



St. Martin of Tours CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Deacon Dave Newell, Parish Deacon

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Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God—January 1, 2017

The Vigil Mass on Saturday, Jan 7th at 5:30 pm will be in Vietnamese: Confessions will be heard in English and Vietnamese beginning at 4:30 pm.

Holy Mass this Monday, Jan. 2 at 12:15 pm

No Holy Mass at Sorrell Chapel until Jan. 22nd: due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend.

Memorial Gifts toward Christmas Flowers: If you would like to give toward our Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one(s), please use one of the red envelopes on the tables at the back of the church and clearly print the name(s) of your loved ones on it.

Fr. Irwin away Jan 2-8: Fr. Irwin is going with our college students to a conference January 2 – 8. In case of emergency, please call or text Deacon Dave at 334-806-6700.

Please pray for our college students: this week as they will be at a Catholic conference with about 10,000 other people!

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTIN

Sunday, January 1

Sacrament of Reconciliation – 9:30 to 9:45 am
Rosary – 9:30 am
Holy Mass – 10:00 am
Missa en Espanol - 1 de enero al medio dia aqui.
Holy Mass in Spanish - Jan 1 at noon.

Monday, January 2

Holy Mass - 12:15 pm

Tuesday, January 3

Men of St. Martin - 6:30 am
No Mass

Wednesday, January 4

Adoration - 9 am - 8 pm
No Mass
Bible Study in Spanish - 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Thursday, January 5

No Mass

Friday, January 6

No Mass

Saturday, January 7

Sacrament of Reconciliation – 4:45 to 5:15 pm
Holy Mass in Vietnamese—5:30 pm

Sunday, January 8

CCD - 8:30 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation – 9:30 to 9:45 am
Rosary – 9:30 am
Holy Mass – 10:00 am
Jr. High & High School Teen Meeting - 6:15 pm - 7:30pm

Celebrate the Christmas Season: we recall that in the Catholic Church we celebrate a short, yet significant, **season** for Christmas. Typically, the Christmas season plays out as follows. It begins with the vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. The following Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph (this year this feast is transferred to Friday, Dec. 30th). January 1st we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. [January 1st, by the way, is the eighth day after Christmas and thus concludes the Christmas octave; for the great feasts of the Church, Christmas and Easter, we have an eight day celebration (hence the name octave); it is as if it is Christmas day (or Easter Sunday) for eight straight days]. The 2nd Sunday after Christmas is the Epiphany of the Lord, when we recall how the wise men came from the East to worship the new born king. The 3rd Sunday after Christmas is the Baptism of the Lord (which is transferred to Monday, Jan. 9th this year). This day is our transition from the Christmas season into Ordinary Time. As is very obvious this year with Christmas falling on Sunday, sometimes the various feast days have to be moved to some extent to make room for all of our celebrations. Let's **Keep those Decorations up** through the Christmas season which concludes this year, Monday, Jan. 9th.

Visit the Nativity Scene with your Children: It is a long standing and beautiful tradition in the Church to take children to visit the Nativity scene and describe all the characters as well as the setting. It is easy to forget that our Lord was born in a most humble place (perhaps in a stable or a cave) because there was no room for them in the inn and that he was laid in a manger – which is a feeding trough for animals! Some of the only people, outside of Mary and Joseph, to know about Jesus' birth were simple shepherds who were informed by an angel of the Lord. Luke 2:1 – 20.

Please Help us Put Away Christmas Decorations: immediately following Holy Mass next Sunday. Many hands make light work!

Big Thanks for Parish Christmas Party: to Cheryl DiChiara & Jana Rogers for coordinating everything, and to Mike Gibbons for providing music & entertainment. It was a very enjoyable afternoon.

New Email Address for Fr. Irwin: please continue to use the parish email address for most all correspondence, even with Fr. Irwin. However, if you need to send Fr. Irwin anything confidential, please send it to: frdenirwin@yahoo.com. This email address will be placed in the bulletin under his name.

Please pick up your New Envelopes in the Hall: your name should be on your set if you have had envelopes before. Otherwise, please follow the directions. **Please be aware that the numbers may have changed. Go by your name and not your number.**

CCD: resumes Sunday, January 8th. There will be no CCD Jan. 15th.

RCIA: resumes Thursday, January 12th.

Pray the Rosary Sunday at 9:30 am



Let us Pray for:

Denise Broxton, K.D. Blair, Ellen Blum, Bruce Tustin, Charles Owens and Carol Gibbs. Please send an email to [REDACTED] to add or remove a name from the prayer list.



If You Have Items to Donate or Give Away: please call or email the parish. We can very often find a good home for clothes, furniture, etc. among our own parishioners.

