

St. Martin of Tours Church

December 25, 2025

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



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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

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)

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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 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.



Sacrament of Anointing Of The Sick

Sat, Jan 3 - after 5:30 pm Mass
Sun, Jan 4 - after all the Masses



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Stewardship of Christmas: Receiving and Sharing the Gift

Christmas reminds us that everything begins with **God's generosity**. Before we could ask, deserve, or imagine it, God gave us His Son—pure gift, freely offered, wrapped not in wealth or power but in humility and love.

Stewardship begins in the same place: with gratitude for what God has given us.

Today, as we kneel before the manger, we see the pattern of Christian stewardship in three simple movements:

1. Receive the Gift

The first step in stewardship is not giving—it is receiving. Christ comes to us as He came to the shepherds: unexpectedly, unearned, and full of mercy. We are invited to welcome Him into our hearts, our homes, and our daily lives.

2. Be Changed by the Gift

When we truly receive Christ, our hearts soften. We become more patient, more generous, more attentive to those around us. Like Mary and Joseph, we learn to trust that God is at work even in the ordinary and uncertain moments of life.

3. Share the Gift

The shepherds left the manger “glorifying and praising God.” Stewardship asks the same of us—to carry Christ's presence into our families, workplaces, relationships, and parish community.

This could mean: Offering forgiveness where it is long overdue, reaching out to someone who feels forgotten, or simply being present to someone who needs hope.

A Season That Continues

Just as Christmas itself lasts beyond December 25, stewardship is not a single act but a way of life—rooted in gratitude, expressed in generosity, and sustained by grace.

May the Christ who comes to us in the manger also be the Christ who guides our giving, strengthens our compassion, and shapes our hearts throughout the coming year.

A blessed Christmas to you and your family, and thank you for the many ways you share Christ's light with our parish.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

We often speak of the “Twelve Days of Christmas,” and from ancient tradition Christmas through Epiphany formed a festive twelve-day celebration of Christ's birth. While the symbolic number **twelve** remains meaningful, the Church today celebrates the full Christmas Season all the way through the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which this coming year falls on Sunday, January 11.

Along the way, the Christmas Season offers some of the most beautiful feasts of the entire year—moments that invite us to remain at the manger, to listen, and to let the mystery of the Incarnation take root within us.

Major Feasts of the Christmas Season

- **Holy Family — Sunday, December 28** A day to contemplate the holiness of family life and to invite Christ into the ordinary rhythms of our homes.
- **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God — Thursday, January 1** This is the Octave Day of Christmas. It is also the Lord's Naming Day—the day Jesus received the holy name “Jesus,” the name that means *God saves*. We cannot begin a year dedicated to the Lord until we first know His name, and so the Church fittingly celebrates the first day of the civil year on January 1 with Mary, who brought the Savior into the world and presented Him with the name that reveals His mission.
- **Epiphany — Sunday, January 4** The visit of the Magi, when Christ is made known to the nations and the light of salvation shines beyond Bethlehem to the whole world.
- **Baptism of the Lord — Sunday, January 11** The final feast of the Christmas Season, when Jesus stands in the Jordan, the Father's voice declares Him the beloved Son, and Christ's public ministry begins.

Why Does the Church Extend the Season?

Christmas celebrates the astounding truth that God became one of us. Such a mystery cannot be contained in a single day—or even twelve. The Church invites us to savor this season, to let the joy of Christ's birth shape our vision and deepen our gratitude.

Keeping Christmas Well

As you continue your celebration:

- Keep your Nativity scene displayed through the Baptism of the Lord.
- Mark each feast with prayer or a small family tradition.
- Watch for how Christ's light appears in daily life—in moments of kindness, reconciliation, and hope.

A Season to Live In

Whether we speak of the traditional Twelve Days or the full liturgical season, the message remains the same:

Christmas is not something we rush past.
It is a mystery we are invited to dwell in.

May Christ—named and revealed, adored and proclaimed—fill your home and heart with peace throughout this holy season.

Fr. Paul



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!

SMART GIVING WITH TAX ADVANTAGES

IRA Charitable Rollovers (QCDs) are an effective way of giving, but must be planned for the beginning of the year. To learn more, please visit www.smt.church/donate.

