



*Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community*



Sunday Bulletin

20th Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 17, 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

- **Ongoing** - Saint Martin's supports "Welcome You Home," a local ecumenical ministry helping unsheltered persons & those transitioning from temporary housing.
- **June 15th - September 14th - Summer Masses in the Basement Sofa Parlor** - 11:30 a.m.
- **September 21st - No Mass or Livestream at Saint Martin's** - Rev. Barb will be on vacation.
- **September 28th - No Mass or Livestream at Saint Martin's** - Rev. Barb will be on vacation.
- **October 5th - Joint Outdoor Pet Blessing in Taylor Park** - Time: TBA. First Congregational/UCC, St. Paul's UMC, St. Luke's Episcopal, Holy Trinity Episcopal & Saint Martin's invites everyone to our ecumenical blessing of the animals in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi.

ORDINARY
TIME – THE
LONGEST
SEASON IN THE
LITURGICAL
YEAR



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 Jeremiah.

(Jeremiah 38:1-10 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Four high officials heard what Jeremiah was telling the people of Jerusalem:

"This is what Your God says: 'Whoever stays in this city will die by sword, famine, or plague; but whoever goes over to the Babylonians will live. Their lives shall be spared them; as spoils of war they will live. This city will be given into the hands of the army of the ruler of Babylon. Jerusalem will be captured.'"

Then the officials said to the ruler: "This so-called prophet ought to be put to death! By speaking such words, he is weakening the resolve of the soldiers who are left in this city and all the people. He's not seeking the good of this people, but their ruin."

Zedekiah, ruler of Judah, said: "This prophet is in your hands, for I can do nothing to oppose you."

So, they took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern of Malchiah, the ruler's heir, in the courtyard of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. There was no water in the cistern, only mud; and Jeremiah sank in the mud.

But Ebed-Melek, Ethiopian court official in the royal palace, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the cistern while the ruler sat powerless in the Benjamin Gate.

Ebed-Melek went up to the ruler and said: "I am your servant; you are still my ruler. These officials have done evil to Jeremiah, the prophet. They

have thrown him into a cistern where he will starve to death. There is no longer any bread in the city."

The ruler then commanded Ebed-Melek: "Take three of my people with you and lift Jeremiah, the prophet, out of the cistern before he dies."

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.



Jeremiah was cast into a dungeon, is no felled ho luffel inten into the mire.

Responsorial Reading (Spoken) (Psalm 40:2;4;18 (CCL))

Lector: We wait patiently on You, O God!

People Respond: We wait patiently on You, O God!

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

*www.saintmartinofoursvermont.org
& sign up to receive our newsletter.*

Lector: O God, You hear our cries. Draw us out of the pit of tumult, out of the muddy clay. Give us even ground, a place where we can stand secure. You steady our steps.

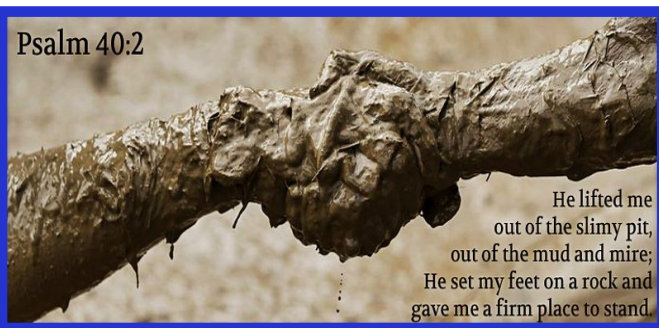
People Respond: We wait patiently on You, O God!

Lector: Put a new song on our lips, a hymn to God! Then, many will see and know You. Many will put their trust in You.

People Respond: We wait patiently on You, O God!

Lector: Show Yourself to all who are poor and in need among us. Show Yourself to Your people. You are our help and our deliverer. Do not delay, O God! May we not delay for You!

People Respond: We wait patiently on You, O God!



Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.
(Hebrews 12:1-3 (CCL))

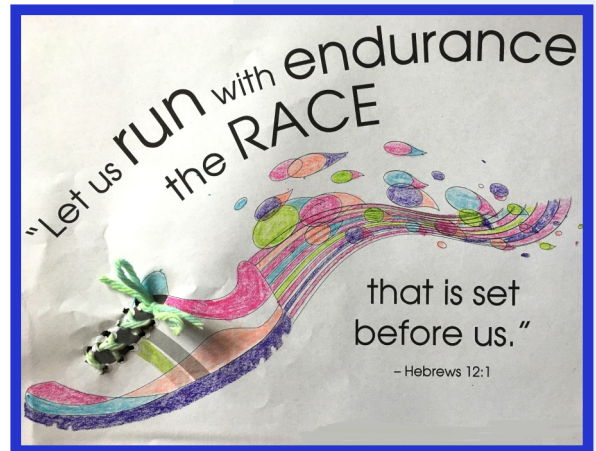
Lector: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since we are surrounded by so a great a cloud of witnesses, let us cast aside everything that hinders us, all that so easily entangles us! Let us persevere in running the race that lies before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus the Christ, the Leader and Fulfillment of our faith!

In anticipation of the joy that awaited, Jesus endured the cross, scorning its shame. As the Christ, Jesus now lives, glorified, with God. Consider the extreme opposition Jesus endured, that you also may not grow weary and lose heart.

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: The sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.
(Luke 12:49-53 (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.

Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure

Gospel

While speaking many things to the disciples and the crowds, Jesus said: *"I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! But I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed!"*

Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division! From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. They will be divided father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Celebrant: My friends, the Gospel of Jesus the Christ.

People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.



Prayers of the People

People Respond: God of All, hear us.



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

- **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. Support this ministry through our online donation page or by mailing a check to the address below. Stay tuned for updates in the [Saint Martin Messenger \(newsletter\)](#).
- **June 15th - September 14th - Summer Masses in the Basement Sofa Parlor** - The Church Sanctuary is not climate controlled, so for the Summer months we will gather for Sunday Mass in the Basement Sofa Parlor, at 11:30 a.m. (To reach the Sofa Parlor: From the front entrance of the Church, use the stairs in front of you and through the double doors; From the Parking Lot entrance use the stairs on your immediate left to the basement.
- **September 21st & 28th- No Mass or Livestream at Saint Martin's** - Rev. Barb will be on vacation.
- **October 5th - Joint Outdoor Pet Blessing in Taylor Park** - First Congregational/ UCC, St. Paul's UMC, St. Luke's Episcopal, Holy Trinity Episcopal & Saint Martin's invites everyone to our ecumenical blessing of the animals in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi. (Time: TBA).

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 Albans, Vermont 05478
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Email: saintmartins.info@gmail.com

Website: www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org/

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Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community



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