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DON'T JUST STAND THERE

Today, we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of our Lord, that glorious moment when Jesus, 40 days after His resurrection, was lifted up — quite literally— into heaven, as the apostles watched in stunned amazement. It is recounted in both our first reading, from Acts, as well as the Gospel passage, from Matthew. It must have been an extraordinary thing to witness.

But the first reading tells us that the apostles were not permitted to simply bask in the moment for very long. "While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?'"

In other words, "Don't just stand there, do something!"

This verse is a call to each one of us Christian stewards this very day. We have been given every grace and blessing through the Mass and all of the sacraments, through the Word of God, the rich teachings of our faith, and even our talents and our material possessions.

And like those first apostles, we are not meant to just stand here, but to do something with these gifts — in love and gratitude to the One Who gave them to us. We are called, just as much as the first apostles "to be [His] witnesses... to the ends of the earth," not with our own power, but through the power of the Holy Spirit in us.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.

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

Weekday Masses
Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00am

Office hours
Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Administrative Assistant
Sandy Johnson

Financial Recorder
Tracy Piggott

Reconciliation/Confessions
Sat 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. or on request

Requesting Sacraments
Must be registered and practicing
Call office for details

St Martin School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

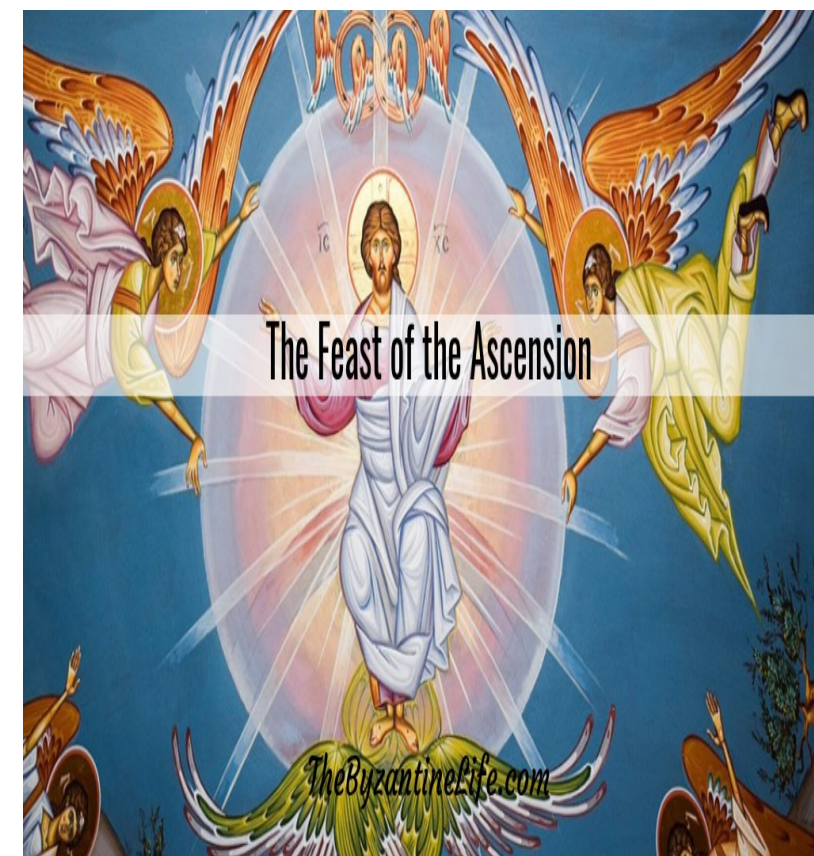
Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
President - Carolyn Vaughan
Knights of Columbus
Grand Knight - Lloyd Buchan
koc.16421@gmail.com

Facility Maintenance
Tom Diletti - tom.diletti@sympatico.ca

Parish Groups
Children's Liturgy. Youth Ministry
West Lincoln Loaf of Bread
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



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

May 24, 2020 - Year A
The Ascension of the Lord

May 24, 2019

The Ascension of the Lord - Year A

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	May 25	9:00 am	Intentions Available	
Tues	May 26	9:00 am	+Past Benefactors	by St. Martin's Parish
		10:00 am	- 11:00 am Zoom Bible Study	
Wed	May 27	9:00 am	For the special intentions of Dick and Marg Van Geest's children	by Dick & Marg Van Geest
Thurs	May 28	9:00 am	For the special intentions of Dick and Marg Van Geest's grandchildren	by Dick & Marg Van Geest
Fri	May 29	9:00 am	+Francis Macri	by Andrew & Caroline Steger
		7:30 pm	- 9:30pm Live Stream Praise and Worship Gethsemane Centre Wellandport	
Sat	May 30		The Ascension of the Lord	
		5:00 pm	+Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	
Sun	May 31	9:30 am	Live-Stream Mass from Gethsemane Centre Wellandport	
		10:30 am	- 11:00 am Eucharistic Adoration Live-Stream from Gethsemane Centre (When Father Christopher is not scheduled for Sunday Mass at Gethsemane the parish Mass will be celebrated at 12:00 pm)	
		12:00 pm	For God's blessings upon Joan Hignett +John Fedorik Jr.	by Heather Belmont by John & Mary Mojeski

