

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

March 1 - 7, 2026

*"Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." - Mt 17:1-2*



## ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

### Mass Schedule

**Saturday** 7:30am • 8:30am • 4pm Vigil

4:00 (Hall) Vigil • 5:30pm Vigil

**Sunday** 7:30am • 9am • 9am (Hall) • 10:30am

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

**Weekday** 7:30am • 8:30am • 12pm

**Confession** - Reconciliation Room

Saturday 3-4pm • Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11am

**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

**March 1, 2026** - 2nd Sunday of Lent - Mt 17: 1-9

by Deacon Bob

Today's Gospel verse reminds me how lucky we are to be Christian, yet Catholic Christian!! Two things always jump out to me when I read this Gospel: First that God's forgiving Grace does not only extend to Christians, but all walks of Faith, and that those of us who profess Jesus is Lord, are given an unbelievable gift: particularly we Catholics.

The Transfiguration event highlights that Jews are in heaven too. In fact, of the people mentioned in the Bible as being in heaven none are Christian. Today's Gospel notes that both Moses and Elijah are in Heaven. We also know that Father Abraham is in Heaven. Again the Good Thief (while we do not know definitively that he was a Jew), was also invited into Heaven at the Cross.

Does that mean that St. Paul is wrong when he tells us it is only through Christ Jesus that we can get to Heaven? A profound and definite NO to that question! It is only through Jesus that we enter Heaven. But we can not put human restraints on God, as God and God's Love is infinite. Believing that Jesus is God is not enough to get us to Heaven. The devil knows that Jesus is God, but that is not true Faith. Faith in Jesus as God means that we LIVE Jesus' teaching. We Live the Word!

Algebra teaches us that if A equals B, and B equals C, then A equals C. In our Nicene Creed we recite during Mass, we are reminded that Jesus is consubstantial with the Father. Or as John tells us in the beginning of his Gospel, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was made flesh*. So if we live in Faith, living the Word regardless of Our Faith, we are in good standing with God. This is our Catholic Faith's belief.

So why then are we Christian, more importantly, why are Christian Catholics? It is because of what is said at the end of today's Gospel! *This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased, listen to HIM!* In the Transfiguration, the Father revealed to Peter, James and John that Jesus IS God. We are to listen to Him. Jesus in the Gospel John, while praying to the Father says to Our Father, may they (us) know that they are Your gift to Me. With that understanding: everything Our Lord Jesus offers us is because He cherishes is Gift from the Father. He cherishes us. Similarly, The Father gave His *beloved Son* us, as such He cherishes us too. That is why He tells us to listen to Him.

So while no faith religion has a monopoly to Heaven, the faith that listens to Jesus' teaching the best are provided the most tools to live the Word. Those tools come from the Sacraments Jesus offered all humanity. But it is on our Catholic Faith that we have listened to them all! Naturally all Christian faiths accept Baptism, from which all the rest of the Sacraments flow. But as Catholics, through Jesus giving Peter the keys to the kingdom and telling him and his successors that they can forgive sins, we as Catholics get to tangibly feel the endless mercy of Our God in Confession. That helps us to focus on the fact that God does forgive us and that to Live the Word we need to also forgive others. We get to receive His Body and

continued to ➤



Our Pastor, Father George

## Notes From Father George:

**Catholic Faith Appeal** - Thanks to all parishioners who donated towards the CFA in our parish, we appreciate your faithful support of our local Diocesan Church and all its charitable ministries. Unfortunately, we didn't manage to collect the whole sum of \$450,000 for the year 2025, we collected \$350,728 so the parish account will pay the difference of \$99,272. I would like to ask all church attendants in St. Martha's parish who are

not registered in St. Martha to help us with the CFA in this 2026. Your contribution may help us to reach this year's target, please!

**Change of the time of Confessions** - From Monday, March 2, we will start the Confession time on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at **11am**.

**Parish Lenten Stations of the Cross** - They will be held after 8:30am Mass on Fridays in Lent.

**40 Days for Life** - Please support the campaign to end the abortion through prayer and fasting, community outreach and peaceful vigils in front of abortion mills. In Sarasota advocates **pray on the sidewalks** in front of Planned Parenthood and offer alternatives available to women at the Community Pregnancy Clinic which is located next to Planned Parenthood. The days for St. Martha are: **Monday, March 2** from 9am-12pm, **Saturday, March 14** from 9am- 12pm.

**Next Sunday, March 8, 2026, is the Third Sunday of Lent.**

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

---

↙ Deacon Bob Sermon continued from previous column

Blood, which both renews are Baptismal vows and allows Jesus not just to enter our lives spiritually but offers us a physical relationship with Our God. If that does not blow us away, nothing will! For as Jesus says: My flesh is True food, and My Blood true drink! In the Sacrament of marriage, we get to symbolically create a Trinity of God: In The wife, husband and children: 3 parts yet one entity. This allows us to have an earthly love, that is only usurped in the Love of God Himself. When we are sick, we are offered by Jesus His anointing. This allows us to tether our suffering to His, again helping us to live the Word. Finally, Jesus offers the sacrament of ordination so that some can act in the person of God (Persona Christi), so that all of us can experience through human interaction His unfailing Love.

