

Pope Leo XIV

May 25, 2025  
Sixth Sunday  
of Easter

**ST. MARTHA  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**



**Mass Schedule**

**Saturday** 7:30am • 8:30am

4pm Vigil • 5:30pm Vigil

**Sunday** 7:30am • 9am • 10:30am

12pm • 5:30pm • 12pm Vietnamese (Hall)

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



Vatican Media

**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

Vatican Media

## May 25, 2025 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Today's Sermon from Deacon Vern

*Jesus said to his disciples...Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you.*

*'Peace! Peace!' ... though there is no peace, said the Lord through the prophet Jeremiah some 2,600 years ago. How many times through the centuries have we thought we had peace between nations only to it eluding us? Peace! Peace!...though there is no peace, How many times in how many lives over the centuries have men and women dreamed of finding peace of heart, and how few times and in how few lives have true peace of heart been achieved?*

Yet there we have the promise, the legacy of peace given to us by Jesus: *Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives [peace] do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.*

How does the world give peace? Negotiated settlements. Cease-fires. Truces. It is always a compromise, always less than perfect. *Piecemeal peace is poor peace*, wrote the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins (*Peace*, 1879).

The world gives its piecemeal peace grudgingly, reluctantly, suspiciously, tentatively. One hand reaches out; the other prepares to take. That's why voices down through the centuries in all parts of the world (and within our own troubled hearts) keep repeating: *Peace! Peace!...though there is no peace*, You can study that sixth chapter in the book of Jeremiah to search for a few clues that help explain why peace eluded the Israelites and remains for so many today out of reach: *For I will stretch forth my hand against those who dwell in this land, says the Lord. Small and great alike, all are greedy for gain; prophet and priest, all practice fraud...They have acted shamefully, committing abominations, yet they are not at all ashamed, they know not how to blush...Thus says the LORD: Stand by the earliest roads, ask the pathways of old, 'Which is the way to good?' and walk it; thus you will find rest for yourselves* (Jer 6:12-16).

*Greedy for gain.* Have you noticed that—nationally or personally, in yourself or others?

*Fraud?* Any signs of that in the news, in the workplace, in yourself? Have you noticed anything *odious* in human affairs, anything *abominable*, anything in daily life, in inner-, outer-, or cyber-space that should prompt shame and make a normal, healthy person blush? If we live beyond the reach of shame, we will not achieve peace of heart.

What is peace anyway? St. Thomas Aquinas defined it as the *tranquility of right order*. That suggests the wisdom of getting your act together, tidying up your life as a means of finding personal peace. It includes, of course, the wisdom of righting your relationships with God. It also suggests the necessity of public order, of just relations between nations, if peace is to reign in international relations. Peace has to be a lot more than whatever it is that follows a truce or a cease-fire. Settlement of a dispute is not a guarantee of peace. Peace has something to do with abiding balance—balance in a human life, balance between the interests of employers and employees, between organizations and between nations. There can be no peace without balance (whether it is a balance of payments, of interests, of power in public affairs; a balance of values, appetites, and commitments in personal affairs). And, of course, there can be no peace without the great balancing factor of LOVE.

Recall what the LORD said through the prophet Jeremiah: *Stand by the earliest roads (in other words, go back to basic principles, return to the old truths, to your solid core values), ask the pathways of old: 'Which is the way to good?' and walk it; thus you will find rest for yourselves.* Rest for your souls means peace.

Once you locate those *pathways of old*, which are the *way to good*, you have to walk accordingly. You've got choices to make, values to adopt, principles to internalize.

Take a moment or two today to run an inventory check on your values, your

Message Continued ↗



Our Pastor, Father George

## From Father George:

**Pope Leo XIV officially installed** - installed in the seat of Peter. He received Pallium (the white woolen band decorated with six red crosses, which the Metropolitan of Rome wears. Every pope is the Metropolitan of the Church Province of Rome) and the Ring of the Fisherman which authenticates the faith and symbolizes the duty with which the first Pope was entrusted. Peter is known as

the fisherman Apostle, the ring is referred to as the Ring of the Fisherman, or the Piscatory Ring, symbolizing the continuous lineage from the first Pope to today. May God bless Pope Leo!

**Summertime suspension of Mass and Confession** - The 5:30pm daily Mass and 11:30am Confession on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning 9am-10am will be suspended from June through September. This summertime schedule will begin on Monday, June 2.

**Conclusions of the Second Parish Assembly about the expansion of the church** - The summary of the Second Parish Assembly on April 26, 2025, about the project of expansion of St. Martha's church building is to be found on the parish Website. Together with Diane Bray and Karen Trautman we analyzed the different opinions presented at the meeting and composed the text of the summary. Thanks Diane and Karen!

**May Devotion** - We pray the Litany to Our Lady after weekday Masses during the month of May for the Church, for the conversion of sinners, for peace in the world and for our own intentions.

**Next Sunday**, June 1, 2025, is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. With prayers for God's blessing to you and your family, Father George

↙ Sunday Sermon from Deacon Vern

basic principles. Are they right ones to keep you on the road to peace? Take a look at our nation's values. Are they the right ones to keep us as a nation on the road to peace? If not, what can you do to change them?

