



*Saint Martin of  
Tours Inclusive  
Catholic Community*

# Sunday Bulletin

## 8th Sunday of Ordinary Time

March 2, 2025

SABUMC

575 Lake Road,  
Saint Albans Bay  
Vermont 05481

Phone: 802-332-3890

### Liturgical Calendar/ Mass Celebrations

## Welcome to Saint Martin's!

Saint Martin of Tours Inclusive Catholic Community is the first independent Catholic faith community in Franklin County, Vermont. St. Martin's is part of a vibrant movement known as the Independent Sacramental Movement that has emerged across the U.S. over the last 30 years. (Independent Catholicism has existed in Europe and South America for many decades).

We are:

- a sacramental community centered around the Eucharist and all Sacraments
- grounded in all we love of the Catholic tradition, the celebrations, and the rhythms of the liturgical year
- a people of prayer and a people of service and social justice
- inclusive, affirming, respectful of diversity, and share the Body and Blood of Christ with all who seek to receive Him reverently

All of this binds sisters and brothers across the Catholic landscape as we expand our Faith. We gather at Mass by worshipping God, our Creator, in community and praising Him in song (which is praying twice!) We meet God through our senses of seeing, hearing, tasting, touching, and feeling. All are a part of what strengthens us in our Faith and reminds us of what it means to be Catholic.

- **Ongoing** - Saint Martin's supports "Welcome You Home," a local ecumenical ministry helping unsheltered persons & those transitioning from temporary housing.
- **March 5th - Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service in St. Albans (City) at St. Luke's Episcopal Church - 12:00 Noon.** Join Saint Martin's, St. Luke's, First Congregational Church & St. Paul's Methodist Church for a combined Liturgy & distribution of ashes. (St. Luke's is located on the corner of Church & Fairfield Streets.)
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- **March 9th** - Daylight Savings returns. Move clocks forward one hour.
- **April 16th - Ecumenical Tenebrae Service at St. Luke's** (time TBA). This service will include meditative Taizé music, scripture, & candlelight.
- **April 18th - Ecumenical Good Friday Stations of the Cross** (time & location, TBA).
- **April 20th - Easter Sunrise Service at Hard'aack/Greg Brown Lodge - 6:00 a.m.** Join Saint Martin's, First Congregational UCC, St. Paul's UMC, and St. Luke's Episcopal to celebrate of our unity & togetherness on this special day, as a community.

For *The Order of the Mass*, please refer to the *Mass Worship Aid* handout found at your seat or online at [www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org](http://www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org).

Please join us for fellowship immediately following Mass.

## Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

**A Reading from the Book of Sirach.**  
(Sirach 27:4-7 (USCCB))

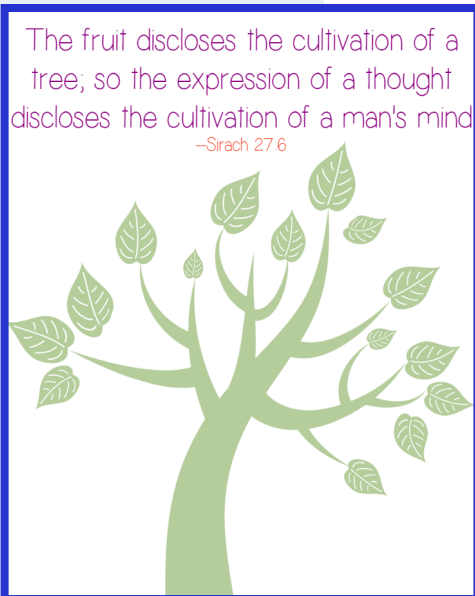
Lector: A reading from the Book of Sirach.

When a sieve is shaken, the husks appear; so do one's faults when one speaks. As the test of what the potter molds is in the furnace, so in tribulation is the test of the just.

The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had; so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he speaks, for it is then that people are tested.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People Respond: Thanks be to God.*



### Responsorial Reading (Spoken)

(Psalm 138:1-4,6-8 (CCL))

Lector: Your Love of justice endures forever.

*People Your Love of justice endures forever.*

Lector: I give You thanks, O God, with my whole heart. In the presence of all the heavenly hosts, I shall sing psalms to You; for on the day I cried out, you listened to me. You gave me strength.

*People Respond: Your Love of justice endures forever.*

Lector: I am accountable to your courts alone, O God! I praise Your Name for Your tender love and faithfulness. You have placed Your Name and Your Word above everything.

