

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 17, 2025

V. 39 No. 33



Jeremiah in the Ruins of Jerusalem | Horace Vernet



ST. MARTHA
PARISH & SCHOOL

1100 West Grand River
Okemos, MI 48864

517-349-1763 | www.st-martha.org

INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Table of Plenty

Dan Schutte |
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Refrain

Come to the feast of heav-en and earth! Come to the ta-
- ble of plen - ty! God will pro-vide for all that we
need, here at the ta - ble of plen - ty.

Verses

1. O come and sit at my ta - ble where saints and
2. O come and eat with-out mon-ey; & come to
3. My bread will ev - er sus-tain you through days of
4. Your fields will flow - er in full-ness; your homes will

1. sin - ners are friends. I wait to wel-come the lost and
2. drink with-out price. My feast of glad-ness will feed your
3. sor - row and woe. My wine will flow like a sea of
4. flour - ish in peace. For I, the giv - er of home and

1. lone - ly to share the cup of my love.
2. spir - it with faith and full - ness of life.
3. glad-ness to flood the depths of your soul.
4. har-vest, will send my rain on the soil.

to Refrain

GREETING

Priest: In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R Amen.

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

GLORIA

Mass of Renewal

Curtis Stephan |
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Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo-ple
of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a -
dore you, we glo-ri-fy you, we give you
thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God, heav-en - ly



LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

In those days, the princes said to the king: "Jeremiah ought to be put to death; he is demoralizing the soldiers who are left in this city, and all the people, by speaking such things to them; he is not interested in the welfare of our people, but in their ruin." King Zedekiah answered: "He is in your power"; for the king could do nothing with them. And so they took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern of Prince Malchiah, which was in the quarters of the guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the cistern, only mud, and Jeremiah sank into the mud.

Ebed-melech, a court official, went there from the palace and said to him: "My lord king, these men have been at fault in all they have done to the prophet Jeremiah, casting him into the cistern. He will die of famine on the spot, for there is no more food in the city." Then the king ordered Ebed-melech the Cushite to take three men along with him, and draw the prophet Jeremiah out of the cistern before he should die.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

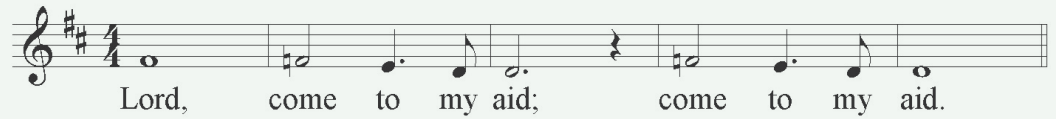
R: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL

PSALM

Psalm 40

Text: The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc | All rights reserved | Verse text from the Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition © 1998, 1997, 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc, Washington DC | All rights reserved | Music Sarah Hill | All rights reserved



1. I have waited, waited for the LORD, and he stooped toward me.
2. The LORD heard my cry.
He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the mud of the swamp; he set my feet upon a crag; he made firm my steps.
3. And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God.
Many shall look on in awe and trust in the LORD.
4. Though I am afflicted and poor, yet the LORD thinks of me.
You are my help and my deliverer; O my God, hold not back!

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:1-4

Brothers and sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God.

Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

✠ Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

ACCLAMATION

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My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53

Deacon/Priest: The Lord be with you.

Deacon/Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

✠ And with your spirit.

✠ Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a

father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

Deacon/Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

✠ 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.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER (PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL)

To each petition, all respond: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN

Canticle of the Turning

Text: Luke 1:46-58 |
Rory Cooney, b.1952 |
Tune: STAR OF THE
COUNTY DOWN,
Irregular with refrain; Irish melody |
arr by Rory Cooney, b.1952 |
© 1990 GLA Publications, Inc



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you
3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
God of my heart is great, And my spir - it sings of the
work great things in me, And your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You
depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his throne. The
fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
weak - ness you did not spurn, So from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, You will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.

*Continued on
next page*

Refrain



4. Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around.

Priest: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R: **May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

At the end of the prayer, all respond: **Amen.**

PREFACE DIALOGUE & PREFACE

Priest: The Lord be with you.

R: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

R: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

R: It is right and just.

