

June 28-July 4, 2026
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Happy
4th of
July

Celebrate
250



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 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

June 28, 2026 - 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

by Deacon Bob

Mt 10: 37-42

Today's Gospel, on first read, seems to be very harsh and counterintuitive. If we read the couple of lines before it, it appears even harder than what we just heard in the Gospel. Jesus, in today's Gospel, tells the crowds He has not come to bring peace to families but the sword! How can this be from our loving God? This does not sound like any of the messages of Hope, Faith, or especially Love. But when we take a deep dive into what Jesus is saying, and to whom He is saying it, it makes perfect sense.

The Gospel of Matthew was originally directed at Jewish Christians. In the Jewish culture of the time, family loyalty was paramount to any other loyalty, even if it meant harming others, protecting the bad deeds of family members, etc. What Jesus is telling us today, is we cannot be 50 percent in, 60 percent in, or 90 percent in. We need to be 100 percent in! Following Jesus is binary. It is either a 1 or a 0. There is no in between. Either we are, or we are not. There is no mostly when we agree to discipleship with our Lord.

This past week, if we were following the news, we heard about a mom who literally saved 10's if not 100's of lives in Washington DC. She saw that her son was doing strange things, buying guns and an inordinate amount of ammunition. So, she went to the authorities. Her son (along with multiple accomplices) was planning a massacre in DC at a White House event. I cannot imagine the pain and difficulty this poor woman faced knowing she had to turn her son in. But she put Jesus ahead of her family. When Jesus is telling us we need to love Him more than we do our families, this is what

He is talking about.

We need to remember this: That Jesus loves our parents, children, spouses, and siblings more than we do! So He is not going to abandon them. But the only way we can truly love them is to fully love God! Like above, on first take this may not make sense. But using the example above, what would have happened if the mom did not turn her

"We also need to know that God loves us with a love beyond all telling."

- Deacon Bob

son in? First, her son would have committed mortal sin as would those he was in cahoots with. But also, more than likely, he would have been killed in the process. And of course, what happens when we die in mortal sin?

This is to Jesus' point when He says *whoever finds his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it*. Jesus in those



Our Pastor, Father George

Notes From Father George:

Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul -

(June 29) is the day to remember these two Princes of the Church, who followed Jesus and they both ended their lives as martyrs for Jesus in Rome. Roman Church is watered with the blood of these two apostles and hundreds of other martyrs, persecuted for believing in Christ.

Some Sarasota Priests are being moved -

Fr. Christian Chami is going from St. Jude's to the parish in Lehigh Acres. **Fr. Russell Wright** is going from St. Patrick's to Punta Gorda. **Fr. Eichmann** is going from Christ the King parish to New York.

Pray for Safety! Hurricane Season is here - The 2026 Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30. With a history of these storms producing destruction in the region, Bishop Frank J. Dewane reminds us that we must pray for safety: *Let us all ask God for protection and safety and also pray for the people who continue to recover from previous disasters.*

Next Sunday, July 5, 2026, is the 14th Sunday in ordinary Time.

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

↩ continued: Deacon Bob

words is telling us this life is very temporary, what is important is eternal. We can't live for this world; we need to live for the next world. When we drill down on the events of last weeks plan to kill hundreds, this mom first lived for Jesus but also did something amazing for her son! She gave him a second chance. Not only did she save countless lives, she offered her son a second chance at redemption. For now, he still has a chance to ask for forgiveness, and, as we know, there is no sin Jesus will not forgive. All we have to do is ask.

Jesus knows what He is saying today is hard. It is extremely hard as our senses tell us to live for this world. But He is telling us that we need to separate ourselves from those senses that can deceive us. Many people will look at what the mom did and say they could not turn their child in. But by this woman making the hard choice to turn her son in, she not only saved countless lives, she gave her son a second chance.

Jesus calls us today to love God with all our hearts and souls and put Him first. We also need to know God loves us with a love beyond all telling. That love is also for the same people He asks us to put Him in front of. But, in putting God first, whether we realize it or not, we are then truly showing our families and friends how much we REALLY love them as well. By living for God we are teaching them the path to heaven. And what greater gift can we give our earthly loved ones then a path to God who TRULY IS LOVE.

continued to ↗



Congratulations to Tim Shipe, St. Martha Catechist/ Youth Director, and Theology Teacher at Cardinal Mooney! Tim recently participated in a McGrath Seminar at the University of Notre Dame, exploring how science and faith work together to deepen our understanding of God's creation and strengthen Catholic education. We are grateful for his dedication to lifelong learning and to forming young people in the faith.

Counselors setting up for camp kindness and getting ready for an amazing week.



Are you thinking about becoming CATHOLIC
or are you Baptized and want to complete your Sacraments?

Interested in the Catholic Faith and want to know more?

