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General Inquiries - attn: Grand Knight

TRUE GREATNESS

A young newspaper reporter, discussing his priorities and goals during the first year of his professional writing career, stated, "I want to be known as a great writer." At first glance his aspiration seemed like a reasonable dream for a young journalist. However, when asked if his goal was to be a great writer, or to be known as a great writer, he was taken aback. For the first time he had to think about the difference between being something and receiving recognition. Suddenly the issues of inner motive and the pride of life had to be considered and dealt with in his life.

Jesus picks up on this conflict of motives that surrounds our relationship to others. While, Jesus was preparing these disciples for his imminent arrest, abuse, death, and resurrection, his followers were preoccupied with debating who of them would be the greatest. We shudder to think that there might have been a connection between his talk of crucifixion and their talk of greatness. Surely, they were not anticipating who would replace him, were they?

How we view greatness is a reflection of our acculturation. If our heart and mind have been thoroughly impregnated with the world's wisdom, we cannot help but view greatness as an issue of superiority. Greatness, in the world's mind is always defined in terms of hierarchical position of one person over others. He who is at the highest position would be the one esteemed the greatest, and the higher position would be the one to which we should aspire. But Jesus thoroughly debunks this view of greatness, as he does with so many worldly ideas that easily creep into the mindset of his people.

Jesus turned the world's definition of greatness upside down by personal example and by his words. There was no doubt in the minds of those who observed Jesus that he was unique in his greatness. Even his enemies were aware of this attribute, which is why they so cautiously and consistently tried to tear him down. Yet Jesus' example was one of lowliness, eating with the despised and sinful, speaking to and elevating the view of women, washing the feet of his followers, etc. Greatness, in Jesus mind, is a reflection of love and service to others and not one of lording it over others. This reflects also the teaching of Pope John Paul II who saw his crosier with the Crucifix on it not as a symbol of authority per se, but as a "sign of service." Greatness is not, not thinking highly of yourself, nor is it even thinking lowly of yourself. Greatness is not thinking of yourself at all, but rather thinking of others and how you can serve them.

This concept of greatness reminds me of what happened immediately upon the death of Pope John Paul II. Immediately, banners and chants broke out from the people proclaiming the Holy Father as being "John Paul the Great." Was this ground swell of proclamation due to the fact the John Paul was a learned philosopher and theologian? Many of us did appreciate those gifts in him. We were moved and instructed by his many writings, but I believe people were moved to call him great because they recognized Jesus' greatness in him. His last years of suffering were years of service to Christ and his people. He was not driven by the question of, "What is best for me?" but rather "What is Christ's will?" and "What is best for the Church?" As he in humility bowed his knee to Christ, people young and old, rich and poor, worldly wise and simple recognized a degree of greatness that was made in the image of Christ.

What is it that stands in the way of our greatness? It is only our ego and desire to be served by others, and to be esteemed by others as superior. Our steps to greatness are hindered by both our desire for greatness and our misunderstanding of its true nature. There is a dearth of greatness in our society, and Jesus is looking for people to be truly great. In most instances true greatness will not be recognized by others, and like the greatness Jesus espoused it will not only not be esteemed but it will usually be despised by the world. But Jesus can, and will recognize it in us for it will be the mirror image of him, and he will esteem and reward it.

Emmaus Journey Reflections

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

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
First Sunday of the Month
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

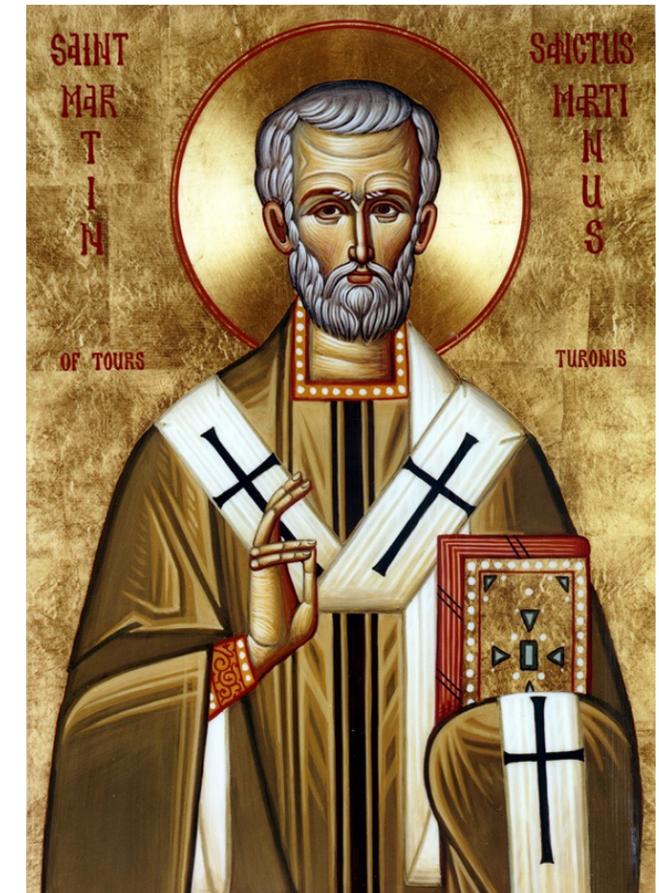
Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
Knights of Columbus

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
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Ministry Schedule - Sept 29/30

Hospitality Ministers
5:00 pm - Tom Shields
10:00 am - Anita D & Joan H

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

Children's Liturgy

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

September 23, 2018

**The 25th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time**

Lectors
5:00 pm #1 - Yolanda Baldasaro
#2 - Kelly Staples
10:00 am #1 - Mary Pikula
#2 - Caroline Steger