SANCTUS

Mass of Renewal

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**MEMORIAL
ACCLAMATION**
Mass of Renewal



AMEN
Mass of Renewal



**THE LORD'S PRAYER
THE SIGN OF PEACE**

AGNUS DEI
Mass of Renewal

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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.

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

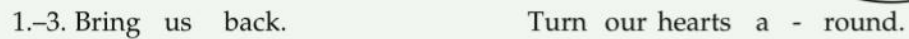
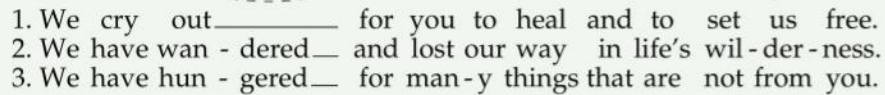
COMMUNION HYMN
Turn Our Hearts Around

*Trevor Thomson |
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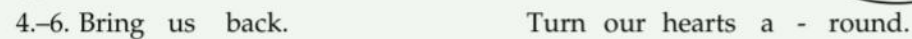
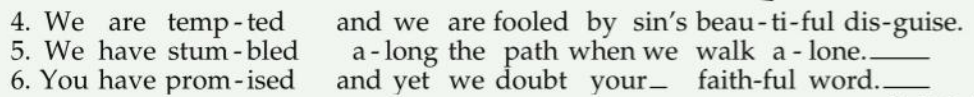


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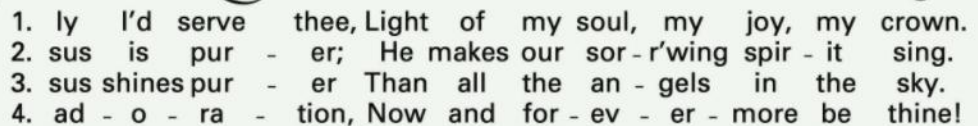
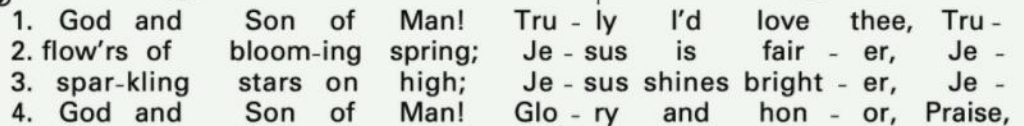
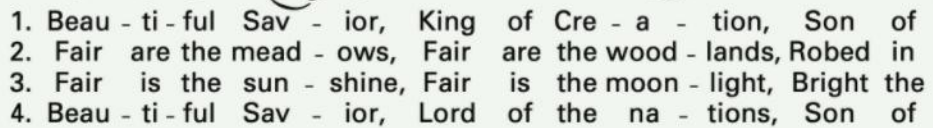
Cantor



Cantor



ST ELIZABETH |
 Text: 55 7 55 8 | Psalm 45:3 |
 Schonster Herr Jesu, in Munster
 Gesangbuch, 1677 |
 tr by Joseph A Seiss, 1823-1904 |
 Music: Trad Silesian Melody;
 Schlesische Volkslieder, Leipzig,
 1842



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

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

*Text: 78 78 77 with repeat;
Te Deum laudamus; attr to
St. Nicetas, ca 335-414; |
Grosser Gott, wir loben dich;
tr ascr to Ignaz Franz, 1719-1790;
tr by Clarence A Walworth, 1820-
1900 |
Music: Allgemeines Katholisches
Gesangbuch, Vienna, ca 1774*



1. Ho - ly God, we praise thy name; Lord of
2. Hark! the loud ce - les - tial hymn An - gel
3. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly

1. all, we bow be - fore thee! All on earth thy
2. choirs a - bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and
3. Spir - it, Three we name thee; While in es - sence

1. scep - ter claim, All in heav'n a - bove a - dore thee;
2. Ser - a - phim, In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing;
3. on - ly One, Un - di - vid - ed God we claim thee;

1. In - fi - nite, thy vast do - main, Ev - er -
2. Fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly,
3. And a - dor - ing, bend the knee, While we

1. last - ing is thy reign. In - fi - nite, thy
2. ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!" Fill the heav'ns with
3. own the mys - ter - y. And a - dor - ing,

1. vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is thy reign.
2. sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
3. bend the knee, While we own the mys - ter - y.

