

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR ...



I want to write today about miracles. A common comment when someone has read accounts of the lives of the Saints is why don't things like that happen today. The short answer is they do. We believe that miracles are happening around us all the time, and I'm not being trite and saying something like life is a miracle or sunrises are miraculous. True, honest to God, miracles are happening even today. People respond with when was the last time someone parted a river and walked across on dry land or carried their head through the streets of a city so they could die in the place they foretold (Yes, that is something supposedly happened). I will admit that things like that in truth are not happening anymore, but that doesn't mean that there are no more miracles in our world.

Many of the things from what is casually called the age of Miracles seem implausible to us today, and many of them probably have more than a little bit of the tall tale to them. I am not saying that I discount all of the miracles are reported to occur, but I for one don't believe that story about the person carrying his head through the streets. Anyone who has every told a story about a fish they caught knows that the size of the fish grows with the telling of the story. What started as a 18in bass becomes a 100lb catfish over time. I believe that the same thing is happening in stories of the Saints. What started as something extraordinary and quite likely miraculous becomes something totally out of proportion with telling over time. With many of the saints the only accounts we have of their lives are ones that were passed down orally for generations before they were written down giving them plenty of time to grow.

But all of this said I firmly believe that miracles are still happening in our world today. Every time a Saint is canonized there must be solid proof of two miracles attributed to that person's intercession. Generally, these are healings though not always. This proof is not just a rubber stamp of the Catholic Church. They ask the foremost scientific minds in the world to examine the evidence of a miracle before it is recognized. There have been several instances of the host at Mass changing not just in substance but in appearance as well. So that at one moment the priest was holding in his hands what appeared to be bread, and, in the next instant, he was holding in his hand what appeared to be flesh. In each of these instances scientific tests were carried out and, in each instance, certain similarities were found. The flesh was cardiac tissue and had the same blood type from instance to instance. Miracles still do happen, but usually what someone is saying when they ask this question is actually a different question. What they really want to know is, why hasn't MY miracle happened, and that is a topic for next time.

-Fr. Daniel Dillard

MASS INTENTIONS

January 11, 2026

Sun	01/11	07:00 AM	Johnny Simms
		10:30 AM	St. Martin Parishioners
Mon	01/12	07:00 AM	NO MASS
Tue	01/13	07:00 AM	Joann Williams
Wed	01/14	06:55 AM	Colleen Roberts Remole
Thurs	01/15	07:00 AM	Florence Stodghill
Fri	01/16	07:00 AM	Norma Hagan
Sat	01/17	04:00 PM	Joe Bittel, Jr.
Sun	01/18	07:00 AM	Patricia Osborne
		10:30 AM	St. Martin Parishioners



COMING UP IN & AROUND OUR PARISH

JANUARY 11

Faith Formation
9:00-10:15



JANUARY 21

EUCARISTIC ADORATION
5-6PM



JANUARY 21

Confirmation Session
6:00pm - Parish Center



JANUARY 24

1st Reconciliation
11:30am in Church



JANUARY 25

Faith Formation
9:00-10:15



JANUARY 28

Finance Council Meeting 5pm
Parish Council Meeting 6pm



FEBRUARY 1

Faith Formation
9:00-10:15



MINISTER SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 10th — 4:00 PM

Lector: Debi Hopkins
Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Simmons
Stacy Thompson
Janice McCarthy

Altar Servers: Emmie Buck & Noah McBride

Sunday, January 11th — 7:00 AM

Lector: Sherry Krampe
Eucharistic Ministers: Betty Hamilton
Darlene May
Mike Wade

Altar Servers: Luke Murphy & Abi Murphy

Sunday, January 11th — 10:30 AM

Lector: Michaeline Chandler
Eucharistic Ministers: Krystal Medley
Bobby Kennedy
Darlene Berry

Altar Servers: J.T. Edge & Hayden Edge

Saturday, January 17th — 4:00 PM

Lector: David Clark
Eucharistic Ministers: Robynn Clark
Nicholas Fischer
Jena Hayden

Altar Servers: Molly Knott & Paxton LaHugh

Sunday, January 18th — 7:00 AM

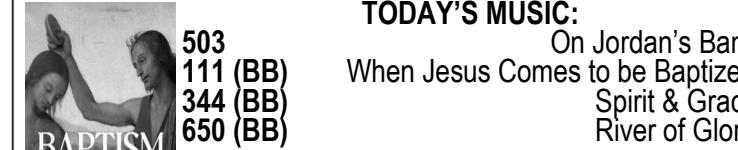
Lector: MacKenzie Murphy
Eucharistic Ministers: Erica Tapp
Will Clayton

