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GROW CLOSER TO JESUS

In addition to celebrating all Christ did for us this Easter season, we also are reminded of how His sacrifice impacts our lives.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Jesus should be the center of our lives. This passage begins with two disciples realizing Jesus had just appeared to them.

We can learn a valuable lesson from these disciples. To recognize Jesus' appearances in our lives, we need to know Him. And the best way to know the Lord is to spend time with Him. It can start with just 10 minutes of quiet prayer a day and increasing that each week. We might begin by reading Scripture, books on the lives of the Saints, or even a decade of the Rosary. Yet the goal should be to carve out time each day, in a quiet space, for just you and the Lord.

As the disciples mentioned, they recognized it was Jesus in the breaking of the bread. We, too, can better know the Lord through the sacraments, most especially the Holy Mass. The Eucharist is Jesus Himself - Body, Blood Soul, and Divinity. What better way to grow in intimacy with Christ than to receive Him frequently or to go talk to Him in front of the Blessed Sacrament?

As we make Jesus the center of our lives through prayer and the sacraments, we will be able to recognize Him in day-to-day moments.

As we are still in the midst of this Easter season, take time to think about what Christ did for us and the changes we should make in our daily lives to help us grow closer to Him.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

Pastor

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 Ministry Men & Women.
Intern to Mental Health/ Addiction Counselling Hamilton.

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
Currently closed to the public

Administrative Assistant

Financial Recorder
Sandy Johnson

Reconciliation/Confessions

By Appointment Only in COVID-19

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

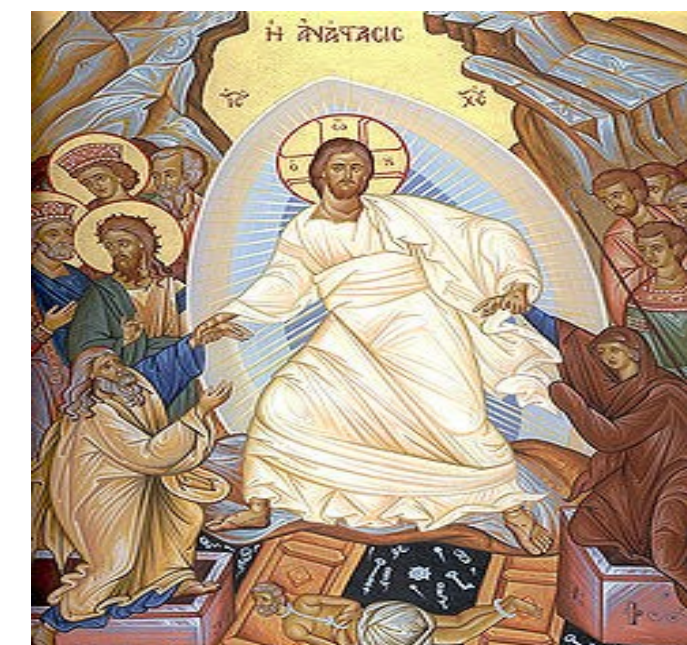
Tom Diletti - tom.diletti@gmail.com

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

St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church



SPECIAL YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

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www.stmartinsparish.com
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April 18, 2021 - Year -B

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

3rd Sunday of Easter - Year B

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Apr 19	9:00 am +Jose Martins	by Maria Martins & Family
Tues	Apr 20	9:00 am +John & Lucinda Cruz 7:00 pm Profession of Faith for Mia Cheeseman - Grade 2.	by Maria Martins & Family Fr Christopher
Wed	Apr 21	9:00 am +Terry Duggan 10:30 am - 12:pm Gethsemane Centre Mass/ Adoration/ Confessions	by Anita & Bernie Duggan Fr .Christopher
Thurs	Apr 22	9:00 am For the special intentions of Bob Hignett 7:00 pm - 8: 00 pm Centre for Mental Health & Addiction (CMAH) Zoom Meeting	by Anita & Bernie Duggan Fr. Christopher
Fri	Apr 23	9:00 am +Felice Ferri 10:30 am - 12: Noon Home/Front Door Visitations - Call office to Register. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Praise and Worship at Gethsemane Centre	by Cathy & Frank Cartaginense Fr Christopher
Sat	Apr 24	8:30 am - 10:00 am The Case for Jesus : Bible Study <i>The 4th Sunday of Easter</i>	Fr. Christopher
Sat	Apr 24	5:00 pm Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	
Sun	Apr 25	10:00 am For grace and thanks to St. Santo Cristo	by Paula Melo

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.

COVID VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to one and all for serving in this important ministry. Please do not forget your scheduled time. We can only "open" if we have the necessary volunteers to follow the strict Covid-19 protocols. We welcome our new (5) volunteers. Thank you. Your ministry is appreciated.

"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.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE CARITAS CANADA

Good Friday Collection / Easter/ Facility

Thank you for once again supporting our annual Share Lent collection. This collection will remain "open" until the end of April. Given our pandemic - and that many of us had to cut back on our outreach, you have generously responded to the needs of others. Thank you for your extra giving with all these necessary collections. The amounts will be announced at the weekend Masses. No postings due to security concerns.

ATTENTIVE FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

For Grade Two - Roman Catholics Only.

UPDATE: We appreciate the understanding of the parents and teachers as yet another "curve ball" has been tossed in our direction: School Closure. While we are in "lockdown" we have decided to proceed with our celebration of the Sacraments. Protocols are in place and we have a "safe environment" to proceed.

