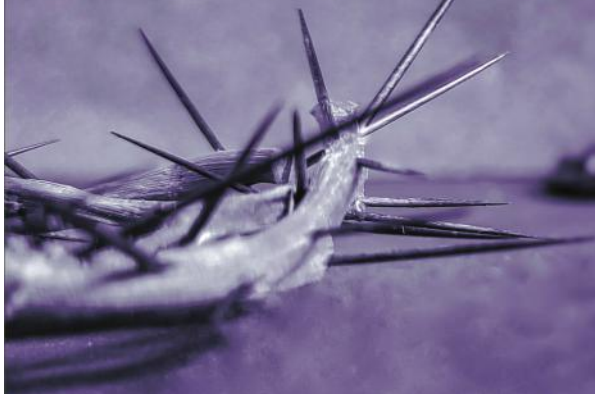


Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

# LENT

Fast + Pray + Give



## ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC CHURCH



### Mass Schedule

**Saturday** 7:30am • 8:30am • 4pm Vigil  
4pm Vigil (Hall) • 5:30pm Vigil

**Sunday** 7:30am • 9am • 9am (Hall) • 10:30am  
12pm • 5:30pm • 12pm Vietnamese (Hall)

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

### Confession - Reconciliation Room

Saturday 9-10am & 3-4pm • Monday-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\_srq • **YouTube** St. Martha Catholic Church Sarasota, FL

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

**Homily for the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Sunday, April 6, 2025 - John 11-1-45**  
 by Deacon Bob

In today's Gospel, both Martha and Mary lamented that Jesus did not come sooner to prevent Lazarus from dying. They told Jesus *If only you had come sooner*. The sisters had sent word to Jesus that Lazarus was ill prior to his death. Their hope was that Jesus would come and cure him. But they did not understand why Jesus came too late and did not answer their call the way they wanted Him to answer it. Clearly Martha and Mary understood Jesus is the Son of God by what they said to Him as they greeted Him. But as much as they understood they were talking to the Son of God, they could not understand Him. They could not understand why He came too late to cure their brother, they could not understand the true power Jesus commanded, and they could not understand Jesus' intentions.

How often do we make the same error these sisters did? Often, we cannot understand why God allows certain things to happen, or not answer our prayers the way we think God should.

Fifteen years ago, while I was working on my master's in theology, I had an occasion to teach the eighth grade at St. Martha's about the Mystical Body of Christ. Before I started the class I gave ground rules. The rules were not to be afraid to ask me any question and if they did not buy what I was saying, challenge me. I called it my baloney rule. At the end of class, a young man raised his hand and said he had a baloney rule question. He then asked me *why does God allow bad things to happen?*

I explained my answer may appear to be cliché, or trite, but it is the reason. I told him it was for the greater good. I then went on to explain by example. I told him, the greatest evil in my lifetime may have been the attacks on 9/11. I said I never had seen a greater horror than those attacks. I referenced over three thousand died in the World Trade Center, hundreds more at the Pentagon and on Flight 93 in Pennsylvania. I explained that from that evil, this country saw an amazing good. For a brief time, we were all one. It did not matter about your party affiliation, skin color, religion, social status, we all came together and prayed together and were united in God. I shared that I was at the first college football game that was allowed to be played after the tragedy. We were in Notre Dame Stadium and before the game they had a memorial service with the eighty thousand people attending.

It was chilling (in a good way) to see the entire stadium arm in arm (literally), both praying together the Our Father and singing God Bless America. Every single person was both praying and singing! We had CEO's next to steel workers arm in arm, we had people of every ethnic background arm in arm! Jews, Muslims, and Christians all accepting of each other and praying to God together. For a brief time it changed the entire world.

I went on to say those people who lost loved ones could not understand why their friend, daughter, son, father, or mother were tragically taken away from them on 9/11. And they may never understand. But each and every one of them died a martyr's death. As purposeless as the evil acts perpetrated that day were, their lives were very purposeful. They brought so many people to God. They died as heroes!

The young man said *Oh, thank you* and the bell rang. As the class left the religion teacher came up to me and said, *do you know who that was?* I said no. In tears she said, *that boy's father died in the World Trade Center!*

We may never understand how Jesus answers our prayers, why He allows the evils to exist in the World. But He will take those evils of the devil and create a greater good. And He will always answer our prayers. Often not the way we want, but the way we need and with an unflinching Love.

