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PASTOR'S LENTEN REFLECTION

My dear friends:)

Amid the coronavirus pandemic, Holy Week celebrations will take on even greater significance for Christians throughout the world. We're having a true experience of real suffering right now. As we come together by staying apart, we know our celebration of Lent/Holy Week/ Easter this year will look very different. For many of us, this marks a full year of managing and planning around the coronavirus

There is nothing like being physically present and participating in the liturgy and all of its 'actions'. Beginning with blessing ourselves with holy water, genuflecting, and then kneeling, standing, sitting, singing, listening, responding, blessing, exchanging peace, and ultimately receiving Eucharist, to be 'sent forth' (missa) to 'announce the Gospel'. These gestures have been somewhat restricted due to Covid -19. We must keep them in the foreground of our collective remembrance.

So this Holy Week we are invited to journey as best we can with Jesus and his disciples. We shall follow the story as Holy Scriptures tells it. If you are physically on your own, use your imagination and remember that you are not spiritually alone. Think of all the people who are worshipping and praying throughout the world. If you have been a churchgoer in the past (when congregations could gather for worship or online), imagine the faces of people you know or remember from the church. Picture all those of previous generations who are worshipping in heaven alongside the choirs of saints and angels. All you have to do is slip in and join them.

Above all, remember that you cannot be completely alone. God is with you. You might find it helpful to take something that focuses your attention on God and put it where you can see it easily. It might be a Bible, or hymnbook, or cross, or candle. If your attention wanders whilst you reflect and pray, looking at it may bring you back to God.

These are tough times. It might be that Covid sufferers, health care staff, key workers and all sorts of carers understand them more instinctively during the current pandemic. Nevertheless, it takes time to take the lessons in and work out their implications.

As we move into this Holy Week at a time of the global pandemic, I am called to ask, "My God, what do you want to teach me, teach us? What am I to learn as I stumble along with this very different "Via Dolorosa"? Now that the "fast forward" motion of my life has ground to what some days feel like a maddening halt, how do I lean into the work you want to do within me? Will I let you set a new pace? Can I be still enough to trust that the world and those I love are in your hands? Can I resist the panic that flows toward me from the frightened ones? Can I reach out like Simon of Cyrene and Veronica? Can I? Will I?

Gracious God, I pray to be open to whatever you want me to learn during these unique times and especially in this week called HOLY. Help me find my way as I walk alongside Jesus. I pray this open to the guidance of your Holy Spirit both now and forever, Amen.

Shalom, Christopher + Parish Priest

Parish Priest
 Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.
 Diocesan Social Justice Rep.
 Member of Ontario Bishops' Social Affairs Commission.
 Spiritual Chaplain to Diocesan D&P
 Spiritual Director to Acts Retreat Ministries Men & Women.
 Intern to Mental Health/ Addiction Counselling Hamilton. (CMHA)

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

Weekday Masses
 See Schedule on the inside of the bulletin

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

Administrative Assistant
Financial Recorder
 Sandy Johnson

Reconciliation/Confessions
 Saturdays 4:00pm or by appointment

Requesting Sacraments
 Must be registered and practicing
 Call office for details

St Martin Elementary 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 - Pierre Paradis
 koc.16421@gmail.com

Facility Maintenance
 Tom Diletti - tom.diletti@gmail.com

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 our Diocese
 Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.
 Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church



SPECIAL YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

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

March 21, 2021
Year B
The 5th Sunday of Lent

March 21, 2021

The 5th Sunday of Lent - Year B

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Mar 22	9:00 am	For the health and healing of Maria Biancianiello	by Caroline & Andrew Steger
Tues	Mar 23	9:00 am	+Lloyd Bell	by the deWilde Family
		7:00 pm	- 8:00 pm St. Joseph Parish Grimsby Sacramental Confessions	Father Christopher
Wed	Mar 24	9:00 am	+Elfrieda Perkovic	by Caroline & Andrew Steger
		10:30 am	- Gethsemane Centre Mass/ Eucharistic Adoration/ Confessions	Father Christopher
Thurs	Mar 25	9:00 am	For the health and healing of Cathy Gallant	by Julie Notarianni
		4:00 pm	- 6: 00 pm Centre for Mental Health & Addiction (CAMH) Zoom Meeting	Fr. Christopher
		8:30 pm	- 9:45 pm Into the Breach -Male Spirituality Program by Zoom	Father Christopher
Fri	Mar 26	9:00 am	+Ted Wisniewski	by Joan Wisniewski
		9:30 am	Stations of the Cross	
			Sacramental Confessions available after the devotional Way of the Cross	
		10:30 am	- 12:00 pm Pastoral Home Visits to Our Seniors	Father Christopher
		7:00 pm	- 9:00 pm of Praise and Worship at Gethsemane Centre	
Sat	Mar 27	8:40 am	- 10:30 am That Man Is You - Program by Zoom	Father Christopher
			<i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</i>	
		5:00 pm	+Ross Moniz	by Brenda Moniz & Family
Sun	Mar 28	10:00 am	For the special intentions of Rebecca deWilde and for the living & deceased Lubera Family members	by Sherri deWilde by the Lubera Family

PARISH ON YOUTUBE

Go to St. Martin Church Smithville

Not every Mass or other celebrations will always be LIVE! We are still learning how to Live Stream. Notices in the Mass schedule will note if the Mass is being lived streamed.

