

St. Martin of Tours Church

October 26, 2025

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



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“But the tax collector stood off at a distance...and prayed, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner.’ I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” - Lk 18:13a, 13c-14

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass - 8:15 am

Sunday Mass

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

Livestream Mass - Sunday at 9:30 am

www.youtube.com/c/saintmartinoftoursLA

Adoration & Confession

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

Faith Formation—Children & Adults

www.smt.church/news/FaithFormation

Funerals

www.smt.church/funerals

SMT School

www.smtschool.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)

ParishSOFT

by Ministry Brands®

A deepfelt thanks to all who support our parish!

A safe, secure stewardship tool is e-Giving through Parish Soft. 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 25– Nov. 1

Sat	5:30 pm	All Members of Congress
Sun	7:30 am	Mary Ann Unruh †
	9:30 am	Michael W. Collins†
	11:30 am	Singh Family
	5:30 pm	Jim Riedman
Mon	8:15 am	Viviana Plasencia
Tues	8:15 am	Darla & Stephen Smurda
Wed	8:15 am	Stracke Family
Thurs	8:15 am	Mr. & Mrs. James Murray †
Fri	8:15 am	Mr. & Mrs. C.J. Murray Jr †
Sat	8:15 am	Anne Cronin & Family

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

ALL SAINTS DAY MASS

Nov 1 at 8:15 am (not a holy day of obligation)

ALL SOULS NOVENA

November 2 - 10, 2025



To include loved ones in our Novena of Masses, please use an All Souls envelope available at the doors to the church or go online and make arrangements at www.smt.church/news/saints.



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

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

“O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.” – Luke 18:13

Jesus shows us that true prayer and true discipleship begin with humility. Stewardship flows from this same spirit—not boasting of what we do, but gratefully offering back what God has given. Our time, talent, and treasure are not ours to claim, but gifts entrusted to us for His glory. This week, take the challenge to give with humility—quietly, faithfully, and with gratitude to God.



Who is a mandated reporter?

A mandated reporter is someone who is required to report suspected or disclosed cases of abuse to child protective services or law enforcement (teachers, educators, coaches, school and parish staff, and clergy). The mandated report may involve concerns about possible abuse or neglect in the child's home or by a family member. At a school or parish, the mandated reporter should make the report to the local law enforcement agency, which has the resources and ability to intervene immediately if needed. The Archdiocese of Los Angeles urges all in our church to speak up to the appropriate authorities if any form of child abuse is suspected. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “The Facts about Mandated and Ethical Reporting” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know and visit <https://lacatholics.org/reporting-child-abuse/>.

From the Pastor's Desk

“Lord, Teach Us to Pray”

Part 3 - All Souls' Novena

Dear Friends,

Each November, the Church pauses to remember and pray for all who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. It is one of our most consoling traditions—the offering of Masses and prayers for the souls of the departed.

This practice is deeply biblical. In the Second Book of Maccabees, Judas Maccabeus “made atonement for the dead, that they might be freed from their sin” (2 Macc 12:45). From the earliest days, Christians have gathered at the Eucharist not only for the living, but also for those being purified in God's love.

We believe that God, in His mercy, purifies souls who die in His friendship but are not yet perfected in love—a process we call Purgatory. St. Catherine of Genoa described it as both the greatest sorrow and the greatest joy: sorrow, because the soul at last sees how sin has hindered its union with God; joy, because heaven is certain and divine love is doing its work. She wrote, *“As the rust of sin is burned away, happiness grows; pain wanes and joy increases as the soul is opened to the divine ray.”*

We invite you to include loved ones in our Novena of Masses beginning next Sunday by completing an All Souls envelope (available at the church doors) and including it in the regular collection. Each Mass during the Novena is an act of mercy—a sign of hope that love is stronger than death.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

In Christ,
Fr. Paul



Daylight Savings Time ends 11/2

Please be sure to adjust your clocks before going to sleep next Saturday.



Faith Direct is now Parish Soft

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.

respect life
month



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 LAST DAY: OCTOBER 26

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

Bottles
Pacifiers
Blankets



Knights of Columbus
St. Martin of Tours Council 14660
Make a difference - become a Knight.

Contact Paul Ludwig at paulflud@aol.com.

**REPAIRS &
IMPROVEMENTS**



2025 Goal \$120,000
Amount Raised \$48,030
Help Fund Our Work

Visit www.smt.church/news/repairs

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture Reflection by Fr. Paul

Next Sunday, All Souls Day, the Church calls us to remember all who have gone before us faith – those who lived quietly, served humbly, and trusted deeply. Not perfect, but faithful.

