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 Smithville, Ont. koc.16421@gmail.com  
 General Inquiries - attn: Grand Knight

**CONVERSION AND CHANGE**

There is no better test for a man's integrity than his behavior when he is wrong. Often, we are graciously willing to discuss God's Word and listen to God's truth proclaimed just as long as those discussing it don't talk about things that are personal to us. When they do begin drawing inferences that really touch our lives, we often feel that they are meddling. Jesus encountered this same response. As he finished reading the Scripture the hearers were all graciously amiable as they expressed their amazement at Jesus' reading. However, as Jesus looked beyond their outward response to their unresponsive and unbelieving hearts their amazement turns to open rejection and hostility at his apparent "meddling."

How do we respond to God's call for conversion and change when we encounter it? Or do we even desire conversion and change? Christ brings a holy and powerful force into our lives which will enable us to break the bonds of enslavement to our old nature and its passions and habits. Real inner change is often uncomfortable because it requires us to admit that there is an area of our lives that is wrong. Consequently, we also often respond to the agent of change with defensiveness, resistance, and resentment, rather than welcoming the encouragement to change. Someone has aptly said, "If you think your green you'll grow, if you think you're ripe, you'll rot." The first step in conversion and change is to be dissatisfied with our status quo and to recognize that there is a need for spiritual change.

We have entered into a new year, will it be a year of responsiveness to Christ, and a year of change and growth, or will it be a year of passive resistance and complacency to the Holy Spirit's working within us? A story tells of two boys endeavoring to play a joke on a holy hermit. They intended to hold a bird in their hands behind their back and ask the hermit if the bird was dead or alive. If the hermit said it was dead the boy planned to open his hand and let the bird fly up to the sky. If the hermit said it was alive, the boy planned to crush the bird in his hand to prove that the wise old man was wrong. "Father," said one of the lads, "I have a small bird in my hand. Is it alive or dead?" There was a silence. The old man fixed him with his gaze. Eventually he chuckled and said: "Well, boys—it all depends on you!"

Will this year be a year of responsiveness to Christ, and a year of change and growth, or will it be a year of passive resistance and complacency to the Holy Spirit working within? - "It all depends on you!"

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, Wed, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00am  
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
 See bulletin for schedule

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

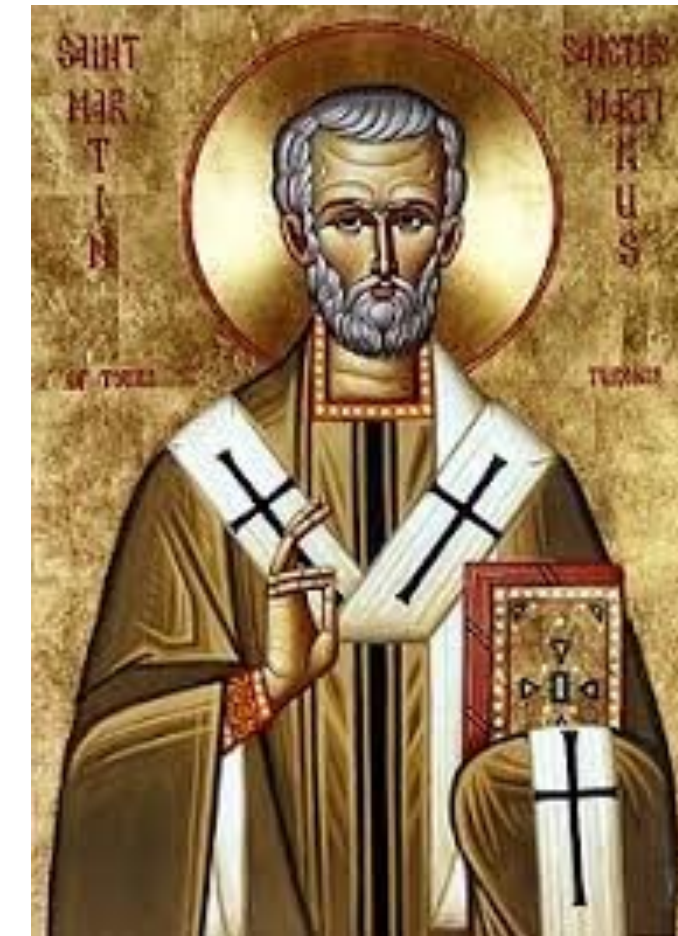
Parish Organizations  
 Catholic Women's League  
 Knights of Columbus

