

Church of St. Martin

119 Maine St. – PO Box 290
St. Martin, MN 56376

staffed by the Benedictines of St. John's Abbey

Sunday Bulletin



Online www.stmartincatholicchurch.com

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Bulletin Deadline— **Wednesday Noon**



Reconciliation: Saturday, 3:30 pm or by appointment.

Baptism: Call for pre-Baptism preparation video.

Anointing: Contact parish office in case of illness or need.

Wedding Plans? To avoid last-minute confusion, contact Father Corwin at least six months before your planned wedding date!

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 16, 2008



Today's first reading, responsorial psalm, and gospel address the tension between self and community. We as individuals live only within the context of the common good. To live a full human life is to make the lives of others more human. Hence, talents and graces, by definition, embrace the needs of others. In today's liturgy, personal gifts are tagged as common property. Matthew recognizes that abilities and gifts presuppose action and even involve some risk. Paradoxically, to use the gift for others is to improve the gift.

We all have gifts. Our ability to console must be shared with those who are distraught. Our ability to encourage should touch the despairing. Our leadership may give direction to the aimless. Our positive actions reaffirm again and again that personal gifts are common property.

The following appeal is a perfect case in point. Be sure to pick up your envelope.

The **Make God's Love Visible** gift request for Catholic Charities continues through November 23rd. For as little as 28 cents a day you can make a big difference in our ability to serve those less fortunate than ourselves. 28 cents a day you'll provide five days of housing to a homeless woman and her children or 30 meals to seniors in their homes. For less than the cost of a cup of coffee a day, a newspaper, or a few ounces of gas, you can Make God's Love Visible in the eyes of more than you'll know. 28 cents isn't much to you, but it makes a big difference in the people Catholic Charities touches every day in your name all year long. Please consider making God's Love Visible.

In addition, if you were not able to make a donation last year, or would like to increase your gift from last year you are eligible to have your donation matched this year. Check the remit envelope for details — there is no CC envelope in your box at home, so pick one up from tables at the church doors!

Please note that Catholic Charities does not receive direct funding from the Diocesan annual appeal.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday at Farming ----- 8:15 pm

Sunday morning at St. Martin----- 10:00 am

Monday morning— **No Mass.**

Tues-Thurs-Friday at St. Martin— 8:00 am

Wednesday at Farming----- 8:00 am

Eve of any Holy Day — 8:15 pm at Farming

Holy Days ----- 8:15 pm at St. Martin

(unless otherwise announced)

MASS INTENTIONS

17 Mon – **No Mass Today**

18 Tues – † Martin Karsch

19 Wed – **No Mass at St. Catherine's today**

20 Thur – † Amanda Blonigen

21 Fri – † Elmer Arceneau

22 Sat – **8:15 pm Mass at St. Catherine's**

23 Sun – **10:00 am Mass at St. Martin**

~ for the Parish

Daily Mass Readings

Sunday Readings: Cycle A Weekday Readings: Year 2

Nov 17 – Elizabeth of Hungary • Rv 1: 1-4, 2: 1-5 • Lk 18: 25-43

Nov 18 – St. Rose Duchesne • Rv 3: 1-6, 14-22 • Lk 19: 1-10

Nov 19 – Wednesday • Rv 4: 1-11 • Lk 19: 11-28

Nov 20 – Thursday • Rv 5: 1-10 • Lk 19: 41-44

Nov 21 – Presentation of the Virgin Mary • Rv 10: 8-11 • Lk 19: 45-48

Nov 22 – St. Cecilia • Rv 11: 4-12 • Lk 20: 27-40

***Nov 23– 34th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

• Ez 34: 11-12, 15-17 • 1 Cor 15: 20-26, 28 • Mt 25: 31-46

* = Holy Day of Obligation

Catechism Classes

Class Schedule:
Wednesday, Nov. 19 – Grades 1-8, 7:00 pm
Wednesday, Nov. 26 – No regular classes.
 Instead, all students are expected to sit with their classmates at the 8:15 pm **Thanksgiving Mass**.