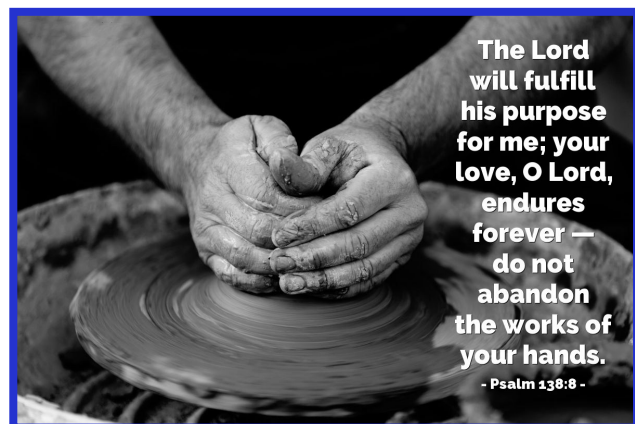
*People Respond: Your Love of justice endures forever.*

Lector: All leaders of the earth will acknowledge You. When they hear the words of Your mouth let them sing of Your ways, O God! Let them sing, "How great is our God!" For God is most high yet cares for the lowly; but God is not near the haughty.

*People Respond: Your Love of justice endures forever.*

Though I walk in the midst of dangers, surrounded by trouble, You guard my life when my oppressors rage. You stretched out Your hand to me, and I was delivered. The desire of Your Heart will be fulfilled, O God. Your love of justice endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

*People Respond: Your Love of justice endures forever.*



## Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter of James.  
(James 1:19-22 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Letter of James.

Remember this, beloved. Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger; for God's justice is never served by our anger.

Do away with all malice and ill intention.

Humbly welcome the word which has been planted in you, because it has the power to heal your souls.

But also, be doers of the word, not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People Respond: Thanks be to God.*



## Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)

Celebrant: Alleluia, alleluia.

*People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.*

Celebrant: Shine like lights in the world as you hold onto the word of life.

*People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.*

## Gospel

### Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.  
(Luke 6:37, 39-49 (CCL))

Celebrant: May the Word of Christ be with you all.

*People Respond: And also, with you.*

Celebrant: A reading from the Good News attributed to Luke.

*People Respond: † Glory to you, O God.*

Jesus said: *“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.”*

Jesus also taught them using parables: *“Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained and qualified, every disciple will be like the teacher. Why do you notice the splinter in your neighbor's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?”*

*How can you say to your neighbor, ‘Friend, let me remove that splinter in your eye,’ when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye?*

*You hypocrite! First remove the wooden beam from your eye; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your neighbor's eye.*

*A good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Rather, each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.*

*(Gospel continued on the next page.)*

*Don't miss any announcements  
or upcoming special Masses!*

*Visit our website*

*[www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org](http://www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org)  
& sign up to receive our newsletter.*

## Prayers of the People

*(Gospel continued.)*

*The good person, out of the good treasure of their heart, produces good. The evil person, out of the evil treasure of their heart, produces evil. It is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.*

*Your true being is revealed in your words and your deeds. Why do you say to me, 'Amen, Teacher', yet do not do what I say? I will show you what someone is like who hears my words and acts on them. That person is like one who built a house, digging deeply to lay the foundation on bedrock. When a flood arose, the river crashed against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built.*

*But a person who hears my words and does not act on them is like one who built a house on the ground with no foundation. When the river crashed against it, immediately, it fell; and great was the ruin of that house."*

Celebrant: The Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Luke.

*People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.*

**For there is no good tree which produces bad fruit, nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit. For each tree is known by its own fruit.**



Luke 6:43-44

### Prayers of the People

Presider: Having heard the words of Jesus, we are called to love beyond ordinary human bounds. Let us ask God for all that we need to respond to that call, confident that he hears our prayers and our every need:

Lector: Our prayer response is: "Hear us, O God."

