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BE KNOWN YOU THE FRUIT YOU BEAR

Today's readings exhort us Christian disciples to form ourselves - mind and heart - in imitation of Christ so we can better reflect His goodness in our daily lives.

The first reading from Sirach offers timeless counsel: "the fruit of a tree shows the care it has had: so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he speaks." Jesus uses the very same analogy in today's Gospel reading from Luke: "A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit."

Everything we have is a gift from God to be used for His honor and glory. This includes the gift of speech and, even more broadly, all forms of modern-day communication - email, text, Twitter, Facebook, and the rest. What comes forth from our mouths, or keyboard, or phone, reflects what is in our minds and hearts. Our ability to communicate with each other is itself a gift which we must steward well.

In the same Gospel passage, Jesus reminds us, "No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher." The more time we spend with Jesus, our teacher, through regular prayer and a strong sacramental life, the more we will become like Him. Then all that we do and say (and tweet and post) will bring others to closer to Him. This is the life's work of the Christian steward. It is privileged work indeed.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen
Parish Priest

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

Weekday Masses
See Schedule
on the inside of the bulletin

In Office Hours
Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Administrative Assistant
Financial Recorder
Sandy Johnson

Reconciliation/Confessions
Saturday: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Requesting Sacraments
Must be registered and practicing
Call office for details

St Martin Elementary School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery Management
Nick Sarantakos - 289-440-2929

Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
President - Heather Tomascini
heathertomascini@bell.net

Knights of Columbus
Grand Knight - Pierre Paradis
koc.16421@gmail.com

Facility Maintenance
Chair Frank DeFilippis

Parish Groups
Children's Liturgy.
Youth Ministry
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



**WE ADORE YOU,
O CHRIST, AND
WE BLESS YOU,
BECAUSE BY YOUR CROSS
YOU HAVE REDEEMED
THE WORLD!**

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February 27, 2022 - Year - C
The 8th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

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MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Recitation of the Holy Rosary takes place before each Weekday Mass beginning at 8:35 am

Mon	Feb 28	NO PARISH MASS CELEBRATED TODAY		
Tues	Mar 1	9:00 am +Rose Abrantes 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Webinar: What Is God Saying To The Church Post Pandemic?	by Maria Martins Fr Christopher	
Wed	Mar 2	Ash Wednesday 9:00 am +Jeanette Kneider 10:30 am - 12:pm Gethsemane Centre Mass/ Adoration/ Confessions		by the Kotuza family Fr .Christopher
Thurs	Mar 3	9:00 am +John Kozal 9:30 am - 10:30 am Bible Study Group in the Crying Room	by Rodney Ross	
Fri	Mar 4	7:30 am - 8:15 am That Man Is You- Paradisus Dei -Men's Rosary Group 9:00 am +Jean McInroy 10:30 am - 12 Noon Pastoral Home Visits for those who registered. 2:00 pm Women's World Day of Prayer 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Praise and Worship at Gethsemane Centre	Fr. Christopher by Cathy & Marcello Desimone Fr. Christopher CWL Fr. Christopher	
Sat	Mar 5	The 1st Sunday of Lent 8:30 am - 10:00 am Paradisus Dei - That Man Is You. Zoom Gathering 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) available at this time. 5:00 pm +Maria deFatima Pais		Father Christopher by Family
Sun	Mar 6	10:00 am +Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family Father Christopher's 63rd Birthday. Best wishes and prayers only!		

E-TRANSFERS

These transfers are often referred to as **e-Transfers** and done through your online banking, website or app. To transfer funds to St. Martin Parish e-Transfer to:

st.martinsdonation@gmail.com

Please do not enter a security question and answer. You will be informed that your transfer to: The Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation has been completed.

Thank you for your stewardship.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Group 1 - Mrs Szabo and Mrs Clarke

Group 2 - Mrs DiPasquale and Mrs Smith

First Reconciliation - 10 am at school
- Group 1 - March 22
- Group 2 - March 29

First Holy Communion - 11 am at Church
- Group 1 - April 30
- Group 2 - May 14

All Registration Forms are due back by March 1st.