God dwells within each and every human being, and loves us all with unfailing Love. No one because of their specific affiliations have any more *right to Heaven*, and Heaven is opened to all humanity. But as being Catholics, we are so blessed to be able to have extra tools to Live the Word. But if we listen to Him, as the Father tells us today, (which is made easier by the Sacraments if we allow them to profoundly affect us), we will be with Our God in Heaven who has a Love for us beyond all telling!

Rite of Election, Ft Myers – 2/22/2026



Special Mass for Confirmation Students – 2/22/2026



**Join Father Fausto for Bible Study**  
*The Gospel According to Luke*  
 Fr. Fausto will conduct a seven-week program discussing *The Gospel According to Luke*. Evening or morning sessions available in **Brother Geenen Hall**:

**Evening Session** 6-7:30pm • Thursdays February 12 to March 26  
**Morning Session** 9:30-11am • Fridays February 13 to March 27  
 Bibles provided upon request. Participants are encouraged to read the *The Gospel According to Luke* prior to the program and bring a Catholic Bible to the sessions. Refreshments served.  
**Reserve a seat** 941.366.4210 ext 0 - email [mbrand@stmartha.org](mailto:mbrand@stmartha.org)



## Annual Lenten Fish Fry



Knights of Columbus #3358  
 4880 Fruitville Road

**EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT**  
**Through March 27**  
 4:30-7pm  
 \$15 Adults  
 \$10 Children (8 and under)  
 Weekly 50/50 Raffle



**Includes:**  
 French Fries  
 Coleslaw  
 Roll  
 Tarter / Cocktail Sauce  
 Coffee

Full Bar Available  
 Dine-In or Take-Out



## Emmaus Journey Bible Study

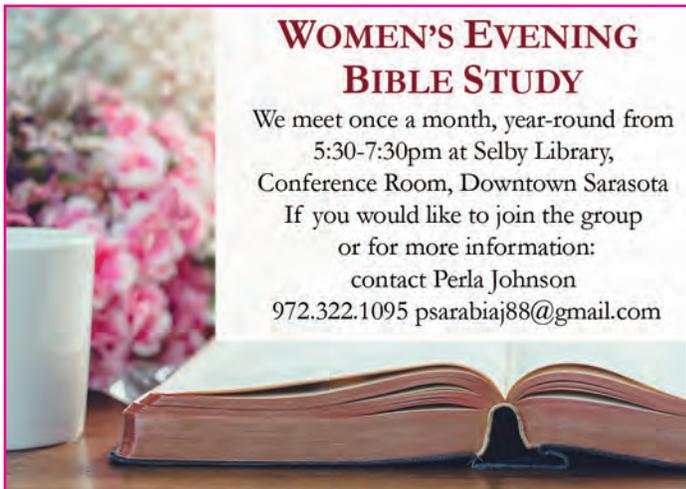
- **Tuesdays** 10:30-11:30am • St. Martha Conference Room
- **All are Welcome!** Bring your Bible, a desire to share and learn with participants, a facilitator, and parishioner Lindy Donahue.

**Call Lindy 724.263.8285 [lindydonahue@mac.com](mailto:lindydonahue@mac.com)**

## WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY

We meet once a month, year-round from  
5:30-7:30pm at Selby Library,  
Conference Room, Downtown Sarasota

If you would like to join the group  
or for more information:  
contact Perla Johnson  
972.322.1095 psarabiaj88@gmail.com



## Surviving Divorce

HOPE AND HEALING FOR THE CATHOLIC FAMILY

### Support for Separated or Divorced Catholics

12 Sessions Video-based Peer Support Group  
Begins **January 15, 2026** at  
**Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Venice**

For details or to register [bobandchrisrmialek@icloud.com](mailto:bobandchrisrmialek@icloud.com)



HELP SAVE LIVES  
IN SARASOTA  
[40daysforlife.com/sarasota](http://40daysforlife.com/sarasota)

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Join other Christians during Lent for the Spring **40 Days for Life** campaign happening here in Sarasota. The campaign begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 18** and continues through **Palm Sunday, March 29**. **40 Days for Life** is an international 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and peaceful vigils in front of abortion mills (Planned Parenthood, 736 Central Avenue). Since **40 Days for Life** began, more than 26,114 mothers have chosen life for their

children; 275 abortion workers have quit their jobs and 184 abortion mills have closed where **40 Days for Life** vigils have been held. St. Martha's days for participation in the Spring **40 Days for Life** are:  
**Monday, March 2 • 9am-12pm**  
**Saturday, March 14 • 9am-12pm**  
Please come out to pray with us for an hour or whatever time you have on any of these days. Questions, contact **Paula Shigley at 941.586.3558**.

*Go to the poor and  
you will find God.*

– St. Vincent dePaul • That is the Vincentian Mission.



It is said that no form of charity is foreign  
to the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

If being part of that community of Vincentians who go to the poor interests you, we invite you to join us.

