



St. Martin of Tours Church

October 5, 2025

NO MASS ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 DUE TO CARNIVAL

Full 8-page Bulletin available at www.smt.church/bulletins
11967 W. Sunset Blvd. | Los Angeles | 90049



27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." - Lk 17:5-6

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MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass - 8:15 am

Sunday Mass

7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am & 5:30 pm

No Mass on Saturday, October 4 due to Carnival

Livestream Mass - Sunday at 9:30 am

www.youtube.com/c/saintmartinoftoursLA

Adoration & Confession

No Mass or Confessions on October 4

Saturday following 8:15 am Mass

Confessions end with Benediction at 9:50 am

Infant Baptism

www.smt.church/baptism

Marriage Preparation

www.smt.church/marriage

Funerals

www.smt.church/funerals

SMT School

www.smtschoo.net/admissions

Rectory Office | 310-476-7403

7:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

Fr. Paul Fitzpatrick, Pastor (x. 301)
Christine Scheibal, Accounting (x. 312)
Donna Alvarez, Office Manager (x. 300)
Alaina Alvarez, Office Assistant (x. 311)
Gerardo Sanchez, Facilities (x. 303)

School Office | 310-472-7419

Debbie Margulis, Principal (x. 205)
Michelle Berlin, Admissions (x. 201)
Carol Mahaffey, Main Office (x. 200)

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by Ministry Brands®

A deepfelt thanks to all who support our parish!

A safe, secure stewardship tool is e-Giving through ParishSoft. To learn more, please visit:
<https://smt.church/news/eGiving>.

If you prefer using church envelopes, please contact the rectory. If you want to make sure that 100% of your gift remains at SMT, please use a PINK Restricted envelope, or mark your gift "Restricted to SMT." Thank you for your generous response!



Welcome to St Martin of Tours

We encourage you to join us
by registering on our website:
www.smt.church/register.



October 4—11

Sat	5:30 pm	No Mass - Carnival
Sun	7:30 am	Santos Romero
	9:30 am	James Salz †
	11:30 am	Antonio Munguia
	5:30 pm	Annette Riedman †
		Monsignor JJ Riedman †
Mon	8:15 am	Josefina Rodriguez †
Tues	8:15 am	Jim Riedman †
Wed	8:15 am	Rodolfo Rauda †
Thurs	8:15 am	Stephanie Matthias
Fri	8:15 am	Allan Alvarez Sr. †
Sat	8:15 am	Harold, Yellie & Phillip Chan †

Mass Intentions—suggested offering \$20

Requesting a Mass Intention for loved ones, living or deceased, is a cherished Catholic tradition. To request a Mass Intention, contact: alaina@saintmartinoftours.com



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

For Stewardship Ideas, visit www.smt.church/donate

"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed..." – Lk 17:6

Stewardship begins with trust in God. Even small acts of faith—praying daily, serving others, giving consistently—can bear great fruit when done with love. Our gifts to the parish are not about recognition or reward, but about humble service to Christ and His Church.

This week, take the challenge to plant your own "mustard seed" of stewardship through a consistent act of giving.



Sacrament of Anointing Of The Sick

Sat, Oct. 4 - no Mass - Carnival
Sun, Oct. 5 - after all Masses

For all who are ill, advanced in age,
anticipating or recovering from surgery.



Knights of Columbus
St. Martin of Tours Council 14660
Make a difference - become a Knight.
Contact Paul Ludwig at paulflud@aol.com.



Why are personal boundaries important?

Personal boundaries are critical for every relationship and interaction we have in ministry or volunteer work. We set boundaries to protect ourselves and the people with whom we are interacting. As an employee or volunteer in ministry, you have an inherent, perceived power over those you serve. Because of this position of authority and power, the employee and volunteer's priority should be the best interest of the person to whom they are ministering. To learn more about setting appropriate boundaries, read the VIR-TUS® article at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

St. Martin Fun Fact 4: A School & Sisters

With the new church dedicated in 1947, the next great dream was to provide a Catholic education for young people. By 1954, that dream became reality when SMT School opened its doors, staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet—women religious with a long tradition of education and formation. The parish even acquired part of actor Gary Cooper's former estate as a convent and playground, giving the sisters a home and the children space to grow.

The early years saw rapid expansion. With enrollment climbing, classrooms and facilities were added over the years, ensuring that every child had a place to learn and thrive. The sisters not only taught reading, math, and science, but also shaped students in faith, prayer, and service, setting a foundation for life.

Through the decades, the school became the heart of parish life—a place where parents, teachers, and parishioners worked side by side, creating a warm, family-like atmosphere. Generations of students passed through its doors, carrying with them not only knowledge but also the values of kindness, generosity, and discipleship.

Today, SMT School continues that legacy of excellence, blending academic achievement with Catholic faith formation. What began as a small parish dream has become a lasting mission—one that still reflects the spirit of St. Martin himself: faith in action, charity lived daily, and education that transforms lives.



