

4TH 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

Facebook: facebook.com/stmartinofoursofvicksburg

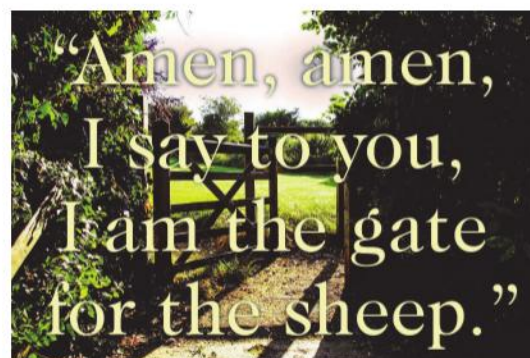
Flocknote: stmartinvicksburg.flocknote.com

MASS INTENTIONS & SCHEDULE

Apr 29 5:30p **Mass** For the people of St. Martin
Apr 30 8:00a **Mass** †Larry Houghtaling
by Jackie Houghtaling
Apr 30 9:30a **Rel Ed Classes & Adult Study**
Apr 30 11:00a **Mass** †Bill Brunleve by Rita Sokolowski
Apr 30 11:00a **First Communion** during 11A Mass
May 01 6:00p **Bible Study** with Msgr
May 03 9:00a **Mass** †Doni & Ben Hoeval by S Kim Lee
May 03 6:30p **Holy Hour** at St. Edward
May 04 7:00p **RCIA**
May 05 8:00a **First Friday Adoration** till 9:00a
May 05 9:00a **Mass** †Leo Swiat by the Gilbert family
May 05 9:30a **First Friday Adoration** till 7:00p
May 06 7:30a **Men's Group**
May 06 10:00a **Reconciliation** till 11:00a
May 06 5:05p **Holy Rosary**
May 06 5:30p **Mass** †Carol Wunderlin by Walt Wunderlin
May 06 7:35p **Holy Rosary**
May 07 8:00a **Mass** †Cathy Rice by Joe Rice
May 07 10:35a **Holy Rosary**
May 07 11:00a **Mass** For the people of St. Martin

LECTOR & USHER SCHEDULE

May 06 5:30p **Lector:** Pam T
Ushers: Jim & Monica R, Sandy Y, volunteer
Raise Rite: volunteer
May 07 8:00a **Lector:** Kathleen W
Ushers: Ron & Jan G, Joe S, volunteer
Raise Rite: Koenigsknecht
May 07 11:00a **Lector:** Amy S
Ushers: Coleen V, Cindy J, 2 volunteers
Raise Rite: Goldsmith-Moore



WORD OF LIFE

"People often say, 'I could never handle a child with a disability.' But the beauty of parenting is that you aren't given a child with a disability. You are given your child with a disability. Your child enters the world in a relationship with you, and that changes everything. You are not called to 'handle' a disability. You are called to love a particular person, and caring for him or her grows out of that love." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "A Perfect Gift" respectlife.org/a-perfect-gift

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INSIDE OUR PARISH

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION**

May 5
8:00a-9:00a and
9:30a-7:00p

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!

WE WILL HAVE FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION on May 5th from 8-9am and 9:30am until 7pm. There is a new sign-up sheet for those who would like to spend a quiet hour in the presence of our Lord. We have updated the sign-up sheet recently, so even if you have signed up in the past, please do so again. We have many open hours.

FOR OUR LECTORS AND USHERS: Our next schedule will be prepared soon. The new schedule will run from June 10th through August 20th. If you anticipate any change of availability during this time, please call the parish office by no later than Monday, May 8th or you may email Sue Maneikis pastoralcare@smartinicksburg.org.

NEXT FARMER'S BREAKFAST IS MAY 14 FROM 9A-1P. The Knights will be donating the proceeds from this breakfast to the Pregnancy centers in the Kalamazoo area.

SOUTH COUNTY COMMUNITY FOOD SERVICES FOOD PANTRY REQUESTS FOR MAY ARE: Breakfast Cereal, Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Canned Soup, Canned Pasta, Kleenex. Your donations are greatly appreciated by the many local families that are using our pantry. God bless your generosity!

THIS WEEKEND WE MAKE OUR PLEDGES TO THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL. As Christian stewards we recognize God as the source of everything we are and have. We are grateful for our blessings and seek ways to give back, to return some of these gifts to show our love for the Lord and one another. As disciples of Jesus Christ, all of us share in the mission of the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo. Only when we work together can we accomplish God's work. Please prayerfully consider a very generous gift to this year's appeal. Our parish goal is 100% participation. Consider increasing your last year's gift by a percentage or specific dollar amount in order to meet increased needs in our diocese and beyond. Remember, no gift is too small or too large, and every gift makes the work of Jesus Christ possible.

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!