Call the Incarnation parish office **941.921.6631** or come to one of our meetings on the last **Monday** of each month at **6:30pm**.

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

## Fun Fact about the ART in St MARTHA Catholic Church The Story of The Baptistry Art in St Martha

This beautiful piece shows *Saint Luke the Evangelist* holding a book and a quill. The book represents the written *Word of God*, and the quill represents the act of writing. In the opening of Luke's Gospel, he states that he carefully investigated events and documented them. Depicting Saint Luke as writing emphasizes his role in documenting these events.

Why the ox (or bull) below his feet? As oxen were sacrificial animals, Saint Luke is represented by a bull, signifying sacrifice and service. This strengthens Saint Luke's accounts of Christ's sacrifice. It also identifies him as one of the four Evangelists.

Each hand-painted, crafted stained glass window along the church walls is a piece of art, created in 1941 by the K. J. Mueller Studio of Zephyrhills, Florida. The use of stained glass is visual theology, or *teaching through images*.

Our stained glass windows are historically significant and were included in the 1994 State of Florida Historical Stained Glass Survey. They were recently restored by the nephew of the original artist.



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

Read much more about our Parish at [StMartha.org](http://StMartha.org)

## Weekly Mass Intentions



**Sun, Mar 1 . . . . Gn 12:1-4a; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9**  
 7:30am.....[JV] . . Ryan Halstead by Mom  
 9:00am.....[GS] . . L & D Mbrs of the Spero Family by Ann Crowley  
 9:00am.....[FS] . . (Hall) Cory Bevelheimer by Ollie and Debbie  
 10:30am.....[GR] . . For All Parishioners  
 12:00pm.....[GR] . . Anna Marie Lynch by Eileen and Tom Murphy  
 12:00pm.....[JV] . . (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions  
 5:30pm.....[GS] . . L & D Mbrs of the Plouffe Family by Betty and Joe Plouffe

**Mon, Mar 2 . . . . Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38**  
 7:30am.....[GS] . . Marge Lortie by Craig Snyder  
 8:30am.....[JV] . . Joan Mullee by Rick and Lynn Dudek  
 12:00pm.....[JV] . . Doug Roderick by Ellen Roderick

**Tue, Mar 3 . . . . Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12**  
 7:30am.....[JV] . . Mike Johnson by John  
 8:30am.....[GR] . . Maria Arellano by Rose Arellano  
 12:00pm.....[GS] . . For a Greater Respect for all Human Life

**Wed, Mar 4 . . . . Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28**  
 7:30am.....[GS] . . Marek Dworski by Paula and David Shigley  
 8:30am.....[GS] . . (L) Mike Krutza by John  
 12:00pm.....[GS] . . Dcn Larry Cummins by Bob and Virginia Cummins

**Thu, Mar 5 . . . . Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31**  
 7:30am.....[GR] . . Tony Caragiulo by Anna Caragiulo  
 8:30am.....[JV] . . Tony Caragiulo by Anna Caragiulo  
 12:00pm.....[FS] . . William J. LaRosa by Pauline

**Fri, Mar 6 . . . . Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46**  
 7:30am.....[GR] . . Susan Baumler by Jeffrey and Tracy Kirchner  
 8:30am.....[FS] . . Louise Gherasim by M. Neary  
 12:00pm.....[GS] . . Michael Strumolo by John Iacopelli  
 6:00pm.....[JV] . . (Vietnamese)

**Sat, Mar 7 . . . . Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32**  
 7:30am.....[GS] . . Susan Robertson by Hank Maier and Jack Slusser  
 8:30am.....[JV] . . (L) Pamela Vouga by M. Neary  
 4:00pm.....[GS] . . Dec'd Mbrs of the Donald & Fern Nelson Family  
 by Soranya Nelson  
 4:00pm.....[FS] . . (Hall) Special Intentions  
 5:30pm.....[GR] . . Gerald J. Boryszewski, Jr. by Mom and Dad

**Sun, Mar 8 . . . . Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42**  
 7:30am.....[GS] . . Lillian Massara by Aldo Massara  
 9:00am.....[FS] . . John (Jack) McNicholas by Mary Pat and John McNicholas  
 9:00am.....[GR] . . (Hall) Vincent LoCicero by Helene Halpern  
 10:30am.....[GS] . . For All Parishioners  
 12:00pm.....[GR] . . Tony Caragiulo by Anna Caragiulo  
 12:00pm.....[JV] . . (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions  
 5:30pm.....[GR] . . L & D Mbrs of the Cummins Family by Bob & Virginia Forget

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

## Events & Announcements



**Chism Mass** - The Chism Mass, which takes place during Holy Week every year, is held **Tuesday, March 31 at 10:30am at St. Leo the Great Parish, 28290 Beaumont Road, Bonita Springs.** Usually held at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice, this year the Cathedral is under renovation and the Mass will take place in a new location. During this Mass, **Bishop Frank J. Dewane** will bless the Holy Oils which are used in the administration of the Sacraments at each parish throughout the year. Priests and Deacons celebrating 25 and 50 years of Ordination are also recognized at this Mass.

