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 General Inquiries - attn: Grand Knight

BELIEF IN THE MIRACULOUS

For many of us the miraculous is non-existent in our lives, yet if asked we would profess that we have no doubt that Jesus lives and is at work in the world today. Which is true, that the miraculous is not present in our world, or that it is not recognized in our world? In the biblical accounts of Jesus' life, we read of many miraculous healings as well as other miracles. Not everyone in the crowd personally received a miracle, though all observed them, because not everyone needed a miracle. Though everyone does not need a miracle, everyone does need to know that a miracle-worker exists.

Simultaneously we see in the crowd of observers, people who saw the miracles, and discounted their existence because they were preoccupied with other concerns, usually illegitimate concerns. These people did not want to believe that a miracle-worker existed, especially one sent from God. When the evidence that something miraculous had taken place, they endeavored to attribute it to other causes, so they would try and fabricate an explanation; this person wasn't really lame, he does it by the power of the devil, it's an illusion, etc. Though miracles took place within their midst they did not recognize them. Consequently, the absence of the miraculous from our world may not mean that miracles are non-existent, but simply that they are non-recognizable due to our predisposition toward unbelief.

Many of us have a similar malady. Though we may not have a physical impediment of speech and hearing, we are tuned out to the spiritual and miraculous realm which exists around us. Though we can see evidence of God's handiwork around us we are deaf to the Spirit's explanation and possess lips that are silent rather than expressing appreciation and gratitude. Though we pray, and God answers, we are oblivious to the fact that what has transpired comes from him. Subconsciously we attribute the things in our life to our goodness, good science, or to good luck. We have been trained by the world to discount God's influence in the world. However, the world cannot be given all the credit or all the blame for our spiritual malady, since most often we have under-girded the world's influence by practicing ingratitude.

Much of our problem with the presence or absence of the miraculous in the world has to do with our concept of God. What do we really believe he is like? We can readily give the text book, or catechism short form answer, but do we believe it? Do we believe God is omnipotent or impotent? Is he all-powerful or powerless? If he is the latter, then we are right in not expecting a miracle or his intervention in the affairs of our lives. If he is the former, and he is, then we do ourselves, and all those around us a disservice by discounting his ability.

If we desire to see and experience the miraculous in our lives we need to appeal to Jesus to open our spiritual senses to recognize the Spirit, and spiritual realities in the midst of our world. As he does this, and he surely will if we ask it of him, we need to cooperate with him by reflecting on what is happening around, and to and through us. A good place to begin is to read the book of Acts in the New Testament or delve into some of the Old Testament books which recount so vividly the awesome power of God. This awareness of the miraculous can also be cultivated through the attitude and practice of thanksgiving. It is in expressing gratitude and thanks to God that we recognize and recall the incidences of our lives where he has been active. It is in expressing gratitude and thanks that we attribute to God, his rightful due. It is in expressing gratitude and thanks that we find the confidence to believe God for even greater miracles in our lives.

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 Pigott

St Martin Catholic Elementary School
 Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
 Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

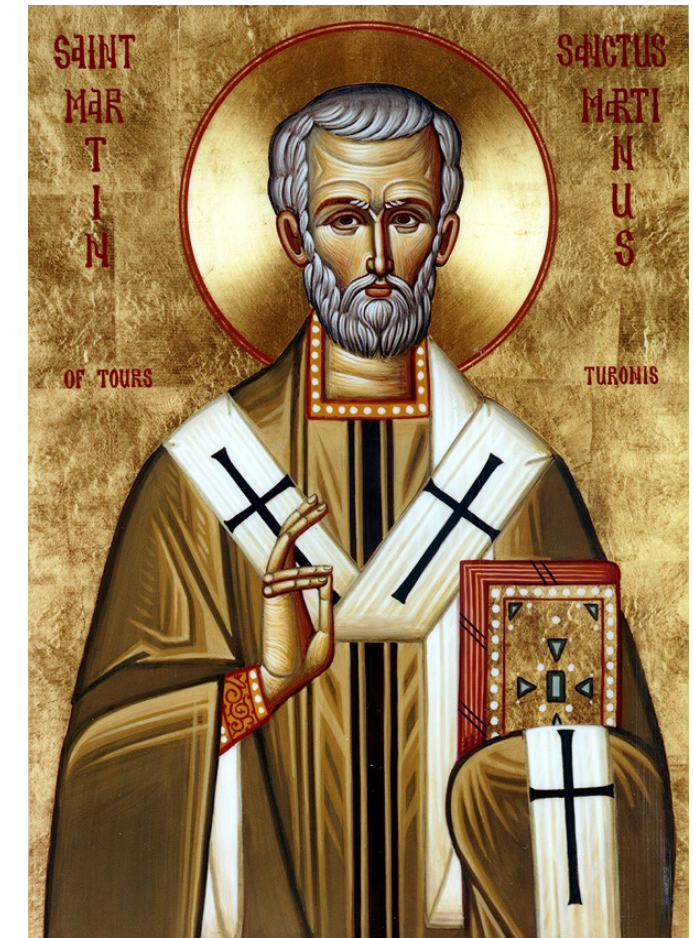
Parish Organizations
 Catholic Women's League
 Knights of Columbus

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**



166 West Street, P.O. Box 74
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 Telephone: 289-956-0221
 Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca
 www.stmartinsparish.com

Ministry Schedule - Sept 15/16
Hospitality Ministers
 5:00 pm - Janet & Ron Roscovich
 10:00 am - Chuck & Elaine Parry

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

Children's Liturgy

Next Hospitality Sunday
 October 7th - Welcome Back &
 Sign Up Sunday

September 9, 2018

**The 23rd
 Sunday in
 Ordinary
 Time**

Lectors
 5:00 pm #1 - Mitch Pogods
 #2 - Kelly Staples
 10:00 am #1 - Heather Tomascin
 #2 - Deanne Long

