PLEASE PATRONIZE THE SUPPORTERS OF ST. MARTIN OF TOURS BULLETIN

ST. MARTIN CATHOLIC
Elementary School
18 Streamside Dr.,
Smithville, ON L0R 2A0
905-957-3032

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA — FOR GOD AND CANADA
CWL #2289
St. Martin of Tours Church
StMartinsCWL@hotmail.com
Always welcoming new members; please contact our President for more information.
faith service SOCIAL JUSTICE

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Vision of St. Martin of Tours

To be a thriving parish community rooted in our Catholic faith, evangelizing, and welcoming all to participate in Worship and to serve our parishioners, schools and those in our community of West Lincoln.

Focus of the 5 Systems

- Worship (Liturgy and Sacraments): This system focuses on the parish community's encounter with God through the celebration of the liturgy and the sacraments, transforming them spiritually.
- Evangelization (Word): This area involves the proclamation of the Gospel and the sharing of faith with others, driven by a passion for Christ and an understanding that this passion should lead to evangelizing others.
- Discipleship: (Commitment): This system is about living a Christ-like way of life, cultivating personal growth in faith, and helping others to grow as faithful followers of Jesus.
- Community (Fellowship): This encompasses building strong relationships and a sense of belonging, where all members of the community are loved, cared for, and supported.
- Service (Apostolate): This system involves actively serving others and engaging in outreach and charitable works, which contributes to the growth of the Kingdom of God.

Ministry Schedule - Mar 28/29

Hospitality	Lector	Holy Communion	Children's Liturgy
5:00 pm - Julie Notarianni 10:00 am - Fatima Araujo	5:00 pm - Caroline Steger - Sandy Johnson 10:00 am - Marg Van Geest - Andrew Steger	5:00 pm - Tom Shields 10:00 am - Carmen Bucci	10:00 am Judy Terpstra

Ministry Schedule - Apr 2/3/4/5

Hospitality	Lector	Holy Communion	Children's Liturgy
7:30 pm - Helen & Andy L 3:00 pm - Chuck & Elaine P 8:00 pm - Sandy Johnson 10:00 am - Fatima Araujo	7:30 pm - Andrew Steger 3:00 pm - Caroline Steger - Theresa Wilson 8:00 pm - Andrew Steger - Marg Van Geest - Caroline Steger - TBD 10:00 am - Sherri deWilde	7:30 pm - Fatima Araujo 3:00 pm - Helen Lipiec 8:00 pm - Valerie Newman 10:00 am - Andy Lipiec	10:00 am Sue Priestly

Pastor
Very Rev. Fr. Christopher Gerard Gillen
Parish Priest / Vicar Forane
(Dean of Haldimand)

Administrative Assistant
Financial Recorder
Sandy Johnson
In Office Hours
Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Sunday Masses
Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am
Weekday Masses
See Schedule inside of the bulletin

Reconciliation/Confessions
Saturday: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm
(or by appointment)

Requesting Sacraments
Interview and Classes Required

St Martin Elementary School
905-957-3032
Blessed Trinity High School
905-945-6708

Cemetery Management
Nick Sarantakos - 289-440-2929

Parish Organization

Catholic Women's League
President - Sherri De Wilde
sherridewilde@hotmail.com

Parish Groups
Parish Pastoral Council
Parish Financial Council
Parish Events Group
Cemetery Committee
Responsible Faith Ministry
Facility Maintenance
Funeral Committee
Children's Liturgy
ACTS Retreats Teams

Diocese of St. Catharines
Bishop of the Diocese
Most Reverend Gerard Paul Bergie, D.D.
Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Faith Community
1866 -2026
160th Year of Founding

Mission of St. Martin of Tours
We will follow Jesus Christ, and love all people.

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

March 22 & March 29, 2026 -Year -A
Bi-Weekly Bulletin
The 5th Sunday of Lent
& Palm Sunday

March 22 & March 29, 2026

The 5th Sunday of Lent & Palm Sunday - Year A

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Recitation of the Holy Rosary takes place before each Weekday Mass beginning at 8:30 am

Mon	Mar 23		NO PUBLIC MASS CELEBRATED TODAY	
Tues	Mar 24	9:00 am	+Margaret & Steve Cizmar	by the Kotuza Family
		9:30 am	- 10:30 am Choir Practice	
		9:45 am	-12 30 pm School Lenten Confessions at St. Martin's Elementary School	Fr, Christopher
		7:00 pm	- 8:00 pm Reconciliation Form II at St. Joseph's Grimsby	Fr. Christopher
Wed	Mar 25	9:00 am	+Joyce Ross	by Colin Ross
		10:30am	- 11:45 am Gethsemane Centre Mass/Adoration/Confessions	Fr. Christophe
Thurs	Mar 26	9:00 am	For God's blessings upon Pat Gillis	by Joan & Bob Hignett
		9:30 am	- 10:30 am Parish Bible Study on the upcoming Sunday Readings	
		6:30pm	- 7:30pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Upper Meeting Room	
Fri	Mar 27	9:00 am	+Maria & Arnaldo Silvestry	by Fatima & Manuel Araujo
		11:30am	-12:30pm Pastoral Home Visits to those who have registered	Fr. Christopher
		6:00 pm	Station of the Cross	
Sat	Mar 28	***Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord***		
		3:15 pm	- OCIC Class	
		4:00 pm	- 4:30 pm Confessions	
		5:00 pm	+Mary Pikula	by the Newman Family
Sun	Mar 29	10:00 am	+Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	
Mon	Mar 30		NO PUBLIC MASS CELEBRATED TODAY	
		6:30 pm	- 7:45 pm Diocesan Council for Development & Peace Virtual Meeting	Fr. Christopher
Tues	Mar 31	9:00 am	+Eliza & Louise Carlvilo	by Fatima & Manuel Araujo
		9:30 am	- 10:30 am Choir Practice	
		7:30 pm	- 9:00 pm Chrism Mass at the Cathedral	Fr. Christopher
Wed	Apr 1	9:00 am	For the health and healing of Fr. Christopher	by Fatima & Manuel Araujo
		10:30 am	- 11:45 am Gethsemane Centre Mass/Adoration/Confessions	Fr. Christopher
Thurs	Apr 2	***Holy Thursday***		
		9:30 am	- 10:30 am Parish Bible Study on the upcoming Sunday Readings	
		7:30 pm	+For the deceased priests and deacons of our diocese	
Fri	Apr 3	***Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord***		
		3:00 pm	No Intentions Today	
Sat	Apr 4	***Easter Vigil***		
		9:00 am	- 12:30 pm - OCIC/OCIA Retreat	
		8:00 pm	+Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	
Sun	Apr 5	***Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord***		
		10:00 am	For God's blessings upon all St. Martin's Lay Ministers	by Fatima & Manuel Araujo

E-TRANSFERS

These are often referred to as **e-Transfers and** done through your online banking website or app.

POPE LEO'S MARCH INTENTIONS

For Disarmament and Peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

"Go to make other disciples and to become "one Body in Christ. (Rom 12:5)" Jesus Christ shared his work of salvation with his disciples. He made the members of his Church "stewards of God's gifts (1 Pet 4:10)" and stewards of "the mysteries of God. (1 Cor. 4:1)" In other words, Jesus has so established the Church that we cannot be disciples without being stewards. Stewardship is the active element of our discipleship. Jesus constantly invites us to imitate Him in the work of the Church. We thank you for your consentient and generous financial giving to our parish of St. Martin.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE – CARITAS CANADA

This Solidarity Sunday, Mach 22, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's on Track for Justice campaign invites you to give generously and thanks you warmly for your generosity. Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers across the world.

Our longstanding partnership with Development and Peace — Caritas Canada is very important to us. It allows us to promote economic alternatives to mining and industrial agriculture, which strengthens local economies and agroecology.

Your contributions help change the reality of communities there and makes a difference for other organizations around the world.

We have appealed to you throughout our Lent journey to support this annual collection as we need more support. This collection will remain open until Easter Sunday. We thank you.

PONTIFICAL COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN THE HOLY LAND

Good Friday - April 3, 2026

The Good Friday Collection helps to maintain the Church of the Holy Land by providing educational, pastoral, and social support of Catholic youth and families committed to living their faith in the land where Christ lived, and by maintaining the Holy Sites that are so important to the faith of Christians everywhere. At the request of the Holy See, this Pontifical Collection will be taken during the Good Frida celebration on April 3, 2026.

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE

- **Earth Day April 22/26 at 10:00 am**
  CWL ladies and parishioners will gather together to clean up cemetery and church property. Bring gloves, rakes, compostable bags and garbage bags to tidy up.
- **Spring High Tea:** Sunday, May 3/26 2:00 pm
  Come and join us for food, fun and fellowship. $20.00 per person. Tickets may be purchased from Elaine Parry by emailing her at:
  parryee@gmail.com

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26 at 6:30pm. We invite all members to participate, but acknowledge those who may not be able to schedule this meeting.

OCIC/OCIA RETREAT

April 4 beginning at 9 am
Sacrament of Reconcilication
Rehearsal for the evenings Sacraments
before Lunch
Lunch for all involved at 12 noon.

LENTEN 2026 PRACTICES

- **Daily Mass:** A, recommended way to deepen your connection with Christ, and others.
- **Friday Way of the Cross (Stations of the Cross):** A traditional devotion, typically held on Fridays to meditate on Christ's passion.
- **Fasting and Abstinence:** Mandatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday; abstinence from meat on all Fridays of Lent.
- **Prayer Focus:**

The season emphasizes the three pillars of Lent:

Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving

Embrace the desert of Lent as a sacred time to let go of what weighs you down, making space to be filled with the transformative light and love of the Resurrection.

FORM II OF RECONCILATION

St. Joseph's Parish in Grimsby, will host this annual event, on Tuesday, March 24, beginning at 7:00pm. Confessions heard in several languages: English, French, Italian and Polish. All are invited to avail themselves of this opportunity to be reconciled to God, self and one another.

KEY REFLECTIONS FOR HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday: We welcome Jesus as King, but are called to examine if we truly follow Him or just praise Him when it is convenient.

Holy Thursday: Reflect on the humility of service (washing of feet) and the gift of the Eucharist, which reminds us to love and serve others.

Good Friday: A day to face the weight of sin and the magnitude of God's love shown through Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

Holy Saturday: A time of silence, waiting, and trusting in God's promises even when all seems lost.

Easter Sunday: Celebrating the victory of light over darkness, where we embrace the hope that death does not have the final word.