ONLINE EUCHARIST

Cathedral of St. Catharine of Alexandria

Sunday Mass live stream at 11:30 am.

Visit the diocesan website for viewing:

www.saintcd.com or on YouTube

St. Joseph Grimsby:

<http://www.facebook.com/StJoeGrimsby>

Vision TV: Sun - 8:00 am

Mon - Fri - 8:00 am & 12:00 pm

Sat - 8:00 am & 9:30 am

Salt + Light: Sun - 11:00 am & 10:30 pm

Mon - Sat - 6:30 am, 11:00 am, 3:00 pm, 10:30 pm

Yes TV: Sun - 10:30 am & Mon - Sat - 1:00 pm

Internet : www.dailytvmass.com

www.youtube.com/dailytvmass

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.

"VIRTUAL" CHILDREN'S LITURGY "

Our Children's Liturgy, under the direction of Mrs. Noseworthy is posting videos, lessons and the parish bulletin every Sunday at 10:00 a.m., to our catholic education community. Thank you; and God bless! We appreciate your ministry immensely.

GENTLE REMINDERS

Please do not congregate in church or front foyer or outside at church doors. Only those sanitizing can remain following Mass. Come, at least 10 to 12 mins before Mass begins. Coming at the last minute does not serve any of us. Thank You.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE CARITAS CANADA

Do you know that over 10,000 Canadian Catholics like you are members of Development and Peace? The "Share Love, Share Lent" campaign invites you to pray for them and to honour their solidarity towards our sisters and brothers in the Global South. Show your support by donating generously this **"Solidarity" Sunday, March 21**. You can also become a monthly donor and have your year-long contribution matched, thanks to the support of religious communities across Canada. Not only will you double your impact, but you will also automatically become a member of Development and Peace! Learn more at devp.org/lent

Please support the good works of Development and Peace. This collection will remain open for several weeks. A special envelope has been included in you stewardship box. Those envelopes are also available in the main foyer. Thank you.

NEW STATUE OF ST. JOSEPH

In this Year of St. Joseph, we are delighted to have this beautiful new statue. Several generous parishioners have paid for this new statue for our church. We thank you for your generosity. May St. Joseph protect and guide your families in this special year. Our statue was blessed of the feast of St. Joseph, March 19. St. Joseph, pray for us.

COVID-19 AND PARISH STEWARDSHIP

While the situation of COVID-19 continues to develop in our lives and communities, it is increasingly evident that the pandemic has had, and will continue to have for some time to come, a far reaching impact on all of us. We appeal to your generosity as we need the weekly stewardship of one and all, to maintain our financial commitments

A special thank you to those who send in their weekly/monthly stewardship. Also, to those who have begun with E-Transfers, we thank you. Stewardship Envelopes for 2021 are available for pickup at the front foyer of the church building. Call ahead to arrange a safe time for pickup.

EASTER TRIDUUM & HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PRE - REGISTRATION

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE

"ETIQUETTE AT EUCHARIST"

You will be asked to sanitize your hands using the new automatic dispenser (touchless) just inside the main door.

Please wait for a hospitality team member to escort you to your assigned pew. In order to ensure physical distancing, please remain in your seats once seated. Do not decide to move because you want to sit with family or friends. We know that some have expressed a desire to sit where they usually do. This is not possible at this time.

Communicants are to remove their masks while the person ahead of them is receiving and bow; and after the priest says "the Body of Christ" and the answer "Amen" is given, only then does the communicant cross the red line (hands extended) to receive and step into the "marked circle" to consume the Bread of Life.

Holy Communion is given after the final blessing for a reason. We depart, keeping our social distance.

Note: The washrooms are to be used only if absolutely necessary; parishioners making their way there during Mass tend to be a distraction to the others. As well, please refrain from touching any surfaces upon entering or exiting the church (anything touched has to be cleaned).

The doors are closed/locked when Mass begins for a reason: the TEAM have a right to worship and are not obliged to wait unnecessarily. Also, attending one Mass on the weekend is sufficient; please be mindful of others by not taking a space someone else could have.

Lastly, be respectful of the ushers and cleaners and their tasks; their willingness to serve is of benefit to us all because if there are no ushers and no cleaners there can be no "open church". All of the above is for your safety and the protection of all. It is not meant to be unwelcoming.