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Mass Intentions

Monday, August 18

8:20 am + Ronnie Patoprsty
by B. and S. King

Tuesday, August 19

No Mass on Tuesday in July and August

Wednesday, August 20

6:00 pm + Norm Krohn
by CCW

Thursday, August 21

8:20 am + Lawrence and Cecelia Blatnik
by L. and C. Blatnik

Friday, August 22

8:20 am + Vera Helena Pocci
by P. Oricchio

Saturday, August 23

5:00 pm + Maxine Brewer
by M. and J. Ellsworth

Sunday, August 24

8:00 am Intentions of Sharon and Tom O'Dea
by M. O'Dea Family
10:00 am + Donna Granger
by J. and L. Collom
5:00 pm People of the Parish



Altar Flowers

August 13-22

In Memory Of

MaryLou Mitchell
and the Cotey Family
by Dr. Peter Cotey



Floral arrangements may be dedicated in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Donation of \$90 covers the cost of one of the arrangements. Two are available each weekend.

Dates are available in 2025 and 2026, please contact the parish office (517-349-1763 or office@st-martha.org) to schedule.

Scripture Readings

For the Week of August 18, 2025

Monday

Jgs 2:11-19; Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44;
Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday

Jgs 6:11-24a; Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday

Memorial of Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Jgs 9:6-15; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday

Memorial of Saint Pius X, Pope

Jgs 11:29-39a; Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mt 22:1-14

Friday

Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10;
Mt 22:34-40

Saturday

Ru 2:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17; Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1, 2; Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

Intercessory Prayers

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

Nick deWolf
Marilyn Jackman
Joe Wright
Phoebe Searl
Gabrielle Meece
Jeff Oslund
Matt Boersma
Richard
Susan Trentel
Ken Malkowski
Jessica Pezzotta
Craig Tarpinian
Allison Rupp
Cindy Fontus
Dcn. John Finn
Ken Malkowski
Jack Seiler
Henry Rife
Michalyn Bethke
Charles Bethke
Robert Duniec
Dcn. Dan Foley

Jerry Maroclo
Jane Lajewski
Mary Beecy
Patty McPhee
Bill Miekka
Bruce Eggleston
Rose McManaman
John Paul Erford

**For those serving in
our Armed Forces,
especially:**

Albert Gillison,
U.S. Space Force
Joseph Irvin Gross,
U.S. Navy
Peter Harrison,
U.S. Air Force
Andrew Huff,
U.S. Air Force
Christian Menor,
U.S. Army
Stasu Reisner,
U.S. Marines
Louis Thole,
U.S. Air Force

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

especially:

† Chris Lippert
† Joyce Church
† Dr. Peter Luea
† Paul Ehlike
† Cindy Fontus
† Paul Wood
† Tracie Metcalf Hatfield
† Alyn Rynbrandt
† Dave Finney

**For † those innocent
souls lost to the
tragedy of abortion**

**For the Pope's August
Intention: for mutual
coexistence**

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

Contact the office
517-349-1763 or
office@st-martha.org
to add an individual
to the prayer list.



This Week at St. Martha

Monday, August 18

8:50 am Confessions *Fr. Ryan*

Tuesday, August 19

No Mass or Reconciliation on Tuesday in July and August

7:30 pm Men's Pick Up Basketball

Wednesday, August 20

Welcome Back Miracles! First Day of School

6:30 pm Confessions *Fr. Mike*

6:30 pm Adoration until 7:20 pm Benediction

Thursday, August 21

9:15 am Confessions *Fr. Ryan*

Friday, August 22

8:50 am Confessions *Fr. Mike*

9:00 am Adoration until 9 pm Reposition - Chapel

Saturday, August 23

7:30 am Upper Room Men's Prayer Group - Bl. Solanus Casey Room

3:00 pm Confessions *Fr. Mike*

Sunday, August 24

11:00 am Knights of Columbus Exemplification - Church

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, August 23 | 5:00 pm

S. D. Bartkowski; M. Kisting

L. 1 - L. Blatnik W/2 - N. Buckwalter

Sunday, August 24 | 8:00 am

S. S. and T. O'Dea

L. 1 - S. Kostaroff W/2 - B. Mead-O'Brien

Sunday, August 24 | 10:00 am

S. D. and F. Herring

L. 1 - W. Otlewski W/2 - C. Wilkins

Sunday, August 24 | 5:00 pm

S. J. and P. Riley

L. 1 - J. Dessance W/2 - S. Nowland

Altar Servers Volunteers at each Mass



Ministry Scheduler Pro

Log in to **Ministry Scheduler Pro** to volunteer for open positions or for full schedules. Visit st-martha.org/liturgicalministries or scan the QR code with your smartphone.



