



# TOUR TALK

March 2018

## Distinguished Graduate Honored At Catholic Schools Week Mass



St. Martin of Tours School recently celebrated National Catholic Schools Week (CSW). This special week was established in 1974, to recognize Catholic Education as a great gift to the Church and the nation and to celebrate Communities of *Faith, Knowledge and Service*. Each year, during CSW, we honor one of our alumni. This year, **Mary Jo Martin** was named our 2018 Distinguished Graduate. Mary Jo has been associated with St. Martin of Tours since an early age. Mary Jo was baptized here at St. Martin and graduated from our grade school in 1957. At the age of 19, Mary Jo began her teaching career here at St. Martin School and continued to do so for the next 40 years becoming one of our most beloved faculty members.

Currently, Mary Jo remains active in our St. Martin community. Every now and then, you can see Mary Jo helping out in our School Cafeteria during lunch time. She can be seen doing such envious jobs as crowd control and opening ketchup packets and milk cartons. Mary Jo also works at SMOT Bingo on a regular basis. Mary Jo can be seen selling "instants," counting money, selling Bingo sheets, or keeping the other volunteers in line. In yet another capacity, Mary Jo considers it a great honor to serve on our St. Martin of Tours Bereavement Committee, helping families who are grieving the loss of a loved one with funeral arrangements during a difficult time. Finally, and not to be forgotten, Mary Jo has helped bring new Catholics into the Church by being an RCIA Sponsor on four separate occasions.

As you can see, St. Martin of Tours Parish and School are indebted to Mary Jo Martin for all of the time and effort she has given to our parish community. Thank you, Mary Jo, for your lifetime of dedication to St. Martin of Tours School and Parish! Mary Jo is truly a wonderful example of our Catholic teachings and we are blessed to have her here at St. Martin.

# Principal's Desk

## From the Principal's Desk

By Jason Fightmaster



What a great celebration we had for Catholic Schools Week! The Mass we celebrated that week was very special as we presented the St. Martin of Tours Distinguished Graduate Award to Mary Jo Martin, a well-deserved recipient.

It is hard to believe that we are looking forward to next school year already, but we are currently accepting applications for enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year. If you know of anyone who may be looking at schools in the area, please send them our way! Tours and meetings can be set up throughout the week for those interested in seeing what we have to offer. Interested families can call our School Office at 661-7609, or send me an email to [jfightmaster@saintmartin.org](mailto:jfightmaster@saintmartin.org).

As always, thank you for your prayers and your support of our parish school.

# OPEN HOUSE!





# GRANDPARENTS/SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY

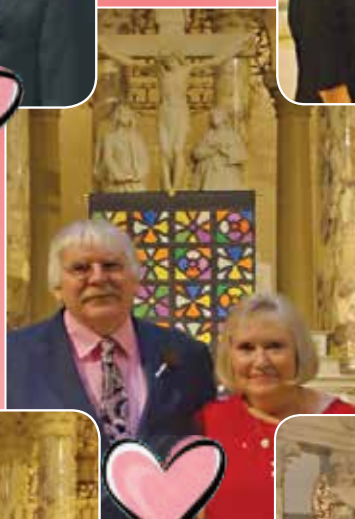
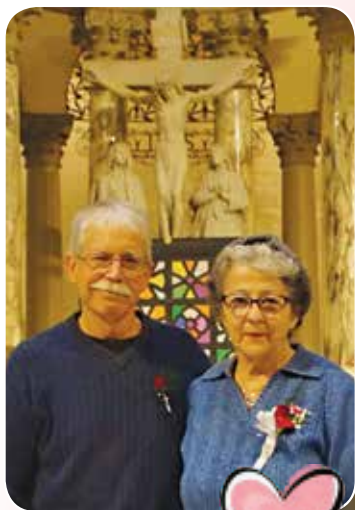


## *Attention Alumni* Mark Your Calendar...

On **Sunday, March 18, 2018, at 11:30 a.m.**, we invite you and your guests to our Alumni Mass. A reception will follow in our handicapped accessible church basement, Father Mick Hall. Our Pastor, Fr. Terry Hamilton (Class of 1961) will be our Celebrant. Please invite former classmates, relatives and friends who attended St. Martin of Tours Grade School for this opportunity to reminisce.



