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### PREPARE THE WAY

The readings for the Second Week of Advent offer both encouragement and challenge as we reflect and prepare for the two "comings" of Christ - His coming as a baby on the great feast of Christmas, and the anticipation of His second coming at the end of time.

Our First Reading, from Baruch, is a wonderful reminder that God has triumphed over sin and death and that we - His faithful disciples - will live in the light of His glory one day. Until He comes again, we must remain faithful to Him as true disciples and good stewards of all the gifts He has given us.

While it can be tempting to give in to the materialism and calls for self-indulgence that surround us, this reading calls us back to the spiritual reality that this life is passing and that we are made for eternal life with God. We are called to prepare for eternal life by the way that we use our time, our talents, and our treasure now.

The Gospel reading from Luke shows us how personal and detailed is God's love for humanity as He prepared the way for Christ's coming among us. We are told the precise time, place, and person, John the Baptist, He appointed to announce the arrival of our Savior. John tells us how to celebrate to the fullest this first "coming" on the feast of Christmas and how to prepare for the second coming - through repentance.

This Advent let's turn away from any bad habits or sin that may have crept into our lives and turn our hearts and minds back to Christ. This is what the stewardship way of life is all about - moving closer ever closer in relationship with Christ and imitation of Him, ready to celebrate His birth, with eyes fixed on eternal life with Him.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

**Pastor**  
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen  
P.P.

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

**Weekday Masses**  
See Schedule  
on the inside of the bulletin

**In Office Hours**  
Tuesday & Thursday  
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Administrative Assistant**  
**Financial Recorder**  
Sandy Johnson  
**Reconciliation/Confessions**  
By Appointment Only in COVID-19

**Requesting Sacraments**  
Must be registered and practicing  
Call office for details

**St Martin Elementary School**  
Phone 905-957-3032

**Cemetery**  
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648  
This position is now available.  
Contact the parish office.

**Parish Organizations**  
Catholic Women's League  
President - Carolyn Vaughan

**Knights of Columbus**  
Grand Knight - Pierre Paradis  
koc.16421@gmail.com

**Facility Maintenance**  
Chair Frank DeFilippis

**Parish Groups**  
Children's Liturgy.  
Youth Ministry  
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



### SPECIAL YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

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**December 5, 2021 - Year - C**  
**2nd Sunday of Advent**

# December 5, 2021

## 2nd Sunday of Advent - Year C

### MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Dec 6	9:00 am	+Gerald Paul Bergie (Bishop Bergie's Father)	by the Newman Family
Tues	Dec 7	9:00 am	+Donna Atkinson	by Pat & Kevin McCaarville
Wed	Dec 8	9:00 am	God's strength & health & healing of Helan & Andy Lipiec	by Dick & Mark Van Geest
		10:30 am	- 12:pm Gethsemane Centre Mass/ Adoration/ Confessions	Fr .Christopher
		5:00 pm	- 9:00 pm - Pre-Christmas CWL Dinner	
Thurs	Dec 9	9:00 am	+Maria deFatima Pais	by Family
		9:30 am	- 10:30 am Parish Bible Study Group in the upper meeting room	
		3:00 pm	Haldimand Deanery Zoom Meeting - The Synod Process	Fr. Christopher
		7:00 pm	- 8: 00 pm Centre for Mental Health & Addiction (CMAH) Zoom Meeting	Fr. Christopher
Fri	Dec 10	7:30 am	- 8:30 Paradisus Dei - That Man Is You: Virtual Rosary	Fr. Christopher
		9:00 am	+Harry Kruk	by Helen & Andy Lipiec
		7:00 pm	- 9:00 pm Praise and Worship at Gethsemane Centre	Fr. Christopher
Sat	Dec 11	8:30 am	- 10:00 am That Man is You - by Zoom. Paradisus Program (TMIY):	Fr. Christopher
			<b>The 2nd Sunday of Advent</b>	
Sat	Dec 11	5:00 pm	+Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	
Sun	Dec 12	10:00 am	+Christina Terpstra	by John & Judy Terpstra

#### E-TRANSFERS

These transfers are often referred to as **e-Transfers** and done through your online banking, website or app. To transfer funds to St. Martin Parish e-Transfer to:

**st.martinsdonation@gmail.com**

**Please do not enter a security question and answer. You will be informed that your transfer to: The Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation has been completed.**

Thank you for your stewardship.

