



*Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community*

Sunday Bulletin

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 14, 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 & 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 Numbers.
(Numbers 27:1-7 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Book of Numbers.

A claim was presented by the daughters of Zelophehad, who had belonged to the clan of Manasseh. Manasseh was the son of Joseph and his wife. The names of the daughters were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. The women stood before Moses, the priest Eleazar, the leaders, and the whole community, at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.

They stated their case against a traditional practice: "Our father died in the desert. He was not among the company of Korah's group, those who banded together against our God; but he died in the desert in the same way that many others of that generation died. He left no male heirs. Why should the name 'Zelophehad' be taken away from our clan because he had no son? Give us our holding on the same property as our father's brothers."

Moses took their case before God for a ruling. God said to Moses, "The daughters of Zelophehad are right in what they say: You will indeed give them their property, their inheritance among their father's brothers. See that their father's heritage is passed on to the daughters."

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

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

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



Responsorial Reading (Spoken)

(Psalm 71:1-3,5-7,17-18,20-21 (CCL))

Lector: Restore us to Life.

People Respond: Restore us to Life.

Lector: In you, O God, we take refuge. Let us never be shamed. In Your justice come to us, deliver us. Listen to us and restore us! Be our rock of refuge. Be our stronghold that we may be safe and secure. You are our rock and fortress.

People Respond: Restore us to Life.

Lector: You are our hope and our trust from our youth. We have relied on You from birth. You brought us forth from our mother's womb with praise on our lips! We still proclaim Your wonders!

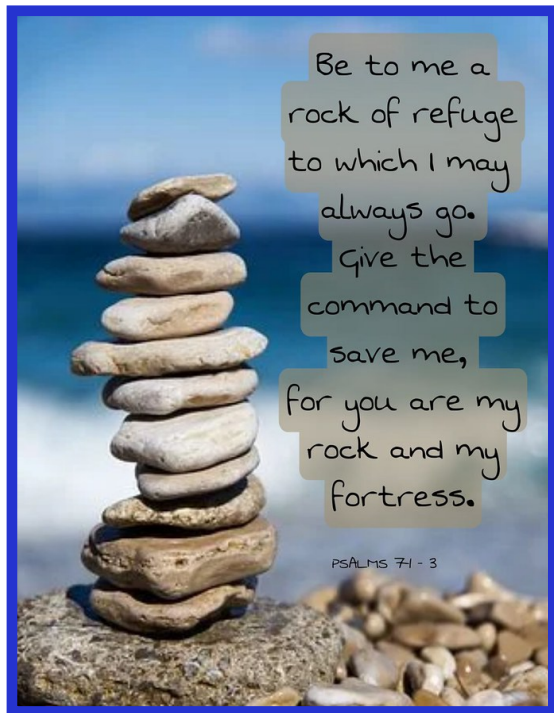
People Respond: Restore us to Life.

Lector: When we are old and gray, do not forsake us. Let us live to declare Your Love to the next generation, Your marvelous deeds to all who are to come!

People Respond: Restore us to Life.

Lector: Though we have seen troubles, many and bitter, You will restore our life again. Even from the depths of Earth, You will raise us up. You will increase our honor and comfort us once more.

People Respond: Restore us to Life.



Second Reading

A Reading from the First Letter of Timothy.
(1 Timothy 1:12-17 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the First Letter of Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus, our Leader and our Holy Servant, who has strengthened me. The Christ, the Anointed One, deemed me faithful, and so appointed me to this ministry.

I used to be a blasphemer, a persecutor, a violent person. I acted ignorantly in my unbelief. However, I have been treated with great compassion and forgiveness. The grace of God has been granted to me in abundance, as

has the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

Here is a saying that can be trusted and is worthy of your complete acceptance: "Jesus the Christ came into the world to welcome all who are lost."

Of sinners, I am the foremost, but I was dealt with compassionately for this reason: so that in me - the worst case of all - Jesus the Christ might demonstrate divine patience, divine forgiveness, that I might become an example to those who would come to believe in Christ for the sake of Life everlasting. To the immortal, invisible, and only God, be honor and glory forever and ever! Amen.

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: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.
(Luke 15:11-32 (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.

The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So, to the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus addressed this parable: "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy!

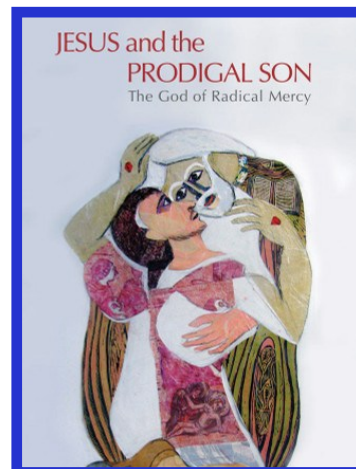
Upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep. I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

"What woman, having ten coins and losing one, would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it, she calls together her friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.' In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Then Jesus said: "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local townspeople who sent him to their farm to tend the swine. He longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any.

Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I will get up and go to my father and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' "

So, he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. The son said, 'Father, I've sinned against heaven and you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.



Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure

But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly! Bring the finest robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then, let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again. He was lost, and has been found.' And the celebration began.

Now the older son had been working out in the fields and on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called to one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound. The elder brother became angry.

When he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father, 'All these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. Then this son of yours returns, who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, and for him, you slaughter the fattened calf.'

The father replied: 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate. We must rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again! He was lost and has been found.'

Celebrant: The Gospel of Jesus the Christ.

People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Prayers of the People

People Respond: God of all Creation, 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 & 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
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Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community



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