



*Saint Martin of  
Tours Inclusive  
Catholic Community*



# Sunday Bulletin

## 5th Sunday of Lent

April 6, 2025

SABUMC

575 Lake Road,  
Saint Albans Bay  
Vermont 05481

Phone: 802-332-3890

### 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.

### Liturgical Calendar/ Mass Celebrations

- **Ongoing** - Saint Martin's supports "Welcome You Home," a local ecumenical ministry helping unsheltered persons & those transitioning from temporary housing.
- **April 13th - Palm Sunday Mass & Blessing of Palms at Saint Martin's - 11:30 a.m.** Holy Week begins.
- **April 16th - Tenebrae Service at Saint Martin's: Into the Shadows - 6:30 p.m.** This service will include meditative Taizé music, scripture, from candlelight into darkness.
- **April 17th - Holy Thursday Agape Meal & Stripping of the Altar at St. Luke's - 6:00 p.m.**
- **April 18th - Good Friday Prayer Service & Stations of the Cross at St. Luke's 12:00 Noon.** Solemn prayers and Immigrant/Migrant Stations of the Cross.
- **April 20th - Easter Sunrise Service at Hard'aack/Greg Brown Lodge - 6:00 a.m.** Join Saint Martin's, First Congregational UCC, St. Paul's UMC, St. Luke's Episcopal, & Holy Trinity Episcopal to celebrate of our unity & togetherness on this Holy Resurrection Day, as a community.
- **April 20th - Easter Sunday Mass at Saint Martin's - 11:30 a.m.** Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ!



FIFTH SUNDAY  
*In Lent*

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 Isaiah.**  
(Isaiah 43:16-21 (USCCB))

Lector: A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Thus says Yahweh, who made a road in the sea and a path in the mighty waters; who led a might army of chariots and horsemen to their doom; a might army, never to rise again, snuffed out and extinguished like a wick.

Remember not the events of the past; ignore the things of long ago! Look, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth - can you not see it? I am making a road in the desert and setting rivers to flow into the wasteland.

Wild beasts honor me - the jackals and the ostriches; I will put water in the desert and rivers into the wasteland for my chosen people to drink. These people whom I formed for myself, so that they might declare my praise.

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

*People Respond: Thanks be to God.*

I will make a way in the wilderness.

Isaiah 43:19

### Responsorial Reading (Spoken)

(Psalm 78 (CCL))

Lector: Return to the Beloved.

*People Respond: Return to the Beloved.*

Lector: Listen well, O peoples of Earth, to inner promptings of the Spirit. Let Silence enter your house that you may hear! For within your heart, Love speaks; not with words of deceit, but of spiritual truths to guide you upon paths of peace.

*People Respond: Return to the Beloved.*

Lector: Throughout the ages, the Cosmic Lover has shown the marvels of creation, wonders to behold. Through all generations the rivers have flowed; rivers now polluted by greed. All through the ages Earth has yielded its bountiful harvest; now, valleys and mountains, forests and fields have been misused. When will we live according to Earth's rhythms, and attune our hearts to the music of the spheres? Who will rouse us from apathy and quicken our spirits that we might serve Love?

*People Respond: Return to the Beloved.*

Lector: Who will awaken our sleeping minds? Who will lift up our hearts to the Truth? Greed has become the great destroyer of life, taking without offering back, consuming Earth's bounty with abandon, leaving death, disease, and destruction in its wake.

*People Respond: Return to the Beloved.*

Lector: We cannot be spared what we have sown. Generations to come will suffer from our destructive ways. Their lives will be a mirror to blind and stubborn hearts. Injustice, oppression and greed will turn back upon hearts of stone. Children unborn will reap a harvest of lost dreams.

*People Respond: Return to the Beloved.*

*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.*

Lector: We cannot be spared what we have sown. Generations to come will suffer from our destructive ways. Their lives will be a mirror to blind and stubborn hearts. Injustice, oppression and greed will turn back upon hearts of stone. Children unborn will reap a harvest of lost dreams.