Stewardship is given by in-person, E-Transfer and by mail. Unfortunately, not all are currently supporting our parish with their stewardship. Perhaps this gentle reminder will motivate you to give. Again, we continually thank those who are supportive weekly or monthly with their stewardship.

#### OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Offertory Envelopes will be printed out next week. If you currently do not have a set of envelopes and would like a set, please call or email the office. Please do not use last years envelopes as your number may have been given to someone else.

#### ATTENTION: HOSPITALITY/COVID MINISTRY

Due to retirement, illness and surgery, we are in **dire** need of Hospitality/Covid Ministers. It is not a difficult task. If you could assist with this ministry, please call the office. Hospitality/ COVID Ministers are required to be at Mass 30 minute prior to the beginning of Mass.

**We can't open our doors to the public without this ministry in place.**

#### CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Knights of Columbus will be selling religious Christmas Cards outside of the church after the Masses on November 27 and 28 and December 4 and 5. Cards are \$10/Box of 10 cards.

#### DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE AND CARITAS PEOPLE AND PLANET FIRST

This year, Development and Peace's **"People and Planet First"** campaign invites you to stand in solidarity with them and celebrate their work! Engaging and informative resources can be found on the website, [devp.org](http://devp.org).

#### PROOF OF VACCINATION INFORMATION FOR PARISHIONERS

No proof of vaccination is required for anyone attending Mass or other liturgical service in any church in the Diocese of St. Catharines. Physical distancing and face masks are required for the entire time someone is in the church building, except to receive Holy Communion.

Parishioners who are elderly or may be medically compromised may decide to stay home and participate in a livestreamed Mass.

No proof of vaccination is required for closed parish meetings in a parish hall (parish council, CWL, etc.) with a maximum of 25 people.

Proof of vaccination (double vaccination plus 14 days) is required for anyone over the age of twelve attending a reception or social event (e.g. parish pasta dinner, wedding or funeral reception, etc.) in a parish hall.

Proof of vaccination requirements **do not apply** to:

- Funeral services including rites, ceremonies, visitations, receptions, or social gatherings held in places of worship.
- Funeral services including rites, ceremonies, visitations, receptions, or social gatherings held in funeral establishments, cemeteries, crematoriums and similar establishments.

#### COVID PROTOCOLS FOR MEETINGS IN THE HALL

As churches are now allowed to have meetings, the following Covid Protocol must be adhered to during Phase 3 of Ontario's reopening plans:

- Capacity restricted to 25 indoors and 100 outdoors.
- Face Masks must be worn at all times.
- 6 feet physical distance must be maintained before, during and after all meetings.
- Sanitize hands upon entering the building
- One person to sign people in with date, name and phone number of all attendees. This Covid contact list must be kept for 6 years.
- The kitchen cannot be used.
- All tables & chairs to be returned to the storage area.
- Proof of vaccine is not required for closed
- Meeting with a maximum of 25 people.
- Proof of vaccine and photo ID is required for open meetings and receptions.
- As we slowly move into the late fall and early winter months we are highly recommending meetings to take place virtually, by zoom.
- We are also troubled that individuals will attend a meeting but not attend Sunday Mass?
- Gathering after Mass outside the physical distance
- protocol ( 6 Feet) must be maintained.
- Please refrain from hugging others even if outside

#### ONLINE CHILDREN'S LITURGY IS BACK!

This weekly email contains a reading, video and more, right to your inbox every Sunday. We are monitoring the situation and are hopeful to return to in person in the new year – stay tuned. If you would like to receive the online Children's Liturgy, please send an email to the parish office at

[st.martins@cogeco.ca](mailto:st.martins@cogeco.ca) to get added to the list!