

July 27, 2025

KNOCK

AND THE DOOR
WILL BE OPENED
TO YOU.

— LUKE 11:9 —

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

©LPI



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

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

July 27, 2025 - The 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Luke 11: 1-13

Today's Sermon from Deacon Bob

Last week we heard about Jesus with Mary and Martha. This week Jesus is teaching the disciples and us how to pray. There are most certainly times for action and to be like Martha. Where we roll our sleeves up and do His work. But Jesus also just wants us to spend time with Him and our Father as well. That is what Mary was doing in last week's Gospel and what Jesus is teaching us to do in this week's Gospel. We spend time with God when we pray!

I have shared with many of you in past homilies (and even here in the bulletin) how I was taught what faith was by one of my students (Rich) who was studying to be a deacon. He was in an Old Testament class and did a report on the "Faith of Job." Tragically about two months earlier, he and his wife had lost their son. So we did not expect him to do the report, but he insisted that he continue with his studies. It changed my understanding of faith, and honestly my spirituality as well.

If you know the story of Job, he had a great faith in God. So the devil goes to God, and wagers that he can cause Job to lose his faith. So God grants the test of faith on Job. In the process of the devil testing Job's faith, Job loses his wealth, his family, and even his health. But Job is never shaken by the devil. So the devil requests one more test to God on Job's faith. God is reluctant to allow another test on poor Job. So he will only allow one more test if Job himself agrees to the test. So God goes to Job and asks if he is willing for one more test. Job states he can take on another test on two conditions: That Job knows that God is listening to him, and that also he knows that God is talking to him. Rich, my student, that day taught me that faith was not believing God existed. God exists and it can be proven by thermodynamics. Faith is knowing that God is listening to us and talking to us! Faith is communicating with God...Faith is prayer!

So Jesus today is teaching us to pray both to Him, the Holy Spirit, and Our Father. He is helping us have faith! He tells us in the first line of the Our Father *hallowed be your name*. What Jesus is saying is that all good and all glory is from the Father: if it is good: it is from God, only if it is bad, it is from us. He then tells us to ask Him for our daily bread. Certainly, we need to ask God for our material sustenance. Jesus reminds us that we should ask Our Father for that. But it also goes so much farther than that! Do we not need the Bread of Life both in the Eucharist and in the Spirit? Do we not need the Holy Spirit to infuse every part of our lives? When we have the Holy Spirit permeating every aspect of our lives, it is then when we have true joy regardless of the circumstances we face. Just like Rich, even though he faced the most tragic moment of his life and had great sadness and loss, he also had the comfort of God's unfailing Love.

Jesus also reminds us that His mercy is endless and calls us to exercise that same mercy to those around us. Intuitively we know that when we show mercy, it really does warm our hearts. Yet we consistently fall for the lies of the devil and harden our hearts. When we do that, we lose the joy of God. And God does not want us to lose His joy. It is when we rise above the petty things of this world, we truly find His peace in our hearts and souls.

[Message Continued on page 3](#)



Our Pastor, Father George

From Father George:

Parish Jubilee Pilgrimage to Venice (Designated 2025 Jubilee Site in our Diocese) - 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 Diocesan Retreat Center.
- 12pm 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.

Those who need Confession need to have it before Tuesday; there will be no Confession available on the day of Pilgrimage.

The new church Tabernacle - Six months ago, in January, I ordered an additional Tabernacle for Holy Triduum, hoping that the Tabernacle would arrive before Easter so that we could use it on Holy Thursday for the Altar of Repose and then use it in the Sacristy for Good Friday and Holy Saturday to store the Blessed Sacrament, which we traditionally remove from the church Tabernacle on those days. So far, the Blessed Sacrament during those days was placed in a cupboard, which served the purpose but wasn't very respectful to the Blessed Sacrament. Six months later, just last week the Tabernacle was delivered and then I, and anybody else who saw it, noticed that the new Tabernacle is bigger, more beautiful than our current Tabernacle and is decorated with Cross and Eucharistic Chalice (In the catalogue it didn't look so great). We kept it for a week in the Sacristy where about 20/30 parishioners saw it and *liked it*. So, I decided to replace the Old Tabernacle with the new one and to keep the old one in the Sacristy to be used in Holy Week. I hope I have your approval of this change. Fr. George

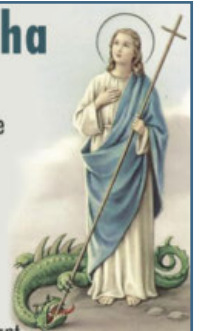
Next Sunday, August 3, 2025, is the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

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

A Prayer to Saint Martha

O blessed Saint Martha your faith led Jesus to proclaim, "I am the resurrection and the life"; and faith let you see beyond his humanity when you cried out, "Lord I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God". With firm hope you said, "I know that God will give whatever you ask of Him", and Jesus called your brother Lazarus back from the dead. With pure love for Jesus, you welcomed Him into your home. Friend and servant of our Saviour, I too am "troubled about many things" (mention your intentions). Pray for me that I may grow in faith, hope and love, and that Jesus, who sat at your table, will hear me and grant me a place at the banquet of eternal life.

Amen



↑ Sunday Sermon from Deacon Bob, continued from page 2

Finally, He reminds us that our earthly wants push us to temptations that drive us away from His joy, but if we focus on Him, the Holy Spirit, and the Father, they will guide our paths away from those pitfalls that lead us away from God and the joy God promises in the calmness of having conversations with Him.

Who has not found great comfort spending times with loved ones around a dinner table or a warm fire in discussions? We all have. Jesus is inviting us to share in the same comfort with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is asking all of us to spend a little time with Him, His Spirit, and Our Father in His Peace. The Lamb of God is wanting to grant us His Peace! He is asking us to take time out of our busy day and share in His Love for us. To have a discussion with Him. To pray!

