



*Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
Catholic Community*

Sunday Bulletin

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 7, 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.

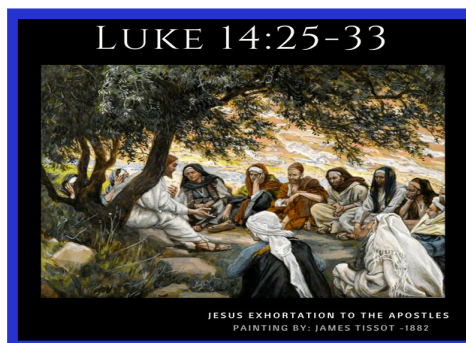
SABUMC

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 Wisdom.
(Wisdom 9:9-18 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

Wisdom is with You, O God. She knows Your works. She was present when You made the Universe; You made the Universe with Her. Wisdom understands what is pleasing in Your sight and what is good and right.

Send Her forth from the holy heavens! From the dwelling place of Your glory, send Her to labor at my side that I may learn what is pleasing to You. For Wisdom knows and understands all things. She will guide me wisely in my actions and guard me with Her glory.

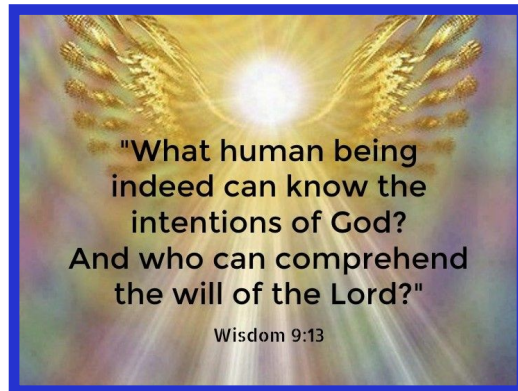
Then my works will be acceptable. Then I shall rule Your people justly, with equity. Then I shall be worthy of You, O God. For what human being can know the mind of God? Who can discern the desires of the Holy One?

The deliberations of the human mind are frail. Our plans uncertain, our designs often fail. A perishable body has limits. The earthly tent weighs down the mind with its many concerns. Scarcely we discern the mysteries of Earth, and it is our home! Even what is within our grasp, we ascertain with difficulty.

Who, then, has traced out what is in and beyond the heavens? Or who can know Your counsel unless You give them Wisdom and send Your Holy Spirit? Thus, the paths of those on Earth will be made holy: Wisdom will teach us what pleases You, and all will be saved by Wisdom.

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

People Respond: Thanks be to God.



Responsorial Reading (Spoken) (Psalm 90:3-4,5-6,12-13,14 & 17 (CCL))

Lector: May our hearts be wise.

People Respond: May our hearts be wise.

Lector: You turn us back to dust with a word: "Return, mortals." For a thousand years are to You like a yesterday when it is passed, or like a watch in the night.

People Respond: May our hearts be wise.

Lector: Like a dream, we are swept away. Like grass, we flourish in the morning and are renewed; yet fade and wither when evening comes.

People Respond: May our hearts be wise.

Lector: Teach us to count our days, that we may gain a wise heart. Turn to us, O God, that we may know You! Have compassion on Your servants.

People Respond: May our hearts be wise.

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

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

Lector: Satisfy us with Love at day-break, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. May the blessing of God be upon us all, and prosper the work of our hands; Yes, prosper the work of our hands!

People Respond: May our hearts be wise.



Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter of James.
(James 1:2-5, 9-12 (CCL))

Lector: A reading from the Letter of James.

My beloved, Whenever you face trials of any kind because of your faith, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

But if any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and wisdom will be given to you. Let the believer in lowly circumstances take pride in their high standing; and the rich in their lowliness, because wealth will disappear like a flower in the field. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the field; its flower droops, and its beauty vanishes.

In the same way, a person will wither

Gospel

away in the pursuit of riches. Blessed is anyone who endures temptation. Such a one has stood the test and will receive the crown of life promised to those who love God.

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: Let your face shine upon your servant; and teach me your decrees.

People Respond: Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.
(Luke 14:25-33 (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.

Large crowds gathered around Jesus.

(Gospel continued on the next page.)

Giving: Time, Talent & Treasure

Gospel (cont.)

Turning to them, he said: *"If anyone comes to me and is not prepared to lose father and mother, spouse and children, siblings - yes, even one's own life - this person cannot be my disciple. Those who do not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciples."*

Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will you not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? If you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will jeer at you, saying, 'There goes the one who began to build and was not able to finish.'

Or suppose a ruler is about to go to war against another ruler. Will the ruler not first sit down and consider whether it is possible, with an army of 10,000 to oppose the enemy coming against them with 20,000? If it is not possible, the ruler will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, none of you can be my disciple if you do not let go of all that you have."

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
Saint Martin of Tours Inclusive Catholic Community,
Mailing: P.O. Box 636
Saint Albans, Vermont 05478
Phone: 802-332-3890

Email: saintmartins.info@gmail.com

Website: www.saintmartinoftoursvermont.org/

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Instagram: www.instagram.com/stmartintourscc



Saint Martin of
Tours Inclusive
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