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THE VIRTUE OF HUMILITY

Today's readings remind us of a chief virtue that characterizes the Christian steward: humility. This is a virtue that is widely thought of as a form of self-abasement. That understanding, however, is off the mark. Humility is simply the awareness of who (and Whose) we truly are.

On one hand, we are children of the Most High God who loved us into existence and who, by virtue of our Baptism, have the Holy Trinity dwelling within us. On the other hand, we are children who are completely dependent on God for our existence and for every breath we take.

Our Lord speaks of true humility in our Gospel passage from Luke, telling the parable of the guests invited to a wedding banquet and instructing us not to seek a place of honor at the banquet table, lest a more distinguished guest arrives and we are asked to move to a lower place.

Jesus has much more in mind here than an etiquette lesson. He is reminding us that all glory belongs to God. The visual image He offers in having to slink down to a lower seat at the table points out how silly we are when we forget to give God the credit for our blessings and talents.

On the other hand, when we live in humility - recognizing that all we have is a gift from God and using those gifts to serve Him and others - then God "exalts" us by filling us with even more of Himself and His grace.

Jesus goes on to encourage us to serve and share our blessings with people facing circumstances that would make it impossible for them offer us any worldly advantage or prestige - "the poor, the crippled, the lame."

Our attitude and the way in which we serve and share should be centered on true humility - recognizing that we are all "little" ones in the eyes of God. We are all His children; brothers and sisters invited to our Father's heavenly banquet.

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 - Sylvana Oliver
905-715-5779
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



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

Ministry Schedule - Sept 7/8

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

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

Children's Liturgy
Children's Liturgy begins Sept 15th

Next Hospitality Sunday
October 6, 2019

**Sept. 1, 2019
The 22nd
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time**

Lectors
5:00 pm #1 - Mitch Pogoda
#2 - Mary Pikula
10:00 am #1 - Tom Richardson
#2 - Sue Armstrong

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers
5:00 pm - Tom S. & Yolanda B.
10:00 am - Andrew, Caroline & Dick

Stewardship Counting
Elaine Parry & Cheryl Dell

September 1, 2019

The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Sept 2	NO PARISH MASS TODAY	Fr. Christopher's Day Off
Tues	Sept 3	9:00 am +In memory of all the past benefactors of St. Martin's For the health and healing of Marg Van Geest	by St Martin's Parish by Joan Wisniewski
Wed	Sept 4	9:00 am For God's blessings upon Beenamol Sebastian For the health and healing of Cathy Eberhard	by Rose Koshy by Martha Devlin
		10:30 am Gethsemane Centre Mass - Father Christopher	
Thurs	Sept 5	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Ardelle Gillis-Bircham For the health and healing of Marg Van Geest	by Pat & Lloyd Buchan by Martha Devlin
		5:00 pm - 10:00 pm ACTS Retreat Ministry: Men & Women's Teams	Mississauga.
Fri	Sept 6	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Therese Tessier	by Martha Devlin
Sat	Sept 7	The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 pm For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	
Sun	Sept 8	10:00 am For the special intentions of Sandy Johnson +For the repose of the soul of Domenica D'Agostino	by Sandra Mactaggart by Maria DaSilva

ANOTHER VACATION BIBLE STUDY SUCCESS

We had a fun week of games, songs, bible lessons and treats with 31 children registered.

Special thanks to the efforts of all of these volunteers:

- Jen Noseworthy - coordinated the program and ran all of the large group sessions and the outdoor games
- Kate D'Onofrio - ran the Bible Challenge
- Sherri deWilde, Judy Terpstra and Amanda Long Crawford - organized and supervised the Crafts table
- Cathy Cartaginese - planned, purchased and prepared the daily snacks, opened and locked up the church
- Matthew Noseworthy - assisted a special needs child who attended
- Lucas D'Onofio - assisted Jen with the outdoor games
- Maureen Flaherty - ran the Storytelling sessions

Also thank you to both the Catholic Women's League and the Knights for your financial support. We look forward to organizing and delivering next year's VBS.

CATHEDRAL RESTORATION APPEAL

www.saintcd.com/appeal

DIOCESAN UPDATE

After launching our appeal on the weekend of May 11/12 in our parishes, as of August 16, 2019, our appeal has raised \$337,789.09 in cash donations and \$69,439.20 in pledges. This brings our total raised to \$407,228.29 or 33.9% of our \$1,200,000 goal. We thank God for the wonderful start to our restoration project, and we thank you for prayerfully considering a financial contribution to this important project so that we can keep the momentum building!