Jesus cried with Mary and Martha and He cries for us. Whatever hardship we encounter, He will not always give us what we want, but always give us what we need. Why did Jesus die on the Cross? On Good Friday no one had a clue. But three days later, we understood how much He loves us. Like Martha and Mary, just trust in Him and His love. We may not understand, but all we need to know is it **never fails!**

View this bulletin online at [www.DiscoverMass.com](http://www.DiscoverMass.com)



Our Pastor, Father George

**From Father George:**

**Lenten Stations of the Cross** - On Fridays in Lent, we will meditate on the Passion of Christ through the Stations of the Cross, which will be held at 9am.

**There will be an additional 10:30am Sunday Mass** - held in the Hall on Palm Sunday, April 13, Easter Sunday, April 20, and Devine Mercy Sunday April 27.

**Sarasota's Historical Good Friday Stations of the Cross Pilgrimages** - Father George will be among the twenty-seven Ministers of fourteen Denominations who are participating in the Good Friday, Stations of the Cross down the center of Main Street Sarasota. With four denomina-

tional Deans/Prelates participating, over 100 congregations are represented. This Good Friday, April 18, is the 24th year Sarasota will observe the worldwide Stations of the Cross tradition. What began in mid-15th century Jerusalem is now celebrated in over 200 nations on Good Friday of Holy Week. The fourteen Biblically recorded events that happened to Jesus on his way to crucifixion are remembered, Station by Station. A service booklet sharing the acts of worship corresponding to the historic, fourteen physical Stations in Jerusalem will be distributed to all pilgrims.

Pilgrims begin to gather at 7am and the pilgrimage starts at 7:20am in front of the Regal Hollywood movie theater, 1993 Main Street, just off Washington Boulevard, 301. For those who would like to park at the final Station location (Church of the Redeemer at 222 South Palm Avenue), the Siesta Trolley will transport you to Regal Hollywood from Redeemer starting at 6 a.m. Pilgrims will reach the final Station, Church of the Redeemer, at about 8:30am. At that time, all are invited to attend a brief Morning Prayer Service reflecting on Good Friday inside the church.

Observe Christ's passion on the day the world stops to celebrate it. For more information, contact Grier Ferguson, Church Of The Redeemer Episcopal Church, [gferguson@redeemersarasota.org](mailto:gferguson@redeemersarasota.org), 941.955.4263 or email the Sarasota Ministerial Association President, Rev. Dr. Tom Pfaff at [ChaplainTomPfaff@gmail.com](mailto:ChaplainTomPfaff@gmail.com).

**Next Sunday**, April 13, 2025, is the Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

**On Holy Thursday** we will remember how Jesus instituted the Sacrament of Eucharist (*This is my Body*) and the Sacrament of Priesthood (*Do this in memory of me*).

**Good Friday** is the day when Jesus was crucified and buried, and we venerate his cross on this day. Good Friday is the day of fasting and abstaining from meat. We don't celebrate Masses or any other sacraments on this and the next day.

**Holy Saturday** is the day of prayerful vigil. We reflect on the mystery of death and resurrection.

**Easter Vigil** begins the Easter celebrations. We celebrate Fire, Paschal Candle, the Word of God, Water of Regeneration-Baptism, we will have catechumens and candidates who will receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation, and we will sing first Alleluias for the Easter.

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

Pope Francis



Prayer Intention for April 2025  
 For the use of the new technologies

*Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.*

Photo courtesy of Vatican News



Reconciliation Service  
for our  
First Communion Students

CHANGE  
YOUR HEART  
GOD  
LOVES YOU



**ANNUAL LENTEN**

# Fish Fry



**Knights of Columbus #3358**  
4880 Fruitville Road

**EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT**

**MARCH 7 TO APRIL 11, 2025**  
4:30 TO 7:00 P.M.

**\$14 ADULTS**

CHOICE OF HAND BATTERED FISH  
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CHOICE OF FRIES OR RICE

**FULL CASH BAR**  
DINE IN OR TAKE OUT  
CURB SIDE SERVICE AVAILABLE



## Wedding Banns

Matthew Dunn & Alexis Pember (2)  
Matthew Hughes & Rebecca Rogalski (2)  
Michael Entrekin & Giulia Zappaterreno (1)




