

October 11-17, 2026

COME TO THE FEAST.

— MATTHEW 22:4 —

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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 • 12pm Vietnamese (Hall) • 5:30pm

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_sq](#) • **YouTube** St. Martha Catholic Church Sarasota, FL

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

October 11, 2026

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

by Deacon Vern

Everything Is Ready Come to the Feast

This Sunday, Jesus gives us one of His most joyful images of the Kingdom of God: a wedding feast prepared by a king. It's a celebration overflowing with abundance, welcome, and joy. Yet the surprising part of the parable is this: many of those invited simply don't come.

Some are too busy. Some are uninterested. Some even reject the invitation outright.

The king's response reveals the heart of God: He keeps inviting. He keeps reaching out. He keeps widening the circle until the hall is filled.

***"We don't need
perfection.
We need
readiness."***

- Deacon Vern

The wedding feast represents the life of grace God offers each of us: His friendship, His mercy, His presence in the sacraments, and the joy of living as His sons and daughters. But like the guests in the parable, we can become distracted by the *fields* and *business* of our lives. Good things, work,

responsibilities, routines can quietly crowd out the most important thing: our relationship with God.

The Gospel gently asks us: Are we making room for God's invitation?

At the end of the parable, Jesus mentions the *wedding garment*. It's not about clothing; it's about the heart. The garment symbolizes a life that is trying to respond to God's grace: a heart open to conversion, a willingness to forgive, a desire to live the Gospel.

We don't need perfection. We simply need readiness.

God's invitation is not to something burdensome, but to something beautiful:

- a deeper peace
- a renewed purpose
- a community of faith
- a life shaped by love
- and the joy of belonging to Christ

The King's message is simple: *Everything is ready. Come to the feast.*

May we accept His invitation with renewed gratitude this week, opening our hearts to the grace He longs to give.



Our Pastor, Father George

Notes From Father George:

Procedure with Second Collection -

After Bishop Emilio's advice about a good liturgical practice, we will have second collection after the priest's Prayer after Communion and before the final parish announcements. This will start next weekend.

Mass Intention booking - We need to limit the number of Mass Intention bookings in our Parish Mass Book. In

the case of Mass Intention for the same person or for the same cause, we will accept and agree to say no more than 12 Masses per year and no more than one Mass per month.

Next Sunday, October 18, 2026, is the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

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

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV



Prayer Intention for October 2026

For Mental Health Ministry

That mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping overcome stigma and discrimination.

Family Mass, Coffee & Doughnuts, Religious Education



walking with purpose
Come as you are.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

WWP Bible studies combine personal study with small group discussion, linking our everyday challenges to solutions given through Scripture. If you desire to grow in your faith—in a supportive community of Catholic women—join us!

**Ladies, please join us for our
Open House Coffee October 21**

**St. Martha Parish Center
Wednesdays 9:30-11:30am
October 2027-May 2028**

**Questions? Please contact Jacqueline Kelly
stmarthawwp@yahoo.com**

www.walkingwithpurpose.com



**2026-27 Religious Education/
Faith Formation Classes**

**Registration Available Online Now!
stmartha.org**

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 are serious about converting to Christ, learn the *next steps*, or maybe you are Catholic but want 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



Appointments with Fr. George 941.366.4210 x0
Any questions contact Patricia Sileo DRE sileo@stmartha.org

Blessing of the Animals



You are cordially invited to the

18th Annual RED MASS

For judges, lawyers, lawmakers,
their families, and staff

Wednesday, October 21 at 5:30pm
St. Martha Catholic Church
200 North Orange Avenue, Sarasota 34236

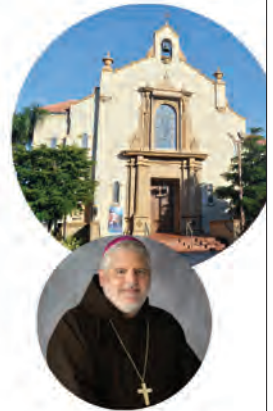
**Celebrated by Most Rev. Emilio
Biosca Agüero, O.F.M. Cap.**

A reception hosted by the Planning Committee of the
Catholic Lawyers Guild will follow at the Fr. Fausto
Parish Hall at St. Martha.

For inclusion in the online Directory of Catholic Lawyers,
please send your business card and \$50 membership fee
payable to Catholic Lawyers Guild.

