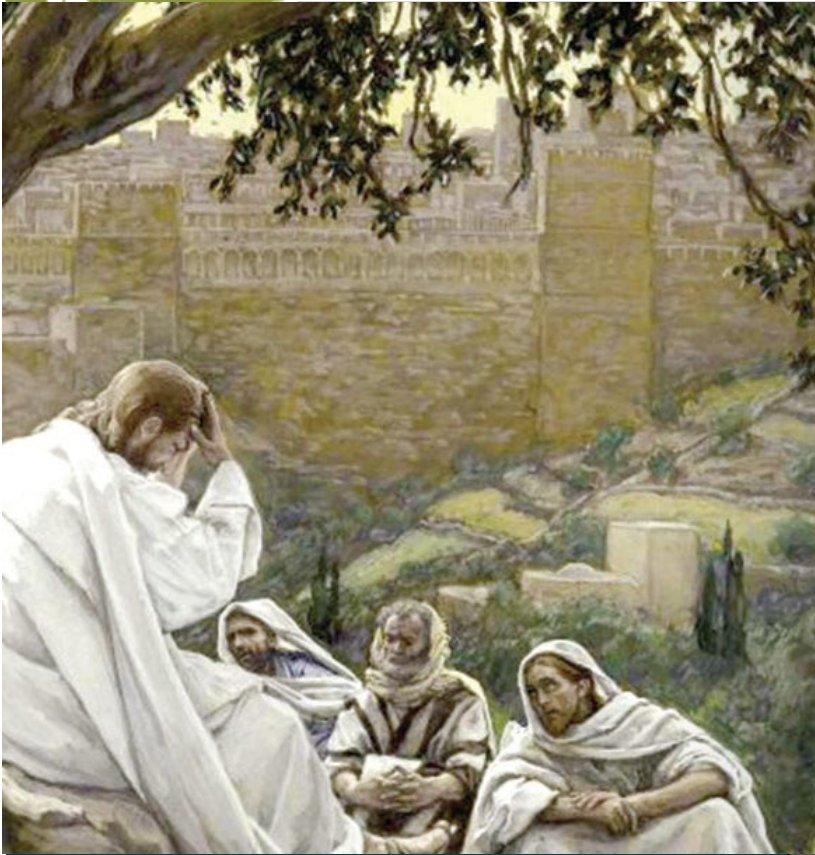


St. Martin of Tours Church

November 16, 2025

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



33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“It will lead to your giving testimony. Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, for I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute.” - Lk 21:13-15

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.



November 15 - 22

Sat	5:30 pm	Marvin Reyes
Sun	7:30 am	Charles Steele †
	9:30 am	SMT Parish and School
	11:30 am	Millie & David Laverty †
	5:30 pm	JC & Marie Vincent-Falquet †
Mon	8:15 am	Nola Jean Hyland †
Tues	8:15 am	Rick Naatz †
Wed	8:15 am	Carmelita Ascalon †
Thurs	8:15 am	Fr. Paul—Birthday
Fri	8:15 am	Rose James †
Sat	8:15 am	Sr. Elizabeth Francis Brisson †

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



THANKGIVING DAY
MASS
NOVEMBER 27
8:15 AM
All are welcome!

E-Weekly Bulletin & Newsletter

To get the full 8-page version of our bulletin with scripture & faith reflections please visit our website and complete the online submission pop-up. Sign up now!



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

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

“By your perseverance you will secure your lives.” – Luke 21:19

Stewardship is not only about giving—it's about endurance. Jesus reminds us that faithfulness in small things, especially during times of trial, bears lasting fruit. When we give consistently and serve with hope, we proclaim our trust that God's kingdom endures even when worldly things pass away.

This week, take the challenge to remain steadfast in generosity—building your life, and our parish, on what truly lasts.



Recognizing those who have completed VIRTUS® Training

This weekend, parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Los Angeles are offering prayers in support of the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Exploitation, Abuse and Violence. We would like to recognize and give thanks for all in our parish communities who have completed the VIRTUS® Sexual Abuse Prevention Training and requisite background checks and fingerprinting, now standard for those working or volunteering in the church. Each of you is a blessing to our parishes and greater communities and is a living representation of the Church's efforts to protect the most vulnerable among us. If you would like to learn more about VIRTUS® or sign up for a training session please visit, lacatholics.org/education-and-training.