If you have questions and want to be serious about converting to Christ and learn the *next steps* to take or maybe you are Catholic but would like to learn more about your Faith, Prayers, and the Bible ... pray and listen to God calling your heart!

**We are here to help
ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**



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

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

WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY

We meet **once a month**, year-round
5:30-7:30pm at Selby Library,
Conference Room, Downtown Sarasota
If you would like to join the group
or for more info: contact Perla Johnson
972.322.1095 • psarabiaj88@gmail.com



Blessing for Marriage

Dear Lord,
Bless the married couples in our community and grow their bonds of love for each other. Give them the grace to share minds, hearts, dreams, growth, challenges, and strength in every season of life. Make them a sturdy shelter for each other, a place to find comfort and rest.
Amen.

Virtues, Explained!

When a person hears a "call," he cannot simply go - he must first figure out where the call is coming from. It's not enough to simply have an idea; the idea needs a good, thorough background check. This is discernment.

Live The Liturgy - Inspiration of the Week

Whoever receives the one sent in Christ's name receives Christ. Whoever loves the Word of God loves God Himself. Who is Christ sending to you in His name this week? What Word do they speak into the stillness of your soul? Receive them. Receive Him.

Observances for the week of June 28

- Sun 28** 13th Sunday in *Ordinary Time*
- Mon 29** Sts. Peter And Paul, Apostles
- Tue 30** The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
- Wed 1** St. Junípero Serra, Priest
- Fri 3** St. Thomas, Apostle
- Sat 4** Independence Day
- Sun 5** 14th Sunday in *Ordinary Time*

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.

Events & Info from the Diocese of Venice



Ave Maria 10th Annual *God Bless America*

Parade - Saturday, July 4 at 10am join the parade of bikes, trikes, golf carts, skateboards, and strollers, decorated or not, in front of the **Ave Maria Catholic Church**, 5088 Annunciation Cir, Ave Maria. There will be a *Blessing of the Bikes*, a reflection by an Ave Maria veteran and birthday cake for our Nation. The route is approximately 2 miles long and all are welcome.

Theology on Tap, Thursday, July 16 at 7pm - Join Catholic young adults in their 20s and 30s to explore faith topics on the third Thursday of every month at Oak & Stone, 5405 University Parkway, University Park. No need to register in advance. To learn more, contact Andres Prias, 941.441.1122.

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 Catholic Charities catholiccharitiesdov.org/behavioral-health-center.

Prayer for Safety in Hurricane Season



O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude.

You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us.

Amen.

*Composed by
Most Rev.
Maurice
Schexnayder
(1895-1981),
Second Bishop
of Lafayette
(1956-1973),
following
Hurricane
Audrey in 1957*

Weekly Mass Intentions



Sun, Jun 28 **2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42**

7:30am . . . [GS] . . . Sue Anthofer by the Cikovic Family
9:00am . . . [WG] . . . Dave Labardee by the Clergy
10:30am . . . [FS] . . . For All Parishioners
12:00pm . . . [WG] . . . L & D Mbrs of the Sheridan Family by Family
12:00pm . . . [JV] . . . (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
5:30pm . . . [WG] . . . Missing and Exploited Children
 by Betty & Joe Plouffe

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

7:30am . . . [GS] . . . Fr. Patrick Wilson by Marsha
8:30am . . . [JV] . . . Margaret Devine by Maureen Devine
12:00pm . . . [WG] . . . Alexandra Mouhelis by the Duxex Family

Tue, Jun 30 **Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Mt 8:23-27**

7:30am . . . [JV] . . . (L) Aldo C. Zucaro by Cathy Giblin
8:30am . . . [WG] . . . Judy Cooper by Paul and Ellen Thomas
12:00pm . . . [GS] . . . Charlotte Ford by Matt and Diane Buchanan

Wed, Jul 1 **Am 5:14-15, 21-24; Mt 8:28-34**

7:30am . . . [WG] . . . Frances Rutkowski by the Rutkowski Family
8:30am . . . [GS] . . . Ryan Halstead by Mom
12:00pm . . . [GS] . . . Theresa M. Trani by Mary and Tom Gavin

Thu, Jul 2 **Am 7:10-17; Mt 9:1-8**

7:30am . . . [GR] . . . L & D Mbrs of the Szczesny Family by Family
8:30am . . . [WG] . . . (L) Agnieszka and Nick Corsaro by Corsaro Family
12:00pm . . . [FS] . . . Linda Mann by G & G Lupina

Fri, Jul 3 **Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29**

7:30am . . . [GS] . . . L & D Mbrs of the Jankowski Family by Family
8:30am . . . [FS] . . . Sharon Sheridan by the Family
12:00pm . . . [WG] . . . Daniel Stubing by the Dudek Family

