

22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

V. 37 | No. 36

TAKE UP  
YOUR CROSS  
& follow Me.



ST. MARTHA  
PARISH & SCHOOL

1100 West Grand River  
Okemos, MI 48864

517-349-1763 | [www.st-martha.org](http://www.st-martha.org)



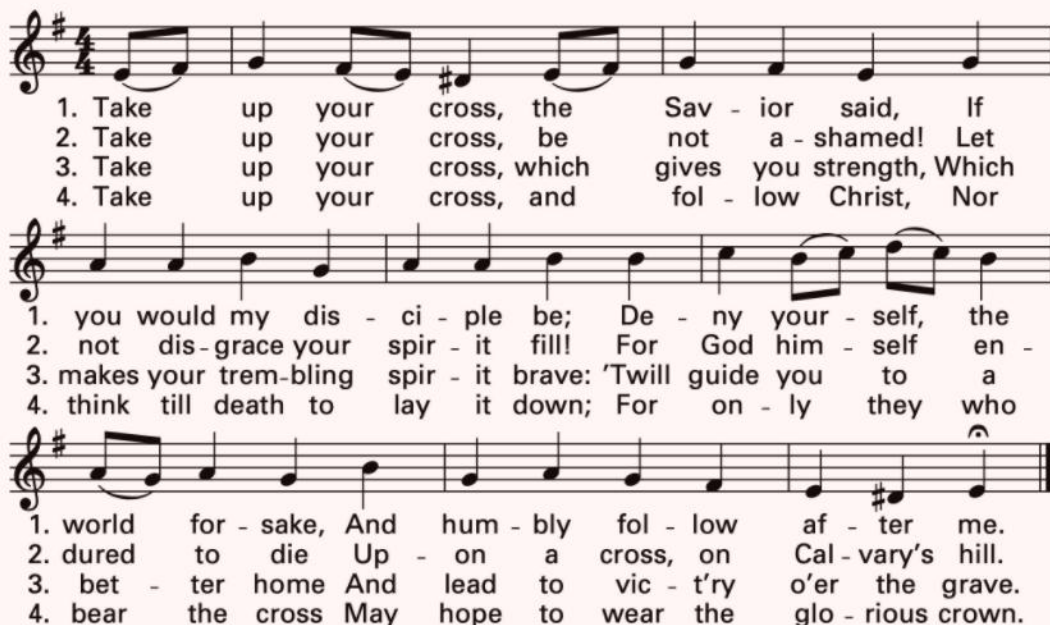
## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

### Take Up Your Cross

C.W. Everest

© 1977, OCP Publications

Music: Klug's Geistliche Lieder,  
1543



1. Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, If  
2. Take up your cross, be not a - shamed! Let  
3. Take up your cross, which gives you strength, Which  
4. Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, Nor

1. you would my dis - ci - ple be; De - ny your - self, the  
2. not dis - grace your spir - it fill! For God him - self en -  
3. makes your trem - bling spir - it brave: 'Twill guide you to a  
4. think till death to lay it down; For on - ly they who

1. world for - sake, And hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.  
2. dured to die Up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.  
3. bet - ter home And lead to vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
4. bear the cross May hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen, amen.

## FIRST READING

*Jeremiah 20:7-9*

You duped me, O LORD, and I let myself be duped; you were too strong for me, and you triumphed.  
All the day I am an object of laughter; everyone mocks me.

Whenever I speak, I must cry out, violence and outrage is my message; the word of the LORD has  
brought me derision and reproach all the day.

I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire  
burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.

*Lector:* The word of the Lord.

**R:** Thanks be to God.

## RESPONSORIAL

### PSALM

#### Psalm 63

Music: Michael Joncas,

© 1987, GLA Publications,  
Inc.



My soul is thirst - ing, my soul is thirst - ing,  
my soul is thirst - ing for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God whom I seek;  
O God, you are my God whom I seek;  
for you my flesh pines,  
my soul thirsts like the earth,  
parched, lifeless, without water.
2. Thus have I gazed toward you in your holy place  
to see your power and your glory.  
Your kindness is a greater good than life itself;  
my lips will glorify you.
3. Thus will I bless you while I live;  
Lifting up my hands I will call upon your name.  
As with a banquet shall my soul be satisfied;  
with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

## SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-2

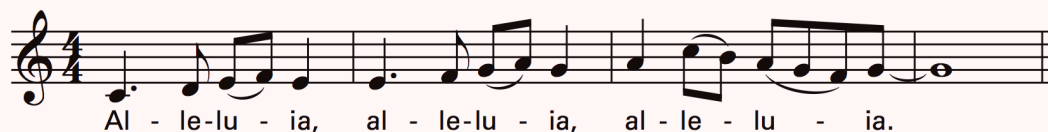
I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

*Lector:* The word of the Lord.

