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Offering the Opportunities of Membership

Council #16421 - St. Martin of Tours  
Smithville, Ont. koc.16421@gmail.com  
General Inquiries - attn: Grand Knight



**MARC'S PLUMBING**

4939 Alexandra Ave.  
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**THE TABLE OF PLENTY**

The greatest accusation and indictment against Jesus is: "This man receives sinners and eats with them." But, it is also the unknowing restatement of the Good News - "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

Meals play a major role in our lives. Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, weddings, graduations, all are examples of when we gather with our loved ones around a meal to remember, honor, and rejoice over the high points of our lives. The daily meal is a place of belonging and nurture where the family can unite.

The parable of the Prodigal Son reflects elements of both celebration and of belonging. The wayward son returns, having rejected both his family and his family's values. In desperation he finally comes to his senses and returns home. Occasions of such repentance are not the time for recriminations but for celebration! The father of the Prodigal Son, who is illustrative of our heavenly Father, was watching for his wayward son's return and runs to welcome the Prodigal home. He immediately sets about to have a banquet in his son's honor. Like Jesus - "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

Like the religious hypocrites, who challenged Jesus, the elder son challenged his father's merciful behavior. The Prodigal came home in guilty remorse saying, "I am not worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants," and the elder son's attitude shouted, "That's right, he's not worthy!" implying that he, the elder son, is worthy. This is the lie that Jesus came to destroy. The lie of the Prodigal son's guilty conscience and the deceit of the elder son's self-righteousness both seek to convince us that though we are children of God we are unworthy of his love. Unfortunately we fail to understand that the Father does not receive us based on our worthiness. Rather, having been made worthy through the merits of Christ we can be assured of the Father's mercy and grace because - "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

During Lent we must stop listening to the voices of condemnation and hear the voice of invitation to "Come, eat and commune with me." We must repent of viewing the Eucharist as a fast food meal and recognize that Jesus wants to daily feed us with himself through communion with him around his Word. Lent is the ideal time to reject spiritual anorexia. With the Scripture and the Eucharist, the table is set. Now is the time to reject self-imposed spiritual starvation and to avail ourselves of the spiritual nourishment Jesus provides. Accept Jesus' invitation to dine with him, and on him, daily.

Emmaus Journey Reflections

Bishop of the Diocese  
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.  
Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

Pastor  
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.  
Diocesan Social Justice Rep

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

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
See bulletin for schedule

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 am to 12:00 pm

Bookkeeper  
Tracy Piggott

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  
Children's Liturgy, Youth Ministry  
West Lincoln Loaf of Bread  
Parish Events Group  
Parish Financial Council  
Acts Men & Women Retreats Team

Diocese of St. Catharines

**St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church**



166 West Street, P.O. Box 74  
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Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca  
www.stmartinsparish.com

**Ministry Schedule - April 6/7**

**Hospitality Ministers**  
5:00 pm - Tom Shields  
10:00 am - Anita D. & Joan H.

**Altar Servers**  
5:00pm -  
10:00 am -

**Children's Liturgy**  
Jenn Ewing

**Next Hospitality Sunday**  
April 7

**March 31, 2019**

**The 4th Sunday of Lent**

**Lectors**  
5:00 pm #1 - Tom, Shields  
#2 - Kelly Ann Staples  
10:00 am #1 - Caroline Steger  
#2 - Andrew Steger

**Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers**  
5:00 pm - Yolanda & Tom  
10:00 am - Needed

**Stewardship Counting**  
Maryanne Paradis & Sandy Johnson

# March 31, 2019

## The 4th Sunday of Lent - Year C

### MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Monday	Apr 1	9:00 am	+In memory of all past benefactors of St. Martin's	by St. Martin's Parish
Tuesday	Apr 2	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Robert McMaster	by Darryl & Ellen Filarski
Wednesday	Apr 3	9:00 am	For the health and healing of Frank Reitzel	by Martha Devlin
		9:30 am	Celebration of Reconciliation at School Grade 7 and 8	
		<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>+For the repose of the soul of John Filice</b>	by Corrie Filice & Family
			<b>Special requested Mass from Family. All are invited to attend.</b>	
Thursday	Apr 4	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Henry Pilula	by Vern & Josie Dell
		5:00 pm - 10 pm	Acts Retreat Team Meeting Mississauga	Father Christopher
Friday	Apr 5	9:00 am	For the health and healing of Martha Devlin	by Dick & Marg Van Geest
		10:30 am	School Lenten Mass	
		2:45 pm	School Way of the Cross - Stations.	
		6:00 pm	Parish Way of the Cross - Stations.	
Saturday	Apr 6		<b>The 4th Sunday of Lent</b>	
		5:00 pm	For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	
Sunday	Apr 7	10:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Andy Wirth	by the Heim family
			For the health and healing of Michael Lewis	by Heather Belmont

