



*Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community*

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.

This worship aid substitutes the Order of Mass, Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, and Closing Rite.

Please join us for fellowship immediately following Mass.

Good Friday Prayer Service Bulletin

March 29, 2024

SABUMC

575 Lake Road,
Saint Albans Bay
Vermont 05481

Phone #802-332-3890

Liturgical Calendar/ Mass Celebrations

- March 29th - Good Friday Prayer Service & Holy Communion - 7:00 p.m.
- March 30th - Holy Saturday - No Mass today.
- March 31st - Easter Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m. - *Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ!*



Liturgy of the Word

[In entering the sanctuary, all are invited to hold reverent silence.]

Opening in Silence

[Ringing of bell informs us that the time of prayer has begun.]

As Presider approaches the altar, Prayer Mantra is slowly recited 3 times: Stay with me, remain with me, watch and pray; watch and Pray.

[The Presider will pause for prayer at the altar rail. All are invited into a time of silent prayer and reflection during this time.]

Opening Prayer (Presider)

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A Reading from the Book of the Isaiah.
(Isaiah 50:4-8)

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

God has given me the tongue of one well taught, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning God awakens, and awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

God has opened my ear. I understand my lot. I was not rebellious; I did not turn back. Instead, I gave my back to those who struck me, and turned my cheek to those who pulled out my

beard.

I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. God is my helper. I have not been disgraced. I have set my face like flint; shame is not mine. The One who vindicates is near.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Spoken) (Psalm 22)

Lector: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

People Respond: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why are you so far from helping me, so far from my groans? My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer. By night, I find no rest. Yet you are the Holy One set on high. You are the glory of Your people.

People Respond: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me, mock me; they hurl insults and shake their heads. "You trust in God," they say to me, "let God save you." Let God deliver you, since you delight in God." But You, O God, drew me forth from the womb. At my mother's breast, my trust in You was born. From birth, I was cast upon You. From my mother's womb, You have been my God.

People Respond: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

The Passion of Christ, according to Mark

My strength drains away. I am poured out like water. All my bones are out of joint. My heart is like wax, melting within me. My mouth is dry as earthenware. My tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth. You lay me down in the dust of death.

People Respond: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading

A Reading from Book of Jeremiah.
(Jeremiah 31:15-17,4)

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says God: "The sound of grief, of bitter weeping is heard in Ramah. Rachel is weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because her children - they are no more."

Thus says God: Cease your cries of weeping, and hold back your tears! For your labor will be rewarded. There is hope for your descendants. Again, you will take up your timbrels and go out, dancing with the joyful.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Chant

All stand.

Lector: Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

People Respond: Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

The Passion of Christ, according Mark

(Mark 14:1 thru 15:47)

It was two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and scribes were seeking a way to arrest Jesus by treachery and put him to death. However, they cautioned each other, saying: "Not during the festival. There may be a riot among the people."

Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon, who had suffered from leprosy. While Jesus was eating dinner, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke open the jar and poured the perfume on Jesus' head.

Some of the guests became indignant, and talked among themselves: "What a waste! That perfume could have been sold for well over a year's wages and handed out to the poor."

They scolded the woman harshly. But Jesus said, "*Leave her alone. Why do you make trouble for her? She has done a beautiful thing for me. The poor you will always have with you. You can show kindness to them whenever you wish. Not so with me. She has done what she could by anointing my body for burial. Wherever in the whole world the good news is proclaimed, what she has done will be told in memory of her.*"



Passion narrative continues

Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them. When they heard this news, they were delighted, and promised to give him money. So, Judas started to look for the right moment to hand Jesus over.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, the day that the Passover lamb is sacrificed, Jesus' disciples asked him: "Where do you want us to go and make preparations so you can eat the Passover meal?"

Jesus replied, *"Go into the city. Someone carrying a water jug will meet you. Follow that person to a house and then say to the owner of the house: 'The Teacher says, 'Where is the room where I will eat the Passover meal with my disciples?'' The owner will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make the preparations for us there."*

The disciples left, went into the city, and found everything just as Jesus had told them. They prepared the Passover meal, and when it was evening, Jesus came to the house with the Twelve. While at table, eating, Jesus spoke: *"Soon, one of you will betray me; one of you who is eating with me."*

Distressed, they started asking Jesus, one after another: "It isn't me, is it? And Jesus said, *"It is one of the Twelve; one who dips bread into the bowl with me.* The Chosen One is going according to the way the Scriptures foretell. But woe to the one **by whom** the Chosen One is betrayed! It would have been better for that one never to have been born than to do this!