**FOR IMMEDIATE AND
CONFIDENTIAL PRAYERS**

Email

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

PARISH SUPPORT APRIL 23

<u>Envelopes:87</u>	<u>Weekly Goal:\$6,730</u>
Collection envelopes:	\$4,181.00
Mailed in envelopes:	\$621.00
Total Collection:	\$4,802.00

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

MAY 2023

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church

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

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 St. Joseph the Worker 6PM Bible Study	2 St. Athanasius	3 6:30-7:30PM: Holy Hour of Adoration & Benediction at St. Edward's	4 7PM: R.C.I.A	5 First Friday 8-9AM, 9:30AM-7:00PM: First Friday Adoration	6 7:30AM Men's Group 5:05PM: Holy Rosary
7 Fifth Sunday of Easter 7:35AM Holy Rosary 9:30AM Religious Education Classes & Adult Study Group 10:35AM Holy Rosary May Crowning after the 11am Mass	8 10AM Caring Hands 6PM Bible Study 6PM SVDP	9	10 St. Damien de Vauster Of Molokai St. John of Avila	11	12 Ss. Nereus and Achilleus 8-9AM Adoration	13 Our Lady of Fatima 7:30AM Men's Group 5:05PM Holy Rosary
14 Sixth Sunday of Easter 7:35AM Holy Rosary 9AM-1PM Farmer's Breakfast 10:35AM Holy Rosary	15 St. Isidore 6PM Bible Study	16 1PM HALOS	17 6:30-7:30PM Holy Hour of Adoration & Benediction at St. Martin	18 St. John I	19 8-9AM Adoration	20 St. Bernadine of Siena 7:30AM Men's Group 5:05PM Holy Rosary
21 The Ascension of the Lord 7:35AM Holy Rosary 2PM Confirmation at St. Augustine Cathedral	22 6PM Bible Study	23 7PM Knights of Columbus	24 6PM Pack the House Dinner and Speaker	25 St. Bede the Venerable	26 8-9AM Adoration 6-8pm Encounter MS & HS	27 No Men's Group 5:05PM Holy Rosary
28 Pentecost Sunday 7:35AM & 10:35AM: Holy Rosary	29 The Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial Day Parish Office Closed No Bible Study	30	31 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary			

INSIDE OUR DIOCESE



*World Day
of Prayer
for
VOCATIONS*

Seek HIS FACE

Know HIS LOVE

Serve HIS PEOPLE

© Diocesan

**SAVE THE DATE - DR. JOHN R. WOOD MAY 19 & MAY 20
EXTRAORDINARY MISSION**

Keep the Flame of Faith Alive—Parent Talk Fri , May 19 7:00-8:00p
See the Light Be the Light — MS & HS Student Talk Sat, May 20—2:00p
(Student pick up at 3:30p)

Hackett Catholic Prep Auditorium. Free Admission.
Info www.extraordinarymission.com. Ice Cream Social following.

CAREGIVER CONNECTION is monthly zoom gathering that offers community, support & faith sharing to those caring for a loved one living with a disability. Recently a participant remarked, "This is a spot of grace, mercy, kindness & love." Caregiver Connection meets on the first Sunday of the month (except on holiday weekends when it moves to the second Sunday) from 1–2p. To learn more/register go to www.ccdok.org/connections-registration or contact Lisa Irwin at the Catholic Charities Diocese of Kalamazoo 269-381-9800 x227 or by email at lisairwin@ccdok.org. Upcoming date: May 7.

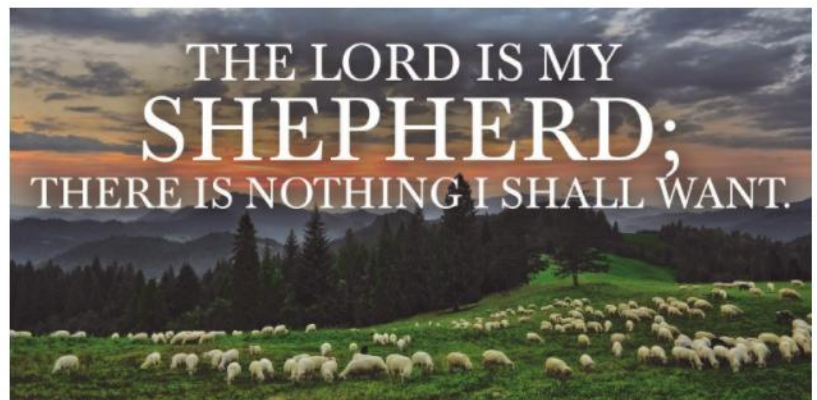
CREATIVE CONNECTIONS: Persons with Disabilities are invited to a virtual gathering from 1:00 – 2:00p.m. on Sunday May 21. The focus is to build fellowship, have fun, reflect on the Sunday Gospel and pray together. More info or to register go to www.ccdok.org/connections-registration or contact Lisa Irwin at 269-381-9800 x 227 or lisairwin@ccdok.org. Zoom link will be sent to those who register. Upcoming 2023 dates: July 16, Sept. 17, Nov. 19

