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**THE JEWISH FEAST OF PENTECOST**

*Pentecost* = the Jewish *Festival of Weeks* in both the Greek and Latin languages. This feast originally was a time of thanking God for the blessing of the harvests, and then also to commemorate the giving of the ten commandments to Moses, by God, on Mount Sinai, 49 days after the Exodus.

In the great event of the *Passover*, God brought the Jewish people out of 200 years in slavery in Egypt, under the leadership of Moses. Then in Pentecost the Jewish people rejoiced that God had shown them great kindness through producing food for them, and giving them His law to show that he was bound to them in a permanent relationship known as a covenant.

Traditionally, Jews read the Old Testament Book of Ruth at Pentecost, for the story is linked with the grain harvest theme of the feast.

**THE CHRISTIAN FEAST OF PENTECOST**

Knowing the origin of *Pentecost*, it can become clear what God the Father and God the Son had in mind when they sent the Holy Spirit into the world to descend upon the apostles fifty days after Easter. This day is commonly regarded as the birthday of the Church because once the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles they carried the message of Christ to the known world.

The Holy Spirit, being the wisdom and strength and guidance and mercy and love of God, had a role in the world since creation. But the activity of the Spirit had been limited by God to only a chosen few while the world awaited the salvation of Christ. In the Old Testament, the *Wisdom Books* hold God's record of the works of the Spirit.

As the apostles of Jesus gathered in Jerusalem for *Pentecost*, they would no doubt be recalling the festival of God providing them with food and the direction of the Law. So when the Holy Spirit came upon them they learned a new lesson – that the God who blessed them with natural food, had given them the food and drink of His life in Jesus Christ, and the God who had given the Law, now gave them the fulfilment of that Law in Jesus Christ. And both of these were to be shared with the whole world.

With God there are no coincidences, only His plan of salvation.



Father Brian Bevan, Parish Priest.

Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines  
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.

Pastor  
Father Brian Bevan

Sunday Masses  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses  
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00 a.m.  
Wed @ 6:30 pm

Exposition and Benediction  
1st Friday @ 8:00 am  
3rd and 4th Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm

Reconciliation/Confessions  
Sat 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.  
Or by request

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Sunday by appointment

Marriage  
Contact Fr. Brian Bevan

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Diocese of St. Catharines

# St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church



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**May 21, 2017**  
**6th Sunday of**  
**Easter**

# May 21, 2017

## The 6th Sunday of Easter - Year A

Monday	May 22	<b>Victoria Day</b> ****NO MASS TODAY****	
Tuesday	May 23	9:00 am For God's blessings upon the Koshy family 10:45 am Junior Class Mass	by Rose Koshy
Wednesday	May 24	<b>Bd. Louis-Zéphirin Moreau, bishop</b> 9:00 am +For the peaceful rest of Maryann Fields	by Martha Devlin
Thursday	May 25	9:00 am For the health and healing of Paul Massad 10:45 am Intermediate Class Mass	by Joyce and Rodney Ross
Friday	May 26	<b>St. Philip Neri, religious &amp; founder</b> 9:00 am For God's strength upon Theresa Rankin and upon Fields Family	by Martha Devlin
Saturday	May 27	<b>The Ascension of the Lord</b> 5:00 pm For the health and healing of Lenora Newman	by family
Sunday	May 28	9:00 am For the intentions of St. Martin's Parish family 11:00 am +For the peaceful rest of Ken Lewis	by Pauline Lewis and family

**NOTE:** There is a Mass time change on Wednesday, May 24. Mass will be at 9:00 am instead of 6:30 pm. Father Brian will be attending the Diocesan Catholic Women's League Convention banquet.

### SAINTS THIS WEEK

#### **Bd. Louis-Zéphirin Moreau, bishop; May 24.**

Louis was born on April 1, 1824 in Bécancour, Quebec. Ordained as a priest, he worked in the Diocese of Montreal. In the year 1876 he became the Bishop of Saint-Hyacinthe. He was well known for his care of the poor, and established schools of every variety. He suffered from poor health throughout his life. He died in Saint-Hyacinthe on May 24, 1901.

He was beatified on May 10, 1987 by Pope John Paul II.

#### **St. Philip Neri, religious & founder; May 26.**

Philip was born in Italy, in the year 1515. While in Rome in the year 1536, he worked as a lay helper among the poor. Ordained a priest in the year 1551, he cared for pilgrims. In the year 1575 he founded the *Congregation of the Orator*. He is best known for his work in dispensing forgiveness. He died in Rome in the year 1595.

He is the *patron saint of the home mission work* in Canada as it is supported through the Catholic Missions In Canada.