✠ For the Body of Christ. That, as the followers of Jesus, that we may learn to love as He did, serving Him and our neighbors with humility and compassion, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✠ For all who have never experienced forgiveness: that they may encounter Christ's free and healing gift of forgiveness, and that, as followers of Jesus, we may listen deeply to the Gospel message and take seriously our call to be healers of division, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✠ For healing of racial and ethnic hatreds and for asylum-seekers, immigrants and migrants who are suffering persecution: that all people may see the value and dignity of each person as a child of God, and that God will free those unjustly held and bring justice to the oppressed, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✝ That we may defer to the voice of the Spirit to tear down barriers that keep us from loving our neighbors and in opening ourselves to build bridges across socio-political divides and all aspects of human diversity so that we may become a spiritual and physical blessing to our fellow human beings, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✝ For all who continue to struggle from the magnitude of floods, wild-fires and arctic cold fronts: that those who've lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods may be given hope and be consoled; and may first responders and humanitarians be sustained with strength and courage and God's guiding hand, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✝ For all who have faced alienation & scripture weaponization in the name of church: that God will heal their hurts and help them to find welcome and acceptance in communities of faith, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✝ We earnestly pray for all who face sickness, chronic illness and disease; for all who struggle with daily conditions of life; for those who feel lost, alone or abandoned; and for our Mass intentions this day, especially for: Peg, Theresa, Ainsley, Paul, Bishop Frank of CACINA and for Francis, the Bishop of Rome - that God's healing of body, mind and spirit may be upon them, and offer them peace, comfort and strength, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✝ For those who have died, that they may rest in the arms of Jesus and

live in everlasting peace and light; and may all who mourn the loss of loved ones be consoled in their time of grief, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✝ For prayers answered: That God may receive the prayers of grateful hearts, we pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

✝ Let's take a moment to be mindful of unspoken needs and prayers held deep within the silence of our hearts: We pray:

*People Respond: Hear us, O God.*

Presider: Loving God,

Hear the prayers of your people and go before us, as our Guide. May we be open to the voice of the spirit, to open doors with compassion and with love.

And help us to not stand on the sidelines in times of injustice upon our neighbors to walk with eyes wide open to the needs of our communities, with ears open to the needs of our world, and with hands open in loving service to those in need of our help and in need of our words so that we may be a blessing to those you place in our path.

We offer this, our prayer, in the name of the Jesus who heals.

*People Respond: Amen.*

*Visit our website  
[www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org](http://www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org)  
For news, upcoming events  
& to sign up to  
receive our newsletter.*

## Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure



Your generosity is essential to breathing life into [Saint Martin of Tours Inclusive Catholic Community](#), and keeping its mission alive. By God's grace and through your generosity, we remain committed to continuing our mission to serve all of God's people.

Your financial support is also necessary for us to meet our financial obligations, which, in good stewardship, we try to hold to an absolute minimum. Through your contributions, we can continue our commitment to serving others. Please know how grateful we are for your generous support and, most especially, for your prayers.

### Thank you for your generosity!

To support Saint Martin's financially, you may:

- Mail a check (payable to) "Saint Martin of Tours Inclusive Catholic Community," P.O. Box 636, St. Albans, VT 05478.
- Use your bank's online bill pay section to mail your donation directly to Saint Martin's (address above).
- Submit your one-time or recurring contribution online using our secure Tithely link ([https://bit.ly/Donate2SMOTCC\\_Tithely](https://bit.ly/Donate2SMOTCC_Tithely))
- Attend Mass in person and drop your offering in the basket designated for gifts.
- Scan our QR code and donate online.



If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Barb at 802-332-3890, or email at [saintmartins.info@gmail.com](mailto:saintmartins.info@gmail.com).

## Announcements – Looking Ahead

- **Ongoing** - Saint Martin's donates a percentage of our monthly giving to "Welcome You Home," a local ecumenical ministry crucial in helping to furnish permanent shelter for previously unsheltered persons & those transitioning from temporary housing. Your support is making this possible. Stay tuned for more on this most-needed ministry in the Saint Martin Messenger (newsletter) issue.
- **March 5th - Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service in St. Albans (City) at St. Luke's Episcopal Church - 12:00 Noon.** Join Saint Martin's, St. Luke's, First Congregational Church & St. Paul's Methodist Church for a combined Liturgy & distribution of ashes. (St. Luke's is located on the corner of Church & Fairfield Streets.)
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### Prayer Requests

Let us pray for you and your loved ones; please email: [saintmartins.info@gmail.com](mailto:saintmartins.info@gmail.com) or inform Mother Barb to have prayer request included in the upcoming Mass.

### Pastoral Visits

Please reach out to Mother Barb if there's someone you know who needs pastoral care, a hospital visit, or a care facility visit.

### Support our Ministry

Donate online & like/follow/interact with us on social media (links below).

(Rev.) Mother Barb Fichter, Pastor  
Saint Martin of Tours Inclusive Catholic Community,  
Mailing: P.O. Box 636  
Saint Albans, Vermont 05478  
Phone: 802-332-3890

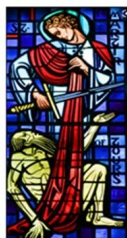
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