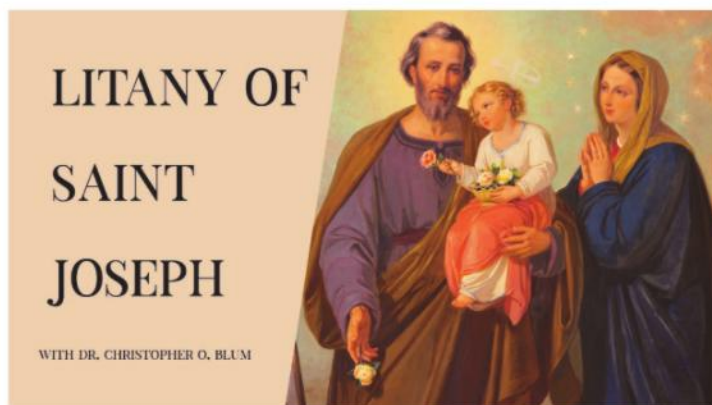
PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CREATE A CIRCLE OF FRIENDS FOR ADULTS WITH COGNITIVE/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES. This will be a time of meeting new (and old) friends for fun activities, reflection on Sunday readings, snacks and fellowship. We will gather at St. Thomas More Church, 421 Monroe St, Kalamazoo on Wednesday, May 24 from 2-3:30p. To let us know you are coming. Contact Lisa Irwin: lisairwin@ccdok.org or 381-9800 x227. Interested but another time works better? Let us know.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA STELLAR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 17-21 9:00a—12:00p. VBS is a children's day camp that allows kids to take part in bible-learning experiences through songs, games, activities & lessons. Join us for an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun. Launch kids on a cosmic quest, shining Jesus' light on the world! \$25 per child, \$40 per family. Registration is open to all children Pre-K-5th grade. Scholarships available. For more info or to register visit www.stcatherinesiena.org. Click on faith formation, then Vacation Bible School.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEWS TO KNOW... Help us Feed the Hungry! Catholic Charities' Bread of Life Food Program provides free supplemental food weekly to families in need throughout Southwest Michigan with no income requirements. Just \$20 will feed 3 families! Please donate today at www.ccdok.org/donate-today

*Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed,
for he shares his bread with the poor. ~Proverbs 22:9*





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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  gracis press

HEARING AND FOLLOWING HIS VOICE

Fourth Sunday of Easter —Good Shepherd Sunday

Jesus said: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." John 10:1-3

The people of Jesus' time would have easily understood this story. It was common practice for shepherds to talk to their sheep throughout the day so that the sheep became familiar with the shepherd's voice as he led them through various pastures for grazing. At night, several shepherds would bring their sheep together within secured gates for safety. In the morning, each shepherd would then call to his sheep and, because they knew their shepherd's voice, the sheep would follow their own shepherd and not the others.

The first question for each of us to ask ourselves today is this: Do I know the voice of the Shepherd? Have I become so familiar with His voice that I can clearly distinguish His voice from others? Try to imagine the image of several shepherds all calling their sheep at once.

This is an image of the

competing voices we encounter in our lives. But only one of those voices is the voice of God. Do you know His voice? Or do you become confused with the many other impulses, desires and attractions that vie for your attention?

Jesus continued his teaching by saying that He is not only the Shepherd whose voice is known by the sheep, but He is also the gate. "I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." What does our Lord mean when He calls Himself the gate?

As the Gate, He is the Word of God, revealed to us through the Scriptures. Fidelity to the Word of God is one of the surest ways to the life of grace. He is the Word of Truth as it is handed down and expounded upon by the Magisterium, the teaching authority of the Church.

Fidelity to the authentic

teaching of the Magisterium, especially when the Holy Father speaks in union with the bishops, will help us navigate the many errors of our age. Jesus is made present to us through the Sacraments, which are the door to His grace and the entryway to the food for our spiritual lives. Furthermore, any time our Lord comes to us, through holy preaching, the witness and teaching of the saints, and the life of prayer within the Church, or in any other way, we enter the gate and are admitted into His verdant pastures.

Jesus is the gate, not only for the sheep but for each of the shepherds who lead the sheep in His name. These are the pastors of the Church who have been entrusted with the mission of Christ to lead God's people. Today, if a shepherd of the Church fails to preach Jesus Christ, then that shepherd "comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy." Pastors of the Church must humbly listen carefully to these words so that they never fail to shepherd God's people by leading them through the Gate, Who is Christ Himself. They must all be faithful to the whole Tradition of our Church, handed on throughout the ages, and not deviate from the pure and holy deposit of faith. If they preach their own gospel, or are negligent or misleading in their preaching, then they are not true shepherds. God's true sheep will not recognize them. But if they are faithful to all that Jesus has taught, then they will lead the sheep through the gate and become shepherds in union with the Heart of the Good Shepherd.

Reflect, today, upon the image of Christ the Good Shepherd, calling to us in a variety of ways. We must learn His true voice through faith and prayer. Once we recognize His voice, we will more easily discover Him ministering to us, inspiring us, and inviting us to the life of grace by encountering Him as the source and way to this new life.

Good Shepherd, You speak to me continuously, revealing to me Your presence and guidance in my life. May I become so familiar with Your sacred Voice that I will always recognize it. Lead me to Yourself, the glorious Gate to the life of grace, and transform me into a faithful and obedient sheep. Jesus, my Good Shepherd, I trust in You.

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St. Martin of Tours Council 13305

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