

PLEASE PATRONIZE THE SUPPORTERS OF ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

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RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

Our Gospel today, from Matthew, reminds us to trust in Him even when it seems He is not answering our prayers.

God wants to lead us to the joy of heaven to spend eternity with Him. For that, we must be strong in faith and live our lives as an act of love and gratitude to Him. In other words, we must allow Him to transform us into saints. This is what the stewardship way of life is meant to do. Sometimes, that will feel painful to us. Often, it will be challenging.

Jesus certainly challenged the Canaanite woman in today's Gospel passage from Matthew. She called out to Him on behalf of her daughter, who was being tormented by a demon. What did Jesus do in reply to this mother's desperate plea? Nothing. He "did not say a word in answer to her." Undeterred, the woman continues to call out to Him, yet He still does not give her what she asks for. Instead, He continues to challenge her faith.

And she rises to the challenge to such an impressive degree that Jesus exclaims, "O woman [a term of deep respect in that day], great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." Imagine hearing those words proclaimed over us by God. Truly there could be no higher honor than hearing our Lord say that to us.

So we must accept the difficulties that come with the stewardship way of life. Some days will be a true challenge to our trust in God. But those are the days when God is making saints of us.

Let's embrace the hard days during these difficult times. The deep joy that eventually comes, the eternal reward He promises, will be so worth it.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.

Sunday Masses
Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 10:00 am

Weekday Masses
Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00am

Office hours
Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Administrative Assistant
Sandy Johnson

Financial Recorder
Tracy Piggott

Reconciliation/Confessions
Sat 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. or on request

Requesting Sacraments
Must be registered and practicing
Call office for details

St Martin School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

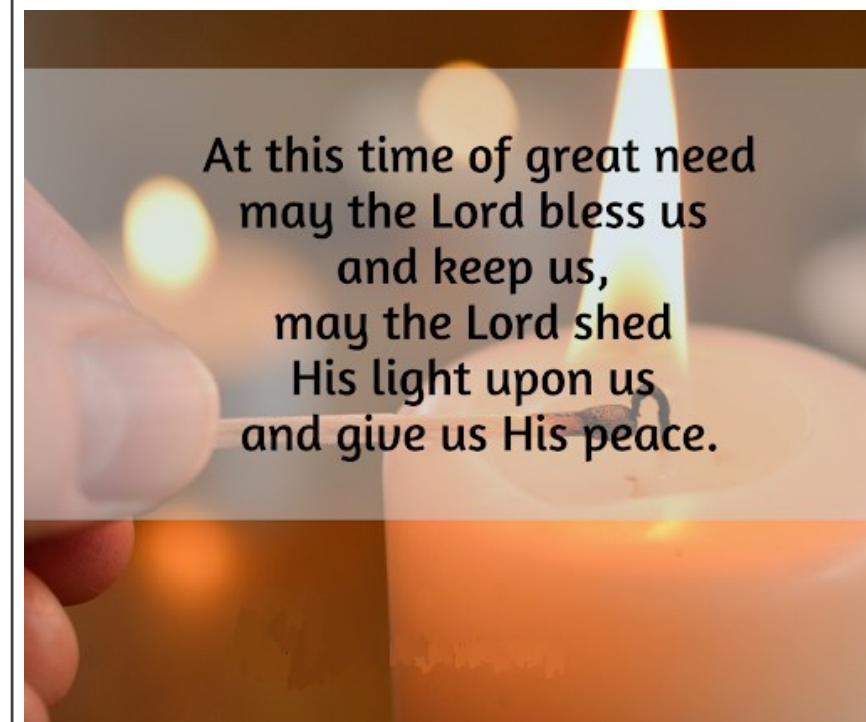
Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
President - Carolyn Vaughan
Knights of Columbus
Grand Knight - Lloyd Buchan
koc.16421@gmail.com

Facility Maintenance
Tom Diletti - tom.diletti@sympatico.ca

Parish Groups
Children's Liturgy, Youth Ministry
West Lincoln Loaf of Bread
Parish Events Group
Parish Financial Council
Responsible Faith Ministry
ACTS Retreat Teams

Diocese of St. Catharines
Bishop of the Diocese
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

**St. Martin of Tours
Roman Catholic Church**



At this time of great need
may the Lord bless us
and keep us,
may the Lord shed
His light upon us
and give us His peace.

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August 16, 2020 - Year A

**The 20th Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

August 16, 2019

The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Aug 17	9:00 am	Intention Available		
		9:45 am	Internment of Mortal Remains: + Rick Malaryk		
Tues	Aug 18	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Mary & Gabriel Iannantuoni	by Carolyn & Andrew Steger	
Wed	Aug 19	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Daciel Medeiros	by the Melo & Mikhail Families	
		10:30 am	- 5:00 pm - Gethsemane Center Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament		
			Father Christopher celebrant. Confessions and Counselling if required.		
Thurs	Aug 20	9:00 am	+For the repose of the souls of Andrew & Anna Steger	by Carolyn & Andrew Steger	
Fri	Aug 21	9:00 am	Intentions Available		
		7:30 pm	- 9:30 pm Praise and Worship Gethsemane Centre Wellandport - Register if attending		
Sat	Aug 22		The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time		
		5:00 pm	+For the repose of the souls of Escolatica & Jacinto Melo and all deceased family members	by Mr & Mrs Melo	
Sun	Aug 23	10:00 am	Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family		

