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COME TO THE WEDDING

The Father requests the honor of your presence at the marriage supper of His Son, Jesus Christ, to be held in heaven. A wedding feast is a celebration of love, commitment, and union. Why would someone, called to such a celebratory feast, refuse to attend?

In this week's Gospel reading it is interesting to note the excuses that were given for not accepting the invitation. None of the reasons were necessary hindrances, just convenient excuses. And that is how the king viewed them; as illegitimate, showing frivolous disrespect for both the celebration and the ones celebrated.

Consequently, the king provided an open invitation, excluding none. The Kingdom of God is truly a classless society with people from every race, economic and social level receiving the same invitation. The Father invites all people to celebrate the love, commitment, and union we can have with his Son. We all will be accountable for how we respond. Will it be a resounding "Yes" or a silently voiced "No" through our unresponsiveness and disinterest.

It is both a cause of wonder and of praise to reflect on the fact that the gates of heaven have been opened to "both bad and good." We wonder how can this be so? The answer, "By grace!"

The Father both calls us to the banquet and prepares and makes us acceptable, how can we refuse?

There are some who still do not know about the invitation and the Father is looking to us to make the invitation known to them. To help them "yield to his love."

We who have responded with a resounding, "Yes!" look with eagerness to participation in the mystery of the union and enjoy, even now, the availability of communion with the Son. We are motivated knowing that the celebration begins here on earth, only to be continued in heaven. Why would someone, called to such a celebratory feast, refuse to attend? It's unfathomable.

Emmaus journey reflections

Parish Priest
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
Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Administrative Assistant
Sandy Johnson

Financial Recorder
Tracy Piggott

Reconciliation/Confessions
By Appointment Only

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 - Pierre Paradis
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



Happy Thanksgiving!

**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

October 11, 2020 - Year A

**The 28th Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

October 11, 2019

The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Oct 12	9:00 am	Thanksgiving +Laura Urei-Cavrera Intentions for Martha Devlin	by Verusaka Cavrera by Father Christopher
Tues	Oct 13	9:00 am	+Don Tyler	from St. Alfred's Parish
		10:00 am - 11:30 am	Haldimand Deanery Zoom Meeting	Fr. Christopher
Wed	Oct 14	9:00 am	+Yvonne Vanderbraak	from St. Alfred's Parish
		10:30 am - 5:00 pm	Gethsemane Center Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Father Christopher celebrant. Confessions and Counselling if required.	
Thurs	Oct 15	9:00 am	+James Mayhew	by parish-for memorial donation received.
Fri	Oct 16	9:00 am	+Darren Mayhew	by parish-for memorial donation received.
		7:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Praise and Worship Gethsemane Centre Wellandport - Register if attending	
		9:00 pm - 1:00pm	Centre for Addiction & Mental Health (CAMH) Phone Counselling Fr. Christopher	
Sat	Oct 17	The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
		5:00 pm	For God's blessings upon Mr & Mrs Melo & Family	by Mr & Mrs Melo
Sun	Oct 18	10:00 am	+Geraldine & Fred Bell	by Sherri deWilde & Judy & John Terpstra

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

St. Joseph's Parish Grimsby.

Follow on Face Book or their website:

Stjosephgrimsby.ca

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

FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM

An alternative to the costly in house camera 24/7 will be available shortly on Facebook. More details to follow.

E-TRANSFERS

These transfers are often referred to as **Interac 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

This is a first for us, so bear with us as we begin this new way of accepting tithe/stewardship/donations. We thank you for your patience and generosity during this pandemic.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

Students for the sacrament of Confirmation are to have their forms returned by October 22, to their teachers only. Due to COVID-19 "do not" drop them off at rectory mail box or at the parish office.

APRIL / MAY 2020 FIRST COMMUNION RESCHEDULED

Group 1. 11:00 am, Saturday, October 24.
Group 2. 11:00 am October 31.

Due to COVID-19, candidates and parents only can attend. Letter to parents has been sent out.

COVID-19 AND PARISH STEWARDSHIP

While the situation of COVID-19 continues to develop in our lives and communities, it is increasingly evident that the pandemic has had, and will continue to have for some time to come, a far reaching impact on all of us. We appeal to your generosity as we need the weekly stewardship of one and all, to maintain our financial commitments. No different from your own expenses and budget. Thank you; and God bless you for your stewardship.

PASTORAL HOME VISITS

Father Christopher will continue to visit parishioners for Confession, Holy Communion Service and 'Anointing of the Sick if needed. Kindly call the office if you would like a pastoral visit. Masks and physical distancing enforced. Please call the parish office to schedule a pastoral visit. Thank you.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE CARITAS CANADA

As there was no formal "Share Lent" collection this year due to the pandemic, Development & Peace is "running on fumes." Bishop Bergie has agreed to hold a collection in our diocese on the weekend of Oct. 31 - Nov. 1. D&P's main theme is "Recovering Together." Better still, become a monthly donor ("Share Year Round"); visit www.devp.org/give or call 1-888-235-8533 -- the predictability of this income helps with planning programs farther into the future and even through disruptions. Also, there is an appeal for Lebanon and everyone can donate on the D&P website; the Canadian government will be matching funds. Ignore this notice if you have already donated last April of 2020. Thank you.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP 2021

Reminder: Eight CWL membership envelopes have returned through the parish stewardship. We kindly ask someone to kindly pick them up as soon as possible at the parish office. Thank you.

ALL SOULS ENVELOPES

You can pick up an envelopes after each Mass this week and return them to the collection basket on or before November 1st.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The 2019 Financial Statement is available upon request. We can send it to you via email.

Any financial information is now not available in the bulletin for security reasons as the bulletin is available on line. Thank you.

"ETIQUETTE AT EUCHARIST"

We update weekly given our experiences of the weekend Masses; and with Public Health Regional Bylaws and our Diocese.

You will be asked to sanitize your hands using the new automatic dispenser (touchless) just inside the main door. The wearing a face mask or shield are now mandatory throughout Niagara (except the very young and those with breathing difficulties). Masks are 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. Please move up in the pew.

Ushers/Ministers of Hospitality are updated weekly or when needed by email. This weekend we will present a floor plan for the Ushers. All are kindly asked to follow the floor plan as we need every space that is available. The doors are now locked as we begin Mass and for good 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.

For the reception of Holy Communion. Come to "Red Line" and remove your mask or drop below your chin. There will be no exchange of words as this will have already been done by Father Christopher when he gives the necessary directions.

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).

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 new pastoral challenging and will continue to do so.

**"Say Something Positive.
If you stay Positive in a Negative Situation.
YOU WIN!"**