**R:** Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

© 2014 Scot Crandall



## GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-27

*Deacon/Priest:* The Lord be with you.

**R:** And with your spirit.

*Deacon/Priest:* A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

**R:** Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct."

*Deacon/Priest:* The gospel of the Lord.

**R:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven,  
*at the words that follow, all bow until 'and became man'*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.

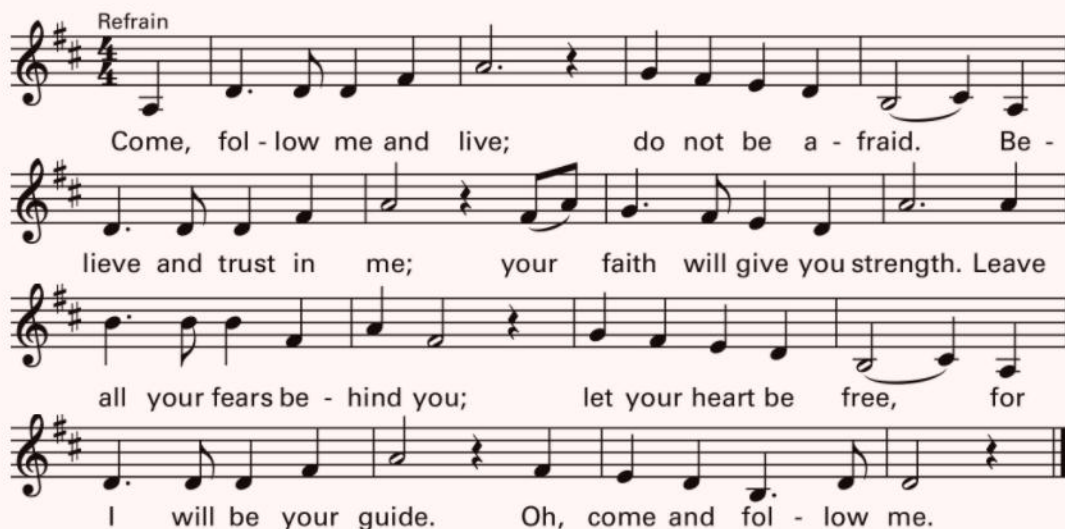
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
Who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, Who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sin,  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## OFFERTORY HYMN

### Come, Follow Me

© 1999, Gael Berberick and  
Barney Walker  
Published by OCP.

Refrain



Come, fol - low me and live; do not be a - fraid. Be -  
lieve and trust in me; your faith will give you strength. Leave  
all your fears be - hind you; let your heart be free, for  
I will be your guide. Oh, come and fol - low me.

1. Come, follow in these footsteps;  
I'll lead you gently home.  
No shelter, food nor money  
will you need upon this road.
2. Come, walk across the water;  
place all your faith in me.
3. Cast all your doubts behind you  
to the wind and raging sea.  
If you remain within me,  
my words remain in you.  
Whatever you may ask of me,  
that is what I will do.

## SANCTUS

### Mass of Redemption

Text © 2010, ICEL |  
Steven R. Janco |  
Music © 1999, 2010, WLP



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san-na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san-na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

### Mass of Redemption

Text © 2010, ICEL |  
Steven R. Janco |  
Music © 2010, WLP



Save us, Sav - ior of the world, for by your  
Cross and Res - ur - rec - tion you have set us free.

## GREAT AMEN

### Mass of Redemption

Steven R. Janco |  
Music © 1999, WLP



A-men, a-men, a - men. a - men.



## AGNUS DEI

### Mass of Redemption

Steven R. Janco |  
Music © 2000, WLP

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,  
— have mer-cy on us, — have mer-cy on us. —  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,  
grant us peace, grant us peace,  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Priest:* Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R** Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

## COMMUNION HYMN

### The Body of Christ

Sarah Hart | © 2019, 2020,  
Sarah Hart, Published by  
Spirit & Song ® a division of  
OCP. All rights reserved.