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them, saying: *"Take and eat. This is my body."*

Then Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks, gave it to them. All of them drank from it. And Jesus said: *"This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for all who wish to drink. I will not drink of the fruit of the vine again until I drink it anew in the coming kingdom of God."*

After psalms had been sung, they left for the Mount of Olives. On the way, Jesus spoke to them: *"You will all become deserters, for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."*

Then, Peter exclaimed, "Even if everyone else deserts you, I will not!" But Jesus replied, *"This day, on this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you, Peter, will deny me three times."*

"Even if I have to die with you", Peter said, "I will never deny you!" All the others said the same.



Jesus and his disciples came to a garden called Gethsemane, and Jesus told them, *“Stay here while I pray.”* Then he took Peter, James, and John with him. As Jesus prayed, he grew more and more distressed, and was in agony.

He then said, *“I am deeply grieved, to the point of death. Stay here and stay awake.”* Going a little ahead of them, Jesus fell to the ground and prayed. He prayed that, if at all possible, the hour might pass him by.

“Abba, Father, Loving God!” Jesus implored, *“All things are possible for you. Take this cup from me, but, even so, not my way be done, but Yours.”*

Jesus came back and found the disciples sound asleep. Jesus said to Simon Peter: *“Peter, are you sleeping? Could you not stay awake for one hour? Stay awake! And pray that you not fall into temptation! The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*

Jesus then went away again and prayed the same prayer. Returning, he again found them asleep, for their eyes were very heavy. They did not know what to say to him. Then, Jesus came back a third time and proclaimed: *“Are you still sleeping? Still taking your rest? Enough! The time has come. The Chosen One is about to be betrayed. Get up! Let us go. My betrayer is coming.”*

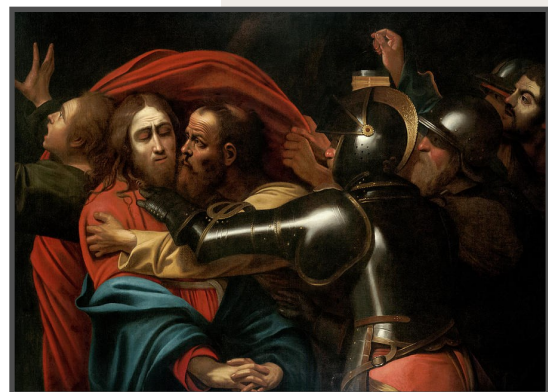
Immediately, while Jesus was still speaking, Judas, who was one of the Twelve, arrived. With him came a crowd with swords and clubs, sent by the high priests, religious scholars, and leaders. The one who betrayed

Jesus had worked out a sign to give the others. Then Judas said: *“The one I kiss, that is the one. Seize him, and lead him away under guard.”* Judas, then, went straight up to Jesus and kissed him: *“Rabbi!”*

The others then grabbed Jesus roughly and arrested him. One of those standing nearby unsheathed his sword, struck the High Priest’s servant, and lopped off his ear. As Jesus was being arrested, he spoke to the crowd of soldiers: *“What is this? Coming after me with swords and clubs as if I were a dangerous criminal? Day after day I have been with you in the Temple, teaching, and you never lifted a hand against me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.”*

All the disciples deserted Jesus and fled. One young man was following Jesus, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. The soldiers caught hold of him, but he got away, running off naked, leaving them holding the linen cloth.

The soldiers took Jesus to the High Priest, where the chief priests, elders and scribes had gathered. Peter followed at a safe distance until they reached the High Priest’s courtyard. There, he sat with the servants and warmed himself by the fire.



Passion narrative continues

The chief priests, conspiring with the whole Council, looked for evidence against Jesus to put him to death. They found nothing. Many people were willing to bring in false witness, but their testimonies did not agree. A few of them stood up and lied. We heard him say, “I will destroy this Temple, built with heavy labor by human hands. Then, in three days, I will build another, not made with hands.”

But even on this point, their testimony did not agree. Standing up in their midst, the High Priest addressed Jesus: “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?”

But, Jesus was silent; he said nothing. The High Priest continued, “So, you are the Messiah of the Blessed One?” And Jesus replied, “*I am. But you will see the One in human form, sitting with the Blessed One, and coming on clouds.*”

The High Priest tore his clothes and then he shouted: “Did **you** hear that? Why do we still need witnesses? You heard the blasphemy coming from his mouth. What is your verdict?” One and all, they condemned him guilty and sentenced him to death. Some began to spit on him. They blindfolded him and struck him, saying. “Go ahead, prophesy! Now!” Jesus remained silent.

The guards took Jesus away and beat him. While all this was going on, Peter was down in the courtyard. One of the servant women of the High Priest came by and, seeing Peter warming himself there, stared at him. She remarked, “You were with Jesus, the one from Nazareth.”

