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General Inquiries - attn: Grand Knight

MARRIED LIFE

There has been a lot of theological discussion about a very important doctrinal issue; that of Catholic divorce and civil remarriage and how to relate these couples to the Church and to the Eucharist. People holding various positions on these questions would agree on one thing, and that is the need to help reduce the number of divorces taking place as we move forward. Pre-marriage cohabitation, and post-marriage divorce is rampant today like never before, endorsed and promoted by a culture that is both anti-God, and anti-marriage.

We should not be surprised that marriage is under attack, for out of all of life Jesus chose marriage as the image that best illustrates his relationship with those he died to redeem. So in a very real sense Christian marriage is an icon of Jesus Christ, a visible representation of an eternal truth. Consequently, when a Christian couple's marriage is constant and true in spite of life's difficulties and storms, people will look at them and conclude that Jesus' love is also constant and true. Conversely, when two Christians give up on their partner either out of selfishness, or from despair, and dissolve their marriage, people will look at them and conclude that Jesus' love is also dissolvable. That is why we must stem the tide of failed marriages, even while we extend arms of grace and love to those who have experienced divorce.

Surprisingly, the place to stem the tide is not merely with marriage counseling, though that is vital and important for couples currently in the midst of problems. We must stem the tide by changing the cultural mores regarding marriage and divorce prior to dating, engagement, and marriage. Someone has said, "healthy people make healthy marriages." This simple statement strikes at the heart of the problem. Unless each individual in the marriage partnership, is independently committed to following Jesus Christ at all cost, and committed to life-long growth in Christ and practical application of his truths and character to their life, it is doubtful that a healthy Christian marriage will ensue. For marriage unites two imperfect individuals, who bring into their marriage not only their assets and gifts but also their faults, flaws, and woundedness. Only Christianity provides the values, principles, and the power to live as one ought to live in a godly relationship between two imperfect people.

Consequently, to stem the tide of divorce we must begin by being and developing life-long disciples through Christian formation. By being a life-long disciple we ourselves will be on a positive growth curve of spirituality, learning to live as we ought to with our mates, and with the people in our world. This by itself becomes a powerful teaching example to the coming generations. However, we need to go a step further by encouraging and inviting our children, family, and friends to join us in a life of discipleship and formation. Marriage is too important as a sacrament and sign of Jesus' love to allow its meaning to degenerate into a temporary, meaningless arrangement.

This is where Christian marriage differs from non-Christian marriage. For Christians, marriage like all of life, is not simply concerned with what we personally can figure out, but should be concerned with re-configuring our beliefs and behavior to conform to what is Christ's good and perfect will, rather than our own opinion. The best preparation for being a godly husband or wife is to major on being the kind of person to whom God would gladly entrust in marriage the life of one of his choicest sons or daughters. Individuals who devote their life to following God and growing as his disciple and who cultivate a heart devoted to pleasing Christ in all things will be wonderfully prepared to take on the responsibilities of being a godly spouse.

Emmaus Journey Reflections

Bishop of the Diocese
Most Reverend Gerard P. Bergie, D.D.
Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.
Diocesan Social Justice Rep

Sunday Masses
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses
Tues, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00 a.m.
Wed @ 6:30 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
To be re-scheduled

Reconciliation/Confessions
Sat 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. or on request

Baptism
Catechesis and appointment necessary

Marriage
Contact the parish office

Sacrament of the Sick
Please call the office

Secretary
Sandy Johnson
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Bookkeeper
Tracy Piggott

