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JOURNEY TO THE MOUNTAIN TOP

In last week's Gospel, we followed Jesus into the desert where He fasted and prayed. This week, He leads us up a mountain to witness His Transfiguration. Why both of these experiences?

He is preparing us to go with Him in a few short weeks to a hilltop - Golgotha - where He will lay down His life for our sake, and then finally to take us to an empty cave where He triumphed over sin and death once and for all.

Jesus perfectly understands our humanity. He knows we need desert experiences - times of self-denial and testing - in order to arrive at mountain-top moments when we see and feel His glorious presence in our lives. The purpose of these two types of experiences is summed up in the description of the Apostles who were with Jesus at that mountain-top experience in today's Gospel: "Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory...."

The reason for all of our fasting and prayer and almsgiving during lent is to be reawakened to all God has done for humanity, and to all that He has done for each of us personally. It is all too easy to get lulled into complacency in our daily routines, to "sleepwalk" through life, getting up and getting ourselves out the door, going to work, returning home for dinner and dishes, meetings, or sports activities, and finally flopping on the couch to watch TV until bedtime. While there is nothing inherently sinful in this routine, as Christian stewards, we are called to so much more!

This lent, let us train ourselves, or more precisely, allow Him to train us to say "Yes" to His will and to offer our lives back to Him in gratitude. In so doing, we, too, will become "transfigured." This is what it means to live fully awake; this is a stewardship way of life and it is glorious indeed.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen
P.P.

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



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

March 13, 2022 - Year - C
The Second Sunday
of Lent

March 13, 2022

The 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year C

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

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

Mon	Mar 14	9:00 am	For the special intentions of Fr. Christopher	by the Newman Family
Tues	Mar 15	9:00 am	For a Mass of Thanksgiving	by the Verrecchia Family
Wed	Mar 16	9:00 am	+ Justine Henriette De Tullio (First Anniversary)	by Aldo Tullio
		10:30 am	- 12:pm Gethsemane Centre Mass/ Adoration/ Confessions	Fr .Christopher
Thurs	Mar 17	9:00 am	+James R Flaherty	by Maureen Flaherty
		9:30 am	- 10:30 am Bible Study Group in the Crying Room	
Fri	Mar 18	7:30 am	- 8:15 am That Man Is You- Paradisus Dei -Men's Rosary Group	Fr. Christopher
		9:00 am	+Maria deFatima Pais	by Family
		10:30 am	- 12 Noon Pastoral Home Visits for those who registered.	Fr. Christopher
		6:00 pm	- 7:00 pm Lenten Way of the Cross (Stations) Rosary/Prayer/Confessions	
		7:30 pm	- 9:00 pm Praise and Worship at Gethsemane Centre	Fr. Christopher
Sat	Mar 19	The 3rd Sunday of Lent		
		4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) available at this time.		
		5:00 pm	For the health and healing of the sick members of our parish	By the KOC
Sun	Mar 20	10:00 am	+Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	

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

LENTEN WEEKDAY MASSES/DEVOTION

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. If you require more devotions please let Fr. Christopher know.

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.

FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

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 planet 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

Bishop Bergie's Lenten Letter

We have been unable to paste and post the Bishop's Lenten Letter. Please visit the diocesan website to read his Lenten message to us. Thank you.

[Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com](http://www.saintcd.com)

SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Continue to pray for a peaceful resolution to the conflict in the Ukraine. If you wish to make a financial contribution you can do so through the parish. Cheques should be made payable to St. Martin of Tours clearly marked Ukraine relief and funds collected will then be forwarded to the Chancery office by March 31.. The Chancery office will send all monetary donations to the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)..

Donations can also be done through CNEW's website at <https://cnewa.org/ca/donate/>

CHURCH CAPACITY LIMITS (& "ETIQUETTE")

While limits have been lifted in Ontario churches, including our own, likely this will be well received by some and reservedly by others. Given that the pandemic is not over, there are different perspectives on this.

It does mean that individuals will now be responsible for making their own decisions about what level of risk is acceptable. No one is exempt from wearing a face mask (except the presiding priest, readers, and extra-ordinary eucharistic minister). Even with the removal of the floor and carpet markings, all are encouraged to respect "distancing etiquette."

To be together again is special, yes, but only if hospitalizations trend downward can there be more relief (e.g., congregational singing, no requirements for indoor masking). In the meantime, churchgoers are asked to exercise respect, charity, and kindness towards others and to recognize the varying comfort levels of people, especially during these steps to transition. Each parishioner has to be able to plan according to their comfort level, and really for their own health. Thank you.