



How can I repay the Lord for all the good done for me? I will raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. Lord, I am your servant.

Psalm 116:12-14, 16a

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

A True Friend

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire." Mark 9:42-43

Seriously? Does Jesus really mean this literally? Should we really cut off our hand if it causes us to sin? He goes on to say that we should also cut off our foot and pluck out our eye if it causes us to sin.

Some of the early Church Fathers see this Scripture as a reference to our intimate friends. The context of this passage is that we ought not lead others into scandal and sin. In fact, it would be better if we had "a great millstone" put around our neck and were thrown into the sea than to cause another to sin.

Friends, especially close friends, are a blessing most of the time. But they can also be a cause for sin. If a good friend were to intentionally try to convince another friend to sin, this is a grave issue and is the heart of what Jesus is addressing. What He's saying is that if we have close friends who are intentionally and maliciously tempting us to turn from God, it's better that we let go of that "friend" and cut him/her off. The hand, foot or eye is a symbol of those friends who work hard to draw us to sin. It's better that these friendships end than to be drawn into Hell with them. And if we are the "friend" drawing others to sin, it's better for us to cut our friendship off with those we are tempting.

One thing this passage reveals is the powerful natural bond of friendship. Friendship is a good thing. And when you have a close friend, you find great consolation in knowing your friend is deeply committed to you and will always be there for you. But every friendship must be continually evaluated in the light of faith and truth. Sometimes friendships can get in the way of our faith in God and can be a powerful influence upon us in a negative way. Of course, the opposite is also true.

Reflect, today, upon your friendships. If you have a close and intimate friend in your life, reflect upon how you influence that person or how he/she influences you. Make sure that Christ is the center and that faith always prevails in this natural bond.

Lord, I thank You for all friendships in my life. I thank You for giving me people who care. Help me to always be a good friend and to always examine my friendships in the light of faith.

Jesus, I trust in You.



Priesthood
Sunday

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

5855 East W Avenue, PO BOX 264, Vicksburg, MI 49097
(269) 649-1629 St. Vincent DePaul Ext 1010
www.stmartinvicksburg.org

Mass Schedule: Sat 5:30p Sun 8:00a & 11:00a Wed & Fri 9:00a
Live-Stream Masses: 09/26-8:00a 10/03-9:30a 10/10-8:00a
Reconciliation Sat 10-11a or by appointment
Office Hours: Mon—Fri 9a-4p
Pastor: Msgr. Thomas A Martin

YOUTH MINISTER: SHANNON SHEETS
269-649-1629 EXT 1001 ym@stmartinvicksburg.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*Wed, Sep 29: MS Youth Group (6-7:30)
*Sun, Oct 03: Life Chain (2:30-3:30)
*Wed, Oct 06: HS Youth Group & CHWC Meeting (6-7:30)
*Sun, Oct 10: MS Open Youth Center Night (4-6 pm)
*Sun, Oct 17: HS Open Youth Center Night (4-6 pm)
*Wed, Oct 20: Adoration offered by Dcn. Dave (6:30-7:30)
*Sun, Oct 24: MS & HS Pumpkin Carving (4-6 pm)
Youth group is always an open door for all middle & high schoolers to come whenever they are able. Even if it's just coming for one event a year, we welcome everyone at anytime! Join us!

MASS INTENTIONS

Sep 25 5:30p †Elgin & Verna Rasmussen
by Jim & Monica Rasmussen
Sep 26 8:00a For the people of St. Martin
11:00a †Rebecca Yonker/Bradley
by Steve & Saney Yonker
Sep 29 9:00a For Mitzi Resseguie's 90th Birthday
by Dave & Sue Maneikis
Oct 01 9:00a For all souls in Purgatory by S Kim Lee
Oct 02 5:30p †Kirk Ryder
by Jack & Christina Kelley
Oct 03 8:00a †Donald & Marge Korte by family
11:00a For the people of St. Martin



Sanctuary candle burns Sep 26-Oct 02
for Shirley Shearer by Len Jaworski

LECTOR/USHER SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

Oct 02 5:30p Lector: Tammy R
Ushers: Nick/Barb O, Sandy Y, Don R
Oct 03 8:00a Lector: Kathy Waldron
Ushers: Bill Z, John P, Marv T, Joe R
Oct 03 11:00a Lector: David Sirotti
Ushers: Coleen V, Cindy J, volunteer, volunteer

FOR IMMEDIATE AND CONFIDENTIAL PRAYERS

please call our parish prayer line at 269-303-8016
or email deena.christine@yahoo.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR Jody Cunningham, Bill Brumleve, Cassidy Evans, Karen Garcea, Judy Hansford, Brittany Molodovon, Jennifer Stocki, Leo Swiat & Aiden Woodard. To add names email ulltin@stmartinvicksburg.org or call the office at 649-1629.