Verses  
1-3. This is the Bod - y of Christ, } beau - ti - ful, bro - ken and  
word be-come flesh by his  
gath-ered in hope and in  
1. blessed; mir - a - cle of the great-est of loves, }  
2. grace; mir - a - cle of a mys - t'ry no tongue }  
3. faith; bound by this love, this Bod - y and Blood he }  
1. pres-ence of God in our midst. This is the Cup that he  
2. ev - er could ful - ly ex - plain. This is the Blood of the  
3. of - fers a - gain and a - gain. All of the hun - ger we  
1. shares, end-less-ly emp-tied and poured; sac - ri - fice  
2. Lamb, gift of a heart o - pen wide; poured from the  
3. have, sat - is-fied on - ly by this; so we re -  
1. made so that we might be saved } now and for - ev - er - more.  
2. Cross to the al - tar where love } com-forts and fills and pro-vides.  
3. ceive, we re-mem-ber, be - lieve and share so that oth-ers may live.  
Refrain  
A - men, a - men! We are healed by the Bread of life.

A - men, a - men! We are one in the Bod-y of Christ.

We are one in the Bod - y of Christ.

## COMMUNION HYMN

### Take Up Our Cross

Curtis Stephan, Sarah Hart and Marc Byrd | © 2008 Blue Raft Music and Meaux Mercy, both adm. by EMI CMG Publishing and Curtis Stephan and Sarah Hart, both published by spiritandsong.com®, a division of OCP. All rights reserved.

Refrain

We take up our cross and fol - low him; we

lay down our lives that we might live. We

car-ry the hope of Christ with-in; we take up our cross

and fol - low him.

1, Final (Fine) 2 to Verse 2 2 to Bridge 3

- Behold the wood that bears our name; behold the nails that hold our sin. The tree from which salvation blooms; the death by which we're born again.
- We embrace the sacrifice, and walk the path we cannot see. The burdens of this world made light; by blood and thorn we are redeemed.

## ST. MICHAEL PRAYER

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

### Lift High the Cross

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18;  
George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912 and Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956, alt. | Tune: CRUCIFER, 10 10 with refrain; Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947 © 1974, Hope Publishing Co.

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Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1. Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where the Mas - ter trod, our  
2. Led on their way by this tri - um-phant sign, the  
3. Each new - born fol - l'wer of the Cru - ci - fied bears  
4. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, your  
5. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise

D.C.

King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.  
on the brow the seal of him who died.  
death has bought us life e - ter - nal - ly.  
to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

# From the Pastor's Desk



## Samuel Omogo Foundation

To quote Fr. Omogo, "A blessing is a blessing when we share our blessings with others."

It was a pleasure and a joy hosting Fr. Omogo for the weekend! His authenticity and enthusiasm are contagious! To everyone who felt inspired to contribute to this worthy cause, thank you for your generous hearts and love for the Lord. Fr. Omogo's song and saying have stuck with me since he left, "*a blessing is a blessing when we share our blessings with others*". That sums up God the Father very well. Our God is not a god who requires things or takes things. Rather, He is a Father who is constantly giving to us - so much so that He gave His very life for us. Thank you for imitating the heart of the Father in your generosity!

## Storms

To state the obvious, the storms a week and a half ago were awful. There are many people who still continue to suffer devastation, loss of life, loss of health, and loss of resources. Let us continue to pray for them as they work through healing and rebuilding. Also, keep in mind that St. Vincent dePaul is a great resource for those in need, especially immediate needs. I am thankful for a very active and well run St. Vincent dePaul society here at St. Martha parish!

## Fr. Mike and Tuesday Morning Mass

Since my arrival, Fr. Mike has been traveling all summer visiting his children, family, and friends. Now that we have come to the unofficial end of summer, Fr. Mike is back. He will be helping with sacramental assistance (daily Masses, weekend Masses, confessions, etc.), is available for spiritual conversations, and will be helping with various programming throughout the year. He and I will rotate both daily and weekend Masses.

## Worship Aids

You will notice this weekend that the bulletin is now the worship aid as well. Our bulletin publisher, Diocesan Publications, will now take on the role of printing these dual purpose booklets. Combining them with the bulletin helps in a couple of ways:

1. It takes the wear and tear off of our copy machine and reduces our paper costs. Printing hundreds of weekly worship aids takes a heavy toll on the machines in the office.
2. It ensures that (most) everyone picks up a bulletin and takes them home.

The bulletins are still available to be taken home, so please do so! We will have enough bulletins for everyone. From time-to-time, especially during Holy Week when the readings are

much longer, we will have to print worship aids as we did before.

## Passing the Baskets / Collection

Just a reminder that, beginning next weekend (9/9-10/23), we will return to passing the baskets at offertory. Again, my sincere thanks for your continued giving and support! Your hearts are very generous. St. Martha has made a huge investment in our kids with the significantly low tuition in the school; something I desire to continue. Because of this most worthy commitment, every dollar given is all the more important to help offset costs and to ensure quality programming in faith formation, our evangelization efforts, and our sacramental life.

## This Weekend's Gospel

Jesus says some very strong words in today's Gospel, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow-me." Our reaction to those words should rightly be fear. The cross is scary. The cross ultimately killed Jesus. Yet, He asks us to take up our crosses and follow after Him. That should make us shutter, shiver, and shake with fright. If it does, then I would say that is a good sign that you are a normal human being.

Jesus's entire life was on a trajectory toward the cross. When you read the synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke), you often hear the writer say that Jesus was *going up to Jerusalem*. His entire life was on a trajectory upward toward the hill of Golgotha where He would hang on the cross for three hours until His ultimate death. Jesus came to accomplish a mission, and that mission was the salvation of our souls and the destruction of sin and death. That mission cost Jesus His life. But, the mission and ultimate victory doesn't end there...

As we move through life, the world presents many crosses before us, too many to name in a bulletin article. If you spend time in prayer or just thinking about your past, I am sure you could name the crosses that you have had to endure. Precisely because of our humanity and our tendency to avoid pain and suffering, we try, at all costs, to avoid the crosses of life or at least minimize their effects.

Jesus can say these words, He can give us this command to take up our crosses for two reasons:

1. Our God is a good Father. No father - no father who genuinely cares about his children - would ask his children to do anything that he wasn't willing to first do himself. No father would knowingly send his children into harm's way. Jesus not only tells us to take up our crosses, He first does it Himself and, in so doing, shows us how to and that it can be done without fear and trepidation. As Pope St. John Paul II often exclaimed, "Be not afraid!"
2. Jesus is Lord. Just looking at the textbook definition of the word "*lord*", it means someone having power,

(Continued on page 11)





# Mass Intentions

**Monday, September 4**

**No Mass due to Labor Day**

**Tuesday, September 5**

8:30 am † Chuck Willems

**Wednesday, September 6**

6:00 pm † Stanley Servia by J. Massa

**Thursday, September 7**

8:30 am † Scott Liskiewicz by R. and P. Bjornstad

**Friday, September 8**

8:30 am † Lynn Jones by T. and M. Vuchetich

**Saturday, September 9**

5:00 pm † Jerry, † Lee, and † Mike Cuengros  
by R. Cuengros

**Sunday, September 10**

8:00 am † Gerald Koryba by A. & C. Rynbrandt

10:00 am People of St. Martha Parish

5:00 pm † Gwen Sinila by D. Sinila

# Scripture Readings

**For the Week of September 3, 2023**

**Sunday**

**Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2;  
Mt 16:21-27

**Monday**

1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1 & 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13;  
Lk 4:16-30

**Tuesday**

1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37

**Wednesday**

Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10, 11; Lk 4:38-44

**Thursday**

Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

**Friday**

**Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6ab, 6c;  
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or Mt 1:18-23

**Saturday**

**Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest**

Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6 & 8; Lk 6:1-5

**Sunday**

**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:8-10;  
Mt 18:15-20

## Intercessory Prayers

**St. Martha Parish  
prays for our  
brothers and sisters  
who need physical  
or spiritual healing,  
especially:**

Noah Jungwirth  
John Ruh  
Steve Kelly  
John Paul Erford  
Jackie Fortier  
Jeffrey Rostek  
Art Johnson  
Freda Winegar  
Ronnie Patoprsty  
Charles Putrino  
Jeffrey Rostek  
Matthew Boersma  
Jackie LaViolette  
Ann Curtin  
Donald Trentel  
Taryn DeCicco

**For those serving in  
our Armed Forces.**

**For † those who  
have gone before  
us, especially:**

† Daniel Garland  
† Peter Parks  
† Linn Gray  
† Clara Doster

**We offer these  
prayers in the name  
of Your Son, our  
Lord, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

## Congratulations

**Maria Philomène Faustina**

**"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"**

- 2 Peter 3:18







### Mass Intentions

Masses are being scheduled up to one year in advance. Limited Masses available for \$10 per Mass.

### Altar Flowers

2 floral arrangements are available per weekend with openings throughout 2023 for \$80 per arrangement.

*To schedule Mass Intentions or Altar Flowers, please contact the Parish Office*

## Sacristans & Lectors

**Saturday, September 9 | 5:00 pm**

S. J. and T. Kaczmarczyk  
L. *Volunteers Needed*

**Sunday, September 10 | 8:00 am**

S. J. and L. Collom  
L. *Volunteers Needed*

**Sunday, September 10 | 10:00 am**

S. *Volunteers Needed*  
L. *Volunteers Needed*

**Sunday, September 10 | 5:00 pm**

S. *Volunteers Needed*  
L. *Volunteers Needed*

## This Week at St. Martha

**Monday, September 4**

**Labor Day | No Mass, Parish Office & School Closed**

**Tuesday, September 5**

9:00 am Reconciliation *Fr. Mike*  
6:30 pm GriefShare - Loss of Spouse - *Bl. Solanus Casey Room*  
7:30 pm Men's Pick-Up B-Ball

**Wednesday, September 6**

6:30 pm Reconciliation *Fr. Mike*  
6:30 pm Adoration  
7:20 pm Benediction

**Thursday, September 7**

9:00 am Reconciliation *Fr. Ryan*  
9:15 am Fruits of the Spirit (St. Martha Mom Group)  
- *Bl. Solanus Casey Room*  
5:30 pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - *Bl. Solanus Casey Room*  
7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal - *Choir Loft*

**Friday, September 8**

9:00 am Reconciliation *Fr. Mike*

**Saturday, September 9**

7:30 am Upper Room Men's Prayer Group (Open to all men)  
3:30 pm Reconciliation *Fr. Ryan*

**Sunday, September 10**

9:15 am Adult Choir - *Choir Loft*  
11:30 am K of C Charity Golf Scramble - *Meridian Sun Golf Club*

### Adult Choir Starts Thursday

**Love to sing?** Now's your chance to join the Adult Choir! The first practice of the year is Thursday, September 7 at 7 pm to prepare for singing Sunday, September 10 at the 10 am Mass.

**Questions?** Email [tandorfer@st-martha.org](mailto:tandorfer@st-martha.org)

## Eucharist to Care Homes

**September 10, 2023**

Sparrow C. Rynbrandt

Willows of Okemos R. Salyers

Brookdale, Medilodge M. Fletcher

ICMCF T. Rapson, C. Webster

## Our Stewardship

### Online Giving

July .....\$50,965  
August TD .....\$34,912

### YTD Online

Weekly Average.....\$11,815

### In-Person Giving

July .....\$36,607  
August 6 .....\$11,719  
August 13 .....\$9,300  
August 20 .....\$5,256

### YTD In-Person

Weekly Average.....\$8,588.86



### Easy Giving

#### Electronically

Scan the QR Code with your phone's camera, visit [st-martha.org/giving](http://st-martha.org/giving) or text "Give" to 517-200-3560





In a loving, nurturing, Christ-like environment, **Saint Martha School** guides each student to develop his or her unique ability and potential through prayer, study, and service.

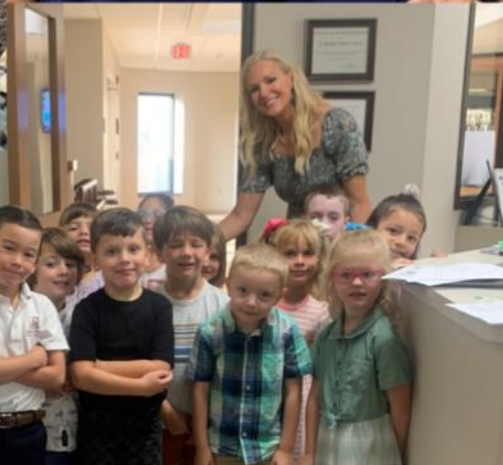
Andrea Patton | Principal  
[apatton@st-martha.org](mailto:apatton@st-martha.org)

Cynthia Farnsworth | Secretary  
[cfarnsworth@st-martha.org](mailto:cfarnsworth@st-martha.org)

## Back to School!

St. Martha students returned on Monday, August 21 to get the school year underway! We added ten new families in K-8 and 16 new students! Preschool begins on September 6 with the addition of 15 new families and 22 new students. We are so excited to see the school community continue to grow.

The first week of school, students spent time getting acquainted with one another and their teachers, learning routines and expectations, and having some fun! They celebrated their first Mass with Fr. Ryan presiding and resounding "AMENS" were heard loud and clear throughout the church. We are all looking forward to a great year of learning and becoming closer to Christ!



## CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF ST. MARTHA SCHOOL

St. Martha Catholic School joyfully celebrates a remarkable 30-year journey. From the day our doors opened on August 19, 1993 to today, the miracles of growth, learning, and community have defined our history. Guided by faith and dedication, we've been nurturing young minds and witnessing examples of academic and spiritual achievement for three decades.

Whether a alumni, former parent, teacher or friend of the Miracles, We ask you to share your stories and pictures of your time at St. Martha School by scanning the QR code or visiting [st-martha.org/30yearsofmiracles](http://st-martha.org/30yearsofmiracles)





## From the Pastor's Desk *(Continued from page 7)*

authority; a master, or a ruler. Jesus is Lord of heaven and earth. Jesus is Lord of all creation. We profess every Sunday that we believe in one *Lord, Jesus Christ... through Him all things were made.* Only the Lord is able to transform the cross from something despicable, scary, and intimidating into something salvific, transformative, and grace-filled. And He does! The resurrection proves this!

