

April 26-May 2, 2026



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”

JOHN 10:1-10



**ST. MARTHA
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Mass Schedule

Saturday 7:30am • 8:30am • 4pm 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

April 26, 2026, Fourth Sunday of Easter - by Father George

When Peter stood up with the Eleven, he spoke with the authority of all the Eleven apostles who witnessed the resurrection of Christ. They also supported him and made his speech more credible and more powerful.

Priests are ordained ministers in the Church, and they teach and preach on behalf of the Church. God needs priests who love the Church and who are united in holiness of the Church. We pray that God calls men to priesthood and that they will prepare well to teach the Catholic faith and to preach the word of God.

This element of togetherness of Peter with the other Eleven Apostles was attractive for many people in Jerusalem. They heard about the resurrection of Jesus, the holy man of God, who for many of them was a prophet, they believed in Peter's witness, and they wanted

"He is the one through whom we, His sheep, have life and have it more abundantly."
- Father George

to be baptized and join the community of believers.

This number of three thousand added on that day, means to tell us about an abundance of the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit working through the lips and hands of the apostles.

We pray today for new priests who will show the attractive face of the Church, which is its unity and community. May they respond to the needs of the world

hungry for Jesus and for his gift of forgiveness.

St. Peter, in his letter, writes to all believers about suffering for doing what is good, like Jesus himself who suffered for us.

We pray that our Church will have enough priests to celebrate Confession and Eucharist, the sacraments which remember the death of Christ. May we, the priests, always follow Jesus, our Master and have courage to take his cross on our shoulders.

In the gospel, Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd, and He says that in opposition to other leaders, who behaved unworthy of shepherds, He came to lay down His life for His sheep. He is the one through whom we, His sheep, have life and have it more abundantly.

We pray today that young men who want to give more of themselves to others and to the Church will hear the call of the Good Shepherd to come to Him and imitate His way of life. We pray that the faithful will again follow their good shepherd and families will encourage vocations to priesthood and religious life.



Our Pastor, Father George

Notes From Father George:

First Holy Communion for the children of our parish - I ask for your prayers for our children: students from our Religious Education Classes who will receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 3rd at 10am and the students from St. Martha Primary School and St. Mary's Academy who will receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 9th at 9:30am and at 11:30am Masses.

Deacon Pat Macaulay is retiring - Diocesan regulations instruct all

deacons who are over eighty to retire from active ministry and service. Deacon Pat obliging to this diocesan policy is officially retiring from his diaconal ministry and service in St. Martha's parish. The Parish will hold a *Happy Retirement* party for Dn. Pat. The date will be announced soon.

Next Sunday, May 3, 2026, is the Fifth Sunday of Easter.

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



Prayer Intention for April 2026
For Priests in Crisis
Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer

Special Mass/Family Catechesis A beautiful celebration of faith and family! Our First Communion students and their families gathered for a Special Mass/Family Catechesis - growing together in understanding of the Eucharist and preparing their hearts for this sacred sacrament.



Shine the Light of Jesus

Camp Kindness

June 22-26 from 9am-noon
Join the kids at St. Martha School

St. Martha Church VBS/Summer Activity Week
Community Service • Arts & Crafts • Sports • Games • Music • and more
Welcoming Pre-K3-Grade 5 (Pre-K3 must be 3 years old & fully potty trained)

St. Martha School, Zazarino Center 4380 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota

Come as you are.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Make authentic connections with other women | Learn more about God

Join us for *Living in the Father's Love* to discover just how much God loves us and how the Gospels are deeply relevant to our relationship with God and with those we love.

Wednesdays, April 8-May 20
from 9:30-11:30am • (Except April 29)
St. Martha Geenen Hall
For information contact
Jacqueline Kelly/Lani Dixon stmarthawwp@yahoo.com

walking with purpose
www.walkingwithpurpose.com

Walking with Purpose



Events & Announcements



Charity Golf Tournament - The annual St. Mary Academy Golf Tournament has an 8:30am shotgun start **May 16** at **Heritage Harbour Golf Club**, 8000 Stone Harbour Loop, Bradenton. The cost is \$150 per player. Please call Connie Taft at **941.685.2108** to register or for sponsorship opportunities.

Mental Health Counseling Services - Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice is offering Mental Health Counseling and Tele-Health Counseling for adults and children provided by licensed mental health therapists. If you or someone you know is feeling stressed, anxious, depressed, helpless, or overwhelmed, Catholic Charities can help. For more information, please call **239.455.2655** or visit CatholicCharitiesdov.org/behavioral-health-center

The Carey Family Grant - provides up to \$4,000 in support for critical needs that might go unfunded within the Diocese of Venice in Florida at Catholic Parishes, Catholic Missions, Catholic Schools, or a program or ministry of the Diocese of Venice. All applications are due by **May 4, 2026**.

