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MYSTERIES OF SALVATION

"It's scandalous!" You can almost hear the whispered incredulity spread throughout the crowd. Looks of dismay and shock are interspersed by the flashing angry eyes of indignation. In their murmuring you can almost hear them asking, "How could one seemingly so good, doing such miracles and works of mercy, expound such blasphemous remarks?" Their murmuring was not unlike that of their Israelite ancestors in the wilderness when they too expressed their ingratitude by judging the ways of God's salvation.

The responses of the Jews, and of the multitude of disciples who turned away from Jesus to no longer follow him, provide a commentary on the meaning of Jesus' remarks in John 6. The scandal, in their minds, was that Jesus claimed to have previously been with God the Father in heaven. Since no man has seen God at any time, or could survive being in the Father's presence, Jesus' claim to have been with the Father, and to have spoken directly to him, put Jesus on a par with the great I AM of the Old Testament. Jesus further scandalized these Jewish minds by claiming that, "I am the living bread," and suggesting that they must eat his flesh, the Bread of Life. We should make no mistake, in their minds Jesus was not speaking figuratively. It was the literalness of Jesus' remarks that scandalized them. And it would be scandal, if it were not true, but it is true.

Instead of being scandalous, Jesus' words were life-giving. People are wandering aimlessly in their sins in a way not dissimilar to the Jews wandering in the wilderness, starving for want of spiritual food and a living relationship with the Father. Even as the heavenly manna was sent to nourish the physical bodies of the Israelites, so the Father sent us his Son, the true heavenly food, to nourish our souls. Jesus is the Living Water, the Bread of Life, all that we need to sustain our spiritual life. He was sent from the Father to be freely received by those who believe. However, it requires of us, as it did for the Jews who were scandalized by Jesus' claims, an abandonment of a salvation and a savior made in our image, one we can understand, and which comfortably meets our preconceived ideas. It also equally requires abandoning ourselves through faith to the mysteries of salvation, a salvation made in God's image and likeness. And so we see sandwiched between Jesus' statement that he came from the Father, and his statement that he is the Bread of Life, the requirement to believe, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life."

It is purported that when Elizabeth I was a girl of sixteen, and England was going through the upheaval of religious conflict, she was asked about her belief in the Eucharist. Her reply was, "His was the Word who spoke it, He took the bread and broke it, and what that Word doth make it, I do believe and take it." We too are confronted with Jesus' Word, dare we not believe it.

Let us submit to God in all things and not contradict Him, even if what He says seems contrary to our reason and intellect; rather let His words prevail over our reason and intellect. Let us act in this way with regard to the (eucharistic) mysteries, looking not only at what falls under our senses but holding on to His words. For His word cannot lead us astray.

Emmaus Journey Reflections

Bishop of the Diocese
Most Reverend Gerard P. Bergie, D.D.
Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.
Diocesan Social Justice Rep
Spiritual Advisor to Diocesan Council for D&P
Chaplain to Knights Council 16421

Sunday Masses
Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00 a.m.
Wed @ 6:30 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
TO BE RE-SCHEDULED

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 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Bookkeeper
Tracy Pigott

St Martin School
Phone 905-957-3032

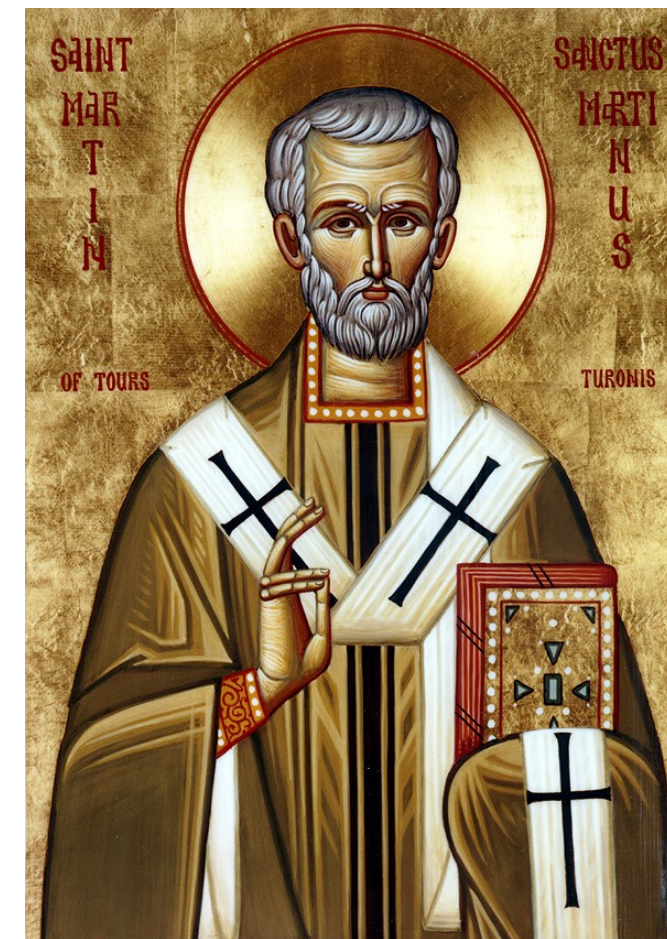
Cemetery
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
Knights of Columbus
Parish Groups
Scripture Study . Children's Liturgy
West Lincoln Loaf of Bread
Parish Events Group

Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

Diocese of St. Catharines

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Ministry Schedule - August 11/12

Hospitality Ministers

5:00 pm - Needed
10:00 am - Andy & Pat Wirth

Altar Servers

5:00 pm - Needed
10:00 am - Needed

Children's Liturgy

No Children's Liturgy until Sept 9th

Next Hospitality Sunday

September 3rd

August 12, 2018

**The 19th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time**

Lectors

5:00 pm #1 - Needed
#2 - Needed
10:00 am #1 - Andrew Steger
#2 - Caroline Steger

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm - Needed
10:00 am - Mike, Mary & Theresa

Stewardship Counting

Beth Davis & Antonella Presta

August 12, 2018

The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



*Lord, may the request of your people
rise before you like a fragrant offering*

Monday	Aug 13	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Margaret Flaherty	by Maureen Flaherty
Tuesday	Aug 14		St. Maximilian Kolbe	
		9:00 am	+For the repose of the souls of departed loved ones	by Norrie Franko
Wednesday	Aug 15		****NO MASS TODAY****	
Thursday	Aug 16	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Gemma Gillen	by the Newman family
Friday	Aug 17	9:00 am	+For the repose of the souls of John & Regina Newman	by the Newman family
Saturday	Aug 18		The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
		5:00 pm	For the special intentions of the Melo family	by Mr & Mrs Melo
Sunday	Aug 19	10:00 am	For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	

UPCOMING BAPTISMS

Savannah Skarzinkas - Aug 12
Lucas Richard Hewage - August 25
Ayden Leitao - September 8

Welcome to our community.

MASS INTENTIONS

An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday) or for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit one's soul.

Please note that Mass Intentions for 2018 are filled for every weekend Mass and we are currently booking Mass Intentions for weekday Masses in November

If you have special dates that you would like for anniversaries of special occasion please get them to us one year in advance.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER

Parish Discernment Group V

**Next Parish Team Meeting is Saturday
September 29, 2018 - 9:30am to 12 noon.
At Gethsemane Centre Wellandport.
Results of Parish Survey.**

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

"The gospel of the Family: Joy for the World". Dublin, Ireland, August 22-26, 2018. Held every three years, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray, and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society, and of the Church.

There will be four main elements of the meeting:

- a pre-catechesis on the theme.
- a Theological Pastoral Congress from August 22-26
- a celebration of the Feast of Families on Saturday, August 25
- a Solemn Closing Mass with the Pope on Sunday, August 26

For more information, visit:

www.worldmeeting2018

SUMMER PARISH MISSION APPEAL

Each year our diocese invites us to welcome a Missionary. We will welcome Father Paul Varuvel, Mission Co-ord-Diocese of Kuzhithur or his assistant. This Mission Appeal will take place the weekend of August 25,26,2018. Visit their website at:

<http://www.kuzhithuraidiocese.com/>

Pope Francis created a new Latin rite Diocese of Kuzhithurai, carved out of the Diocese of Kottar, in Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu, India making it a suffragan of the metropolitan see of Madurai and with great joy and pastoral concern, he announced it officially on 22nd December 2014 at 12.00 hrs, Italian Time/16.30 hrs (IST) appointing Fr. Jeromedhas Varuvel S.D.B. as its first Bishop. He was consecrated by Most Rev. P. Remigius, Bishop of Kottar on 24th February 2015 at Trinity Central School Campus, Chithrancode.

This new diocese comprises of Mulagumoodu and Thirithuvapuram vicariates and has 264,222 Catholics in 100 parishes, 123 mission stations and a Shrine, spread across 915 sq km. served by 131 priests and 269 religious men and women. The Cathedral of the new diocese is the church of the Most Holy Trinity at Thirithuvapuram in Kuzhithurai Town and municipality. It is the administrative headquarters of the Vilavancode Taluk.

The new diocese of Kuzhithurai (nom. Lat. Diocese Kuzhithurainen(sis)), bordered to the north with the diocese of Palayamkottai; east and south with the mother diocese of Kottar; south-west by the Indian Ocean; and to the west with the Archdiocese of Trivandrum and the Diocese of Neyyatt (in the state of Kerala).

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

AUGUST 4/5, 2018

Sunday Offering (62 Env):	\$ 2,045.00
Loose:	\$ 109.00
Facility Maintenance (41 Env):	\$ 480.00
Loose:	\$ 47.00
Hall Rentals (Funerals):	\$ 300.00
CWL Donation to Parish	\$ 350.00

*Thank you for your tithe/stewardship.
God Bless.*

ON VACATION?

**Church bills never take a vacation.
Please remember your
SUNDAY ENVELOPE!
Thank You. God Bless!**

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

Taylor DiLeonardo/Gail Richardson – Aug 12
Joey Cooney – Aug 13
Kiera Alderson/Zoe Gunn - Aug 14
Jeffrey McIntyre – Aug 14
Nolan Miller/Julie Notarianni – Aug 16
Rick Malaryk – Aug 17

Anniversaries:

Henry & Mary Pikula – Aug 13
Matt & Alexa Takacs – Aug 16
Doug & Barb Joyner – Aug 17
Thomas & Agnes Plammooth – Aug 17
Luciano & Sandra DiLeonardo – Aug 19