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SAYING THANK YOU – TO OUR PARISH STAFF

Saying goodbye as the leader in any capacity has many parts. So this weekend I am choosing to offer a public word of *THANKS* to those who are our *PARISH STAFF*.

Being a *STAFF* member means several things: responsibility, being a part of a team, owing a loyalty to the task you must do, receiving the money and benefits that you have agreed to, confidentiality, and hopefully bringing some joy into your workplace. Those are all easy to have happen at times, yet at others times there may be some stress. Being a Staff member in a Church setting neither adds nor subtracts from this list I mention.

There are three Staff members in our parish: Sandy, the secretary; Ellie, the cleaner; and Tracy, the financial book keeper.

Sandy was new to me when I came to St. Martin's Church. I am certain that she had more adjustment to me than I had to her, but she persevered.

Ellie I have known since my days at St. Helen's Church. She was a parishioner then. On the day I moved in here, her welcome and kindness made the stress of moving less difficult. Since that day she has continued to be committed to her tasks here.

Tracy was also known to me from years ago. She has been part of the staff of St. Joseph's Church for some time. I have been well pleased with keeping of our financial records.

So, if you have not taken some time to offer a word – of gladness, or sympathy, or thanks - to Tracy and Ellie and Sandy please do so. They were here before me and will still be here when I go. And offer a prayer for them, that as a *STAFF* member they can keep up with what they have been doing.

Prepared by Father Brian Bevan, Parish Priest.

Diocese of St. Catharines

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church

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

Pastor
Father Brian Bevan

Sunday Masses
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Weekday Masses
Listed inside bulletin

Exposition and Benediction
Listed inside bulletin

Reconciliation/Confessions
Listed inside bulletin
Or by request

Baptism
Sunday by appointment

Marriage
Contact Fr. Brian Bevan

Sacrament of the Sick
Communion for the Sick and Shut-ins
Please call the office

Secretary
Sandy Johnson
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

St Martin School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

Diocesan Website
www.saintcd.com



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Sept 3, 2017

**The 22nd Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

September 3, 2017

The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Monday	Sept 4	Bd. Dina Bélanger, religious Labour Day 9:00 am +For the peaceful rest of Aurlia Spotswood	by Rodney and Joyce Ross
Tuesday	Sept 5	St. Teresa of Calcutta, religious and founder 9:00 am For the health and healing of Robert Schnaar	by John and Riky Mulder
Wednesday	Sept 6	6:30 pm For the intentions of the KOC Council 16421	
Thursday	Sept 7	9:00 am For the health and healing of Paul Massad	by Joyce and Rodney Ross
Friday	Sept 8	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9:00 am For the peaceful rest of Janja Cukina	by Marija Kuran
Saturday	Sept 9	The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 pm ****AVAILABLE****	
Sunday	Sept 10	9:00 am For the intentions of St. Martin's parish family 11:00 am For God's blessings upon Andy and Helen Lipiec on their 40th wedding anniversary For the health of Fr. Brian	by Andy and Helen Lipiec by Nicole MacIsaac

SAINTS TODAY

St. Gregory the Great, pope & doctor; September 03.

Gregory was born in Rome in the year 540. Gregory held important government positions between the years 573 and 578, achieving great riches. When his father died he gave his money away to prepare for a life in the church. In the year 579, he became a deacon, and travelled as a representative of Pope Pelagius II. In the year 586 he was named abbot, then in the year 590 was elected pope. He was the first pope to call himself *Servant of the Servants of God*. He served the papacy for 13 years, dying on March 12, 604.

His feast is celebrated today, the date of his ordination as bishop in the year 590, to avoid having the feast fall during the Lenten season. He was called *the great* by Pope Boniface VIII. He is one of the four *Fathers of the Western Church*, with St. Ambrose, St. Augustine and St. Jerome.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Bd. Dina Bélanger, religious; September 04.

Dina was born in the year 1897 in Quebec City. She studied piano, becoming a concert pianist. At 25 years old she entered the Religious of Jesus and Mary. Her writings show a deep spiritual relationship with God, unclouded by her suffering the pain of tuberculosis. In the convent she was responsible for teaching and leading music. She died on September 04, 1929. Pope John Paul II beatified her on March 20, 1993.

St. Teresa of Calcutta, religious and founder; September 5.

Gonxha Bojaxhill was born on August 26, 1910 in Skopje, Macedonia. At the age of 17 years she entered the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto Sisters) in Ireland. She took her First Vows in 1931, and her

Final Vows in 1937. In 1946 she began to be drawn to serve the Lord Jesus in a new way, by serving in India among the poorest of the poor. On August 17, 1948 she dressed for the first time in a white, blue-bordered sari and left the Loreto Sisters to begin her work among the poor, and took the name *Mother Teresa*. She formed the *Missionaries of Charity* in 1948, the *Missionaries of Charity Brothers* in 1963, the *Contemplative Branch of the Sisters of Charity* in 1976, the *Contemplative Brothers* in 1979, and the *Missionaries of Charity Fathers* in 1984.

