"Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength."

Saint Francis de Sales





ST. MARTHA CATHOLIC CHURCH

USA National Circus Church The Pallottines (Society of Catholic Apostolate)



Mass Schedule

Saturday 7:30am • 8:30am • 4pm Vigil

5:30pm *Vigil*

Sunday 7:30am - 7:45am Spanish (Parish Hall) - 9am

10:30am • 12pm • 5:30pm

12pm Vietnamese (Parish Hall)

Weekday 7:30am • 8:30am • 12pm

Confession - Reconciliation Room

Saturday • 3-4pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:30am

Eucharistic Adoration - Carosella Chapel

Tuesday-Thursday 9am-12pm

Rosarv

Rosary prayed after 7:30am Mass

St. Martha Catholic Church

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

ST MARTHA
CATHOLIC CHURCH

June 23, 2024

From Our Pastor, Father George June 23, 2024 is the 12th Sunday in Ordinary time

From Deacon Vern:

Many of us have experienced the awesome power of a hurricane or tornado. All of us have seen on television what its devastating force can do. Small wonder that in prescientific times people saw God's anger and threat in storms and bad weather. They cried to the Lord in their distress;... he hushed the storm to a gentle breeze, and the billows of the sea were stilled (Responsorial Psalm). Today, there are still Christians who light a blessed candle and pray to God when thunder and lightning threaten. Nor is this such a bad thing! Prayer in faith is meaningful in any anxiety because it gives strength. God is with us!

The Scripture lessons for this Sunday speak of God's majesty and power in contrast to human littleness. Human weakness is contrasted to the strength of God, who can free from everything that burdens the heart. That is the point: not that God removes all that makes one sad, but gives the capacity to face life, the good and the bad, live it to the full and find meaning, even in setbacks and disappointments.

In this Sunday's Gospel passage, it is night, and the apostles are attempting to reach the other side of what was called the *Sea of Galilee*, actually a very large lake. Christ, tired from the days' work, sleeps in the fishing boat of his friends. Suddenly a storm arises on the lake and waves crash into the boat bringing with them such danger that the apostles wake their Lord and ask for his help. It was their version of calling 911, in other words, but in this case, it is the Lord himself who answers. Then and there Christ performs a miracle by calming the sea.

In Biblical times the threatening forces of nature were so automatically related to God that they became the customary imagery used to describe a theophany (Manifestation of God). See the great theophany of Mount Sinai (Ex 19:16-19) and todays First Reading where God speaks out of the storm. This same imagery is still applicable. Life can be like a storm. We can lose hope and be on the brink of giving up. The sight of the Church, the bark of Peter, being so frighteningly rocked nowadays may confuse us. But while we are doing whatever is humanly possible to solve our own problems, we should never forget to pray with faith. When I called, you [God] answered me; you built up strength within me. (Ps 138:3).

The lesson from the Book of Job connects with the Gospel account of Jesus calming the waves around him. Christ demonstrated power over the mysterious sea and should be recognized as possessing authority that belongs to God. That is the primary point of recounting the event: that those who hear about it will recognize in Jesus Christ, God made visible. The disciples ask among themselves after the calming of the sea: Who can this be that the wind and sea obey him? The unspoken but obvious answer is that this is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Lord of the chaotic forces of the sea.

Only God could calm the tumultuous sea, and if Christ is God, he possesses such powers. It is interesting to note, though, that Jesus performs his miracle in response to a petition. The prayer of the disciples moves Jesus to act in the way he did, to prevent the disciple-travelers from drowning.

What traveler doesn't have recourse at least some of the time to divine assistance?

How often when the life-vest demonstration is being given on an airplane before it takes off have, we prayed the prayer something like this: Lord, may I never need to use that vest! But if I do, help me to have the presence of mind to inflate it after, and not during, when leaving the plane, just as the flight attendants are asking and according to FAA regulations?

We may lack faith and forget to put our lives under God's watchful and loving care. No surprise that we panic, like the disciples, when water starts entering the boat, or if the airplane is landing in the water. Maybe only then do we remember that we need God to reach the other shore, to rest at ease in God's embrace. View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com



Which reminds us that sometimes human life is compared to a boat. The world is the sea around us, complicated and deep, and ever-possibly devouring or drowning us. Giant animals of whatever shape loom nearby, dangers are all around, putting us into a panic and making the going rough or very difficult indeed. Faith can fail when faced with serious dangers, threats, persecutions and the like.

The question is ever-present: what happens when we are caught in storms? Do we have confidence in God or filled with fright? The Gospel texts and all Sacred Scripture is inviting us to put our trust in God and follow in the footsteps of Jesus who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

The Knights of Columbus have brought the Pilgrim Icon of St. Joseph to St. Martha's church - The Icon of St. Joseph will stay in our church only for a few days. Our world desperately needs men and women of courage. But in a particular way, it needs courageous fathers — men willing to stand up and to carry out their own mission of protecting, defending, and raising future generations. For this and other intentions we will have a Prayer Service in Honor of St. Joseph on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at 5.30pm in our church. Come, pray with the Knights!

