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 Council #16421 - St. Martin of Tours
 Smithville, Ont. koc.16421@gmail.com
 General Inquiries - attn: Grand Knight

ETERNAL TRANSFORMATION

What image comes to your mind when you think of Lent? Penance? Fasting? Sacrifice? Though all of these may have their place during the Lenten season, Lent is primarily a time of preparation and growth. It is a time for our own conscious, deliberate effort to cooperate in our own transformation. During Lent we make our cooperation as conscious and disciplined as we can.

This cooperation can take many forms, from extended time reading the Scriptures and praying, to various forms of fasting to make us conscious of our Christ on whom we should focus. During this time we will undoubtedly be tempted to abandon our spiritual resolve to our Lenten commitments. During Jesus' forty-day fast he too was tempted. We need to take courage and find strength in Jesus' steadfastness, and learn from his resistance. Jesus did not allow the promise of immediate gratification dissuade him from his deep-rooted commitment to entrust himself to the Father's will. Jesus confronted each temptation with confidence rooted in sacred Scripture and in knowledge of God. This intimate acquaintance with God's Word strengthened his resolve and provided the answers to combat each alluring temptation.

We have the sacred Scripture readily available to us. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to indwell us so that we could discern the truth and grow in Christ-likeness. He will readily and eagerly respond to our efforts to cooperate with his work of transformation. So whatever else we do during this Lenten season, we need to make sure that our hearts and minds are available to his transforming presence through the Sacraments, prayer, and reading and reflecting on sacred Scripture

One other aspect of Lent to consider is that transformation is not intended to be temporary, something that is present for only six weeks. Our disciplines and Lenten practices can be temporary but the changes they endeavor to bring about should be eternal. So perhaps it would be more beneficial to introduce into our lives during Lent, disciplines and practices that we would like to have become a permanent part of our relationship with Christ. This year during Lent, by the power of the Holy Spirit we can be introduced into a new depth of spiritual transformation. Practically, perhaps the place to begin this transformation is by asking the Holy Spirit to transform our commitment to daily read and reflect on sacred Scripture. Emmaus Journey Reflec-

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

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

Weekday Masses
 Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00am
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 See bulletin for schedule

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 am to 12:00 pm

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
 Children's Liturgy. Youth Ministry
 West Lincoln Loaf of Bread
 Parish Events Group
 Parish Financial Council
 Acts Retreat Team

Diocese of St. Catharines

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

Ministry Schedule - March 16/17

Hospitality Ministers
 5:00 pm - Sharon Richard
 10:00 am - Gille A. & Marcel P.

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

Children's Liturgy
 Michelle Mullins

Next Hospitality Sunday
 April 7

March 10, 2019

The 1st Sunday of Lent

Lectors
 5:00 pm #1 - Andrew Steger
 #2 - Caroline Steger
 10:00 am #1 - Mary Pilula
 #2 - Sue Armstrong

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers
 5:00 pm - Yolanda & Tom
 10:00 am - Nick, Paula & Bianca

Stewardship Counting
 Halina Grzybek & MaryAnn Paradis

March 10, 2019

The 1st Sunday of Lent - Year C

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Monday	Mar 11	9:00 am	For the health and healing of Fr. Christopher	by Marg Van Geest
Tuesday	Mar 12	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Diocesan Priests Day of Lenten Reflection	Mount Carmel
		6:30 pm	In Thanksgiving and Appreciation to All Parishioners	by Father Christopher
		7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Cemetery Meeting	
Wednesday	Mar 13	9:00 am	For the special intentions of Sherri deWilde	by Sherri deWilde
Thursday	Mar 14	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Ursula Koenig	by St. Martin's CWL
		10:00 am - 11:00 am	Father Christopher at Tai Chi	
		6:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Acts Retreat Team Meeting Mississauga	Father Christopher
Friday	Mar 15	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Andy Wirth	by St. Martin's CWL
		6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday	Mar 16	The 2nd Sunday of Lent		
		5:00 pm	+For the repose of the soul of Aleksander Sekula	by Irene Lipiec
Sunday	Mar 17	10:00 am	For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	
		5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	ALPHA COURSE Smithville Christian Reformed Church	

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

One of our parish pastoral initiatives for 2019, is to re-establish a Parish Pastoral Council. To date only three application forms have been returned. We need to perhaps educate further and endorse commitment and interest in being part of a Pastoral Team. The discernment then continues. Father Christopher has suggested that the present Parish Discernment Team become the Parish Pastoral Council, as the Discernment Team will eventually complete their mandate. Team works well together.

Present pastoral initiatives comes from Knights of Columbus, Catholic Women's League and Parish Events Group. Decisions are made from each group for the common good.

