

# March 12, 2017

## 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A

Monday	Mar 13	<i>Anniversary of the Election of Pope Francis</i> 9:00 am +For the peaceful rest of Joe Mulder	by John and Riky Mulder
Tuesday	Mar 14	9:00 am For the living and deceased members of the Klunder Family	by John and Riky Mulder
Wednesday	Mar 15	6:30 pm For the intentions of John Mataseje 7:00 pm Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament	by Geraldine Bell
Thursday	Mar 16	9:00 am For the health and healing of Paul Massad	by Joyce and Rodney Ross
Friday	Mar 17	<i>St. Patrick, bishop</i> 9:00 am +For the peaceful rest of Fred Bell 9:30 am <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	by Sherri deWilde
Saturday	Mar 18	<i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i> 5:00 pm +For the peaceful rest of Rahim Parhizgar	by Norrie Franko
Sunday	Mar 19	9:00 am For the intentions of St. Martin's Parish family 11:00 am For the intentions of Heather Belmont on her birthday	by Anita & Bernie Duggan

### DAYS THIS WEEK

#### Anniversary of the Election of Pope Francis; March 13.

On March 13, 2013, Jorge Mario Bergoglio was elected pope, to replace Pope Benedict XVI who had resigned on February 28, 2013.

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina on December 17, 1936, he worked as a chemical technician and nightclub bouncer before entering the seminary. He at first studied to be a diocesan priest, but joined the Jesuits in March 1958. He was ordained a priest on December 13, 1969; ordained bishop in the year 1992; named cardinal in the year 2001.

He has been known for personal humility, doctrinal conservatism and a commitment to social justice.

### SAINTS THIS WEEK

#### St. Patrick, bishop, March 17.

Patrick was born between the years 385 and 389, in north west Britain. His grandfather was a priest, and his father a deacon and alderman. Before he was sixteen years old, a band of Irish raiders carried Patrick off to Ireland. He could barely speak his own native language, and was forced by survival to learn a new one. At the age of twenty two he escaped, and after some time returned to his family. He became a bishop, and as he believed that he was called to return to the Irish, in the year 433 he went back. He concentrated his efforts in the north, to establish churches, and set in place a native clergy to continue his work. He died on March 17, in the latter half of the fifth century.

#### Credit St. Patrick ... for giving us private confessions.

During his ministry in the early fifth century, Patrick and his monks (most of them were not priests) would preach and baptize as they went about the Irish countryside.

They also began to conduct a simple rite of forgiveness patterned on the type of counseling the monks themselves were to use in their own spiritual lives.

The monks lived a strict spiritual discipline based upon the spirituality of St. Jerome and St. Augustine, who believed that "no person can walk without a guide".

The monks incorporated this belief into their rite of forgiveness, often including informal talks with the penitent about the conduct of their lives as Christians.

This form of spiritual guidance (which in contrast to the Church's recognized form of public penance was informal and could be done frequently) soon appeared in penitential books with appropriate penances for specific sins.

As Irish monks carried their missionary work into Europe, the practice of private confession slowly began to take hold.

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The practice of private confession wasn't originally well-received by the Church (although eventually the bishops moved from condemning it to trying to regulate it.)

The Lateran Council (November 11 - 30, 1215) made private confession obligatory once a year for everyone who had reached the age of discretion. Within a couple of centuries, it was the sacrament's only recognized form.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Available this week:

Wednesday 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm

Friday 8:15 am - 8:45 am

Friday 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm

Saturday 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Or by request.

### LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING

Generosity brought \$1798.00 to our parish last week through the regular collection and \$632.55 through the facility maintenance collection.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday March 17th following the morning Mass.

This Friday the Stations are entitled "The Way of the Cross" composed by St. Alphonsus Liguori.



### EVER WONDER...

Have you ever wondered where the Stations of the Cross came from?

Find out on the back page of this bulletin.

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER DANCE

The Knights of Columbus are having a St. Patrick's Day dinner dance, which just happens to be their 1st year anniversary as a council on Friday March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

The doors open at 6 pm, dinner at 7 pm and a dance to follow. The cost of this fun event will be \$25 a person. Contact Vern Dell or the Knight beside you for tickets or more information.

Come and join us as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of our Council.



### MASS INTENTIONS

There are many ways to remember those who have died, but none are greater than having them remembered during the Mass. For the Mass is the most direct and powerful way to present our thanks, praise and petitions to God. We listen to God's word for us, we receive and share in the Body and Blood of Jesus that he makes available to us, we join in the prayers of the entire Church and not only our own and we are able to be reminded again and again that we are part of the great community of living love known as the Communion of Saints.

When we seek to remember a person who is alive (Intentions) we can place their hopes and dreams, sor-

rows and difficulties, needs and wants before God and invite others to include them in their prayers. When we seek to remember a person who has died (their Repose) we show God our concern for their eternal wellbeing, seek forgiveness of their sins and can ask that they will pray for us while we remain on earth.