**The Lenten Journey Has Begun!** - Lent is a 40-day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. During Lent, we are called to a true inner conversion of the heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully and as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ. For more information about the Lenten Season please visit **Lent 2026 - Diocese of Venice!**

**Lenten Youth Retreats** - The Diocese of Venice Youth & Young Adult Ministry offers opportunities for Middle School and High School students to have a privileged moment of encounter during Lent. Diocesan Lenten youth retreats are designed to create a time and place for silence, reflection, and shared experience, allowing young people to step away from the pace and distractions of daily life and re-focus their hearts on God. The remaining Youth Retreats for this Lenten Season are: **Sunday, March 1**, for High School students, St. Thomas More, Sarasota; **Tuesday, March 3**, for Middle School students, St. Paul, Arcadia. Cost is \$10/student. To register, or for more information, contact **Andres Prias, 941.441.1122.**

**One Day Lenten Retreat, Lent Is My Highway to Heaven** - In his ongoing series of talks on Heaven, **Fr. Greg Cleveland, OMV**, Director of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Venice, will unpack the mystery of the **Beatific Vision** as the ultimate fulfillment of human longing in this one-day retreat, offered on **March 8 or March 11.** This talk invites you into the beauty, joy, and transformative love of seeing God *face to face*, where faith and reason give way to eternal happiness in Christ. No prior sessions are required—come as you are and be spiritually filled. The day begins at **9:30am** with continental breakfast and includes two conferences, the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, lunch, and Mass. Time is available for adoration, private prayer, or meditation on the beautiful and peaceful OLPH grounds. The day concludes at 3:15pm The cost is \$45. Register [olph-retreat.org](http://olph-retreat.org).

**One-Night Parish Retreat During Lent, 10 Minutes to Change Your Life** - *The Examen Prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola*, presented by Fr. Leland Thorpe from the OLPH Retreat Center will be held at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 2057 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers on **Tuesday, March 10** from 6-8pm. There is no cost to attend. All are welcome. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors! Call 239.334.2161 for more information.



## Day of Reflection

For Sacramental Marriage



**Day of Reflection** for Sacramental Marriage is a day for couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church.

A specially prepared volunteer team of married couples, and a priest, share their experiences and information, enabling couples to be more aware of the privileges and responsibilities of marriage.

### 2026 SCHEDULE

**March 21**  
Our Lady of Perpetual  
Help Retreat Center  
3989 S Moon Dr, Venice 34292

**June 20**  
St John the Evangelist  
Pulte Hall  
625 111th Ave N, Naples 34108

**September 12**  
St John the Evangelist  
Pulte Hall  
625 111th Ave N, Naples 34108

**November 14**  
Our Lady of Perpetual  
Help Retreat Center  
3989 S Moon Dr, Venice 34292

**8:30am - 4pm**  
\$60 per couple\*

**Pre-registration required**  
Please register  
[dioceseofvenice.org](http://dioceseofvenice.org)  
or by scanning the  
QR Code



**Questions**  
Jim Gontis, *Director,*  
*Dept of Evangelization*  
[gontis@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:gontis@dioceseofvenice.org)  
941.486.4754

\*The \$60.00 registration fee includes all retreat materials & lunch.

A Message from

## BISHOP DEWANE



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The annual Black and Indian Mission Collection is an example of the Church's concern for evangelization and education efforts among Native American, African American, and Alaskan Native Diocesan Communities throughout the United States. This initiative supports and strengthens evangelization programs and ministries among those groups identified. The Black and Indian Mission Office enables the missions to help form children in the faith, educate young people regarding the Church, and promote vocations, along with the formation of the laity in its catechetical and evangelization efforts. Through your generosity, the communities in need are able to receive Bibles and catechetical materials for parish based religious and catechetical programs guided by consecrated men and women, and lay leaders.

The Diocese of Venice will be participating in the collection for the Black and Indian Mission the weekend of March 7 and 8, 2026. With your support, the Church can fund programs that strengthen the work of the Gospel and together give hope to our Native American, African American, and Alaskan Native brothers and sisters. Thank you for your generosity! I take this opportunity to extend to you and your family my continued consideration as well as my prayers.

May God bless you for your kindness and generous response!

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
+ Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida





**His Holiness Pope Leo XIV**

### Prayer Intention for March 2026

*For disarmament and peace*

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

## ST MARTHA MELODY MAKERS

### Youth Choir



*Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!*  
- Psalm 100.1

**All St Martha's youth are invited to join in the singing!**

More information, schedule, and to join:  
**Joy: 941.587.3584 or [mjoylfl@comcast.net](mailto:mjoylfl@comcast.net)**



# Save The Date

## Women's Emmaus Experience

**March 6-8, 2026**

**Location** Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat and Spirituality Center, Venice  
**Hosted by** Epiphany Cathedral Parish  
*Come Journey with Us On The Road to Emmaus!*

Contact Donna Vodraska  
 donnavadraska@aol.com • 941.496.4464 (home) • 630-336-0918 (cell)




**Presents:**

## Planning for Tomorrow

**Wednesday, March 11, 2026**  
 10:00 AM—noon  
 Parish Hall Conference Room

A COMPLIMENTARY LIFE PLANNING WORKSHOP

The Saint Martha Catholic Church has partnered with the Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida and local estate planning experts to host a complimentary workshop, which will provide participants with the knowledge they need to make critical health, legal and financial decisions for themselves and/or a loved one.

