

"Do not be afraid; just have faith.."

- Mark 5:36



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



From Our Pastor, Father George

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

From Deacon Bob:

Last Sunday in the Gospel of Mark, we found Jesus in a boat in the middle of a squall. The sea was violent. Amid this storm that could have easily sunk the boat, Jesus was at peace. He calmed the storm and put the disciples at peace as well. In today's Gospel, just a few verses past the story we heard last week in Mark, Jesus is now on dry land, but different storms rage. These storms center on an extremely sick woman and a young dying girl. Again, Jesus is asked to calm the seas and bring peace.

Between last weeks Gospel and this weeks Gospel we are reminded that none of us are immune from tempestuous seas of life. We are not going to escape the difficulties life brings. Whether we are financially rich or poor, whether we are old or young, we all will face the difficulties of life. Jesus does not promise that we will not face difficulties. His promise is His peace, and if you accept that peace, we will have joy in this world and the next regardless of the difficulties we face while waiting for *Thy Kingdom Come*.

There was a moderate hit song back in the 1980s from John (Cougar) Mellencamp called *Hand to Hold on To.* The refrain says, *everyone needs a hand to hold on to.* That song really speaks to the Gospel we hear this weekend. In both the affliction of hemorrhages of the woman and the troubles faced by Jairus and his wife about the impending death of their daughter, they turn to Jesus for help and comfort. Jesus does not let them down. Jesus gives them a hand to hold onto.

St. Paul's writing in the second reading pulls the analogy of the Gospel into focus. St. Paul notes ... Though He was rich, for your sake He became poor, so that by His poverty you might become rich. Paul is telling us that it is in the faith of Christ Jesus Himself we can still have peace in the face of all our odds. We all need a hand to hold onto: and that hand is Jesus'.

Often, we want the physical storm or sickness to stop. We get lost in the flood so to speak. St. Paul reminds us that it is not what is here on earth that provides peace, but the lack of spiritual comfort. It is the lack of or losing sight of knowing God loves us, that God is always with us, that God is mourning with us, and that God wants two things: our earthly peace and to be with Him forever. What Jesus offers is comfort, compassion, and Love in the face of the storms we face. He offers us His physical touch. The afflicted woman, as she is hemorrhaging, in faith reaches out and touches Jesus. Immediately she is cured. Jesus takes the hand of the little girl that has passed away and she returns to life. In these physical encounters with Christ, those in torment are cured. Jesus also offers us His hand to hold on to and give us peace. A peace that transcends our plights of sickness and gives us new life.

Jesus gives us His hand to hold on to when we pray to Him. He is always listening to us, and He is always talking to us. But He does one better. Like the afflicted woman and the young girl. He offers to touch us physically in the Eucharist. When we accept the offering of His Body and Blood at Mass, He allows us to physically touch Him as well. His Body is true food, and His Blood is true drink. He offers this to us, to show to us now we are never alone, and Loved beyond all telling. He wants us to have His peace. He wants us to know: Everything will be ok in the end, if it is not okay, it is not the end. Just take His hand to hold onto untill the very end.



From Father George:

We are moving some Sunday Masses to the parish hall - In this hot weather and with our AC working without the heat exchanger (new one coming hopefully in August) we get uncomfortable air temperature in the church. But our hall is bigger in size, cooler and it has 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.

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!

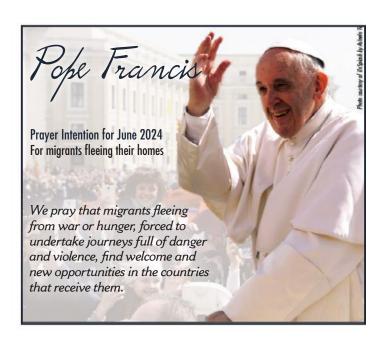
Frequently asked questions about Amendment 4.

What is Amendment 4? Amendment 4 is a proposed amendment to the Florida Constitution that would essentially establish an unlimited right to abortion throughout pregnancy even when the heartbeat of the preborn child is detected, when the preborn child can experience pain, and when the child is capable of living outside the womb. Amendment 4 will appear on the November 5, 2024, ballot and require approval from 60% of the electorate to pass.

Would abortion be illegal in Florida if Amendment 4 does not pass? If Amendment 4 does not pass, abortion would still be legal in Florida until a baby's heartbeat can be detected. Current laws that protect the safety of women would remain in effect.

Next Sunday, July 7, 2024, is the 14th Sunday in Ordinary time.

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





Do You Have Financial Skills?

We are seeking a parishioner to replace a retiring board member at our parish senior housing residences.

Casa Santa Marta provides 130 affordable residences to seniors and is located at Orange Ave and 8th Street.

Please join **Father George** and other parish members in serving this wonderful ministry.

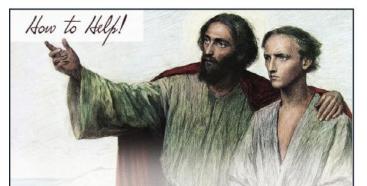
The Casa Santa Marta Board meets quarterly to provide oversight of operational and financial performance.

If you have experience in budgeting and financial statements, we need you.

