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WE ARE ALL CALLED TO BE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. For centuries we as Catholics celebrated this Feast on Jan. 6, but the decision was made a number of years ago to celebrate the Epiphany on the Sunday which falls between Jan. 2 and Jan. 8.

“Epiphany” means “manifestation.” It is on this day that Jesus Christ, the Messiah, is revealed as the light of all nations. Officially Christmas is not over. In fact, the recommendation of the Church is that on this day those who display a crèche, a nativity or manger scene, should replace the shepherd and sheep with the Magi and their likely animals on which they traveled as well as their gifts. However, that is all secondary to the real meaning of this day.

At Christmas the Messiah Jesus was revealed to the shepherds, who were Jewish. But on this day the Lord is revealed to all nations and to the Gentiles (represented by the Magi). We are all familiar with the star the Magi followed, but we need to understand all that is happening and what it means. This all represents the Light of Christ, a Light which today we honor and commemorate. We are called to be the Light of Christ right now to those around us and those with whom we come in contact. That way we can be the disciples Christ wants us to be.

The poet William Cullen Bryant captures the significance of the star the Magi followed very well when he wrote, “O Father, may that Holy Star, Grow every year more bright, And send its glorious beams afar, To fill the world with light.”

reflections@catholicsteward.com

Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen
P.P.

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
By Appointment Only in COVID-19

Requesting Sacraments
Must be registered and practicing
Call office for details

St Martin Elementary School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
Contract Pending with new Management

Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
President - Carolyn Vaughan

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**



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E-transfer: st.martinsdonation@gmail.com

January 2, 2022 - Year - C

**The Epiphany
of the Lord**

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord - Year C

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Jan 3	9:00 am	+Frank Principe	by Frank & Cathy Cartaginese
Tues	Jan 4	9:00 am	+Norbert Mota	by Paula Melo
Wed	Jan 5	9:00 am	For the health and healing of Andy Lipiec	by Heather Belmont
		10:30 am	- 12:pm Gethsemane Centre Mass/ Adoration/ Confessions	Fr .Christopher
Thurs	Jan 6	9:00 am	+Claude Pouliot	by Andrew & Verena Mayhew
		9:30 am	- 10:30 am Parish Bible Study Group in the upper meeting room	
		7:00 pm	- 8: 00 pm Centre for Mental Health & Addiction (CMAH) Zoom Meeting	Fr. Christopher
Fri	Jan 7	7:30 am	- 8:30 Paradisus Dei - That Man Is You: Virtual Rosary	Fr. Christopher
		9:00 am	+Zachary Terpstra	by Judy & John Terpstra
Sat	Jan 8	The Baptism of the Lord		
		5:00 pm	+Maria deFatima Pais	by Family
Sun	Jan 9	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.

Stewardship is given by in-person, E-Transfer and by mail.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The 2022 Offertory Envelopes are available in the church foyer. Please pick up your box even if you use E-Transfers.

Thank you for your on going financial support.

ONLINE CHILDREN'S LITURGY IS BACK!

This weekly email contains a reading, video and more, right to your inbox every Sunday. We are monitoring the situation and are hopeful to return to in person in the new year – stay tuned. If you would like to receive the online Children's Liturgy, please send an email to the parish office at

st.martins@cogeco.ca to get added to the list!

NEW YEAR'S MASS TIMES

Friday Dec 31:	5:00 pm
Saturday January 1:	10:00 am
Sunday January 2:	10:00 am

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S OFFICE HOURS

The office is now closed and will re-open on Tuesday January 4, 2022

SYNOD 2021-2023, JOURNEYING TOGETHER

"Synod" is a Greek word meaning to journey together. The Synod on Synodality 2021-2023, convoked by Our Holy Father Pope Francis begins by focusing on questions of who in our local church is journeying together. Who is included or excluded? How as a synodal Church are we journeying together today? The Synod is an opportunity for listening to each other, sharing our experiences with courage and openness as companions on the journey. Small groups will be formed to focus on our journeying together with the fundamental themes of communion, participation and mission. Discussions will begin in at the parish level (February and March 2021), then move to diocesan, regional (Ontario) and national levels, leading ultimately to our Holy Father Pope Francis and the (worldwide) Synod of Bishops in 2023.

PROOF OF VACCINATION INFORMATION FOR PARISHIONERS

No proof of vaccination is required for anyone attending Mass or other liturgical service in any church in the Diocese of St. Catharines. Physical distancing and face masks are required for the entire time someone is in the church building, except to receive Holy Communion.

Parishioners who are elderly or may be medically compromised may decide to stay home and participate in a livestreamed Mass.

No proof of vaccination is required for closed parish meetings in a parish hall (parish council, CWL, etc.) with a maximum of 25 people.

Proof of vaccination (double vaccination plus 14 days) is required for anyone over the age of twelve attending a reception or social event (e.g. parish pasta dinner, wedding or funeral reception, etc.) in a parish hall.

Proof of vaccination requirements **do not apply** to:

- Funeral services including rites, ceremonies, visitations, receptions, or social gatherings held in places of worship.
- Funeral services including rites, ceremonies, visitations, receptions, or social gatherings held in funeral establishments, cemeteries, crematoriums and similar establishments.

COVID PROTOCOLS FOR MEETINGS IN THE HALL

As churches are now allowed to have meetings, the following Covid Protocol must be adhered to during Phase 3 of Ontario's reopening plans:

- Capacity restricted to 25 indoors and 100 outdoors.
- Face Masks must be worn at all times.
- 6 feet physical distance must be maintained before, during and after all meetings.
- Sanitize hands upon entering the building
- One person to sign people in with date, name and phone number of all attendees. This Covid contact list must be kept for 6 years.
- The kitchen cannot be used.
- All tables & chairs to be returned to the storage area.
- Proof of vaccine is not required for closed
- Meeting with a maximum of 25 people.
- Proof of vaccine and photo ID is required for open meetings and receptions.
- As we slowly move into the late fall and early winter months we are highly recommending meetings to take place virtually, by zoom.
- We are also troubled that individuals will attend a meeting but not attend Sunday Mass?
- Gathering after Mass outside the physical distance
- protocol (6 Feet) must be maintained.
- Please refrain from hugging others