As scary and as intimidating as the cross might be, I think, in these words of Jesus, we actually get a sense of the heart of the Father. In the middle of the crosses I've had to bear, it has been difficult for me to see God's hand at work because I get so caught up in the pain, my own brokenness or weaknesses, or because whatever I am going through just seems like too much. I can honestly say, however, that looking *back* on the crosses I have had to endure, I can see the Father's accompaniment and hand at work. I can honestly say that in the midst of the cross, God has never let me down, and, because of these crosses, I have been all the more united to His son - Jesus Christ.

As you pray this week, pray into the crosses you have had to endure because of whatever circumstance. I am sure the fear and intimidation were real. Ask the Father to show you where He was in all of it. I think you will start to see with the eyes of faith that the Trinity was there - God was walking with you. And, through all of it (and this is precisely the point), we realize that everything is grace, most especially the cross. Without God and the grace He bestows upon us, we couldn't do it - we couldn't carry our crosses. The cross is the means by which we are united all the more to Christ and ultimately to the Father.

Hail the Cross our only hope!

Fr. Ryan

## Registration Now Open for Faith Formation

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for Ages 3-6  
Sunday or Wednesday Classes for Grades 1-6  
Sunday Night Confirmation Classes for Grades 7-9

SCAN ME



**Preschool and Kindergarten (ages 3-6)** meet on Sunday mornings during the 10 am Mass for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

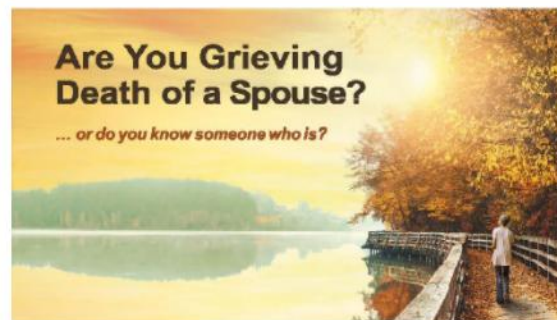
**Grades 1-6** can choose to attend either Sunday mornings from 9-9:55 am or Wednesday evenings from 6-7 pm.

**Grades 7-9** Meet twice a month on Sunday evenings from 6-8 pm; this session includes Confirmation Prep.

To register visit [st-martha.org/registration](http://st-martha.org/registration)

Our **High School Youth Group** has joined with St. Thomas and meets weekly on Sunday evenings from 6-8 pm, alternating between here and St. Thomas. There is no need to register for youth group; all teens are always welcome.

Jackie Rosalez | Faith Formation Director ..... [jrosalez@st-martha.org](mailto:jrosalez@st-martha.org)  
Claudia Fountain | Youth Ministry Director ..... [cfountain@st-martha.org](mailto:cfountain@st-martha.org)  
Sam Matias | Youth Ministry Intern ..... [smatias@st-martha.org](mailto:smatias@st-martha.org)



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- What to expect in the days, weeks, & months after the loss
- The surprising emotional, physical & spiritual effects of grief
- The challenges surviving spouses face; how to cope
- Why it won't always hurt this much

## LOSS OF A SPOUSE

ST. MARTHA CHURCH  
TUESDAY, September 5<sup>th</sup> ~ 6:30 to 8:30 PM  
Blessed Solanus Casey Conference Room  
Questions? 517-449-3485 or [lorimr@aol.com](mailto:lorimr@aol.com)

GRIEF SHARE



## St. Martha CCW September Meeting

(Council of Catholic Women)

**Wednesday, September 20**  
**6:45 pm Bl. Solanus Casey Room**

All women of the parish are invited to join us at the welcome back meeting for the St. Martha CCW. Get acquainted with our special guest Fr. Ryan Riley!

Questions? Send us an email at [stmarthaccw@gmail.com](mailto:stmarthaccw@gmail.com)





## Women's Bible Study

Starting Tuesday, September 26  
9:15-10:30 am in Bl. Solanus Casey Room

This year, the Women's Bible Study will begin with the Biblical Walk Through the Mass, with Dr. Edward Sri.

No registration necessary, just purchase your own workbook and show up!

Scan the QR code or visit [st-martha.org/biblestudy](http://st-martha.org/biblestudy) to find the link.

