



*Saint Martin  
of Tours  
Catholic  
Community*

# Sunday Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2023

SABUMC  
575 Lake Road,  
Saint Albans Bay  
Vermont 05481  
Phone #802-332-3890

## 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.

## Liturgical Calendar/ Mass Celebrations

- December 3rd - Blessing of the Advent Wreath - Advent Begins - 11:30 a.m.
- December 24th - NO MORNING MASS TODAY
- December 24th (Sunday) - Christmas Eve Candlelight Mass of the Nativity - Carols & music - 8:30 p.m., Mass - 9:00 p.m. celebrated in SABUMC's Sanctuary.
- December 31st - Mass for World Peace & Mary Mother of God (Liturgy for January 1st) - 11:30 a.m.
- January 1st - NO MASS TODAY
- January 7th - Feast of the Epiphany - 11:30 a.m.



FIRST SUNDAY  
OF  
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For *The Order of the Mass*, please refer to the *Mass Worship Aid* handout found at your seat or online at [www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org](http://www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org).

Please join us for fellowship immediately following Mass.

## Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

A Reading from the Book of Lamentations.

(Lamentations 5:1-5, 8-15 (CCL))

O Holy One, remember what has happened to us! Pay attention and see our disgrace. Our heritage has been handed over to strangers; our homes, to those who do not know us. We've become orphans, without fathers. Our mothers are like widows. We pay money to drink our own water! Our own wood comes at a price. With a yoke on our necks, we are driven. We are worn out, but allowed no rest.

Servants rule over us, with no one to tear us from their hands. We risk our lives just to get bread, exposed to the desert heat. Our skin heats up like an oven, from the searing blasts of famine. Women are raped in Zion, young women in the cities of Judah. Princes have been hanged, and elders shown no respect. Young men carry millstones. Boys stagger under loads of wood. The elders have abandoned the gate, and the young, their music. The joy of our hearts has ceased. Dancing has turned into mourning.

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

*People Respond: Thanks be to God.*

### Responsorial Psalm (Spoken)

(Psalm 137:1-3, 7, 4-5 (CCL))

Lector: Hide not from Love, O people.

*People Respond: Hide not from Love, O people.*

By the rivers of Babylon, there we

sat and wept when we remembered Zion. There, on the poplars, we hung up our harps, for there, our captors asked us for songs. Our tormentors demanded songs of joy. They said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

*People Respond: Hide not from Love, O people.*

Remember, O God, that day...That day they said: "Level it! Level their homeland down to its foundations!" How can we sing Your song, O God, in a foreign land? If we forget you, O Holy City, may our hands forget their skill!

*People Respond: Hide not from Love, O people.*

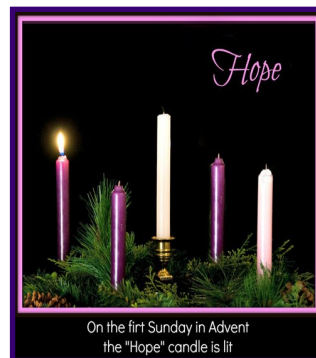
### Second Reading

A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter.

(2 Peter 3:8-15a (CCL))

Do not forget this one thing, dear friends: that with God, one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. God is not slow in carrying out promises, as some think of slowness. Rather God is patient, wanting no one to be lost, and all to be found.

But the day of God, when it comes, will come like a thief. Then, the universe will pass away with an enormous roar. The elements will be destroyed by fire. The earth, and all that is in it, will be burned up.



Consider, then, what sort of people we ought to be. We must lead lives of holiness and dedication, as we anticipate and hasten the coming of the day of God. On that day, the heavens will catch fire, and the elements melt in the heat. But relying on God's promise, we wait for new heavens and, a new earth where justice will make its home.

So, beloved, while we are waiting, strive to live rightly and be at peace with God so that God may find us above reproach. Bear in mind that God's patience is an opportunity to mature in faith.

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.*

## Gospel

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.**

(Mark 13:1a, 2, 3b-5a, 7-8, 14-27, 33-37 (CCL))

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 Mark.

*People Respond: † Glory to you, O God.*

Jesus was making his way out of the Temple area and said to the disciples: "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be one stone left upon another. All will be thrown down."

Later, Peter, James, John and Andrew

## Gospel

asked Jesus privately: "Tell us when this will happen and what sign there will be when all these things are about to come to an end?"

Jesus replied: "When you hear of wars and threats of war, do not be alarmed. Such things happen; but it will not yet be the end. Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes and fires and there will be famines. These are just the beginnings of the labor pains.

"When you see the desolating sacrilege set up in the Temple, where it ought not be, then those in Judea must flee to the hills. The one on the housetop must not go down to enter the house or fetch anything out. The one in the field must not turn back to get a coat. Alas, for those who are pregnant and those nursing infants in those days, pray that it may not happen in winter. For in those days, there will be suffering such as has not been from the beginning when God created until now, and never will be again. And, if God had not cut short those days, no human being would survive; but God has cut short those days for the sake of those whom God chose.

"If anyone says to you at that time: 'Look! Here is the Messiah!' or 'Look, there's the one who will save us!' do not believe it; for false leaders and false prophets will appear and produce signs and wonders to mislead the chosen, if possible. Therefore, be watchful. Remember, I have warned you of everything.

*(Gospel continued on the next page.)*

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

***Visit our website  
[www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org](http://www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org)  
& sign up to receive our newsletter.***

## Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure

*(Gospel cont.)*

“In those days, after that time of distress, the sun will be darkened. The moon will not give its light. The fiery stars will fall from the heavens and all the powers in the universe will be shaken. And then they will see the Chosen One, coming in the clouds with great power and splendor. The Chosen One will send out winged messengers, and gather the chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

“In truth I tell you, before this generation passes away, all these things will have taken place. The heavens and with them, the earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But as for that day or hour, no one knows, neither the heavenly messengers of God, nor the Chosen One. No one knows but God. So, be on your guard, and keep watch. For you do not know when the time will come. It’s like someone going on a journey, leaving home, putting others in charge, each with their own work, and ordering the guard to stand watch. Stay awake! For you do not know when the owner will come home, in the evening, at midnight, at dawn’s break, or at morning. You don’t want the owner to come unexpectedly and find you asleep. What I say to you, I say to all: Keep watch!”

Celebrant: My friends, the Gospel of the Lord.

*People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.*

### Prayers of the People

*People Respond: Come into our hearts, O Jesus.*



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 link ([https://bit.ly/Donate2SMOTCC\\_Tithely](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](mailto:saintmartins.info@gmail.com).

## Announcements – Looking Ahead

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### Prayer Requests

Let us pray for you and your loved ones; please email: [saintmartins.info@gmail.com](mailto: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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Phone: 802-332-3890

Facebook Live: [www.facebook.com/StMartinOfToursCatholicCommunity/live](http://www.facebook.com/StMartinOfToursCatholicCommunity/live)

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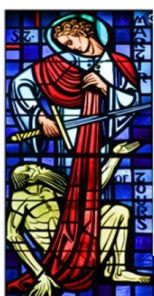
Website: [www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org/](http://www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org/)

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