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
TIM MCNAMARA 269-649-1629 EXT 1003

REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES at www.stmartinvicksburg.org/religious-education.
If you have any questions, please email Tim at dre@stmartinvicksburg.org.

FROM OUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Thank you to all who joined us last Sunday. It's been 18 months since our last Farmer's Breakfast and it was so good to see all of you again.

WE GIVE A WARM WELCOME TO ALL NEW PARISHIONERS.

New parishioners and anyone over 18 years of age should register at the parish office. Registration forms can also be obtained from our parish website at www.stmartinvicksburg.org. We also have registration forms on a table in the narthex. Also, please notify church personnel of any address/phone changes that affect your registration. Address/Telephone change forms are also located in the narthex.

ADULT STUDY GROUP Sundays 9:30 -10:45a. This year we are reading The Gospel of Luke by Pablo T. Gadenz and from the Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture Series. All are welcome! Contact Lisa Irwin at 598-2519.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT LAST WEEK for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we raised \$1,122.00 to support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click "How to Give" under "Resources."



OCTOBER 3- LIFE CHAIN SUNDAY 2:30-3:30PM.

The first Sunday in Oct. is Life Chain Sunday. It is a time to stand in peaceful, prayerful public witness alongside other local believers. Those participating in Life Chain are attempting to witness to passers-by that they are praying for an end to abortion. They hold signs with messages such as, "Abortion Hurts Women", "Abortion Kills Children", "Adoption the Loving Option", "Life the First Inalienable Right", and others. Please mark your calendars and prayerfully consider joining your church community in praying to change hearts and save lives on Life Chain Sunday. Contact Deena Anderson at 269-303-8016 for more info.

PARISH SUPPORT SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Envelopes: 85 Weekly Goal: \$6,730

Collection envelopes: \$4,712

Mailed in envelopes: \$1,095

On Line Giving \$0

Total Collection: \$5,807

Purchase Scrip Mon.-Fri. 9a-4p in the church office.

OCTOBER 2021

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church

Mass Schedule: Saturday 5:30 PM
Sunday 8:00 and 11:00 AM
Wed. & Fri. 9:00 AM

Reconciliation: 10-11:00AM Sat. or by appointment
First Friday Adoration: 8-9:00AM, 9:30AM-7:00PM
Other Fridays: 8-9:00AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Respect Life Sunday 7:35 & 10:35: Rosary 9:30AM: Rel. Ed. Classes & Adult Study Group 2:30P Life Chain in Portage	4 St. Francis of Assisi	5 Bl Francis Xavier Seeelos	6 St. Bruno Bl. Marie Rose Durocher 6:30-7:30P Holy Hour at St. Edwards HS Youth Group and CHWC meeting 6-7:30p	7 Our Lady of the Rosary 7PM R.C.I.A.	8 Adoration 8-9AM First Friday Adoration: 8-9AM, 9:30AM-7PM	9 St. Denis & Companions St. John Leonardi 7:30AM Men's Group 5:05PM Rosary
10 28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:35 & 10:35A Rosary 9-1P Farmer's Breakfast 9:30A: Rel. Ed. Classes & Adult Study Group MS Youth Center 4-6p	11 St. John XXIII 10AM Caring Hands	12	13	14 St. Callistus I 7PM R.C.I.A.	15 St. Teresa of Jesus Adoration 8-9AM	16 St. Hedwig St. Margaret Mary Alacoque 7:30AM Men's Group 5:05PM Rosary
17 29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:35 & 10:35A Rosary 9:30AM Rel. Ed. Classes & Adult Study Group	18 St. Luke	19 St. John de Brebuf & Isaac Jogues & Companions 7PM HALOS	20 St. Paul of the Cross 6:30-7:30PM Holy Hour at St. Martin's	21 7PM R.C.I.A.	22 St. John Paul II ADORATION 8-9AM	23 St. John of Capistrano 7:30AM Men's Group 5:05PM Rosary
24 30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:35 & 10:35A Rosary 9:30A Rel. Ed. Classes & Adult Study Group MS & HS Youth Pumpkin Carving 4-6p	25	26 7PM Knights of Columbus	27	28 SS. Simon & Jude 7PM R.C.I.A.	29 Adoration: 8-9AM	30 7:30AM Men's Group 5:05PM Rosary
31 31 st Sunday in Ord. Time 7:35 & 10:35A Rosary 930A Rel. Ed. Classes & Adult Study Group						



