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MERCIFUL LOVE

Today, the Second Sunday of Easter, is Divine Mercy Sunday. Our Gospel reading from St. John is often called the story of "Doubting Thomas" but the passage involves so much more than the encounter with the skeptical apostle. It is rich with lessons of Christ's mercy to all, including an encouraging word from our Lord especially for us, His modern-day disciples.

While Thomas traditionally takes all the bad rap for his doubts, we see that none of the Apostles were at their best when Christ first appeared to them after His resurrection. They were actually in hiding, cowering behind a locked door, paralyzed by fear and doubt.

But Jesus appeared right in their midst in spite of the lock on the door. Was it to rebuke them for their lack of faith? Quite the contrary.

He comes on a mission of mercy. He comes to offer them peace and the restoration of their relationship with Him. And even more, He commissions them to become ministers of His mercy, by giving them authority to forgive sins. At that moment Christ gives to all of us the supreme gift of mercy - the sacrament of Reconciliation. What a precious and powerful gift!

This Sunday is a perfect time to reflect on how well we make use of this gift. Do we really appreciate its healing power? Could we become better stewards of this gift by going to Confession more often? We must also reflect on how well we extend mercy to others as Jesus did to Thomas that day.

Let's commit ourselves to becoming faithful disciples and stewards of Christ's mercy. We will be those very ones to whom Jesus gave a "shout out" during His encounter with Thomas: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" - in His merciful love.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen
Parish Priest

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

Weekday Masses
See Schedule
on the inside of the bulletin

In Office Hours
Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Administrative Assistant
Financial Recorder
Sandy Johnson

Reconciliation/Confessions
Saturday: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Requesting Sacraments
Must be registered and practicing
Call office for details

St Martin Elementary School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery Management
Nick Sarantakos - 289-440-2929

Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
President - Heather Tomascini
heathertomascini@bell.net

Knights of Columbus
Grand Knight - Pierre Paradis
koc.16421@gmail.com

Facility Maintenance
Chair Frank DeFilippis

Parish Groups
Children's Liturgy.
Youth Ministry
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

St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church



DIVINE MERCY
Sunday
APRIL 24, 2022

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Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca
www.stmartinsparish.com
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April 24, 2022 - Year - C
The 2nd Sunday of
Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday

April 24, 2022

The 2nd Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday - Year C MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Recitation of the Holy Rosary takes place before each Weekday Mass beginning at 8:35 am

Mon	Apr 25	9:00 am	For the special intentions of Mike & Amy Urban For the special intentions of Anthony & Mateo Notarianni	by Mike Urban by Julie Notarianni
		6:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Diocesan Council for Development & Peace	by Fr. Christopher
		7:00 pm	Cemetery Board Meeting	
Tues	Apr 26	9:00 am	+Maria deFatima Pais For the health and healing of Frank Mous	by Family by Tony & Linda Mous
		7:00 pm	Maintenance Committee Meeting	
Wed	Apr 27	9:00 am	For the health and healing and God's blessings upon Dick Van Geest	by Joan & Bob Hignett
		10:30 am - 12:pm	Gethsemane Centre Mass/ Adoration/ Confessions	Fr. Christopher
Thurs	Apr 28	9:00 am	For the special intentions of Mike & Amy Urban	by Mike Urban
		9:30 am - 10:30 am	Bible Study Group in the Crying Room	
Fri	Apr 29		St. Catherine of Siena	
		7:30 am - 8:15 am	That Man Is You- Paradisus Dei -Men's Rosary Group	Fr. Christopher
		9:00 am	For the special intentions of Mike & Amy Urban	by Mike Urban
		10:30 am - 12 Noon	Pastoral Home Visits for those who registered.	Fr. Christopher
		7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Praise and Worship at Gethsemane Centre	Fr. Christopher
Sat	Apr 30	11:00 am	First Holy Communion Mass Group One	
		4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Reconciliation (Confessions) Please wear a mask in the confessional room	
			The 3rd Sunday of Easter	
		5:00 pm	For the special intentions of Mike & Amy Urban	by Mike Urban
Sun	May 1	10:00 am	+Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	

E-TRANSFERS

These transfers are often referred to as **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.

