



*Saint Martin
of Tours
Catholic
Community*

Sunday Bulletin

24th Sunday of
Ordinary Time
September 17, 2023

100 Lake Street
Saint Albans, Vermont 05478
Phone #802-332-3890

Liturgical Calendar/ Mass Celebrations

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.

- **October 1st - First Mass in our new worship home** - the Saint Albans Bay United Methodist Church's (SABUMC) Sanctuary 11:30 a.m. (*Note the new Mass time*).
- **October 29th - All Saints/All Souls Commemoration** - 11:30 a.m.
- **November 5th - Commemoration of Saint Martin of Tours Feast Day** - 11:30 a.m. (Daylight Saving Time ends; fall back one (1) hour).
- **November 26th - Christ the King** - 11:30 a.m. - End of Liturgical Year and 2023 Ordinary Time).
- **December 3rd - Advent Begins** - 11:30 a.m.



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 27:30-28:7)

Rage and anger are destructive things,
Yet the sinner hugs them tight. The
vengeful will face the vengeance of
God, who keeps account of deeds.

Forgive your neighbor any wrongdoings,
and then your failings will be pardoned
when you pray. Does anyone nurse an-
ger against another, and then expect
healing from God?

If we refuse mercy to our neighbor,
how can we then seek Yahweh's par-
don? If humans cherish rage, to whom
will they turn for forgiveness?

Meditate on the end of your life and
end your quarrelling; Meditate on your
mortality and death and cease from
violence. Meditate on the command-
ments, and do not bear your neighbor
any ill-will. Meditate on Yahweh's cov-
enant, and forgive all who offend you.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Spoken)

(Psalm 103:1-4, 9-12, 11-12)

Lector: Our God is slow to anger, most
loving and compassionate.

*People Respond: Our God is slow to
anger, most loving and compassion-
ate.*

Bless Our God, O my soul! All that is
within me, bless God's holy Name.
Bless Our God, O my soul, and remem-
ber all of God's kindnesses.

*People Respond: Our God is slow to
anger, most loving and compassion-
ate.*

God forgives all our misdeeds and heals
all our ills. He revives our life from
death, and surrounds us with un-
failing love. In redeeming our life from the

pit, in crowning us with love and ten-
derness.

*People Respond: Our God is slow to
anger, most loving and compassion-
ate.*

Though Your anger, O God, is full of
justice, You are steadfast in love. You
do not deal with us according to our
ignorance and error, nor treat us as our
deeds deserve.

*People Respond: Our God is slow to
anger, most loving and compassion-
ate.*

As far as the farthest reaches of heav-
en over earth, so great is Your love. As
far as east is from west, so far have
You removed our faults from us.

*People Respond: Our God is slow to
anger, most loving and compassion-
ate.*

Second Reading

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the
Romans.
(Romans 14:7-12)

We do not live for ourselves, and we do
not die alone. While we are alive, we
live for God; and when we die, we die
into God.

Living or dead, we belong to God. This
is why the Christ died and lived again,
so as to serve both the dead and the
living. Why, then, do you sit in judg-
ment over your siblings in Christ? Or,
why do you look down upon each oth-
er? For we will all stand before the
judgment-seat of God.

As it is written:

*"Every knee shall bend before me, And
every tongue confess."*

So then, each of us will be accountable
to God.

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.

Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
(Matt 18:15-17, 21-35)

Celebrant: May the Word of Christ be with you all.

People Respond: And also, with you.

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

People Respond: † Glory to you, O God.

Teaching the disciples, Jesus instructed: "If someone in your community of believers sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, since every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses. If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, then, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector."

Peter approached Jesus and said: "Teacher, if someone wrongs me, how often must I forgive them? As many as seven times?"

Jesus answered: "Not seven, I tell you, but seventy times seven. The kingdom of heaven can be compared to a royal governor who decided to settle the royal servants' accounts. When the audit began, a royal servant was brought forth who owed ten thousand talents. As the servant had no means of paying, the governor gave orders for the servant to be sold, along with the servant's family and possessions, so as to meet the debt.

"At this, the servant fell down on one knee, pleading: 'Please, have patience with me, and I shall repay you in full'.

Moved to compassion, the governor let the servant go and forgave the debt in its entirety.

"Now, that same servant went out and happened to meet a colleague who owed the forgiven servant a hundred denarii. The first servant seized and throttled this debtor by the throat saying: 'Pay what you owe me.' The debtor fell to the ground and pleaded: 'Please, have patience with me, and I will repay you.'" But the servant refused the debtor's plea and had this debtor thrown into prison until the debt could be paid in full.

"The other royal servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened and went to the governor to report the whole affair. The governor sent for the servant who had been forgiven and said: 'You scoundrel! I cancelled your entire debt when you appealed to me! Should you not have shown mercy to your debtor just the same as I showed mercy to you?' So angry was the governor, that this servant was condemned to misery until the debt be paid in full."

Then, Jesus said to the disciples: "That is how my God in heaven will treat you, exactly the same way, unless each of you truly forgives others from your hearts."

Celebrant: My friends, this is the good news from the Gospel of Matthew.

People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Prayers of the People

People Respond: "God of mercy and compassion, hear our prayer."



Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure



At Saint Martin of Tours 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 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](https://bit.ly/Donate2SMOTCC_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 smartins.pastor@gmail.com.

Announcements – Looking Ahead

- **October 1st - First Mass in Saint Albans Bay United Methodist Church's (SABUMC) Sanctuary 11:30 a.m.** – Address: 575 Lake Road, Saint Albans Bay, VT 05481 Directions: From downtown St. Albans, head west on Lake Street, past our current location. Lake Street eventually changes to Lake Road. About 100 yards before Lake Road dead-ends at Maquim Shore Road, on your right, is the Methodist Church. Access the parking lot and Church entrance by turning right into the driveway that runs alongside the Church. Signs will be posted. The church entrance is off McGinn Drive.
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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
Saint Martin of Tours Catholic Community,
Mailing: P.O. Box 636
Saint Albans, Vermont 05478
Phone: 802-332-3890

Email: saintmartins.info@gmail.com

Website: www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org/

Support our ministry: tinyurl.com/Donate2StMartins

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*Saint Martin
of Tours
Catholic
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