Parish Groups  
 Children's Liturgy. Youth Ministry  
 West Lincoln Loaf of Bread  
 Parish Events Group  
 Parish Financial Council

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 - February 9/10**

**Hospitality Ministers**  
 5:00 pm - Dossah & Claudette S.  
 10:00 am - Gille Arquin & Pat Wirth

**Altar Servers**  
 5:00pm -  
 10:00 am -

**Children's Liturgy**  
 Zoe Gunn

**Next Hospitality Sunday**  
 March 3

**February 3, 2019**

**The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Lectors**  
 5:00 pm #1 - Katrina Shields  
 #2 - Kelly Ann Staples  
 10:00 am #1 - Theresa Wilson  
 #2 - Tom Richardson

**Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers**  
 5:00 pm - Yolanda & Tom  
 10:00 am - Vern, Marcel & Dick

**Stewardship Counting**  
 James Gunn & Sandy Johnson

# February 3, 2019

## The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Monday	Feb 4	NO MASS. Father Christopher's Day Off	
Tuesday	Feb 5	9:00 am For the special intentions of Linu Alex 10:00 am - 11:00 am Father Christopher at Tai Chi	by Rose Koshy
Wednesday	Feb 6	9:00 am For the special intentions of all past Benefactors	by St. Martin's Parish
Thursday	Feb 7	9:00 am For the special intentions of Maeve & Doug Devlin 10:00 am - 11:00 am Father Christopher at Tai Chi	by Martha Devlin
Friday	Feb 8	9:00 am +For the repose of the souls of John & Regina Newman	by the Newman family
Saturday	Feb 9	<b>The 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 5:00 pm For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family 5:00pm- 8:00 pm Mass and then Youth Group Activity Sky Zone 6:00 pm - 8:00pm Annual Pasta Dinner Fundraiser For Parish Events	
Sunday	Feb 10	10:00 am For the special intentions of Doug & Maeve Devlin 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ALPHA COURSE Smithville Christian Reformed Church	by Vern & Josie Dell

### GREAT OPPORTUNITY EXPLORE ALPHA...

**Smithville Christian Reformed Church**  
on Sunday nights from 5:30 pm to 7:30pm  
began SUNDAY Jan 20, 2019.  
Dinner, talk, discussion.  
Come, and be part of ALPHA.  
You, are still welcome to join us in these first  
three weeks of orientation.

### PARISH DISCERNMENT

Presentation (rescheduled from Dec 16,2018)  
on the Discernment Report weekend of February  
2,3 after each Mass.

The next Parish Discernment Team meeting will  
be **Tuesday February 12, at 7:00 pm**. Pray for  
our Team and Parish as we move forward with the  
Lord's grace, strength, vision and hope.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Application Form was in last week's  
bulletin. Due to the incimate weather many would  
not have received the form. Therefore, we make  
them a available in front foyer. This is a discerning  
process and could take us a few months to fully  
implement. Thank you...