LIFE CHAIN

HUMBLE. PRAY. SEEK. TURN. 2 Chronicles 7:14-15
Since 1987. Building Prayer Chains for the Unborn.

October 3, 2021

2:30 – 3:30pm

Abortion hurts women

Jesus forgives and heals

Prayer changes things

Abortion hurts society

Adoption is a loving option

Contact Deena Anderson (269) 303-8016

Or check the church bulletin for more information

FOCUS ON GIFT OF WISDOM

Kerygmatic preaching: "You do not possess because you do not ask.

You ask but do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions." In Do we actually ask God for His gifts? Do we ask for our own good or for the good of His kingdom? We must ask for the gifts of the Holy Spirit. During this Jubilee Year of the Holy Spirit, we are focusing on different gifts each month, this month is wisdom. James tells us today that the wisdom from above is pure. We need to seek the wisdom from above in all our choices and decisions.

Three Points:

1. Wisdom helps us to see with the eyes of God. To know as He does, and choose as He does.
2. Wisdom helps us to make decisions, so that for every choice we must make we can make the decision that will best further the kingdom of God.
3. We must pray for these gifts in earnest, not so we may be praised but so we might bring about the kingdom of God.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

~ May the people of God in the Diocese of Kalamazoo be granted the fruit of joy, that by living out this life of joy others may know and come to love Jesus Christ.

~ May the Holy Spirit come down upon the faithful in the Diocese of Kalamazoo and may they be given the gift of wisdom that all their choices may bring about the kingdom of God.

~ May the gift of wisdom be given to all those in positions of authority, that they may govern well in all things.

~ May the Holy Spirit give the fruit of joy to encompass the entire diocese.

~ May all the faithful seek and earnestly ask for the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

~ May this Jubilee Year of the Holy Spirit bring a New Pentecost down upon the Diocese of Kalamazoo.

AROUND OUR DIOCESE

SEP 22 – OCT 31 -- 40 DAYS FOR LIFE prayer vigil in front of Planned Parenthood on W. Michigan Avenue in Kalamazoo. The name refers to a repeated pattern of events lasting for 40 days in the Bible, such as Noah's Ark, Moses's 40 days on Mount Sinai, and Jesus' 40 days in the desert. Please plan on praying for an hour, once or weekly, with others from your community. For info, or to sign up, contact Joe Magalski at (989) 992-6085.

CELEBRATING WORKERS OF MERCY All those involved in doing the Works of Mercy in any of our parishes, agencies or other institutions are invited to an evening of celebration, thanks and reflection on Monday, September 27, 2021 at St. Augustine Cathedral. Bishop Bradley will celebrate Mass at 6 p.m. followed by a reflection from Dcn. Don Bouchard and a simple dinner from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. in the Crowley Center. RSVP by Sept. 20 to Lisa Irwin, lisairwin@ccdok.org or info@ccdok.org.

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

Sept 26, 2021

ANGELS: BISHOP FULTON SHEEN

In this compilation of three episodes from his classic television program, "Life is Worth Living," Bishop Fulton Sheen delivers his thoughts on various elements of the Catholic Faith with his ever-present humor, animated presentation, and captivating mode of speaking. In the first segment, "Angels," Bishop Sheen explicates the nature of angels and the meaningful role they play in our world.



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WORD OF LIFE

"Suicidal individuals—with or without a terminal illness—typically do not want to die... The patient requesting assisted suicide is often asking, 'Does anyone want me to be alive, or care enough to talk me out of this request and support me through this difficult time?'" USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Every Suicide is Tragic"

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ON THE 2ND & 4TH TUESDAY
OF EACH MONTH.