**Attendees will obtain important information on:**  
 Avoiding Guardianship, Wills vs. Trusts, Probate, Durable Power of Attorney, Beneficiary Designations, Healthcare Surrogates, Advanced Directives, Financial Planning, Smarter Ways to Give and more.



**RESERVE YOUR PLACE TODAY**  
 CALL: 941-486-4722

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

# DINNER & DANCE

Join us for dinner & dance filled with laughter, good food, and unforgettable moments with wonderful company.

\$35/person includes dinner, wine, beer, and band.  
 Hospitality will be in the courtyard Saturday after the 4pm & 5:30 pm Masses and Sunday after the 9am & 10:30am Masses to take reservations

## March 7, 2026

St Martha's Parish Hal  
 Call the parish office for reservations 941-366-4210



## Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida

### College & Vocational Scholarships

**Now accepting applications for the 2025-26 Academic Year**



### Mary Fran Carroll Scholarship

The Catholic Community Foundation is proud to offer multiple \$3,500 renewable Mary Fran Carroll Scholarships to residents of Sarasota County, Florida worth up to \$17,500 for tuition, books and fees. These scholarships may be renewed annually for up to 5 years for students maintaining a 3.2 GPA as they pursue their undergraduate degree.

**The Traditional Scholarships** are open to graduating seniors and recent high school graduates (within the last 2 years) who wish to pursue an undergraduate degree in any accredited college or university.

**The Non-traditional Scholarships** are open to adult learners who are returning to school to obtain a college degree or vocational certification after being out of high school for three or more years.



### James & Margaret Schwarz Scholarship

The Catholic Community Foundation is proud to offer the Schwarz scholarship valued at approximately \$7,700 to a graduating senior from Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School in Sarasota, Florida that will be pursuing a career in education.

This one-year scholarship is non-renewable and can be used for tuition, books, fees and housing expenses.



### Frank & Florence Coseglia Scholarship

The Catholic Community Foundation is proud to offer the Frank & Florence Coseglia Scholarship to one financially needy graduating senior from each of the four Catholic High Schools in the Diocese of Venice. This one-year, nonrenewable scholarship is valued at approximately \$1,100 and is intended for students that provided significant service to their Catholic Schools and Parishes.

**Apply For All Scholarships**  
[cfdioceseofvenice.org/scholarships](http://cfdioceseofvenice.org/scholarships)

**Deadline:** All applications and supporting documents due by **March 2, 2026 at 11:59pm**



1000 Pinebrook Rd., Venice, FL 34285 | 941.441.1124 | [cfd@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:cfd@dioceseofvenice.org)



# ST. MARY ACADEMY

EST. 2000 • 4380 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, Florida 34232

**FAITHFUL    INSPIRED    RESPONSIBLE    ENGAGED**

## WIN \$5,000

**Drawing on Thursday, April 16 at 8:15am • Ticket sales benefit St Mary Academy**

- One Drawing - \$5,000; Great Odds - only 1,000 tickets sold
- Need not be present to win
- Split a ticket with family, friends, or give as a gift
- Drawing held at St Mary Academy on Thursday, April, 16 at 8:15am
- Because of Diocesan regulations, we are required to deduct taxes from winnings
- Drawing completed in accordance with requirements of Section 849.0935, FL Statutes
- Fill out the coupon below
- Make check payable to: St. Mary Academy
- Mail your \$50 donation/payment and the coupon to: Drawing Committee, 4380 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota, FL 34232
- Please include two address labels per ticket for our use in returning your receipt
- No mechanically reproduced entries accepted
- No purchase necessary. Minimum donation \$50

**Thank You for helping St. Mary Academy.  
You are making a difference!**

### ORDER FORM

# Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amt PD \_\_\_\_\_

Buyers Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address, City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_  VISA     MASTERCARD

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  AMEX     DISCOVER

Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Buyers Parish Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

## Kids Corner

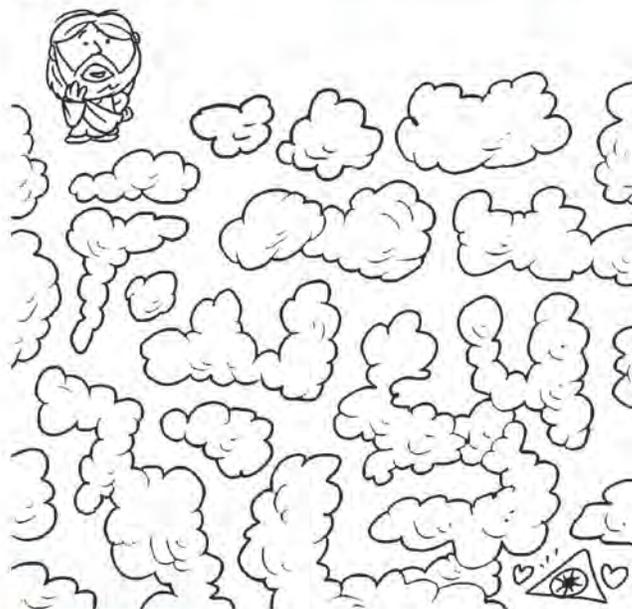
### Kids Corner COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



### Kids Corner PUZZLE

Help Jesus find His Father.



