

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

September 28, 2025

V. 39 No. 39



Parable of the Rich Man and Poor Lazarus | Unknown



ST. MARTHA
PARISH & SCHOOL

**1100 West Grand River
Okemos, MI 48864**
517-349-1763 | www.st-martha.org

INTRODUCTORY RITES

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus

Text: CMD; Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889, alt.

Music: trad. English melody, adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's

1. rest; Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up -
2. give The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down, and
3. light; Look un - to me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy

1. on my breast." I came to Je - sus as I was, So
2. drink, and live." I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of
3. day be bright." I looked to Je - sus, and I found In

1. wea - ry, worn and sad; I found in him a
2. that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was quenched, my
3. him my star, my sun; And in that light of

1. rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
2. soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
3. life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

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 for Saint Martha

Tony Andorfer |

Text © 2010, ICEL |

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Music © 2025, Tony Andorfer |

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5 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will. We

10 praise you, we bless you, we a - dore you, we glo - ri - fy —

you, we give you thanks for your great glo - ry, —

20 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, O God, al-might-y Fa - ther. Lord Je-sus Christ,

On - ly Be-got-ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of — God, Son of the

28 Fa-ther, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on

32 us; you take a-way the sins of the world, re - ceive our

36 prayer; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther,

40 have mer-cy on us. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

44 you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

48 Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Thus says the LORD the God of hosts: Woe to the complacent in Zion! Lying upon beds of ivory, stretched comfortably on their couches, they eat lambs taken from the flock, and calves from the stall! Improvising to the music of the harp, like David, they devise their own accompaniment. They drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the best oils; yet

they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph! Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL

PSALM

Psalm 146

Text: The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. | 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 | Music: Donald Fishel, b.1950; © 2008, International Liturgy Publications, Nashville, TN | All rights reserved |

Praise the Lord, my soul, praise the Lord, my soul.

1. Blessed is he who keeps faith forever, secures justice, justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets captives free.
2. The LORD gives sight to the blind; the LORD raises up those who were bowed down. The LORD loves the just; the LORD protects strangers.
3. The fatherless and the widow he sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The LORD shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia.

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6:11-16

But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession, to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until

the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ that the blessed and only ruler will make manifest at the proper time, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, and whom no human being has seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal power. Amen.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

✠ Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Festival Alleluia

*James Chepponis |
© 1999 MorningStar Music
Publishers of St. Louis*



Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

GOSPEL

Luke 16:19-31

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 the Pharisees: "There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.' Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is

comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.' But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.' He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"

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

Be Strong in the Lord

*The Breastplate of St Patrick |
adapted and extracted) |
Paul A Tate |
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Refrain

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of B-flat major (two flats), and 3/4 time. It consists of nine staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and dotted rhythms, with some measures containing rests. The final measure of the ninth staff ends with a double bar line.

Be strong in the Lord and put on the ar-mor of
God. Stand firm in the truth; hold
fast to the shield of your faith.
For Christ is be - fore us, be - low and a -
bove, to guide and pro - tect, to for - give and to
love, so be strong in the Lord.

1. Shelter the homeless. Give food to the hungry. Stand firm in the truth with Christ, our hope and our light.
2. Lift up the lowly. Be hope for the hopeless. Stand firm in the truth with Christ, our hope and our light.
3. Gather the lost ones. Be light in the darkness. Stand firm in the truth with Christ, our hope and our light.

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

✠ **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.

✠ **And with your spirit.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

✠ **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

✠ **It is right and just.**

SANCTUS

Mass for Saint Martha

Tony Andorfer |
Text © 2010, ICEL |
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Music © 2025, Tony Andorfer |
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5 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

9 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

13 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

17 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Mass for Saint Martha

4 We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your

Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come a - gain.