# Celebrating Our Anniversary Couples



# Come Celebrate Holy Week



## MONDAY, MARCH 26

6:30 a.m. Mass  
4:00 - 7:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

## TUESDAY, MARCH 27

8:00 a.m. Mass  
7:00 p.m. Chrism Mass at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

6:30 a.m. Mass

## HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 29

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration  
11:00 p.m. Night Prayer

## GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
12:00 noon Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
(Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion)  
2:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross  
*After Stations of the Cross are completed, you are invited to remain in the church for prayer.  
Reflective music will be sung by our Vocal Ensemble until 3:00 p.m.*

## HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer  
8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil  
*Following the Easter Vigil, there will be a reception in Father Mick Hall to honor our newest members of the Church who were Baptized, Confirmed and received their First Eucharist. All are invited and encouraged to attend!*

## EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1

8:00, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Masses  
*Easter Egg Hunt follows our 11:30 a.m. Liturgy.*

# All Are Welcome!

## PASTORAL COUNCIL

*Present at the January 18, 2018, meeting were: Laurie Huff, Margie Hammitt, Eileen Duffy, Gina Rider, and Fr. Terry Hamilton. Absent: Lou Winston, Mary Jo Betz, Debbie Weitz, Cathy May, Sarah Gaskins, Jason Fightmaster and Angie Bley.*

## TASK FORCE REPORTS

**Parish Life:** Children's Halloween Fellowship- was held on October 28, 2017. The children attended the 5:00 p.m. Mass in costume, and paraded afterwards to the Parish Center, led by Father Terry. Pizza and pop were served, and there were several games for the children to enjoy. We had a very nice crowd of children and parents. All Souls Vesper Service and Reception- was held on October 29, 2017. After the service, some light appetizers were served for those in attendance. This was an opportunity for family members of the deceased to relax with friends and relatives, and begin the healing of their hearts in light of the passing of a loved one during the past 12 months. Advent Wreath Making- The weekend of December 2 & 3 was the first Sunday of Advent. After all the Sunday Masses, a fellowship was held in Father Mick Hall, where parishioners were able to make wreaths for their home for the Advent season. All the supplies needed (fresh greens, candles, and wire forms) were supplied. Doughnuts, coffee, milk and juice were available while parishioners made their wreaths. Fr. Terry suggested the idea of having a station to make Advent wreaths as an activity at the next Day with Santa. DRE, Laurie Huff will contact our PTO to look into the possibility of making that happen.

**Upcoming Events:** Our annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration- will occur on Sunday, February 11, 2018. This fellowship is held for couples who have been married 25, 30, 40, 50, and 60+ years in the calendar year of 2018. At the 9:30 Mass, Father will bless the couples and acknowledge them for their commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage. A breakfast will follow in Father Mick Hall. Holy Saturday Night- is March 31, 2018. This is the evening of the Easter Vigil at which New Catholics are welcomed into the Catholic Community. Following this Mass which includes Baptisms, First Eucharist and Confirmations, a reception with light appetizers will be held in Father Mick Hall to celebrate this joyous occasion. Easter Sunday- is on April 1, 2018. We will hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt, following the 11:30 a.m. Mass. This is always a fun event for children and adults alike!

**Spiritual Life:** Stations of the Nativity presented by Adult Faith Formation (AFF) in December went very well and were very well received by the attendees. AFF will also present Social Justice Stations of the Cross on one of the Friday evenings in Lent. We are in the very early planning stages of a Parish Mission, possibly this coming fall or next spring with a theme of "Caring for Creation." The book group postponed their discussion of *A Christmas Carol* until January 23, 2018.

**Finance:** Fr. Terry expressed his gratitude to our generous parishioners for the contributions made to the parish at Christmastime. CMA kickoff is on January 20 & 21, 2018. We continue to benefit from pledges to the "One Faith, One Hope, One Love" campaign. We receive our parish percentage of all payments made to the campaign twice each year. This money is put into our "Preserving Our Treasures Fund."

**Youth:** Lenten Fish Frys- will be held each Friday in Lent (except Good Friday) on the St. Martin campus. Gina Rider will write an article for Tour Talk highlighting our Scouts and some of their accomplishments. There is an all-Scout ski outing at Perfect North Slopes scheduled for January.

**Athletics:** Maroon Out- has been rescheduled. The Athletics Mass- held on January 14, 2018, was a prayerful gathering of players, coaches and families. Girls volleyball ended their season and held their banquet where eighth graders were recognized with a presentation. Boys basketball is in mid-season; Third grade Tournament will be held the first three weeks of February. Girls basketball season begins February 2, 2018; the Westside Classic Tournament, co-hosted with St. Lawrence will run March 10-25, 2018. Grade 1&2 boys/girls basketball finishes up the first weekend of February. Boys baseball and girls softball sign-ups are in full swing.