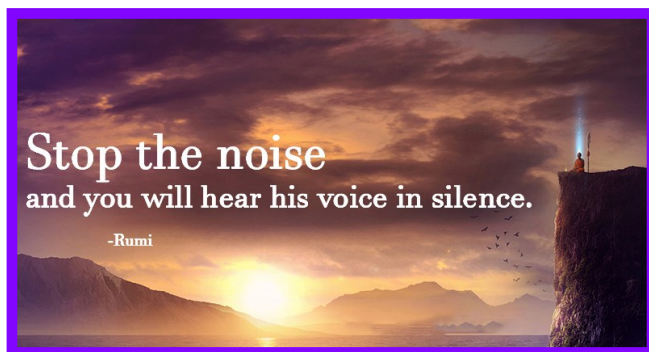
*People Respond: Return to the Beloved.*

Lector: Even so, the Source of Life remains faithful, ever ready to lead us out of the wilderness, to speak to us in the Silence of our Hearts. For, if we return to the Beloved, listening for Love's voice within our own hearts, we will walk in integrity; we will radiate love.

*People Respond: Return to the Beloved.*

Lector: The Beloved awaits. Let us arise and journey to the new dawn, where peoples of Earth will be united in peace, where harmony will reign forever in the beauty of diversity, and all peoples will know the One Who is Love.

*People Respond: Return to the Beloved.*



## Second Reading

A Reading from a Saint Paul's Letter to the Philippians. (Philippians 3:8-14 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

I consider everything as loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus. I have accepted the loss of all things. I consider them rubbish that I may gain the Christ and be found in Christ. I have no righteousness of my own based on the law. The only righteousness I have is from God. It comes through, and is dependent on, faith in Christ. I long to know the Christ and share in Jesus' sufferings.

I long to know the power of the resurrection. I long to become like Jesus in his death so that, somehow, I too may attain the resurrection from the dead. It is not that I have already taken hold of it or have already attained full maturity. I continue my pursuit in hope that I may complete it, since I have indeed been taken hold of by Christ Jesus.

Beloved, again, I do not consider myself to have reached oneness with Christ. I focus on just one thing: forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead. I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

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

*People Respond: Thanks be to God.*



# Gospel

## Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)

Celebrant: If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts. ***“Return to me with your whole heart; for I am gracious and merciful.”***

***People Respond: Return to me with your whole heart; for I am gracious and merciful.***

## Gospel

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.  
(John 8:1-11 (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 John.

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

Early one morning, at daybreak, Jesus went to the Temple. All the people started gathering round, so he sat down and began to teach them. The religious scholars and authorities brought with them a woman who had been caught in adultery.

Making her stand before all of them, they said to Jesus: “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now, in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. What do you say about it?”

They said this to test him so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

As they persisted in their questioning, he stood up and said to them, ***“Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw***

***a stone at her.”***

Once again, he bent down and wrote on the ground; but, at his words, and, one by one, starting with the oldest among them, they all went away, until the last one had gone.

Jesus was left alone with the woman, still standing before him. Jesus stood up again and said to her: ***“Sister, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”***

She replied: “No one.” And Jesus said: ***“Neither do I condemn you. Go on your way.”***

Celebrant: The Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to John.

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



## Prayers of the People

***People Respond: In Your mercy, O God, hear our prayer.***



## Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure



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](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](mailto: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 unheltered persons & those transitioning from temporary housing. We are currently raising funds to purchase durable bucket & mop sets. Your support is making this possible. Donate to this ministry through our online donation page or by mailing a check to the address below. Stay tuned for more on this most-needed ministry in the Saint Martin Messenger (newsletter) issue.
- **April 13th - Palm Sunday Mass & Blessing of Palms at Saint Martin's - 11:30 a.m.** Holy Week begins (575 Lake Road).
- **April 16th - Tenebrae Service at Saint Martin's: Into the Shadows - 6:30 p.m.** This service will include meditative Taizé contemplative prayer & song, with scripture from the last hours of Jesus' life. Free will ministry offering will benefit Martha's Kitchen (575 Lake Road).
- **April 17th - Holy Thursday Agape Meal & Stripping of the Altar at St. Luke's - 6:00 p.m.** Join Saint Martin's and St. Luke's in this beautiful demonstration of unity during the Agape Meal and stripping of the altar (8 Bishop Street).
- **April 18th - Good Friday Prayer Service & Stations of the Cross at St. Luke's - 12:00 Noon.** Join Saint Martin's & St. Luke's in solemn prayers and Immigrant/Migrant Stations of the Cross at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. (8 Bishop Street).
- **April 20th - Easter Sunrise Service at Hard'aack/Greg Brown Lodge - 6:30 a.m.** Join Saint Martin's, First Congregational UCC, St. Paul's UMC, St. Luke's Episcopal, & Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (Swanton) to celebrate of our unity & togetherness on this Holy Resurrection Day, as a community (179 Congress Street).
- **April 20th - Easter Sunday Mass at Saint Martin's - 11:30 a.m.** Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ! (575 Lake Road)

### 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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