Altar Servers: Lauren Ebelhar
Hagan Ebelhar & Eli Murphy

Sunday, January 18th — 10:30 AM

Lector: Keith Evans
Eucharistic Ministers: Jessica Johnson
Cheryl Clark
Nancy Greenwell

Altar Servers: Corley Cheek & Tanner Cheek



TODAY'S MUSIC:

503 On Jordan's Bank
111 (BB) When Jesus Comes to be Baptized
344 (BB) Spirit & Grace
650 (BB) River of Glory

TODAY'S READINGS:

Ritual Song #1111

STEWARDSHIP

January 04, 2026

(Includes Picnic & Fundraising Deposits / Insurance Claim Money Excluded)
(These numbers consider only actual income vs. budgeted income and do not consider any expense; therefore, budget income less expenses may reflect something different).

Regular Collections: \$ 8,741.00

Building Fund: \$ 580.00

Special/Designated Collections: \$ 125.00

TOTAL: \$ 9,446.00

Weekly Budget: \$ 10,692.31

Collections (YTD): \$ 318,703.13

Budget (YTD): \$ 288,692.25

Over/(Under): \$ 30,010.88

FAITH FORMATION

The annual St. Martin Birthright drive begins now!

We want to be overloaded with donations!

For children:

- Sleepers and diapers--all infant sizes, coats and clothing- for children, infant up through size 5. New and gently used, clean items only, please.
- Baby blankets, warm hats, diaper bags, crib sheets; lotions

For moms:

- Maternity items, all sizes; slippers, socks, robes, toiletries

There is a collection space to the left as you enter the church. Any cash or gift card donations can be put in a designated envelope in your packet or use an envelope available in church pews and the vestibule. You can put designated monetary donations in the regular collection, or send to the parish office.

This is a tangible way to be Pro-Life. Parents in real need come to Birthright for help with basic necessities. Let's continue to be a community that supports families who need a hand up. Donated items are delivered in early February.

FAITH FORMATION

or Children is in session this Sunday, January 11. We are celebrating the Baptism of Jesus! (Wow! He really grew up fast!)

Schedules for Faith Formation are in the vestibule of church, or you can have one emailed to you. Remember, it is never too late to join us. All children are welcome here!

CONFIRMATION NEWS

The date of the next Confirmation session is 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 21st. "Companions" such as a sponsor, parent, older sibling, are welcome to attend. Tentatively, we will meet in the parish center. We can move into the parish hall, if needed.

First Reconciliation is on Saturday, January 24, at 11:30, in church. That morning, our 6 children will have a "mini-retreat" in the parish center from 9:30-11:30 a.m. to help prepare them. Please pray for:

Cole Bickett, Addleigh Glenn, Maddox LaHugh
Grace Marks, Mason Marks, Kallie McCarty

-Debi Hopkins

 **WE PRAY TO THE LORD FOR:** All serving in foreign countries and all over the World, the victims of natural disasters, and for Jack & Delores Beyke, Justin Blandford, Kristin Bucio, Danny Campbell, Phillip Cecil, Allen Coomes, Cindy Coomes, Theresa Crowe, Jean Dennis, Anita Dixon, Barbara Dixon, Judy Duncan, Arlene Dunn, Delaney Ebelhar, Harold Ebelhar, Fred and Connie Greenwell, James Glenn, June Hamilton, Richard Hamilton, Wayne Hamilton, Bob Hayden, Lorraine Hayden, Rose Hayden, Meredith Hendershot, Tommy Hermann, Dena Hiller, Lucy Hines, Dan Hopkins, Steve Hopkins, Dorothy Howard, Julie Jackson, Donna Kamuf, Jeremy Leet, Brent McCarty, Ella Meyers, Debbie Millay, Theresa Murphy, Patrick O'Bryan, James Payne, Robbie Phillips, Rosalee McCarty, Theresa Rhinerson, Martha Riney, Susan Risse, Carissa Roberts, Mark Roberts, Matthew Roberts Family, Will Roberts, Adam Rone, Barbara Schell, Jennifer Self & Family, Todd Self, Jane Shelton, Wayne Shelton, Aaron Simmons, Jimmy Simmons, Erica Tapp Family, Ashton Thompson, Ben Thompson, Elenor Turner, Betty Wedding, Dee Dee Wethington, Jerry Wink, Patti Wink, Theresa Wyatt & any others in need of prayer. Any changes: nicole@grayskymusic.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



HAPPY Anniversary

01/06/73 Tom & Lucy Hines
 01/16/88 Tony & Theresa Fischer
 01/22/02 James & Rida Budde
 01/22/82 Phillip & Debbie Castlen
 01/25/20 Steve & Cindy Murphy

To have your birthday or anniversary listed or if your birthday or anniversary date is missing, call the office. (270) 685-0339.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