AMEN

Mass for Saint Martha

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SIGN OF PEACE

AGNUS DEI

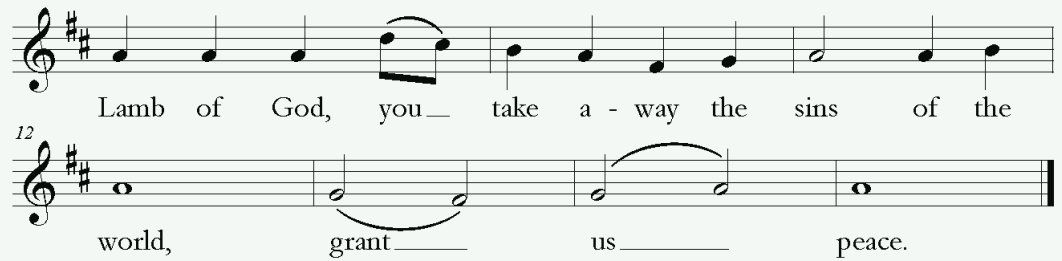
Mass for Saint Martha

Tony Andorfer |
Text © 2010, ICEL |
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Music © 2025, Tony Andorfer |
All rights reserved

5 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have

1. 2.

mer - cy on us. us.



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 The Supper of the Lord

*Text: Verses 1-4 based on John 4, 6
| Text and music © 1994, 2012,
Laurence Rosania | Published by
OCP | All rights reserved*

Refrain

Pre-cious bod - y, pre-cious blood, seen as bread and wine;
here the Lord pre - pares the feast di - vine.
Bread of love is bro - ken now, cup of life is poured:
come, share the sup - per of the Lord.

Verses

1. This is the bread of God com - ing down from heav'n,
2. "I am the liv - ing spring of e - ter - nal life;
3. "I am the bread of heav'n giv - ing life to you;
4. "All those who feed on me have their life in me,
5. All praise to you, O Christ, pres - ent in this feast;

to Refrain

1. giv - ing life to us, to all the world.
2. you that drink from me shall not thirst a - gain."
3. you that eat this bread shall nev - er die."
4. as I have my life in the liv - ing God."
5. in this bread, we share in one life, one Lord.

COMMUNION HYMN

Your Only Son | Lamb of God

Twila Paris |

Arr. by Chris Mitchell |

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(ASCAP)/Mountain Spring Music

(ASCAP) | All rights reserved |

Adm at EMICMGPublishing.com

♫ VERSES



1. Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2. Your gift of love they cru - ci - fied, they laughed and
3. I was so lost I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died; the hum - ble King they named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and

REFRAIN



sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
fraud, and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God; I love the ho - ly Lamb of



God. O wash me in his pre - cious blood. My Je - sus



Christ, the Lamb of God.

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

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Text: Rusty Edwards, b.1955 |

©1987 Hope Publishing Company |

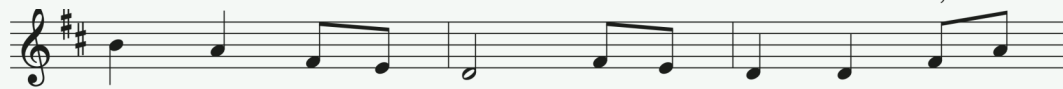
Tune: NETTLETON, 8 7 8 7 D;

| Wyeth's Repository of Sacred

Music, 1813



1. Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a
2. Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a
3. Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who



lib - er - at - ing light. Praise the One who frees the
strong yet gen - tle word. Praise the One who drove out
suf - fered in our place. Je - sus died and rose for



pris - 'ners, Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
de - mons With a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
man - y That we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, Heal - ing
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter To the
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, See - ing
ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing storms and feed - ing
des - ert's burn - ing sand. From this well comes liv - ing
what our God has done. Praise the one re - deem - ing
thou - sands With the ver - y bread of peace.
wa - ter Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
glo - ry; Praise the One who makes us one.

*Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition, Copyright © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970
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Mass Intentions

Monday, September 29

8:20 am + Joyce Whyte
by A. and S. Kearney

Tuesday, September 30

8:20 am Intentions of Dustin Wood Family
by H. and D. Burkhardt

Wednesday, October 1

6:00 pm + David Smith
by A. Smith

Thursday, October 2

8:20 am + Margaret Schneider
by MB. Anderson

Friday, October 3

8:20 am + Thomas King
by M. and J. Baker

Saturday, October 4

5:00 pm + BJ Gardner

Sunday, October 5

8:00 am People of the Parish
10:00 am + Joyce Whyte
by A. and S. Kearney
5:00 pm + Michelle Rogers
by C. LaRue

Scripture Readings

For the Week of September 29, 2025

Monday

Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5;
Jn 1:47-51

Tuesday

Memorial of Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday

Memorial of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Lk 9:57-62

Thursday

Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels
Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 18:1-5, 10

Friday

Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9; Lk 10:13-16

Saturday

Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi
Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-35, 36-37; Lk 10:17-24

Sunday

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14;
Lk 17:5-10

Rest in Peace

Eternal rest grant unto Linda, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Linda Capp



Intercessory Prayers

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

Donald Trentel
Brad Krohn
Laura Olivia Thole
David Shinn
Rex Kolar
Terri Campbell
Maria Isabell Setti
Autumn Michels
Ken Hafner
Tony Isbell
Melinda Roznowski
John McCloud
Craig Crowe
Dcn. Stephen Hilker
Cathy Stone
Michael Calvisi
Cory Schoebel
Jaqueline Sundeen
Patricia Earhardt

Patrick Ley
Patty McPhee
Mary Ann Bulemore
Carol Bacile
Gabrielle Meece
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:**

† Linda Capp
† Michael Santone
† Marilyn Jackman
† Rick Linke
† Mary Ann Pruder
† Rosemary Terres
† Dcn. James Brown

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

**For the Pope's
September Intention:
for our relationship
with all of creation**

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



UNDERWEAR DRIVE

Now through Sunday, September 28

Biggest needs: Men's Boxers,
Women's or Children's Underwear

Liturgical Ministry Trainings

Usher Training & Eucharistic Minister Training

Sunday, September 28, 11 am

High Schoolers and Older (EMs must be Confirmed)

Can't make it and still want to be trained?
Contact Hallie Card at hcard@st-martha.org

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, October 4 | 5:00 pm

S. J. and T. Kaczmarczyk
L. 1 - L. Blatnik W/2 - M. Loughlin-Krusky

Sunday, October 5 | 8:00 am

S. L. and P. Schafer
L. 1 - S. O'Dea W/2 - G. Styka

Sunday, October 5 | 10:00 am

S. K. and N. Leemon
L. 1 - S. Hopkins *W/2 - Volunteer Needed*

Sunday, October 5 | 5:00 pm

S. H. Walton
L. 1 - J. Dassance *W/2 - Volunteer Needed*

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

October 5, 2025

Willows of Okemos	R. Salyers
Bickford of Okemos	C. Leece; L. Leece
Brookdale, Medilodge	M. Fletcher
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

Instagram.com/st.martha.okemos



Easy Giving Electronically

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

This Week at St. Martha

Monday, September 29

8:50 am Confessions *Fr. Ryan*

Tuesday, September 30

No Confessions

9:00 am Women's Bible Study - Bl. Solanus Casey Room
6:30 pm GriefShare - Bl. Solanus Casey Room
7:30 pm Men's Pick Up Basketball

Wednesday, October 1

6:00 pm Faith Formation, Grades 1-6
6:30 pm October CCW Meeting - Bl. Solanus Casey
6:30 pm Confessions *Fr. Mike*
6:30 pm Adoration until 7:20 pm Benediction