Questions? Email Jackie at [jrosalez@st-martha.org](mailto:jrosalez@st-martha.org)



## Family Fall Hayride, Bonfire, and Hotdogs

Saturday, September 30  
1-3 pm @ Tannenbaum Farms

2515 Sandhill Dr,  
Mason, MI 48854

\$20 per family  
Register online by scanning the QR Code or visit

[st-martha.org/events/hayride2023](http://st-martha.org/events/hayride2023)



## the RESCUE project



Why is there something rather than nothing?  
Why is everything so obviously messed up?  
What if anything has God done about it?  
How should I respond?

Ever asked yourself these questions?  
We have. Join us.



## KNOW THE STORY

Wednesdays, Sept. 20 - Nov. 8  
except Nov. 1  
6:00pm - 8:15pm  
+ Retreat: Saturday, Nov. 4  
9:00am - 4:00pm

Dinner | Video | Discussion

All adults and mature teens are welcome!  
Cost: Free, but please register for food planning purposes  
Childcare is available: pre-register by Sept. 15.  
Questions? Christy Whiting: [stmary.christy@gmail.com](mailto:stmary.christy@gmail.com), 517-655-2520

Register:  
[stmarywilliamston.org](http://stmarywilliamston.org)

St. Mary Catholic Church, 157 High St., Williamston, MI 48855



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## ST. MARTHA CHARITY GOLF SCRAMBLE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 @ 11:30 AM



Cost is \$80 per golfer and includes round of golf, cart, continental breakfast/lunch/dinner, range balls, prizes, and 50% off future round of golf w/cart at Meridian Sun. Men's and women's teams and single players welcomed. Register and pay online at [meridiansungc.com](http://meridiansungc.com), download the form online at [st-martha.org](http://st-martha.org), or scan the QR code.



## MSU FOOTBALL & ST. MARTHA

The Knights of Columbus would like to extend an open invitation to any parishioner who would like to join us at our MSU Football Home Games. We need volunteers to commit to working two hours before and at least one quarter or halftime during each home football game. When not working, volunteers are able to watch the game from almost anywhere in the stadium, one meal is also provided, as well as free entry into our Fellowship, Food, and Football event on November 11. Please contact Don Klump at [djklump@comcast.net](mailto:djklump@comcast.net) or 517-336-0631 to sign up and complete the required registration or if you would like additional information regarding assisting with fundraising the MSU Home Football games.

## WHY JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS?

We are Catholic men building a bridge to the faith. We invest our talents, our efforts, our resources into four core values: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. As we do these things, we become better neighbors, better husbands, better fathers, and better Catholics.

To join or for more information, contact Grand Knight Stephen Zayko via phone at 517.204.5136 or email at [zayko@hampmathews.com](mailto:zayko@hampmathews.com) or visit [KofC.org/join](http://KofC.org/join)







# ST. MARTHA PARISH & SCHOOL

1100 West Grand River  
Okemos, MI 48864

## Parish Mission Statement

Walking together in Word and Sacrament, the Catholic Community of Saint Martha shares the redeeming love of Christ through acts of faith, hope, and charity

[www.st-martha.org](http://www.st-martha.org)



@st.martha.okemos

### Parish Office

Phone .....517-349-1763  
Office Hours .....Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

### Parish & School Staff

Father Ryan Riley | Pastor .....[frryan@st-martha.org](mailto:frryan@st-martha.org)

Father Mike Murray | Sacramental Assistance .....[frmike@st-martha.org](mailto:frmike@st-martha.org)

Deacon Carl Boehlert | Deacon .....[dcncarl@st-martha.org](mailto:dcncarl@st-martha.org)

Deacon Jim Collom | Deacon .....[dcnjim@st-martha.org](mailto:dcnjim@st-martha.org)

Hallie Card | Director of Discipleship  
and Director of Parish Operations .....[hcard@st-martha.org](mailto:hcard@st-martha.org)

Andrea Patton | School Principal .....[apatton@st-martha.org](mailto:apatton@st-martha.org)

Cynthia Farnsworth | School Secretary .....[cfarnsworth@st-martha.org](mailto:cfarnsworth@st-martha.org)

Jackie Rosalez | Faith Formation Director .....[jrosalez@st-martha.org](mailto:jrosalez@st-martha.org)

Claudia Fountain | Youth Ministry Director .....[cfountain@st-martha.org](mailto:cfountain@st-martha.org)

Sam Matias | Youth Ministry Intern .....[smatias@st-martha.org](mailto:smatias@st-martha.org)

Tony Andorfer | Music and Liturgy Director .....[tandorfer@st-martha.org](mailto:tandorfer@st-martha.org)

Joey DiMenno | Children Choirs Director .....[jdimenno@st-martha.org](mailto:jdimenno@st-martha.org)

