



*Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community*

Sunday Bulletin

Feast of the Baptism of Jesus

1st Sunday of
Ordinary Time
January 12, 2025

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.

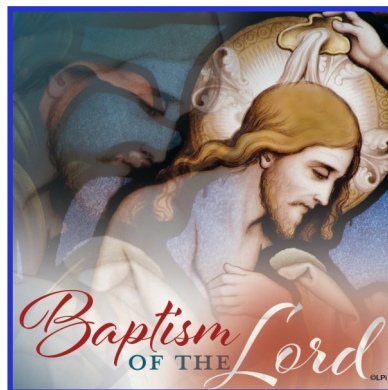
SABUMC

575 Lake Road,
Saint Albans Bay
Vermont 05481

Phone: 802-332-3890

Liturgical Calendar/ Mass Celebrations

- January 12th - Feast of the Baptism of Jesus - 11:30 a.m.
- January 19th - Remembering Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - 11:30 a.m.
- January 23rd - Birthday of the Catholic Apostolic Church in North America (CACINA) - 75 years!
- March 5th - Ash Wednesday - Time TBA.
- March 9th - Daylight Savings returns. Move clocks forward one hour.



For *The Order of the Mass*, please refer to the *Mass Worship Aid* handout found at your seat or online at www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org.

Please join us for fellowship immediately following Mass.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A Reading from the Prophet Judith.
(Judith 8:1-5, 7-17 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Judith.

Judith's husband, Manasseh, came from her own tribe and family. Manasseh died during the barley harvest while supervising workers who were binding sheaves in the field. Judith remained in bereavement for three years and four months. She built a small tent on the roof of her house and lived there. Judith was very beautiful. She wore sackcloth.

Manasseh left her an estate of silver and gold, attendants, livestock, and fields. She ran the entire estate. No one ever spoke a harsh word about her because she was very devout. Judith heard the harsh words that the people, out of their weakness for lack of water, were speaking against their leaders. And she heard all that one of the leaders, what Uzziah, said to the people: how he promised them under oath to surrender their town to the Assyrians after five days if God did not save them by then.

Judith sent her attendant, who managed affairs of her estate, to invite the village elders to her home. Their names were Uzziah, Chabris, and Charmis.

When they arrived, she said to them, "Listen. You are supposed to be the leaders of the people here in Bethulia. But what you said to the people today was wrong. You should never have sworn before God that you would surrender the village to our enemies if God did not come to our aid in five days.

"What gives you the right to put God to the test as you have done today? Who do you think you are to put yourself in God's place in dealing with human affairs? It is the all-powerful God of the powerless that

you are putting to the test! Will you never learn? No one can ever fathom the depths of the human heart or know what anyone is thinking. Yet you dare to read God's mind and interpret divine matters?!

"No, my friends, you must not goad the anger of God. Even if we are not rescued in five days, God still has power to protect us at will, or even to destroy us in the presence of our enemies*.

Do not try to force God's hand or demand guarantees in this matter! God cannot be threatened like humans can be. God cannot be won over by pleading as humans can be. So, while we wait for deliverance, we must continue to call upon God to help us. May our voices be heard."

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.



Responsorial Reading (Spoken)
(Psalm 78:12-20 (Merrill))

Lector: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

People Respond: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

*Don't miss any announcements
or upcoming special Masses!
Visit our website
www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org
& sign up to receive our newsletter.*

Lector: God performed miracles for your Hebrew ancestors when they were held captive, under the yoke of slavery. Remember how the sea was parted and the people passed through? How the water stood up like a corridor? Remember how in daytime, they were led with a cloud, and through the night with a fiery light?

People Respond: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

Lector: Recall how the rocks in the desert cracked open, that the people might drink their fill from waters as abundant as the seas, as unfathomable as the deep. God brought streams out of a rocky crag, and made water flow down like rivers.

People Respond: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

Lector: And yet the people continued to close their hearts, rebelling in the desert against God. Over and over, they put God to the test, demanding the food they craved. They spoke against God: "Can God really spread a table before us in the desert?"

People Respond: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

Lector: "True, God struck the rock, and water gushed out. True, streams overflowed. But can God also give us bread? Can meat be provided for us?"

People Respond: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

Lector: You will feel abandoned for a while, until the time when she who is in labor bears her child. Then, the scattered family will return home.

People Respond: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

Lector: The child will grow in stature. This new leader will shepherd-rule not with a human army but with God's strength, not with the majesty of might, but with God-revealed royalty.

People Respond: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

Lector: All people will have a good and safe home. The whole world will hold the newborn leader holy. This reign will bring harmony and wholeness. The child will be called Peace. All will know Your peace.