The Marilyn Brummer Fund - concentrates its efforts on working with entities that are involved in anti-human trafficking assistance, assistance for single mothers, and the Catholic Charities Children's Center, which is dedicated to enhancing the lives of children in the Dunbar community in Fort Myers. Programs, projects, and entities must be located in, and associated with, the Diocese of Venice in Florida. All applications are due by **May 4, 2026**.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice Invites You To:

BOOTS & BANDANAS

APRIL 24, 2026

at St. Paul's Catholic Church Parish Hall
1330 E. Oak St, Arcadia, FL, 34266

Round up your friends and join us for a western-inspired evening supporting food security and education programs serving families across DeSoto County.

6 p.m. Cocktail · 7 p.m. Dinner
Live Country Music - Auction - Dancing

Tickets available for purchase online or reply by mail.



Tickets \$125



For more information Contact Elizabeth Pacheco: epacheco@ccdov.org or 941-786-2791
www.catholiccharitiesdov.org

Wine & Cheese Event



Weekly Mass Intentions



Sun, Apr 26 . . . Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

7:30am.....[GR] . . Pete Linsky by the Corsaro Family
 9:00am.....[FS] . . Michael Nallen by Ann Crowley
 9:00am.....[GR] . . (Hall) Frances Rutkowski by the Sacristans
 10:30am.....[GS] . . For All Parishioners
 12:00pm.....[FS] . . L & D Mbrs of the Sheridan Family by the Family
 12:00pm.....[JV] . . (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
 5:30pm.....[GS] . . L & D Mbrs of the Forget Family by Bob and Virginia Forget

Mon, Apr 27 . . . Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:11-18

7:30am.....[GR] . . (L) Ken Hipp by David and Paula Shigley
 8:30am.....[JV] . . (L) Michelle Scale by the Family
 12:00pm.....[GS] . . L & D Mbrs of the Burch Family by Betty and Joe Plouffe

Tue, Apr 28 . . . Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

7:30am.....[JV] . . John and Vera Kelly & Family by Thomas and Jacqueline Kelly
 8:30am.....[GS] . . (L) Angle Devila by the Family
 12:00pm.....[JV] . . L & D Mbrs of the McGruder Family by John and Mary McGruder

Wed, Apr 29 . . . Acts 12:24-13:5a; Jn 12:44-50

7:30am.....[GR] . . James Ambrose by Thomas and Jacqueline Kelly
 8:30am.....[GR] . . (L) Mary K. Perez by the Eucharistic Ministers
 12:00pm.....[GS] . . Anna Tirado by Mjubica Plisic

Thu, Apr 30 . . . Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

7:30am.....[JV] . . (L) Paul Lortie by David and Paula Shigley
 8:30am.....[GR] . . John Engelbrecht by Kathy Effley
 12:00pm.....[FS] . . L & D Mbrs of the Munguia Family & Frank Cuzzo by Lupe
 6:00pm.....[GS] . . Adoration

Fri, May 1 . . . Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

7:30am.....[GS] . . Rose Welch by David and Paula Shigley
 8:30am.....[FS] . . Nick Etten by Sheila and Charles Nemis
 12:00pm.....[GR] . . (L) Michael Gardy by Patricia Devine
 7:30pm.....[JV] . . (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions

Sat, May 2 . . . Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-12

7:30am.....[JV] . . Marge Lortie by Ginger Evans
 8:30am.....[GR] . . Jack Hickey by Pauline
 4:00pm.....[GR] . . Aurora Diaz by John and Marti Kopczyk
 5:30pm.....[FS] . . (L) Erin McGruder Helms by John and Mary McGruder

Sun, May 3 . . . Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

7:30am.....[JV] . . Ryan Halstead by Mom
 9:00am.....[GR] . . Grace Bauso by Jim and Mimi
 9:00am.....[GS] . . (Hall) Francis A. Czajkowski by Claire Meade
 10:30am.....[FS] . . For All Parishioners
 12:00pm.....[GR] . . Jose Encarnacion by Rose Arellano
 12:00pm.....[JV] . . (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
 5:30pm.....[GR] . . L & D Mbrs of the Plouffe Family by Betty and Joe Plouffe

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

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.

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.