Please see our website for Resources
www.SMT.church/news/respect

Signup for Respect Life Prayer & Action
www.respectlife.org/prayer-and-action

BABY GOODS DRIVE

Weekends of October 12 and 19

Diapers (sizes 4-6)	Bottles
Baby Wipes	Pacifiers
Baby Clothes/Bibs	Blankets

40 DAYS FOR LIFE - JOIN NOW
www.40daysforlife.com/en/losangeles



ParishSOFT
by Ministry Brands®



Faith Direct is now ParishSoft

For those using Faith Direct, you are set to go with our new platform. There is nothing you need to do!

We invite all to consider embracing eGiving in support of our parish. It is safe and secure way to simplify your stewardship. Here is how to get started:

- Visit giving.parishsoft.com/giving/FD-1145
- Scan the **QR code** to the right
- Text "Enroll" to **424-233-1164**
- Call ParishSoft Customer Service at (866) 930-4774, Option 6



Thank you for your generous support!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

AGES 3 - 6

Meets at 9:30 am in Room 1

For more information & to register, please visit:

www.smt.church/Sunday-School.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Saturday, October 11th
10:30 AM on the Church Patio



If your pet is unruly, you may bring a photo or stay in your car to receive the blessing.



ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

To learn more and sign up, please email Rachel Grella-Harding, Altar Server Coordinator at

SMTAltarServer@SaintMartinofTours.com

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Reflection by Fr. Paul

"Lord, increase our faith."

While faith starts small, like a seed, when nurtured, it grows strong and bears fruit. This applies to both children and adults.

At St. Martin of Tours, we witness growth every day—in our parish school, in our sacramental preparation, and in our faith formation programs. Seeds are planted in young hearts, nurtured by teachers and catechists, but especially by parents. The Church refers to parents as the "primary educators of the faith" because faith first takes root at home—through prayer, forgiveness, and the daily witness of love.

We also see the mustard seed at work in adults' lives. Through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), men and women are learning, questioning, and opening their hearts to God. Some are preparing for Baptism, others for full communion with the Church, and still others are simply seeking to deepen their faith. Their journeys remind us that growth in faith is never complete. The seed God plants continues to stretch, mature, and bear fruit throughout our lives.

Every time we gather for the Eucharist, our faith is strengthened. What appears as bread and wine becomes the Body and Blood of Christ—the nourishment that sustains us to believe, teach, and live our faith.

This week, may our prayer echo the apostles': *"Lord, increase our faith."* And may that prayer strengthen parents, guide our children, inspire our OCIA candidates, and renew each of us as we grow together in Christ.

— Fr. Paul



FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Class Time & Schedules — Registration Forms

www.smt.church/news/FaithFormation

First Communion

Sundays as part of 9:30 am Mass

www.smt.church/ocic

OCIA/Adult Confirmation

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

www.smt.church/ocia

Jr. High Confirmation

Please visit smt.church/news/jr-high for an important update on our Confirmation program.

St. Martin of Tours School

A Preparatory Academy for Grades K-8



St. Martin of Tours Preparatory is the premier Catholic school in Los Angeles offering an exceptional educational foundation for all students in grades K-8. Our graduates attend the finest schools in Los Angeles and most students are accepted into high school honors and advanced placement courses. We are the only school that has been recognized as a STEM Network Partner School in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

All faith traditions are welcome.



(310) 472-7419

- STEAM Academy
- Advanced Courses in Mathematics & Language Arts
- Spanish and Latin
- 1:1 Technology
- Computer Science
- Debate
- Social Emotional Learning

- Drama
- Fine Arts - Art and Music
- Service Learning
- Athletic Program
- Travel Experiences
- Aftercare and Enrichment Opportunities
- International Student Program
- Civics



www.smtschool.net

Join us!

SMT Autumn

More than just

Wine and Cheese

Fellowship

Sunday, October 19th

after the 5:30PM Mass

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The rash one has no integrity;
but the just one, because of his faith, shall live. (Hb 2:4)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

Second Reading:

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice
but rather of power and love and self-control. (2 Tm 1:7)

Gospel:

"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed,
you would say to this mulberry tree,
'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,'
and it would obey you." (Lk 17:6)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Apostles beg Jesus for increased faith, but they don't really want faith. They want a magical feeling of certainty that requires no effort. Real faith must grow and sprout roots in fertile soil. Real faith requires attention and work. Are we willing to work?

Observances for the week of October 5, 2025

- Sunday:** 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Respect Life Sunday
- Monday:** St. Bruno, Priest; Bl. Marie Rose Durocher,
Virgin
- Tuesday:** Our Lady of the Rosary
- Thursday:** St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs;
St. John Leonardi, Priest
- Saturday:** St. John XXIII, Pope
- Next Sunday:** 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



GOD IS
GOOD, ALL
THE TIME

Devotions, *Explained!*

This popular phrase is an affirmation of God's faithfulness amidst the trials of life, a theme that is presented again and again in Scripture: come what may, God will be with us.

Prayer to Respect Life

Dear God,
Help us to hear Your voice,
especially when You speak on
behalf of the voiceless,
the overlooked, and the forgotten.
Keep our ears attuned, and work
through us in a way that loves,
blesses, assures, supports, and
strengthens LIFE.
Amen.

