

Saint Martin
of Tours
Catholic
Community

Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord

My Friends in Christ,

Christmas is the celebration of the Presence of God as one of us. The miracle of Christmas is the infinite depth of God's Love for each of us. He loves us unconditionally, He forgives us unconditionally, and He is always with us and is present to us, now and until the end of time.

Christmas is the celebration of His presence as one of us. His name is Emmanuel, a name that means God is with His people. God is with us, right here, right now, and forever. He is not a spiritual entity hidden in the great unknown of infinity.

He is the Divine Person with whom we can establish a relationship like no other. Since the beginning of time, humankind has been craving the physical presence of God's Love to help celebrate God's Life within us. God sent Jesus into the world to live among us.

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). God speaks to us today, not with words, but with the Word, Jesus the Christ. God speaks to each of our hearts through the Gift of Christ Jesus and says to each of us, "I love you."

May God richly bless you during this Christmas Season, and may you have a happy, healthy and peaceful 2023.

In Christ's love,

~Mother Barb

We welcome you to
Saint Martin's!
Thank you for choosing to
celebrate with us on this
holiest of nights.

Christmas Eve Mass Bulletin

December 24, 2022 Liturgical Calendar/ Mass Celebrations

- Dec 24th Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve Mass) 7:30 pm
- Dec 25th Merry Christmas! (No Mass Today)
- Jan 1st Mary, Mother of God (New Years' Day Mass) 10:30 am
- Jan 8th Feast of Epiphany
 Help us "un-decorate" after Mass as
 we return to Ordinary Time for a
 short while
- Jan 22nd & 29th Faith Sharing: What is the Independent Sacramental Movement Parts I & II 11:45 am to 1:00 pm (description in announcements)
- Jan 23rd Birthday of the <u>Catholic</u> <u>Apostolic Church in North America</u> (CACINA) - 73 years!
- Feb. 22nd Ash Wednesday, Lent Begins

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

Order of Christmas Eve Mass

Preludes

Christmas Medley

O Holy Night

 (Overhead lights will be dimmed as we light candles in the chapel).

Candlelight/Entrance Song: "O Come, All Ye Faithful."

(People light their candles during this time)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels.

REFRAIN:

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation

O sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above Glory to God, glory in the highest: [REFRAIN]

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. [REFRAIN]

We'll praise your name forever, We'll praise your name forever, We'll praise your name forever, Christ the Lord. [Repeat]

Welcome & Introductory Rite (Celebrant)

Penitential Rite

Celebrant: As we celebrate of our liturgy, we remember that we are children of God and that we belong to each other. Let us we pause to remember the times that we have hurt one another, and to call to mind the times when we have failed to answer the call of the gospel in our relationship with God, with one another, and in loving of ourselves.

People Respond: I confess to you, O God, and to one another, that I have sinned by my own fault, in thought, word and deed; by what I have done, and in what I have left undone; and I ask Blessed Mary, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to God who is gracious and all merciful.

Lord Have Mercy

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

People Respond: Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: Christ have mercy. *People Respond: Christ have mercy*.

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

People Respond: Lord have mercy.

General Absolution (Celebrant)

Glory to God (Refrain sung by all)

All: Glory to God in the highest And on Earth, peace to people of goodwill.

Opening Prayer (Please extinguish your candles at the conclusion of the prayer.)



Liturgy of the Word Inclusive Language Sources: World English Bible and The Inclusive Bible/First Egalitarian Translation

First Reading A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy, and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils.

For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. The armor of soldiers in noisy battle, and every garment rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames.

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of Yahweh will do this!

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Refrain sung by all)

All: Today, is born our Savior, Christ the Lord. Today, is born our Savior, Christ the

Lord.

Second Reading A reading from a Letter of St. Paul to Titus.

The grace of God has appeared to save all. God's grace taught us to reject godless ways and the things of this world. His grace taught us to live temperately and justly, and to live holy and devout lives in this life, as we await the blessed hope and for the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus.

Jesus gave himself up for us to deliver us from every kind of evil and to cleanse for himself a people of his own that is eager to do what is good.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia) (Refrain sung by all)

All: Alleluia, alleluia.

Reading of the Holy Gospel

Celebrant: Our God is with you. People Respond: And also, with you.

Celebrant: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke. People Respond: † Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

In those days, Caesar Augustus published a decree ordering a census of the entire Roman world. This first census took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All the people were required to go back to the towns of their birth to register. Joseph went from the town of Nazareth, in Galilee, to the "city of David," which was Bethlehem, in Judea because Joseph was of the house and lineage of David. He went to register with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver the child. She gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

(continued on the next page)

Liturgy of the Word

Inclusive Language Sources: World English Bible and The Inclusive Bible/First Egalitarian Translation

Now there were shepherds in that region, living in the fields and keeping their night-watch over their flock. The angel of God appeared to them, and the glory of God was shining all around them, and they were struck with great fear.

But the angel said to them: "Do not be afraid! I come to proclaim good news to you - news of great joy, that is to be shared by the whole people. Today, in the city of David - the Messiah - a savior has been born to you. Let this be a sign to you: You will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

Suddenly, there was a multitude of the heavenly host, with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace to those on whom God's favor rests."

Celebrant: My friends, the Gospel of the Lord.

People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Homily

Prayers of the People

People Respond: Christ Jesus, bring us your light!

Sign of Peace

Celebrant: May the peace of the Risen Christ be with each of you.

People Respond: And also, with you. (Exchange the Sign of Peace through safely distanced greetings)

Liturgy of the Eucharist Preparation of the Gifts

Song: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

REFRAIN: Glor-ia, in excelsis Deo!