Birthdays, anniversaries, death days and special events can all be celebrated and remembered by having the person(s) remembered in Mass.

Mass requests may be made by using the Mass Intentions Envelope located on the table in the church lobby, or by contacting the parish office or by speaking with Father Brian.

### NOT RECEIVING COMMUNION?

Those who are not receiving Communion may receive a special blessing from those giving Holy Communion. The sign to request this blessing is to come in the Communion line, stand before the person giving Communion, and place your hands across your chest.

### ZUMBA

Since the Hall is available at an earlier time, Zumba Classes will be from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm for the month of March and the first Thursday of April.

Come dance your worries away while getting fit at the same time.

### CWL 50th ANNIVERSARY QUILT

CWL Councils across Canada have made a quilt to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. Our Diocesan Council has contributed a square to this amazing tribute to the work of our Catholic social justice advocates.

This quilt is coming to St. Catharines this month of March and will be at St. Joseph's church on Monday morning March 13 for the 9 a.m. Mass.

St. Joseph CWL will host a coffee social following the Mass for all who wish to view this commemorative quilt as it passes from our diocese to the next in its journey across Canada.

### BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

#### Birthdays:

Jacob Dell/Zoe Kristo – Mar 13

Nick Shields/David Vieira – Mar 14

Elizabeth Hutton – Mar 15

Donna Kirchknopf – Mar 16

Patricia Buchan/Isabel Prout/Martin Ivanaj – Mar 17

Heather Belmont – Mar 18

Tony Notarianni – Mar 19

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### STATIONS OF THE CROSS...A HISTORY

Roman Catholic Churches normally have a set of pictures, or statues, or plaster works that depict the last journey of Jesus on Good Friday: *Stations of the Cross*, or *Way of the Cross*.

In the years immediately after the death of Jesus, there was no public display that remembered the suffering and death of Jesus. Persecutions of Christ's followers from Jewish authorities began almost right away, and the Roman Empire began them in the year fifty-six. The events of the Passion of Christ were remembered privately with prayer and fasting. The earliest record of a night-time celebration, called the *Paschal Vigil*, dates from the year 150. In this Vigil, the road that Jesus took to Calvary would be walked, Mass would be celebrated, and a fifty day period of rejoicing, called the *Easter season*, began. In the year 313 the Roman empire made Christianity legal, and public walking of the way of the cross became popular.

Pilgrims came to Jerusalem to see the holy places, walk the path of Jesus, and seek spiritual benefits. To travel to Jerusalem to make the *Way of the Cross* was the dream of all pilgrims. But not everyone could make the trip.

About the year 432, (St) Bishop Petronius (445 A.D., October 04) was appointed to Bologna, Italy. In his diocese he built seven churches and other buildings which retraced the steps that Jesus took on the road to Golgotha. In doing so, he established the first set of the *Stations of the Cross*. They existed until the year 903, when they were destroyed by the invading Huns. These buildings were rebuilt and restored over the Middle Ages, and by the twelfth century the main church was regarded as a pilgrimage site for those who could not go to the East.

In the year 1095 Pope Urban II established the Crusades, to restore the Holy Land as a place of public pilgrimage. The Turkish armies had invaded and captured Jerusalem, and although the Turks tolerated private religious worship among Christians, no public pilgrimages were allowed. The Crusades, despite many attempts, did not succeed.

In the year 1335 the Franciscan Friars began negotiations with the Turks that slowly allowed Christians back to the holy places in Jerusalem. The Friars saw it as their duty to promote devotion to the shrines. Soon shrines became commonplace throughout Europe.

(Bd) Alvarez of Cordova (priest, 1430 A.D., February 19) encouraged and supported the idea of the Stations of the Cross. In fact, some have mistakenly said that he was the originator of this idea in the West.

There was a considerable variety of Stations in both name and title until the sixteenth century, when the current number of 14 became popular in Holland. In the year 1731, Pope Clement XII fixed the number of the Stations at 14.

(Bd). Frédéric Janssone, (priest, 1916 A.D., August 05) a Franciscan priest, went to the Holy Land in the year 1876. He reinstated the practice of walking the *Stations of the Cross* through the streets of Jerusalem, built a church in Bethlehem, and organized the care of the holy sites in Bethlehem.

Today the types of prayers and presentations may vary, but their purpose is still the same.

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  
Wed 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.  
Fri 8:15 - 8:45 a.m.  
Fri 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.  
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.

St Martin School  
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery  
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

Diocesan Website  
www.saintcd.com

Diocese of St. Catharines

# St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church



166 West Street, P.O. Box 74  
Smithville, Ontario L0R 2A0  
Telephone: 289-956-0221  
Fax: 289-956-0109  
Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca  
www.stmartinsparish.com

**March 12, 2017**  
**2nd Sunday of**  
**Lent**