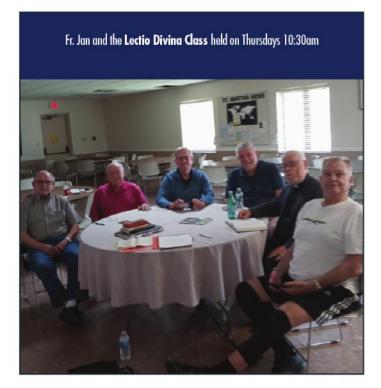
Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Stuart Love 941-780-7834 or volunteer@stmartha.org

Casa Santa Marta





Sidewalk Counselors and Prayer Warriors Needed - As the weather turns hotter there is an urgent need for sidewalk counselors and prayer partners to provide coverage to stand as peaceful witnesses for life at the Planned Parenthood abortion facilities at 6418 Commerce Park Drive, Fort Myers, and 1425 Creech Road, Naples. No training is necessary to be a prayer partner - just bring a hat and a rosary. For those interested in counseling, training and necessary resource materials will be provided. In addition, during this process an experienced counselor will be present. Prayer partners and counselors are a vital component in the Pro-Life movement, as they ensure a constant presence in front of abortion facilities, showing that women and their unborn children in crisis are not abandoned in their time of need. To learn more details, please call Mary Claire Dant at 239.200.8117.



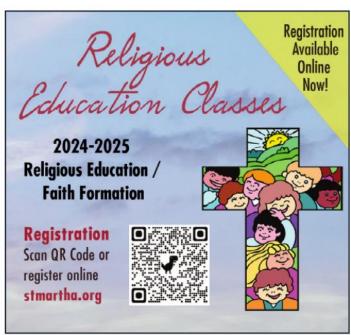


Interested in the Catholic Faith and want to know more?

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







FLORIDA'S PRO-ABORTION AMENDMENT EXPLAINED

Why Floridians Should Vote NO on Amendment 4

Titled "Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion," Amendment 4 would enshrine UNREGULATED ABORTION in our state constitution, making Florida one of the MOST PRO-ABORTION states in the nation. The amendment language is MISLEADING, and its proposed outcomes are DANGEROUS.

WHAT IT SAYS

BALLOT 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 quardian before a minor has an abortion.

WHAT IT DOES

PUTS WOMEN AT RISK

Amendment 4 would jeopardize existing laws and prohibit new ones that voters on both sides of the abortion issue support. including health and safety laws that protect women.

ALLOWS SECOND AND THIRD TRIMESTER ABORTIONS

Though not defined in the amendment, "viability" is defined in Florida law as the stage of development when the life of a fetus is sustainable outside the womb (Ch. 390.011(15)), generally accepted to be 22-24 weeks of pregnancy, or about 6 months.

CREATES A BROAD "HEALTH" LOOPHOLE

"Patient's health" is not defined in the amendment, allowing post-viability, extremely late-term abortions for treatable, temporary health concerns. Emotional health would justify an abortion when a child could survive outside the womb.

WEAKENS MEDICAL DOCTOR REQUIREMENT

"Healthcare providers" - not just physicians - could determine if an abortion is "necessary" to protect the mother's "health." Even some employees of abortion clinics, such as nurses and counselors, could approve late-term abortions.

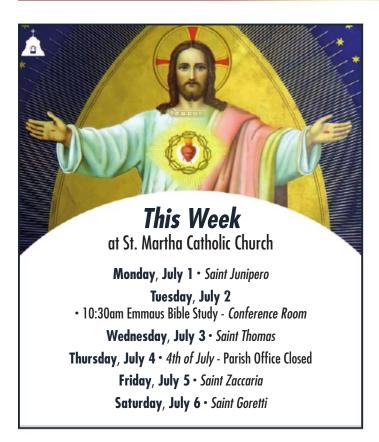
ELIMINATES PARENTAL CONSENT

While preserving parental *notification* in our state constitution (Article X, Section 22), the amendment would invalidate the current law that requires parental consent for a minor to have an abortion (Ch. 390.01114(5)), making abortion the only medical decision for which parents have no say.

Scan to learn more:

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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.

St. Martha Parish Staff

Samantha McDonald,

Business Manager Patricia Sileo.

Director of Religious Education Blanca Goetz, Event Coordinator

Pamela Paulson,

Reception/Data Entry Maxine Brand, Reception

Virginia Bray, 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

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



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Development Eucharist Ada Extraordinary	Committee oration	.Parish Office	941.366.4210 941.366.4210 dcpatrick@stmartha.org
Finance Coun Family Minist Herrig Caritas	cil ry (9-11am, M-F)	.John Corey	coreyjjj5@gmail.com fmosm@comcast.net 941.366.5620
Knights of Co	lumbus	. Beth Cannata	941.928.8388 dcpatrick@stmartha.org
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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.

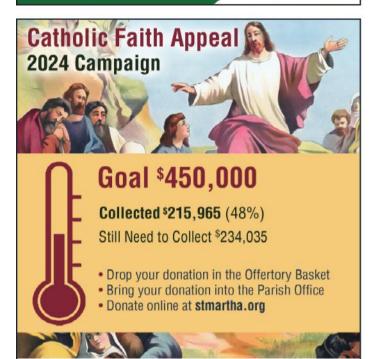
Composed by Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder (1895-1981), Second Bishop of Lafayette (1956-1973),following Hurricane Audrey in 1957

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Thank YOU!

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- Vocations and Clergy Support

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Weekly Mass Intentions

Sun, June 30
Mon, July 1Am 2:6-10, 13-16; Mt 8:18-22 7:30am[JR] Arthur Louis Levin by Brothers of Holy Cross 8:30am[JV] Jeffrey Deane by Judy Kozlowski 12:00pm[GS] Rev. Gene Wells by John and Joyce Schaefer
Tue, July 2
Wed, July 3Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29 7:30am[JV]Sheryl Colkett by Barbara Meier 8:30am[JR](L) Rev. Krzysztof Frost, S.A.C. by Jack Buckingham 12:00pm[JV] Holy Souls in Purgatory by John J. DeStefano
Thu, July 4
Fri, July 5
Sat, July 6
Sun, July 7
Fr. George (GS), Fr. Jan (JR), Fr. Joseph (JV),



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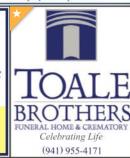


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