From the Pastor's Desk

“Lord, Teach Us to Pray”

Part 6 - Silence and Perseverance in Prayer

Dear Friends,

In our noisy world, silence can feel unfamiliar — even uncomfortable. Yet silence is where we hear God best. Elijah found Him not in wind or fire, but in “a gentle whisper” (1 Kings 19:12).

St. John of the Cross reminds us: “God's first language is silence.” Silence in prayer is not emptiness; it is sacred space - room for God to enter. When we quiet our hearts, we discover that He has been waiting there all along.

Still, prayer requires perseverance. Jesus told us “to pray always without becoming weary” (Luke 18:1). Faithfulness in dry or distracted times is itself an act of love. Think of St. Monica, who prayed nearly twenty years for her son's conversion. Her steadfast love reminds us that no prayer is ever lost; all are gathered into God's heart.

This week, take a moment of silence before and after prayer. Bring to God the intention you've carried the longest, and trust His quiet work of grace.

Fr. Paul



CATHOLIC
CAMPAIGN FOR
HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT

Special Collection

November 23, 2025

Break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities. CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty and social-justice initiative of our Catholic bishops and helps transform the root causes of poverty by supporting community-led efforts in the United States. Please be generous and consider how your contribution can help make real, lasting change in the lives of those living on the margins. Envelopes are available at the doors to the church. For more information visit www.usccb.org/cchd.



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.



Committee for the Poor Collection For Charitable Giving

In the spirit of St. Martin, who gave half his cloak to a poor man, we are assembling 1,200 bags for homeless men & women on Sun, Dec 14 from 8:30 - 10:30 am in the Parish Center. Please join us!

To help underwrite this charitable work - and to assist local charities for the poor - the Committee will make a special appeal at all the Masses next weekend. To learn more, please visit: www.smt.church/news/outreach.

Please bring **gently used & new warm coats, jackets & hoodies** to the Parish Center on Sun, Dec 14 to assist our friends at St. Joseph Homeless Services.



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 \$51,825
Help Fund Our Work

Visit www.smt.church/news/repairs

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture Reflection by Fr. Paul

As we near the end of the Church year, the readings remind us that everything in this world will one day pass away. The prophet Malachi speaks of a coming day of fire — when all that is false will fall away — yet promises that “for those who fear the Lord, the sun of justice will rise with healing in its rays.” God’s judgment is not meant to destroy, but to purify and renew.

In the Gospel, Jesus foretells the fall of the Temple — not to frighten us, but to focus us. What truly matters isn’t what we build, but the faith that endures when everything else fades.

St. Paul urges the Thessalonians to stay steady in faith and to keep working, reminding them that perseverance in ordinary, daily duties is itself a form of discipleship. Faith is not proven by words alone, but by steadfastness in the small tasks that fill each day.

Here at St. Martin of Tours, we live out that same faith — in our worship and our service, in the care we show one another, and in our shared commitment to make Christ known. Every act of kindness, every prayer offered, every bit of effort to strengthen our parish is part of the living temple God is building among us.

Action for the Week:

Take a few moments each day to thank God for one person or situation that strengthens your faith — and ask for the grace to be that same strength for someone else.

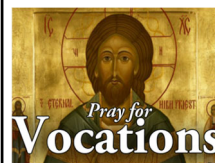
Fr. Paul



Sacrament of Anointing Of The Sick

Sat, December 6 - after 5:30 pm Mass
Sun, December 7 - 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:

But for you who fear my name, there will arise
the sun of justice with its healing rays. (Mal 3:20)

Psalm:

The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice. (Ps 98)

Second Reading:

Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you,
so that you might imitate us. (2 Thes 3:9)

Gospel:

"You will be hated by all because of my name,
but not a hair on your head will be destroyed.
By your perseverance you will secure your lives." (Lk 21:17-19)

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

Jesus' words today are filled with fire
and brimstone, vivid with images of pain,
suffering, confusion — and, ultimately,
peace. Do we believe what he promises?
Do we have the endurance to stay with
him until the end?