Please contact the parish office if you need assistance.

Eucharist to Care Homes

August 24, 2025

Willows of Okemos

R. Salyers

Brookdale, Medilodge

S. Kostaroff

ICMCF

J. Lenz; E. VanSteel

Get Connected

Be a part of our digital congregation! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

[Facebook.com/st.martha.okemos](https://www.facebook.com/st.martha.okemos)

[Instagram.com/st.martha.okemos](https://www.instagram.com/st.martha.okemos)



Next week...

You can change the lives of children and families in need!

Support Our

Catholic Charities Appeal

Benefiting:

St. Vincent Campus & Cristo Rey Campus

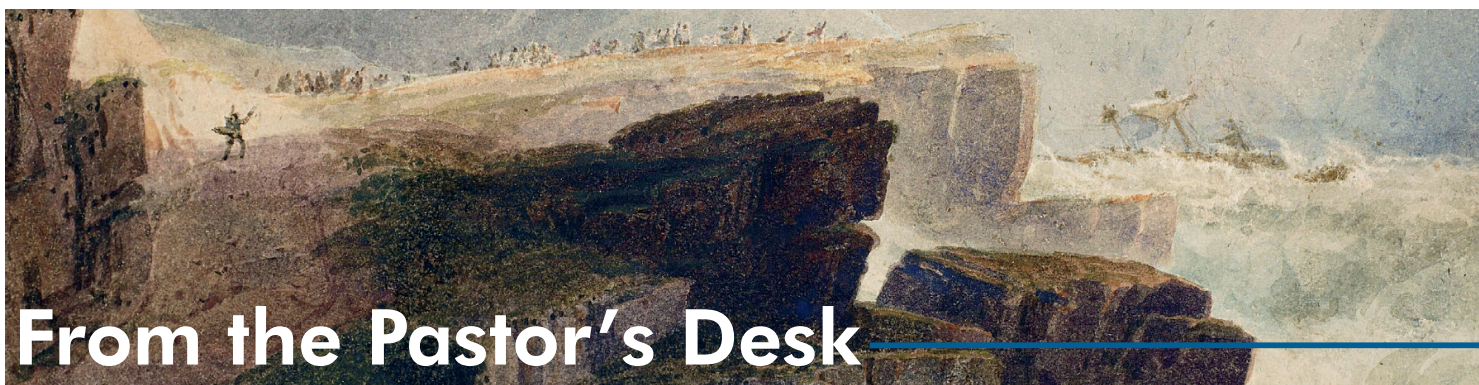
www.CatholicCharitiesIEC.org



Easy Giving Electronically

Scan the QR code with your smartphone's camera, visit st-martha.org/giving or text "Give" to 517-200-3560





Gospel Reflection

In our first reading today, we encounter Jeremiah - the suffering servant of the Lord - who remains faithful to his divine calling. He was tasked with warning the people of Judah about the destruction that would come as a result of their disobedience and idolatry. But his prophecies are not welcomed. The princes of King Zedekiah have had enough; they claim Jeremiah's words are demoralizing the soldiers and the people. They want him dead. And King Zedekiah, instead of defending him, abandons Jeremiah to their will.

In the Gospel, Jesus, as always, speaks only the truth. And the truth is hard: some will receive Him, and others will reject Him. He knows this will lead to division - not only at the societal level, but even within families. He says, *"From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three..."* Even the closest relationships - parent and child, in-laws, siblings - will feel this tension.

Many of us know this reality all too well. We've felt the pain of division in our own families or among our friends especially when it comes to faith. We've seen loved ones walk away from the Church, from the Eucharist, from Christ Himself. Some of you carry deep grief because your children, siblings, or even parents no longer attend Mass, while you continue striving to remain faithful. Sunday after Sunday, we see empty pews and feel the weight of absence, not just in the church building, but in our hearts.

So, what are we to do in the face of this sorrow and division? Let me offer a few thoughts:

- **Acknowledge your grief.** Give yourself permission to mourn. This is a real loss. It's okay to feel sad, to feel the ache of absence, especially when it's someone you love deeply. Don't suppress that grief. Rather, bring it to prayer.
- **Reject the lie of self blame.** This is especially important for parents. It's easy to think, *"What did I do wrong?"* But even the best parents can't control the hearts of their children. God respects our freedom, and we must do the same. The Accuser wants you to spiral into guilt. I promise you that voice is not from God.
- **Preserve the relationship.** Do all you can to keep the lines of communication open. Find common ground even if it's unrelated to faith. If the relationship is severed, the chances of reconciliation with the Church diminish. Connection, even imperfect, creates space for grace to work.
- **Pray without ceasing.** Prayer is the most powerful act of love. When you pray for someone, you are lifting them

directly to God. You may not see the fruits immediately, or even ever in this life, but trust that your prayers are efficacious.

- **Be patient and realistic.** Conversion is a journey, not an event. Respect where your loved ones are, and trust that God is working in ways you can't see. Don't measure success by immediate results. Look instead for small signs of openness and growth.
- **Hope!** This is where we must practice the virtue of hope. Not a passive hope, but a living one, confident that God has not given up on your loved ones. And neither should you.
- **Remain faithful.** Stay close to Jesus yourself. Stay rooted in the Sacraments, in prayer, in acts of love. Your witness matters. You may be the only Gospel someone ever reads.

In our reading from Jeremiah, an unlikely ally appears - Ebed-Melech - who pleads with the king to rescue Jeremiah. His courage moves the king to act, and Jeremiah is lifted from the cistern. Be Ebed-Melech for your loved ones by appealing, through your prayers, to the King to act. Like those three men who helped Jeremiah out of the cistern, it was St. Ambrose who, through friendship and persistence, helped bring the brilliant but wayward Augustine back to the Church. That same Augustine became not only a Saint, but one of the Church's greatest theologians and a Doctor of the Church.

I recall what Archbishop Michael Byrnes once said to us at Sacred Heart Major Seminary: *"Your family will be the hardest to minister to. Familiarity can make it difficult for them to see the priest, the disciple, or the witness in you. They'll always see their son or brother first."*

You may not be the one who brings your loved ones back. But you can pray for their Ambrose. Pray for their Ebed-Melech. Ask God to send someone into their life who can speak to them in ways you can't. And then trust. Trust that your prayers are heard. Trust that your grief is seen. Trust that your faithfulness matters more than you know.

And above all **do not lose hope.**

Know of my prayers for you all!
Fr. Ryan



It's time to enroll your children in FED!

(Faith, Education, Discipleship)

We've renamed our Faith Formation program to reflect our mission: helping children grow closer to God, understand their Catholic faith, and live as disciples who share that faith with others.

At your child's Baptism, you promised to raise them in the faith, and we're here to help. While grades, sports, and activities are important, our greatest calling as parents is to guide our children to sainthood. That is where our FED Ministry comes in. We are here to meet you where you are and support your family in ways that work for you. We offer classes for children ages 3 through 12th grade, as well as a homeschool option for parents who wish to lead their families in weekly faith lessons at home.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd/CGS

CGS is a Montessori approach to Faith Formation that offers many hands on lessons that focus on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. We have two sessions of CGS to choose from: Level 1 for ages 3-6 offered on Sundays from 10 - 11 am and Level 2 for ages 6-8 offered on Sundays from 11:15 am - Noon.

Elementary (1-6)

This is a traditional grade level class that meets three times a month in their classroom and then once a month the entire family meets as one large group in the Parish Hall for a Whole Family lesson. You can choose to enroll your child on either Sunday mornings from 9 - 9:50 am or Wednesday evenings from 6 - 7 pm.

Middle School & High School (7-12)

Grades 7 and 8 meet every other Sunday evening from 6 - 8 pm.

High School Confirmation Classes meet every other Sunday evening from 6 - 8 pm.

After Confirmation High School Class has no agenda or curriculum except for what the teens want to discuss. Our goal is to meet them where they are and help lead them into a deeper faith by discussing the questions that are on their minds and the struggles and joys they are facing everyday. This class will meet every other Sunday from 6 - 8 pm.

Classes begin September 21!

Register at st-martha.org/registration
or scan the QR code.



Questions?

Contact Jackie Rosalez, Director of Child and Family Discipleship, at jrosalez@st-martha.org or 517-349-1763

Upcoming Liturgical Ministry Trainings

Lector Training

Sunday, September 14, 11 am

Usher Training

Sunday, September 28, 11 am

Eucharistic Minister Training

Sunday, October 5, 11 am

We are also looking for volunteers for
Livestreaming & Sacristans

Please contact the parish office
if you are interested and would
like more information.

office@st-martha.org | 517-349-1763

Coming this September Council of Catholic Women

Wednesday, September 3 | 6:30 pm

Bl. Solanus Casey Room

Our parish's Council of Catholic Women or "CCW" has its first meeting back on Wednesday, September 3, at 6:30 pm (after Mass) in the Blessed Solanus Casey room. All women of the parish are considered members of the CCW and are welcome and encouraged to come meet new and old friends at the meeting!

Adult Choir

Thursday, September 4 | 7 pm | Choir Loft

Love to sing? Now's your chance to join the Adult Choir! The first practice of the year is Thursday, September 4 at 7 pm and we don't sing until Sunday, September 14 at the 10 am Mass. Questions? Email tandorfer@st-martha.org

Donut Sunday

**Sunday, September 7 | After 8 am & 10 am Masses
Downstairs in the Parish Hall**

Donut Sundays are back with the famous St. Martha homemade donuts made fresh that morning! This year, we are committing to two Donut Sundays each month, so if you can't make it to this first weekend, there will be plenty more.

Event listing continues on next page.



More Coming this September

Becoming Catholic

Sunday, September 7 | After 10 am Mass
Bl. Solanus Casey Room

Interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and possibly becoming Catholic? Need to complete your Sacraments? Join us after 10 am Mass each Sunday starting September 7th in the Bl. Solanus Casey Room to explore Catholicism. Questions? Email dcnjim@st-martha.org

Loss of a Spouse Seminar

Tuesday, September 16 | 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Bl. Solanus Casey Room

St. Martha's GriefShare will be holding a special Loss of a Spouse seminar for all those grieving a spouse's death. The seminar features a video with practical, encouraging advice from counselors, pastors, and widowed men and women, followed by a small-group sharing time. You'll learn what to expect in the days ahead, how to handle the loneliness, what to do with your spouse's belongings, and how to find the strength to go on. Questions? Email mbs1952@aol.com

Knights Golf Outing

Sunday, September 20 | 9 am Shotgun Start
Meridian Sun Golf Course, Williamston

Join the Knights of Columbus at their annual charity golf scramble. Sign up to play in a 2, 3, or 4-some or as an individual. See page 16 for sign up or visit www.st-martha.org/knights

Children's Choir

Sunday, September 21 | 9:15 am | Choir Loft

Children in grades 3 and up are invited to sing in our Children's Choir. Just show up to the choir loft at 9:15 am to practice that day. Questions? Contact jdimenno@st-martha.org

Celebrating Families and Faith

Sunday, September 21 | After 10 am Mass

Everyone is invited to join us for a hot dog lunch at the playground following the 10 am Mass on Sunday, September 21, as we celebrate Catechetical Sunday! This special weekend honors and blesses all those who share their faith with children - including Faith Formation catechists and aides, St. Martha School teachers and aides, and parents and grandparents. We'll also be kicking off our FED (Faith, Education, Discipleship) classes, so there's plenty to celebrate. This event is free for all - we hope to see you there!

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays Starting September 23 | 9 - 10:30 am
Bl. Solanus Casey Room

Join us as we begin a new year of growing in faith together! We meet Tuesdays, 9 - 10:30 am, September through May, in the Bl. Solanus Casey Conference Room. This fall, we'll finish Bishop Barron's Catholicism series and then begin Mary by Ascension Press. No materials are needed at this time. Contact Jackie Rosalez at jrosalez@st-martha.org for details.