THIS PASSAGE DESCRIBES THE BAPTISM OF JESUS AND REVEALS PROFOUND TRUTHS THAT STILL SPEAK POWERFULLY TO US TODAY. JESUS COMES TO JOHN THE BAPTIST AT THE JORDAN RIVER, ASKING TO BE BAPTIZED. JOHN IS CONFUSED AND HESITANT, RECOGNIZING HIS OWN NEED FOR REPENTANCE AND SENSING THAT JESUS IS FAR GREATER THAN HE IS. YET JESUS INSISTS, EXPLAINING THAT THIS ACT IS NECESSARY TO "FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS." IN CHOOSING BAPTISM, JESUS HUMBLES HIMSELF AND FULLY ENTERS INTO THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE, STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE HE CAME TO SAVE.

WHEN JESUS RISES FROM THE WATER, THE MOMENT BECOMES A PUBLIC REVELATION OF HIS IDENTITY AND MISSION. THE HEAVENS OPEN, THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDS UPON HIM LIKE A DOVE, AND THE VOICE OF THE FATHER PROCLAIMS, "THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED." THIS POWERFUL SCENE REVEALS THE TRINITY—FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT—WORKING TOGETHER, MARKING THE BEGINNING OF JESUS' PUBLIC MINISTRY.

FOR TODAY'S WORLD, THIS PASSAGE REMINDS US THAT TRUE LEADERSHIP BEGINS WITH HUMILITY AND OBEDIENCE. JESUS DID NOT SEEK STATUS OR EXEMPTION, EVEN THOUGH HE WAS WITHOUT SIN. INSTEAD, HE CHOSE TO WALK ALONGSIDE OTHERS AND MODEL FAITHFUL SURRENDER TO GOD'S WILL. IN A CULTURE OFTEN FOCUSED ON RECOGNITION AND SELF-PROMOTION, JESUS SHOWS US THAT GOD IS PLEASED NOT BY POWER, BUT BY TRUST, HUMILITY, AND FAITHFULNESS.

THIS MOMENT ALSO SPEAKS TO OUR OWN BAPTISM. IT REMINDS US THAT WE ARE BELOVED BY GOD AND CALLED TO LIVE AS HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS, GUIDED BY THE SPIRIT AND COMMITTED TO DOING WHAT IS RIGHT—EVEN WHEN IT CHALLENGES EXPECTATIONS OR REQUIRES HUMILITY.



Fish Fry Dates:
 02/06, 02/27, 03/14

Doors Open: 4:30 PM
Serving Begins: 5:00 PM

Adults \$ 13.00
Kids (6-12) \$ 10.00
Kids < 6 FREE  
50/50 Raffle \$1/chance

~ DINE - IN OR CARRY OUT ~

Heartfelt Condolences & Prayers to:

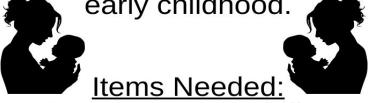
Joe Clark on the passing of his Father Joseph Albert "Al" Clark, Jr and David Freels on the passing of his mother Mary George Rumage Freels. May eternal rest be granted to them. Amen

MEN'S CLUB MEETINGS

Men's club meets the 1st Monday of the month. 6:00pm in Winter & 7:00pm in Summer

BIRTHRIGHT DRIVE

The annual St. Martin Birthright Drive is now underway. We encourage generous participation as we support mothers and children in need through Birthright of Owensboro, which provides free, confidential assistance and essential items to families during pregnancy and early childhood.



Items Needed:

- Infant sleepers and diapers
- Clothing and coats (infant-size 5)
- Baby blankets, hats, diaper bags, crib sheets, lotions
- Maternity clothing, slippers, socks, robes, toiletries

New and gently used, clean items only. A collection area will be located to the left as you enter the church. Monetary donations or gift cards may be placed in designated envelopes, the regular collection, or sent to the parish office. Donated items will be delivered in early February. **Thank you for supporting life and families in our community.**

+ Catholics are called to defend the unborn because every human life is sacred, created by God, and deserving of dignity from the moment of conception. Life is not something society gives or takes away—it is a gift entrusted to us by God.

The unborn are among the most vulnerable members of the human family, unable to speak or defend themselves. Catholic teaching emphasizes a responsibility to protect those who are weakest, reflecting Jesus' own care for the poor, the marginalized, and the voiceless. Defending unborn life is a direct way of living out Christ's command to love our neighbor.

Being pro-life also means supporting mothers and families, especially during difficult or unexpected pregnancies. The Church teaches that compassion, practical help, and mercy must accompany the defense of life.

Ultimately, Catholics defend the unborn not for political reasons, but because faith calls them to uphold the dignity of every person and to build a culture rooted in love, responsibility, and hope.