

PLEASE PATRONIZE THE SUPPORTERS OF ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

**Meester Insurance Centre**  
T: 905.957.2333  
800.465.8256  
www.meesterinsurance.com  
The Village Square  
Reg. Rd. 20, P.O. Box 299  
Smithville, ON L0R 2A0  
F: 905.957.2599  
E: info@meesterinsurance.com

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

**RICE MONUMENT WORKS**  
1421 Highway #8, Winona  
1.800.533.6102  
Bus. 905.643.1027 Res. 905.957.6943

**GarageDoorCanada.ca**  
Area's Largest and Complete Garage Door Showroom  
Your complete Residential Showroom  
905-957-4432

**MARC'S PLUMBING**  
4939 Alexandra Ave.  
Beamsville, On.  
905.563.7576

**SEAN D. HEELEY, B.A. HONS, LLB**  
Barrister & Solicitor  
SZPIECH, ELLIS, SKIBINSKI, SHIPTON  
107 GRIFFIN ST. N., Smithville, ON. L0R 2A0

**Cole's**  
www.colesflorist.ca  
Visit Cole's Garden Centre  
Full service florist  
147 Main St. E. Grimsby, ON.  
905-945-2219

**ST. MARTIN CATHOLIC Elementary School**  
18 Streamside Dr.,  
Smithville, ON L0R 2A0  
905-957-3032

**MERRITT FUNERAL HOME Inc.**  
Serving Families For 4 Generations  
Thomas C. Merritt  
Managing Funeral Director  
287 Station St., Smithville, On. L0R 2A0  
Tel. 905.957.7031 Fax. 905.957.1371  
1.800.461.9498 www.merritt.fh.com

**PASTOR'S LENTEN REFLECTION**

We witness God's story and the impact this has made on our story so that others might also find their story taking on new meaning in the light of God's love. While the current restrictions on daily life necessitated by the pandemic present significant challenges, the suffering and isolation many continue to face make the need for us to share God's love greater than ever.

How fluid have you been during the pandemic experience that started in 2020? How would you rate your ability to manage? Have the challenges and changes sparked reflection, growth and any type of rebirth? Or maybe the experience has been intense and ongoing, leaving you still trying to find a way out?

I remember reading some wisecrack remark last year about the effects of the coronavirus on our church schedules as being, "the 'Lentiest' Lent I ever 'Lented'". Terrible grammar aside, Lent during a pandemic is especially difficult. The invitation on Ash Wednesday said:

"I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God. Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer."

There is a lot to unpack from this prayer petition, and we may certainly gravitate to our tried-and-true method for Lent, but first realize that this is an invitation. Usually with some prayer, a plan comes to mind for how we keep this Lent. Be conscious of the fact that these various activities, be it fasting or penitence, are there to foster growth in our own Christian faith, and that they may well become practices which we continue to integrate into our discipleship.

Obviously, there are many things we could be doing or wished we could be doing, but which the pandemic has interrupted or prevented us from doing. However, there are now many new things we are able to do that we would never have imagined doing before. Maybe it is a Zoom meeting with your favourite group or working side by side at the kitchen table with your children as they attend classes? (As not all have returned to in-school learning). The possibilities of a creative and restorative Lent are endless. God says the invitation is ours. Now, will we take it?

Shalom, Christopher +  
Parish Priest

**Pastor**  
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.  
Diocesan Social Justice Office Rep.  
Member of Ontario Bishops' Social Affairs Commission.  
Spiritual Chaplain to Diocesan D&P  
Spiritual Director to Acts Retreat Ministry Men & Women.  
Intern to Mental Health/ Addiction Counselling Hamilton.

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

**Weekday Masses**  
See Schedule on the inside of the bulletin

**In Office Hours**  
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Administrative Assistant**  
**Financial Recorder**  
Sandy Johnson

**Reconciliation/Confessions**  
By Appointment Only in COVID-19

**Requesting Sacraments**  
Must be registered and practicing  
Call office for details

**St Martin Elementary School**  
Phone 905-957-3032

**Cemetery**  
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

**Parish Organizations**  
Catholic Women's League  
President - Carolyn Vaughan

**Knights of Columbus**  
Grand Knight - Pierre Paradis  
koc.16421@gmail.com

**Facility Maintenance**  
Tom Diletti - tom.diletti@gmail.com

**Parish Groups**  
Children's Liturgy. Youth Ministry  
West Lincoln Loaf of Bread  
Parish Events Group  
Parish Financial Council  
Responsible Faith Ministry  
ACTS Retreat Teams

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



### SPECIAL YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

166 West Street, P.O. Box 74  
Smithville, Ontario L0R 2A0  
Telephone: 289-956-0221  
Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca  
www.stmartinsparish.com  
E-transfer: st.martinsdonation@gmail.com