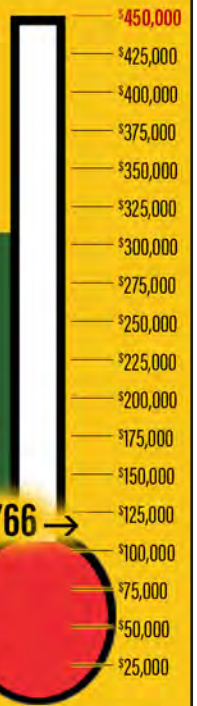
Interested in joining?
 Contact Emil Efthimides at
 ede24@usa.com or
 Samantha McDonald,
 Parish Hall 941.366.4210
 smcdonald@stmartha.org

CATHOLIC FAITH Appeal

2026 Catholic Faith Appeal GOAL \$450,000



Given to Date \$116,766
 Pledged \$170,101
 % of Goal 37.80%



WAYS TO GIVE

CHECK: Payable to CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

Credit or Debit Card, Gift of Securities, IRA:
 Send us the info via the pledge card or
dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa

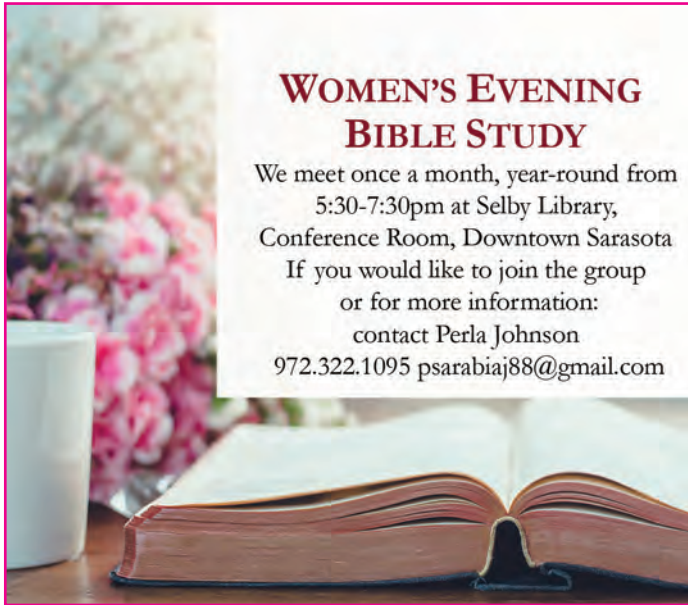


SCAN HERE

\$116,766 →

Info: call 941.486.4719 or email cfa@dioceseofvenice.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



**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 psarabaij88@gmail.com



Join The Rosary Makers

Friday, May 1, 2026
from **9:30-10:30am**
at **St. Martha's Geenen Hall**

Supplies Provided



**DIOCESE OF
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IN FLORIDA**

Day of Reflection
For Sacramental Marriage

Live The Liturgy
Inspiration of the Week

"The sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice," Jesus says. Do we know the voice of Jesus when he speaks to us? Have we spent time in conversation with him? This week, listen for the voice of Jesus in your life, and follow where it leads.

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.

**Observances for the week of
April 26, 2026**

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter;
World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Tuesday: St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr;
St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest

Wednesday: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and
Doctor of the Church

Thursday: St. Pius V, Pope

Friday: St. Joseph the Worker; National Day of Prayer

Saturday: St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter

2026 SCHEDULE

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
or by scanning the
QR Code



Questions • 941.486.4754 • gontis@dioceseofvenice.org
Jim Gontis, Director, Dept of Evangelization

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

**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 • olph-retreat.org
3989 South Moon Dr., Venice, FL 34292




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 mjoyfl@comcast.net



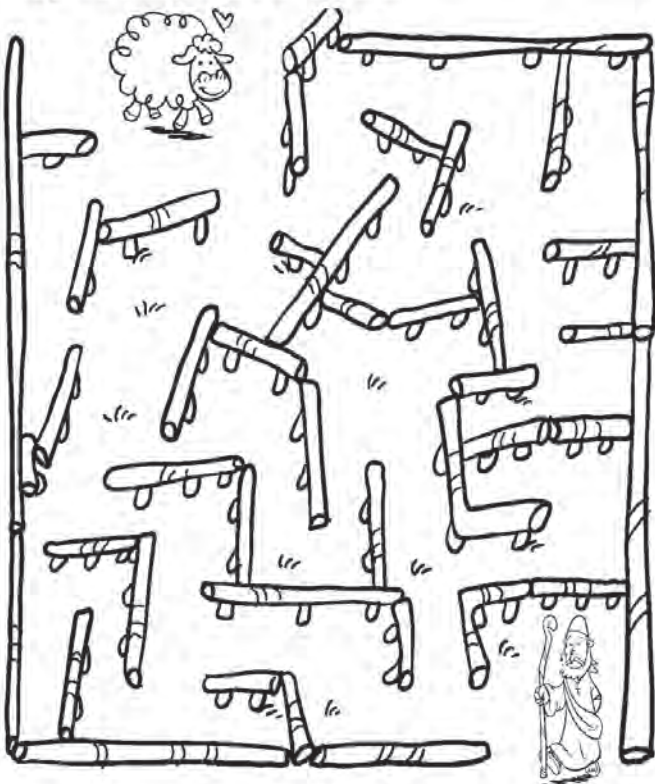
Emmaus Journey Bible Study

- 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

Kids Corner

Help the sheep find the shepard.



Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Mission for the Week I will listen and follow directions from my parents and teachers right away.

Gospel You are one of God's sheep. Jesus calls you by name. You recognize His voice. Close your eyes. Listen to the voices of your family and friends. You can tell who is talking by the sound of their voices. You choose to follow Jesus on His path. You love God above everything. You love your neighbor as yourself. You share your toys, money and food with your family and the poor.

2026 GIVING CHALLENGE
Be The One

Presented by the
Community Foundation of Sarasota County

74 donors gave \$14,086
1 donor gave \$1,925 - offline
The Patterson Foundation matched \$6,075
Total Raised for St Mary Academy

\$22,086

THANK YOU for your generosity!

**Why wait?
Call for a tour today!**

Would your child benefit from a school for diverse learners?
Please call today and schedule a tour.

Grades K-8 with small class sizes	Step Up for Students & other tuition assistance available	Data driven instruction with on site OT, speech, & language therapies	1:1 technology devices & state of the art STREAM Lab	Safety is a priority - full time Sarasota Deputy on campus
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Phone ☎ (941)-366-4010 ext. 300
Email ✉ admissions@stmarysarasota.org
Website 🌐 www.stmarysarasota.org

We Doubled the Impact!

Our cocktail party was a resounding success! We brought donors together who share our vision for our mission. Our school was given a \$50,000 match challenge from the Kaminski Family Foundation to help students with special needs.

To date we have raised \$67,000!

We are so thankful, and we are glad to have exceeded the goal! We were delighted to have Bishop Frank J. Dewane, Superintendent of Schools, Fr. John Belmonte, and all of our donors and supporters join together for an evening of impact! What a night!

THANK YOU for your support of St. Mary Academy and the great work we do for students with diverse learning needs!

♥️ Connie Taft - Director of Development

CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT & AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

Heritage Harbour Golf Club
\$150.00 per player
Shotgun starts at 8:30 a.m.

FILLING UP FAST

For more information, please contact Connie Taft at (941) 366-4010 ext. 318 or taft@stmarysarasota.org
St. Mary Academy is a dedicated to educating children with special learning needs.

Consider becoming a sponsor by donating an item, service, or experience to our auction. We will acknowledge your support in all the publicity and we will invite all who attend our school to support your business. Please contact Connie Taft at (941) 366-4010 Ext 318.



To Our St. Martha Parish Family,

A Note From The Principal...

All of the photos this week highlight our Day of Service, a special day that truly reflects the heart of St. Martha Catholic School. This year, our students, staff, and parent volunteers served 20 community agencies, a 33% increase over last year, making an even greater impact in our local community. As the only school in the Diocese offering a day like this, it is a meaningful part of who we are. Guided by Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve," our students lived out their faith in a real and tangible way. We are so proud of how they gave of their time, talents, and hearts in service to others.

God Bless,
Mrs. Hanson



Day Of Service The St. Martha Catholic School Day of Service featured projects and on-site visits to local organizations including: Sarasota County Animal Shelter, Dogs, Inc., Sarasota County Fire Department, Alderman Oaks Retirement Community, St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, Sunnyside Senior Living, Ted Sterling Park, Feeding Empty Little Tummies (FELT), 81 Oaks Senior Living, Pines of Sarasota, Our Mother's House, Meals On Wheels, Pompano Trail Head, All Faiths Food Bank, SMART with Heart, and TWIG.



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
941.366.4210 • StMartha.org

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. Guennadi 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.


Wedding Banns



Chad Berry & Fernanda Flores (2)
Luke Padickaparambil & Sandhya Kakany (2)

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.

We invite you to be part of a community of Vincentians who go to the poor.

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.

Important Contact Information

Outreach Ministries

Altar Servers	Dn. Vern Smith	dcvern@stmartha.org
Catholic Charities	Diocese of Venice.	941.484.9543
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	dcpatrick@stmartha.org
Finance Council	Emil Efthimides	ede24@usa.com
Family Ministry	Gary Kerschner	Kerschg56@gmail.com
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 & Agnes Rutushni	941.960.5128

Diocese of Venice

1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285 941.484.9543

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



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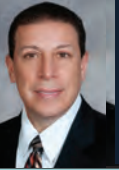
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