#### UPCOMING IMPORTANT CELEBRATIONS

- **Holy Week - April 14- 20**
- **Easter Triduum Celebrations- April 20-21**
- **Easter Vigil at 8:15 pm ( after sunset)**
- **First Holy Communion (2)**
- **April 26, May 5 both at 1:00 pm**
- **Wedding Celebration - May 25, 2:00pm**
- **Acts19 Women's Retreat May 2nd- May 5**
- **Acts19 Men's Retreat - May 30 June 2**

#### FIVE REASONS FOR ATTENDING

##### DAILY MASS

1. **Receiving Christ in the Blessed Eucharist gives us the strength to fight selfish pride and sin.**
2. **Praising God first thing in the morning is the most important thing on our daily calendar.**
3. **The Mass is our ongoing spiritual formation.**
4. **The Mass heals.**
5. **You meet your Creator, your friend, your love.**

#### LENTEN FOOD DRIVES

Here are two opportunities to help you fulfill your almsgiving during the time of Lent.

##### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

##### **Annual Lenten Food Drive**

Wednesday, **March 6th-April 17th**

Bags will be distributed after all Masses. Please return them to our Parish Foyer throughout the season Lent. Last collection is April 17. Thank you for your continued support. Vern Dell for Knights of Columbus

##### LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

##### **St Martin's School Community**

Bags will be sent home to each family to be filled with **just one more** item each time you go grocery shopping. The bags are to be returned before Holy Thursday (April 18).

##### (NEW) YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST.MARTIN'S

##### **Youth Group Ages 12-14**

Group will meet bi-weekly centered around the 5:00pm Mass and engage in a number of activities following Mass in the parish hall and in the community. **Next Gatherings:**

**April 6**      **Mass, BBQ, Ball Hockey**  
**April 27**     **Mass, Pizza, Craft**

#### DIOCESAN-WIDE RECONCILIATION / ADORATION

**Saturday, April 6**

In every parish church across the diocese, a priest will be available from 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. to celebrate Reconciliation individually. There will also be Eucharistic Adoration during this time.

No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, which assists us in spiritual discipline as we turn away from sin and open our hearts to reconciliation and healing -- or you can also simply come to pray before the Lord.

#### RECONCILIATION AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH GRIMSBY' TUESDAY, APRIL 9.

Form II Sacramental Confession beginning with Service at 7:00pm, followed by individual Confessions. St. Martin's parishioners are invited to attend.

#### DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Share the journey with members of the Umuechem community in Nigeria In 1990, a peaceful community in the south of Nigeria became the victim of what has been recognized as the first crime committed by an oil company. Traumatized by a massacre of unparalleled violence, a large majority of the members of this community fled to neighbouring communities, never to return home again.

To make sure that their story is never forgotten and to combat impunity, Development and Peace's partner Social Action is supporting the Umuechem community in their legal action against the oil company. Discover the story of people forced to flee their homes, and ways for each one of us to act in solidarity with them: [devp.org/lent](http://devp.org/lent).

#### ST. MARTIN'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

##### BEEF ON A BUN FUNDRAISER

**Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus**

All proceeds raised support our Youth Ministry

**Sunday March 31st: 2pm - 8pm**

St. Martin's Parish Hall

Tickets in advance: Adult - \$10

12 and under - \$5

Licensed Event, Raffle Prizes, Kid Activities

#### PARISH STEWARDSHIP

March 23/24	
Sunday Offertory (66 Env):	\$ 1,810.00
Loose:	\$ 8.50
Memorial Donation (Henry Pikula)	\$ 70.00
2019 Weekly Budget	\$ 2,100.00
Snow Removal/Salt to date :	\$ 4,711.20
Parish Debt	\$ 23,774.25

**Thank you for your weekly stewardship**

#### BE INSPIRED AT THE NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT 2019

**Special Invitation to our**

**Parish Discernment Team , Youth Ministry,  
Catholic Women's League,  
Knights of Columbus and Parish Events Group.  
A rep or 2 from each group.**

#### **Host Site Location:**

St. Michael Catholic High School,  
8699 McLeod Road, Niagara Falls

**When:** Sat. May 4, 2019 8:45 am – 4:30 pm

**Cost:** FREE

**Register:** [www.newevangelization.ca](http://www.newevangelization.ca)

Join thousands of Catholics from around the world at this premier conference on the New Evangelization. The event will be held live in Ottawa and webcast to host sites. Designed to inspire Catholics and help them live out their personal call to evangelize. This year's Summit features world-class Catholic speakers: Fr. James Mallon, Michael Dopp, Cardinal Gérald Lacroix, Michelle Moran, Fr. Jon Bielawski, and Michele Thompson.

**Registration:** The easiest and fastest way to register is to encourage your parish team to go online and register themselves at:

[www.newevangelization.ca](http://www.newevangelization.ca)

If members wish to register online please inform the parish office immediately, as we do need to finalize numbers for the diocese. Please consider making time, and showing intent in attending this wonderful event. Thank you.