### DAYS THIS WEEK

#### **Victoria Day; May 22.**

Queen Victoria's birthday, May 24, was declared a popular holiday in Canada by the Legislature of the Province of Canada in the year 1845. In the year 1902, the Parliament of Canada established May 24 as a legal

holiday, under the name Victoria Day. In the year 1952, Victoria Day was celebrated on the Monday proceeding May 25. In the year 1957, Victoria Day was permanently appointed as the Queen's birthday in Canada.

Victoria was born on May 24, 1819. In the year 1837, she became Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, and Head of the British Colonies. She replaced her Uncle George IV, ruling until her death in the year 1901, when she was replaced by her son Edward VII.

### FEASTS NEXT WEEK

#### **Ascension of the Lord; May 28.**

This is the original Feast of Christ's Kingship. Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus completed his earthly work. He takes his place at the right hand of the Father, in his glorified body. The Ascension of Jesus makes the sending of the Holy Spirit - by the Father and the Son - possible. Jesus is recognized as King of all creation, by the choice of his Father.

### LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING

Generosity brought \$1302.50 to our parish last week.

### THANK YOU

St. Martin's Strong Catholic Families - Strong Catholic Youth wishes to thank all parishioners for their gen-



erous support in the mothers day flowers campaign!

We were successfully able to raise \$549.13 and thank you to Yvonne MacNiven who contributed an additional \$213.18 from the Divine Mercy

Monday night coffee fund to VBS.

We are so happy to be able to provide another VBS program for the children of our parish this July.

May God continue to bless our parish!

### ST. MARTIN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The news letter for St. Martin's School is available online at [www.niagaracatholic.ca/Schools/Elementary/StMartin/Newsletters](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca/Schools/Elementary/StMartin/Newsletters).

### THE BACK PAGE

On this week's *THE BACK PAGE* a thought for Pentecost Sunday is presented.

### GRIMSBY LIFE CENTRE 2017 LIFE CHANGE CAMPAIGN

The value of sharing is a good way to teach our children to be good stewards of all that God has entrusted us with. Many families have found the Grimsby Life Centre baby bottle campaign an excellent way to engage their children in the 'learning to give process' - families helping families right within our own community. "He who is generous will be blessed, for he gives some of his food to the poor." Proverbs 22:9 Thank you for partnering in this Life Change Campaign.



### CWL SERVICE PINS

On May 14, 2017, Years of Service pins were given out to the those members of our parish's Catholic Women's League who have given of their time to do God's work through faithful and exceptional service to the league, church and parish community.

We take this time to thank them for the years of service.

Riki Mulder - 60 years  
Joyce Ross - 40 years  
Theresa Wilson - 30 years  
Bea Blokhuis - 10 years  
Gayle Hutton - 10 years  
Pat Wirth - 10 years

### JOIN THE CONVERSATION

A *Catholic Education Symposium* will take place in November 2017. Stakeholders are invited to participate in an on-line conversation about Catholic Education in

Ontario. Your participation in the on-line discussion will inform and enrich the dialogue about the future and the importance of Catholic education. You are encouraged to join the conversation at <http://signup.thotex.com/iceont/Pyv>.

### FESTIVAL OF FAMILIES

Busing has been arranged for families interested in attending the Festival of Families being held on Thursday, May 25, 2017 at Saint Michael Catholic High School. This FREE service will depart at 4:30pm from the parking lot of **St. Joseph Church** (Grimsby).

Please note that each bus will leave the Festival of Families at approximately 7:30pm. Families will be returned to their designated parking lot.

If interested, you are asked to *confirm the location and number of seats* needed with Nadine Vant Sant, by either calling 905-735-0249, #173 or emailing, [nadine.vantsant@ncdsb.com](mailto:nadine.vantsant@ncdsb.com) by May 23, 2017.

Remember, seating is limited so register your spot AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

### FESTIVAL OF FAMILIES

#### HOSTED BY NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD &

#### THE DIOCESE OF ST. CATHARINES

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 4-8pm at Saint Michael Catholic High School, 8699 McLeod Rd, Niagara Falls.

Join us to watch participating clergy of the Diocese, and Niagara Catholic staff and parents face off in a soccer game against an all-star team of Niagara Catholic students! Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines will also be attending.

The evening will include a BBQ, family activities, and Christian band competition. Please visit [www.niagaracatholic.ca](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca) for more information.

### BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

#### Birthdays:

Pierre Paradis - May 21  
Sharon Cosby - May 22  
Heresa Bartlett/Arianna Braccio - May 25  
Edward kotuza/Ryan Pereira - May 26  
Preston Wealleans - May 26  
Erika Davis - May 28

#### Anniversaries:

Vern & Josie Dell - May 22  
Dan & Annette Shukovitsky - May 25  
Bill & Jennifer Mous - May 26