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 attend an evening or morning session:

Evening session

6-7:30pm • Thursdays through August 7

Morning session

10-11:30am • Fridays through August 8

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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.



2025-26 Religious Education/ Faith Formation Classes



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Emmaus Journey Bible Study

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To make an **appointment with Fr. George** please contact our parish office at 941.366.4210 x0
Any questions please contact **Patricia Sileo DRE** sileo@stmartha.org



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The harvest is indeed great, but more laborers are needed.



Diocese of Venice

1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285. 941.484.9543

Outreach Ministries

- Altar Servers Dn. Vern Smith dvern@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 fsm@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

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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

- 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. 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



St. William Summer Educational Series: Aging in Place: Creating a Safe and Supportive Home Environment - This free presentation on **Wednesday, July 30 at 11pm** at **St. William Church Hall**, 601 Seagate Dr., Naples will explore practical strategies to reduce fall risks and improve accessibility. Presenter Kelly Rose, Managing Director and CEO of Life Home Health, will discuss new supportive technologies, home health services and occupational therapy. For more information contact Sharon@saintwilliam.org or 239.330.2267.

Children Throughout the World Need Our Help! Don't Let Children Go Hungry! - The termination of **Catholic Relief Services'**

McGovern-Dole Food for Education school feeding programs has cutting off daily meals for more than 900,000 children in 13 countries. Please email your members of Congress, asking them to urge the administration to reverse these terminations and **reinstate Catholic Relief Services' USDA-funded food programs** so that they can continue to provide lifesaving and life-affirming food aid. Visit: support.crs.org/act/mcgovern-dole.

Fifth Annual Together in Holiness Marriage Enrichment Conference - October 18 at **St. John XXIII** in Fort Myers. Engaged couples are welcome! Learn more/register, togetherinholiness.org/venice or contact Jim Gontis, gontis@dioceseofvenice.org / **941.486.4754**.

Kids Corner

 **PUZZLE** Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

You are not ashamed to keep on asking.

		A	S	K	I	N	G		

 **MISSION** Make time to pray every day this week.



Weekly Mass Intentions



Sun, July 27Gn 18:20-32; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13
 7:30am..... [JV].....Ryan Halstead by Mom
 9:00am..... [JR]St. Martha's Volunteers by the Clergy
 10:30am..... [JR]For All Parishioners
 12:00pm..... [FS]Marian & Alessandro Ross by The Sweet Sixteen
 12:00pm..... [JV].....(Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
 5:30pm..... [GS]....L & D Mbrs of the Thomas Family by Joe and Betty Plouffe

Mon, July 28.....Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Mt 13:31-35
 7:30am..... [JR]Jenn Zitko by Terry and Lindy Donahue
 8:30am..... [JV].....Mary Burke by John Schaefer
 12:00pm..... [GS]....Eileen Gunther by Cathy and George Phillips

Tue, July 29Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Jn 11:19-27
 7:30am..... [GS]....Robert Hall by Phyllis Hall
 8:30am..... [JR]Lew and Betty Smith by Theresa Gilbertson
 12:00pm..... [GS]....Harris Williams by Marie Williams

Wed, July 30.....Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46
 7:30am..... [JR](L) Bro. Lawrence Skitzki, C.S.C. by Paula and David Shigley
 8:30am..... [GS]....(L) Madeline Fox by the Family
 12:00pm..... [JR](L) Maggie Stephens by John and Mary McGruder

Thu, July 31.....Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53
 7:30am..... [GS]....Joseph Britanak by his Sister
 8:30am..... [JR]Robert and Ann Corey by John
 12:00pm..... [FS](L) Aibhlin Helms by John and Mary McGruder

Fri, Aug 1Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt 13:54-58
 7:30am..... [GS]....(L) Bro. William Dygert, C.S.C. by Paula and David Shigley
 8:30am..... [FS]Fr. Patrick Wilson by Allie Freedman
 12:00pm..... [JR]Clement Deltette by Catalina Deltette

Sat, Aug 2Lv 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12
 7:30am..... [GS]....Lucia and Biagio Stragapede by Carmela Scarongella
 8:30am..... [GS]....Rose Linsky by the Corsaro Family
 4:00pm..... [FS]Shawn Kelly by Ann Proctor
 5:30pm..... [JR]Olga Braccino by Magda Kovacic and Family

Sun, Aug 3Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21
 7:30am..... [GS]....Oma Handley by the Family
 9:00am..... [JR]Bernard Jaje by Bernadette Fauster
 10:30am..... [FS]For All Parishioners
 12:00pm..... [GS]....Kathleen Mislyan by Stephen Mislyan
 12:00pm..... [].....(Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
 5:30pm..... [JR]Gerald J. Boryszewski, Jr. by the Family

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



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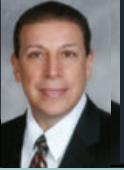
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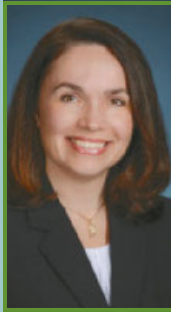


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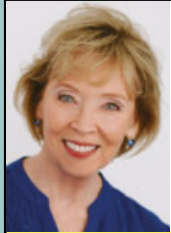
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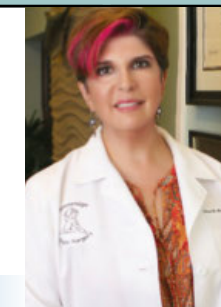
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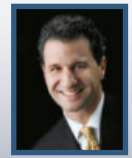
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