

# 3RD SUNDAY of Easter

## ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

5855 East W Avenue, PO BOX 264, Vicksburg, MI 49097  
(269) 649-1629 St. Vincent DePaul Ext 3  
Pastor: Msgr. Thomas A Martin

### DRE & COORDINATOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Tim McNamara  
269-649-1629 ext 1003  
dre@stmartinvicksburg.org

**Mass Schedule:** Sat 5:30p Sun 8:00a & 11:00a Wed & Fri 9:00a **Live-Stream Mass:** Apr 23 at 8:00a

**Reconciliation:** Sat 10a or by appt.

**Office Hours:** Mon—Fri 9a-4p

**Website:** [www.stmartinvicksburg.org](http://www.stmartinvicksburg.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/stmartinofoursofvicksburg](https://facebook.com/stmartinofoursofvicksburg)

**Flocknote:** [stmartinvicksburg.flocknote.com](https://stmartinvicksburg.flocknote.com)

### MASS INTENTIONS & SCHEDULE

**Apr 22 5:30p Mass** †Carol Wunderlin by Walt Wunderlin  
**Apr 23 8:00a Mass** For the people of St. Martin  
**Apr 23 9:30a Rel Ed Classes & Adult Study**  
**Apr 23 11:00a Mass** †Leo Swiat by Victor & Barb Ceru  
**Apr 23 12:30p "No Greater Love"** film/Parish Hall  
**Apr 24 6:00p Bible Study** with Msgr  
**Apr 25 7:00p Knights of Columbus**  
**Apr 26 9:00a Mass** †Joe & Alma Thamann  
by Dcn Tom & Pam Thamann  
**Apr 27 7:00p RCIA**  
**Apr 28 8:00a Adoration** till 9:00a  
**Apr 28 9:00a Mass** †Judy Hansford  
by Dcn Tom & Pam Thamann  
**Apr 28 6:00p Encounter** in Parish Hall  
**Apr 29 7:30a Men's Group**  
**Apr 29 10:00a Reconciliation** till 11:00a  
**Apr 29 5:30p Mass** For the people of St. Martin  
**Apr 30 8:00a Mass** †Larry Houghtaling  
by Jackie Houghtaling  
**Apr 30 11:00a Mass** †Bill Brunleve by Rita Sokolowski

### LECTOR & USHER SCHEDULE

**Apr 29 5:30p Lector:** Mike C

**Ushers:** Ken & Gail D, Doug & Deb S

**Raise Rite:** Doorlag

**Apr 30 8:00a Lector:** Karen S

**Ushers:** Bill Z, John P, Joe R, volunteer

**Raise Rite:** LeVan

**Apr 30 11:00a Lector:** Lisa I

**Ushers:** Mike & Kris B, 2 volunteers

**Raise Rite:** Van Dalen



### WORD OF LIFE

"Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. ... Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself. Amen." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "A Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe"

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## INSIDE OUR PARISH

**“NO GREATER LOVE”** Our Knights of Columbus Council #13305 will be hosting a viewing of this 115-minute film in our parish hall after the 11a Mass this Sunday, Apr 23rd. Theater food will be provided. We encourage you to bring the whole family and enjoy a movie that shines a light on this saint of our times and may change your lives in the process.

**WE WILL BE PRAYING THE HOLY ROSARY** during the month of May before the weekend Masses beginning on Saturday, May 6th. Rosary volunteers are needed to lead us in the prayers. A sign-up sheet for Rosary leaders is in the narthex. Many thanks to our Rosary leaders!

**NEXT WEEKEND IS COMMITMENT WEEKEND FOR THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL.** This appeal is our opportunity as Christian stewards to show our gratitude for all God's gifts and to do what He has asked us to do--reinvest a small portion of our blessings into growing His Kingdom and continuing the work of Jesus Christ. When you give to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, you make possible the more than 70 spiritual, pastoral, educational, and charitable programs and services provided through the diocese. Your gift does make a difference! Our parish goals are 100% participation and \$65,133. Your gift will help us accomplish both. You should receive your pledge envelope in the mail this week.

**SPRING IS IN THE AIR**, and the Gardening Guild of St Martin's is ready to spruce up the Mary garden for another season of beauty & enjoyment for our parish family. As always, we are in need of volunteers to keep the garden gorgeous. No experience is necessary! Please prayerfully consider volunteering for an hour a week, or an hour or two a month. Children are always welcome! Please call or text Sharon for more details & information-324.1267. God Bless!

**SOUTH COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES FOOD PANTRY REQUESTS FOR APRIL:** granola bars, mayonnaise, canned diced tomatoes, baked beans, peanut butter & jelly. Household needs: Shampoo. Thank you for your generous donations!

**ENCOUNTER:** An Evening of Faith-Filled Community for All! Are you looking for a church activity for your family in between Sundays? Are you new to the parish & want to meet other parishioners? Are you wanting to learn more about your faith & how to share the faith with your family & others? Encounter is open to all parishioners & offers an intentional time to experience our beautiful Catholic faith outside of the worship we do at Mass or within the religious education classroom. This evening event features a time of food & fellowship, praise & worship music, a presentation with a craft for young kids, & closes with a time of family-friendly adoration. Please mark your calendars for Fri, Apr 28th from 6p – 8p in the Parish Hall & get ready to encounter our parish community & our Lord Jesus Christ! For questions, please reach out to Tim at [dre@stmartinvicksburg.org](mailto:dre@stmartinvicksburg.org).

**PRAYERS!** Please pray for our 4 receiving First Communion (Apr 30th) and our 5 receiving Confirmation (May 21st) and all the folks receiving the Sacraments of Initiation through the RCIA process this year!