11th grade Students – Your **Confirmation Retreat** will be on **February 21, 2009**. It is a mandatory retreat, so if you have a job or participate in a sport with Saturday activities, make plans **now** so that date will be free for the retreat.

Reminder to all:
Thanksgiving means a full table to us. Let's not forget those tables which without our help will be barren. Bring a food offering to the Thanksgiving Mass!

CHOIR Practice

Adult Choir:
Tuesday, Nov. 18 @ 7:30 pm

Junior Choir:
Sunday, Nov. 23 @ 9:30 am

US BISHOPS ISSUE POST-ELECTION STATEMENT, EMPHASIZE DANGERS OF FOCA

Cardinal Francis George, president of the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said yesterday that the bishops 'look forward to working with President-elect Obama and members of the new Congress for the common good of all' while emphasizing that 'the fundamental good is life itself.'

After identifying six areas— economic justice and opportunity, immigration reform, education, health care, religious liberty, and the promotion of peace— in which the bishops 'will continue to cooperate gladly with the government and all others working for these goods,' Cardinal George devoted six paragraphs to the legal protection of the unborn. 'A good state protects the lives of all,' wrote Cardinal George. 'Legal protection for those members of the human family waiting to be born in this country was removed when the Supreme Court decided Roe vs. Wade in 1973. This was bad law. The danger the Bishops see at this moment is that a bad court decision will be enshrined in bad legislation that is more radical than the 1973 Supreme Court decision itself.'

After discussing the better-known consequences of this legislation— the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA)— Cardinal George noted that 'FOCA would have an equally destructive effect on the freedom of conscience of doctors, nurses and health care workers whose personal convictions do not permit them to cooperate in the private killing of unborn children. It would threaten Catholic health care institutions and Catholic Charities. It would be an evil law that would further divide our country, and the Church should be intent on opposing evil ... Abortion kills not only unborn children; it destroys constitutional order and the common good, which is assured only when the life of every human being is legally protected. Aggressively pro-abortion policies, legislation and executive orders will permanently alienate tens of millions of Americans, and would be seen by many as an attack on the free exercise of their religion.'

Online Users Note:

If you see an underlined header for (or in) a story and wish to read the full original source, click it!
Who knows, it might even work!

**WHAT'S ELSE WHERE:**

Nov 23 – St. Michael's Church, Spring Hill. **Sausage & Egg Breakfast.** 9:00 am–12:30 pm. Sausage, eggs, fried potatoes, applesauce & beverage. Adults \$6.50, children 6-12 \$3.00. Sponsored by St. Michael's Men's Society.

Nov 23 – St. Anthony parish, 6 miles N of Albany, Hwy 238. **CAA-MG Breakfast.** 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Ham, scrambled eggs, fried potatoes, caramel rolls, frosted cinnamon rolls. \$6.50 adults, 5-10 \$3.00, 4 & under free.



Mixed Volleyball League now forming. Call Sandy at 548-3275 if you're interested in joining.

News From All Over*how quaint...*

In Boston, a town once famous for its Puritan ethos, an innovative dating service is customizing its appeal to married people considering adultery. "Life is short, have an affair," read the ads. The Boston Herald notes with a smirk that the agency is "unfazed by a quaint state law that bans adultery."

Same-sex marriage begins in Connecticut...

Following an October 10 Connecticut Supreme Court decision that imposed same-sex marriage upon the state, homosexual couples there began to wed yesterday. . .

US bishops approve Revised Psalter, Mass translation

The US bishops on Tuesday approved by a 203-5 vote the Revised Grail Psalter for use at Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours in the United States. By a 189-30 vote, the bishops also approved, with modifications, the International Committee for English in the Liturgy's 2007 translation of the liturgical prayers for Masses in Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Both the Revised Grail Psalter and the new ICEL translations are efforts to implement *Liturgiam Authenticam*, the Congregation for Divine Worship's 2001 document that called for more accurate liturgical translations. Look for some language changes in some of the things we say at Mass.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the kind words, generous gifts and prayers that you have given us after the loss of our son and brother, Doug. Knowing that many people are there for us and missing Doug too, makes our burden a bit easier to bear. May God bless each and every one of you.