### MISSION

When I am afraid, I will remember that God is always with me.



### P3 Bubble Investigations

STEM in action! P3 Students explored air, motion, and cause & effect through hands-on bubble investigations. Learning + laughter = the best kind of discovery.



### A Note From The Principal...

To Our St. Martha Parish Family,

Our classrooms were filled with joy and kindness as students celebrated Valentine's Day with sweet treats, thoughtful notes, and time together as a community. It was a beautiful reminder that even small gestures can make a big difference in someone's day. As we celebrate friendship and love, we are reminded of Christ's call in John 13:34 *Love one another as I have loved you.* May we continue to show that love each day in our words, actions, and the way we care for one another.



God Bless, Mari Jo Hanson, *Principal*

### Love & Laughter

So much love and laughter in our classrooms!



## ST MARTHA CATHOLIC SCHOOL 75 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS  
FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR



EDUCATING STUDENTS FROM PRE-K TO 8TH GRADE

FOLLOW US ON:



St Martha Catholic School  
4380 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota, FL 34236  
941.953.4181 • StMarthaSchool.net



### Mardi Gras - Learning about Fat Tuesday - two thumbs up for King Cake!



# 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](http://stmartha.org) or scan the QR code ↘




## Join the Volunteer Team of Our Lady of Perpetual Help



**Great opportunity for teens needing service hours.**

**We need your help:**

- Reception
- Dining Room
- Dishwashing
- Gardening

941-486-0233  
[info@olph-retreat.org](mailto:info@olph-retreat.org) • [olph-retreat.org](http://olph-retreat.org)  
 3989 South Moon Dr., Venice, FL 34292



<p><b>St. Martha Parish Staff</b>                  941.366.4210 • <a href="http://StMartha.org">StMartha.org</a>                  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</p>	<p><b>St. Martha Clergy</b>                  Rev. George Suszko, S.A.C. Pastor                  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.</p>
---	--



## SAVE THE DATE!

**MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026**

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**RITZ CARLTON MEMBERS CLUB ★**  
 15150 70th TERRACE EAST, BRADENTON

**7:30am:** Arrival & Check-In  
**8:30am:** Shotgun Start  
**1:00pm:** Lunch & Awards



## Important Contact Information

<p><b>Outreach Ministries</b></p> <p>Altar Servers . . . . . Dn. Vern Smith . . . . <a href="mailto:dcvern@stmartha.org">dcvern@stmartha.org</a>                  Catholic Charities . . . . . Diocese of Venice. . . . 941.484.9543                  Community Pregnancy Clinics . . . . . 941.260.5427                  Casa Santa Marta . . . . . 941.366.4448                  Choir/Cantor . . . . . Thomas Varas . . . . <a href="mailto:tvaras@stmartha.org">tvaras@stmartha.org</a>                  Eucharist Adoration . . . . . Parish Office . . . . 941.366.4210                  Extraordinary Ministers . . . . . Dc Pat Macaulay . . . . <a href="mailto:dcpatrick@stmartha.org">dcpatrick@stmartha.org</a>                  Finance Council . . . . . Emil Efthimides . . . . <a href="mailto:ede24@usa.com">ede24@usa.com</a>                  Family Ministry . . . . . Gary Kerschner . . . . <a href="mailto:Kerschg56@gmail.com">Kerschg56@gmail.com</a>                  Herrig Caritas (9-11am, M-F) . . . . . Tony Cocco, Chair . . . . 941.366.5620                  Hospitality Ministry . . . . . Beth Cannata . . . . 941.321.2953                  Knights of Columbus . . . . . Dale Thompson . . . . 941.350.9010                  Lectors . . . . . Randy Kelly . . . . 510.853.0401                  O.C.I.A. . . . . Patricia Sileo . . . . 941.366.4210                  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 &amp; Agnes Rutushni . . 941.960.5128</p>	<p><b>Diocese of Venice</b>                  1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285. . . . . 941.484.9543</p> <p><b>Neighboring Diocesan Parishes</b></p> <p>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</p> <p><b>Bishop Nevins Academy</b>                  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</p> <p><b>Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School</b>                  4171 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34232 . . . . . 941.371.4917</p>
---	--



Midtown Medical Park  
1215 S. East Avenue  
Suite 210  
Sarasota, FL 34239



Dr. David Cifra, DC  
Parishioner

**THIS DOCTOR IS AMONG THE BEST  
SPINAL DECOMPRESSION PHYSICIANS  
IN AMERICA**

**NO DRUGS  
NO INJECTIONS  
& NO SURGERY!**

SarasotaDiscCenter.com

**Medical Breakthrough Technology for Neck and Low Back Pain.**

Call 941.358.2224 or 315.345.7390 today to schedule a FREE CONSULTATION!

