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THE LOST AND FOUND

Today's readings focus on the personal, passionate and merciful love of God, which should fill us with unending gratitude to Him. This gratitude is the fuel that keeps the stewardship way of life rolling along.

In our Second Reading, from St. Paul's letter to Timothy, we find a grateful Paul who says of himself, "I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and arrogant, but I have been mercifully treated." St. Paul is well aware of the sins he has committed. But this does not hold him back from ministry. Rather, it makes him all the more grateful to be God's steward. How encouraging to know that this is true for us, as well. Our past sins, and even our present struggles, do not disqualify us from becoming God's grateful stewards.

Jesus gives us several poignant illustrations of His merciful love in today's Gospel reading from Luke. Let us focus on one in particular - the story of the lost sheep. He asks, "What man among you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine ... and go after the lost one until he finds it?"

The logical response is no one! It simply does not make sense to spend time and energy searching for one lost sheep when there are so many others to tend to. But God's logic - God's mercy - defies human logic. And who is the lost one? It is every one of us when we stray away from God through sin, great or small.

What gratitude we owe to such a personal, passionate, loving God! Just think, even our sins, once forgiven, become a source of fuel for our stewardship way of life as we reflect with deep gratitude on the powerful mercy of our Savior.

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

Ministry Schedule - Sept 21/22

Hospitality Ministers
5:00 pm - Tom Shields
10:00 am - Gille A. & Marcel P.

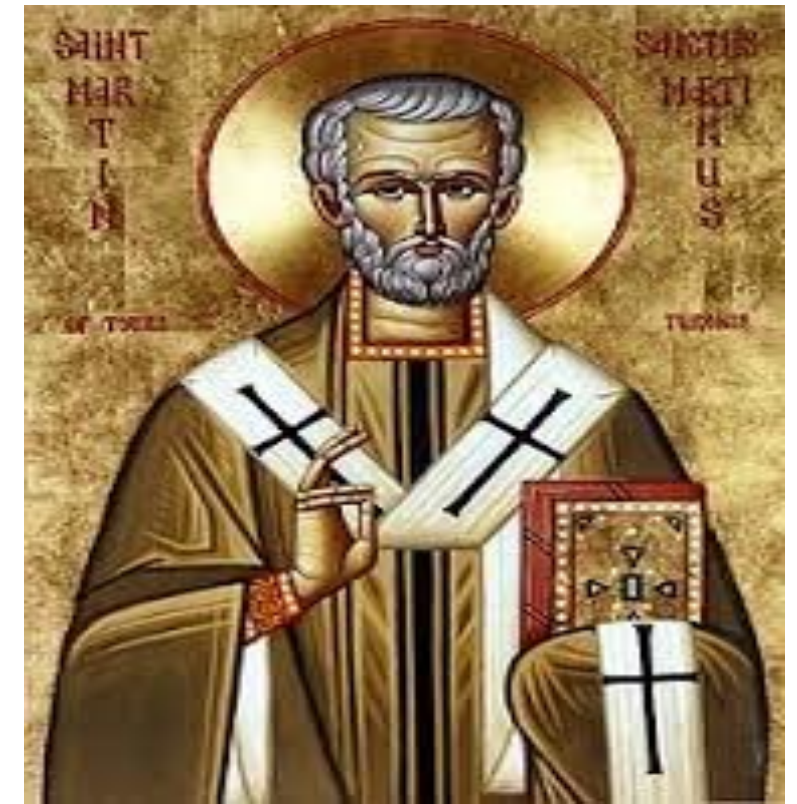
Altar Servers
5:00pm -
10:00 am -

Children's Liturgy
Alisha & Andrea

Next Hospitality Sunday
October 6th

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

**Sept. 15, 2019
The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Lectors
5:00 pm #1 - Andrew Steger
#2 - Caroline Steger
10:00 am #1 - Marg Van Geest
#2 - Sue Armstrong

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers
5:00 pm - Tom S. & Yolanda B.
10:00 am - Marcel, Vern & Sherri

Stewardship Counting
James G. & Beth D.

September 15, 2019

The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

| | | | |
|-------|---------|--|--|
| Mon | Sept 16 | NO PARISH MASS TODAY 6:30pm - 8:30 pm Diocesan Council for Development & Peace | Fr. Christopher's Day Off Fr. Christopher Gillen |
| Tues | Sept 17 | 9:00am +For the repose of the soul of Nick Shea +For the repose of the soul of Gabriella Bush 5:30pm Grade 8 Journey Programme Mass | by Anita & Bernie Duggan by Caroline & Andrew Steger |
| Wed | Sept 18 | 9:00am +For the repose of the soul of Fr. Zacharizas Kanjooparamban 10:30am Gethsemane Centre Mass | by the Koshy family Fr. Christopher Gillen |
| Thurs | Sept 19 | 9:00am For the good health of Bernadette Plewman For the health & healing of Bob Hignett 5:00pm -10pm ACTS Retreat Ministry Teams in Mississauga | by Anita & Bernie Duggan by Joan Wisniewski Fr. Christopher Gillen |
| Fri | Sept 20 | 9:00am For the salvation of the Lewis family | by Pauline Lewis |
| Sat | Sept 21 | The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00pm For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family | |
| Sun | Sept 22 | 10:00am +For the repose of the soul of Joseph DeFilippis For the special intentions of Sophia Whitaker | by Vittorio Marini by Heather Belmont |

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Karaoke for Everyone Including Kids

Saturday, October 5th, 2019

Following 5:00 pm Mass

St. Martin's Church Hall

\$10.00/person (Sausage on Bun) - White Ticket

\$5.00/person (Wiener on Bun) - Grey Ticket

Children 5 and Under are free

(Included with above - Sauerkraut, Chips, Bean Salad, Ice Cream, Pop/Tea/Coffee)

Tickets available on September 14-15, 21-22 and 28-29 before & after mass. Please Come out and support this joint venture by our Knights of Columbus and Catholic Women's League

Tickets Must be Purchased by September 29th

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Several parishioners have indicated that they would like to engage in a weekly Bible Study. "The Bread of Life" Catholic Bible Study which gives us an opportunity to review the liturgical readings for the following Sunday. This would take place in the parish hall from 9:30am-10:30 am each Thursday. This review will give us a greater understanding of the Liturgy of the Word. If you are interested, please let Marg Van Geest (905-957-2803) or Pauline Lewis (905-957-9363) know before the end of September so we could begin on Thursday, October 3rd. Thank you.

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

19 Parish Donations. \$4,151.00

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ROSARY SUNDAY

You are invited to come early to Mass on Saturday and Sunday, September 28/29 for Rosary Sunday. We will recite the Rosary before Mass starting at 4:40 pm Saturday and 9:40 am Sunday.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Important Dates Coming for Fall 2019

- Sept. 19 - Knights of Columbus Restoration of St. Catherine of Alexandria Pasta Dinner at 6pm
- Sept. 24 - WLCC - Pulled Pork Event at 4pm (Volunteer's required)
- Sept. 25 - Executive Meeting at 7pm
- Sept. 26 - St. Martin's School BBQ at 3:30pm (Team Needed)
- Sept 27 - Annual Turkey Roll at 6 - 11 pm at the Peach King Arena
- Sept. 28/29 - Holy Rosary 20 minutes before Mass at 4:40pm on Saturday and 9:40am on Sunday
- Oct. 2 - General Meeting at 7pm
- Oct. 19 - Bishop's Charities Dinner at 6pm
- Oct. 26 - WLCC Food Drive at 9am - 1pm at Foodland & Giant Tiger
- Oct. 26 - 4th Degree Exemplification at St. Francis Stoney Creek.

BISHOP'S CHARITY DINNER

The Knights of Columbus invite you to attend the Bishop's Charities Dinner at Club Roma, Saturday October 19, 2019. Tickets \$50.00 each; Reception 6:00pm; Dinner 7:30pm; entertainment, dancing, silent auction; proceeds to support Diocesan Catholic Charities. For tickets call: Bill Amodeo 289-456-7888, Chuck Johnston 905-646-5099, or Al Craig 905-931-3132.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

MEMBERSHIP

CWL memberships are now due and remain at \$20. You may use the envelope contained in the offertory box or use a plain envelope. You can simply drop your envelope in the offertory basket.

PARISHIONERS SERVING ON ACTS TEAMS

Sandy Johnson, Cathy Cartaginense, Bob Paquin, Marcel Pouliot, Tony Zanni and Father Christopher G Gillen. Please remember the entire ACTS TEAMS in your prayers.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP - Sept 7/8, 2019

Regular Sunday Offering (69 Env) \$ 2,345.00
Loose Collection \$ 180.50
Facility Maintenance (4 Env) \$ 175.00

Weekly budget: \$ 2,100.00

Registered Families: 186
Registered Sunday Envelope Users: 148

Thank you for your weekly stewardship/tithe

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY IN 2019/2020

The Parish looks forward to hosting the "Social Sundays the First Sunday of the Month" following the morning Mass. In keeping expenses low we seek to only offer coffee, tea, juice and a cookie or cake. Others are invited to drop off baked goods.

Thank you.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

- 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.
- Tues. Sept. 24 - 10:30am - Opening School Mass
- Sat. Sept. 28 - Youth Ministry Group Gathers as they begin the new season.
- TBD - Parish Discernment Meeting
- TBD - Financial Council Meeting
- Wed. Oct. 16 - Haldimand Regional Convention for Catholic Women's League at St. Martin's beginning at 6:00pm.
- Mon. Oct. 28 - Wed. Oct. 30 - Diocesan Priestly Study Days at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre.
- Thurs. Nov. 14 - Sun. Nov. 17 - Women's ACTS Retreat.
- Thurs. Nov. 21 - Sun. Nov. 24 - Men's ACTS Retreat.

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 in St. Catharines. In preparation for Diocesan Synod in 2020. Parish Reps: Lisa Poort, Vern and Josie Dell.