

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

Pastor **Fr. Corwin Collins, O.S.B.**

Phone **(320) 548-3550** email esm08@meltel.net

Deacon **Jerry Theis** (320) 597-2749 tenbears@peoplepc.com

Financial Coordinator— Renee Thelen **548-3265**

Director of Religious Education— Joan Rothstein **548-3209**

Bulletin Editor— Paul Hughey **837-5436**

Bulletin Email— owlwrite@albanytel.com

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!



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23, 2009

A scandalous teaching

The depth and significance of Christ's message, and the teaching of the Church, scandalizes, in the sense that it is a stumbling block for the disbeliever... and a test for the believer.

The theme of scandal in the New Testament is always connected with faith, as free acceptance of the mystery of Christ. Before the Gospel we cannot remain indifferent, lukewarm or evasive: The Lord calls each of us personally asking us to declare ourselves for him (see Matthew 10:32-33).

When we are faced with the difficult teachings of Jesus and the Church, do we also wish to go away? Is it not true that often, because of the complexity of the issues and pressures of the society around us, we are tempted to "go away?"

Peter's response to Jesus' question — "Do you also wish to go away? — in today's Gospel is striking. Peter doesn't say, "yeah, I'm outa here," but he doesn't quite say "no" either.

Instead, in good Gospel-style, he answers back with another question: "To whom else *can* we go?" Not the most flattering answer in the world, but honest. Peter and the others stay with Jesus precisely because he has been a source of life and true liberation for them.

Following Jesus and the teaching of the Church isn't always easy, or pleasant, or even totally comprehensible, but when it comes to the eternal-life business, there's not much out there in the way of alternatives.

This week let us not forget the words of Jesus: "Whoever eats me will live because of me." And let us give witness to our Catholic faith and to God's plan that marriage be the sacred union of one man and one woman, to family life as the foundation of our society. Blessed are we if we do not take offense, but are led by Christ's words to abundant life.

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

24 Mon — **No Morning Mass**

25 Tues — † Elmer Arceneau

26 Wed — **8:00 am Mass at St. Catherine's**

27 Thur — †† Martin & Ursula Shay

28 Fri — † Joe Fleischhacker

29 Sat — **8:15 pm Mass at St. Catherine's**

***30 Sun** — **10:00 am Mass at St. Martin**

† Lorraine Ehresmann

*** = Holy Day of Obligation**

Daily Mass Readings

Sunday Readings: Cycle B Weekday Readings: Year 1

Aug 24— *St. Bartholomew* • Rv 21: 9b-14 • Jn 1: 45-51

Aug 25 — *Tuesday* • 1 Thes 2: 1-8 • Mt 23: 23-26

Aug 26 — *Wednesday* • 1 Thes 2: 1-8 • Mt 23: 27-32

Aug 27 — *St. Monica* • 1 Thes 3: 7-13 • Mt 24: 42-51

Aug 28 — *St. Augustine* • 1 Thes 4: 1-8 • Mt 25: 1-13

Aug 29 — *Martyrdom of John the Baptist* • 1 Thes 4: 9-11
• Mk 6: 17-29

***Aug 30** — **22nd Sunday in O.T.** • Dt 4: 1-2, 6-8

• James 1: 17-18, 21b-22, 27 • Mk 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*** = Holy Day of Obligation**

Religious Education News



Do You...

have a child who will enter First Grade this year?

Call Joan Now! 548-3209

Are You...

the parent of a child *at any grade level* who was *not* in the St. Martin Religious Ed. Program last year..but will be this year?

Call Joan Now! 548-3209

Otherwise your child might have to start classes this fall without a textbook or other necessary materials. Publishers need our parish's orders **now** so they can ship the materials on time.

Will You...

give serious thought to volunteering a little of your time to help shape the faithful future of a few of our youngest parishioners? We still need a couple of teachers. Prior teaching experience is helpful but not necessary. If you are a practicing Catholic, the Holy Spirit (and other teachers) will give you all the help you need!

Call Joan Now! 548-3209

ST. MARTIN STEWARDSHIP

9 August, 2009

Adults	954.00
Youth	2.00
Children	3.00
Plate	32.00
Energy	130.00
Votives	17.00
Total	1138.00

16 August, 2009

Adults	1151.00
Youth	1.00
Children	1.50
Plate	43.50
Votives	20.00
Total	1217.00

Prayer Line 548-3436

Do you know of someone ill or in need of prayers? Call **Diane Rothstein** – 548-3436.

Dozens of parishioners will immediately ask intercession for the sufferer.

HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

Aug 23 – St. John's parish, Meire Grove. **School Benefit Breakfast.** Serving from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. Ham, eggs, fried potatoes, apple-sauce and Frosted Cinnamon Bread.

Aug 23 – St. Francis of Assissi parish, 10 miles N of Albany on 238. **Fall Festival.** Chicken & Ham Dinner with homemade dressing and all the fixings starts at 11:00 am. Food, games & refreshments all day. Live music by Country Polkateers and Country Rascals (5:00 – 8:00 pm). **Grand Raffle** at 8:00 pm.