They are the ones who, like St. Paul, could say at life's end: *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."* Paul does not boast of his own strength; he glorifies the mercy of God.

That same mercy shines through today's Gospel. Two men go up to the Temple to pray—one confident and proud, the other humble and contrite. The Pharisee thanks God that he is not like others. The tax collector stands apart, eyes lowered, and whispers: *"O God, be merciful to me, a sinner."* And Jesus tells us: *this man went home justified.*

The Pharisee's good deeds were not his downfall—his pride was. The tax collector's sin was not his ruin—his honesty was his salvation. As the book of Sirach says: *"The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds."* Humility pierces the clouds. It opens the heart to grace.

At every Mass we echo that same prayer: *"Lord, I am not worthy..."* And still, the Lord comes—not because we are good, but because He is merciful.

May the humble prayer of the tax collector be ours. And may that mercy transform our hearts, our homes, and our parish—until the day when every humble soul is lifted up, and every broken heart is made whole in God's eternal mercy.

Fr. Paul

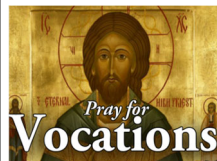


Sacrament of Anointing Of The Sick

Sat, Nov. 1 - after 5:30 pm Mass

Sun, Nov. 2 - after all Masses

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



Pray for Vocations!

For discernment resources
visit www.lavocations.org



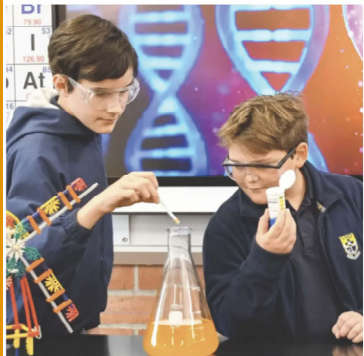
ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

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

SMTAltarServer@SaintMartinofTours.com

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST MARTIN OF TOURS
COUNCIL 14660
PRESENTS

SMT'S ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER

Sunday, November 23
6:30 PM

PLEASE RSVP TO
ALAINA@SAINTMARTINOFTOURS.COM
WALK-INS WELCOME

Adults \$40
Children (-18) \$20

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The one who serves God willingly is heard;
his petition reaches the heavens. (Sir 35:20)

Psalm:

The Lord hears the cry of the poor. (Ps 34)

Second Reading:

The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat
and will bring me safe to his heavenly kingdom.
To him be glory forever and ever. Amen. (2 Tm 4:18)

Gospel:

"For whoever exalts himself will be humbled,
and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."
(Lk 18:14)

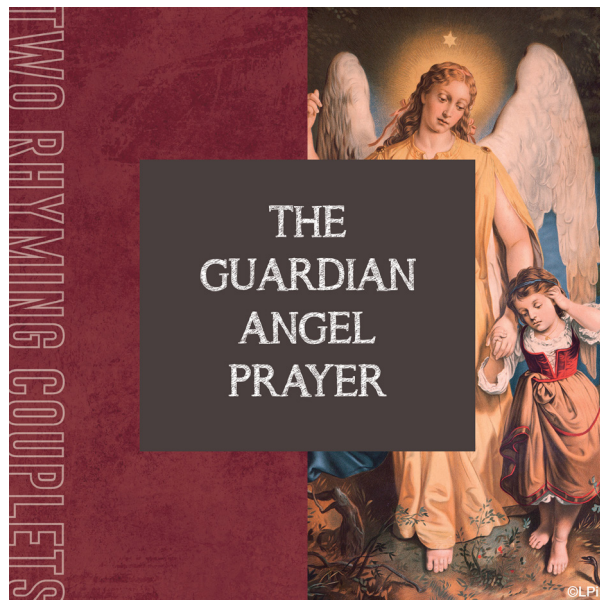
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Pharisee took such pride in his good deeds that he forgot to ask God for forgiveness; the tax collector acknowledged his many sins, and went home justified. Remember that we are saved not by our own merit, but by the mercy of God.

Observances for the week of October 26, 2025

Sunday:	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday:	Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles
Friday:	All Hallow's Eve
Saturday:	All Saints
Next Sunday:	The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day); Daylight Saving Time Ends



Devotions, *Explained!*

Often one of the first prayers taught to children, the Guardian Angel Prayer consists of two rhyming couplets invoking the protection of one's guardian angel. Its exact authorship is unknown, but it originated in the medieval period.

Prayer of Praise

Dear God,
As we look to the week ahead,
help us to remember that You will
accompany us at every moment
— You who greet us with mercy
anew every morning, and grace in
abundance each night.
Amen.