We are moving some Sunday Masses to the parish hall - In this hot weather and with our AC working without the heat exchanger (a new one is coming hopefully in August) we get an uncomfortable air temperature in the church. But our hall is bigger in size, cooler and it has the fans, so we will be moving our 4pm, 5:30pm Vigil Masses and our 9am, 10:30am and 5:30pm Sunday Masses into the Parish Hall starting the next weekend (June 29/30). 7:30am and 12pm will be held in the church.

Sacred Heart of Jesus — Have mercy on us! - During the month of June, we venerate the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let's pray for the conversion of sinners, who cause wars and we pray in expiation for the sins against God. Heart of Jesus, abode of justice and love — have mercy on us!

On Tuesdays and Thursdays in July there will be a Service of Holy Communion instead of our usual Mass at 8:30am - The 8:30am Mass will continue to be celebrated on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. The Mass Intentions from 8:30am Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays in July will be transferred to later days. Apologies for the inconvenience!

Prayer to Defeat Florida's Abortion Amendment - Ever-living God, you give life and desire a future for all your children. Take hold of our nation, state, and community and awaken in every heart awe for the gift of life. Send your Spirit to strengthen us with wisdom and fortitude as we defend mothers and children in Florida from laws that disregard their health and safety.

Mary and Joseph trusted in you and welcomed Jesus into our broken world. God Almighty, we ask their intercession to protect the preborn and their mothers, and to guide all parents in raising their children. May they help us build a civilization of love by upholding the sacredness of life and accompanying pregnant women in need. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen. Our Lady, Mother of the Family, pray for us! St. Joseph, Protector of the Unborn, pray for us!

Next Sunday, June 30, 2024, is the 13th Sunday in Ordinary time.

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





St Martha's Caritas Pantry

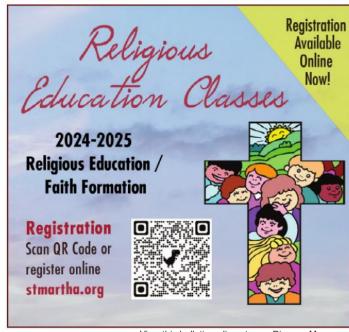
Caritas, an outreach ministry providing assistance with utility payments, transportation, food, prescriptions, and work attire for thousands in Sarasota in acute financial need.

To volunteer contact volunteer@stmartha.org

We are honored to serve our community. Great work all and thank you! May 2024 we served 843 households • 308 different households 1,410 individuals • 579 different individuals • 224 Children • 1186 Adults.



Interested in the Catholic Faith and want to know more? Are you Catholic, but have not been Confirmed? Are you from another denomination and want to explore and embrace the Catholic Faith? To schedule an appointment with Fr. George and start your journey, contact Patty Sileo sileo@stmartha.org



THE ABORTION AMENDMENT

IT'S NOT WHAT IT SEEMS — AND IT'S WAY TOO EXTREME.

So... this amendment eliminates all limitations and regulations on abortion – even safety regulations that protect women —

> Not defined anywhere in the amendment ...

Wow ... any "healthcare provider"

- NOT just doctors - could

determine viability or exceptions
for "patient's health". It could even
be a non-medical staff member
at an abortion clinic ... BIG loophole
makes limitation meaningless.

TITLE: Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion

SUMMARY: No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider. This amendment does not change the Legislature's constitutional authority to require notification to a parent or guardian before a minor has an abortion.

Should say: "Amendment to Legalize full-term abortion for any age without parental consent in Florida."

Also not defined - even "mental stress" could qualify for the "patient's health" exception, BIG LOOPHOLE

ELIMINATES CURRENT PARENTAL
CONSENT LAWS - So, parents would
be told their daughter is going to have
an abortion, but unlike every other
medical procedure - would not have to
give their consent beforehand.





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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Lord, Jesus Christ! As the Church resumes Ordinary Time, may the intercession of the Blessed Mother and All the Saints assist and support you.

Each year on the Sunday nearest to the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, our Holy Father invites us to participate in the ongoing work of the Holy See to help those throughout the world who are most in need. The Peter's Pence Collection unites us with the Holy Father in his works of charity toward those who are suffering around the world including victims of war, natural disasters, and oppression, as well as refugees and the poor affected by illness and disease.

Won't you join Pope Francis and be a witness of charity throughout the world? You can participate through your donation, prayers, and outreach to spread the message of Christ. The Peter's Pence collection in the Diocese of Venice is scheduled for the weekend of June 29 and 30, 2024. Please be generous in your support and help sustain others who are less fortunate. Thank you for your kindness!