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers
 5:00 pm - Tom S. & Yolanda B.
 10:00 am - Caroline, Andrew, Bianca

Stewardship Counting
 Beth Davis & Elaine Parry

September 9, 2018

The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



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

Monday	Sept 10		(NEW) NO MASS MONDAYS. Father Christopher's Day Off
Tuesday	Sept 11	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Manuel DaSilva by the Newman family +For the repose of the soul of Gemma Gillen by Father Christopher Gillen
Wednesday	Sept 12	10:30 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Mass at Gethsemane Centre Celebrant Fr. Christopher - All welcome to attend. For the special intentions of Pat MacFarlane by Martha Devlin CWL Meeting
Thursday	Sept 13		St John Chrysostom 9:00 am For the special intentions of the Koshy family by Rose Koshy 12:00 Noon- 4pm Social Affairs Commission Assembly of Ontario Bishops Meeting in Toronto
Friday	Sept 14		The Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Dina Klunder by John & Riky Mulder 10:30 am School Opening Mass
Saturday	Sept 15		The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 pm +For the repose of the soul of Florentina Pereira by Mr & Mrs Melo +For the repose of the soul of Antonio Pais by family
Sunday	Sept 16	10:00 am	For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family

YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE

Rev. Father Christopher G Gillen
30 years of Priestly Service
Anniversary Mass to be celebrated Sunday,
September 16th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
A luncheon at 12:00 P.M. in the church hall.
Please RSVP Via Sign up form in church foyer.
Please indicate number of adults and children to
attend. Thank You.
September 14, The Triumph of the Holy Cross
marks one year of Father Christopher's appoint-
ment as parish priest to St. Martin of Tours.

Lay Ministry Schedule

We are blessed with an active lay ministry. We
are also a scheduled ministry so that we are
covered for all our liturgies and stewardship
counting.

We ask that you find a replacement if for
whatever reason you are not able to fulfill your
scheduled ministry. Stewardship Counting must be
counted on Sunday following Mass.

MASS OF PENANCE AND HEALING

Bishop Bergie will pray for all those harmed by
the sinful actions of priests and religious in our
diocese and, in a spirit of repentance, will seek
forgiveness and God's mercy. During our
anniversary we need to celebrate the good, and
also acknowledge the pain that is part of our
history. At this Mass we will pray for God's healing
as we focus on the cross which is the greatest sign
of God's love.

As part of our observance of the 60th
anniversary of our diocese, a Mass of Penance and
Healing will be celebrated on Friday, September
14, 2018, the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, at
7 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of
Alexandria.

Parish Discernment Group V
Next Parish Team Meeting is Saturday
September 29, 2018 - 9:30am to 12 noon.
At Gethsemane Centre Wellandport.
Results of Parish Survey

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT" SEMINAR (LSS)

This programme sponsored by BLD Community,
St. Catharines Preparation (Shepherding Sessions,
pre-LSS) will be held on September 14, 21 &
October 5,12,19 (8:00-10:00 p.m.) at the Cathedral
of St. Catherine of Alexandria (basement)
Invocation Mass: November 10 (8:00 p.m.) Cath-
edral of St. Catherine of Alexandria LSS Weekend:
October 20-21 (8:00 p.m.) Our Lady of the Holy
Rosary, Thorold For more information, call Alex
Calanog (289/969-6569) or e-mail:
bldstcatharines@gmail.com or goo.gl/t4vkU

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY

The Diocesan SEPARATED AND DIVORCED
HEALING MINISTRY support group monthly meet-
ing. September topics are:

- Coping with stresses of Separation and Di-
vorce – Sept 24

Meetings are the second and fourth 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 .

No preregistration required.

REGENERATED 2018 CONFIRMED

Are you aware that the gifts you received at
Confirmation from the Holy Spirit are to prepare
you for battle? You may ask what kind of battle are
we talking about? It's called "Spiritual Warfare" ...
it's real and it's growing!

On Saturday, November 17th join Branches
Catholic Ministries at the Scotiabank Convention
Centre in Niagara Falls as it host **Regenerated
2018**. Keynote speakers such as Johnnette
Benkovic, Thomas Sullivan, Dr. Edward Sri and
others will address the misconceptions about this
Sacrament and its importance to the stability of the
family and ultimately society at large.

Regenerated Youth will run concurrently for
ages 12 to 18.

If you are interested in purchasing "early-bird"
tickets (before Oct 31st) or for more information
about these conferences visit:

branchesoftheword.org.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SEPTEMBER 1/2, 2018

Sunday Offering (61 Env):	\$ 1,545.00
Loose:	\$ 46.00
Facility Maintenance (40 Env):	\$ 540.00
Loose:	\$ 36.00
Late Summer Mission Appeal (6 Env):	\$ 165.00

*Thank you for your tithes/stewardship.
God Bless.*

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. Thank you.

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

Barbara Gumieniak/Emily Chiarcos - Sept 9
Ethan Rakonjac – Sept 9
Chris Chliszczyk – Sept 10
Halaina Joyner/Jackson Holloway – Sept 11
Katelyn Alderson/Pamela Groulx – Sept 12
Garrett Nicholson/Cassandra Braccio – Sept 13
John Ohlhoss – Sept 14
Karen Neu – Sept 15
Emmett Long – Sept 116

Anniversaries:

Andrew & Helen Lipiec – Sept 10
Dosseh & Claudette Sassou-Messan – Sept 11
Andy & Pat Wirth – Sept 12
Martin & Juanita Ridland – Sept 16

**Visit parish notice boards for more Community
Events as we cannot publish all events.**