

# 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.**

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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!

## First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2008

The season of Advent focuses on the Parousia, the Second Coming of Jesus. We may be tempted to regard this event as some distant final chapter in the history of salvation. Today's Scripture speaks of God's return, not as fantasy for tomorrow but as a call to action. The Parousia has significance today because the Lord's coming in glory calls us to involvement with all believers. To wait for the Lord is to wait on God's people.



The opportunities for Parousia service are many. Sharing food with the poor identifies with Third Isaiah, sharing talents with the community imitates Paul, exercising authority with kindness and justice echoes Mark's message.

This could be a bleak winter for many. We ask that every parishioner bring pantry items of genuine usefulness to each Mass during Advent. Your donations will be distributed to area Food Shelves for distribution before Christmas.

May God bless you!

*Fr. Corwin, OSB*

Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period of devout and joyful expectation.

[General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar: #39.](#)

"No man ever believes the Bible means what it says: He is always convinced that it says what he means." ~George Bernard Shaw



HAIL, MARY, FULL OF GRACE!  
THE LORD IS WITH YOU!

## 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

- 1 Mon** — **No Mass Today**
  - 2 Tues** — † Sylvester Doll
  - 3 Wed** — **No Mass at St. Catherine's today**
  - 4 Thur** — † Leona Mehr
  - 5 Fri** — Special Intention
  - 6 Sat** — 8:15 pm Mass at St. Catherine's
  - \*7 Sun** — 10:00 am Mass at St. Martin  
~for the Parish  
8:15 pm Mass at Farming  
*(Feast of the Immaculate Conception)*
  - \*8 Mon** — 8:15 pm Mass at St. Martin  
*(Feast of the Immaculate Conception)*
- \* = Holy Day of Obligation

## Daily Mass Readings

Sunday Readings: Year B Weekday Readings: Cycle 1

- Dec 1** — *Advent Weekday* • Is 2:1-5 • Mk 13: 1-5
  - Dec 2** — *Advent Weekday* • Is 11: 1-10 • Lk 10: 21-24
  - Dec 3** — *St. Francis Xavier* • Is 25: 6-10a • Mt 15: 29-37
  - Dec 4** — *St. John of Damascus* • Is 26: 1-6 • Mt 7: 21, 24-27
  - Dec 5** — *Advent Weekday* • Is 29: 17-24 • Mt 9: 27-31
  - Dec 6** — *St. Nicholas* • Is 30: 19-21, 23-26  
• Mt 9: 35--10: 1, 5a, 6-8
  - \*Dec 7** — **2nd Sunday of Advent**  
• Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 • 2 Pt 3: 8-14 • Mark 1: 1-8
  - \*Dec 8** — **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**  
• Gen 3:9-15, 20 • Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12 • Luke 1: 26-38
- \* = Holy Day of Obligation



### Catechism Classes

**Class Schedule:**  
**Wed., Dec. 3** – Reconciliation for **Grades 3-9**. 7– 8 pm.  
**Meet in church.**  
**Grades 10 & 11** meet in Parish Hall classrooms, 7-9:30 pm.  
You will have a chance for **Reconciliation** after 8:00 pm.  
**Wed., Dec. 10** – **Grades 1– 8:** Regular classes at 7:00–8:00 pm.  
**(Grade 2, 1st Reconciliation.)**

As a bishop, Saint Alphonsus Liguori was insulted by a woman as he was leaving the cathedral. She accused him of being responsible for the famine that had ravished the land. Alphonsus blessed her, but the sacristan accompanying him was less gentle and shoved her aside. The bishop reprimanded him: "Poor thing, she and others like her deserve compassion; these words do not stem from their hearts but from their hunger." He gave the sacristan a penance: four days of staying home and praying.

The saints understood the importance of patience. Pope Saint Gregory I said, "Patience is the root and guardian over all the virtues." And Saint Augustine said, "Patience is the companion of wisdom."

Patience is a special virtue for Advent. The Jewish people had to wait long centuries for the coming of the Messiah, and Mary had to wait many months for the fulfillment of her own hope in the birth of her Son.

Our patience at Advent comes in our making use of these weeks before Christmas to prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of the Lord with heart renewed. It may mean taking extra time for prayer or spiritual reading. It may mean examining ourselves with an honest look to see what we must confess during our Advent Penance services and to really work on improving our lives.

## 500 Card Party!

**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

8 PM in the parish hall. Admission \$2.00.  
Lunch served, refreshments available.

•Sponsored by **St. Joseph's Men's Society**

**Chairman:** Steve Burg **Co-Chair:** John Kolb

**Helpers:** Al Lieser, Wilfred Bertram, Duane Burg, Jack Holthaus, LeRoy Moscho, Harvey Rothstein, Allen Schaefer, Keith Schaefer, Phil Schmiesing, Math Schmitz, Arnie Stang, Don Thomes.



Adult Choir:  
**Monday, Dec. 15 @ 7:30 pm**  
(Also note that we will sing for Mass on Dec. 14.)

**WHAT'S ELSE WHERE:**

**Dec 2 – Daughters of Isabella annual Christmas Party.** Social hour at 6:30 pm, catered dinner at 7:00 pm. All members and guests are welcome. For reservation call Marcie at 243-4402 or Cleone at 453-6005.