ONLINE EUCHARIST

Cathedral of St. Catharine of Alexandria

Sunday Mass live stream at 11:30 am.
Visit the diocesan website for viewing:
www.saintcd.com or on **YouTube**

Vision TV:

Sun - 8:00 am

Mon - Fri - 8:00 am & 12:00 pm

Sat - 8:00 am & 9:30 am

Salt + Light:

Sun - 11:00 am & 10:30 pm

**Mon - Sat - 6:30 am, 11:00 am,
3:00 pm, 10:30 pm**

yesTV:

Sun - 10:30 am

Mon - Sat - 1:00 pm

Internet :

www.dailytvmass.com

www.youtube.com/dailytvmass

DIVINE MERCY EACH DAY

Join Gethsemane Ministries for Hour of Mercy Prayer Service Online at 3:00 pm each day. Please register at:

www.gethsemaneministries.com

Let us pray and ask God to pour out His Love and Divine Mercy on the world and on the church during this pandemic.

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Please view the Website for the August Schedule under the Schedule tab of the Website. Please find your own replacement if you are unable to fulfill your time slot.

Hospitality Ministers and COVID-19 volunteers are asked to be in church 20 mins prior. We thank those kind individuals who have responded to our request for help. Thank you so much.

Together, we made a difference!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT DURING COVID-19

This is a sensitive topic to address with so many uncertainties that continue to impact each one of us in unexpected ways. Many parishioners may already be facing financial difficulties as a family, and the first priority must be to take care of the needs of family and loved ones.

Our Parish of St. Martin and our Diocese of St. Catharines continue to rely on the generosity of the faithful to financially run during this time of pandemic. Parishioners can continue to donate by dropping off their weekly donations to the parish rectory, or by mail, or now at the office on Tuesdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon. .

Less than 10% of our parish membership have returned to the celebration of weekend and weekday Masses. There are many justified reason for this. Sitting in a comfortable chair in your home and online Mass seems more comfortable than a church pew. Habits are formed and are very difficult to break. But they do present a pastoral concern as we move forward at this Mid-Summer point and coming Fall season.

It is critical at this time our prayers of support for each other. We pray for the Parishes, all our Priests and Deacons, and our Diocese, for your fellow parishioners and our parish staff, and we remember those who are suffering from illness, especially those who have died from Covid-19; and frontline workers and essential service providers who have had to make a tremendous sacrifice affecting their families and loved ones during this ever present COVID-19 pandemic. We thank you for your continued financial support!

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM IN COVID-19

Beginning August 1, we are returning to the celebration of Baptism. one family at a time and within our restricted protocols. Families will be informed of what is expected of them prior to the celebration.

All of the guidelines for a celebration of Mass are currently in place throughout the Diocese of St. Catharines and must be followed, including the number of people allowed to gather in a church and requiring physical distancing. The wearing of masks is now mandatory. ***Note:** Babies and small children are not required to wear masks. (Ten years old and up wear masks.) Please contact the parish to find out more details. We have had to put in writing the stipends required for both the parish and the parish priest since in the past there has been very few stipends offered. A set stipend has also been established.

We thank you in advance in adhering to our new protocols that keeps us all healthy and safe. Baptisms will take place Sunday afternoons at 2:00 pm. We will try and accommodate requests for families for another day other than a Sunday. Church will be sanitized prior and after the celebration of Baptism by our Covid Volunteers.

"ETIQUETTE AT EUCHARIST"

We update weekly given our experiences of the weekend Masses; and with Public Health and Regional Bylaws.

You will be asked to sanitize your hands using the new automatic dispenser (touchless) just inside the main door.

NEW! The wearing a face mask or shield are now mandatory throughout Niagara (except the very young and those with breathing difficulties). Masks are available free of charge.

Please wait for a hospitality team member to escort you to your assigned pew. In order to ensure physical distancing, please remain in your seats once seated. Do not decide to move because you want to sit with family or friends. We know that some have expressed a desire to sit where they usually do. This is not possible at this time.

Communicants are to remove their masks while the person ahead of them is receiving and bow; and after the priest says "the Body of Christ" and the answer "Amen" is given, only then does the communicant cross the red line (hands extended) to receive and step into the "marked circle" to consume the Bread of Life.

Note: The washrooms are to be used only if absolutely necessary; parishioners making their way there during Mass tend to be a distraction to the others. As well, please refrain from touching any surfaces upon entering or exiting the church (anything touched has to be cleaned).

The doors are closed (locked?) when Mass begins for a reason: the TEAM have a right to worship and are not obliged to wait unnecessarily. Also, attending one Mass on the weekend is sufficient; please be mindful of others by not taking a space someone else could have.

Lastly, be respectful of the ushers and cleaners and their tasks; their willingness to serve is of benefit to us all because if there are no ushers and no cleaners there can be no "open church".

All of the above is for your safety and the protection of all. It is not meant to be unwelcoming as some have written and expressed. We have entered into challenging times.

"Say Something Positive.

**If you stay Positive in a Negative Situation.
YOU WIN!"**