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

Parents 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.

"RED ZONE" PROTOCOLS

Parishioners are reminded that, as they leave Mass, physical distancing has to be adhered to. It appears that what has been working well for the initial seating and the moving forward for Holy Communion. It is falling apart when it comes to leaving the church: even though the ushers are there to escort everyone out, "bunching up" tends to occur as people feel the need to walk faster. The message has to be reinforced: pace yourselves accordingly, please, and be mindful of the directions given by the ushers!

Physical distancing has to be respected not only on the way into church and in the Communion line, but when leaving the building, too (and around the doors, once outside). Registration will be required for all weekend Masses. The deadline is each Thursday by 12 Noon. This is not happening. You cannot email the night before or the morning of. Also, a curtesy phone call is better than an email if you cannot attend after having previously registered. Not showing up without notifying us means that others could have had your spot.

Sandy, is responsible for Mass Registration. Kindly, do not email or text or phone Father Christopher for registration or cancellation. Sandy works only on Tuesday and Thursday. All emails are returned with confirmation.

Arriving at least 15/10 minutes prior will help us to place you in your seat. Keeping a prayerful silence both in the foyer and as you enter the main church building will help us all prepare for Mass.

"I wish more people were fluent in Silence."

Again, as we move forward we need to be vigilant, co-operative and think of others before yourself. Covid fatigue must not allow us to be complacent. We are full of Easter Joy in these Fifty Days of Easter!

J.O.Y. Jesus. Others. Yourself.

Thank you. Have a great week.. Be creative in another lockdown. Learn a new language. I'm fluent now in silence. LOL!
Shalom, Christopher +
Parish Priest.

**CCCB Note on Ethical Concerns Related to
Currently Approved COVID-19 Vaccines
Clarification
11 March 2021**

On 9 March 2021, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) published a short “Note on Ethical Concerns Related to Currently Approved COVID-19 Vaccines.” This Note was published in response to questions from Catholics who were concerned about the moral permissibility of receiving currently-approved COVID-19 vaccines. The Note did not refer to, nor intend to question the medical efficacy of any vaccine. In response to questions received since the publication of the Note, the CCCB wishes to clarify any misunderstandings that may have arisen.

1. Catholics are invited to be vaccinated, both in keeping with the dictates of their conscience and in contributing to the common good by promoting the health and safety of others.
2. The CCCB Note of 9 March 2021 simply restates the position outlined by the Holy See in its Note of December 21, 2020 regarding the use of vaccines.
3. All COVID-19 vaccines that are medically approved by the relevant health authorities may be licitly received by Catholics.
4. Since there is currently no choice of vaccine being offered, Catholics in good conscience, may receive the vaccine that is available and offered to them.

On this National Day of Observance for COVID-19, we remember in thought and prayer those whom we have lost and those who have experienced most acutely the impact of the pandemic.

We likewise offer our profound appreciation and heartfelt gratitude for the many people working and volunteering in occupations and services that provide care for others, which often comes with great personal sacrifice.

Any further inquiries should be directed to the CCCB Communications Service at:

communications@cccb.ca

The decision to receive any COVID-19 vaccine is one of individual conscience in consultation with one’s physician or healthcare provider. Choosing to be vaccinated, particularly amid the current pandemic, can be an act of charity which recognizes the need to care for others.

The CCCB echoes the call of the Holy See, by reiterating its appeal to governments to “ensure that COVID-19 vaccines that become available do not create an ethical dilemma for Canadians,” thus encouraging greater vaccine uptake among the general population and strengthening the common good of our Canadian society.

The recent approvals by Health Canada of the AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson vaccines against COVID-19 have given rise to questions among Catholics about the moral permissibility of receiving vaccines whose development, production, and/or testing has involved the use of abortion-derived cell lines. These questions are important for they concern the sacredness of human life and its inherent dignity.

The Moderna and Pfizer vaccines already approved in Canada do not use abortion-derived cell lines in their development and production of the vaccine, however in some of their final testing processes, they have used unethically-derived cell lines.

These two vaccines currently available in Canada can be morally acceptable for Catholics to receive since the connection to abortion is extremely remote.

In contrast to these vaccines, the AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson vaccines utilized abortion-derived cell lines in their development, production, and confirmatory testing. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith makes the distinction between the differing moral obligations for those who develop such vaccines and those who receive them. They have reassured Catholics that “when ethically irreproachable Covid-19 vaccines are not available . . . it is morally acceptable to receive Covid-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process.”

Therefore, when provided with a choice between receiving different vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortion-derived cell lines should always be preferred and chosen when possible. This means that given the currently approved vaccine options in Canada, if/when presented with the choice, one should choose to receive either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine over the AstraZeneca or Johnson & Johnson vaccine. When no choice of vaccine is available, the AstraZeneca or Johnson & Johnson vaccine (or any other COVID-19 vaccine that may be approved) “can be used in good conscience with the certain knowledge that the use of such vaccines does not constitute formal cooperation with abortion.”

Consequently, if it is possible in a given area or local region to choose a vaccine, Pfizer and Moderna would be recommended at this stage.

However, when a choice is not provided or it is quite difficult to have recourse to these said vaccines, given the health urgency at hand and other considerations, nothing morally prevents anyone from receiving in good conscience the AstraZeneca or Johnson & Johnson vaccines or others that may eventually be approved which will have been developed, tested and produced in a similar fashion.