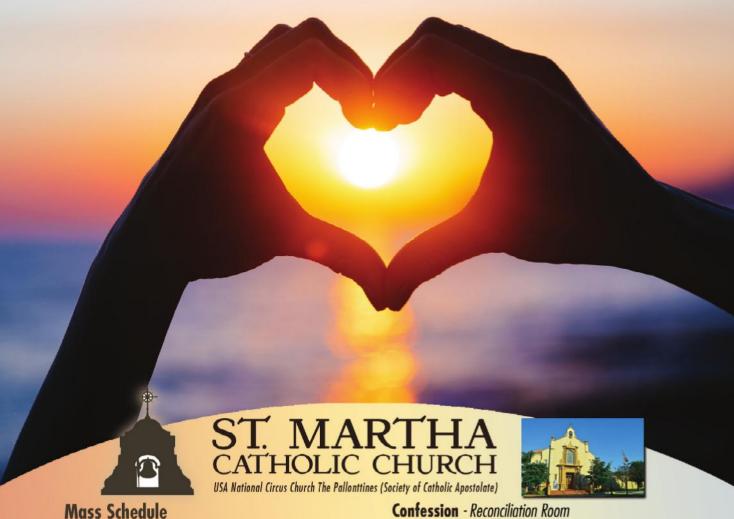
"This I command you: love one another."



Saturday 7:30am • 8:30am • 4pm (Church) Vigil

5:30pm *Vigil* 

Sunday 7:30am - 9am (Church) - 9am (Hall)

10:30am (Church) • 12pm • 5:30pm

12pm Vietnamese (Parish Hall)

Weekday 7:30am • 8:30am • 12pm • 5:30pm

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

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From Our Pastor, Father George May 5, 2024 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

### To Love Like Christ Loved Us

From Fr. Jan:

Love is the theme of so many songs and poetry. But many times, the love in the songs and in the poetry is worldly and sensitive love so much different from the true divine love revealed to us through Jesus Christ in His life and in His Gospel.

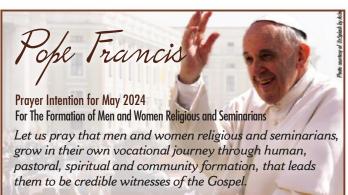
God is Love! Although the world likes the idea of *God as love*, the world likes to define *God* and *love* in its own ways, and separate God's love from God's truth. And the truth of God, which the second reading strongly emphasizes, is that we have walked in darkness away from God. Walking away from God is sin, and sin cannot be dealt with in some trivial way without a costly act of God — in fact, the costliest act of God: the giving of his only Son. Love is not love until it suffers, because love without suffering has not yet truly given itself. God's love is supreme because it is the supreme self-gift, which required the supreme suffering of the cross.

The Old Testament commanded us to love our neighbor as ourselves (Lev 19:18), but Jesus commands us to love each other as he loved us. This is taller order, because Jesus loved us more than we loved ourselves. He loved us to the point of suffering a shameful and painful death. He gave us the complete gift of self.

As the Father loves me, so also I love you, Jesus says. Then he commands, love one another as I love you. So, the Father's love for Jesus is the same as Jesus' love for us; and Jesus' love for us must be replicated in our love for each other. What is happening here is that the whole Church is being called to enter into the circle of divine love which is the Trinity!

How can we love like the True God? How can finite persons endure the burning flames of divine love? How can we also enter into a total gift of self? It is beyond our human capacity, yet that is the connection with what we heard in the first reading. We cannot love this way without being divinized ourselves through a participation in the divine nature (2 Pet 1:4) through the reception of the Holy Spirit. The gift of the Holy Spirit in Acts 10 makes it possible for us to live out the otherwise impossible command Jesus gives us in the Gospel.

We should be amazed at Jesus` invitation to us to enter into divine life because it is remarkable for only our religion: in Islam, the goal is to be a good slave of God — but Jesus calls us "friends." In eastern religions the goal is to annihilate the illusion of your self-existence or otherwise merge yourself back into the impersonal universal being that is ALL. But becoming the "friends" of the personal God by sharing the gift of his Self, his own Spirit, which is love? That is good news!