Observances for the week of November 16, 2025

- Sunday:** 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
- Tuesday:** The Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin
- Friday:** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Saturday:** St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



Devotions, *Explained!*

An Advent Wreath consists of a circle of evergreen and four candles, one for each week of Advent. Three of the candles are purple; one is rose, representing Gaudete Sunday, a time of rejoicing at the closeness of Christmas.

Prayer in Season of Trust

O Lord,
Be with me now, I feel so alone.
Bring Your blessings to me, like
the light of a candle in darkness.
Wrap me in Your mercy,
give me strength to face every
hardship.
Amen.

Readings for the week of November 16, 2025

Sunday:

Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 (see 9)/
2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19

Monday:

1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps
119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday:

2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday:

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and
15/Lk 19:11-28

Thursday:

1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/
Lk 19:41-44

Friday:

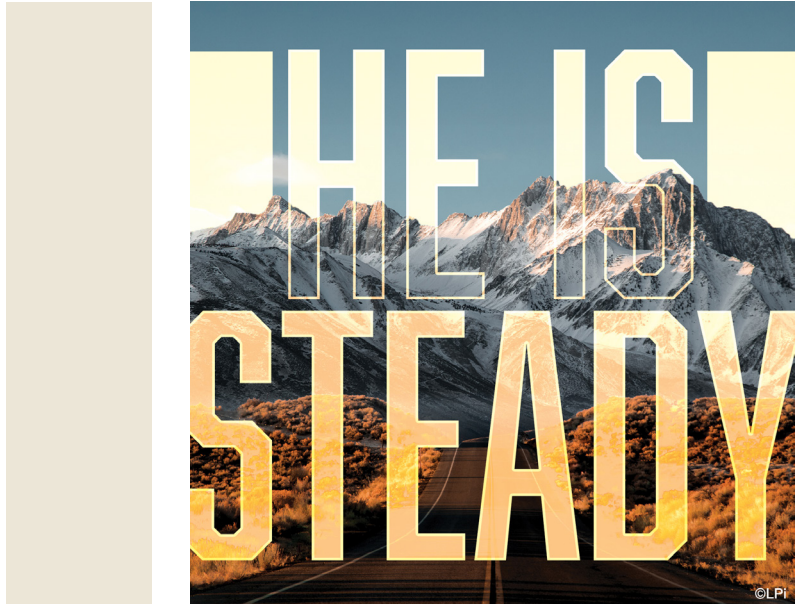
1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd,
11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48

Saturday:

1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/
Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday:

2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1)/
Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was a kid growing up in New England, I'd occasionally go on a whale watch. Once we went out with calm waters and clear skies. But on the way back in, the sea got rough. I was just a kid, and I remember thinking we should turn left or right toward the shoreline I could see. But the pilot of the boat kept going straight — right into the waves — focused on a small, discouragingly distant lighthouse. Even when it flickered in and out of sight, he stayed the course. He knew where he was going.

That image comes to mind when I hear Jesus' words in today's Gospel regarding false messiahs: **"Do not follow them" (Luke 21:8)**. In times of chaos or uncertainty, there are always voices offering easier routes, promising false safety, claiming to speak for God. But Jesus isn't found in the loudest voice or the nearest shoreline. He is steady, like a lighthouse in the storm.

The tribulation of which Jesus speaks — it's real. It happened to the Temple, it happened to him, it happens in the Church, and it will come to each of us. But the command is not to panic. It's to endure. To keep steering toward him. Faith isn't about having all the answers or dodging every wave. It's about knowing where the lighthouse is — and trusting it enough to keep going, especially when false safety beckons us to stop.

— *Father John Muir*



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.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: Love and hate. Hope and fear. Death and life. What lasts forever, and what is even now passing away before our eyes. To be human is to know that these feelings, these realities, can and often do occur at the same time. To be Christian is to know that it means something.