**Sunday Brunch!**  
8:30am-4:30pm  
*C'est La Vie!*



**Downtown Sarasota**  
1553 Main St  
941.906.9575  
CestLaVieSarasota.com

**donate & shop**

**Building Materials • Furniture  
Appliances • Flooring  
Home Décor • Cabinets**



Habitat for Humanity Sarasota

3 Stores = 1 Location  
Tuesday - Saturday • 10:00am - 5:00pm  
2095 17th Street • Sarasota

Large item?

**COMPLIMENTARY Pick Ups**  
**(941) 444-5782**

**www.habitatsrq.org**

Donation drop-off times for smaller items 10am-4:30pm  
Our vision is everyone deserves a decent place to live.



**Najmy  
Thompson**

Estate Planning | Probate | Real Estate  
Corporate Planning | Community Association Law



**Joseph L. Najmy, Esq.**  
jnajmy@najmythompson.com

1401 8th Ave. W. 6320 Venture Dr., Ste. 104  
Bradenton, FL 34205 Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202  
(941) 748-2216 (941) 907-3999  
WWW.NAJMYTHOMPSON.COM

**PROFESSIONAL**



**PLUMBING DESIGN, INC.**

**(941) 355-5400**

**"Call The Professionals"**

**MISCH**  
IMPLANT & AESTHETIC  
DENTISTRY

Oral Surgery, Periodontal,  
Restorative, Dental Hygiene  
Providing simple to complex  
specialty dental care in one  
convenient location



120 S Tuttle Ave  
Sarasota, FL 34237  
941.957.6444



Check our reviews online  
www.drsmisch.com

Follow us on  
f i g t



**La Gran Mansion**  
BANQUETS & EVENTS

All Inclusive Event Venue  
Ideal for: Weddings,  
Quinceañera, Sweet 16,  
Corporate Meetings and More  
**941.392.0577**



LaGranMansionFL.com • Info@lagranmansionfl.com



**GRAY**  
PROPERTY GROUP

**Multifamily Real Estate  
Investment, Sales, &  
Asset Management**

**Call (941) 315-8584**  
to discuss your real estate goals.  
www.graypropertygroup.com

**Dr SMILES**  
ORTHODONTICS  
of NEW YORK now in SARASOTA

**Children should have  
their first orthodontic  
evaluation by age 7**

the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO)

**Braces & Aligners for KIDS and ADULTS**

DrSmiles.com 941-88-ORTHO 941-886-7846

angel aligner invisalign



In  
Cooper's Hawk  
Shopping Center



**EC&D**  
**CHUCK  
DEMCHAK**

**Attorney at Law**

PERSONAL INJURY | CRIMINAL DEFENSE

1626 Ringling Blvd,  
Sarasota FL 34236

Best Law Firms' 2025 Tier 1 in Sarasota for  
Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs

ECD.LAW | CHUCK@ECD.LAW | 941-366-8888



**PODIATRIST • 941.923.4999**  
Complete & Gentle Foot Care  
Dr. Joan M. Koewler, DPM, FACFAS  
Dr. Joseph M. Barak, DPM  
Board Certified in Foot Surgery  
4157 Clark Rd., Sarasota, FL 34233  
CompleteAndGentleFootCare.com



TRATTORIA & PIZZERIA ITALIANA  
www.trattoriabelnapoli.com  
1551 Main Street, Sarasota, FL 34236



**Michael Palermo**  
**941-301-1856**  
Sarasota/Manatee Co. CCC1336497  
www.CompetitiveRoofingFL.com



**It Makes a  
Difference.**



941.955.4171  
ToaleBrothers.com



**Frank Burns**  
Pre-Planning Advisor



**Robert Toale & Sons**  
SARASOTA • BRADENTON • LAKEWOOD RANCH

**At Palms Memorial Park**

**941.371.4962**

170 Honore Avenue  
Sarasota, FL 34232

www.palmsmemorial.com

**Wiegand Chapel is Now  
Celebration of Life Center**

**941.921.5755**

7454 South Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34231

www.wiegandbrothers.com

**Dignity**

LIFE WELL CELEBRATED

Veteran Preplanning  
Discount Available

Serving Your Funeral Home &  
Cemetery Needs Throughout  
Sarasota & Manatee Counties

If the final resting place for your  
loved one is in another state, we can  
accommodate this need.