Thursday, October 2

7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal - Choir Loft

Friday, October 3

8:50 am Confessions *Fr. Ryan*
9:00 am Adoration until 9 pm Reposition - Chapel

Saturday, October 4

7:30 am Upper Room Men's Prayer Group - Bl. Solanus Casey Room
8:30 am Catholicism Men's Study - Bl. Solanus Casey Room
1:00 pm Family Hay Ride @ Tannenbaum
Register online st-martha.org
3:00 pm Confessions *Fr. Ryan*

Sunday, October 5

9:00 am Family Faith Formation, Grades 1-6
10:00 am CGS Level 1 - Atrium
11:00 am Usher & Eucharistic Minister Training - Church
11:00 am CGS Level 2 - Atrium
11:00 am OCIA - Bl. Solanus Casey Room
2:00 pm Pet Blessing - Parking Lot
2:30 pm Life Chain - Sidewalk
6:00 pm Faith Formation, Grades 7-12



From the Pastor's Desk

St. Vincent de Paul

Each year on September 27th we celebrate the feast day of St. Vincent de Paul, the patron saint of all charities and founder of the Vincentian family.

Born in 1581, St. Vincent de Paul devoted his life to serving the poor, sick, and marginalized especially during a time when poverty and social injustice were rampant. As a priest, he recognized that preaching was not enough but rather action was called for. He founded the Daughters of Charity and the Congregation of the Mission to train priests for mission work and to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the poor and marginalized. He helped organize hospitals, orphanages, and homes for the elderly. These helped provide immediate relief but also spurred others on to effect social change.

His legacy is carried on through the Vincentian family, a loose federation of organizations that he founded, inspired, or that otherwise claim him as their patron. These include the Confraternities of Charity, Ladies of Charity, Daughters of Charity, and the Congregation of the Mission.

In 1833, French University students led by Frederic Ozanam established a charitable organization dedicated to the service of the poor called the Society of St. Vincent de Paul which is now present in 153 countries

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Today we honor our local Vincentians with heartfelt gratitude! I cannot say enough about our local chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society!

We are deeply grateful for our Vincentians who quietly and faithfully embody Christian charity in our local community and beyond. They prove themselves a tireless group of people in their service to the poor and marginalized through their work providing food, clothing, financial assistance, home visits, and a compassionate Christ-like presence. They certainly bring hope to those who see no hope in their circumstances. But, what I find most remarkable, is the amount of dignity they provide those they help.

I am proud of our Vincentians! They are a witness to each one of us of what it means to be Christ for others. Their impact reaches far beyond those they serve. Their ministry fosters a sense of belonging, community, compassion, and mission. They are a blessing to this parish, to our local community, and to the other chapters of St. Vincent de Paul that they assist.

Please join me in honoring them and please commit to praying for them regularly. Please also consider joining our chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Your assistance would be much appreciated.

Finally, without your financial support, their work would certainly be hindered. So, please pray about giving to St. Vincent de Paul to support their work.



Gospel Reflection

When Jesus preached, He often did so to those who thought they had already earned or would certainly earn a place in the Kingdom of Heaven - the Pharisees, Sadducees, scholars, priests, etc. But time and again, we see a surprising reversal: those who thought they were in, were actually out and those who *seemed* to be out, were already in. We see this powerfully in the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus.

Jesus tells of a rich man who lived in comfort and luxury, feasting sumptuously each day. He lacked nothing. Just outside

his gate, however, lay a poor man named Lazarus - sick, hungry, and covered in sores. Lazarus longed for even the scraps from the rich man's table, but received nothing.

This parable is remarkable for a few reasons. First, it appears only in Luke's Gospel. Neither Matthew, Mark, nor John includes it, suggesting that Luke saw a particular significance in the story. Second, and perhaps more notably, it is the only parable in which Jesus gives a character a proper name: *Lazarus*.

In biblical tradition, names carry deep meaning. They bestow identity, dignity, and often reflect one's destiny or role. To be named is to be known. So it's telling that the poor, sick beggar is given a name while the rich man remains nameless. In this detail alone, Jesus begins to flip the script. The one considered insignificant by the world is honored by God.