PASTORAL GREETINGS
REGISTRATION FOR
TRIDUUM - HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, Lent calls us to Easter. As we begin plans and preparation, we invite you to register for the Holy Week Services. Easter is a time when many of our families and friends join us to celebrate the Paschal Mystery – The Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ. Given the situation of COVID-19, we need to limit the numbers and we need to plan for the masses. We want to try to give as many chances as possible for the people and your registration will greatly help in our planning.

Even though it is a pandemic, let us not forget that we need God in our lives and only God can lead us, guide us and give us the strength to face any situations. The pews and all top surfaces will be disinfected after every Mass. Strict protocols are in place to assure your safety.

The pandemic has caused financial difficulty for a lot of families, our parish is not an exception. I invite all those who can do a little more to support our parish. Currently, less than half of our members have supported us throughout the pandemic. Let us act together for a just recovery that includes all. Thank you for your generosity and solidarity.

We invite you to leave your offering in the basket at the foyer or you can send in your donation through e-transfers (see below for the e-transfer donation email address.

How does one talk about parish stewardship during a pandemic? We are doing what we can to support one another, proclaim the Gospel, worship at home online, coming to church at 30% - and comfort those who are suffering.

Make phone calls, cards, texts, emails, zoom gatherings. All of these are ways you have so beautifully enabled our faith community to continue in spite of it all. Bless you. Your efforts are noticed and appreciated.

Our parish ministry continues while many of you have opted to stay at home for obvious reasons. Ministry and outreach is still happening and is still making a difference in people's lives. How you are involved in these ways is yours to decide. Will you continue to support our parish faith community through your ongoing stewardship?

Ministry carries on because we are grounded in God's life-giving ways revealed to us through Jesus Christ. Your gift of time, talent and treasure may be different now in the pandemic, but your financial contributions are needed to support and contribute to our financial responsibilities.

Please register by March 25, for the coming Holy Week/Easter Triduum. Your registration will be confirmed by email or phone call. Please do not assume you are registered until you have heard back from the parish office. We cannot allow walk-ins for the Triduum/Easter Services. Thank you. God bless you all.

Shalom, Christopher+
Parish Priest

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS FOR 2020

All remaining income tax receipts have now been mailed. We thank those who took the time to come and collect your receipt as it cut down on postal expenses. Thank you.

TRIDUUM -HOLY WEEK / EASTER OCTAVE
SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
March 27-28
Commemoration of the Lord's Procession into Jerusalem
Eucharistic Celebration Mass
Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 am.

Monday, March 29, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Eucharistic Adoration/ Sacramental Confessions

Wednesday, March 31, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Eucharistic Adoration/ Sacramental Confessions

Holy Thursday April 1
Mass of the Lord's Supper: 8:30 pm.
(No Adoration dew to Covid 19.
Adoration Chapel will not be open to the public)

Good Friday (April 2)
Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and Crucifixion: 3:00 p.m.
(This includes the Passion Account of John, Solemn Intercessions, Adoration of the Holy Cross, Holy Communion, a Holy Land collection.
No kissing of the Cross)

Easter Saturday Vigil April 3 8:15 pm
(Sun down at this time for proper darkness.)
(REMEMBER - No Mass at 5:00 pm.)

Easter Sunday Eucharistic Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection
Mass 10 :00 am.
(Mass includes renewal of baptismal profession of faith).

Easter Octave April 5-9
Weekday Mass: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday (April 11)
Concluding the Octave of Easter and

Divine Mercy Sunday April 11
Saturday Vigil Mass April 10 5:00 pm
Sunday April 11 10:00 am
Celebration of Divine Mercy
April 11
3:00 pm Chaplet

ATTENTIVE FIRST RECONCILIATION
& FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

For Grade Two - Roman Catholics Only.
Those children who have been baptized outside of the Roman Catholic Church can be welcomed through the Profession of Faith. This can only take place if at least one parent is Roman Catholic, registered as members of the parish and attending Sunday Mass. Those children requiring baptism may have to wait as proper instruction needs to be given.

Group One
Mrs. Catherine Jeffery
Ms. Katia DiPasquale
Group Two
Mrs. Lee-Anne Szabo
Sharlene Hayward

Group One First Reconciliation
Saturday, April 17, at 11:00 am
Group Two First Reconciliation
Saturday, April 24, 11:00 am
Group One First Holy Communion
Saturday, May 8, at 11:00 am.
Group Two First Holy Communion
Saturday, May 15, at 11:00 am

Parent(s) Guardians - are invited to call or email the parish office to obtain the registration which will be emailed to you. Due to the strict Covid- 19 protocols we can only allow the student and his or her parents to attend all of these celebrations. We will maintain social distancing, and the wearing of masks. We ask that you honour the group that you belong to.

We ask that you return the registration form promptly (by April 5, 2021) so that we can prepare well for these Sacraments of Initiation. We do thank you for your cooperation, patience and understanding in what is unprecedented times. Thank you; and God bless You!