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #13305** & the Catholic Heart Work Camp youth would like to thank all our Parish Family for your support of this year's St Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner. Including both ticket sales and tips we were able to provide almost \$2k for Catholic Heart Work Camp. A very special thank you to all those who worked so hard to make this year's event successful with a special shout out to Eric Neuber Store Director Hardings on Westnedge for the special pricing & donation his store provided.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

Jody Cunningham	Jennifer Stocki
Karen Garcea	Steve Vogler
Jennifer Goldberg	TJ Williams
Christina Kelley	Aiden Woodard
Vivian McCowen	

### PARISH SUPPORT APRIL 16

<u>Envelopes:84</u>	<u>Weekly Goal:\$6,730</u>
Collection envelopes:	\$3,833.00
Mailed in envelopes:	\$269.00
Total Collection:	\$4,102.00

Purchase Raise Right cards after all Masses and in the Church office M-F 9a-4p.



#### FOR IMMEDIATE AND CONFIDENTIAL PRAYERS

Email [deena.christine@yahoo.com](mailto:deena.christine@yahoo.com)  
or Call our parish prayer line at 269-303-8016.



## INSIDE OUR DIOCESE

**"I WAS IN PRISON/JAIL AND YOU VISITED ME."** Is God calling you to consider jail ministry? The Catholic Jail Ministry Team has resumed a Friday afternoon Men's Bible Study at the Kalamazoo County Jail after a multi-year COVID break. There are opportunities to expand our services, including a new women's service that will start soon, as more women volunteers join the ministry. Interested men and women please contact Lisa Irwin at 269-381-9800 x 227 or [lisairwin@ccdok.org](mailto:lisairwin@ccdok.org)

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN FR. HARO ON A PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND!** Introduction & Information Meeting will be held at St. Mary Catholic Church in the Our Lady of Grace Church Basement on Apr 25 from 6:30-7:45pm. Itinerary will be discussed with the opportunity to ask questions. Announcements for this are located on our St. Martin East & West bulletin boards!

**THE HACKETT BAND BOOSTERS ARE EAGERLY PLANNING OUR ANNUAL JAZZ NIGHT-** an evening of fun & music, with the proceeds going to support our music program. This event takes place May 6 from 7-10p at Hackett's cafeteria.

Tickets available at <https://hackettband.ludus.com>




**Episode 1: Saint Mark the Evangelist**

Just who is St. Mark, the author of this short but action-packed Gospel? Using outside sources, other books of the Bible, and the Gospel itself, Dr. Gray takes a closeup look at St. Mark, and his connection with St. Peter and the Christians of Rome.

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## UNDERSTANDING DISPELS DOUBT

Third Sunday of Easter

"But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive." Luke 24:21-23

The day on which our Lord rose from the dead, some of the women who had accompanied Him went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body and found the tomb empty. An angel spoke to them of Jesus' Resurrection and then these women went to tell the disciples what they saw. The reaction of the disciples is recorded this way: "but their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them."

Later that day, two of those doubting disciples were traveling on foot to the town of Emmaus. As they traveled, they were "conversing and debating" about what had happened to Jesus and also about what these women reported to them. It is clear from their words that they were quite confused and discouraged about what was happening. They encountered our Lord in His public ministry. They had listened to His powerful teachings. They witnessed His miracles. They had hoped that He was the Messiah. But then they saw Him arrested, humiliated, beaten, crucified and killed. Jesus' death took a serious toll on them and made them question their faith in Him. And even after they heard that He had risen, they couldn't bring themselves to believe. Thus, they traveled the road to Emmaus—discouraged, confused and doubting.

As these disciples walked along, our Lord appeared to them, but they did not recognize Him in His resurrected form. They expressed their confusion to Him and Jesus finally said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" After Jesus went on and explained the Scriptures to them, they were hungry for more. They asked this stranger to stay with them and He did. That evening, Jesus broke bread with them, and in that sacramental act, they recognized Him before He vanished from their eyes.

We must see ourselves in these disciples. There are many things in life that can lead us to discouragement. When we strive to follow God's will but find that things have not turned out how we expected, there is a temptation to doubt. Why is that? What is the cause of doubt? More than anything else, doubts and discouragement come from our failure to understand the perfect plan of God for our lives.

If these disciples had understood, from the beginning, all that Jesus explained to them on the road to Emmaus, they would not have despaired. They would not have lost hope. So also with us, when we begin to lose hope in our lives, it is primarily because we have failed to understand the divine plan for our lives correctly. We have failed to see that God permits certain things for His glory. He permits certain hardships to deepen our faith and trust in Him. When we fail to see His permissive will in all things, we will become discouraged and confused.

Reflect, today, upon these two disciples. They had the incredible privilege of spending much time with our Lord during His public ministry, seeing His miracles and hearing His sermons. But when the Cross ensued, they doubted and despaired. Let these disciples witness to you and reveal to you any ways that you fall into similar temptations. Do you have perfect hope in God and His plan for your life? Or do you allow the various crosses you endure to confuse you and lead you to doubt? Allow our Lord to appear to you through prayer and reveal to you His perfect plan. Be open to the gift of understanding by trusting that the wisdom of God will dispel every temptation you have toward doubt, replacing it with trust and hope.

Lord of perfect wisdom, Your plan for my life is perfect and glorious beyond imagination. Too often, I fail to understand Your will and fall into confusion and doubt. Please open my mind to Your truth and help me to see everything from Your perspective so that I will always walk with hope and trust in You. Jesus, I trust in You.

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