There is a famous prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi. You've might have heard it and prayed it often. Review it now as a blueprint, a strategy for peace.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is discord, unity; Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is error, truth; Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is sadness, joy; Where there is darkness, light.

O Divine Master,

grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console,  
to be understood, as to understand, to be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Comb through those words to come up with the elements of a working strategy for peace—personal peace or peace between any opposing parties, nations, and organizations. What do you come up with? Love, pardon, unity, faith, truth, hope, joy. How strategically important is it for you personally and for any opposing parties to seek not so much *to be understood as to understand*?

Peace, peace, and there is no peace. Why? Because this strategy has not yet been tried. *Peace I leave you; my peace I give you. Not as the world gives do I give [peace] to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.* Be not afraid. How often did Jesus say those reassuring words in his post-Resurrection appearances! Hear him say those words to you today. Be not afraid to do what must be done for your personal reception and assimilation of the gift of peace.

# St Martha Legacy Society



The Legacy Society at St Martha is open to all parishioners. There is no financial donation required to join, only the commitment to leave something –anything– to St Martha in your will.

As a member of the Legacy Society, you will ensure the future of our beautiful historic church in downtown Sarasota. Through your efforts St Martha will be able to minister to present and future generations in Sarasota.

To become a member, you only need to get in touch with us and express your interest in leaving something to the church in your estate. We will never ask how much, and we will not ask for verification.

Interested in joining?  
Contact Emil Efthimides at [ede24@usa.com](mailto:ede24@usa.com) or Samantha McDonald, Parish Hall 941.366.4210 [smcdonald@stmartha.org](mailto:smcdonald@stmartha.org)

There are some nice perks, like having your name added to the donor tree in the church courtyard. And you will be hosted by Fr George at our *Annual Legacy Society Dinner*. This year's dinner at Michael's Wine Cellar on Tuesday, February 18 was enjoyed by over 20 members.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

for the

# Diamond Gala

ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Contact St. Martha School - Kristyn Lubrano  
[klubrano@stmarthaschool.net](mailto:klubrano@stmarthaschool.net) / 941.953.4181

## Helping the Homeless Be Housed

*Please Help Make a Real Difference*

Many of us wonder how we can help. Should we give a few dollars to those suffering? 90% of our homeless suffer from addiction and/or mental illness. Giving cash enables the continuation of the homeless lifestyle.

### *But what about our duty as Christians to help the poor and needy?*

Aren't we supposed to help? YES, absolutely! But please let your donation truly do the good you intend. The church collects money to support our local homeless charities. **The Homeless Outreach donation box** is located near the main doors of the church. **The monies collected go to:**

**Caritas Food Pantry:** A parish ministry at St. Martha. The food pantry is open Monday-Friday and serves hundreds of families every week.

**Resurrection House:** Provides many free services to the homeless including breakfast, lunch, bathrooms, showers, toiletries, laundry service, clothing, chapel, barber, health screening, medical doctor, dentist, vaccines, and legal services.

**Family Promise:** An organization addressing the gap in local services for pregnant mothers experiencing homelessness. Expectant mothers and their children can be housed at the Family Promise Francis House or Family Promise funding housing. Family Promise currently houses 39 pregnant mothers with children.

**The Homeless Outreach donation box is the way to truly help. Placing your donations in the box will make a real difference.**

## St. Martha School & St. Mary Academy All School Mass and May Crowning



*Please Join Us!*

**Thursday mornings at 10am for  
Lectio Divina classes in Geenen Hall.**

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Friday, November 14, 2025 at 6pm  
Michaels On East, 1212 East Avenue  
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Saturday, November 15, 2025 from 5-8pm  
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St. Martha's Hospitality Ministry Wine & Cheese Event



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The Office of Evangelization reaches out with programs and ministries to Parishes, schools, homes, workplaces, prisons and the larger community. Opportunities to experience the fullness of the Catholic faith are provided so as to draw every person to the Lord. This is accomplished through conferences, retreats, Bible studies, prison ministry, Eucharistic Congresses and other vital initiatives to strengthen the faith throughout the Diocese.



The Office of Youth and Young Adult Outreach coordinates events like the Annual Youth Rally, as well as ongoing Theology on Tap for youth and young adults to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. The younger generations face numerous challenges in our society. These programs endeavor to illuminate spiritual growth and highlight our faith tradition.

The Office of Marriage and Family Life exists to promote and strengthen families to carry out God's plan allowing the basic unit of society to grow together in holiness and raise children in the Catholic Faith. Engaged couples are formed for sacramental marriage, and married couples are empowered to become active witnesses and supporters of family life.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Campo San Jose Retreat Centers provide an ambiance to inspire a deep personal relationship with the Lord. By removing the distractions and noise of everyday life, one can more clearly listen to the Lord.