We naturally assume that the wealthy, socially respected man is closer to God - more "blessed," more likely to inherit eternal life. But in the end, it is Lazarus who is carried by angels to Abraham's side, while the rich man is left in torment. The outsider is revealed to be the true insider.

Interestingly, Jesus says nothing about the rich man's character, attitude, or moral life. He may well have been a decent person - someone with a family, friends, and respect in the community. But Jesus highlights one glaring omission: the rich man knew Lazarus was there and chose to do nothing.

Lazarus was not hidden. He lay at the man's gate day after day. The rich man likely stepped over him, perhaps even grew numb to his presence. His sin wasn't hatred, cruelty, or lawlessness - it was *complacency*.

As a Jew, the rich man would have known the Scriptures, including the prophet Amos who warned, "Woe to the complacent in Zion!" Yet still, he failed to act.

That's why this parable is not just about generosity or charity - it's about eternity. It offers a clear and sobering vision of the afterlife.



From the Pastor's Desk

Heaven and hell are real. And “being nice” or “respected” isn’t what gets us into the Kingdom of Heaven. Christ alone opens that door through His self-sacrificial love on the Cross.

The only way we can walk through it is to unite ourselves with Him by allowing His life, death, and resurrection to transform our own lives. We do this by embracing sacrificial love: seeing Christ in others, especially the suffering; loving not just in word but in action.

As Jesus says in Matthew’s Gospel, the greatest commandment is to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind and the second is like it: to love your neighbor as yourself. *“The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments”* (Matthew 22:34–40).

The rich man had the means to help Lazarus, but he

failed to love his neighbor. He failed to see him. And in the end, it was too late.

But, brothers and sisters, it is *not* too late for us.

Every day we wake up is a new gift from God. A fresh opportunity to draw closer to Christ, to lay down our lives in love, to recognize the suffering at our doorstep, and to act. So today, let’s ask ourselves honestly: Who is lying at our gate? Who have we grown blind to in our daily comfort?

Unlike the rich man, let us choose to act. Let us choose to see. Let us choose to love - deeply, sacrificially, and concretely.

Know of my prayers for each of you.

Fr. Ryan



A Note from Your Bulletin Editor

Both my husband and I grew up in the Lansing area. We spent the first years of our married life together in Clarkston (northern Oakland County). And in the beginning of 2020 after having a baby, we decided to make the move back to Lansing.

Well moving to Okemos at the onset of a pandemic was definitely not what we expected. When St. Martha opened doors for Masses, it was such a blessing. Even in the midst of unprecedented times, the St. Martha hospitality that you hear about time and time again was there with open arms.

While working at Lansing Catholic High School, I was approached to join the staff of St. Martha in 2023. I was excited to get more involved at my parish, and I’d worked in parishes before, understanding the unique dynamics of the business side of a parish. However, as time wore on, I struggled with worshipping at the same place I work.

I’m now going to lean into my parishioner role here at St. Martha as I will be returning to Lansing Catholic High School to work as Admissions Coordinator.

I have absolutely loved getting to know many of you from my time working in the office. And it makes St. Martha ever the more my parish home. And, for the time being, I will also continue to be your bulletin editor. I love St. Martha and everyone here so very much.

Please pray for me, I will be praying right back for you.

Claire Boomer



St. Martha is collecting underwear from now until Sunday, September 28 to support the Clothing Closet at Cristo Rey. **The most needed items are men’s boxers in all sizes, women’s underwear in all sizes, children’s underwear in all sizes, and men’s socks.** The Clothing Closet serves 60-80 families a day and serves families with love and dignity. Should if you would like more information regarding the clothing closet, or volunteering, please feel free to call Victoria Moore at **908.752.9462**



Let’s gather together and enjoy each other’s company! The theme for October’s meeting is Our Lady of Perpetual Help and all women of the parish are cordially invited to attend. We will take up a collection of premie-size diapers and sensitive-skin baby wipes for Shared Pregnancy Women’s Center. If you can bring some to the meeting, that would be very appreciated. Please contact us at **stmarthaccw@gmail.com** with any questions or comments. We look forward to seeing you!