**Liturgical Ministry:** RCIA- Our next big step will be the Rite of Sending on Saturday, February 17, 2018, here at St. Martin. This leads to the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral on February 18, 2018. Worship- All of the services during Advent and the Christmas Season were beautiful. There were many compliments

on the beauty of our church, the music and the homilies during the many Masses and the Reconciliation and Vespers Services. Next Worship meeting is in February.

**Outreach:** St. Vincent de Paul served more than 85 families for Christmas, some were regular SVdP families and others were families from our school, who were identified by our Principal, Mr. Fightmaster. They held their pick-up day on December 23, 2017.

**Property & Grounds:** Fr. Terry reported that repair work on the stained glass window in the choir loft is underway. The pipes from the Great Division of the Wicks Organ have been removed and carefully stored, the scaffolding has been erected, and sections of the stained glass window will be removed and taken to be repaired. Fr. Terry again expressed his gratitude for the generosity of our parishioners who donate to our "Preserving Our Treasures Fund," which makes regular upkeep and repair work possible. The very cold weather has kept the boilers working hard and the maintenance crew working hard to keep them running smoothly. Some of the boilers are original to the 1950s section of the yellow school building and require special handling and care.

**Education Commission:** No report

**Principal:** School Open House- will be held Sunday, January 21, 2018. Catholic School's Week begins Sunday, January 28, 2018. There will be special activities all week for the students and staff of our school.

**DRE:** Martinfest-Our first annual Martinfest event that took place on Saturday, November 11, 2017, was a fruitful success thanks to the St. Martin of Tours Parish family! In the early planning stage is the second annual Martinfest scheduled for Saturday, November 10, 2018. Thanksgiving Day Mass-The gathering on Thanksgiving Day was bountiful with many families present for the celebration. A special food collection for St. Vincent de Paul was brought to the altar. In addition, an array of parish members from the young to the seasoned assisted with "setting the table" by placing the tablecloth and carrying the wheat, bread, grapes and wine in procession. Feast of St. Nicholas-During the first week of Advent, in honor of his feast day, December 6, 2017, St. Martin of Tours was blessed with the presence of St. Nicholas, the "Wonder Worker!" While he was here, he made a special visit to all of the classrooms at our parish school with delicious candy canes in tow! First Reconciliation – Congratulations to our youth who celebrated the Lord's mercy and forgiveness for the first time in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on December 12, 2017. There were a total of twenty-one candidates – nine of which were baptized last summer and fall. A gracious thank-you to Parish Life for the special reception that followed! Giving Tree-Due to the generosity of the St. Martin of Tours family, the giving tree touched many lives this Christmas Season including Healthy Moms and Babies, Santa Maria, St. Vincent de Paul as well as our nursing home and homebound parishioners. Students from St. Martin of Tours School touched many of our recipients of the giving tree with their greeting cards of love and goodness. One particular woman shared that she loved her Christmas card so much that she had it framed! Nativity Story- Near the later part of November, as the harvest air defined by the bounty of decorated pumpkins, falling leaves and the Thanksgiving cornucopia begin its transition, the gentle whisper of Advent waiting takes shape. Within it, much excitement and anticipation dances with thoughts of our youth accepting the invitation to participate in the "Nativity Story" at our Christmas Eve Masses. World Marriage Day- We will honor couples celebrating a special wedding anniversary this year of 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage on February 11, 2018. Ash Wednesday-On February 14, 2018, Lent officially begins! The Light is On for You-All parishes in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will be offering the faithful to encounter the peace of Christ in the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27, 2018.

**Pastor's Report:** There is a possibility of a "satellite" Fish Fry to be held at Westside Brewery one Friday during Lent – details are TBA.

**Our next Pastoral Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 22, 2018, at 6:15 p.m., in Red School.**



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Easter Vigil

By Paul Turner



The Easter Vigil is the most important Mass of the year. In the complete ranking of all Catholic Church celebrations, the Triduum occupies the top spot. The Triduum, which begins with Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, concludes on Easter, reaching its climax with the Easter Vigil. If there is one Mass in which Catholics should make every effort to participate every year, it is the Easter Vigil. If you attend church Easter Sunday morning but miss the Easter Vigil, you have missed the most important celebration of the year.

