



*Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community*

Sunday Bulletin

22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 31, 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** - 10:00 a.m. 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.



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 Book of Sirach.
(Sirach 3:17-18,20-22,28-29 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Wisdom of Sirach.

My child, carry out your business with humility, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the humbler you must be, and you will find favor with God.

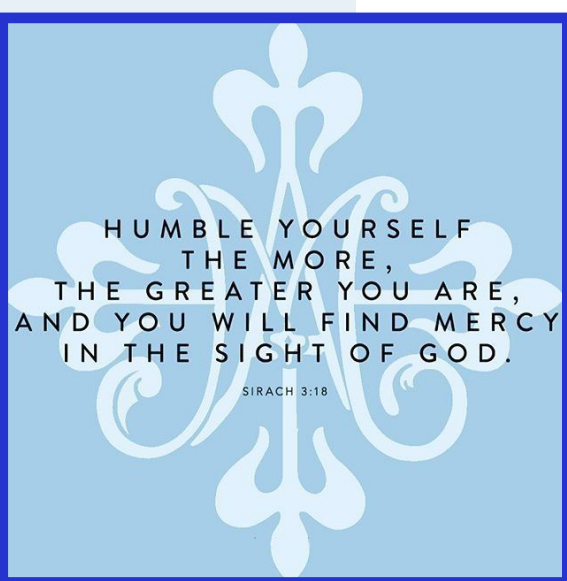
For great is the power of God, but it is by the humble that God is glorified. Do not seek out things that are beyond your scope. Do not scrutinize things that are beyond your power.

Whatever gifts are committed to your care, attend to them. Neither worry about, nor meddle in, what is not yours, what you cannot control.

For the disease of the proud, there is no cure, like the off-shoot of a poisoning root. A sensible person will take a proverb to heart - the ear that listens to Wisdom rejoices.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.



Responsorial Reading (Spoken) (Psalm 68:6-7;8 & 10;11-12 (CCL))

Lector: We are a mighty throng.

People Respond: We are a mighty throng.

Lector: The Beloved is a loving mother to those in need, a tender father to children without family, a holy dwelling to all who are bereft. God gives a home to the forsaken, and leads prisoners out to freedom. But those who run from Love live in a parched land.

People Respond: We are a mighty throng.

Lector: Beloved, You go out before Your people. You lead us through the desert. You provide abundant showers, restoring us when we languish, refreshing Your weary land.

People Respond: We are a mighty throng.

Lector: In a holy dwelling, all Your creatures find a dwelling. Established in goodness, You provide for those in need. You announce Your Word, and the women who proclaim it are a mighty throng.

People Respond: We are a mighty throng.



Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter of James.
(James 2:1-9, 14-17 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Letter of James.

Beloved, Show no favoritism as you adhere to your faith in Christ Jesus, the One who now shares in God's glory.

Suppose a person with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly; and a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in. If you take special notice of the well-dressed person, and say, "Come this way to the best seats," then tell the one who is poor, "Stand over there," or, "You can sit on the floor by my footstool", by making this distinction among yourselves, have you not become judges using a corrupt standard?

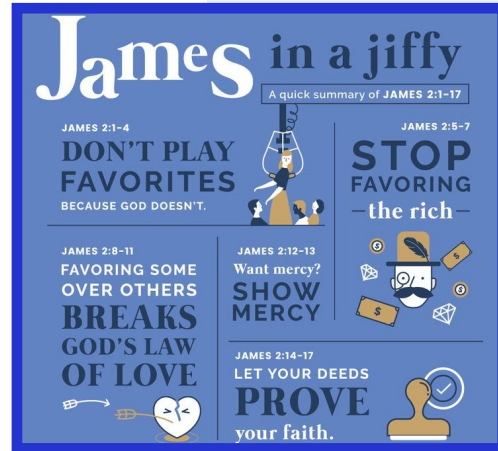
Listen, Beloved: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the reign of God promised to those who love God? But you dishonored the poor person. Are not the rich exploiting you? Are they not hauling you off to court? Are they not blaspheming the noble name of the One to whom you belong? If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you break the law.

What good is it, beloved, if someone claims to have faith but has no works? Can such faith save them? Suppose one of you is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace. Keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith, without good works, is quite dead.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Gospel



Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)

Celebrant: Alleluia, alleluia.

People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant: And Jesus said: "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

(Luke 14:1, 7-14 (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.

On one occasion, Jesus went to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath. Some of the Pharisees and other guests were watching him closely.

(Gospel continued on the next page.)

Visit our website

www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org

*For news, upcoming events
& to sign up to receive our newsletter.*

Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure

Gospel (cont.)

Noticing how the guests sought the places of honor at the table, Jesus told them a parable: *"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor. Someone more distinguished than you may have been invited by your host. The host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place.' Then, in disgrace, you would be moved to the lowest place. Rather, when you are invited, sit down at the place of lowest rank, so that your host may come and say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled; and those who humble themselves will be exalted."*

Jesus also said to his host: *"When you are having guests for lunch or supper, do not invite your friends, your siblings, and other relatives. They might invite you in return, and then you would be repaid in full. Rather, when you give a banquet, invite those who are poor, those whom society has failed, those who are looked upon as outcasts, and those who are cast out. Then you will be blessed because they cannot repay you; you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."*

Celebrant: 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** - 10:00 a.m. 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.

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
Saint Martin of Tours Inclusive Catholic Community,
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Saint Albans, Vermont 05478
Phone: 802-332-3890

Email: saintmartins.info@gmail.com

Website: www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org/

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Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community



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