ONLINE DAILY EUCHARIST

With no public weekday or weekend Masses we offer the following:

We continue to keep Holy Sabbath.

In an effort to continue the practice of our faith in these trying times, I would like to invite you to [join us online](#) for daily Mass.

Vision TV Sun - 8:00 am
Mon - Fri - 8:00 am & 12:00 pm
Sat - 8:00 am & 9:30 am

Salt + Light Sun - 11:00 am & 10:30 pm
Mon - Sat - 6:30 am, 11:00 am,
3:00 pm, 10:30 pm

yesTV Sun - 10:30 am
Mon - Sat - 1:00 pm

Internet www.dailytvmass.com
www.youtube.com/dailytvmass

Mass each Sunday is streamed live from our Cathedral at 11:30 am.

Visit the diocesan website for viewing:
www.saintcd.com



Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right
and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GOD WINKS AND SUNDAY HOMILY

A weekly publication God Winks along with Father Christopher's Sunday homily is available upon request by simply emailing him at:

fr.christopher@hotmail.com

You can follow him on Facebook:

Christopher Gerard Gillen

Twitter: RCSchnauzer

FINANCIAL GIVING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

It has been highly recommended that we discontinue posting our weekly revenue online/parish website. We kindly ask you to mail in your church offering. We would ask you to discontinue dropping off your offering in the rectory mail box unless you call ahead and let Father Christopher know that you are dropping them off. The risk is too high leaving envelopes with cash in the mail box. You are encouraged to sanitize your hands before writing the cheque or inclosing cash. Please do not lick the envelope, rather use a cloth or sponge to dampen. Unfortunately, this self-isolation and physical distancing will remain for many weeks to come. We thank you for your cooperation with these new procedures. Thank you and God bless.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Although we are unable to celebrate public Masses, the parish expenses for salaries, (we have maintained our staff in this pandemic) church insurance, property tax, clergy aid, maintenance, etc, all continue. While our primary concern is your spiritual and physical well-being, the weekly offertory gifts are very important for our parish.

We have been receiving "some" but not many weekly offerings through the mail or dropped off in the mail slot at the rectory, thank you. If at all possible if others could do the same it would be greatly appreciated so that we can continue the upkeep and maintenance of our parish. We all need to take co-responsibility of our parish and contribute as best we can.

In the case of any emergency do not hesitate to contact the parish office as we check our messages daily.

Though our buildings are closed, the church is still open! We are still leading others in faith although scattered rather than in a gathered way. This time of crisis requires us to maintain and strengthen our ability to minister to one another in the midst of heightened anxiety.

Thank you.

PARISH OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

We acknowledge and also sincerely thank those parishioners who continue to financially support us during COVID-19 pandemic. Would you be so kind to use your offertory envelope rather than just mailing a cheque in the mail. This will help us better credit your stewardship to our accounting.

Thank you.

GETHSEMANE MINISTRIES WELLANDPORT

The mission is to preach the Word of God and advance the teachings, religious tenets, and observances associated with the Catholic Faith. Led by lay leaders, the Ministry helps individuals develop a personal relationship with Jesus and live according to their vocation, witnessing the gospel.

Gethsemane Ministries helps the sick and the needy as a practical manifestation of the Catholic faith and love of God.

The Centre is located in the Diocese of St. Catharines on the banks of the Welland River. Surrounded by tranquil countryside, this is an ideal setting for meditation and reflection. The property was once a Christian school and has been renovated to meet the needs of an up-to-date Retreat and Conference Centre.

We invite you to visit us as often as possible, to rejoice with us in the Lord, and also to listen to the Word, so book mark it now and come back often.

<https://www.gethsemaneministries.com/>

MASS INTENTIONS

Although no public Masses are being celebrated, please know that Father Christopher is celebrating daily Mass and is honouring the Mass Intentions that had been booked. In addition, he is praying for the health and well-being of our parishioners. Mass intentions are requested. Please email your intentions to the parish office. Thank you. st.martins@cogeco.ca