



*Saint Martin
of Tours
Catholic
Community*

Sunday Bulletin

First Sunday in Lent
February 26, 2023

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Welcome to Saint Martin's!

Saint Martin of Tours 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.

Liturgical Calendar/ Mass Celebrations

- **March 12th - Daylight Savings Time Returns!** Spring forward one hour. DST ends Nov 5th.
- **April 2nd - Palm Sunday** Holy Week begins.
- **April 6th - Holy Thursday, Mass of the Last Supper** - 7:00 p.m.
- **April 7th - Good Friday - Prayer Service & Holy Communion** - 3:00 p.m.
- **April 8th - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil** - Time TBA
- **April 9th - Easter Sunday Mass** - 10:30 a.m. Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ!



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

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Yahweh God formed man out of the clay of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

Then Yahweh God planted a garden to the east, in Eden, and there he placed the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground, Yahweh God made every kind of tree to grow, that were delightful to look at and good for food. In the center of the garden was the Tree of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals which Yahweh God had made. The serpent asked the woman: "Has God really told you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?"

The woman answered the serpent: "We may eat of the fruit from all the other trees in the garden, but the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden, God has Said – "You shall not eat it or even touch it, or you will die."

But the serpent said to the woman: "You certainly will not die! No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is evil."

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some of its fruit and ate it. She also gave some to the man who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked, and so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Spoken)

Lector: People Respond: Be merciful O God, for we have sinned.

People Respond: Be merciful O God, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.

People Respond: Be merciful O God, for we have sinned.

For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always: "Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight."

People Respond: Be merciful O God, for we have sinned.

Create a clean heart in me, O God, and a steadfast spirit, renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

People Respond: Be merciful O God, for we have sinned.

Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

People Respond: Be merciful O God, for we have sinned.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Through the actions of the first humans, sin came into the world. And, through sin, death spread through the whole human race, because all have sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law of Moses was given. Even though sin, before the law, was not a matter of breaking the law, and even though it was not called sin before the Law, death still reigned from Adam to Moses because Adam himself was an image of the One who was and is to come.

But the gracious gift is not like the transgression. For, if by the transgression of one person's sin, the many had died, how much greater will God's grace and the gracious gift of one man, Christ Jesus, overflow for the many?

God's gift is not like the death caused by Adam - the one who sinned. Everyone was condemned to death because of his sin; but, despite many transgressions, God's gift of grace brought acquittal. If death ruled because of one person's offenses, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and gift of righteousness reign in life, through the One, Christ Jesus.

In conclusion, just as a single offense brought condemnation upon all, one righteous act brought acquittal, and life came to all. Just as through one person's disobedience, the many were judged sinners, so, through the obedience of the One, the many are made righteous.

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Celebrant: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ; King of endless glory.

People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ; King of endless glory.

Celebrant: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ; King of endless glory.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People Respond: And also, with you.

Celebrant: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

People Respond: † Glory to you, Lord.

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit

into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry.

The tempter then approached him and said: "*If you are really God's Son, command that these stones become loaves of bread.*"

Jesus said in reply: "*It is written - We live, not on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*"

Next, the devil took Jesus to the Holy City, and stood him atop of the Temple parapet. The devil then said to him: "*If you are the Son of God, then throw yourself down. For it is written - God will command his angels to take care of you, and with their hands, they will support you, lest you your foot stumble upon a stone.*"

Jesus answered him: "*Again, it is written - You shall not put your God to the test.*"

Then the devil took Jesus up to a very high mountain top and showed him the riches and power of every country on earth, in their magnificence. The devil told Jesus: "*All these I shall give to you, if you fall down on your knees and worship me.*"

At this, Jesus said to him: "*Away with you, Satan! It is written - You shall worship the Most High God; God alone shall you adore and serve.*"

At that, the devil left, and, angels came and ministered to Jesus.

Celebrant: My friends, the Gospel of the Lord.

People Respond: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the People

People Respond: God of Mercy, hear our prayer.

Announcements – Looking Ahead

Holy Week Happenings - Week of April 2nd to 9th

- ***Palm Sunday, April 2nd, 10:30 a.m. - Passion of Our Lord - Blessing & Distribution of Palms.*** This Mass recalls Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on his way to his passion and death. The Palm Sunday celebration marks the beginning of Holy Week.
- ***Holy Thursday, April 6th, 7:00 p.m. - Mass of the Last Supper.*** This Mass recalls Jesus' institution of the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Holy Orders (priesthood) and when He gave us his greatest Commandment to love one another. The altar is stripped at the end of this Mass and remains bare until Easter.
- ***Good Friday, April 7th, 3:00 p.m. - Prayer Service, Holy Communion.*** On Good Friday, there is no consecration of the Eucharist, but Holy Communion follows the Liturgy of the Word and Veneration of the Cross.
- ***Holy Saturday, April 8th, TBA - Easter Vigil.*** Holy Saturday separates Good Friday from Easter Sunday and is the day we celebrate the vigil of Christ's followers held for Him outside of the tomb as we await the Resurrection. Vigil traditions include lighting the fire and blessing water and candles to symbolize Christ's passing from death to life. We toll the bells at the Gloria, signifying the joyous end of Lent.
- ***Easter Sunday, April 9th, Sunday Mass, 10:30 a.m. Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ!***

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).

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