Congratulations to our G-10 students who were confirmed on May 1 - We thank our Bishop Frank J.

Dewane for confirming the group of our young parishioners!

Thanks to our Religious Education office led by Patty Sileo, to Teachers and Catechists who prepared them for it.

Congratulations to G-2 children from Religious Education at St. Martha - They received their First Holy Communion. Children from St. Martha School and St. Mary's Academy will have their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 11, 2024, at 9:30am and at 11:30am. Thanks to teachers and catechists for preparing them for it.

Summer Schedule of Confessions - Beginning in two weeks some confession days will be suspended until further notice. We will have confessions at 11am on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and 3-4pm on Saturdays.

May Devotion - We will pray the Litany to Our Lady after weekday Masses during the month of May for peace in Ukraine, Holy Land and for our own intentions.

**Rev. Deacon Bill Ladroga has retired!** - Dn. Bill, the whole parish is very grateful to you for your 27 years of diaconal ministry in St. Martha! We offer our prayers for you at this time and our congratulations for the beautiful fruits of your witness to Christ.

Fr. Chris Frost will be leaving St. Martha's parish! - After having worked in St. Martha since December 2019. We thank you for your priestly ministry among us in St. Martha. Thanks for all the parish work, work in our Primary Schools, for celebrating County Jail Sunday Masses and taking turns in caring for the sick in Sarasota Memorial Hospital. We are planning the Thank you party for Fr. Chris on Saturday, May 18, 2024, beginning at 5.00pm in our parish hall.

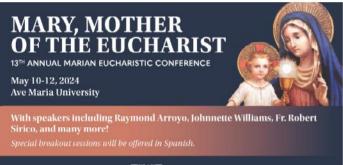
**Please check the warning** - Warning in this bulletin against voting for Amendment 4 in the November ballot 2024 in the State Law about abortion. The Bishop's Conference of Florida ask us to inform ourselves about the current pro-life efforts and works. Pray also for the protection of unborn babies!

International Night of Organs in St. Marth's church. (Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 12pm and at 8pm). Filharmonia Hungary is organizing in the world international program in Hungary - and in more than 25 countries all over the world. In this program Mr. Palur Janos, a world class Hungarian organist will give the concert in St. Martha's

Next Sunday (May 12, 2024) is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord.

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





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## **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)
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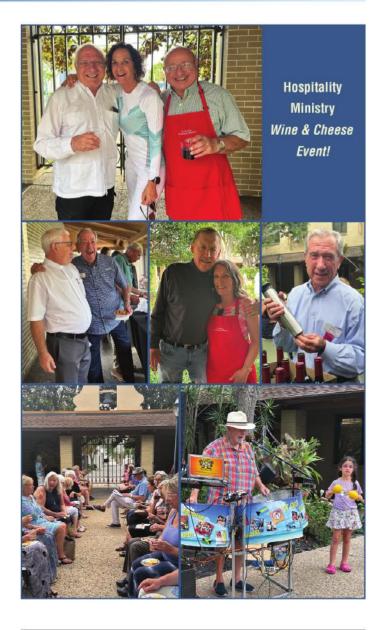
Family Promise of Sarasota-Manatee (FPSM)
takes a holistic approach to the crisis of families with children facing homelessness.
In partnership with multiple social service agencies, FPSM offers families with children a variety of services: case management, affordable child care referrals, negotiation 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