**Robert Toale Family**



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Martha Roman Catholic Church, Sarasota FL

16-0525



**TINA M. MROCKOWSKI**  
 Parishioner & Attorney at Law  
 Wills/Trusts and Estates  
 Real Estate  
 Tax Exempt Organizations  
 (941) 366-5510  
 tinam@bowmangeorge.com

**BG** BOWMAN, GEORGE,  
 SCHEB, KIMBROUGH,  
 KOACH & CHAPMAN, P.A.  
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
 2750 Ringling Blvd, Suite 3  
 Sarasota, FL 34237

**Brian's Auto REPAIR**  
 EXPERT AC REPAIR  
 AC Delco Service Center  
**MR. FREEZE**  
**941-926-2526**  
 Full Service Import & Domestic Auto Repair



**Stacey Maloney**  
 Attorney, M.B.A.

Business Administration  
 & Succession Planning/Estate  
 Planning & Administration  
 (Wills & Trusts)  
 Probate • Real Estate  
**FREE CONSULTATION**

THE LAW OFFICE OF STACEY MALONEY, PLLC  
 1990 Main St., Ste 750 Sarasota, FL 34236  
 1201 6th Ave. W., Ste 100, Unit #A621  
 Bradenton, FL 34205  
 www.MaloneyLegalFL.com  
 (941) 301-8877 | Email: Stacey@MaloneyLegalFL.com

**DAVID M. BRACCIANO, D.O.**  
 Dermatology & Facial Plastic Surgery  
 8430 Cooper Creek Blvd., Suite 102  
 University Park, FL 34201  
 Tel **941.360.2255**  
**www.braccianodermatology.com**



**Bracciano Dermatology**  
 Board Certified

**MOBILE DENTISTRY**  
 WE'LL COME TO YOU!  
 IN HOME OR ASSISTED LIVING  
 • All Dental Services  
**866.686.4423**  
 www.geriatrichousecalldentistry.com



**DR. ANTONIO CHIU**  
 Serving Sarasota & Manatee County, FL

Compliments of  
**B&I CONTRACTORS**  
**239.332.4646 • bandiflorida.com**

**Wills and Trusts Admitted in NY and FL**  
**Robert J. Hoffman, Esquire**

**RJH**

1330 Main Street  
 Sarasota, FL 34236  
 (941) 323-9547  
 robertjhoffmanattorneyatlaw.com



**GOLDWELL BANKER REALTY**

**Marilyn Kneafsey**  
 BROKER-ASSOCIATE & PARISHIONER  
 Marilyn.K@CBRealty.com  
**941-373-0999**

Refer to this ad and I'll donate 25% of my commission from your transaction to St. Martha's!

**R. Craig Harrison**  
 Attorney at Law  
 Board Certified  
 Wills • Trusts • Estates  
**LYONS, BEAUDRY & HARRISON, P.A.**  
**(941) 366-3282**  
 Conveniently located near St. Martha  
 1605 Main St., Suite 1111 • Sarasota, FL  
**craig@lyonsbeaudryharrison.com**

**FREEDOM HEALTH** Medicare Advantage/HMO Plans

Cell: **941-504-6540**  
 E: [gcain@freedomh.com](mailto:gcain@freedomh.com)

Office: 941-708-0850  
 Member Services: 1-800-401-2740  
 TTY/DD: 711 M-F 8am-8pm

**Gayle Cain**  
 Benefit Consultant Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte Counties

Freedom Health is an HMO plan with a Medicare contract and a contract with the Florida Medicaid Program. Enrollment in Freedom Health depends on contract renewal. H5427\_22AgBCAD\_C

**RAYMOND JAMES GASPARILLA Festival of the Arts**  
 56TH ANNUAL

**FEB. 28 - MARCH 1**  
 Bring the whole family for a **FREE** weekend of creativity, activities, and art!

JULIAN B. LANE RIVERFRONT PARK • TAMPA • [gasparillaarts.com](http://gasparillaarts.com)

**Insurance Planning Solutions**

Turning 65? Need help with annual enrollment?  
 Just moved? Getting Married? Planning For retirement?

Here to help you, your family and your business find affordable insurance options to meet your needs.

**Joy Leitner**  
 Independent Agent  
**(941) 587-3584**  
**MJOYLF@COMCAST.NET**  
 Florida State License P131704 / Marketplace Certified

**INJURED? JUSTICE PAYS**

**Bernie Walsh**  
 Sarasota  
**941-485-3777**

**Sovereign Plastic Surgery**  
 Cosmetic Plastic Surgeon  
**Dr. Alissa Shulman**  
**941-366-5476**  
 Board Certified Plastic Surgeon  
 1950 Arlington St., Suite 112  
 Sarasota, Florida 34239

Parishioner  
 Mommy Makeovers

**www.SovereignPS.com**



**Freeman Orthodontics**  
 for Children, Teens & Adults

Personalized Care • Convenient Hours  
 Affordable Monthly Payments  
 Custom Braces • Invisalign®

**953 7500**  
 2050 Proctor Rd., Ste. A, Sarasota  
 FreemanOrthodontics.com

**2025 CHOICE AWARDS WINNER**

**SFORZO**  
 DILLINGHAM • STEWART  
 ORTHOPEDICS + SPORTS MEDICINE

**Dr. Chris Sforzo,**  
 Orthopedic Surgeon  
 Parishioner

**941.378.5100**  
**SforzoDillingham.com**

**FINDING FINANCIAL PEACE: STEWARDSHIP AND SECURITY**

Many of us share the values of faith, family, and financial security. At Integrity Wealth Management Inc., we understand the importance of creating your financial plan to align with your values.

**941.955.2700 • www.IWMFL.com**

**Samuel L. Cione, Parishioner**