Sincerely,

The Family of Douglas Mages



The **Junior Choir** is looking for new members. We sing the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, with practice before Mass. Age does not matter! Grade school students, high school, adults. If you like to sing, you need to commit to join the

Junior Choir. Please call Norine Lieser at 320-548-3252 or Mary Kay Kotschevar at 320-548-3561.

What Happens When You Die?

We don't like to think about death. We avoid even discussing it seriously. One of the penalties of our reluctantly casual attitude about death and dying is that most people are steeped in myths and misconceptions. Almost every commonly held belief is erroneous, misleading, and contrary to what we do know about the subject. But there are several incidences that we can trust as reliable. Stephen, as he was being stoned, gave us a glimpse:

But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. - Acts 7:55,56

So this notion that being greeted by the Lord Himself - at least in his case - is not fanciful.

Paul also speaks of a "near-death" experience in which he was caught up to paradise. This happened 14 years before writing about it to the Corinthians, and some scholars believe it coincided with his experience at Lystra where he was stoned, dragged out of the city and left for dead. (Whether this was a "near-death" experience or something else, we'll have to wait until we can ask him.)

Is it significant that Jesus spoke much more about Hell than He did about Heaven? The very concept of the need for a Savior presupposes avoiding of an otherwise certain destiny of desolation and eternal banishment. The good news is that you and I are the beneficiaries of a love letter: written in blood on a wooden cross erected in Judea about two thousand years ago and which is the fulcrum of all history and the entire universe. The crucifixion was not a tragedy: it was victory. Christ's triumph over death made it at least possible for us to avoid an otherwise certain destiny.

THE THUNDER OF JUSTICE

Convergence. So many lines of witness, moving from somewhere over our shoulder toward a point of impact, looming closer. And no, I have not joined some lunatic fringe but there's been a pattern to this and I think we ought to be paying closer attention. The fire next time.

We know her by so many names. Queen of Heaven. The Immaculate Conception. Mother of the Church. Queen of Peace. The New Eve. Queen of the Holy Rosary. Mother of Families. Her Litany is long. Most recently, Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix, Advocate.

"Co-" does not imply equal billing with her Son. It comes from the Latin *cum*, meaning "along with." The Church has always warned about exaggerating Mary's role, which is subordinate. But very powerful in the same way that a passkey can let you into a treasure room. As mediator, she has no equal. As advocate for the People of God, she carries the power of the Holy Spirit in her hand. A hand outstretched in all her hundreds of appearances to people humble enough—childlike enough—to have no preconceived notions of theology. Able only to pray.

A hand outstretched in constant and consistent warning. It's interesting to me that almost all of Jesus' promises carried also a warning. His mother, modern messenger to us, consistently has warned us to pay attention, to pray, to be ready. Do you even know where your rosary is?

Those warnings have steadily increased over the past 100 years, the exact amount of time which Mary told us that Satan will have to mess with our minds, after which, spectacular things will happen. You can do the arithmetic. If we are not right now on the cusp of something remarkable, then a succession of popes and prophetesses, priests and peasants have all been badly fooled.

But I don't believe they have. Too many Marian apparitions, from Guadalupe in 1531 to LaSalette and Lourdes, Fatima through Knock and Medjugorje to Mosul in Iraq. Poland and Russia, Vietnam, Japan, the Ukraine. Egypt and Ohio and Kettle River in Minnesota. Some are validated fully by a Church which very prudently takes her time investigating, most carry at least the local bishop's cautious blessing. The pattern has emerged.

You think things are bad now? Something wicked this way comes. Are you ready? Something wonderful.

Are you ready? ~yr. obt. svt.

**3rd Marriage Banns**

Christopher Wehseler
and
Cheryl Bruemmer