Aug 30 – Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Center, Richmond. **QUILT BINGO.** 6:30 pm (doors open at 5:30). Quilt Raffle – progressive Quilt Auction. Refreshments available. Cost \$10 per card good for 20 games. Must be 18 to play – no checks please!

Sept 13 – Church of St. Joseph, Waite Park. **Fall Festival.** Outdoor Polka Mass, 10:30 am. Stands open at 11:00 am. Raffle Drawing at 5:00 pm. Wide variety of food & beverage stands, Basket Boutique, Quilt Silent Auction, pull tabs & much more.

U.S. Bishop explains why he faces East

<http://www.zenit.org/article-26633?l=english>

TULSA, Oklahoma, AUG. 19, 2009 ([Zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org))- The bishop of Tulsa explains his decision to celebrate Mass at the diocesan cathedral “*ad orientem*” – facing east – as an effort to recapture a “more authentic” Catholic worship.

Bishop Edward Slattery affirmed this in an article featured in the September edition of the Eastern Oklahoma Catholic, titled “*Ad Orientem: Revival of Ancient Rite Brings Multiple Advantages, Some Misperceptions.*”

Discussing liturgical reform, the prelate said it is necessary to grasp this essential truth: “At Mass, Christ joins us to himself as he offers himself in sacrifice to the Father for the world’s redemption.” Priests have a unique role in this offering, the bishop affirmed, to stand “in the person of Christ, the historic Head of the Mystical Body, so that, at Mass, it is the whole body of Christ, Head and members together that make the offering.”

Bishop Slattery explained that “from ancient times, the position of the priest and the people reflected this understanding of the Mass.”

As well, he added, “everyone – celebrant and congregation – faced the same direction, since they were united with Christ in offering to the Father Christ’s unique, unrepeatable and acceptable sacrifice.”

Ed. note – Online, click the blue hyperlink at top to read the entire interview and story. It’s interesting.

Pope greeted cyclists as Tour passed vacation spot.

We confess to having grumped about this kind of “news” for years, but this particular story is such a stellar example of the genre that one can almost understand why it made it into the headlines. The not very informative story came to us, predictably, from the Vatican Information Service. VIS does not say whether, in view of his recently broken wrist, the Holy Father gritted his teeth and waved as the bicycle racers streaked sweatily by.

But it does link to another story, namely that Pope Benedict received honorary citizenship in the town where he greeted the bicycle racers (ho hum), also mentioning that he plans to pay an official papal visit to the Shroud of Turin next Spring (nothing ho-hum about that! It may produce NEWS).

Ah, the news! So many possibilities. So little fun.

US bishops’ web site introduces new Mass translation

<http://www.catholicculture.org/news/headlines/index.cfm?storyid=3846>

The US bishops’ conference has released a new web site designed to introduce the faithful to a new English translation of the Mass. After years of work, the translation will be introduced after it receives final clearance from the Holy See.

Ed. note – Aha! I think we are in for some pleasant surprises. And from what has already appeared in final draft form, the Lord’s Prayer will still be recognizable after all. In general the long-awaited revisions strive to restore the biblical and theological richness of the original Latin text.

YOUNG PEOPLE: Filling THE GOD-SHAPED HOLE...WITH TRADITION

Several interesting things noted in this weeks’ scouring of news stories. One is a report from Georgetown University’s Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate. The report on “Recent Vocations to the Religious Life” was prepared for last week’s National Religious Vocation Conference, held recently in New Orleans.

In the study surveying 2,630 new members of religious orders, 85% said that they chose a particular community because they were attracted by the example of its members. Of these 2,235 vocations, three-fourths reported that they initially felt drawn to religious life by the sense of a call and a desire for spiritual growth. Those groups most successful in attracting and retaining new members follow a more traditional style of religious life.

In this style, “members live together in community and participate in daily Eucharist, pray the Divine Office, and engage in devotional practices together.” As well, they “wear a religious habit, work together in common apostolates, and are explicit about their fidelity to the Church and the teachings of the Magisterium.”

I was also struck by one theme that threaded its way through individual comments. At least in this sample of the Millennial Generation, there seemed to be a reaction against ideological splits they see happening within other denominations, even within the Catholic Church in America. Specifically, a tendency toward “local option” parishes and dioceses, increasingly expressed as passive disobedience to the teaching authority of the Church by many, including some priests and bishops.

They fear — and I’m inclined to give it some credence — a drift toward eventual separation from Rome into a loose federation of distinctively “American” Catholic churches. That would be absolutely disastrous, and let’s just hope that they’re wrong in that perception.

But let us rejoice if two generations of ecumenical modernism have actually bored some young American Catholics into trying to do something about that God-shaped hole in their hearts. *yr. obt. svst.*

**The law, in its majestic equality,
forbids the rich as well as the poor
to sleep under bridges, to beg in the
streets, and to steal bread.**

~Anatole France, 1844 - 1924

the LaZBoy approach to Sunday Mass:

