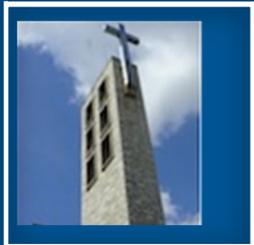




Welcome to
 St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church
 610 West Ripa Avenue
 St. Louis, MO 63125



*The kingdom
 of heaven*

is like a treasure buried in a field,
 which a person finds and hides again,
 and out of joy goes and sells
 all he has and buys that field.

Matthew 13:44



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July 26, 2020 • Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Pastor**
 Rev. Noah Waldman
 314-544-5664
 frwaldmansmt@yahoo.com
- Deacon**
 Rev. Mr. Edward Fronick
 edfronick@charter.net
- Deacon**
 Rev. Mr. Kurt Loeffler
 kurtloeffler@archstl.org
- Office Manager**
 Ms. Donna McKay
- Administrative Assistant**
 Mrs. Felice Nighbor
- Sacristan**
 Mr. George Mueller
- Music Coordinator**
 Sr. Kathleen Donovan
- Maintenance**
 Mr. Rick Jobin
 Mrs. Bridget Gabel

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

General	\$3357
Special Collections	\$
Loose	\$1030
Subtotal	\$4387
On-Line Giving	\$ 850
(July 13—July 19)	
Total:	\$5237

St. Martin of Tours Parish extends a Warm Welcome to all who have come to worship with us. We are honored by your presence. If you would like to join the parish, please contact the parish office. God Bless You!

Pastor's Pen

Dear St. Martin of Tours Family & Parishioners,

SUNDAY ADORATION AND ROSARY

I wish again to thank so many of you who attended, either in person or through live-stream, our *[Sunday evenings of Adoration and Rosary](#)* for the intention of protecting our churches and symbols of the Catholic Faith from arson, vandalism, and destruction.

Protests over statues of Confederate leaders and also of slave owners have metastasized into protests over statues of our saints. The situation with our own St. Louis seems to have quieted down because of the power of prayer. I don't think we should ever, ever underestimate the power of persistent non-violent protest and prayer.

So I think it would be a good practice *[to continue our prayer service every Sunday evening from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., at least until Sunday August 23rd](#)*. (That's because the Feast of St. Louis is on August 25th.) (Also, I'm supposed to start saying Sunday Mass for the students at Maryville around that date, and the Masses are from 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.)

ST. JUNIPERO SERRA

I think the first statue of a Catholic saint to come down in the United States was that of St. Junipero Serra in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. The protesters caught everyone unawares. Since it's a public park, I suppose the restoration of the statue would be the decision of local authorities.

The charge leveled against St. Junipero Serra was genocide (or at the very least, what has been named "cultural genocide"). Is that charge true? Junipero Serra did indeed convert many Native Americans along the California coast to the Catholic Faith, and indeed he also brought with him his Spanish culture, and with it Spanish conquest. So one can see their argument and why there was such fury when his statue was pulled down from its pedestal.

However, like most things in life, the history of the conversion of the Native American peoples requires study and a lot of real critical thinking. Here is something of which most people today are unaware: While "Native American" is a term that is useful as a shortcut, in reality there are no such people. And I'm not referring to the fact that there were originally no humans in the Western Hemisphere until the last ice age. Rather it's because the various indigenous peoples of our continent were itinerant, with one tribe displacing another; then again; then a migration of one tribe; or a tribe's assimilation into another; or tribal extinction.

Look at a map of the tribes in the California area around the time Fr. Serra's arrival. There were between twenty-five to forty or so tribes (depending on which ones you want to include) with some relationship to California's coast, the cultures of some tribes being similar, of others quite distinct, and they were very often engaged amongst themselves in war. That's because coastal property was, as it is today, valuable real estate. Also, because much of the southern coastal area is a desert, water from the coastal mountain ranges was absolutely necessary for life, too; so there was war for access to fresh drinking water. To get a sense of the continual state of warlike footing that existed there, just think of European history and its various wars, then multiply that a few times. Some tribes also put into slavery the prisoners captured from neighboring tribes.

So when Fr. Serra arrived in California with his contingent, the native tribes simply perceived another "tribe" to content with. But this new "tribe" brought with it the Catholic Faith.

Many native tribes found the governance and religion of this tribe from half a world away preferable to their own religious practices, some of which were humane and peaceful, yet some of which were bloody requiring human sacrifice. Thus, with the arrival and acceptance of the Catholic Faith, began the process of unifying these tribes into cooperation and the liberation of peoples. To connect the new affiliation of tribes, Fr. Serra was responsible for establishing a network of mission churches along the coast and roads to connect them which exist to this day. So while there were most certainly conflicts between Fr. Serra's contingent and the locals, in general the process of cultururation was widely accepted as a change for the better.

This is why our current Holy Father, Pope Francis, who is of course renowned for his concern for indigenous peoples and his general feeling against past European colonization, had no difficulty in canonizing Fr. Serra. Could anyone imagine Pope Francis canonizing someone whose actions in any way were genocidal? It's absurd to think that he would.

ST. LOUIS IX KING OF FRANCE

A similar charge was leveled at St. Louis IX. Did he kill thousands of Jews as activists claim? Did he launch a bloody Crusade to murder Muslims? Here's the best of what I could find. First, I can't find any information from the best historian I know (Dr. Thomas Madden at St. Louis University) to suggest St. Louis killed any Jewish People. What did happen all too often – and this is quite terrible – is that when a Crusade was launched by the pope or in the instance of the sixth and seventh crusade St. Louis, inevitably some with bad intentions joined the movement and they used it as an excuse to slaughter (yes slaughter) Jews in various places. They did so because, in some cases, they didn't like the Jews competing with them in the business of trade; but in other cases, they were truly anti-Semitic attacks. But these attacks were never – and I repeat *never* – commanded by the pope or any European King. In fact, the popes issued official statement after statement: The Jews are to be respected and not killed. However, despite these commands from the pope and St. Louis, anti-Semitism ran deep among some in Europe, especially the less educated. And as they say, you can't fix stupid.

The Crusades were called for the following reasons and only the following reasons:

1. *As a means to offer penance and offer sacrifice to Our Lord.* Say you decide to go on a Crusade. You must leave your family (or bring them along) which means you are abandoning your home and your belongings and whatever job you had. So it's a very poor business decision. Also, travel to the Holy Land was dangerous. There were the Muslims to be sure who weren't so keen that these visitors – these relatively tiny bands of stinky people from the West who ate pigs – were causing a stir. There were also highwaymen, robbers and thugs who would ambush travelers, steal their goods and sometimes take these travelers to slave markets. And, finally, there was the need for food and clean drinking water. It wasn't uncommon for crusaders to die of some food poisoning or dysentery. In summation, to choose to be a true crusader, one was choosing a religious vocation.
2. *To liberate the sites in the Holy Land.* Were the Crusades launched to regain the vast area which the Muslims had conquered many years before? Absolutely not. Rather it was the hope to establish a Christian zone in the Holy Land where the Christian sites could be protected by an area governed and protected by Christians. If we are going to accuse St. Louis of Islamophobia, then the same charge must be leveled against the architects of the Balfour Declaration, the United Nations, and most especially President Truman whose backing of Israel ensured the new state's survival
3. *To protect the Christians who lived in the Holy Land.* Apparently Christians were treated as second class citizens and sometimes persecuted. But I admit I don't know much about this.
4. *To protect Christians who wanted to go to the Holy Land on pilgrimage.* Once a route to the Holy Land was secured and a small Christian kingdom which was eventually set up there, European Christians wanted to pray at the places where Jesus was born, crucified, buried and rose from the dead. Pilgrimages were already a very popular penitential devotion during the Middle Ages.

You'll notice that the slaughtering of Muslims wasn't the purpose of the Crusades. Of course, there were battles during which Muslims and Christians were killed. Again, consider St. Louis and Harry Truman: the terrible War of Israeli Independence which commenced immediately after Israel's statehood was announced.

Now back to the anti-Semite question. About the same time as Louis became king, it was brought to the attention of the Christian world a strange book that Jews were using for religious instruction called *The Talmud*. It is a vast series of commentaries on the Hebrew Scriptures with commentaries on commentaries, stories, and parables. It had been emended many times for about one-thousand years until standard versions were compiled. When Christian scholars with a reading knowledge of Hebrew first read *The Talmud*, they were thoroughly perplexed. Christians had simply assumed that Jews continued their perennial practice of using their Scriptures for instruction. Despite their choice to reject their Messiah, Christians nonetheless respected the Jews because they had preserved the religion of Jesus Christ. Yet this strange book had supplanted the Scriptures as the primary source of Jewish instruction. The Christians were therefore concerned that contemporary Judaism had been altered fundamentally from its original form.

Then there were the stories about a figure named *Jeshu*. Not all, but a good many of the stories about *Jeshu* were unmistakable references to Jesus of Nazareth. He is called a magician, a sorcerer, an apostate who claimed messiahship, then goes to hell. His Mother was a whore who conceived *Jeshu* by a Roman soldier. There were insults against Christians as well.

When King Louis learned about *The Talmud* and its problematic nature, he did something rather enlightened for his time. He did not act rashly or start a persecution. Instead, he decided to give the best Jewish scholars of the day a fair hearing. He convened a disputation of Jewish and Catholic scholars to study the matter. In general, it was the Catholics on offence and the Jews on defense. In the end, certain passages of *The Talmud* were judged so offensive that it was deemed a sin against the virtue of religion for such a book to be allowed to exist in a Catholic nation. St. Louis obliged with the decision by ordering that all in editions of *The Talmud* in Paris be confiscated and burned. Any Jew hiding a copy would face a penalty.

Moreover, to prevent the Catholic faithful (who were by now curious about this strange book) from perhaps being corrupted in their faith, the Jews were ordered to wear armbands with a Star of David. Regrettably, when we think of an armband with a Star of David we think of the Nazis and their rationale for the armbands (the extermination of Jews). St. Louis' intention was to establish a clear ornament of dress which had no greater stigma than a Jew wearing a yarmulke (little round hat) in public or a Muslim wearing a burka or me wearing my blacks and collar to the grocery store. Everyone back then wore clothes which communicated their status in society, their profession, their position, their membership in a guild or religious confraternity, et cetera.

Well, I got carried away, didn't I? But now you know, as Paul Harvey used to say, "the rest of the story." For next week I'll give you all a break by having two editions of *Dash's Question Box*.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

LECTORS

Saturday, August 1 at 4:00 p.m.

Ken McWhorter

Sunday, August 2 at 7:30 a.m.

Rich Wenk

Sunday, August 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Lisa Hale



ST. MARTIN'S SUMMER BLOOD DRIVE

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Drive will be held in Runge Hall

For an appointment, please fill out name, phone number and preferred time on slips located in the pews. **All donors will be required to bring state-issued form of ID.**

It is important that you eat balanced meals two days prior to donating blood to eliminate low iron count.

DO NOT DONATE BLOOD IF: in the past 28 days you have been diagnosed or suspected of having COVID 19 or in the past 14 days you have lived with an individual diagnosed or suspected of having COVID 19.

ADORATION IN 2020

Would you be willing to commit an hour of adoration time from **Wed., Aug. 5**

following the 8:00 a.m. Mass until **Fri., Aug. 7** at 3:00 p.m.

Notice the extended time.

Please consider giving to the Lord one hour.



**To schedule your time slot,
sign up in the church vestibule, on our
parish website, or please call:**

Barb Muich: 314-892-6284 or

Betty Koch: 314-775-7534 or

Email: Betty Koch44@yahoo.com

ACA

Goal: \$28,815

Amount received as of July 26: \$19,772

MASS INTENTIONS

8:00 a.m. - Monday July 27

Justine Maier+

8:00 a.m. - Tuesday July 28

Bob Sunkel & Children+

8:00 a.m. - Wednesday July 29

Camillo Maglinoe+

8:00 a.m. - Thursday July 30

Leona Hoffmann+

8:00 a.m. - Friday July 31

Gilbert Huenke+

8:00 a.m. - Saturday, August 1

Michael Hoffmann+

4:00 p.m. - Saturday August 1

Ron Tecklenburg+

7:30 a.m. - Sunday August 2

Nikolas Koch+

10:00 a.m. - Sunday August 2

People of the Parish

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jer 13:1-11; Dt 32:18-21;
Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13;
Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21; Ps 34:2-11;
Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Thursday: Jer 18:1-6; Ps 146:1b-6ab;
Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14;
Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24; Ps 69:15-16,
30-31, 33-34; Mt 14:1-12

EVENTS

Mark your Calendar

July 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

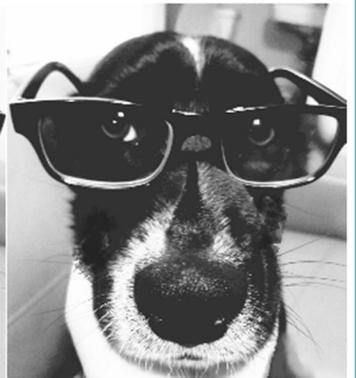
Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Adoration begins @ 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon	Adoration continues	3 Adoration Continues Benediction @ 3:00 p.m.	4
5	6	7	8 Adoration @ 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Adoration @ 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Adoration @ 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon	23 Parish Council ZOOM meeting @ 6:30 p.m.	24	25
26 Adoration and Rosary 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	27	28	29 Adoration @ 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon Finance Council ZOOM meeting @ 7:00 p.m.	30	31	



DASH'S QUESTION BOX

Dear Dash

What is *Liturgy of the Hours*? I know priests and deacons must pray this every day. Why do they do it?

~ Dear very nice person ~

Every day, five times a day, Daddy puts down his stupid-phone and picks up a beautiful book that smells very good to me. He tells me these are breaks in the day when he talks to *his* Daddy and spends time with Him.

"Dashy, you and I have special play times each day. It's like that. What if we never had those times together?"

I'd feel alone! I'd feel like you didn't love me, and I wouldn't be able to tell you how much I love you, too!

"That is what the *Liturgy of the Hours* is all **WOOF!** about."

