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LOVE FOR LOVE

Today's readings should inspire the Christian steward with deepened gratitude to our God, Who loves us with such fierce and tender love. We must make an intentional response every day to return love for Love.

In our Second Reading, from Romans, St. Paul reminds us that nothing and nobody can keep God from loving us. No anguish, distress, persecution, famine ... and we might add pandemic, economic loss, relationship strife - nothing - can keep our God from His faithful love for us. God has got us in the palm of His hand.

And yet, this reassurance is only the beginning of God's gifts to us. Our Gospel passage from Matthew recounts the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish. This of course, is a foreshadowing of the miraculous gift the Eucharist, which feeds us not with bread but with the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus.

Let's look at the opening verses of this passage, for they reveal a little of the tender heart of Jesus for all of us. "His heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick." What generous and compassionate love He shows.

But even that is not enough for our Lord. He remains with them, ministering to and teaching them well into the evening. The disciples suggest that Jesus should send them away so that they could buy some food. But Jesus will not hear of it. He insists that the disciples feed them right then and there. And then, He provides the miraculous abundance of food out of the few loaves and fishes the disciples could round up.

What a privilege for those disciples to participate in Christ's miraculous plan for His people. This privilege is ours, too, as Christian stewards. Let us make a grateful response to such amazing love.
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
Due to COVID-19 we are closed

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

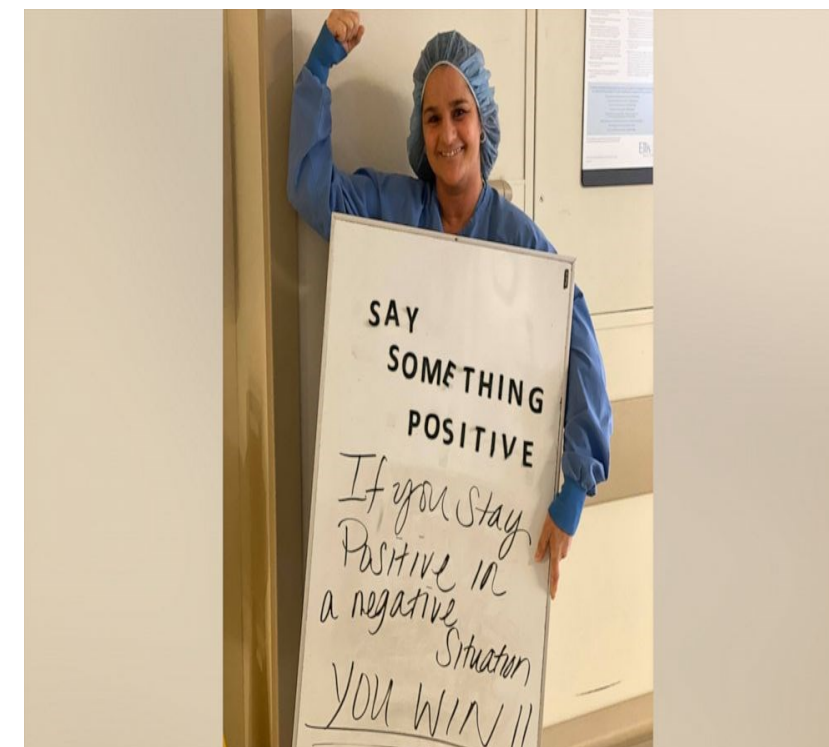
Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
President - Carolyn Vaughan
Knights of Columbus
Grand Knight - Lloyd Buchan
koc.16421@gmail.com

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



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Smithville, Ontario L0R 2A0
Telephone: 289-956-0221
Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca
www.stmartinsparish.com

August 2, 2020 - Year A

The 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 2, 2019
The 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A
MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Aug 3	9:00 am	Intention sent from St. Alfred's Parish +Don Tytler Our Sacristans: Martha Devlin (Aug3) Cathy Cartaginense (Aug 2) Birthdays	by the Family by Fr. Christopher
Tues	Aug 4	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Irene Niewiadomski	by Norrie Franko
Wed	Aug 5	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Santa Maronese	by Norrie Franko
		10:30 am	- 5:00 pm - Gethsemane Center Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Celebrant Father Christopher. Father also celebrates confessions and does counselling.	
Thurs	Aug 6	9:00 am	For our parish of St. Martin's during these challenging times	by Martha Devlin
		10:30 am	- 11:45 pm Zoom Meeting Hamilton Rehabilitation Centre	Father Christopher
Fri	Aug 7	9:00 am	Intention sent from St. Alfred's Parish +Yvonne Vandebraak	by the Family
		2:00 pm	- 4:00 pm. Hamilton Rehabilitation Centre Addiction Counselling	Father Christopher
		7:30 pm	- 9:30 pm Praise and Worship Gethsemane Centre Wellandport - Register if attending	
Sat	Aug 8	The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
		5:00 pm	+For the repose of the soul of Antonio Pais	by Fatima Araujo & Family
Sun	Aug 9	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 go to their website to register: www.gethsemaneministries.com

Please 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.

Volunteers are needed for sanitizing and cleaning. Please consider volunteering and give others a break.

Thank you.

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. Young children will not be allowed to run around the church as they must stay with their parents throughout the entire baptism celebration.

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. Thank you.

"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 for this weekend will be made 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. The front cover of our bulletin is intentional.

"Say Something Positive. If you stay positive in a negative situation. YOU WIN!"