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**HUMILITY**

The theme of humility is central to our readings today. God Himself is a humble God, so if we wish to follow Him as Christian stewards, we too, must be humble. In fact, humility is key to the stewardship way of life, and to a peaceful and fulfilling life.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus Himself speaks to the Father of the privileged role that humble souls play in God's plan of salvation. "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones."

What does it mean to be a "little one"? It means that we acknowledge we don't have it all figured out, but that we are very much in need of a savior. It means we recognize that all we are and all we have been given is a gift from God. It means we embrace the stewardship way of life.

It is not easy, but deep peace and consolation come with this way of life. Jesus offers these warm and encouraging words to entice us to embrace it. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Let us resolve to follow in the footsteps of our Savior, embracing the humble path of stewardship. It is the path that leads to peace here and now, and ultimately leads us to heaven.

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

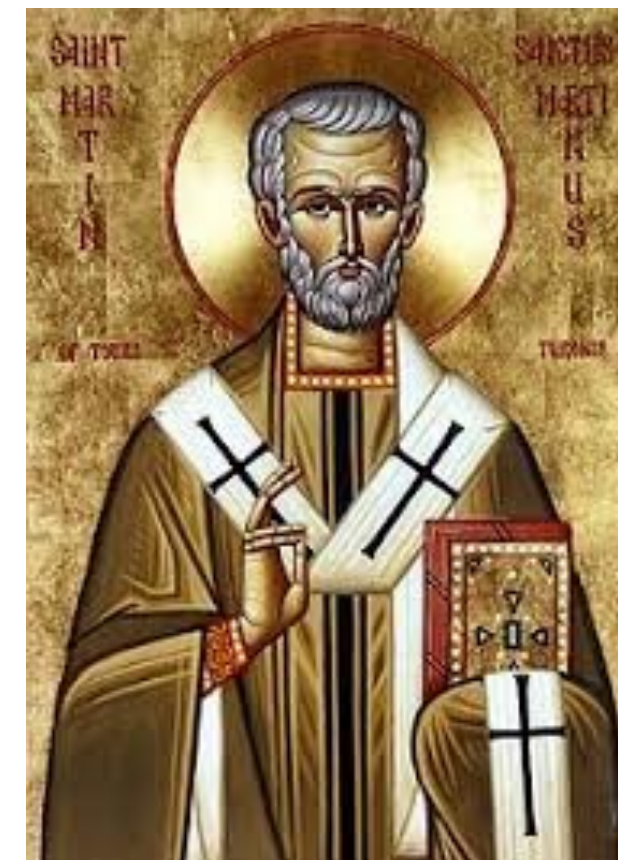
**Parish Organizations**  
 Catholic Women's League  
 President - Carolyn Vaughan  
 Knights of Columbus  
 Grand Knight - Lloyd Buchan  
 koc.16421@gmail.com

**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**



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 Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca  
 www.stmartinsparish.com

**July 5, 2020 - Year A**

**The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

# July 5, 2019

## The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	July 6	9:00 am	Intentions Available	
Tues	July 7	9:00 am	+Jean Finlay + Gemma Gillen Fr. Christopher's 32nd Anniversary of Priestly Ordination	by Marg & Dick Van Geest by Fr. Christopher
Wed	July 8	9:00 am	Intentions Available	
		10:30 am	Mass at the Gethsemane Center followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 6 pm	
Thurs	July 9	9:00 am	Intentions Available	
Fri	July 10	9:00 am	Intentions Available	
		7:30 pm - 9:30pm	Praise and Worship Gethsemane Centre Wellandport—Register if attending	
Sat	July 11		<b>The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 5:00 pm +Jose Cordeiro	by Mr & Mrs Melo
Sun	July 12	10:00 am	Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	

### ONLINE EUCHARIST

#### Gethsemane Ministries Wellandport

Sunday Mass streamed live at 9:30 am  
Type in Gethsemane Ministries **Youtube**.

#### Cathedral of St. Catharine of Alexandria

Sunday Mass live stream at 11:30 am. Visit the diocesan website for viewing: [www.saintcd.com](http://www.saintcd.com)  
Or on **Youtube**

<b>Vision TV</b>	<b>Sun - 8:00 am</b> <b>Mon - Fri - 8:00 am &amp; 12:00 pm</b> <b>Sat - 8:00 am &amp; 9:30 am</b>
<b>Salt + Light</b>	<b>Sun - 11:00 am &amp; 10:30 pm</b> <b>Mon - Sat - 6:30 am, 11:00 am, 3:00 pm, 10:30 pm</b>
<b>yesTV</b>	<b>Sun - 10:30 am</b> <b>Mon - Sat - 1:00 pm</b>
<b>Internet</b>	<a href="http://www.dailytvmass.com">www.dailytvmass.com</a> <a href="http://www.youtube.com/dailytvmass">www.youtube.com/dailytvmass</a>

### MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions are requested as there are many dates available for intentions. Please email your intentions to the parish office. Thank you. [st.martins@cogeco.ca](mailto:st.martins@cogeco.ca)

### MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Please view the Website for July and August in the Schedule tab of the Website. Please find your own replacement if you are unable to fulfill your time slot. Thank you.