LENT BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY

MARCH 2.

Weekday Masses will be Monday through Friday at 9:00am. The Way of the Cross (Stations) will begin the First Week of Lent on Friday, March 11, at 6:00 pm. Reconciliation (Confession) will be available following the Stations. The church will remain open until 7:00 pm for private prayer.

THE SYNOD PROCESS AT

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

Synod invitation Reminder!

NOW is your chance to have your voice heard. Every Catholic's input is critical to move the Universal Catholic church in a direction that fosters the strongest Catholic Community. Sign up for a Synod Listening Session today. Spots are limited, so please sign up with the link here, or call or email the parish office.

To sign up, please click on the following:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4AACA72BA6FCC52-synod>

and sign up for one session, or call the office at 289-956-0221 or email at st.martins@cogeco.ca

Parish Synod Facilitators are:

Lisa Poort, Paula Verrecchia, Sandy Johnson.

BISHOP'S LENTEN LETTER

Feb 11, 2022

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

This year, as we approach Ash Wednesday and mark the beginning of Lent, let us remember that the liturgical season of Lent is a season of conversion, a time set apart for deepening our relationship with Christ and seeking inner transformation through fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

As the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada provides an ideal way to offer alms to those most in need through their annual *Share Lent* campaign. The theme of this year's campaign is *People and Planet First*, highlighting the work of their partners who, despite their challenges are finding ways to live in harmony with their environment. Let us join in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the Global South who are feeling the most significant impacts of the changing climate by opening our hearts to the message of this campaign.

Since 1967, the CCCB has set aside the fifth Sunday of Lent as Solidarity Sunday. At that time, we will have a collection in support of Development and Peace's *Share Lent* campaign in each parish and I encourage you to give generously.

Contributions can also be made online at :

www.devp.org/sharelent,

by mailing a cheque, or by calling 1-888-234-8533

Please consider contributing to the Share Lent Campaign this year.

Yours sincerely in Christ

Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.

Bishop of St. Catharines

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

CARITAS CANADA

Throughout the coming season of Lent one major focus is Development and Peace and the annual Share Lent Collection. Please visit the website.

Devp.org.

This Lent, lets put people and plant first! Let's be inspired by, and learn from, leaders around the world who are putting people and planet first! We look forward to your financial support, solidarity and prayer.

FEBRUARY 14, 2022 - COVID-19 UPDATE

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 17, 2022

- The capacity limit is removed for religious services, rites and ceremonies only where proof of vaccination is required. For churches in the Diocese of St. Catharines, there is no change to capacity limits at this time.
- Capacity for indoor weddings, funerals or religious services, rites, or ceremonies is limited to the number of people who can maintain two metres physical distance.
- For parish social, public events and gatherings, including Synod discussion group meetings, capacity will increase to 50 people indoors and 100 outdoors.
- Contact tracing for churches and parish offices/ events will no longer be required.
- Masks and physical distancing are still required for all church services and in office settings.
- Holy water fonts are to remain empty until such time as a further direction is issued to allow for their use.

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2022

Tentatively, provided public health and health system indicators continue to improve:

- Capacity limits in all indoor public settings, including churches, will be lifted
- Proof of vaccination requirements for all settings, including churches, will be lifted.
- **Masking requirements will remain for all public spaces, including churches and office settings.**
- **For those who are sick, have a compromised immune system or feel uncomfortable returning to church at this time, the dispensation for Sunday Mass remains.**

SEASON OF LENT

- For our Lenten observances, including Ash Wednesday Masses and liturgical services, all churches can be open to full capacity for the first time in two years.
- Ashes will be placed on foreheads.
- Palms can be distributed
- Reconciliation services can be celebrated according to usual customs and procedures.
- Clergy visits to schools and school Masses in the church may be planned, with the permission of school principals.