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OLPH is also a Jubilee Year of Hope Pilgrimage site. You are welcome to explore our peaceful site throughout the year Mon-Fri 10am-4pm



Celebrate 30 years with Our lady of Perpetual Help Retreat and Spirituality Center

## Events & Announcements



**Ave Maria Youth Conference** - The 2025 Ave Maria University Proclaim Youth Conference is July 11-13. The theme for the Conference is *But as for you, go and proclaim the Kingdom of God* (Luke 9:60). The Conference will include talks from Sister Maria Jose Socias, SCTJM, Michael Gormley, Mari Pablo, and Father Joseph Lugalambi. Music will be by Epic Music Ministries. The Conference will include Mass, Adoration, praise and worship, lodging, meals, t-shirts, a pizza night, and more. Registration is \$195. per person. For more information or to register, please visit [aveconferences.com](http://aveconferences.com).

**Free Rosary Repair Service** - Send your broken rosaries in a padded envelope to Betty and Dick Holden, Free Rosary Repair Service, 7930 Estero Blvd., Unit 502, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931. Rosaries will be repaired and returned within the week of receipt. Donations of old rosaries are also accepted which will be repaired and sent to missions. Include a note indicating repair or donation. For more details, please call 239.463.3993, 860.595.6370 or email the Holdens.

### 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 Piere . . . . .	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

## 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



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**Charity: St. Martha, 200 N. Orange Ave, Sarasota, FL 34236 (EIN#: 59-0737906)**

Donations from your IRA must be dispersed directly to a charity, like St. Martha, to qualify for the tax benefits! It can be designated for offertory, debt reduction, capital projects, CFA, tuition, or building our endowment funds. To inform us of how you would like your gift directed, please contact our Parish office at (941) 366-4210.

To learn more about QCDs, please scan the QR Code to the right, visit [ccfdioceseofvenice.org/giving/ira-charitable-rollover/](http://ccfdioceseofvenice.org/giving/ira-charitable-rollover/) or call the Catholic Community Foundation at: (941) 441-1124.

**ST. MARTHA**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
*The Pallotines (Society of Catholic Apostolate)*

**Weekly Mass Intentions**

- Sun, May 25** ..... Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Rv 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29  
7:30am.....[JR] ....Ann Britanak by Sister  
9:00am.....[FS] ....Chesterine and Henry Drabicki by the Ordonez Family  
10:30am.....[GR]....For All Parishioners  
12:00pm.....[GR]....(L) Jonathan & Daria Turner by Joan and Paul Turner  
12:00pm.....[JV].....(Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions  
5:30pm.....[GS]....L & D Mbrs of the Thomas Fam. by Joe and Betty Plouffe
- Mon, May 26** ..... Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26-16:4a  
7:30am.....[JV].....Betty Smith by Theresa Gilbertson  
8:30am.....[JR] ....(L) The Duarte Family by Adriana  
10:30am.....[GS]....Gertrude Cywinski by the Heibel Family
- Tue, May 27** ..... Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11  
7:30am.....[GS]....Fr. Patrick Wilson by Marcia Derck  
8:30am.....[JR] ....Robert Romaine by Gail and Fr. Bob Romaine  
12:00pm.....[JR] ....Rick Klopfer by Maxine and Jennifer  
5:30pm.....[GR]....(L) Thomas Terreri by Karen and Mike Stengel
- Wed, May 28** ..... Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Jn 16:12-15  
7:30am.....[GR]....Carol Comery by Claire Collins  
8:30am.....[GS]....Rick Taylor by The Heed Family  
12:00pm.....[GR]....Mallory Blank by Diane  
5:30pm.....[JR] ....(L) Jura Ashley by Karen Mason and Lisa Moynihan
- Thu, May 29** ..... Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20  
7:30pm.....[JR] ....Salvatore Iacopelli by John Iacopelli  
8:30pm.....[GR]....Charles Proctor by Ann Proctor  
12:00pm.....[JV].....Missing and Exploited Children by Joe and Betty Plouffe  
5:30pm.....[FS] ....(L) Bill and Barbara Rex by Judy Kozlowski
- Fri, May 30** ..... Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23  
7:30am.....[JV].....(L) Nate Donahue by Terry and Lindy Donahue  
8:30am.....[FS] ....Fouad Nassab by Aldo Massara  
12:00pm.....[GR]....Helen Bovenzo by James Bovenzo  
5:30pm.....[GS]....(L) Fr. Sebastian Szczawinski & Family by Barbara Bradley
- Sat, May 31** ..... Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-56  
7:30am.....[JV].....Robert Rutkowski by the Rutkowski Family  
8:30am.....[FS] ....Denis Healy by Evelyn Meisner  
4:00pm.....[JR] ....Ann Burgess by Marilyn Kneafsey  
5:30pm.....[GR]....Frank Ricciardelli by Wife
- Sun, June 1** ..... Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Lk 24:46-53  
7:30am.....[GR]....Oma Handley by the Family  
9:00am.....[GS]....Betty Sauer by Ann Crowley  
10:30am.....[GS]....For All Parishioners  
12:00pm.....[FS] ....Charles Cognato by Emil and Diane  
12:00pm.....[JV].....(Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions  
5:30pm.....[JR] ....L & D Mbrs of the Plouffe Fam. by Joe and Betty Plouffe
- Fr. George (GS), Fr. Jan (JR), Fr. Joseph (JV)  
Fr. Fausto (FS), Fr Gennadi (GR)



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