**Dec 7 – Sts. Peter & Paul School, Richmond. Family-sponsored Breakfast and Holiday Extravaganza.** 8:30 am–12:00 noon. Sausage, eggs, fried potatoes, applesauce & beverage. Adults \$7.50, children under 12, \$4.00, under 4 free. Cookie/Candy Walk, holiday gift wrap and cards, and a Silent Auction.

**Dec 7 – Paynesville K of C Christmas Brunch.** 9:00 am–12:30 pm.

**Dec 7 – Seven Dolores Parish Center, Albany. Family-sponsored Breakfast.** 8:30 am–12:00 noon. Sausage, ham, pancakes, hashbrowns, scrambled eggs, applesauce, strawberries & cream, caramel & cinnamon rolls & beverage. Adults \$7, K-6 \$4.00, 5 & under free. To benefit Holy Family School.

**Catholic Aid Association**

Post-High School Tuition Scholarship Applications are available from rep. Jim Haag at 1-320-453-2107 or click

<http://www.catholicaid.com/>

Applicants must be entering first or second year of post-high school education, as part of a degree or certificate program and be a member of Catholic Aid for at least 2 years. Deadline is February 15, 2009.

**Catholic Aid Association Meeting & Breakfast**

The annual meeting of the St. Martin Catholic Aid Council #095 will be Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> after 10:00 am Mass followed by breakfast in the Parish Hall. We will honor this year's "50 Year Members" at this event.



The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at St. Martin Parish Hall on Thursday, Dec. 11 from 1 to 7 pm.

**FALL CRAFT, RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE**

St. Martin Parish		St Ann's Christian Mothers	
Income		Income	
Soup Line	\$1,340.25		
Lunch Line	\$1,074.30	Bake Sale-1/2	\$282.63
Rummage sale	\$319.25	Craft/Flea Booths	\$376.00
Chances	\$108.00	Total Income	\$658.63
Total Income	\$2,841.80		
Expenses		Expenses	
Advertising	\$96.60	Advertising & Prep Work	\$96.60
Soup/Lunch supplies	\$982.73		
Total Expenses	\$1,079.33	St Ann's Net Income	\$562.03
Total Parish Deposit	\$1,762.47	Mission - Bake Sale 1/2	\$282.62

**Catholic World Newsclips:**

**Investor's Business Daily: Benedict '2nd pro-capitalist Pope in a row'**

Echoing earlier criticisms of recent claims that Pope Benedict predicted the meltdown of world financial markets, Investor's Business Daily in an editorial yesterday called Pope Benedict the 'second pro-capitalist Pope in a row.'

The pontiff, however, might take issue with that label. In his May 2007 address to Latin American bishops in Aparecida, Brazil, he said:

"Are only material goods, social, economic and political problems 'reality'? This was precisely the great error of the dominant tendencies of the last century, a most destructive error, as we can see from the results of both Marxist and capitalist systems. They falsify the notion of reality by detaching it from the foundational and decisive reality which is God ... Both capitalism and Marxism promised to point out the path for the creation of just structures, and they declared that these, once established, would function by themselves; they declared that not only would they have no need of any prior individual morality, but that they would promote a communal morality. And this ideological promise has been proved false. The facts have clearly demonstrated it."

As a kid I had a hard time saying thanks.

At supper when I curled my lip at liver and onions (actually I liked the onions), mom would remind me about starving children in Bombay (which we now are struggling to spell "Mumbai"). Well, terrific, I would ungraciously mumble. Send 'em this here plateful of fried pig liver.

When it came to choosing friends, I always felt torn between making an honest judgment about someone and being ignorantly judgmental.

Those two facts of life—saying thanks and making honest judgments—don't come easily to most of us.

Especially when it's about us!

Fortunately, there's a cure. You read everything in sight, listen closely to what saints among us say, and you pray to the Holy Spirit for tolerance and patience with self.

For strength in my weakness, I thank my Lord. And for the courage to risk being wrong often as not. For release from fear of the unknown, I still will pray. But I finally have attained the honesty to decline eating pig liver, thank you! Have I attained the honesty to go and confess my sins so I don't compound the thank-you problem by receiving communion in a pignasty state of moral sloth? I think so. But it's hard to sustain in a pick-and-choose culture which has forgotten how to even use this great sacramental gift.

All across a troubled, fearful nation, parish priests sit around on Saturday afternoons hoping someone will show up for confession. But in a numbed, secularized society, only the remnant few even bother. ~yr. obt. svt.

**Cards, Calls, Visits Needed!**

Blondie Kuhl had hip replacement surgery this past week. Currently she is at:

St. Benedict's Senior Community  
Room 157  
1810 Minnesota Blvd. SE  
St. Cloud, MN 56304

Phone 1-320-252-0010, ask for Room 157 or Darlene Kuhl. She could sure use some extra prayers, too!

**Christmas Divorce**

An elderly man in Phoenix calls his son in New York and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty years of misery is enough."

"Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand each other any longer," the old man says. "We're sick and tired of each other and I'm sick of talking about this, so call your sister in Chicago and tell her."

And he hangs up.

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. Like heck they're getting a divorce, she shouts. "I'll take care of this." She calls Phoenix immediately and screams at the old man, "You are NOT getting divorced! Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" And she hangs up.

The old man hangs up the phone, smiles and turns to his wife.

"They're coming for Christmas and paying their own way."