Readings for the week of October 5, 2025

Sunday:

Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/
2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10

Monday:

Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday:

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8/
Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday:

Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10/Lk 11:1-4

Thursday:

Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/
Lk 11:5-13

Friday:

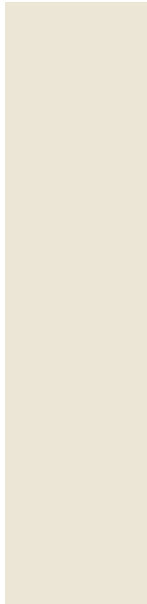
Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9/
Lk 11:15-26

Saturday:

Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Lk 11:27-28

Next Sunday:

2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/
2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A priest friend of mine received a call from a family whose elderly mother was dying. Within thirty minutes, he was at her bedside, offering the consolation of the sacraments, anointing her with the oil of the sick, and commending her soul to God. She passed not long after, and for months, her family spoke of their deep gratitude for his presence. When I phoned him to commend his faithful ministry, he simply said, “I was just doing my job.”

His words brought to mind Jesus’ teaching this week in Luke 17:10: **“So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”** In a world that often seeks recognition and applause, the Lord invites us into a different mindset — one of humble service. The priest did not see his response as extraordinary; he saw it as a grace to fulfill his vocation.

How tempting it is to seek affirmation for doing what I ought to do! Yet Jesus reminds us that true discipleship is not about grandstanding but about quiet faithfulness. It is enough to have served. It is enough to have loved. It is enough to be grateful that we were given the chance to do our duty in the first place. Whether in priesthood, parenthood, or any vocation, what peace-soaked freedom there is in simply doing what is asked of us. No more, no less. Jesus, that is how you quietly love us.

— *Father John Muir*



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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: “Increase my faith.” I’ve said it to God plenty of times, imagining a prayer life that is effortless and a sacramental life that is uncomplicated. Easy faith — that’s what I’m asking for, and lots of it, please. But easy faith isn’t faith at all.

The Father Who Knows What You Want

It’s easy to give your kid what he’s asking for. It’s hard to give him what he wants.

If a kid asks to eat an ice cream cone, there’s nothing wrong with giving him one. But if he’s grumpily demanding an ice cream cone at 7:45 in the morning, what he wants — whether he realizes it or not — is some protein and whole grains and a little encouragement to get him going on his day.

So you give him eggs and toast, and you watch him struggle to accept it. Sometimes he does and sometimes he doesn’t, but either way, you’ll be here. You’ll forgive him for whatever names he calls you and you’ll put the healthy breakfast in the fridge, waiting for him when he’s ready to eat it.

“Increase my faith.” I’ve said it to God plenty of times, imagining a prayer life that is effortless and a sacramental life that is uncomplicated, an acceptance of truth that is unshakeable. Easy faith — that’s what I’m asking for, and lots of it, please.

But easy faith isn’t faith at all, and faith that you aren’t strong enough to hold will break your arms. And what God will never do is say, “Sure, kiddo, here you go,” and pass off a false gift as the real thing, just to make us both feel good. He won’t hand me something I’m not strong enough to hold.

That would be a classic lazy-father move. That would be an ice-cream-cone-at-7:45 a.m. move.

Instead, He watches carefully while I navigate the bumpy terrain of the spiritual life, ready to whisper directions in my ear. He holds his breath while the challenges of this world create deep grooves in my soul — and then He irrigates those grooves with the life-giving waters of grace, transforming them into valleys of consolation and respite.

Sometimes I call Him names. Sometimes I refuse what He’s offering. It’s not what I asked for, after all.

But it’s what I want. Luckily, He knows that better than me.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Who invented the Stations of the Cross?

Answer:

The first Stations of the Cross were walked by Jesus himself on the way to Calvary. Known as the “Via Dolorosa” (“The Way of Suffering”) or the “Via Crucis” (“The Way of the Cross”), it was marked out from the earliest times and was a traditional walk for pilgrims who came to Jerusalem. The early Christians in Jerusalem would walk the same pathway that Jesus walked, pausing for reflection and prayer. Later, when Christians could not travel to the Holy Land, artistic depictions of “The Way of the Cross” were set up in churches, or outside and Christians would walk from station to station, reading the Gospel account of the Passion, or simply praying and reflecting on each event. While the content or place of each station had changed, the intention was to make a mini-pilgrimage and follow--literally--in the footsteps of Jesus.

This devotion became better known in the Middle Ages, and the Franciscans are credited with its spread. Lent is a time when many people make the Stations and some churches present Passion plays or Living Stations. But anyone can pray the Stations at any time. It is a simple and personal reflection on the passion of Jesus and what it means to us.

Prayer

Lord, I believe you will help me.

Mission for the Week

I will remind others that God will help them.

Sharing the Gospel

God wants you to have faith and trust him completely. Jesus said, "If your faith is as small as a mustard seed, you can tell a tree to grow in the ocean, and it will." A mustard seed is smaller than a freckle. You trust your school bus will go to your school. You have faith that clowns will make you laugh. You just need a little bit of faith and God will be there for you.

Now color
the picture!



What letter **begins** each picture name? Circle the beginning letter. Then color the pictures.



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