Thank you for your stewardship.

EASTER FLOWERS

We thank again Paula Melo and her Family for their gift of the two beautiful flower arrangements and other flowers that are enjoyed by all. May God reward you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

MASS INTENTION REQUESTED DATE.

Please give at least three months notice for special dates as we try to accommodate your request. Some dates are a year in advance. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

First Saturday Mass (NEW) May 7, 9:00 am.
Catholic Women's League and Knight of Columbus to recite the Holy Rosary each Saturday in May at 8:30 am. (Alternating)
May 7, 10:30 am Funeral Mass for Geraldine Phelan with burial at St. Martin's Cemetery (Died January 2, 2022)
First Holy Communion Mass, Saturday May 14, 11:00 am Group Two
May 14/15 Knights of Columbus Membership Drive short presentation before Mass.
Knights of Columbus Rain Barrel Drive, Saturday, May 14, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Priestly Ordination of Deacon Mr. Daniel Corsco Saturday, May 21, 10:30 am Cathedral
Installation of New Catholic Women's League Executive at the Sunday Mass, May 29.

WEARING OF MASKS / SANITIZING OF HANDS

We are appealing to all who attend Mass here, in the public space that is St. Martin Church, to consider wearing their masks and sanitizing their hands. While it is not compulsory to do so, we are making it a justifiable recommendation out of respect for the safety of, and sensitivity toward other worshippers who have health issues.

Thank you for your understanding and compliance!

UKRAINE RELIEF

The Diocese of St. Catharines has been in contact with Rev. Anton Szymychalski, pastor of St. John the Theologian Ukrainian Catholic Church in St. Catharines who is grateful for our interest in offering practical assistance. At this time they are directing everyone to visit the Ukrainian Canadian Congress website (<https://www.ucc.ca/>) and click on the "I want to help" button. Rev. Anton will keep in touch so that when they have a specific need or when refugees connected to their parish are expected to arrive locally, they will let us know what assistance is most needed, whether related to finances, housing, employment, transportation, etc.

Our parish financial appeal has now ended. If you still wish to make a financial contribution, you can do so via the website for Canadian Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA). Thank you.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 24, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Holy Rosary
Sacramental Confessions
Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Benediction

Let us pray: Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion - inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your Holy will, which is Mercy itself.

CHURCH CAPACITY LIMITS (& "ETIQUETTE")

Limits have been lifted in Ontario churches, This will be well received by some and reservedly by others. Given that the pandemic is not over, there are different perspectives on this.

It does mean that individuals will now be responsible for making their own decisions about what level of risk is acceptable. No one is exempt from wearing a face mask (except the presiding priest, readers, and extra-ordinary eucharistic minister). Even with the removal of the floor and carpet markings, all are encouraged to respect "distancing etiquette."

To be together again is special, yes, but only if hospitalizations trend downward can there be more relief (e.g., congregational singing, no requirements for indoor masking). In the meantime, churchgoers are asked to exercise respect, charity, and kindness towards others and to recognize the varying comfort levels of people, especially during these steps to transition. Each parishioner has to be able to plan according to their comfort level, and really for their own health. Thank you.

NIAGARA FOUNDATION for CATHOLIC EDUCATION ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA

This event, supporting students in need and providing scholarships, will take place:

Friday, May 20 (6:00 p.m.)

at the Club Roma, St. Catharines.

Payment for tickets (\$100/person) must be received by May 11. For further info, call:

05/735-0240 x 214

or e-mail foundationgala@nfce.org

THE SYNOD AT ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

SYNOD 2021-2023: Journeying Together

A "thank you" to everyone who participated in the diocesan phase of the Synod on Synodality. The experience of journeying together, listening to each other, and being attentive to the many promptings of the Holy Spirit has been the source of many blessings already, strengthening our parish and diocesan communities.

The Diocese of St. Catharines is truly
"Where Faith Lives."

Please be aware that the Synod Survey is now live on the diocesan website in the Synod Section. It is intended for individuals who have not yet participated in a face to face Listening Session but would like to share their answers and voice in this phase of the Synod.

Go to:

<http://www.saintcd.com/synod-2021-2023>