**Two application forms have been returned  
from 67 given.**

### ACTS19 RETREAT

#### Adoration, Community, Theology, Service

A parish ACTS Retreat strives to achieve the  
directives of the Second Vatican Council.  
**It is a powerful community building experience.**

**Next Men's Acts Retreat is Thursday May 30, at  
7:00pm, to Sunday June 2, 2019 ,1:00 pm  
Queen of Apostles Mississauga.**

**Next Women's Acts Retreat is Thursday May 2,  
at 7:00pm, to Sunday May 5, 2019, 1:00 pm  
Queen of Apostles Mississauga**

If you are interested in the Men's Retreat speak  
with Father Christopher or email him at:  
fr.christopher@hotmail.com

If you are interested in the Women's Retreat  
speak with Sandy at the parish office or email:  
st.martins@cogeco.ca

### THOUGHT FOR TODAY AND WEEK

*Want to follow me? Get ready to suffer.*

*Want to be first? You will be last.*

*Want to save your life? Prepare to lose it.*

*Want to be great? Become like a child. —*

*Jesus*

### PARISH EVENTS GROUP

The Annual Parish Pasta Dinner will take place  
on Saturday February 9th at 6:00pm. Dinner served  
at 6:30pm, in the parish hall. Please obtain your  
tickets by this Monday, February 4. Tickets \$20.00  
per adult. Children 12 and under \$10.00. All  
proceeds go to Parish Receptions, Annual Picnic,  
etc. Please support this event by your presence  
and or financial support. Thank you.

### (NEW) YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST.MARTIN'S

#### Youth Group Ages 12-14

Group will meet bi-weekly centered around the  
5:00pm Mass and engage in a number of activities  
following Mass in the parish hall and in the  
community.

#### Next Gatherings:

- **February 9 Mass: Skyzone**
- **February 23 Mass, Make your own pizza,  
Scavenger Hunt.**

### Diocesan Separated & Divorced Healing Ministry Support Group

We meet every second and fourth Monday  
(7:00-9:00 p.m.) at Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre,  
Niagara Falls. For information, call 905-356-4113  
or 905-684-0154, or email:

separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com.

- *What is Forgiveness* - February 11
- *Healing* - February 25

### CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE DIOCESAN RETREAT

Saturday, March 30 or Wednesday, March 27  
(8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

Gethsemane Ministries, Wellandport

This year's theme: "Embracing the Peace of  
Christ"

\$40 per member (includes lunch)

Open to all women of the parish!

Call parish office for further details.

### PARISH STEWARDSHIP

JANUARY 26/27

Sunday Offertory (80 Env):	\$ 2,230.00
Loose:	\$ 83.00
New Years (1 Env):	\$ 10.00
Loaf of Bread (1Env):	\$ 20.00

*Thank you for your faithful stewardship*

### STEWARDSHIP INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Are made available. Please pickup in main  
church foyer. Thank you for supporting our parish  
through your good stewardship.

### DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

The Bishops of Canada and the Canadian  
Catholic Organization for Development and Peace  
(CCODP) continue to dialogue regarding the issue  
of ensuring that the moral stance of all CCODP  
partners is in conformity with Catholic moral and  
social teachings. Significant progress has been  
made in this area over the last number of months.  
D&P and the Bishops of Canada are working  
together to create a robust partnership policy that  
will help to avoid problems in the future. Assurance  
has been given that no money collected from the  
Lent D&P "Solidarity Sunday" collection will be  
used to support any project or partnership that is  
currently being questioned regarding adherence to  
Catholic moral and social teaching.

The Diocese of St. Catharines continues to  
support Development and Peace and the 2019  
Lent D&P "Solidarity Sunday" collection.

### WEST LINCOLN LOAF OF BREAD 2019

The West Lincoln Loaf of Bread programme will  
offer a fully home cooked meal and social every  
Thursday beginning January 3, 2019 to June 27,  
2019 inclusive from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Dinner is  
served at 5:30 pm. Please pass this invitation  
along to anyone whom you feel would benefit from  
this programme.

Host Churches:

<b>March</b>	<b>St. Martin of Tours</b>
February & April	Smithville Canadian Reformed Church
May & June	St Ann's Community Church
Fall of 2019 TBA	Smithville Christian Reformed