### WHAT TO EXPECT UPON REOPENING

Dear Friends:

What to expect upon reopening and return. Welcome Back to Church. That statement might seem a bit odd because, as you know, we have had church every weekend live stream from Gethsemane Centre and other parishes you connected with. Yet, there is just something powerful and amazing about meeting together as the CHURCH! Especially when it's been many months (March 15) since we met together in our Sanctuary!

These past few months have been quite trying, to say the least for all of us. Personally, this building has felt quite empty every time I celebrated the morning Eucharist. I have missed the sounds of praise reverberate in the Sanctuary. We have also missed the voices of our children, youth, and adults as we fellowship, educate and worship together. We're not heading back to the way things used to be. We're opening a new chapter after what we've learned so far from this pandemic. Know that this virus has not disappeared. Your immune system has not changed. There's no vaccine.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has kept us at home, we at St. Martin's parish and the school have continued to serve you! The Church is not simply a building, it is the people, the Body of Christ. You are important to us and we remain committed to serving you and the community as we move forward in new terrain. It will be an anxious journey as we begin, but our anxiety will in time give way to an acceptance mixed with personal and collective resilience which has carried us all since lockdown began.

Since June 12, places of worship can reopen for in-person services under strict public health rules to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, as part of stage 2 in Ontario's three-stage reopening plan. That includes operating at 30 percent capacity to ensure parishioners can adhere to the physical distancing practice of keeping at least six feet apart from others, among other recommended measures such as wearing face masks.

We've taken the position that we didn't want to rush, so we did not open last weekend or during the week. Instead, we continue to work at a pace to ensure we meet all the criteria for the needs of our very active building. The celebration of Mass remains the only public activity for now. We are very aware of personal decisions to continue self-isolating, as needed, to protect yourselves. It's not easy for all, and we have to recognize that there are some individuals who are quite heartbroken at this time that they're not able to participate actively and serve the way they did in the past.

Markings on the floor emphasize physical distancing. Hand sanitizer is available upon entrance or you can bring your own. Ushers will lead you to your pew. Face masks are not mandatory but are highly recommended. Seating has been arranged to facilitate physical distancing. One lector, no altar servers and no extraordinary Eucharist ministers. No congregational singing and no choir. No processional and recessional entrances. Parishioners are to remain in their

pews until ushered out for communion. No taking up of collection as in the past. Instead of passing an offering plate, we have set up two offering boxes in the main foyer. Reconciliation Room, Cry Room, Parish Hall, Sacristy, Elevator areas are all closed. After Mass, parishioners are asked to exit quietly, by pew when directed by Ushers while maintaining physical distancing. Do not congregate at the doors of the church outside or in the parking lot. Meetings are temporarily suspended. Parish Office remains closed. We clean and disinfect before the next group of people arrive weekend and weekday.

Through these days and weeks and months, we have continued to be a congregation and school community that loves and serves God and we have continued to share the love that God has given us. As we continue to live in a time of physical distancing (a much more accurate term may be than social distancing), we are grateful to those who have worked to keep us connected and we keep reflecting and listening to learn what needs to happen as we begin the summer months this Sunday, June 21.

We have at this time not offered an extra Sunday Mass as we await to see our turn out this weekend which is on a first-come, first-served base. There has been a suggestion from some that we add an 8:30 am Sunday Mass to be reserved for senior citizens, who are considered more vulnerable to the novel coronavirus. We will adjust accordingly to needs as they present themselves. Know that we're doing everything we can do to be sure that people are safe and secure. We're following the guidelines from the province and our diocese has set down. We will very slowly, very methodically kind of roll back into a new regular schedule in the weeks and months to come.

I'm very aware that no matter what we decide to do, the majority of people are going to be on the safe side rather than rush back. Plain and simple fact is, we may not have more people in the building, but we have more people listening and watching online and calling in for prayer. Masses will continue online and by live stream. Gethsemane Centre will continue to celebrate live stream Sunday Mass, at 9:30 am.

We believe that God is a God of healing and protection. But we also believe in order and not tempting anything. We're not going to float people's safety for some kind of faith proclamation. We believe God can keep us from a fire, but I'm not going to throw myself in a fire to prove that.

I'll leave you with this quote to ponder. "God is too good to be unkind and He is too wise to be mistaken. And when we cannot trace His hand, we must trust His heart." Charles Spurgeon

God Bless You, wherever and however, you may be... you are not alone. See you this weekend for Sunday Eucharist.

Shalom, Christopher +  
Parish Priest.  
June 18, 2020.

### PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Many have opted to continue with online Sunday and Weekday Masses which is acceptable. We are asking and encouraging that WE continue our financial support to our parish.

We continue to ask YOU to either drop off your stewardship to the rectory mailbox or kindly mail in your offering. We thank you in advance for your stewardship. Thank you, and God bless.

### ST. MARTIN OF TOURS YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

As our Youth Group year draws to a close, we want to acknowledge all of the help and support we receive that made the Youth Group successful. Despite the pandemic preventing in person meetings, we were able to move activities online and keep going without missing a beat! We even went on some pretty amazing virtual adventures camping and to Walt Disney World. Special thank you to our volunteers – Josie Dell, Caroline Steger, and Martin Ridland for sharing their culinary expertise, John & Linda Mataseje for sharing their mastery of dance and to our parishioners and parents for supporting all the activities!

Thank you from Alex, Alfred, Alyssa, Amanda, Connor, Holly, Isla, Jack, Keira, Nolan  
Lisa & Nicole