Peter replied, “I don’t know what you are talking about,” and went out, into the outer court; a rooster then crowed. The young servant woman spotted him there and began talking to the people who were standing around the area. She blurted out, “He’s one of them!”

Again, Peter denied this. After a little while, the bystanders brought it up again. One of the bystanders accusingly said, “You have to be one of them. You’re a Galilean!” Peter began to curse and swear an oath: “By God, I do not know the person you are talking about!”

At that moment, the rooster crowed a second time. And then, Peter remembered Jesus’ words: “*Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.*” Peter broke down and wept.

As soon as dawn broke, the chief priests met with the elders, scribes and the whole Council. They bound Jesus, took him out and handed him over to Pilate.

Pilate began to question Jesus: “So, you are the ‘King of the Jews’?” “*Those are your words,*” Jesus said. The chief priests then accused Jesus of many things, and so, Pilate asked Jesus. “Have you no answer? Do you hear how many charges are being brought against you?” Still, Jesus made no further reply. Pilate was amazed.



Now, it was a custom at the Feast to set a prisoner free - anyone the Hebrew people asked for. There was one prisoner called Barabbas, locked up with those who had rebelled against Rome and who had committed murder during the uprising.

As the crowd gathered, they began to petition Pilate to release a prisoner to them, according to this Passover custom. Pilate asked them, "Do you want me to release the 'King of the Jews' to You?"

At this point, Pilate realized that it was out of jealousy and malice that the chief priests had turned Jesus over to him. But, by then, the chief priests had worked up the crowd to ask for the release of Barabbas. "So what shall I do with this one that you call 'King of the Jews?'" Pilate asked.

The crowd yelled: "*Crucify him! Crucify him!*" Pilate responded: "Why? What harm has he done?" But they yelled all the louder "*Crucify him!*"

Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, set Barabbas free. After having Jesus scourged, he handed him over to be crucified. The soldiers took Jesus inside the palace and called together the whole cohort. They dressed him up in a purple cloak, twisted thorns into a crown, pressed it on his head.

And then, they saluted him, shouting, "Hail, King!" They struck his head with a reed; they spat on him and knelt down, in insincere homage. After they finished mocking Jesus, they took off the purple cloak and put his own clothes back on him. Then they took Jesus out to crucify him.

The soldiers compelled a certain man who was coming in from the country to carry Jesus' cross. It was Simon of Cy-

rene, father of Alexander and Rufus. They brought Jesus to Golgotha, which means, "Place of the Skull."

They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he would not take it. They nailed him to a cross, and divided up his clothes by casting lots to decide what each would take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "King of the Jews."

They crucified two criminals along with with Jesus, one to his right, the other to his left. Those who passed by shook their heads and jeered, "Ha! You who would destroy the Temple and then build it in three days, save yourself now! Come down from the cross!"

In the same way, the chief priests, along with scribes, were right there with the rest of them, mocking him among themselves. The chief priests said, "He healed others, but he cannot save himself! Let the Messiah, the 'King of Israel,' climb down from that cross, so that all will see and believe!"

Even the two crucified alongside Jesus joined in the taunting. At noon, darkness covered the entire land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock, Jesus groaned out of the depths of his being, crying in a loud voice: "*Eloi, Eloi, lama sabach-tani?*" which means, "*My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*"



Solemn Intercessions

Some bystanders heard him, and said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." Some ran off and came back with a sponge soaked in sour wine. They put it on a stick, and put it to his lips to drink, saying, "Wait! Let's see whether Elijah comes to take him down."

Then, with a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

[Moment of Silence]

With Jesus' last breath, the Temple curtain was torn in two, from top to bottom. The Roman centurion, standing guard in front of him, saw that he had breathed his last and said: "Truly this one is the Son of God."

The women were watching. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Salome, and Mary, the mother of the younger James and Joses. These women had followed Jesus and ministered to him while he was in Galilee. And there were many other women who had followed Jesus to Jerusalem.

When it was already evening, and since it was the Day of Preparation (that is, the day before the Sabbath), Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the Council - himself, awaiting the new reign of God, boldly approached Pilate and asked for Jesus' body.

Pilate questioned whether Jesus could be dead so soon and so called for the centurion. Pilate asked the centurion to verify that Jesus had already been dead for some time. Assured by the centurion that he was dead, Pilate granted the body to Joseph.

Having already bought a linen cloth, Joseph took Jesus' body down from the cross and wrapped him in the linen cloth. He then placed Jesus in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a large stone

across the entrance.

Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Joses, watched where the body was laid.

Reader: This has been a reading of the Passion of Jesus.