I take this opportunity to extend to you my continued consideration and my prayers! May God bless you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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





St. Martha Clergy

Rev. George Suszko, S.A.C. *Pastor* Rev. Jan Rykala, S.A.C.

Rev. Joseph Vu, C.R.M., Hospital Chaplain

Very Rev. Fausto Stampiglia, S.A.C. (*Retired*)

Rev. Deacon C. Patrick Macaulay

Rev. Deacon Robert Gaitens

Rev. Deacon Vern Smith

Sr. Cathy Bonfield, S.S.N.D.

Br. Lawrence Skitzki, C.S.C.

Br. William Dygert, C.S.C.

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Director of Religious Education Blanca Goetz, Event Coordinator Pamela Paulson.

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Welcome New Parishioners!

We are so happy to welcome you to St Martha Catholic Church and are glad you have joined us!



To Register, please scan the QR code or visit stmartha.org



Diocese of Venice

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Altar Servers Dn. Vern Smith dcvern@stmartha.org
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Arimathean Ministry Parish Office 941.366.4210
Catholic Charities Joan Pierse 941.366.4210
Community Pregnancy Clinics 941.260.5427
Casa Santa Marta
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Council of Catholic Women Parish Office 941.366.4210
Development Committee Parish Office 941.366.4210
Eucharist Adoration Parish Office 941.366.4210
Extraordinary Ministers Dc. Pat Macaulay dcpatrick@stmartha.org
Finance Council John Corey coreyjjj5@gmail.com
Family Ministry
Herrig Caritas (9-11am, M-F) Tony Cocco, Chair 941.366.5620
Hospitality Ministry Beth Cannata 941.321.2953
Knights of Columbus David Kiszak 941.928.8388
Lectors Dc. Pat Macaulay dcpatrick@stmartha.org
O.C.I.A Sue Thompson suehome2@verizon.net
Parish Council Beth Cannata 941.321.2953
Prayer Line
Respect Life Ministry Kate Shaver ksshaver@comcast.net
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Thursday mornings at 10am for Lectio Divina classes in Geenen Hall.

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





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Weekly Mass Intentions
Sun, June 23Jb 38:1, 8-11; 2 Cor 5:14-17; Mk 4:35-41
7:30am [GS] Ryan Halstead by Mother
7:45am [CG] (Hall/ Spanish) Special Intentions 9:00am [FS] (L) Geri Lorkowski by Fellow Volunteers
10:30am [JR] For All Parishioners
12:00pm [GS] Alessandro Vincent and Marian Virginia Ross by Mike Ross
12:00pm [JV] (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
5:30pm [JR] L & D Mbrs of the Burch Family by Joe and Betty Plouffe
Mon, June 24ls 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80
7:30am [JV] Wilma Denton by John and Joyce Schaefer
8:30am [JR] Holy Souls in Purgatory by John J. DeStefano
12:00pm [GS] Joseph Bush Miller by Alberto Orta
Tue, June 25
7:30am [GS] Richard McCoid by Barbara Meier 8:30am [JV] Holy Souls in Purgatory by John J. DeStefano
12:00pm [GS] For a Greater Respect for all Human Life
Wed, June 26 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3; Mt 7:15-20
7:30am [JR] Fr. Patrick Wilson by John Corey
8:30am [GS] Claire Stephan by the Lijoi Family
12:00pm [JR] John A. Mahok by Margaret Geffer
Thu, June 27 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Mt 7:21-29
7:30am[JV] Missing and Exploited Children by Joe and Betty Plouffe
8:30am [JR] Maria Van Hoy by Mary Anne Thompson
12:00pm [JR] Michael Blair Frain by Jackie Fie
Fri, June 282 Kgs 25:1-12; Mt 8:1-4
7:30am [GS] Elidio Testa by the Caragiulo Family
8:30am
12:00pm [JR] Joseph DiSalvo by Debbie and Jeff Stern
Sat, June 29Acts 12:1-11; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
7:30am [JV] Thomas Bauer by Maureen and Bob Ryan 8:30am [FS] Patrick Wilkinson by Nancy and Geoffrey Landis
4:00pm [JR] Alberto Orta by Alberto Orta
5:30pm [GS] (L) Debbie Loper by Family
Sun, June 30 Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24; 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15; Mk 5:21-43
7:30am [JR] Ryan Halstead by Mother
7:45am [CG] (Hall/ Spanish) Special Intentions
9:00am [JR] Richard Longpre by David and Paula Shigley
10:30am [FS] For All Parishioners
12:00pm [GS] Delores and John Staranowicz by Debbie and Jeff Stern 12:00pm [JV] (Hall/Vietnamese) Special Intentions
5:30pm [GS] Ida Tasseff by Kathleen Scotti
Fr. George (GS), Fr. Jan (JR), Fr. Joseph (JV), Fr. Celestino (CG), Fr. Fausto (FS)
The Colosinio (CO), The Lucisio (13)



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