The Easter Vigil celebrates the Resurrection of Christ and the commitment of believers. It has four parts. It begins with a service of light. The community gathers in darkness to hear that Christ is our light, shattering the darkness of sin. The next part of the Vigil is the Liturgy of the Word. We hear up to nine Scripture passages that tell the story of salvation, ending with the Gospel of the resurrection.

The third part is the liturgy of baptism. Some catechumens have already been listed among the elect, those chosen for baptism this year. They now come forward to be plunged into the waters of new birth. Anointed with chrism, they celebrate confirmation, receiving the strength of God's Spirit for the Christian life. Then the entire community renews its baptismal promises. Together we pledge our faith in the resurrection and promise to follow Christ more closely.

The Vigil culminates in the fourth part, the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The length of the celebration has sharpened our hunger for communion. Now the newly baptized will join us in the Eucharist for the very first time. At the Easter Vigil we recommit ourselves to our faith and rejoice with the newly baptized.

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Paul Turner, pastor of St. Munchin Parish in Cameron, Mo.**



For all Christians during this season of Lent, that they may deepen their union with the Passion of Jesus Christ.

That through the intercession of St. Joseph, Head of the Holy Family, all families will grow closer to Christ His Son.

For the members of our RCIA team, our candidates and our catechumens, that this season will bring a spirit of renewal, rebirth, and joy.

That we will heed the words of Pope Francis in working for social justice, and that this work will be fruitful.

That each and every person will find an oasis of welcome in the Church.

That this season of Lent will be a time of reconciliation for our parish family. May we be reconciled through the sacrament, give pardon to each other, and forgive ourselves so we can be created anew during this season.

That the fundamental rights of all humans may be recognized and respected in all the nations of the world. That we will work together to create a world in which the dignity of the human person is respected from conception and throughout life.

For those who feel a call to the priesthood or religious life, that they may find the courage to say "yes" to what God asks of them.

For all recipients of our parish healing/prayer blankets. For their physical, mental and spiritual health.

For all the intentions entrusted to our Prayer Chain, that those in need will hear an answer to their prayers.

For all those who pray these prayers, may they be blessed by the Lord and inspired to continue to pray for the special needs of all members of our parish, and especially the special intentions in our Parish Intention Book.

### DID YOU KNOW?

...that you can enclose your prayer requests in an envelope marked "Prayer Chain" and a network of parishioners will pray for your intention? We don't need full names or specifics in order to lift you in prayer!



## Memorial Mass Fund

### *For the Memory/Intention of:*

Carl Hamberg  
Marie Tuttle  
Robert Kelly Boone  
George Madix  
Thomas Lustenberger  
Marilyn Beresford  
Cyril Scherpenberg  
Robert Bachmann, Jr.  
Gary Beatrice  
Laverne Stevens  
George Kasper  
Robert Davis  
Virginia Rust  
William J. Huth  
Robert Bachman, Jr.  
Dorothy Calardo

### *From:*

Pat & Bob Dieckman  
Pat & Bob Dieckman  
The Walden Family  
Donna Lustenberger  
Donna Lustenberger  
Patricia Moning  
Tom and Donna Vale & Family  
Bob Hildebrand  
Karen Flanigan  
Mother of Mercy Class of 1948  
Betty A. Huth  
Betty A. Huth  
Betty A. Huth  
Betty A. Huth  
Dwight Bachmann  
Rita Goertemoeller



## SMOT Parish Picnic STRICKER'S GROVE Friday, May 11 5:00 p.m.

The rides will run from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.  
The rides are free of charge with the exception  
of the roller coasters.

Let's eat together!

We would like to encourage everyone to  
arrive by 6:00 p.m. and bring a covered dish  
to share with fellow parishioners.  
Our Scouts will be grilling again this year.

*Hope to see everyone there!*

## Deaths

Howard Wiehe, Jr.  
Jeanette Mueller  
Jeffery Williams  
Pauline Gilliland  
Troy Mitchell  
Paul Meadows  
George Madix  
Robert Bachmann, Jr.  
Jessie Johns  
Mary Terbruggen Dauthwaite

## Welcome New Parishioners

Frank & Gale Weidl  
Stephen & Michelle Manczyk  
Martha Holmes

*Tour Talk* is the official publication of

### **St. Martin of Tours Parish**

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The primary purpose of this newsletter (published ten times a year) is to provide short, well-balanced articles about parish news, such as committee reports, fund-raising activities and current events.

*Tour Talk* Deadline is the tenth of each month. Articles and photos can be e-mailed to:

[dbroerman@fuse.net](mailto:dbroerman@fuse.net).

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