Readings for the week of October 26, 2025

Sunday:

Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23
(7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

Monday:

Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21/
Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday:

Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16

Wednesday:

Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6/Lk 13:22-30

Thursday:

Rom 8:31b-39/Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31/
Lk 13:31-35

Friday:

Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/
Lk 14:1-6

Saturday:

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/
1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

Next Sunday:

Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Rom 5:5-
11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Every now and then readers of these reflections write letters in which they object to something. Years ago, this Gospel of Luke 18 prompted such an email. A man wrote to me: “I find it deeply offensive that you suggest we are still sinners once we are God’s sons and daughters.” His objection stirred in me a profound awareness of the paradox at the heart of our faith. Are we sinners or beloved children of God?

In this Gospel (Luke 18:9-14), a tax collector appears as one who has missed the mark. His sins have isolated him. His breast-beating is not an act of self-flagellation for pride’s sake but a heartfelt admission of his failure and unworthiness. Remarkably, Jesus honors the candid humility of the parable’s penitent. Why? Because we are always in need of mercy, always. But even more, perhaps because on the cross, Jesus will fully embrace a similar place of humiliation and rejection. He will enter into the most shameful, offensive place of the sinner so that we might “go home justified.”

There is a sacred tension in admitting that we are sinners and yet have profound hope. We are beloved sons and daughters of God, growing precisely through our honest acceptance of failure. When we cry, “Have mercy on us,” during Mass or when we repeat the “Jesus Prayer” in quiet moments, or in the confessional, we embrace our imperfections as fertile ground for divine grace. In doing so, we follow Christ’s example — finding true exaltation in the humble acknowledgment of our human frailty.

— *Father John Muir*

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: The Pharisee did the right thing sometimes. He fasted. He tithed. But he gazed so long at his own holiness that he became blinded by it. He stood before God, and he could only think of what he had done right.

Tunnel Vision

There are some parents on the playground I really can't stand.

You know them, probably, if you're a parent, or if you're not, you know a different version of them. They'll tell you about how their little Brayden is a bilingual violin prodigy who sleeps through the night and only ever asks to snack on vegetables. But as soon as Brayden starts to chase your screaming kid with a stick, they're conveniently scrolling on their phone, unaware.

You're not irritated that their kid is smarter than yours and likes veggies (well, maybe you are, a little). You're irritated that they have tunnel vision. In striving for perfection, they have become unable to acknowledge imperfections.

If you're reading this, you're probably in church. If you're in church, you're probably someone who is concerned with what is right and what is wrong. I've got news for you: that might just make you (and me) more at risk of being like Brayden's parent than the people who stayed home today.

Unclutch your pearls! It was good of you to come to Mass. Definitely keep doing that. That's the right choice. Just don't forget that in making the right choice, we don't *become righteous*.

Look, I'm not going to lie to you. Sometimes, it's my kids who are doing the chasing with the stick. They're kids, and kids do dumb things, just like everyone else. And maybe it's because they hate vegetables and sleep terribly that I'm less reluctant than Brayden's mom to admit their mistakes. It's a hard fall from the pedestal.

If we're churchgoing followers of Christ, we are hopefully people who earnestly want to do the right thing. Maybe, sometimes, we do exactly that. The Pharisee did the right thing sometimes. He fasted. He tithed. But he gazed so long at his own holiness that he became blinded by it. He stood before God, and he could only think of what he had done right.

We need to stay vigilant, folks. Just when you look away, that's when Brayden grabs the stick.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why do we kneel at Mass?

Answer:

Since the beginnings of the Church, kneeling has been a key posture of prayer. We see Sts. Peter and Paul in the Acts of the Apostles kneeling in prayer. Early in the 4th century, the Council of Nicea prohibited kneeling on Sundays and special feasts. Kneeling began more as a posture of penance for our sins, but in the history of the Church, it has become more a posture of reverence and solemn prayer.

You will notice that the times we kneel at Mass are tied to the consecration of the holy Eucharist. We kneel in both anticipation of what will occur and then in awe of what has taken place: Jesus Christ becomes truly present to us under the guise of bread and wine. The profoundness of this event has over time led the Church to mandate in the current General Instruction of the Roman Missal that kneeling is the only posture allowed during this time. The sheer awesomeness of the holy Eucharist leads us to fall to our knees in wonder and thanksgiving.

Prayer

Lord, please forgive me.

Draw the star square by square.



Mission for the Week

I will ask God for forgiveness morning, noon, and night.

Sharing the Gospel

During Mass you will hear the priest and people say, “Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.” It means, “Lord, forgive me.” You are human. You will make mistakes. God is proud when you are honest and admit that you did something wrong. He smiles when you forgive yourself and others. He frowns when you talk and act like you are better than others. God wants you to do right.

Now color the picture!