St Martin School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

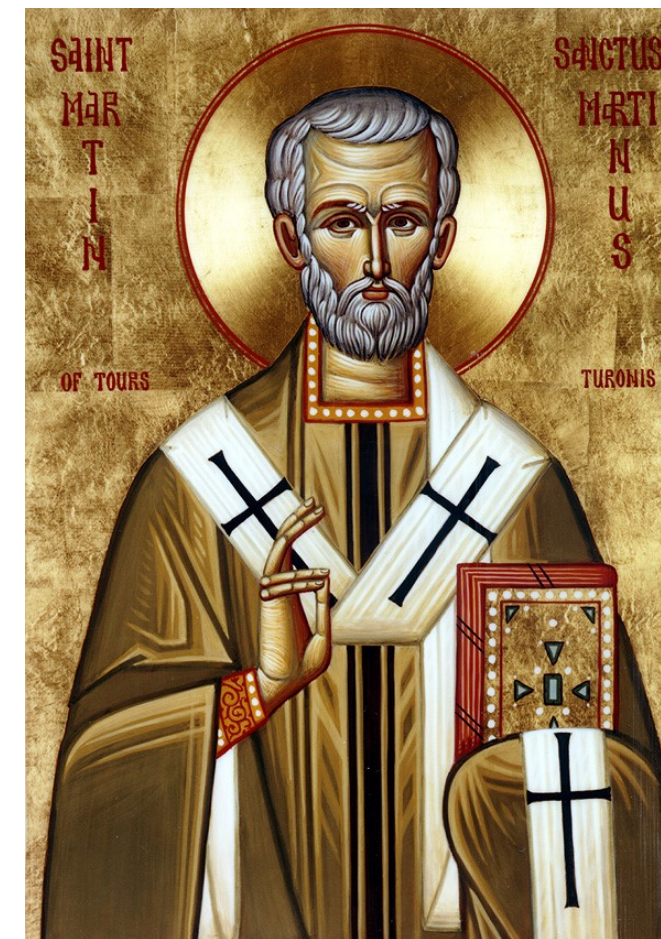
Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
Knights of Columbus

Parish Groups
Scripture Study . Children's Liturgy
West Lincoln Loaf of Bread
Parish Events Group

Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

Diocese of St. Catharines

**St. Martin of Tours
Roman Catholic Church**



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www.stmartinsparish.com

Ministry Schedule - Oct 13/14
Hospitality Ministers

5:00 pm - Janet & Ron Roscovich
10:00 am - George Yakowenko

Altar Servers

5:00 pm - Needed
10:00 am - Needed

Children's Liturgy

Next Hospitality Sunday

October 14th - Welcome Back & Sign Up Sunday

October 7, 2018

The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving

Lectors

5:00 pm #1 - Katrina Shields
#2 - Yolanda Baldasaro
10:00 am #1 - Lisa Poort
#2 - Deanne Long

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm - Tom S. & Yolanda B.
10:00 am - Mike, Mary & Theresa

Stewardship Counting

Adam Grzybek & Sandy Johnson

October 7, 2018

The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



Lord, may the request of your people rise before you like a fragrant offering

Monday	Oct 8	Thanksgiving Day 9:00 am In thanksgiving for 30 Years of Ministry. Mass for the People by Fr. Christopher
Tuesday	Oct 9	9:00 am For the special intentions of and God's blessings upon Anita Duggan on her Birthday! by Joan & Bob Hignett 12 noon to 2:00 pm Haldimand Deanery Meeting St. Mary's Hagersville
Wednesday	Oct 10	10:30 am to 6:00 pm Gethsemane Centre Mass followed by Exposition 6:30 pm +For the repose of the soul of Robert McMaster by Doug & Maeve Devlin For God's grace and strength upon Sandy Mactaggart by the CWL 7:00 pm Catholic Women's League Meeting
Thursday	Oct 11	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Robert Schnaar by John & Riky Mulder
Friday	Oct 12	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Grace Tye by Heather Belmont & family For the health and healing of Barb Joyner by Andrew & Caroline Steger 7:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday	Oct 13	The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1:00 pm. Celebration of Marriage Loius Joseph Madzo & Loretta Anne Gleza 5:00 pm +For the repose of the soul of Geraldine Bell by Loretta & Tom Shielda For the God's healing grace upon the mind and body of Sarah Pinto by Sandy Johnson 7:00 pm Smithville Christian Reformed Church Celebration
Sunday	Oct 14	10:00 am For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family 11:00 am Coffee Sunday and Sign Up Sunday

PARISH DISCERNMENT GROUP V

Next Parish Team Meetings are:

Tuesday, October 16, at 7:00pm, Rectory.

Saturday October 20, 2018 - 9:30 am to 12 noon, Gethsemane Centre Wellandport.

ST. MARTIN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

PARENT MEETING

Tuesday October 23, at 7:00pm in the Church

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 7:00pm

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Tuesday, Dec. 11 & 18, 2018 – 7pm

PARENT MEETING

Thursday November 15 at 7pm in the Church

FIRST EUCHARIST

To be confirmed based on numbers.