LET'S GO ON
A HAYRIDE



Family Hayride and Hot Dog Roast

Saturday, October 4 | 1:00-2:30 pm
Tannenbaum Farms, Mason

All Families are invited to join us for a fun fall afternoon at Tannenbaum Farms (2515 Sandhill Rd, Mason) on Saturday, October 4, from 1-2:30 pm. Cost is just \$25 per family and includes hayride, hotdogs, s'mores, and a pumpkin. Bring the whole family out for a fun fall afternoon. Register online at st-martha.org or by scanning the QR code.



Pet Blessing

Sunday, October 5 | 2:00 pm | Parking Lot

Join us at noon on Sunday, October 5, for the Pet Blessing in honor of St. Francis of Assisi's Feast Day celebrated on October 4. All leashed or caged animals welcome!



Life Chain 2025

Sunday, October 5 | 2:30 pm | Sidewalk by Grand River

The Lansing Area Life Chain provides a powerful witness to the sanctity of human life. Join us for an hour of prayer for hearts to change and abortion to end in our state, our nation, and around the world.

Altar Server Training

Thursday, October 16 | 6:30 pm | Church

Have you ever wanted to be an Altar Server? It is one of the most incredible and rewarding ways to participate in the Mass and serve your parish! Our Altar Server program is open to girls and boys in grade 4 and older. If you cannot attend the scheduled training on October 16 and are interested in being trained as a server, please contact the parish office.

Auction Wish List

We're gathering exciting, high-quality items for our upcoming auction and we'd love your help! Check out our list of suggested auction items below:

- 3-6 hour fishing trip for 2-4 on a Great Lake, Lake Lansing (or other interior lake), or on a Michigan river
- 2-3 hour guided kayaking trip for 2-3 down a river
- A weekend or week-long stay at a cottage or vacation home
- A cooking class for 4-6 people
- An evening wine tasting event for up to 8 adults
- Concert Tickets or Wharton Tickets
- Gift of Marriott or Delta Points
- Board games for a family game night package, such as: Sequence; Trekking The National Parks; Ticket to Ride; and/or Dog Park
- A popcorn popper to bundle with the family game package
- *Back to the Future* board game or *Back to the Future* insulated tumbler travel mug to pair with Wharton Tickets
- MSU football tickets — particularly suite or Club tickets — for MSU vs. Iowa game
- Collectable vintage (new or used) vinyl album(s), such as the Rolling Stones, U2, Beatles, Bruce Springsteen, Elton John, Madonna, Prince, The Doors, Queen, REO Speedwagon, The Police, Sting, Eric Campton, Aretha Franklin, Tina Turner, Marvin Gaye, James Brown, or Elvis
- Collectible sports card(s)
- Camping supplies for a family camping trip experience. Items needed include any of the following: tent sleeping 4-6, sleeping mats, sleeping bags, bag chairs, lantern, flashlight, camping table, camping mess kit, camping kitchen utensil set, etc.
- A wine or liquor basket featuring a curated variety of bottles

If you or someone you know would be willing to donate an item or experience, please email us at fundraiser@st-martha.org. Your generosity helps support a great cause and brings our community together in a fun and meaningful way!