Catholic Lawyers Guild c/o Tina M. Mroczkowski, Esq.
2750 Ringling Blvd, Ste 3, Sarasota, FL 34237

For Sponsorship Opportunities, please contact Jeanne M. Bennett, ESQ.
by email or phone at: jeanne@obrienbennett.com, or 941.316.9200



Reception sponsored by the
Catholic Community
Foundation

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



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

Weekly Mass Intentions



Sun, Oct 11 **Is 25:6-10a; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14**

7:30am ...[GS]... The Heimbuch & Mass Families by Judy Mass
 9:00am ...[GR]... Nayla Larkham by Joe and Nora Stephan
 9:00am ...[WG]... (Hall) Elenita Ordonez by the Ordonez Family
 10:30am ...[GS]... For All Parishioners
 12:00pm ...[FS]... (L) Loran McGruder by John & Mary McGruder
 12:00pm ...[JV]... (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
 5:30pm ...[GR]... L&D Mbrs of the Plouffe Family
 by Betty & Joe Plouffe

Mon, Oct 12 **Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1; Lk 11:29-32**

7:30am ...[WG]... Marge Lortie by Anne Marie Lennox
 8:30am ...[GS]... (L) Dcn Pat Macaulay by Mollie

Tue, Oct 13 **Gal 5:1-6; Lk 11:37-41**

7:30am ...[GS]... Richard Blake by Vivian Blake
 8:30am ...[WG]... Jay Donahue by Terry and Lindy Donahue
 12:00pm ...[GR]... (L) Barbara Bradley by Susan Kaye

Wed, Oct 14 **Gal 5:18-25; Lk 11:42-46**

7:30am ...[GR]... Marge Lortie by Anne Marie Lennox
 8:30am ...[WG]... Robert Romaine
 by Fr. Bob Romaine & Gail Romaine
 12:00pm ...[GR]... Edward Maher by Ann Crowley

Thu, Oct 15 **Eph 1:1-10; Lk 11:47-54**

7:30am ...[WG]... Wanda Kinczel by Stephanie and John Iacopelli
 8:30am ...[GR]... Andres Munguia by Lupe
 12:00pm ...[FS]... For Greater Respect for Human Life

Fri, Oct 16 **Eph 1:11-14; Lk 12:1-7**

7:30am ...[JV]... Lyndy Caplan by Aldo Massara
 8:30am ...[FS]... Catherine R. Kiefer by Nancy Connors
 12:00pm ...[WG]... Mac Carrano by Richard Jove

Sat, Oct 17 **Eph 1:15-23; Lk 12:8-12**

7:30am ...[GR]... Tom Sheridan by Paula and David Shigley
 8:30am ...[JV]... Jim Conahan by the Serwatka Family
 4:00pm ...[GS]... Frank Coppa by Marge Coppa
 5:30pm ...[WG]... Anthony Caspellano by Lucy Micandri

Sun, Oct 18 **Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21**

7:30am ...[GR]... Ryan Halstead by Mom
 9:00am ...[FS]... (L) Joe Stephan by Clergy
 9:00am ...[GS]... (Hall) Elizabeth Fett by Patty and Chris Sileo
 10:30am ...[WG]... For All Parishioners
 12:00pm ...[GS]... William Meyer by Stu and Joan Love
 12:00pm ...[JV]... (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
 5:30pm ...[WG]... L&D Mbrs of the Cummins Family
 by Bob and Virginia Forget

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

Live The Liturgy - Inspiration of the Week

Some build their lives on a foundation of wealth, some on a foundation of power. What do we choose for our cornerstone?

What supports the weight of our souls? For the Christian life, there is only one foundation strong enough to hold. Choose wisely.

Virtues, Explained!

Magnanimity, writes St. Thomas Aquinas, describes *the stretching forth of the mind to great things*, (Sum. II-II, 129, Art. 1). This virtue protects souls from the temptation to do honorable things for intentions that fall short of honorability.

Magnanimity shares much with the virtue of humility, but unlike humility, it specifically seeks what is great - but never the distinction of being called great. A magnanimous person's focus is solely on accomplishing as much good as possible, as effectively as possible.

When Joseph learned that Mary, his betrothed, was with child through the Holy Spirit, he had a chance to distinguish himself as a virtuous man. In calling for Mary's punishment, he could have condemned immorality loudly and publicly, while distancing himself from what appeared to be sin.

Instead, he did the opposite. He did what he knew to be right. He exhibited magnanimity, and the world was never the same.