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!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

AGES 3 - 6

Meets at 9:30 am in Room 1

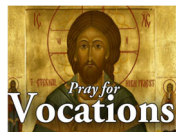
No Class on December 28 & January 4
www.smt.church/Sunday-School.



ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

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

SMTAltarServer@SaintMartinofTours.com



Pray for Vocations!

For discernment resources visit www.lavocations.org



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

Contact Paul Ludwig at paulflud@aol.com.

REPAIRS & IMPROVEMENTS



Goal \$120,000
Amount Raised \$68,500
Help Fund Our Work

Visit www.smt.church/news/repairs

A Special Welcome to Our Visitors and Those Home for the Holidays

To all who are visiting family, home from college, returning to LA for Christmas, or stepping back into our parish after time away—**welcome home**. We are truly grateful that you are here with us today.

One of my favorite images of this season is the way families expand the dining table at Christmas—adding leaves to the dining table – stretching it out, making room, finding a place for everyone. The table grows because love makes room. Our church feels a bit like that today.

The pews are fuller, the aisles livelier, the music stronger—not because anything has changed in the building, but because **you** are here. And what a blessing it is. Your presence reminds us that the parish family is always larger and more beautiful than what we see on an average weekend.

If this is your first time at St. Martin of Tours, or your first time in a while, I hope you feel genuinely welcome. You belong here. You enrich our community simply by joining us in prayer.

As you return to your routines, studies, work, or travels, I encourage you to stay connected—through our parish website, our weekly email, or by reaching out any time we can be of support.

And whenever life brings you back to this area, please come and pray with us again. There will *always* be room for you—just as a family gladly adds another leaf to the table.

May this Christmas fill your heart with peace and renew your sense of God's nearness and care.

Welcome, and God bless you this Christmas!

Fr. Paul Fitzpatrick
Pastor

A Word About Our School

As we gather for Christmas, I want to speak about something very close to my heart: **our parish school**.

I could not be more proud of St. Martin of Tours School—of our dedicated faculty and staff, our joyful students, our supportive parents, and the spirit of faith, excellence, and kindness that fills our classrooms. Every time I visit the school, I am reminded that this is one of the greatest treasures of our parish.

If you are a parent or grandparent considering school options, I warmly invite you to come visit. Walk our halls, meet our principal and teachers, talk with our students, and see firsthand the environment where children are encouraged to learn, grow, and discover their God-given gifts.

A Catholic education is more than a school choice. It is an investment in a child's whole future—in their character, their values, their confidence, and their relationship with God. I truly believe it is one of the best and most enduring investments a family can make.

We would be honored to welcome your family.

Come and see—your child belongs here.

Fr. Paul



Christmas Mass Schedule

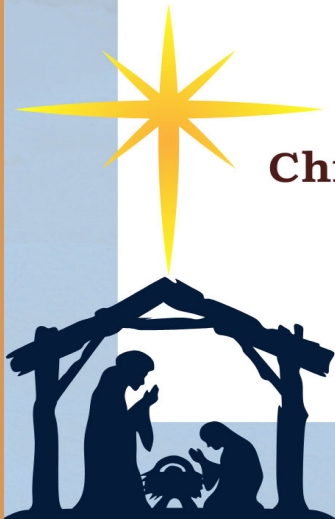
Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24th

4:00 PM Vigil Mass/Family Mass with Gospel Pageant

6:00 PM Vigil Mass-Christmas

8:40 PM Christmas Music before Mass

9:00 PM Mass at Night



Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25th

9:00 AM Christmas Morning Mass

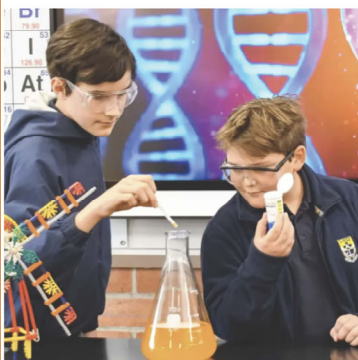
10:40 AM Christmas Music before Mass

11:00 AM Christmas Mass (final Mass of the day)



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.



- 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



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www.smtschool.net