An Evening of Faith & Future



Sponsorship Levels

\$3,000+ Platinum Sponsor

Recognition

Business logo placement on event materials including: bidder books, dedicated/individual slide on monitors (M-F), St. Martha website, parish-wide email, two weekends in the St. Martha parish bulletin

Tickets

4 tickets to An Evening of Faith & Future (must RSVP to the event)

Social Media

Dedicated post on social media channels acknowledging Platinum sponsorship

Promotional Opportunity

Sponsorship announcement by DJ during An Evening of Faith & Future

\$2,000 Gold Sponsor

Recognition

Business logo placement on event materials including: bidder books, Gold Sponsor slide on monitors (M-F), St. Martha website, parish-wide email, one weekend in the St. Martha parish bulletin

Tickets

2 tickets to An Evening of Faith & Future (must RSVP to the event)

Social Media

Shout-out with all Gold sponsors on social media channels

Promotional Opportunity

Sponsorship announcement by DJ during An Evening of Faith & Future

\$1,000 Silver Sponsor

Recognition

Business logo placement on event materials including: bidder books, Silver Sponsor slide on monitors (M-F), St. Martha website, parish-wide email, one weekend in the St. Martha parish bulletin

Tickets

2 tickets to An Evening of Faith & Future (must RSVP to the event)

Social Media

Shout-out with all Silver sponsors on social media channels

\$500

**Honor Roll Sponsor
Alumni Legacy Sponsor
Friend of St. Martha Sponsor**

Recognition

Family name or logo placement on event materials including: bidder books, combined slide on monitors, and St. Martha website

Tickets

2 tickets to An Evening of Faith & Future (must RSVP to the event)

Honor Roll are current school or faith formation families, Alumni Legacy are alumni school or faith formation families, & Friends of St. Martha are other community supporters

Scan Here



To become a sponsor for our 2025 Fundraiser, please scan the QR code or submit payment via check to our address below - Attention: Kimberly Keefe. Please make all checks out to St. Martha with Fundraiser Sponsorship in the memo line.

For more information or to email your family name/business logo as it should appear on signage, contact fundraiser@st-martha.org

No political sponsors permitted

Join us as we celebrate and support the children of St. Martha Parish and School, November 8 | 6-11 pm



ST. MARTHA
PARISH & SCHOOL

1100 West Grand River Avenue, Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-1763 | st-martha.org | fundraiser@st-martha.org

Not too Late to Sign up for Faith Formation/FED

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 (Faith, Education, Discipleship) Ministry comes in. We are here to meet you where you are and support your family in ways that work for you.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd/CGS

CGS is a Montessori approach that offers many hands on lessons that focus on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. We have two sessions of CGS: 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 an individual classroom and then once a month the entire family (parents or grandparents included) 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 helps meet teens 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.

Register Online

Scan the QR code or visit
st-martha.org/registration



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

Around the Diocese

MICHIGAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Living THE Promise

TRUST IN THE LORD
WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR
OWN UNDERSTANDING.
IN ALL YOUR WAYS
ACKNOWLEDGE HIM AND
HE WILL MAKE YOUR
PATHS STRAIGHT.

PROVERBS 3:5-6

OCTOBER 11
9am-5pm
LANSING CENTER, LANSING, MI

Register: WWW.MICHIGANCWC.ORG

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT • DIOCESE OF GAYLORD • DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS • DIOCESE OF LANSING
DIOCESE OF SAGINAW • DIOCESE OF KALAMAZOO • DIOCESE OF MARQUETTE

LANSING CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

PROSPECTIVE FAMILY NIGHT

PROSPECTIVE FAMILY NIGHT
+ TAILGATE
Oct. 10, 5-7pm

PROSPECTIVE FAMILY NIGHT
OPEN HOUSE
Jan. 14, 6:30-8pm

UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL WITHIN

A NIGHT DESIGNED JUST FOR FUTURE COUGARS

Enjoy a special video presentation, Q&A with our staff and students and take a tour of our campus to see what LCHS has to offer.

DISCOVER LANSING CATHOLIC

Have any questions? Please email lynn.collom@lansingcatholic.org



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.



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

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 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



ST. MARTHA
PARISH & SCHOOL

**1100 West Grand River
Okemos, MI 48864**

Ministry Leaders

Parish Pastoral Council

Anne Readett, Chair

Finance Council

Gigi Matias, Chair

Communication Committee

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.