Good Friday Reflection

Solemn Intercessions

Presider: Let us pray for the universal church throughout the world: that God will increase it in love, faith and unity and preserve it in peace.

[Brief Silence]

Presider: Let us pray for all who serve the People of God in ordained ministry: may they witness and model the servant leadership of Christ Jesus, and we especially pray for all deacons, priests and bishops of CACINA and CACINA's leadership: Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Francesco and Anthony, our diocesan bishops.

[Brief Silence]

Presider: Let us pray for all peoples and nations of the earth, for governments and leaders among them; and for all who serve the common good, that with God's help, they may seek justice, wisdom and truth, that all might live in peace and harmony.

[Brief Silence]



Prayer of Jesus

Presider: Let us pray for all who suffer; for the hungry and unsheltered; the deprived and the oppressed; for the wounded, and those who struggle with physical illness and disease; for those who are lonely and those who live in fear; for those in confusion, doubt, and despair and those who have no one to remember them; for the sorrowful and bereaved, for prisoners and the dying: that God's love will comfort and sustain them, and that the Holy Spirit will inspire us to minister to them.

[Brief Silence]

Presider: Let us pray for all who do not believe in the gospel of Christ Jesus or are indifferent; for those who have never heard the message of salvation; for those who have lost their faith; and for those who persecute people of faith, by word or deed, or who have persecuted others in the name of Christ: that God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and love of neighbor.

[Brief Silence]

Presider: And let us commit ourselves to God and pray for the grace to live a holy life, that with all who have died in the peace of Christ, and with those whose faith is known only to God, that we may enter into the fullness of life and into the joy of the resurrection.

[Brief Silence]

Presider: Faithful and compassionate God, Accept the fervent prayers of your people, Kindle in every heart your good news of peace and justice and may the earth be filled with the knowledge of your love. And we ask for your guidance and wisdom, to be your hands and feet in fulfilment of your plan for all creation. We make our prayer through Jesus the Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, who lives

with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Respond: Amen.

Prayer of Jesus

Presider: Let us join our hearts together in love, and pray together the words that Jesus taught us:

All: Our Father and Mother in Heaven, Holy is your name! Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Presider: Deliver us from every evil and grant us peace. In your mercy, keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety, as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of Christ Jesus.

All: For the kingdom, power and glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Lamb of God

Presider: Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

People Respond: Have mercy on us.

Presider: Jesus, Bread of Life, you take away the sin of the world,

People Respond: Have mercy on us.

Presider: Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

People Respond: Grant us Peace.



Holy Communion

Invitation to Holy Communion

Presider: This is the Living God, the Body and Blood of Christ. This is the one who transforms the world. And the one who transforms us. Blessed are we who are called to receive.

People Respond: O Jesus, by your grace, I receive your invitation, and by your word, may my soul be healed.

Presider: May the body of Christ bring us all to everlasting life.

Distribution of Holy Communion

[All are welcome to receive and be nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ.]

Closing Prayer

Presider: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross you have redeemed the world. God of our redemption, abundantly bless your people as we recall the death of Christ. Grant us forgiveness, renew us, strengthen us in faith, and increase in us the fullness of life; and we ask this through Jesus the Christ. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

People Respond: Amen.

[We invite you to remain in personal prayer for awhile before departing in silence.]



*We look forward to
gathering together
on Sunday, March 31, 2024,
at 11:30 a.m.,
as we
celebrate the Resurrection of Christ
Jesus on Easter Sunday!*

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

*Visit our website
www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org
& sign up to receive our newsletter.*

Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure



At Saint Martin of Tours Inclusive Catholic Community, your time and talent are essential to breathing life into our new community of faith and keeping its mission alive.

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 Mother Barb at 802-332-3890, or email at saintmartins.info@gmail.com.

Announcements – Looking Ahead

Holy Week Happenings - Week of March 24th to 31st

- **March 29th - Good Friday Prayer Service & Holy Communion - 7:00 p.m.** On Good Friday, there is no consecration of the Eucharist, but Holy Communion follows the Liturgy of the Word & Veneration of the Cross.
- **March 30th - Holy Saturday - No Mass today.**
- **March 31st - Easter Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m. - Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ!**
- **May - Priest in the Park - Mother Barb will be in Taylor Park 1 Saturday & 1 Sunday per month, beginning in May.** Stop by to say hi & learn what it means to be an inclusive catholic. For the curious, the questioning, the recovering catholic, for anyone who has fallen out of love with their faith Specific dates to be announced in April.
- **June 3rd-9th - 1st Annual St. Albans Pride Week - Saint Martin's will participate in the Pride festival on June 8th.** There will be an ecumenical Pride service in Taylor Park on June 9th. Stay tuned!

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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