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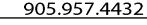
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THE GIFTS OF THE PRIESTHOOD

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On June 26, 1982 in St. Julia's Church in south end St. Catharines, at the hands of Bishop Thomas Fulton of the Diocese of Catharines, I became a Priest. Six months earlier, on January 10th, in the same church, I had become a Deacon at the hands of the same Bishop.

My road to ordination as a Priest was not the stuff of which great books are written, or a storyline that movies are made of. But it is a constant reminder to me as a Priest, of the example that Christ gives us all at baptism as he asks us to show to the world that we follow him.

I hope you remember that the word *Priest* is a Greek language word meaning *one who prays*. At the moment of our Baptism we share with Jesus in his universal priesthood, by which we all are called to receive the Father's message and share that message with those around us. At the moment of my ordination I was asked to share through the Sacrament of Holy Orders in Christ's ministerial priesthood, and bring his message in ways that link God and his Church to the world in a different way than only through Baptism.

I share in a Sacrament – a sacred meeting with Christ – called Holy Orders, that is meant to give me the grace of service to God's Church. That means that I have been given a share of the leadership of the Church, not for my sake but the sake of all God's people. I am called to be a servant to others, and a way in which the life of Christ is to be seen as real and active.

As a child I often wondered what kind of person Jesus would ask to be a Priest. I no longer wonder, but I am always amazed. There is no one type or model or way of the Priesthood for Jesus invites people and not machines, personalities with strengths and weaknesses. I am often amazed by the choice for Priests that Jesus makes, including myself. Yet at the same time I remember that Jesus makes the choice, he provides what I need as his messenger, and he gives me a share in his ministry.

Each day I have many reasons to raise thoughtful and joyous praise to God.

On this anniversary of ordination to Priesthood, I reach 35 years. An honour and an act of devotion to serve the Lord; an act of acceptance to agree to be his servant; the great sign of acceptance from the Lord Jesus to know that he calls me to work so closely with him in the bringing of salvation to the world; and the constant reminder that priesthood is an eternal gift.

On June 26th, and every day you can choose to remember me, please ask God that as someone who is called to pray, I will seek to listen and share the Word of the Lord.

Father Brian Bevan, Parish Priest.

Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.

> Pastor Father Brian Bevan

Sunday Masses Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

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

Exposition and Benediction 1st Friday @ 8:00 am 3rd and 4th Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm

> Reconciliation/Confessions Sat 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. Or by request

Baptism Sunday by appointment

Marriage Contact Fr. Brian Bevan

Sacrament of the Sick Communion for the Sick and Shut-ins Please call the office.

Secretary Sandy Johnson Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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June 25, 2017 The 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 25, 2017 The 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Monday	June 26	Anniversary of the ordination of Father Brian Bevan	hy Martha Daylin
		9:00 am For the intentions of Fr. Brian Bevan on his anniversary <i>Grade 8 Graduation for Saint Martin Elementary School Studen</i>	_
		6:00 pm For the intentions of our Grade 8 Graduates	
Tuesday	June 27	9:00 am For the intentions of and God's blessings upon Courtney	
		MacNiven	by Yvonne MacNiven
Wednesday	June 28	St. Irenaeus, bishop & martyr	
		9:00 am +For the peaceful rest of Ken Lewis	by Pauline Lewis and family
Thursday	June 29	St. Peter & St. Paul, apostles	
		9:00 am For the health and healing of Paul Massad	by Joyce and Rodney Ross
Friday	June 30	9:00 am +For the peaceful rest of Cathy McNiven	by Yvonne McNiven
Saturday	July 1	Canada Day	
		9:00 am +In memory of Joseph Olascki, Charles Parker,	
		Olga Mous and Winnie Stadelbauer (Benefactors)	by St. Martin's Parish
Saturday	July 1	The 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
		5:00 pm For the intentions of all new citizens of Canada	
Sunday	July 2	9:00 am For the intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	
		11:00 am +For the peaceful rest of Jose Martins	by Maria Martins

MASS CHANGES THIS WEEK

On Wednesday, June 28 the Mass will be at 9:00 am, as Father Brian will be attending the Graduation Ceremony for Blessed Trinity Secondary School at 7:00 pm at Brock University.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

St. Irenaeus, bishop & martyr; June 28.

Irenaeus was born in the year 130, in Asia Minor. He travelled to Lyons in France, becoming a priest there in the year 177. Shortly after, he became the bishop of Lyons. He wrote to defend the Catholic faith against the heresy of the *gnostics* - who denied that the message of Jesus was given to all people, and who said that angels, not God, governed the world around us. Bishop Irenaeus was martyred in the year 202.

This feast was placed in the Roman Calendar in the year 1928.

St. Peter & St. Paul, apostles; June 29.