Sat, Jul 4 **Am 9:11-15; Mt 9:14-17**

7:30am . . . [JV] . . . Marge Lortie by Dr. Richard & Melissa Furman
8:30am . . . [FS] . . . (L) Megan Gardy by Patricia Devine
4:00pm . . . [GR] . . . Jack Albert by Harry Meier and Jack Slusser
5:30pm . . . [WG] . . . L & D Mbrs of the Stephens Family
 by John & Mary McGruder

Sun, Jul 5 **Zec 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30**

7:30am . . . [GR] . . . Minnie Coleman by Madeline Fox
9:00am . . . [FS] . . . (L) Terence and Kim Dunne and Family
 by Ann Crowley
10:30am . . . [GR] . . . For All Parishioners
12:00pm . . . [GS] . . . (L) Robert Devila by the Family
12:00pm . . . [JV] . . . (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
5:30pm . . . [GS] . . . L & D Mbrs of the Thomas Family
 by Betty & Joe Plouffe

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

CATHOLIC FAITH *Appeal*

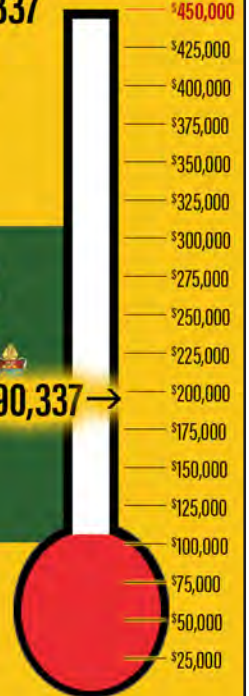
2026 Catholic Faith Appeal GOAL \$450,000



Given to Date **\$190,337**

Pledged **\$237,337**

% of Goal **52.74%**



WAYS TO GIVE

CHECK: Payable to CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

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Send us the info via the pledge card or
dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa



SCAN HERE

Info: call 941.486.4719 or email cfa@dioceseofvenice.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

St Martha Legacy Society



Interested in joining?

Contact Greg Massarella
gmassarella@gmail.com

or

Samantha McDonald,
 Parish Hall 941.366.4210
smcdonald@stmartha.org

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 24 was enjoyed by over 30 members.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Diocese of Venice, Inc.

FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

DROP OFF LOCATIONS

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1219 16th Street, West Bradenton, FL



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- CEREAL
- PEANUT BUTTER

Although Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice does not operate food pantries in Sarasota or Manatee counties, we regularly receive requests for help from local families experiencing hardship. To ensure no one goes hungry while seeking longer-term support, we provide temporary food assistance and help connect individuals and families with resources in their community.

QUESTIONS OR CAN'T DROP OFF?

CONTACT CLAUDIA IACONO
ciacono@cccdov.org



MONETARY DONATIONS ACCEPTED

SCAN TO DONATE SECURELY
SELECT, PANTRY & FOOD



His Holiness Pope Leo XIV



Prayer Intention for June 2026
For the Values of Sports

Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

Prayer Intention for July 2026
For Respect for Human Life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



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IN FLORIDA

Day of Reflection

For Sacramental Marriage

Pre-registration Required
Scan the QR Code or register
dioceseofvenice.org



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

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

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

June 20
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

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

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



BINGO NIGHT

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026
In St Martha's Parish Hall
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

CARDS ARE \$10 EACH, OR 3 FOR \$20.
ONLY FOR ATTENDEES 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
PROCEEDS HELP FUND
ST MARTHA'S CFA COMMITMENT

Mission for the Week

I will give my parents a cup of cool water when they are tired.

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Prayer

Lord, thank you for giving me water to drink when I am thirsty.

Draw

Draw you and your family at church collecting food and drinks for the homeless.

Find the right path to Jesus.

Circle the picture that is different in the row.. Then, color the pictures.



Sharing the Gospel

Welcome people to your home, school, and church. Offer visitors a cup of water, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, or juice. Share your food with those who are hungry. Share your clothing with those who need clothing. Find shelter for the homeless. Pray for the sick. Bury the dead. When disaster strikes, help people rebuild. When you welcome others, you welcome Jesus Christ. What you do for others, you do for God.

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



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6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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KLUBRANO@STMARTHASCHOOL.NET
OR (941) 953-4181

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- Volunteers are needed for weekday scheduled visits
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Contact: Stuart Love, Volunteer Coordinator
941-780.7834 • volunteer@stmartha.org

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3989 South Moon Dr., Venice, FL 34292



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
Rev Walter Grobowski
Very Rev. Fausto Stampiglia,
S.A.C. (Retired)
Deacon Robert Gaitens
Deacon Vern Smith

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
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, Mrs. Mari Jo Hanson, *Principal* 941.953.4181

St. Mary Academy, Mrs. Rebecca Reynolds, *Principal* 941.366.4010

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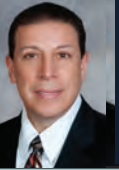
www.habitatsrq.org

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

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