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers
5:00 pm - Tom S. & Yolanda B.
10:00 am - Nick, Paula & Victoria

Stewardship Counting
Lisa Poort & Cheryl Dell

September 23, 2018

The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



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

Monday	Sept 24	(NEW) NO MASS. Father Christopher's Day Off!	
Tuesday	Sept 25	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Luke Scheck +For the repose of the soul of John & Regina Newman	by Lupien family by the Newman family
Wednesday	Sept 26	St. John De Brebeuf and St Isaac Jogues and companions 9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Urusal Koenig +For the repose of the soul of Shane Riordon 10:30 am Mass at Gethsemane Centre Welland Port - Father Christopher Celebrant.	by Doug & Maeve Devlin by Paul & Fatima Healy
Thursday	Sept 27	St Vincent de Paul 9:00 am For the health and healing of Reg Hare +For the repose of the soul of Ray Poort 7:00 pm Facility Maintenance Meeting	by Joan & Bob Hignett by Lisa Poort
Friday	Sept 28	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Antonio Borges	by Maria Borges
Saturday	Sept 29	The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 pm For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	
Sunday	Sept 30	10:00 am For the special intentions of the Lewis children, spouses, grandchildren and great grandchildren For God's healing grace upon the mind, body & soul of Sarah Pinto For the health and healing of Andy Wirth	by Pauline Lewis by Sandy Johnson by Heather Belmont

PARISH DISCERNMENT GROUP V

**Next Parish Team Meeting is Saturday
September 29, 2018 - 9:30am to 12 noon.
At Gethsemane Centre Wellandport.**

Purpose of gathering:

To connect with parish survey process

To read the data from the surveys

To understand the outcome of surveys

To receive guidelines in preparation for the
next step as committee

SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Parish Events Group wants to thank all those who participated in helping us to celebrate Fr. Christopher's 30th Anniversary to the Priesthood. Thanks for the wonderful help, generous contributions and attendance. This was a well deserved celebration. May Fr. Christopher be blessed with many more wonderful celebrations and years of service.

BLESSED TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL GRIMSBY UNIVERSITY INFORMATION FAIR

Monday October 1st - 1:00 pm TO 2:30 pm
All Ontario Universities will be represented
in our Gymnasium

Parents and students from all schools are welcome
For more information, contact Student Services at:
905 945 6706 X. 2311

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY

The Diocesan SEPARATED AND DIVORCED
HEALING MINISTRY support group monthly
meeting. September topics are:

- Coping with stresses of Separation and Divorce - Sept 24
- Causes of Anger - Tues. Oct 9
- Working Through The Anger - Oct 22

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

Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre

is hosting an exhibit from the Sanctuaire Diocésain
Sainte-Thérèse-de-l'EnfantJésus in Quebec City
from October 9-24. It is entitled "Thérèse of Lisieux:
Burning with Love," and is comprised of 36 panels
of photographs and writings exploring how St.
Thérèse lived her vocation as Love in the heart of
the Church.

Mount Carmel Presents: "Understanding Grief"

Saturday, October 13 (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) cost
\$65 (includes buffet lunch) Presenter: Anna
Racine. Are you experiencing grief due to the death
of a loved one, the loss of a marriage, or the
breakup of a relationship? Grief is a natural
response to loss. Understanding the grief you are
feeling is the first step to healing. Using various
methods, we will explore the many facets of grief.
**"Everyone grieves in their own way and at their
own pace."**

"Life Changes: Who Am I Now?" Saturday,
November 10 (9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) cost \$65
(includes buffet lunch) Presenters: Anna Racine &
Carole Ann Ogilvie. Put more joy and more
meaning into your life through self-awareness and
self-esteem. For anyone going through or
anticipating a major change in their life. Explore
how self-image is formed and affected across the
lifespan, the components of self-esteem, the
strengths which enable us to navigate change, the
grieving which may accompany it, and the areas
that may need healing in order to live fully who and
where I am now.

There will be mini-presentations, personal
reflection, and group work. For more info. on these
and other happenings, call (905/356-4113) or visit
www.carmelniagara.com

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

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SEPTEMBER 8/9, 2018

Sunday Offering (76 Env): \$ 1,821.00
Loose: \$ 183.00

Thank you for your faithful stewardship

GRIMSBY LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, September 30, 1-2pm

On Sunday, September 30 from 1 - 2pm we
plan to gather at the intersection of Main St and
Christie St in Grimsby to pray for an end to
abortion. We will be joining our prayers with
thousands of people in 1600 locations across
Canada and the United States who will be forming
Life Chains on the same day!

We will pray silently and hold professionally
printed signs provided at the site. We will
peacefully stand in honor of the 60 million lives who
have been lost to abortion. This is a local witness
intended to generate thought and discussion within
our community and to demonstrate that abortion is
not a closed or settled issue in this country.

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

Dave Bliedung - Sept 23
Olivia Branco/Isla Ridland - Sept 24
Connie Zimmer - Sept 24
Jessica Chiarcos/Jason Russell - Sept 25
Sharon Richard/Darryl Telford - Sept 25
Tony Malevich - Sept 26
Justin Russell/Max Perry - Sept 27
Kendra Diletti/Maria Lipiec - Sept 29
Isabella Sposato - Sept 30

Anniversaries:

Robert & Teresa Malaryk - Sept 26
Robert & Joan Hignett - Sept 26
Mike & Stephanie Brucculieri - Sept 27
Louis & Sharlene Volpatti - Sept 27
Mike & Susanne Perry - Sept 29

FACILITY MAINTENANCE MEETING

**Thursday, September 27, at 7:00pm, at
parish rectory. All members are
encouraged to attend. Thank you.**