Sunday, Apr 28 and May 5, 2019 – 1pm

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OCTOBERFEST

DINNER DANCE

October 27th

Doors open at 6:00pm

Dinner at 7:00pm

Food provided by The Best Little Menu

Music by 5th Avenue

Tickets: \$25.00/person

Tickets will be sold after every Mass.

All proceeds go to the Knights of Columbus

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

HEALING MINISTRY

The Diocesan SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY support group monthly meeting.

September topics are:

- Cause of Anger - Tues. Oct. 9
- Working Through The Anger - Oct 22

Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Mondays from 7pm to 9pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave. Niagara Falls. For a pamphlet or information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154 or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com.

PROMISE OF MARRIAGE

Louis Joseph Madzo and Loretta Anne Gleza
Saturday, October 13, at 1:00 pm. Please keep Loius and Loretta in your prayers.

A BLESSED AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL

Gracious God, we as Canadians celebrate this Thanksgiving Weekend, as a nation of people who have been blessed with the rich resources of land and sea. We acknowledge you as the giver of the good we so easily take for granted. Increase our understanding of your ways, defeat us when we use our blessings for selfish gain, and remind us to love one another. Thank you for providing all that we need for life and godliness. Make us to be light and a blessing to the nations of the world. We pray this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

Please come to the Monday Morning Thanksgiving Mass at 9:00 am, October 8.

COFFEE SUNDAY & SIGN UP SUNDAY

After Mass next Sunday, October 14, we will be holding our Coffee Sunday as well as our Sign Up Sunday. We encourage everyone to come down stairs after Mass for some fellowship and coffee and treats.

If you have ever considered joining one of the Ministries here at our parish, please consider signing up next Sunday. There will be sign up sheets and a member from every ministry to answer any questions.

If you attend Mass on Saturday, the Sign Up Sheets will be on tables in the Hall. **We particularly need Ministers for Saturday Vigil Mass.**

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

Joshua Dayboll – Oct 7
Kristina Brajer/William Deavu – Oct 8
Anita Duggan – Oct 9
Maria Dunder/Cherylee Jones - Oct 10
Brenda Malevich/Doug Mous - Oct 10
Mark Mous/Sherry O'Keefe - Oct 10
Elizabeth Staples – Oct 10
Nick Verrecchia/Mary Vieira - Oct 11
Jonathan Zonruiter – Oct 11
John Cackovic – Oct 12
Melissa Bruzzese – Oct 13
Ryan Mirco/Drew Pouliot - Oct 14
Kayla Raposo – Oct 14

Anniversaries:

Nickolaos & Amber-Lee Sarantakos – Oct 10

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SEPTEMBER 8/9, 2018

Sunday Offering (66 Env):	\$ 1,890.00
Loose:	\$ 72.00
Bishop's Collection (36 Env) :	\$ 415.00
Loose:	\$ 57.95

Thank you for your faithful stewardship

BISHOP'S CHARTIES DINNER

Saturday October 20th, Club Roma St. Catharines.
Doors open at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m.

There will be door prizes, a 50/50 draw and a silent auction with many stellar items. Circle the date October 20th, and plan on joining us.

Tickets \$50.00 per person.

Please contact the Knights of Columbus St. Martin of Tours Council 16241. Speak with a Knight following Mass. Or visit church notice board for further information. Thank you

DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY MASS

Married couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th anniversary in the year 2018 are invited to the Diocesan Anniversary Mass, Monday November 26, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. Catherines of Alexandria, St. Catharines. To register and receive a formal invitation from Bishop Gerald Bergie, contact the parish office to fill out a registration form by **October 12**. Details will be included in the formal invitation.

SMITHVILLE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

With thankfulness to God, Smithville Christian Reformed Church is excited to announce the Grand Opening of their new facility, and is hosting a Grand Opening weekend, featuring an **Open House** for the community on Saturday, October 13, 2018, from 1-4 pm. Take a walk through at your own leisure, refreshments provided! There will be a **Celebration evening** Saturday from 7 – 8 pm featuring greetings from local churches and our elected officials, and there will be a **Dedication Service** on Sunday, October 14 at 10:00 am.

Everyone is invited... **come as you are!**

Saturday October 13, at the Celebration Evening, Father Christopher will bring Greetings and Blessings from our Parish of St. Martin and our Diocese of St. Catharines to Smithville Christian Reformed Church. We welcome this opportunity to be ecumenical.