Happenings in the Diocese

Together in Holiness Marriage Conference - Married and engaged couples are invited to this sixth annual conference on **October 24**, from **9am-4:30pm** at **Our Lady of Light Parish in Fort Myers**. Spend quality time with your spouse, hear from dynamic national and local speakers, and rejuvenate your marriage through the Sacraments. Registration: \$64/couple, \$5/child for on-site childcare; togetherinholiness.org/venice. Presented by the Diocese of Venice and the St. John Paul II Foundation. Questions: Jim Gontis gontis@dioceseofvenice.org or Nancy Ariza nancy@forlifeandfamily.org.

Eucharistic Adoration at Incarnation Catholic Church, Sarasota - We invite you to **Eucharistic Adoration** with live music and Confession, held the **first Thursday** of every month at **6:30pm**, 2929 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota. All are welcome to spend time in the presence of Jesus!

Charismatic Renewal Conference at St. Charles Borromeo, Port Charlotte - A day of empowerment, healing, and impartation with speaker **Deacon Larry Oney** and **Andi Oney** on Saturday, **November 7**, from **9am-3pm** at St. Charles Borromeo, 21505 Augusta Ave, Port Charlotte. \$65 includes breakfast and lunch, register venicecharismatic.org.

CATHOLIC FAITH *Appeal*

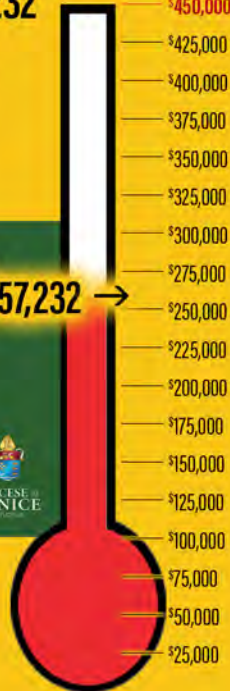
2026 Catholic Faith Appeal GOAL **\$450,000**



Given to Date **\$257,232**

Pledged **\$270,647**

% of Goal **60.14%**



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



Info: call 941.486.4719 or email cfa@dioceseofvenice.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



BINGO NIGHT

Wednesday, October 14 from 6:30-8pm
In St Martha's Parish Hall

Cards are \$10 each, or 3 for \$20

Only for Attendees 18 Years or older

Proceeds Help Fund St Martha's CFA Commitment

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

September 23rd til
November 1st



HELP SAVE LIVES IN SARASOTA

September 23-November 1
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

October is Respect Life month.

The 40-day campaign runs from **September 23 through November 1.**

The heart of the campaign is the daily commitment to prayer and peaceful witness. For those people who can come and pray on the sidewalks in front of Planned Parenthood, the remaining dates for St. Martha are **Saturday, October 10th and Tuesday, October 13th, 9am-12pm**

You don't have to stay the entire time. Whatever time you can spend is appreciated. If you are not able to pray with us at the abortion facility, there are other ways to participate; praying at home, offering a daily rosary for the protection of life, attending Eucharistic Adoration. For those who can be with us on the sidewalks, it would be wonderful, since we have been told by abortion-minded mothers that seeing people praying for them and their unborn babies is what changed their minds and caused them to *choose life.*



September 23-November 1

40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

Learn more, get involved, and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaign at 40daysforlife.com/sarasota

With God's help, here are the proven results:

- Over 25,000 babies saved from abortion
- More than 170 closed facilities
- More than 270 converted workers

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils, and community outreach, **40 Days for Life** has inspired 1 million+ volunteers!

Here's how to take part in **40 Days for Life** in our community:

- **Vigil location** Outside Planned Parenthood, 736 Central Ave, Sarasota
- **Vigil hours** 7am-7pm daily
- **Local contact** Rich 941.343.0672

St Martha Church Contact, Paula Shigley 941.586.3558

St Martha Church Dates • Oct 10 and 13 from 9am-12pm

40daysforlife.com/sarasota



Information for Families with Students in Catholic School

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that parents receive the responsibility of evangelizing their children and calls them the first heralds of the faith. The family is also called domestic church – the church of the home. It is so important for parents to be strong role models as active Catholics, becoming the primary catechists in the faith development of their children.

In keeping with this important role of parents, there will be two requirements to qualify for the Practicing Catholic Tuition Discount when submitting the Parish Affiliation Form.

The first requirement is 50% attendance at Sunday Mass for the year. To confirm your attendance, please place your offertory envelope in the basket during the offertory collection (No contribution is needed inside the envelope).

The second requirement is participation in at least one parish ministry.

Please see the list (right) of qualifying ministries for parents, children, and families.

