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HIS - STORY

History is undaunting. It just continues on to its natural conclusion with or without our agreement. We have the privilege to contribute to and influence it, but not to alter its grand design. Because history can rightly be called his-story. The natural conclusion of history becomes in reality a supernatural outcome. His-story is one in which God determined to create and claim through love, a people of his own (1 Peter 2:9). Though Adam and Eve chose to disobey God and thus affected history, God in his love would not allow them to alter his-story's purpose. This week's Scripture readings portray three aspects of his -story; the promise, the prescription, and the preview.

The promise: Imagine, some 100-200 years before Jesus was born, Daniel predicted the promise of eternal resurrection and eternal punishment. This week's first reading says, "those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake; some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt." During Jesus' time walking on earth, and from before Daniel's time to the present, people have wondered and debated about the end of life, resurrection and damnation. Many base their view of eternity on their own limited understanding. We who follow Christ base our views on the divine revelation of sacred Scripture, which holds unlimited promises. This passage in Daniel is a promise worth clinging to, for those who believe.

The prescription: Many contemplate the end times with distress and fear. The real possibility of a life spent in "shame and everlasting contempt" looms evermore as a real possibility when they reflect on their life lived outside the will of God. Though the terror is real it is not of itself sufficient to either bring about change or remove the fearful debt they owe. Only God's powerful prescription can do that. Jesus, as Christ, became and becomes our high priest entering into God's presence offering his own life, death, and resurrection as the Sacrifice which can remove every stain of sin, making perfect and freeing from guilt and judgment those who believe.

The preview: Jesus gives us a glimpse of his glorious and triumphant return. It does not matter that at times in history it appears that the forces of evil will overwhelm his people, the drama is not yet over until he returns and wraps up his-story. This week's Gospel passage gives us just a hint of the final outcome. Jesus and his people will be in the "win" column, while his opponents will experience the ultimate "loss." His will be a glorious victory and a triumphant return. The joy and jubilation his people feel will far surpass that which people experience when tearing down the goal post or cutting down the net over the biggest upset of the season. Ours will be the upset of eternity - the inevitable and sure conclusion to his-story.

God reconciling the world to himself is also God reconciling himself to the world. In working out the plan of redemption, the Bible does not say that man became God, but that God became man. Further, he reconciled himself to the world by 'not counting their trespasses against them.' He forgave us not by ignoring our trespasses but by assuming our trespasses. 'For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.' God became what by right he was not, so that we might become what by right we are not. This is what Christians through the ages have called 'the happy exchange.' This exchange, this reversal, is at the very epicenter of the story of our redemption.

Persuaded!: So, persuaded that these things are true we can with the Psalmist rejoice and say, "I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore, my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure. For thou dost not give me up to Sheol, or let thy godly one see the Pit. Thou dost show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fullness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures for evermore." This is the blessed assurance of which we sing.

Emmanuel Journey Reflections

Bishop of the Diocese
 Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
 Pastor
 Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.
 Diocesan Social Justice Rep

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

Weekday Masses
 Tues, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00am
 Wed @ 6:30 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 To be Re-scheduled

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

Baptism
 Catechesis and appointment necessary

Marriage
 Contact the parish office

Sacrament of the Sick
 Please call the office

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

Bookkeeper
 Tracy Piggott

St Martin School
 Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
 Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