## Join the Kids at St. Martha Church

# Camp Kindness

**June 9-13, 2025 from 9am to noon**  
held at St. Martha School/Zazarino Center

**Welcoming Pre-K3 through Grade 5**  
Pre-K3 must be three years of age and be fully potty trained

### Called to be Saints





**St. Martha Church VBS/  
Summer Activity Week**

- Community Service
- Arts & Crafts
- Sports
- Games
- Music
- and so much more

**Registration - Online Only - [stmartha.org](http://stmartha.org)**  
**Want to Volunteer as a Counselor?**  
**Junior (Grades 6-8) or High School (Grades 9-12) Call 941.366.4210**  
**Contact Patricia Sileo, DRE at [sileo@stmartha.org](mailto:sileo@stmartha.org) • 941.366.4210**  
**St. Martha School, Zazarino Center 4380 Fruitville Road, Sarasota**

**MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025**



★ **RITZ CARLTON MEMBERS CLUB** ★

15150 70TH TERRACE EAST, BRADENTON

7:30 AM: Arrival & Check-In  
8:30 AM: Shotgun Start  
1:00 PM: Lunch & Awards



**Scan the QR Code for  
Registration & Sponsorships**



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## Come as you are.

**YOU ARE WELCOME HERE**

**Wednesdays in Parish Hall 9:30-11:30am**  
Questions? Contact Kelly Rizzo  
**[stmarthawwp@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarthawwp@yahoo.com) • 941.905.1090**



## JOIN US FOR LENT

Stations of the Cross  
Each Friday at 9:00AM

Palm Sunday Masses, April 13  
Saturday :  
4:00PM, 4:00PM (HALL), 5:30PM

Sunday:  
7:30AM, 9:00AM, 9:00AM (HALL),  
10:30AM, 10:30AM (HALL), 12:00PM,  
12:00PM (HALL/VIET), 5:30PM

Holy Thursday, April 17  
No Morning Masses  
9AM -5PM Confessions  
7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper  
7:30PM (HALL/VIET) - Mass of the  
Lord's Supper  
8:30PM -10:00PM Prayer Vigil with  
the Lord

Good Friday, April 18  
No Morning Masses  
9AM -5PM Confessions  
12:00PM Stations of the Cross  
3:00PM Passion Liturgy  
5:00PM Passion Liturgy  
7:30PM (HALL/VIET) - Passion  
Liturgy

Holy Saturday Masses, April 19  
No Morning Masses  
9AM -5PM Confessions  
12:00PM Blessing of the Easter  
Food Baskets  
8:30PM Easter Vigil  
8:30PM (HALL/VIET) - Easter  
Vigil

Easter Sunday Masses, April 20  
6:30AM -Sunrise Mass  
7:30AM, 9:00AM, 9:00AM (HALL),  
10:30AM, 10:30AM (HALL),  
12:00PM, 12:00PM (HALL/VIET),  
5:30PM

### Christians of the Holy Land

On April 13, we will welcome Rami Qumsieh, a representative from the Christians of the Holy Land, who will speak at all the Masses.



Mr. Qumsieh will have special religious art pieces for sale. Proceeds of the sales generate much needed employment and cash flow for the Christian community in Bethlehem. He will be selling the pieces in the courtyard.

#### Diocese of Venice

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

#### Outreach Ministries

Altar Servers . . . . .	Dn. Vern Smith . . . . .	dcvern@stmartha.org
Catholic Charities . . . . .	Joan Pierce . . . . .	941.366.4210
Community Pregnancy Clinics . . . . .		941.260.5427
Casa Santa Marta . . . . .		941.366.4448
Choir/Cantor . . . . .	Thomas Varas . . . . .	tvaras@stmartha.org
Eucharist Adoration . . . . .	Parish Office . . . . .	941.366.4210
Extraordinary Ministers . . . . .	Dc. Pat Macaulay . . . . .	dpat@novavista.com
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 . . . . .	Tom Gillis . . . . .	941.400.6991
Lectors . . . . .	Dc. Pat Macaulay . . . . .	dcpatrick@stmartha.org
O.C.I.A. . . . .	Sue Thompson . . . . .	941.350.9466
Parish Council . . . . .	Beth Cannata . . . . .	941.321.2953
Prayer Line . . . . .	Parish Office . . . . .	941.366.4210
Rosary Makers . . . . .	Maxine Brand . . . . .	941.374.6605
Solve Maternity Homes . . . . .	Peggy Kerwin . . . . .	941.748.0094
Ushers . . . . .	Steve Mislyan . . . . .	941-993-0997
Volunteer Coordinator . . . . .	Stuart Love . . . . .	941.780.7834
Witness to Love . . . . .	Jim & Agnes Rutushni . . . . .	941.960.5128