Claire Boomer | Administrative Assistant .....[cboomer@st-martha.org](mailto:cboomer@st-martha.org)

### St. Martha Parish School (Preschool - Grade 8)

Phone .....517-349-3322  
Office Hours .....Monday - Friday 7:45 am - 3:45 pm

### Lansing Catholic High School (Grades 9-12)

Phone .....517-267-2100  
Office Hours .....Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm  
Website .....[lansingcatholic.org](http://lansingcatholic.org)

### Mass Opportunities

Saturday .....5:00 pm

Sunday .....8:00 am, 10:00 am, 5:00 pm

Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, Friday .....8:30 am

Wednesday .....6:00 pm

Saturday .....9:00 am  
.....at St. Mary Church, Williamston

### Reconciliation Opportunities

Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, Friday .....after 8:30 am Mass  
.....until all are heard

Wednesday .....6:45 to 7:15 pm

Saturday .....3:30 to 4:30 pm

### Other times by appointment

### Prayer/Adoration Opportunities

Monday  
International Rosary .....after 8:30 am Mass

Wednesday  
Rosary for the Unborn .....5:30 pm

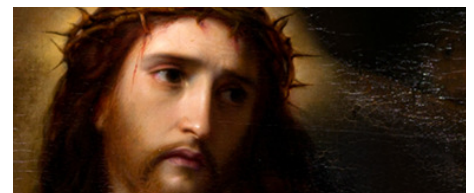
Our Mother of Perpetual  
Help Devotions .....5:45 pm

Adoration .....after 6:00 pm Mass  
.....until 7:20 pm Benediction

Thursday  
Rosary for Peace and  
Those Suffering From War .....8:00 am

Friday  
Rosary .....after 8:30 am Mass

First Friday Adoration .....after 8:30 am Mass  
.....until 3:00 pm Benediction



View this bulletin online at [www.DiscoverMass.com](http://www.DiscoverMass.com)

# Ministry Leaders

## Parish Pastoral Council

Lauren VanSteel, Chair

## Finance Council

Gigi Matias, Chair

## Communication Committee

Judi Smelser and Dave Maluchnik, Chairs  
[communication@st-martha.org](mailto:communication@st-martha.org)

## Education Commission

[educationcommission@st-martha.org](mailto:educationcommission@st-martha.org)

## Evangelization Committee

Beth Buiocchi and Mary Jo Hirt, Chairs

## Council of Catholic Women

Christine Patton, President  
[stmarthaccw@gmail.com](mailto:stmarthaccw@gmail.com)

## Knights of Columbus

Steve Zayko, Grand Knight

## St. Vincent de Paul

Al Kearney, President

## Environment Committee

Brigit Martell, Jean Morgan, Lori Rasche

## Prayer Quilt Ministry

Mary Hall, Coordinator

## Service/Outreach Ministry

Renee Salyers, Coordinator

## Upper Room Men's Prayer Group

Michael Siminski and Frank Fortier

# General Parish Information

**Register as a Parishioner or Update your information** online at [st-martha.org/register](http://st-martha.org/register) or in person at the parish office.

**Intercessory Prayer List** includes sick individuals for 6 weeks (unless specified for a longer time), deceased individuals for 4 weeks, and military individuals until we are notified they are home. Please contact the parish office to add a name.

**Bulletin Articles Must Be Emailed to [cboomer@st-martha.org](mailto:cboomer@st-martha.org) by Monday at noon** ahead the weekend requested.

**Mass Announcements Must Be Emailed to [cboomer@st-martha.org](mailto:cboomer@st-martha.org) by Wednesday at noon** ahead of the weekend requested.

## Sacramental Information

**Baptisms** are celebrated the 2nd full weekend each month outside of the season of Lent. Parents who are baptizing their first child will need to attend a preparation class. Please visit [st-martha.org/baptism](http://st-martha.org/baptism) to complete the registration form.

**First Reconciliation/First Communion and Confirmation** for non-school students is completed as part of our Faith Formation program. Please email Jackie Rosalez at [jrosalez@st-martha.org](mailto:jrosalez@st-martha.org).

**Marriage Preparation** begins with a meeting with the priest at least 9 months in advance of your ideal wedding date. Please email Fr. Ryan [frryan@st-martha.org](mailto:frryan@st-martha.org) to schedule an appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick** can be arranged by contacting the parish office.

**Want to become Catholic as an adult?** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is for older teens or adults who are considering becoming Catholic or just want to learn more about our Faith. Please email Deacon Carl Boehlert [cboehlert@st-martha.org](mailto:cboehlert@st-martha.org).

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