Two Things Can Be True At Once

As my husband and I drove our firstborn child home from the hospital, I sat alongside my daughter in the backseat. Terrified, exhausted, exhilarated, confused, hopeful — I was all of these things at the same time. I gazed at her, this magnificent little creature whose face was both familiar and strange to me, thinking: *She is exquisite. She is the future. She is life.*

And then I burst into uncontrollable sobs.

“What’s wrong?” my husband cried, panicked, glancing in the rearview mirror.

“She’s — going — to — die — someday,” I blubbered, choking on my own tears.

“Ohhh, honey.” I’ll never forget the tone of his voice as he clearly debated turning this car around and taking me back to the hospital for an emergency psych evaluation. “I think you might be tired.”

Ten years later, it’s a memory we laugh about. I hadn’t slept more than four hours in four days. Postpartum hormones had lain waste to my senses. Here, on the threshold of new life, all I could think of was death. It’s funny. It’s absurd.

But it also makes a lot of sense.

Love and hate. Hope and fear. Joy and sorrow. Death and life. What lasts forever, and what is even now passing away before our eyes. To be human is to know that these feelings, these realities, can and often do occur at the same time. To be Christian is to know that it means something — even if we cannot understand what. Not yet.

In every moment of his earthly life, Christ shows us that two things can be true at once. A virgin is a mother. An exile is a king. The temple will be destroyed, and it will last forever. The world is ending. The world is beginning. The cross is death. The cross is life.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why do Catholics call priests Father?

Answer:

One of the common objections evangelical Christians have to Catholics is our practice of calling priests by the title Father. They will often cite a passage in Matthew’s Gospel in which Jesus tells his followers: “Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven” (23:19). It seems pretty straightforward, but when we put this verse in context, we see that Jesus is speaking out against religious leaders who had forgotten what their proper role was and who were bad examples through their own hypocrisy and elitist attitudes.

In other Gospels, we find Jesus himself using the title father for different characters, such as in the Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man (Luke 16:19-31) and the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). If we put the verse from Matthew into the full scope of Jesus’ teachings, he isn’t saying that we can’t use words like “father,” “rabbi,” or “master.” Rather, he is telling us that we should be mindful of the full meaning of those titles and not to misuse them.

To call a priest “Father” is more than a sign of respect for the office of the priesthood. It goes all the way back to the way St. Paul understood his own work as a missionary and evangelizer. Paul wrote, “I am writing you in this way not to shame you but to admonish you as my beloved children ... It was I who begot you in Christ Jesus through my preaching of the Gospel. I beg you, then, be imitators of me. This is why I have sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful son in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 4:14-17).

Yes, we have God alone as our heavenly Father, but there are also those here with us who nurture and nourish our faith through their teaching and care. This is why the title of Father has been applied to the church’s pastors in different ways since the earliest days of the Church, including monks and nuns using the title “abbot” and “abbess” (from abba) for their spiritual leaders and Christians around the world recognizing the “Holy Father” or “pope” (from papa) as the head of the family that is the Church. The title Father is a reminder that priests have a special responsibility to care for, protect, feed, listen to, and nourish those who have been entrusted to them, all after the example of our Father in heaven who never ceases to give us what we truly need.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to be brave and tell other people about you.

Mission for the Week

Write down three things that scare you. Tell God about them. Ask God to help you.

Sharing the Gospel

Sometimes this world can be a scary place in which to live. Fighting, sickness, and storms can kill a lot of people. Jesus says that when those things happen around you, do not be afraid. Even when you die, you can still live forever with God. You have heaven to look forward to. When scary things happen around you, tell the people you love about Jesus. Tell them they can live forever with Jesus, too, so they don't need to be afraid.

Now color
the picture!



Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

temple
stones
attack

starve
trial
faith

wisdom
betrayed
saved

tmepl	<u>t</u> <u>e</u> <u>m</u> <u>p</u> <u>l</u> <u>e</u>
fitha	_____
stneso	_____
widoms	_____
atackt	_____
btrayed	_____
sarvet	_____
sveda	_____
tialr	_____