#### Neighboring Diocesan Parishes

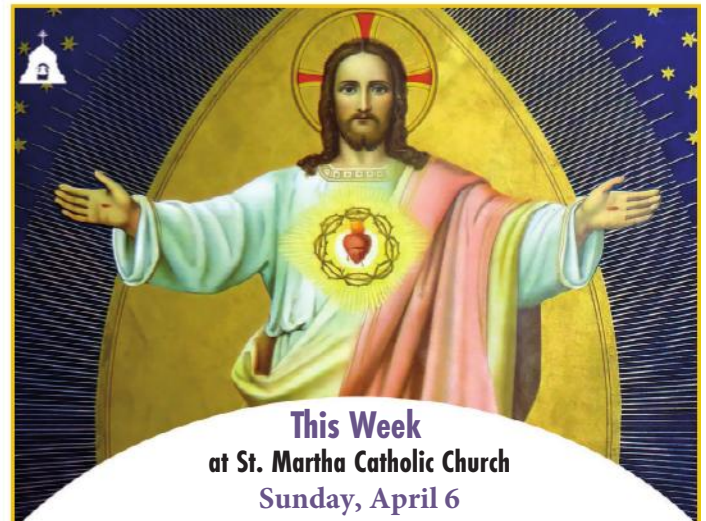
St. Jude . . . . .	Sarasota . . . . .	941.955.3934
Christ the King . . . . .	Sarasota . . . . .	941.924.2777
Incarnation . . . . .	Sarasota . . . . .	941.921.6631
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs . . . . .	Sarasota . . . . .	941.755.1826
St. Patrick . . . . .	Sarasota . . . . .	941.378.1703
St. Mary Star of the Sea . . . . .	Longboat Key . . . . .	941.383.1255
St. Thomas More . . . . .	Sarasota . . . . .	941.923.1691
St. Joseph . . . . .	Bradenton . . . . .	941.756.3732
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. Mari Jo 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



### This Week at St. Martha Catholic Church Sunday, April 6

- 10:15am **Religious Ed Classes** - *Upstairs Classrooms*
- Tuesday, April 8**
- 10:30am **Emmaus Bible Study** - *Conference Room*
- Wednesday, April 9**
- 9:30-11:30am - **Walking with Purpose** - *Parish Hall*
- Thursday, April 10**
- 10am - **Lectio Divina** - *Geenen Hall*
- 6-7:30pm - **Bible Study - Book of Genesis** - *Geenen Hall*
- Friday, April 11**
- 10-11:30am - **Bible Study - Book of Genesis** - *Geenen Hall*

## Welcome New Parishioners!

We are so happy to welcome you to  
 St Martha Catholic Church  
 and are glad you have joined us!



To Register, please  
 scan the QR code or  
 visit [stmartha.org](http://stmartha.org)



#### St. Martha Clergy

- Rev. George Suszko, S.A.C. Pastor
- Rev. Jan Rykala, S.A.C.
- Rev. Gennadi Romachko, S.A.C.
- Rev. Joseph Vu, C.R.M.,  
Hospital Chaplain
- Very Rev. Fausto Stampiglia,  
S.A.C. (Retired)
- Rev. Deacon Robert Gaitens
- Rev. Deacon C. Patrick Macaulay
- 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, Event Coordinator
- Pamela Paulson,  
Reception/Data Entry
- Maxine Brand, Reception
- Thomas Varas, 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



**ST. MARY ACADEMY**  
*12th Annual*  
**CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**  
**University Park Country Club**  
**Sarasota, FL**  
**\$150.00 per player**  
**Shotgun starts at 1:00 p.m.**

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For more information, please contact Connie Taft at (941) 366-4010 Ext. 318 or [ctaft@stmarysarasota.org](mailto:ctaft@stmarysarasota.org)  
St. Mary Academy is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating children with special learning needs.



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## Peace of Mind Seminar

We invite you to learn how planning for your final wishes may shield your family from unnecessary emotional and financial burden. Join us and learn more about pre-arrangements, veteran benefits, cremation, burials, and more.

