



*Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community*



Sunday Bulletin

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 24, 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 Deuteronomy.

(Deuteronomy 5:12-15 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

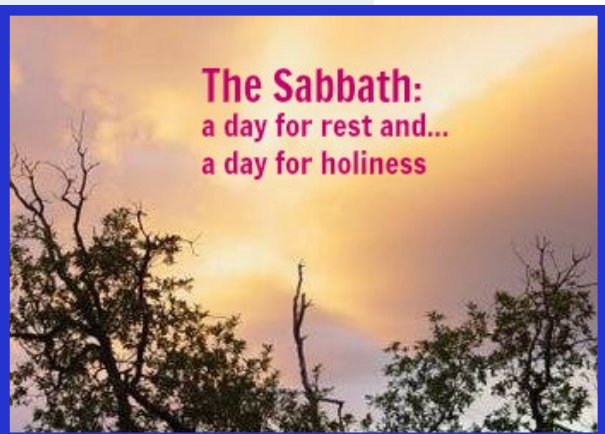
Observe the Sabbath day. Keep it holy, as God has commanded you. Six days you will labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath, a day of rest, to your God.

You will do no work that day: neither you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male or female worker, nor your ox, nor your donkey or any of your animals, nor any foreigner or undocumented person residing among you. Your servants, male, female, regardless of gender, will rest, as you do.

Remember, you were slaves in Egypt and God brought you out from there with a strong hand and an outstretched arm. This is why God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.



The Sabbath:
a day for rest and...
a day for holiness

Responsorial Reading (Spoken)

(Psalm 92:2-5,13-14,15-16 (CCL))

Lector: We proclaim your love at daybreak, your faithfulness at night.

People Respond: We proclaim your love at daybreak, your faithfulness at night.

Lector: What a beautiful thing to declare Your love in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night to the music of a ten-stringed harp, to the sounding chords of the lyre! You, O God, have brought us joy. We sing in gladness at what Your hands have done.

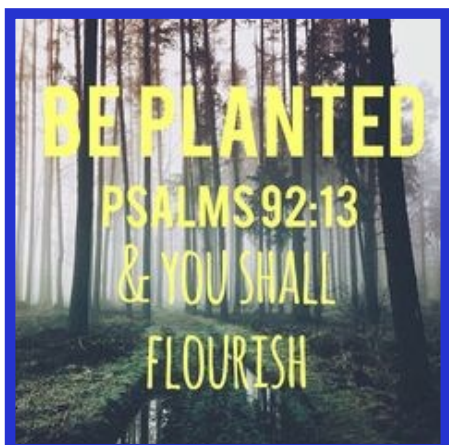
People Respond: We proclaim your love at daybreak, your faithfulness at night.

Lector: All who live justly shall flourish like the palm tree, grow like a cedar of Lebanon. Planted in the house of the Holy One, we will flourish in the courtyard of God.

People Respond: We proclaim your love at daybreak, your faithfulness at night.

Lector: We will still bear fruit in old age. We will stay green and full of sap. We will sing of God's unfailing nourishment. "God is upright, our sure foundation, in God, there is no wrong."

People Respond: We wait patiently on You, O God!



**BE PLANTED
PSALMS 92:13
& YOU SHALL
FLOURISH**

Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

(Hebrews 12:14,18-19,22-24 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Pursue peace with everyone. Pursue holiness without which no one can see God.

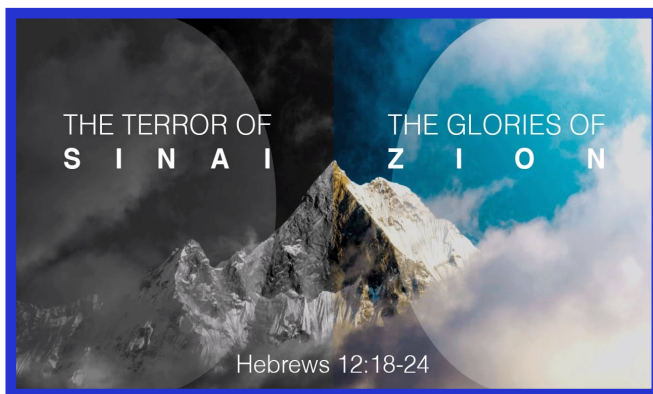
It is not to the tangible, blazing fire of Mount Sinai that you have come. You have not come to Mount Sinai's gloomy darkness and ominous cloud. You have not come to its storm. You have not come to its trumpet-sound, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them.

You have come to the "mountain" of God, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Dwelling, to countless angels in festal gathering. You have come to the assembly of the first-born enrolled in the cosmic splendor!

You have come to God, the gracious judge of all, and to the souls of the just who have been birthed into wholeness. You have come to Jesus, the embodiment of a new covenant, whose shed blood speaks more eloquently than Abel's.

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: Jesus said, I am the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

(Luke 13:10-17,14:1-6 (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.

One Sabbath, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues. There was a woman present who, for eighteen years, had an ailment caused by a spirit. She was bent over double, incapable of standing up straight.

When Jesus saw her, he called her over to him and said, "**Woman, you are set free of your infirmity.**" He laid his hands on her; and, immediately, she stood up straight and began praising God.

The leader of the synagogue, indignant that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the congregation, "There are six days for working. Come on those days to be healed, not on the Sabbath." (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.)

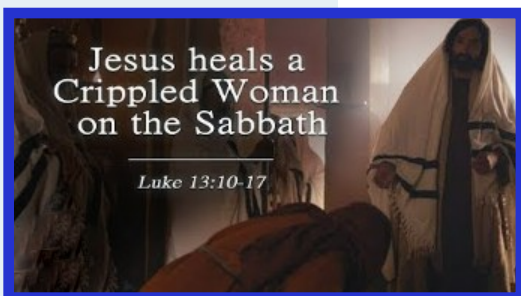
Jesus replied, *"You hypocrites! Does not each one of you untie your ox or your donkey from the manger on the Sabbath to water it? Shouldn't this daughter of Sarah and Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be loosed from her bond on the Sabbath day?"* At these words, Jesus' adversaries were humiliated. The whole crowd, by contrast, rejoiced at all the splendid deeds Jesus was doing.

On yet another Sabbath, Jesus went to dine at the home of a leading Pharisee. Those gathered there were observing him carefully. There was a man present who was suffering from dropsy. Jesus spoke to the scholars of the law and to the Pharisees, asking, "Is it lawful to cure on the Sabbath or not?"; but they kept silent and did not respond.

After Jesus healed the man, he sent him away. Then Jesus said to the Pharisees, *"Who among you, if your child, or even your ox, falls into a cistern, would not immediately pull them out on the Sabbath day?"* Again, they were silent. They were unable to answer his question.

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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