People Respond: You lead us to waters; You prepare for us a table.

Second Reading

A Reading from the Book of Acts.
(Acts 2:14, 17, 27-28, 41 (Merrill))

Lector: A reading from the Book of Acts.

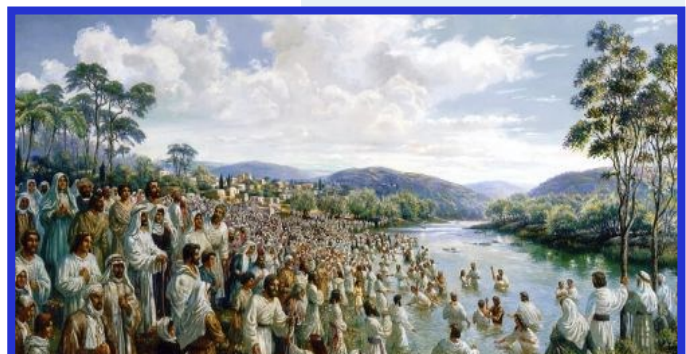
On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up to speak to all who had gathered in Jerusalem. He repeated the words of the prophet Joel: "In the last days, God says: *I will pour out my spirit on all flesh...*"

Peter spoke of Jesus' many wonders and signs performed during his life, and of his unjust death. Of Jesus' resurrection, Peter quoted the Psalms: "You, O God, do not abandon my soul to the netherworld. You have made known to me the paths of life; You fill me with joy in Your presence."

Upon hearing this word, many believed Jesus was the Anointed One of God, the Christ, the Messiah; and they were baptized.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.



Upon hearing this word, many believed Jesus was the Anointed One of God, the Christ, the Messiah; and they were baptized. -Acts 2:41

Gospel

Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)

Celebrant: Alleluia, alleluia.

People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant: The heavens opened and the voice of God thundered: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

(Luke 3:15-38 (abridged) (Merrill))

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.

All the people were filled with expectation. All were wondering in their hearts if John might be the Messiah.

And John answered them: "I baptize you with water. One who is more powerful than I is coming, and I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. That one will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire; with winnowing-fork in hand. The threshing floor will be cleared, and the wheat will be gathered into the barn. But the chaff will be burned in unquenchable fire."

John proclaimed the good news to the people with other exhortations too. John had rebuked Herod, the ruler. John had spoken out against Herod because of his marriage to his Brother's wife, Herodias. John also called out other evil things that Herod had done. Herod then added a further crime to them all: he threw John in prison.

Before all this, when all the people were being baptized by John, Jesus

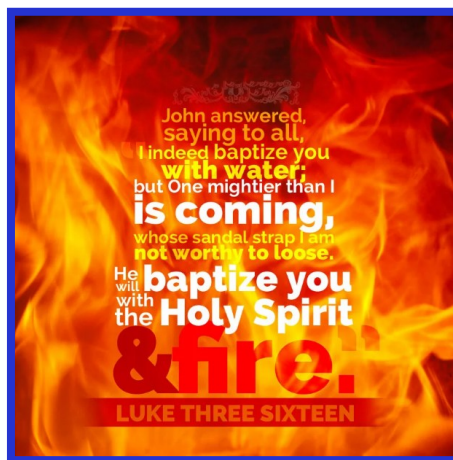
was baptized too. As Jesus was praying, the skies opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

A voice came from the heavens: "You are Mine, whom I love. In you I delight."

When Jesus began his work, he was about thirty years old. He was the child, as was thought, of Joseph. Joseph was of The lineage of David and Bathsheba, of Ruth and Boaz, of Seth, and of Adam and Eve.

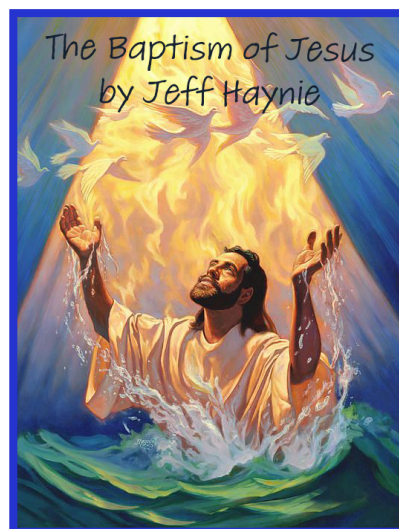
Celebrant: The Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Luke.

People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.



Prayers of the People

People Respond: Hear us, O God.



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)
- 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.

Announcements – Looking Ahead

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Prayer Requests

Let us pray for you and your loved ones; please email: 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
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*Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community*



A Mission of CACINA

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