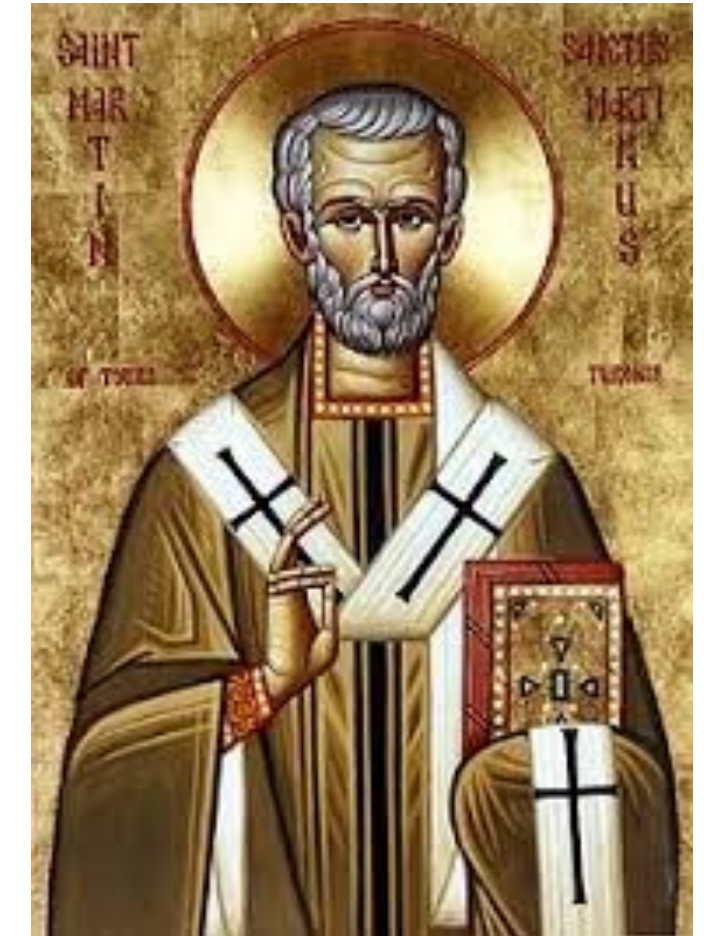
Parish Organizations
 Catholic Women's League
 Knights of Columbus

Parish Groups
 Scripture Study . Children's Liturgy
 West Lincoln Loaf of Bread
 Parish Events Group

Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

Diocese of St. Catharines

St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church



166 West Street, P.O. Box 74
 Smithville, Ontario L0R 2A0
 Telephone: 289-956-0221
 Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca
 www.stmartinsparish.com

Ministry Schedule - Nov 24/25

Hospitality Ministers

5:00 pm - Elaine & Chuck Parry
 10:00 am - Deanne & Justin Long

Altar Servers

5:00pm - Needed
 10:00 am - Needed

Children's Liturgy

Andrea Esposito

Next Hospitality Sunday

December 2nd

November 18, 2018

The 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectors

5:00 pm #1 - Andrew Steger
 #2 - Caroline Steger
 10:00 am #1 - Mary Pikula
 #2 - Lisa Poort

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm - Tom S. & Yolanda B.
 10:00 am - Helen, Andy & Sherri

Stewardship Counting

Cheryl D. & Antonella P.

November 18, 2018

The 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



Lord, may the request of your people rise before you like a fragrant offering

Monday	Nov 19	NO MASS: Father Christopher's Day Off? 6:30 pm-8:30 pm Diocesan Council for Development and Peace - St. Catharines.	
Tuesday	Nov 20	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Rita Teahen 5:15 pm Grade 8 Journey Retreat Mass here.	by Susan Haves & family
Wednesday	Nov 21	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9:00 am +For the repose of the souls of Johnny & Teenie Morreale +For the repose of the soul of the Gabriella Bush 10:30 am Gethsemane Centre Mass - Father Christopher Celebrant - All are welcome. 12:30 pm Grade Eight Sacrament of Reconciliation at School. 6:00 pm Catholic Women's League Flower Arrangement Workshop in parish hall.	by Judy & Jake Sulyma by Vern & Josie Dell
Thursday	Nov 22	St. Cecilia 9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Robert Schnaar	by John Mulder
Friday	Nov 23	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Rita Teahen +For the repose of the soul of Paul Massad	by Helen & Andy Lipiec by Joyce & Rodney Ross
Saturday	Nov 24	The Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe 5:00 pm +For the repose of the soul of Joseph Lombardo +For the repose of the soul of Manuel daSilva	by Marie & Winston Mallia by Maria daSilva
Sunday	Nov 25	10:00 am +For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	

ST. MARTIN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 7:00 pm
Reconciliation for Grade Eight Wednesday
November 21, at 12:30pm.
Rehearsal Tuesday November 27 at 1:00pm

Ministers of Hospitality required for Confirmation Liturgy

Please speak with Father or call the parish office. Thank you.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Tuesday, December 11 & 18, 2018 - 7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS URN WORKSHOP

St. Martin's CWL is hosting a Christmas Urn Workshop on Wednesday, November 21 from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm in the parish hall. All ladies of the parish are welcome. Please sign up after mass or contact Helen for more information at 289-956-0148 by November 4 or before class fills up. Approximate cost \$40.00.