**Tuesday April 15th, 2025**  
**at 1:00 PM**

St Martha Catholic Church  
200 North Orange Ave.  
Sarasota, FL 34236

WE WILL DISCUSS

- Cremation & Burials
- Traditional Funerals
- Veteran Benefits
- Payment Plans
- Pre-arrangements

PRESENTED BY  
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Please RSVP at (941) 366-4210

## Weekly Mass Intentions

**Sun, Apr 6** .....Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11  
7:30am.....[GS]....Donna Groark by Jennifer Bauer  
9:00am.....[FS]....(L) Jim Null by Claire Collins  
9:00am.....[GS]....(Hall) Chesterine and Henry Drabicki by the Ordonez Family  
10:30am.....[GR]....For All Parishioners  
12:00pm.....[JR]....(L) Nicole Romano by Nicole  
12:00pm.....[JV]....(Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions  
5:30pm.....[JR]....L & D Mbrs of the Plouffe Family by Joe and Betty Plouffe

**Mon, Apr 7** .....Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8:12-20

7:30am.....[JR]....Rose Mary Bond by Paul and Marge Lortie  
8:30am.....[GS]....(L) Brianne Hubert by Maureen and Don Hicks  
12:00pm.....[JV]....Cynthia Gallagher by Stephanie and Milton Kruk  
5:30pm.....[JR]....L & D Mbrs of the Thibeault Family by Linda

**Tue, Apr 8** .....Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

7:30am.....[GR]....Dec. Mbrs of the Congregation of Holy Cross by Friend  
8:30am.....[JR]....Norbert and Ingrid Fleischmann  
by Thomas and Jacqueline Kelly  
12:00pm.....[GS]....Anthony Tademy by Lisa and Richard Farr  
5:30pm.....[GR]....(L) Megan McGruder Stephens by John and Mary McGruder

**Wed, Apr 9** .....Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

7:30am.....[GS]....Edward Barrett by Beth and Ed Jeselson  
8:30am.....[JR]....(L) Tony Warren by Maureen and Don Hicks  
12:00pm.....[JR]....(L) Denice Riley by Joyce Schaefer  
5:30pm.....[GS]....Ann Burgess by Deacon Pat Macauley

**Thu, Apr 10** .....Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

7:30am.....[JV]....Helen Flardo by Sister  
8:30am.....[GR]....(L) William Ferguson by Elena Kiang  
12:00pm.....[JR]....Herman Heibel by the Heibel Family  
5:30pm.....[FS]....Lynne Klitzman by Bob Klitzman

**Fri, Apr 11** .....Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

7:30am.....[GR]....(L) Jeanna Berdeaux by David and Paula Shigley  
8:30am.....[FS]....Robert and Ann Corey by John Corey  
12:00pm.....[JV]....(L) Caroline Prybyl by Lisa and Richard Farr  
5:30pm.....[GS]....L & D Mbrs of the Dennis and Norris Families by Marcia Norris

**Sat, Apr 12** .....Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

7:30am.....[GS]....Lydia Krack by Diane Kostrzewski  
8:30am.....[FS]....John P. McCormick by Wayne Patrick  
4:00pm.....[GS]....Christine Woodruff by Bob and Kay Bair  
4:00pm.....[JR]....(Hall) Robert Heileg by Hank and Jack  
5:30pm.....[GR]....Gerald J. Boryszewski, Jr. by the Family

**Sun, Apr 13** .....Lk 19:28-40; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14—23:56

7:30am.....[JR]....Ryan Halstead by Mom  
9:00am.....[GR]....St. Martha's Volunteers by the Clergy  
9:00am.....[GS]....(Hall) (L) Fiorella Duarte by Adriana  
10:30am.....[FS]....For All Parishioners  
10:30am.....[GR]....(Hall) For All Parishioners  
12:00pm.....[FS]....Rina & Ercole Roversi & Maria & Goffredi Ghelfi by the Family  
12:00pm.....[JV]....(Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions  
5:30pm.....[GR]....Gene McLoone by Ellen Roderick

Fr. George (GS), Fr. Jan (JR), Fr. Joseph (JV),  
Fr. Fausto (FS), Fr Gennadi (GR)



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Samuel L. Cione, Parishioner

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 Parishioner & Attorney at Law  
 Wills/Trusts and Estates  
 Real Estate  
 Tax Exempt Organizations  
 (941) 366-5510  
 tinam@bowmangeorge.com  
**BG** BOWMAN, GEORGE, SCHUB, KIMBROUGH, KOACH & CHAPMAN, P.A.  
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
 2750 Ringling Blvd, Suite 3  
 Sarasota, FL 34237

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