## **Weekly Mass Intentions**

Sun, May 5 Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17 7:30am [GS] Ryan Halstead by Mother
7:45am [CG] (Hall/Spanish) Special Intentions
9:00am [GS] Anthony, Jerry, & Vincent DiMora by Mimi & Jim Lerario
9:00am [CF] (Hall) (L) Fiorella Duarte by Mom and Dad
10:30am [CF] For All Parishioners
12:00pm [FS] Charles Cikovic by Dennis Cikovic
12:00pm [JV] (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
5:30pm [JR] L & D Mbrs of the Plouffe Fam. by Joe & Betty Plouffe
Mon, May 6Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26—16:4a
7:30am [GS] Joseph Gangola by David and Paula Shigley
8:30am [JV] Claire El Masri by Dave and Kate Shaver
12:00pm [JR] Josephine Cavallo by Patrice Stark
5:30pm [JR] Holy Souls in Purgatory by John J. DeStefano
Tue, May 7 Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11
7:30am [CF] Tim Donahue by Steve and Mimi Arch
8:30am [JR] Richard Boone by Walt Mainberger
12:00pm [GS] Fr. Damian, O.S.B. by Friend
5:30pm [CF]Jay Soravilla by Rita Dunn
Wed, May 8Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Jn 16:12-15
7:30am [JR] Lillian Massara by Aldo
8:30am [GS] Danny Tartaglia by the Milone Family
12:00pm [GS] Cyd Calamia by G & G Lupina
5:30pm [CF] (L) Linda Gidell by Ken and Kerry Gorman
Thu, May 9Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20
7:30am [JV] Vladimir Scerbo by Stephanie and John Iacopelli
8:30am [JR] Dec'd Mbrs of the Zucaro Family by Catherine Giblin
12:00pm [CF] Tom O'Neil by Barbara Bradley
5:30pm [FS] (L) Peter Romano by the Family
Fri, May 10Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23
7:30am [GS]John Tucker by Claire Collins
8:30am [JV]Joe Rowe by Pauline Groetelaars
12:00pm [FS] Gloria Shapiro by Gregory and Allison McCormick
5:30pm[CF] Domingo Tengco by Romulo and Mafalda Tengco
Sat, May 11Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28
7:30am [JV] Famiglia Perrucci by Carmela Scarongella
8:30am[JR] Rev. L. Matyasovsky & Rev. Richard Falon by Magda Kovacik
4:00pm [JR] The Chomiak Family b y the Family
5:30pm [CF] Stephen Mackin by Michael and Cynthia Pugliese
Sun, May 12 Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mk 16:15-20
7:30am [CF] Zofia Palkova by Daughter
7:45am [CG] (Hall/Spanish) Special Intentions
9:00am [FS] Aldo Giovanucci by Ann Mangillo
10:30am [GS] For All Parishioners
12:00pm [GS] Arthur Levin by St Martha Volunteers
12:00pm [JV] (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
5:30pm [JR] 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)

# Extreme Abortion Amendment Decision



A cruel and dangerous abortion amendment will be added to the ballot in November. Please acquaint yourself with the facts by visiting TooExtreme4FL.com, and vote NO on Amendment 4!

This amendment to the Florida constitution would allow abortion up until birth, including when the baby is capable of feeling pain, and would eliminate laws requiring parental consent and safety protocols for women. If you are concerned about this recent Florida Supreme Court decision to allow the extreme abortion amendment to appear on the ballot and are interested in doing something about it,

contact Jeanne Berdeaux at
Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org or 941.374.1068 right away.



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Friday, May 10 · Saint John and Saint Avila

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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 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.

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Eucharist Adoration Parish Office 941.366.4210
Extraordinary Ministers Dc. Pat Macaulay dcpatrick@stmartha.org
Finance Council John Corey coreyjjj5@gmail.com
Family Ministry
Herria 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
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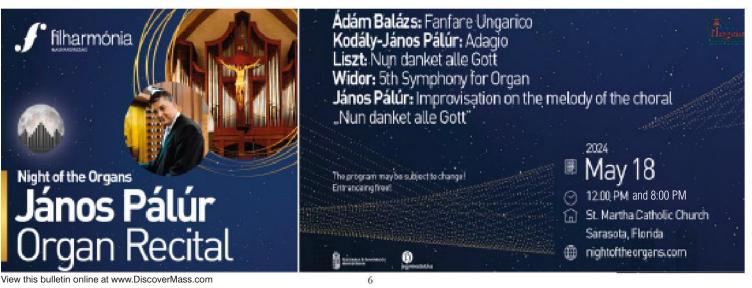














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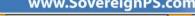
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