Ministries for Children

Altar Server at a Saturday Vigil Mass or Sunday Mass
Frequency at least once a month.

Ministries for Families

Greeters & Offertory Gift Bearers Before Mass, greet and welcome parishioners/visitors at the main entrance of the church, and during Mass bring offertory gifts to the altar. Frequency once a month.

Family Ministry

Parents and children serve coffee and donuts to parishioners on Sunday morning for a ninety-minute shift between 7am & 1pm. Frequency once a month.

To enroll in a ministry, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator
Stuart Love at volunteer@stmartha.org or 941.780.7834

Kids Corner

Prayer

Holy Spirit, help me to be ready for the big party in heaven.

Sharing the Gospel

Imagine your father invited 200 children and adults to your birthday party. He sent a limousine to pick them up, but they would not come. They tore up the car and beat up the driver. So your father sent a bus to the nearest children's home and homeless shelter. The bus took everyone to the party. Each person had a great time. How we act on earth gets us ready to go to God's party in heaven.



Mission for the Week

Every day I will say, *Here I am, Lord. How may I help You?*

PUZZLE Find and circle these words from today's gospel.

WEDDING • SERVANTS • GUESTS • BANQUET
FIELD • INVITED • KING • READY • BUSINESS

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Explore the school that can **HELP**
YOUR CHILD SUCCEED - Socially,
emotionally, and spiritually !

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

Want to learn more
about St. Mary
Academy? Scan Here!



WHY FAMILIES LOVE OUR EDUCATORS & PROGRAM:

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Small class sizes
- **Expert On-Site Support:**
Full-time, certified OT and
speech therapy services
- **Hands-On, Engaged
Teaching:** Tailored teaching
strategies rooted in Gospel
values
- **Scholarship Opportunities:**
Step Up scholarships (UA)
and private options
available



A Note From The Principal...



To Our St. Martha Parish Family,
Come see what's happening at St. Martha Catholic School! We invite our parish families to join us for our upcoming Garden to Table event and to share our Open House information with family and friends who may be interested in St. Martha. We would especially love to welcome our Religious Education families to come see how faith, academics, and community come together each day at St. Martha Catholic School. Step Up For Students scholarships are available to help make Catholic education possible for all Florida families. We hope you'll come visit and experience our school community.

For we walk by faith, not by sight. - 2 Corinthians 5/7
Peace and Goodness, Mrs. Hanson Principal



YOU'RE INVITED
10TH ANNUAL
**Garden to Table
Dinner**

St. Martha Catholic School is welcoming everyone to a charming garden-to-table dinner, featuring garden tours, a market, a student art show, games, and much more.

Come gather around the table, enjoy the evening, and help our garden and cafeteria continue to grow.

**5 NOVEMBER 2026
5:30PM TO 7:00PM**

\$25 | **\$15**
ADULTS | KIDS

Garden To Table Tickets



St. Martha Catholic School
OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2026 8:15 AM - 10:00 AM

P3 - 8TH GRADE

Prospective families are invited to visit St. Martha Catholic School to learn more about all we have to offer your children!

- ☒ Campus Tours
- ☒ Meet Faculty & Staff
- ☒ Meet Students & Parents
- ☒ Refreshments



**4380 FRUITVILLE ROAD
SARASOTA**



www.stmarthaschool.net

P4 Weather Experiments

Our little P4 friends have been learning all about weather, conducting many experiments to create wind, a tornado, clouds and rain clouds!





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*

November 7

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.

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*
Janet Cocco, *Sacristan*
Joe Angelicola, *Sacristan*
John Iacopelli, *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 Grabowski
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	Tom Gillis	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

Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School

4171 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34232 941.371.4917



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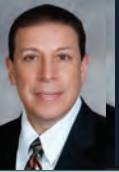
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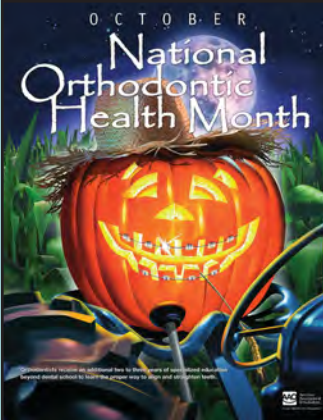


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ToaleBrothers.com



Frank Burns
Pre-Planning Advisor



Robert Toale & Sons
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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

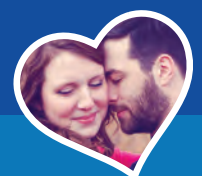
Dignity

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