The Parish Code for Access to FORMED.ORG: is [REDACTED]. Please keep in mind that this code is for our parishioners and students only. I believe very strongly in honoring these sorts of rules. After all, if we want good Catholic material to learn from and share with our children, someone has to pay for it! (In case friends from other places enquire about getting access to FORMED, individuals are welcome to purchase access to the site as well as parishes). Thanks, Fr. Irwin

We welcome more Adorers: As we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord where we recall the 3 wise men who came to do the new born King homage and offer him gifts, please consider signing up for a time slot for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which is offered on Wednesdays from 9 am – 8 pm. It would be great if we had a few people per hour; that way, if someone will be out of town, there would be others to cover for that person. **We can also use substitutes.** One of the greatest gifts we can give God is our time. Our dear Lord is just waiting on us to come and spend some time with him. For more info please contact Barbara Patterson [REDACTED].

Thanks to All Church Decorators: We appreciate everyone who helped decorate the church: special thanks to Barbara Patterson our liturgical coordinator. The Church looks beautiful.

Thank you Anna Gooden: Anna works up the bulletin for us each week; she also manages our website. If you see any mistakes in the bulletin, they are almost always mine! - Fr. Irwin. Thank you Anna for doing this service for the parish.

Thanks to Jamey McDaniel, Dr. Block & our Choir: We really appreciate their service each week to our parish and especially at times like Christmas where the music is so special. Please offer them a word of thanks.

SERVING YOU NEXT WEEK

Saturday – January 7, 2017

Greeters: Chris Gambles
Lectors: Anna Gooden, Brittney Meyer
Ushers: Jeffrey and Rick Messick
Gift Bearers: The Gibbs Family
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Julia Tran, Barbara Staskowski
Altar Servers:

Sunday – January 8, 2017

Greeters: Jeffrey Blair, Annette Tustin
Lectors: Cathy Brunson, Mike Orlofsky
Ushers: Parker Reiss, Bobby Hussey
Gift Bearers: The Smoleic Family
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Mickey and Cheryl DiChiara
Altar Servers: Brock Huner, Hannah Huner, Avery Ernsberger

Thanks to our Choir & Liturgical Volunteers: As we consider the magi who came and adored the Lord, we thank all those who help make the Liturgy so beautiful: our choir members who lead the singing, especially Pat Block, Mike Gibbons, and Rebecca Sanders our cantors, our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Ushers, Greeters, gift-bearers and Altar Servers. A big thanks as well to Barbara Staskowski, Jo Ann Gibson, and Barbara Patterson who each set up for one of our three Masses each weekend. Finally, thanks to Nelly Robledo who coordinates everything for Holy Mass in Spanish each month and translates Father's homily into Spanish. We really appreciate you and the service you provide for our parish.

We are excited to announce that our parish has subscribed to an exciting new Website called Formed.org.

Every parishioner and student will soon be able to go to Formed.org and ...

- 24/7 access to the truth, beauty, and meaning of the Catholic Faith anytime, anywhere... with FORMED
- Use it on your computer, tablet, or smartphone.
- Informative and inspiring teaching from renowned speakers Dr. Scott Hahn, Dr. Edward Sri, Bishop Robert Barron, Dr. Tim Gray, Father Michael Gaitley, Teresa Tomeo... and many more
- Multiple programs to address multiple parish needs:
 - Scripture Studies, Adult Faith Formation, Marriage Preparation and Enrichment, RCIA, Sacrament Preparation, Small Group Teen Discipleship, and much more!

Children in Church: This time of year, when we are so focused on children, is a good time to say a word of encouragement to our parents of little children attending Holy Mass. Obviously, children are going to cry, talk and make noise in church. Some of us who do not have children, or whose children grew up long ago, may have forgotten how difficult it is to try and keep a child quiet throughout Mass; therefore, we should be understanding. Children are welcome at our parish; we want parents to bring them. On the other hand, parents of little ones must be aware that at a certain point, a child needs to be taken to a place outside the congregation where he/she may be properly cared for. Children should never be allowed to play with noisy toys or eat food that will leave any kind of mess in the church during Mass. If we all try and be considerate of one another, as the people of our parish do, things work out well. Thank you for being understanding of one another – Fr. Irwin.

Spotlight on FORMED.ORG

Audio:

“Prepare the Way of the King” Dr. Scott Hahn
“The True Meaning of Christmas” Archbishop Fulton Sheen

Movies & Documentaries:

"Bakita From Slave to Saint"
“Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message”

Tithing Report December 25, 2016

Regular - \$2,693.15

Total - \$3,655.73

Renovation Campaign

Pledges Received - \$90,934.00
Percent of Total Pledged - 86%