

“And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.”

– Matthew 16: 18-19



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

Confession - Reconciliation Room

Saturday 3-4pm • Monday, Wednesday, 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

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

June 29, 2025 - Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
Today's Sermon from Fr Gennadi

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles. It is a great solemnity in the whole Catholic Church. Their lives were interesting. Simon Peter, a simple Galilean fisherman, was chosen as an Apostle. Although he denied his Master three times, he became the first among Christ's disciples and the head of the whole Church. Today his successor in the Holy See is Leo XIV. The second of today's Apostles – Saul of Tarsus, a zealous Pharisee and an expert in the Holy Scripture – only when God's grace caught up with him, he became a zealous follower of Christ, changed his name and since then, he has been known as Paul. Although he persecuted Christians, he nevertheless became an Apostle to the Gentiles and brought many pagan nations to the true faith through his apostolic journeys and letters. Therefore, today's solemnity makes us reflect on the fate of the Holy Church in the past and present. Let us take a closer look at those who were the first to build this Church. Today the Church of Christ is over two thousand years old; it has undergone many different adversities and persecutions. In the Church today there are various people. There are those who come to the Holy Mass every Sunday and feast day and pray every day. There are also those who, despite the fact that they received the most important sacraments in their youth, deny their faith in adulthood. Let us note that if the Christian Church had been the work of men alone, it would not have survived long. It would have fell apart like many pagan religions. Despite many different attempts to fight against the Church, the prophecy of Jesus is being fulfilled: *And the gates of hell will not prevail against it* (Mt16:18). This is because the Founder of the Church is not an ordinary man, but Christ Himself: the God-Man who is present in His Church, strengthens and revives it. Moreover, at the very beginnings of the Church, like pillars, stand two great figures, Saints Peter and Paul, who to this day are the best example and model for all Christians to follow. They are an assurance that even if a Christian weakens in faith, he remains a Christian, a child of God, and even if weak, can always return to his Father, can always benefit from the sacrament of God's mercy, the sacrament of penance, and can always say, like St. Peter the Apostle, who, in answer to Jesus' question, said: *Lord, you know that I love you* (J 21:15).

I would like to refer to discovering my vocation. I was thinking about priesthood for about 10 years. I applied to the seminary when I was almost 25 years old. Once I was asked why I thought for so long? I replied that I considered myself unworthy. I thought that you had to have something special in yourself to be a candidate for priesthood. Today's Solemnity shows us the great Apostles Peter and Paul. It was Jesus who made them great. He called them as ordinary people, not perfect. He transformed them with His grace and sanctified them, defended them from many dangers, and preserved them in His love. Saint Peter once said to Jesus: *Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man* (Lk 5:8). And St. Paul says of himself: *I am the least of all, and I am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I have persecuted the Church* (1 Cor 15:9). These Apostles were not ideal in the beginning, but they became saints because of Christ. It was Jesus who completely changed their lives.

These two Apostles, Peter and Paul, are for us a model of faith and an example of the living witness of the disciples. They were ready to suffer and die for Jesus. Let us therefore ask God, through the intercession of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, for the grace of holiness for us, for the courage to build unity in the Church, in the nation, in our families, in ourselves, so that the world may be filled with people who will be of one heart and one spirit, so that the world may be filled with people who recognize Christ as their Savior. View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



Our Pastor, Father George

From Father George:

Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles - Peter, died in 64 in Rome under Nero; fisherman; spokesman for the Twelve who became "Prince of the Apostles"; two epistles are ascribed to him; patron of those in the fishing industry. Paul, according to tradition, was martyred in Rome in 67; Pharisee who became the "Apostle of the Gentiles"; his letters may be dated from 50 – 65; patron of the lay apostolate, also of Malta and Greece.

4 July - Prayer of Archbishop John Carroll for the government on Independence Day - We pray O God of might, wisdom and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment decreed, assist with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude the president of these United States, that his administration may be conducted in righteousness and be eminently useful to your people over whom he presides; by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by restraining vice and immorality.

We recommend likewise, to your unbounded mercy, all our brethren and fellow citizens throughout the United States, that they may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of your most holy law; that they may be preserved in union, and in that peace which the world cannot give; and after enjoying the blessings of this life, be admitted to those which are eternal.


Parish Jubilee Pilgrimage to Venice - We are organizing a bus trip to Epiphany Cathedral and to the Diocesan Retreat Center to mark this special 2025 Jubilee Year with our visit to a designated Diocesan Jubilee Site. We plan to do it on **Tuesday July 29, 2025**, which is the Memorial of St. Martha (Patron Saint of our Parish), Mary & Lazarus. Here is the plan for that special day: 8:30am Parish Feast Day Mass in St. Martha church, 9:20am Bus trip to downtown Venice. See the renovation works in the Cathedral. Special Rosary Prayer with the Prayers for Jubilee Indulgence in the current Cathedral Parish church. Short trip to the Retreat Center. 12:00pm Lunch and then the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel. About 2pm Return to Sarasota. Please register your name in the parish office if you would like to join this Jubilee Pilgrimage. There is no charge for this event.

Fr. Chris Hathaway - Pastor at Christ the King parish, Sarasota is being transferred to Mableton, GA. Fr. Vince Huber will become Parish Administrator & Fr Nicholas Eichman, FssP, will be his assistant. We are grateful to Fr. Chris, who together with Fr. Vince, has been helping in Sarasota Memorial Hospital by taking Tuesdays and Wednesdays as his days to respond to calls to care for the sick patients. May God bless Fr. Chris in his new assignment!

Next Sunday, July 6, 2025, is the 14 Sunday of Ordinary Time.

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

A Message from
BISHOP DEWANE



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Peter's Pence Collection began as a way for Catholics around the world to express their unity with the Holy Father by supporting the Church's mission of evangelization and charity by giving to this annual collection. Funds collected will benefit our brothers and sisters who are victims of war, oppression, and disasters. By participating in this collection, you join Pope Leo XIV's efforts to show your support for the ongoing work of the Holy See and show kindness and mercy to those who suffer worldwide.

The Diocese of Venice is scheduled to hold the Peter's Pence Collection on the weekend of June 28 and 29, 2025. Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's collection as an act of charity and a sign of support for Pope Leo XIV. Join the Faithful from around the globe to ensure the Successor of Peter is able to respond to those most in need. Thank you for your generosity!

I take this opportunity to extend to you my continued consideration as well as my prayers for you and your family.

Have a Blessed Holy Week! Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

Vietnamese Ministry Summer Festival



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Saturday, November 15, 2025 from 5-8pm
Reception at Fr Fausto Parish Hall Center

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Contact St. Martha School - Kristyn Lubrano
klubrano@stmarthaschool.net / 941.953.4181

Join Father Fausto for Bible Study
Job – why bad things happen to good people

Fr. Fausto conducts a four-week program discussing the *Book of Job* – why bad things happen to good people.

Participants can attend an evening session or morning session:
Evening session 6-7:30pm • Thursdays from July 17th through August 7th
Morning session 10-11:30am • Fridays from July 18th through August 8th
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Participants are encouraged to read the *Book of Job* prior to the program and bring a Catholic Bible to the sessions.
Reserve a seat 941.366.4210 ext 0 • email mbrand@stmartha.org
About our speaker: Fr. Fausto Stampiglia PhD, MA, MS, our retired Pastor of St. Martha, serving from 1991-2022, is a Pallottine member of the Society of Catholic Apostolate since 1953. Fr. Fausto is a member of the Pontifical Academy of Liturgy in Rome since 1961. Upon the gracious presentation of our Bishop Dewane, Pope Benedict conferred in 2010 to Fr. Fausto the Papal Medal for Meritorious Service to the Pope and to the Church. Fr. Fausto has been named Theologian to the Bishop from 1987 to 2022 by the Bishop of Venice.



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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	Emil Efthimides	
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

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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

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 St. Mary Academy Principal: Mrs. Rebecca Reynolds 941.366.4010

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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.

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 visit stmartha.org
 or scan the QR code ↘



St. Martha Parish Staff

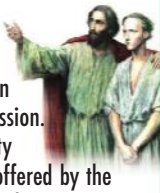
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 Carlos Sierra Napoles, Maintenance
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St. Martha Clergy

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.

Events & Announcements

Natural Family Planning Introductory Session - Learn about Natural Family Planning with a free introductory session. The Diocese of Venice supports the Creighton Model Fertility Care System, and free online training sessions are being offered by the St. Gianna Center for Women's Health & Fertility Care on Jul 22, Aug 14, Sep 20, and Oct 21. Choose one that fits your schedule! The sessions are free, but registration is required. Register at bit.ly/SGIntroSession. For more information, visit stgiannacenter.com, or with questions, contact Jim Gontis, gontis@dioceseofvenice.org, 941.486.4754



Weekly Mass Intentions



Sun, June 29 **Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19**

7:30am [GR] Robert Simmons by Aldo Massara
 9:00am [GR] Bernadette DeRenzo by Ann Crowley
 10:30am [GS] For All Parishioners
 12:00pm [FS] Dennis Falk by Ann Flynn
 12:00pm [JV] (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
 5:30pm [GS] Gerald J. Boryszewski, Jr. by the Family

Mon, June 30 **Gn 18:16-33; Mt 8:18-22**

7:30am [JV] Mary Rooney by Paula and David Shigley
 8:30am [GS] Merelyn O'Donnell by Ed and Jimmie Schellinger
 12:00pm [GS] (L) Aldo C. Zucaro by Cathy Giblin

Tue, July 1 **Gn 19:15-29; Mt 8:23-27**

7:30am [GR] (L) Jennifer Archangel by Jennifer Archangel
 8:30am [JV] Fr. Patrick Wilson by Allie Freedman
 12:00pm [GS] Skip Sofield by Terry

Wed, July 2 **Gn 21:5, 8-20a; Mt 8:28-34**

7:30am [GS] Mary Kurt by David and Paula Shigley
 8:30am [GR] (L) Agnieszka and Nick Corsaro by the Corsaro Family
 12:00pm [GR] Ronald Velat by Bob, Rich, Ed, and Vicki Repik

Thu, July 3 **Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29**

7:30pm [JV] Sharon Sheridan by Shawna Sheridan
 8:30pm [GR] Jean Ann Scheidel by Sonia
 12:00pm [FS] Noreen Smith by Sean and Bill

Fri, July 4 **Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Mt 9:9-13**

7:30am [GR] (L) Isaac Kohl by Friend
 8:30am [GS] (L) Patrica Devine by Maureen Devine
 10:30am [FS] John Flannigan by Peter and Jennie Caufield
 7:30pm [JV] (Vietnamese) Special Intentions

Sat, July 5 **Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Mt 9:14-17**

7:30am [JV] Deacon Lionel Roberts by John Schaefer
 8:30am [FS] (L) The Joe Bein Family by Jennifer Archangel
 4:00pm [GR] Jimetta A. Pyles by Hank and Jan Castonguay
 5:30pm [GS] L & D Mbrs of the Stephens Fam. by John & Mary McGruder

Sun, July 6 **Is 66:10-14c; Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12, 17-20**

7:30am [GS] Ryan Halstead by Mom
 9:00am [GR] Mary Elena Galbis by Theresa Gilbertson
 10:30am [FS] For All Parishioners
 12:00pm [GS] (L) Fiorella Duarte by Adriana
 12:00pm [JV] (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
 5:30pm [GR] L & D Mbrs of the Plouffe Family by Joe and Betty Plouffe

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



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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 or **Samantha McDonald**, Parish Hall 941.366.4210 smcdonald@stmartha.org

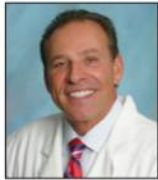
The nice perks are having your name added to the donor tree in the church courtyard. And being hosted by Fr George at our *Annual Legacy Society Dinner*. This year's dinner at Michael's Wine Cellar on Tuesday, February 18 was enjoyed by over 20 members.



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