St. Teresa began helping the poor with one house in Calcutta, India and now has over 500 around the world. These homes are for the dying and unwanted, for AIDS sufferers, for prostitutes, battered women and orphanages.

She died on September 5, 1997. She was canonized by Pope Francis on September 4, 2016.

DAYS THIS WEEK

Labour Day, September 04.

The first Monday in September celebrates the efforts of the "working class" in the world's societies. It is a day to give thanks to God and those around us whose works bring help to others and themselves.

This day has been held since the year 1871, when the effort began to have a "40 hour" working week.

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Birth of the Virgin Mary; September 08.

Mary came into the world full of sanctifying grace, with no touch of original sin. The home of her parents Joachim and Anne was located at the pool at Bethesda, a part of Jerusalem, as mentioned in the gospel of John (5:1-9). On this site now sits the Basilica of St. Anne.

This feast dates from the end of the seventh century.

SEPTEMBER 2017 MASSES

The Masses from September 4 - 10 will be as usual. Monday, September 11th at 9:00 am will be Fr. Brian's last Mass here at St. Martin of Tours.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING

Generosity brought \$995.00 to our parish last week.

BAPTISM

Baptism will be celebrated on Saturday, September 9th, at 11:00 am. Please remember Matthew George Gojko Sorbara, child of Daniel and Natalija (Djuric) Sorbara in your prayers.

THE BACK PAGE

This week *The Back Page* expresses a sincere thank you to St. Martin of Tours parish staff.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Also known as the Sacrament of Confession and of Penance, this Sacrament is available this week:

Wednesday from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm

Saturday from 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm

By appointment.

CWL FIRST MEETING

All ladies of the Parish are invited to our first CWL meeting of the year. The date is September 13, 2017 and the time is 7:00 p.m. We will celebrate with a little wine and cheese, coffee, tea and great fellowship. Even if you are not a member, please come out and give it a try. And those who have no transportation, we can arrange for someone to pick you up. We hope to see you all there.

Sylvana Oliver, President, St. Martin's CWL 905-715-5779



SCHOOL WILL SOON BE UPON US

In these last days before classes begin again, let us please remember to pray for those in the education system:

- ◆ For teachers, that they will gladly pass on their knowledge of life and faith.
- ◆ For all support staff members, that they will provide a clear example of the mercy and helpfulness of God.
- ◆ For parents, that they will remember that they are the first teachers of life and love and rejoice in their efforts.

- ◆ For principals, trustees and all those in executive positions, that they will lead with the example of Christ.
- ◆ For the whole community, that we will be thoughtful, supportive and prayerful in this school year.

OPENING SCHOOL DAY

Tuesday, September 5, 2017 is not only the first day of school studies for another year, it is also the opening day for the newly constructed St. Martin's Elementary School.



Being a place of education, including helping us learn about the love and service of God, prayer is an important element. On Tuesday morning there will be one final "Thank You" prayer offered at

the "Old" School, then shortly after a "Help Us" prayer at the "New" School.

In our own hearts we can all participate on that day. Offer a prayer to say "Thank you" - "Thank you God for your presence here", and a prayer for "Help us" - "God as Father and Son, give us Your Holy Spirit for our new school".



Let the heavens rejoice on this occasion!

TO HEAL AS JESUS HEALED

Would knowing more about Christ's healing power and how to make it a part of your and your family's life help you every day?

If so, plan to attend the **Bread of Life's 2017 Day of Renewal "To Heal as Jesus Healed"** on Saturday, Sept 16 from 8:30 - 4:00 at Gethsemane Ministries, 84008 Wellandport Rd, Wellandport. Guest speakers include: Dr. Mary Healy, Suresh Dominic and Fr. Peter Coughlin.

For more information or for tickets contact Mary at 905-634-5433 or info@yourbreadoflife.com. Tickets are \$25 and include a hot lunch.

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

- Daniel Grzybek/ Desiree Hayward – Sept 3
- Janet Vacon – Sept 6
- Nicole Altobelli/Hunter Duliban—Sept 8
- Candace Pavao/Jozef Porzuczek— Sept 8
- Casey Yakowenko – Sept 8
- Emily Chiarcos/Ethan Rakonjac – Sept 9

Anniversaries:

- Adam & Kelly Duliban – Sept 3
- Steven & Elizabeth Joyner – Sept 5
- Tom & Kathleen Diletti – Sept 8
- Andy & Helen Lipiec – Sept 10