60th Diocesan Anniversary Mass

Feast of St. Catherine of Alexandria, honouring priests, religious, and married couples celebrating significant anniversaries Monday, November 26 5:30 p.m. Mass Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria 67 Church St., St. Catharines.

Parish has purchased one full table of eight parishioners representing the parish:Knights,CWL, PEG, Discernment Team, Choir. Thank you.

DEO GRATIAS COLLECTION

Please support the *Deo Gratias* Collection of November 17/18, 2018. All revenue will go to our Clergy Aid Society. We are grateful to God, and to our retired clergy in the Diocese of St. Catharines who, from the time of their ordination, have cared for us and our spiritual needs. In thanksgiving to God for them and their years of faithful service, your generous support of the *Deo Gratias* collection will enable us to care for those who have dedicated their lives to caring for us. The revenue from this collection does not go into an endowment fund but goes directly to the Clergy Aid Society which provides an income for our retired clergy.

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR:

November 18 "Charity is the Samaritan who pours oil on the wounds of the traveller who was attacked. The role of justice is to prevent the attack." -- Bl. Frederic Ozanam. Pope Francis has asked that we celebrate "World Day of the Poor" on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Catholic Women's League Bake Sale

Sunday, December 2, after the 10:00 am Mass. It is also Coffee Social! Please plan on attending. Catholic Women's League Christmas Dinner is Thursday, December 13th, in the parish hall beginning at 5:30pm.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

HEALING MINISTRY

This month's topics are:

- **Nov 26 - Sadness and Depression**
- **Dec 10 - Overcoming Depression**
- **Dec 24 - No Meeting**

Meetings are 7 to 9 pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls.

Pre-registration not required.

For information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

[devp.org/campaign]

Share the Journey! (Signing "Action Cards")

Aysha is a Syrian refugee in Lebanon since 2012. She lives in a makeshift camp with her four children and is waiting for news from her husband, who left for Germany in the hope of bringing the family there. "What I miss the most about Syria is my house, my homeland, my mother and my father. I haven't seen them in five years. Before I felt secure, in my house, in my country. Now my life is temporary; my tent could burn down. Two years ago the tent we were in went up in flames." Please join the journey by signing the action cards today, which will be sent to the Prime Minister. Without your action, there is no change and no justice. [devp.org/campaign]

PLEASE RETURN SIGNED ACTION CARD TO CHURCH AND DROP IN OFFERTORY COLLECTION BASKET. THANK YOU!

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

NOVEMBER 10/11

Sunday Offertory (61 Env):	\$ 3,680.00
Loose:	\$ 52.00
Facility Maintenance (1 Env):	\$ 40.00
Deo Gratis (1Env):	\$ 50.00
Hall Rental (Gallant Funeral):	\$ 150.00
Memorial Donations received from Merritt Funeral Home (Andrew Joseph Wirth)	\$ 380.00
Devotional Candles:	\$ 224.00
Total	\$4,476.00

Thank you for your faithful stewardship

POINSETTIA SALE Fund raiser for Parish Events Group

Order after Masses between November 10 to November 25.

- 6 inch Poinsettias \$10.00
- 8 inch Poinsettias \$20.00
- 10 inch Poinsettias \$25.00

Pick-up December 2, Parish Hall at Coffee Social.

Advent: What Are We Waiting For?

Presented by Fr. Michael Wastag, O. Carm. Wednesday, December 5 (9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre
7020 Stanley Ave, Niagara Falls.
Tel: 905-356-4113

\$65/person (includes lunch)

In Advent, we wait and look forward to celebrating the fact that God loves us so much that he sent his Son into the world to save us. This waiting is far from empty; rather, it is full of hope.

We anticipate the Second Coming of Christ as well. Reflect and pray on these wondrous and mysterious Advents.

Winter: Season of Dormancy and Difficulty

Presented by Fr. Michael Wastag, O. Carm. Saturday, December 12 (9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre
\$65/person (includes lunch)

Explore what the winter season can teach us about spirituality and life through reflections on Scripture, tradition, and the arts.

SUNDAY MISSALS AVAILABLE

The new liturgical year begins the First Sunday of Advent December 2. A donation of \$5.00 is appreciated. Available at front foyer or at parish pastoral office during the week.