Glor-ia, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song? [REFRAIN]

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [REFRAIN]

Blessing of Bread & Wine

Offering & Prayer Over Gifts

Celebrant: Pray, friends, that in this sharing of bread and wine, that our lives will be acceptable to our God who is Life, Love, Healing, and Justice.

People Respond: May God accept this sacrifice at our hands, for the praise and glory of His name, and for the good of His universal church.

Preface/Eucharistic Prayer

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

(Celebrant continues Eucharistic Prayer)

Liturgy of the Word
Inclusive Language Sources: World English Bible and
The Inclusive Bible/First Egalitarian Translation

Holy, Holy (Spoken by all)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the Name of our God. Hosanna in the highest.

(Celebrant continues Eucharistic Prayer)

Consecration (Celebrant)

Memorial Acclamation

Celebrant: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

(Celebrant continues Eucharistic Prayer)

Prayer of Jesus (Our Father)

Celebrant: Let us pray together in the words our savior gave to 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.

Celebrant: 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 our savior, Jesus Christ.

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

Lamb of God (Refrain sung by all)

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace.

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world! Blessed are those who are called to the Table of the Lamb.

People Respond: O Jesus, I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant: We believe that the Table of the Eucharist belongs to Christ Jesus, And that we are **all** united as one, in Him.

We believe that it is Jesus who freely gives Himself to us through His real presence in the Eucharist Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. And we believe that it is **Jesus** who calls us to receive him.

All here are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you choose not to receive, we encourage you to come up to receive a blessing.

Communion Song: "Coventry Carol"

REFRAIN:

Lullay, lullah, thou little tiny child Bye bye, lulley, lullay Thou little tiny child Bye bye, lulley, lullay

O sisters too, how may we do For to preserve this day? This poor youngling for whom we sing Bye bye, lulley, lullay [REFRAIN]

Herod the king, in his raging Charged as he hath this day His men of might in his own sight All young children to slay [REFRAIN]

That woe is me, poor child, for thee And ever morn' and day For thy parting neither say nor sing Bye bye, lulley, lullay [REFRAIN]

Liturgy of the Word

Inclusive Language Sources: World English Bible and The Inclusive Bible/First Egalitarian Translation

Prayer After Communion (Celebrant)

Nativity/Silent Reflection

(People light their candles for presentation of the Christ child)

Song: "Silent Night"

(People extinguish candles at conclusion of "Silent Night")

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright. Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child. Holy infant so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia.
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the
Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus Lord, at thy birth! Jesus Lord, at
thy birth!

Closing Blessing

Celebrant: May the grace of God be with you.

People Respond: And also, with you.

Celebrant: Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing:

Celebrant: Through the incarnation of Christ Jesus, God has scattered the darkness of the world. By His glorious birth, which angels announced to the shepherds, the light of Christ Jesus has brightened this most holy of nights.

Celebrant: May the God of infinite goodness banish the darkness from your hearts and make them radiant

with the goodness of light.

People Respond: Amen.

Celebrant: May God fill you with the joy of the shepherds and make you heralds of the gospel.

People Respond: Amen.

Celebrant: May the God who joins heaven and earth fill you with peace and goodwill and unite you in the fellowship of heaven.

People Respond: Amen.

Celebrant: And may the God of All bless us: In the name of the Creator who loves us. The Redeemer who heals us. And the Sanctifier who is in all, with all and loves all.

Sending Forth

Celebrant: Our Mass has ended, but our service to God and one another continues. Go forth in the peace of Christ, with hearts open to love.

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Celebrant: And let the universal

Church say:

People Respond: AMEN!

Celebrant: Saint Martin of Tours, *People Respond: Pray for us*.

We, at Saint Martin of Tours Catholic Community, 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

Sending Song: "Joy to the World"

Joy to the world! the Lord is come Let earth receive her King Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heaven and nature sing And heaven and nature sing And heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns Let men their songs employ While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy Repeat the sounding joy Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders, of His love.





Saint Martin's Angels Wish List

Current ways to help our community.

- Prayers for our new faith community.
- * Liturgical Banners for worship space.
- ONE LICENSE Membership (church music licensing) to resume using music during liturgies.
- Advertising Resources to help spread the word.
- Liturgical Bells.

To submit your gift for Saint Martin's or for more information on how to help our ministry, please call 802-332-3890, or email saintmartins.info@gmail.com.

Don't miss any announcements or upcoming special Masses!

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

Announcements — Looking Ahead

After-Mass Faith Sharing The Independent Sacramental Movement: What's That All About?

- This two-session interactive experience will take place Sunday, January 22nd & Sunday, January 29th, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Part I will focus on the history of 19th & 20th century independent Catholicism and the independent sacramental movement. Part II will be devoted to the history of the <u>Catholic Apostolic Church in North America</u> (<u>CACINA</u>), Saint Charles of Brazil (Charles Duarte-Costa), and local church history, specifically, Saint Martin of Tours Catholic Community in St. Albans.
- Registration is required. Email your name and whether you will attend in person or through Zoom, to <u>saintmartins.info@gmail.com</u>, on or before January 15th, 2023. Confirmation emails for Zoom attendees will be sent three days before the event with the Zoom link. The zoom link will remain the same for Part 2. In-person participants will receive a reminder email three days before the first session. If you have any questions, please email <u>Mother Barb</u> at <u>stmartins.pastor@gmail.com</u>.

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 <u>Mother Barb</u> 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

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Website: www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org/
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