Peter was a Galilean, whose home was in Bethsaida. He was married, a fisherman, and the brother of the apostle (St) Andrew. His original name was *Simon*, but the Lord renamed him *Peter*. He was among the three closest apostles of the Lord. He suffered crucifixion with his head near the ground, as was the Roman custom for crucifixion of slaves. Peter died about the year 67.

Paul, whose original name was Saul, was a pharisee and a persecutor of Christians. An extraordinary experi-

ence brought about his conversion. He became the great teacher of the Gentiles. After his second imprisonment he was beheaded, for he was a Roman citizen. This was about the year 67.

This feast dates to the fourth century.

On this feast the Pope presents to a new Archbishop a *pallium - a wool cloth worn around the neck -* which represents their relationship with the Pope, and their ability to ordain Bishops outside Rome.

DAYS THIS WEEK

Anniversary of the ordination of Father Brian Bevan; June 26.

Father Brian Bevan was ordained to the priesthood on June 26, 1982.

He was born on May 11, 1956 to Ronald and Patricia (Phelan) Bevan, the second of seven children. He spent his youth in St. Catharines, then studied for the priest-hood in Waterloo (BA 1978) and Toronto (BTH 1982 and BST 1982). He was ordained a deacon on January 10, 1982. Bishop Thomas Fulton ordained him a priest in St. Julia's Church, St. Catharines.

Canada Day; July 01.

On this day in the year 1867, a confederation of provinces - New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Upper Canada (Ontario) and Lower Canada (Quebec) was formed. John A. MacDonald was the first Prime Minister.

The confederation was not allowed to deal directly with other states, control immigration, or command Canadian armed forces except through British officers.

The Dominion of Canada was joined by Manitoba and the Northwest Territories in the year 1870; by British Columbia in the year 1871; by Prince Edward Island in the year 1873; by Alberta and Saskatchewan in the year 1905; and by Newfoundland in the year 1949.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING

Generosity brought \$1,569.05 to our parish last week.

THE BACK PAGE

On this week's *THE BACK PAGE* the topic covers "The Gifts of the Priesthood".

ST. MARTIN'S GRADE EIGHT GRADUATION

The Grade 8 Graduation Mass and Reception for our school takes place on Monday, June 26.

Mass begins at 6:00 pm in the church. The Award Ceremony begins after Mass in the church. A reception begins in the Hall after the Ceremony.

Please remember our Graduates and all those who have been involved in their education process. May God bless them all.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

A Catholic Education Symposium will take place in November 2017. Stakeholders are invited to participate in an on-line conversation about Catholic Education in Ontario. Your participation in the on-line discussion will inform and enrich the dialogue about the future and the importance of Catholic education. You are encouraged to join the conversation at http://signup.thotex.com/iceont/Pyv.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE COLLECTION

The next Parish Facility Maintenance Collection takes place on the weekend of July 1 & 2.

Money raised in this collection will be used for the purchase and installation of lights around the property to enhance safety and security.

A blue coloured envelope is included in the yearly Sunday Offering box. Those without a blue envelope may use an envelope of their own with their information on it (tax receipt purposes) or one of the pink visitor envelopes.

CANADA'S CONSECRATION

On the weekend of July 1 & 2, Canada will be consecrated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. As this weekend marks the 150th Anniversary of Canada it was decided by the Canadian Bishops that this would be an appropri-

ate occasion for the consecration. Catholics across Canada will make this consecration together.

This is the prayer that will be used. It will be available in the pews of our parish, and on the projection screen, during those Masses.

Mary our Mother, may the cross of your Son, planted on Canadian soul, and in Canadian hearts, be known as the Tree of Life, whose fruit is visible and available to all in the garden of this world. We place our country Canada in the sanctuary Of your Holy Heart for we know that there we will find Jesus, who lives and reigns with the Father in the unity of the Holy Sprit, one God forever and ever.

Amen.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUMMER BBO

The Knights of Columbus invite you to attend Mass and a Summer BBQ at Club Roma, 125 Vansickle Road, St. Catharines, on Sunday, July 9.

Mass begins at 10:00 am with Bishop Bergie presiding. Lunch buffet at 12:00 noon offers salads, penne, burgers, hot dogs and chicken breast.

Children (5 and under) are free; Children (6-12) are \$7.00. Those 13+ years old are \$13.00.

For ticket information call Chuck Johnston (905-646-5099) or Al Craig (905-931-3132); Rinaldo DiSanto (905-933-2534) or Bill Amodeo (289-456-7888).

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

June Scime / Amber Davis – June 25 Courtney MacNiven / Russell Sharp – June 27 Rebecca deWilde / Vincent Fracchioni – June 29 Brandon Pereira – June 29 Ava Brucculieri / Chris Ohlhoss – June 30 Brenda Cossitt / Kieran Persaud – July 1 Andrea Harris – July 2

Anniversaries:

Mike & Maria Pereira – June 28 Frank & Donna DeFilippis – July 1

> GOD BLESS CANADA. NOW AND FOREVER.