PARISH UPDATE

UPDATE ON APPEAL FROM PARISHIONERS

Target Appeal Amount \$6,500.00

1 Pledge. \$300.00

18 Parish Donations. \$3,901.00

Catholic Women's League Donation \$500.00

We do encourage more to assist with this wonderful opportunity to Restore our Mother Church of the Diocese - Our Cathedral. Please respond by the end September if you are willing to donate or pledge as we need to finalize pledges in particular. We are trusting in God's providence to give our full target by the end of the year. Thank you.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION STUDY

Join the SAINTCD group study of Pope Francis' latest apostolic exhortation, **Christ is Alive** and learn more about his message to Young People and their place in today's Church.

This study series will run from **7 – 9pm** for **five consecutive Thursdays beginning September 19th** at the **Catholic Centre**, 3400 Merritville Highway, Thorold.

Cost is \$25 with the book or \$10 if using a free and downloadable copy of Christ is Alive. Register by Sept. 13th by calling 905-684-0154, emailing familyandyouth@saintcd.com or online at: <https://forms.gle/nneRz5FF6dw4W9Bj7>

AT MOUNT CARMEL

"Life Changes: Who Am I Now?"

Saturday, September 21 (9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.)

Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre

Cost \$65 (includes buffet lunch)

Presented by Anna Racine

Put more joy and more meaning into your life through self-awareness and self-esteem. This is for anyone going through or anticipating a major change in their life. Explore how self-image is formed and affected across the lifespan; the components of self-esteem; the strengths which enable us to navigate change; the grieving which may accompany it; and the areas that may need healing in order to live fully who and where I am now. There will be mini presentations, personal reflection, and group work.

For more info and to register call 905/356-4113 or visit www.carmelniagara.com

RETRouvaille

You Can Help Your Marriage – Are you frustrated or angry at each other or have you just stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples.

For confidential information, or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on **October 25, 2019** at the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls, please call **905-664-5212** or email: Teamrecine@gmail.com or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP AUGUST 2019

Aug 3/4:	Regular Sunday Offering:	\$ 1,639.75
	Facility Maintenance:	\$ 719.30
	Summer Mission Appeal:	\$ 65.00
	Canadian Missions Shared:	\$ 30.00
Aug 10/11:	Regular Sunday Offering:	\$ 1,436.00
	Facility Maintenance:	\$ 35.00
	Canadian Shared Mission:	\$ 538.00
	Summer Mission Appeal:	\$ 20.00
Aug 17/18:	Regular Sunday Offering:	\$ 1,342.00
	Canadian Shared Mission:	\$ 235.00
Aug 24/25:	Regular Sunday Offering:	\$ 1,996.00
	Canadian Shared Mission:	\$ 25.00
Correction from Aug 4th Bulletin:		
	Summer Mission Appeal (25 Env):	\$ 1,495.00
Weekly budget:		\$ 2,100.00
Parish Debt:		\$ 20,266.18
August short-fall		\$ 1,900.00

Thank you for your consistent stewardship.

WELLS OF HOPE

Passion Food & Wine Tasting

A celebration of food, wine, micro beer, music, dancing, silent auction & raffle prizes. Friday, September 13 (7:00-10:30 p.m.) Château des Charmes, 1025 York Rd., St. Davids. Tickets \$75 per person. All proceeds go to Wells of Hope projects in Guatemala. Go to:

www.niagarapassion.com
or call 1-866/392-3530.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

- Tues Sept 11 - 7pm - Parish Maintenance Meeting
- Mon. Sept 16 - 6:30pm - Diocesan Council for Development and Peace New Fall season
- Tues Sept 17 - 5:30pm - Grade Eight Journey Retreat Mass at Ridgeway Spiritual Centre.
- TBD - Opening School Mass
- TBD - Parish Discernment Meeting
- TBD - Financial Council Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD TO WORSHOPS

- Sat. Sept 28 - 9:30-12 noon - Development and Peace Fall Workshop at St. Alfred's
- Sat. Oct 5 - 9:30 - 12 noon - Diocesan/ Parish Discernment Workshop at St. Alfred's St. Catharines. In preparation for Diocesan Synod in 2020. Parish Reps: Lisa Poort, Vern and Josie Dell.