GriefShare Support Group

Tuesdays Starting September 23 | 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Bl. Solanus Casey Room

GriefShare is a special weekly support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by those who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead. Questions? Email mbs1952@aol.com

Catholicism Men's Study

Saturday, September 27 | 8:30 am
Bl. Solanus Casey Room

The Catholicism Series journeys with Bishop Robert Barron to learn what Catholics believe and why. Discover the full meaning of the faith with this group study led by Fr. Mike. Questions? Email frmike@st-martha.org

Trivia Night

Saturday, September 27 | 7 pm
Bl. Solanus Casey Room

Trivia Night is back at St. Martha! This year we'll have three trivia nights with the first in September. Start rounding up your team now! More information and registration coming soon.

SAVE THE DATE

An Evening of
Faith & Future



Saturday, November 8, 2025

6 - 11 pm | St. Martha, Bl. Chiara Badano Gym

Join us as we celebrate and support the children of St. Martha Parish & School!

HOW CAN YOU HELP MAKE THIS YEAR A SUCCESS?

Become a Sponsor
Donate to the Auction
(wish lists coming soon)

Make a Monetary Contribution
Volunteer Your Time
(set up, clean up, or night of)

Email fundraiser@st-martha.org to get involved.



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517-349-1763 | st-martha.org | fundraiser@st-martha.org



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
Cynthia Farnsworth | Secretary
cfarnsworth@st-martha.org

St. Martha Strings Program

"The most precious gift we can give to a child is our time and patience."

-Shinichi Suzuki

St. Martha School has offered Strings classes as part of our arts curriculum for over twenty years. This fact is as hopeful as it is gratifying. Playing a stringed instrument is one of the most complex tasks a person can undertake, at any age. And one which takes time to bear fruit. A part-time instructor once expressed surprise at the fact that families would invest the extra financial resources needed to have their children participate in strings at St. Martha. It is more remarkable that, along with those resources, parents at St. Martha would drive their students to extra rehearsals, wait longer after school dismissal to enable their children to participate in extra practices, and instill the discipline needed at home to help their children build a daily practice habit. Yet this is exactly what is happening at St. Martha School.

The resources that tend to be in greatest demand for parents are their time and attention. When parents choose an activity like violin for their child, when they provide the instrument, the space in the home and schedule for practice, the encouragement and support to keep going after the initial excitement has worn off (as it always does), they are acting in faith. These actions are like the constant sowing and watering of seeds. Most days there is little evidence of growth, and the discipline-aspect of learning an instrument is like all other disciplines, at first unpleasant. But with time, it becomes a source of pride, achievement, and confidence. What a great advantage it is to be part of an institution of faith-based education, where reaping what one sows is a deeply held belief and observable at so many levels.

A child who learns to play the violin learns they are capable of doing difficult things. They learn that small goals can



be cumulative and lead to big results, that one ability can engender another, that instant gratification is not the only kind, or the best kind, of reward, and that making music with your friends who might not all look like you or think like you is possible (and fun!) when everyone does their part. St. Martha School has created the space in the school day to make this a possibility for every one of their students. And the parents at St. Martha School have demonstrated that in this hectic day and age, the choice to give of their time and attention for the sake of their children is not only an act of love but of faith.





St. Martha Charity Golf Scramble

(Open to all parishioners and their friends)

Sponsored by St. Martha Knights of Columbus



WHEN: Saturday, September 20th, 2025

WHERE: Meridian Sun Golf Club

1018 Haslett Rd, Haslett, MI 48840 - Phone: 517-339-8281

TIME: 9:00 AM shot-gun start

COST: \$95/golfer which includes: golf, cart, breakfast, lunch, dinner, range balls, prizes & 50% off future round of golf w/cart at Meridian Sun. Men and women teams and single players welcomed.

Register and Pay online at
<http://bit.ly/4eKMGuj>

Or Use
this QR
Code



OR

Cut and mail to Michael Horvath, 4400 Seneca Dr., Okemos, Mi. 48864

Phone: (248) 705-1761 or email: MLPHORVATH@GMAIL.COM

- Make checks payable to K of C St Martha Council 10006 -

Name:

1. _____ ph. _____ email _____ Enc. \$ _____
2. _____ ph. _____ email _____ Enc. \$ _____
3. _____ ph. _____ email _____ Enc. \$ _____
4. _____ ph. _____ email _____ Enc. \$ _____

Single players welcomed

Total enclosed: \$ _____

All proceeds go towards St. Martha Knights of Columbus "Works of Charity" such as; Coats for Kids, Lansing Area Food Banks, Pregnancy Services of Lansing, St. Martha School, Bethany House, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Scholarships, Right to Life, Rainbow House of Lansing, Meridian Twp. Needs Fund, Special Olympics & St. Vincent Catholic Charities.