(NEW) YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST.MARTIN'S

Youth Group Ages 12-14

Group will meet bi-weekly centered around the 5:00pm Mass and engage in a number of activities following Mass in the parish hall and in the community. **Next Gatherings:**

- March 23** Mass, Maple Syrup Outing
- April 6** Mass, BBQ, Ball Hockey
- April 27** Mass, Pizza, Craft

WEST LINCOLN LOAF OF BREAD 2019

The West Lincoln Loaf of Bread programme offers a fully home cooked meal and social every Thursday beginning January to June 27, 2019 inclusive from 5 - 7 pm. Dinner is served at 5:30 pm. Please pass this invitation along to anyone whom you feel would benefit from this programme. Host Churches:

March	St. Martin of Tours
February & April	Smithville Canadian Reformed Church
May & June	St Ann's Community Church
Fall of 2019 TBA	Smithville Christian Reformed

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS YOUTH MINISTRY

BEEF ON A BUN FUNDRAISER

All proceeds raised support our Youth Ministry
Sunday March 31st: 2pm - 8pm
St. Martin's Parish Hall
Tickets in advance: Adult - \$10
12 and under - \$5
Licensed Event, Raffle Prizes, Kid Activities

LENTEEN STATION OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will begin the First Week of Lent, Friday, March 15, at 6:00 pm. This time was suggested last year and it seemed to work well. If you have any requests for Lenten Devotions please speak with Father Christopher.

TOO MANY - THANK YOU

The Parish Events Group would like to thank all those who helped celebrate Fr. Christopher's birthday with us. It was a wonderful opportunity to express our appreciation for his service, his ministry and his friendship. May GOD bless you on your journey Fr. Christopher!

Also, PEG would like to thank all those who helped with the food preparations and the clean-up. Your generous service is a blessing to our Parish.

LENTEEN FOOD DRIVES

Here are two opportunities to help you fulfill your almsgiving during the time of Lent.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Annual Lenten Food Drive

Wednesday, **March 6th-April 17th**

Bags will be distributed after all Masses. Please return them to our Parish Foyer throughout the season Lent. Last collection is April 17. Thank you for your continued support.

Vern Dell for Knights of Columbus

JUST ONE MORE - LENTEEN FOOD DRIVE

St Martin's School Community

Bags will be sent home to each family to be filled with **just one more** item each time you go grocery shopping. The bags are to be returned before Holy Thursday (April 18).

DIOCESAN "RESPECT FOR LIFE" MASS

Annunciation of the Lord

Monday, March 25 (7:00 p.m.)

Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria

Bishop Gerard Bergie presiding

Reception following.

Let us pray together for the protection of life in all its stages; for greater respect for God's gift of life; for those wounded by abortion.

DIOCESAN SEPARATED & DIVORCES

HEALING MINISTRY SUPPORT GROUP

We meet every second and fourth Monday (7:00-9:00 p.m.) at Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre, Niagara Falls. For information, call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email:

separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com.

March 11 and March 25

PARISH STEWARDSHIP March 2/3

Sunday Offertory (82 Env):	\$ 1,824.00
Loose:	\$ 124.75
Facility Maintenance (53 Env):	\$ 602.00
Loose:	\$ 110.00
Bulletin Ad:	\$ 200.00

2019 Weekly Budget	\$ 2,100.00
Snow Removal/Salt to date :	\$ 3,841.10

Thank you for your weekly stewardship

LENTEEN RECONCILIATION

On **Saturday, April 6, 2019**, in every parish church across the diocese, a priest will be available from **10am - 2pm** to hear individual confessions. There will also be Eucharistic Adoration during this time.

No matter how long it has been, you are welcome to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance, which assists us in spiritual discipline as we turn away from sin and open our hearts to reconciliation and healing or you can also simply come to pray before the Lord.

SOCIAL MEDIA / BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items for bulletin are to be received each Tuesday in writing.

Please do not send bulletin announcements to Father Christopher's personal email. We discourage parish administration concerns at weekends and especially on a Sunday. After Friday at 4pm to Tuesday morning at 11am, Father will not be returning emails concerning administration. Thank you for your consideration with these matters.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

SHARE THE JOURNEY

Lent is a time of preparation and introspection. At this time, we encourage you to make a concrete gesture of solidarity by making a contribution to our work to build a just world.

This year, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada is inviting you to share the journey with the 68.5 million forced migrants in the world as part of the global Share the Journey campaign launched by Pope Francis and Caritas Internationalis. Show your support **this Lenten season. Thank you.**

Visit website <https://www.dev.org>