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.



Daily Mass Opportunities

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 5:00 pm
Monday, Tuesday 8:20 am
Wednesday 6:00 pm
Thursday, Friday 8:20 am
Saturday 9:00 am
at St. Mary Church, Williamston

Confessions Opportunities

Monday, Tuesday after 8:20 am Mass
until all are heard
Wednesday 6:45 to 7:15 pm
Thursday, Friday after 8:20 am Mass
until all are heard
Saturday 3:00 to 4:30 pm
Other times by appointment

Adoration Opportunities

Wednesday ... Adoration after 6:00 pm Mass
until 7:20 pm Benediction
Friday Adoration after 8:20 am Mass
until 9:00 pm Reposition

St. Martha Parish Office

Phone 517-349-1763
Email office@st-martha.org
Website www.st-martha.org
Facebook and Instagram @st.martha.okemos
Parish Office Hours Monday - Friday 8 am - 4 pm

Father Ryan Riley

Pastor
frryan@st-martha.org

Father Mike Murray

In Residence
frmike@st-martha.org

Deacon Jim Collom

OCIA Coordinator
dcnjim@st-martha.org

Deacon Dave Drayton

Outreach Ministries
dcndave@st-martha.org

Kimberly Keefe

Director of Operations
kkeefe@st-martha.org

Gregg Alchin

Facilities Manager
galchin@st-martha.org

Jackie Rosalez

Director of Child and Family Discipleship
jrosalez@st-martha.org

Hallie Card

Director of Adult Discipleship
and Evangelization
hcard@st-martha.org

Tony Andorfer

Director of Music and Liturgy
tandorfer@st-martha.org

Joey DiMenno

Director Children's Choirs
jdimenno@st-martha.org

Claire Boomer

Administrative Assistant
cboomer@st-martha.org

St. Martha Parish School (Preschool - Grade 8)

Phone 517-349-3322
School Office Hours 7:45 am - 3:45 pm

Andrea Patton

School Principal
apatton@st-martha.org

Cynthia Farnsworth

School Secretary
cfarnsworth@st-martha.org

Lansing Catholic High School (Grades 9-12)

Phone 517-267-2100
Website lansingcatholic.org



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Judi Smelser and Dave Maluchnik, Chairs
communication@st-martha.org

Evangelization Committee

Beth Buiocchi and Mary Jo Hirt, Chairs

Council of Catholic Women

Lauren VanSteel, President
stmarthaccw@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus

Johnathan Drushel-Smith, Grand Knight
gk10006@mikofc.org

St. Vincent de Paul

Sandy Kearney, President

Environment Committee

Brigit Martell, Jean Morgan

Prayer Quilt Ministry

Mary Hall, Coordinator

Service/Outreach Ministry

Renee Salyers, Coordinator

Upper Room Men's Prayer Group

Michael Siminski and Frank Fortier

Bulletin & Announcement Deadlines

Bulletin Articles Must be emailed to bulletin@st-martha.org by Monday at noon ahead of the weekend requested.

Mass Announcements Must be emailed to office@st-martha.org by Wednesday at noon ahead of the weekend requested.

Intercessory Prayer List in the bulletin includes sick individuals for 6 weeks (unless specified for a longer time), deceased individuals for 3 weeks, and military individuals until we are notified they are home. Please contact the parish office to add a name.

Sacramental Information

Baptisms take place the 2nd Sunday of each month. Parents who are baptizing their first child will need to attend a class. Visit st-martha.org/baptism to get started.

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.

Marriage Preparation begins with a meeting with the priest at least 9 months in advance of your ideal wedding date. Please visit st-martha.org/marriage to complete the form to get the process started.

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

Want to become Catholic as an adult? The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is for older teens or adults who are considering becoming Catholic or just want to learn more about our Faith. Please email Deacon Jim Collom for more information at dcnjim@st-martha.org.



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