**March 14, 2021**  
**Year B**  
**The 4th Sunday of Lent**

# March 14, 2021

## The 4th Sunday of Lent - Year B

### MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Mon	Mar 15	9:00 am +Darren Mayhew 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Diocesan Council for Development and Peace Zoom Meeting	by Andrew & Verena Mayhew Fr. Christopher
Tues	Mar 16	<b>LIVE</b> 9:00	+James Mayhew	by Andrew & Verena Mayhew
Wed	Mar 17	9:00 am +James R Flaherty 10:30 am -	Gethsemane Centre Mass/ Adoration/ Confessions	by Maureen Flaherty Father Christopher
Thurs	Mar 18	9:00 am For the health and healing of Andy Lipiec 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm 8:30 pm - 9:45 pm	Centre for Mental Health & Addiction (CAMH) Zoom Meeting Into the Breach -Male Spirituality Program by Zoom	by Vern & Josie Dell Fr. Christopher Father Christopher
Fri	Mar 19	<b>LIVE</b> 9:00 am <b>LIVE</b> 9:30 am	For the special intentions of Andrew & Caroline Steger Stations of the Cross	by Vern & Josie Dell
		10:30 am - 1:00 pm 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Pastoral Home Visits to Our Seniors of Praise and Worship at Gethsemane Centre	Sacramental Confessions available after the devotional Way of the Cross Father Christopher
Sat	Mar 20	8:40 am - 10:30 pm <b>The 5th Sunday of Lent</b> 5:00 pm +Antonio Pais	That Man Is You - program by Zoom	Father Christopher by Fatima Araujo & family
Sun	Mar 21	<b>LIVE</b> 10:00 am	For the special intentions of Maria deWilde + Jude Byrne	by Sherri deWilde Father Christopher

#### PARISH ON YOUTUBE

Go to St. Martin Church Smithville  
Not every Mass or other celebrations will always be LIVE! We are still learning how to Live Stream. Notices in the Mass schedule will note if the Mass is being lived streamed.

#### ONLINE EUCHARIST

##### Cathedral of St. Catharine of Alexandria

Sunday Mass live stream at 11:30 am.

Visit the diocesan website for viewing:

[www.saintcd.com](http://www.saintcd.com) or on YouTube

St. Joseph Grimsby:

<http://www.facebook.com/StJoeGrimsby>

Vision TV: Sun - 8:00 am

Mon - Fri - 8:00 am & 12:00 pm

Sat - 8:00 am & 9:30 am

Salt + Light: Sun - 11:00 am & 10:30 pm

Mon - Sat - 6:30 am, 11:00 am,  
3:00 pm, 10:30 pm

Yes TV: Sun - 10:30 am & Mon - Sat - 1:00 pm

Internet : [www.dailytvmass.com](http://www.dailytvmass.com)

[www.youtube.com/dailytvmass](http://www.youtube.com/dailytvmass)

#### E-TRANSFERS

These transfers are often referred to as **e-Transfers** and done through your online banking, website or app.

To transfer funds to St. Martin Parish:

e-Transfer to: [st.martinsdonation@gmail.com](mailto:st.martinsdonation@gmail.com)

**Please do not enter a security question and answer. You will be informed that your transfer to "The Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation" has been completed.**

#### "VIRTUAL" CHILDREN'S LITURGY "

Our Children's Liturgy, under the direction of Mrs. Noseworthy is posting videos, lessons and the parish bulletin every Sunday at 10:00 a.m., to our catholic education community. Thank you; and God bless!

We appreciate your ministry immensely.

#### GENTLE REMINDERS

Please do not congregate in church or front foyer or outside at church doors. Only those sanitizing can remain following Mass. Come, at least 10 to 12 mins before Mass begins. Coming at the last minute does not serve any of us. Thank You.

#### COVID-19 AND PARISH STEWARDSHIP

While the situation of COVID-19 continues to develop in our lives and communities, it is increasingly evident that the pandemic has had, and will continue to have for some time to come, a far reaching impact on all of us. We appeal to your generosity as we need the weekly stewardship of one and all, to maintain our financial commitments

A special thank you to those who send in their weekly/monthly stewardship. Also, to those who have begun with E-Transfers, we thank you. Stewardship Envelopes for 2021 are available for pickup at the front foyer of the church building. Call ahead to arrange a safe time for pickup.

Less than half of the parish is financially supporting us through the pandemic. Try and make an effort to support us weekly or monthly. Thank you.

#### DEVELOPMENT & PEACE CARITAS CANADA

Do you know that D&P supports a school for peasant filmmakers in Colombia?

This week in the "Share Love, Share Lent" campaign, discover the creative ways in which we assist communities in speaking for and taking charge of their own development.

In keeping with the Catholic Social Teaching principle of participation, let your Lenten journey make a difference in the world. Learn about our work and consider giving to help sustain it. For inspiration, information, and to donate, visit [devp.org/sharelent](http://devp.org/sharelent).

#### NEW STATUE OF ST. JOSEPH

In this Year of St. Joseph, we are delighted to have this beautiful new statue. Several generous parishioners have paid for this new statue for our church. We thank you for your generosity. May St. Joseph protect and guide your families in this special year. God bless you all.

#### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

#### PRE - REGISTRATION

**PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE**

#### "ETIQUETTE AT EUCHARIST"

You will be asked to sanitize your hands using the new automatic dispenser (touchless) just inside the main door.

Please wait for a hospitality team member to escort you to your assigned pew. In order to ensure physical distancing, please remain in your seats once seated. Do not decide to move because you want to sit with family or friends. We know that some have expressed a desire to sit where they usually do. This is not possible at this time.

Communicants are to remove their masks while the person ahead of them is receiving and bow; and after the priest says "the Body of Christ" and the answer "Amen" is given, only then does the communicant cross the red line (hands extended) to receive and step into the "marked circle" to consume the Bread of Life.

**We will return to our pews after receiving Holy Communion. We depart from the back pews after receiving direction from the ushers. Unfortunately, this did not go too well last weekend. We revert back to Holy Communion after blessing and we depart.**

Note: The washrooms are to be used only if absolutely necessary; parishioners making their way there during Mass tend to be a distraction to the others. As well, please refrain from touching any surfaces upon entering or exiting the church (anything touched has to be cleaned).

The doors are closed/locked when Mass begins for a reason: the TEAM have a right to worship and are not obliged to wait unnecessarily. Also, attending one Mass on the weekend is sufficient; please be mindful of others by not taking a space someone else could have.

Lastly, be respectful of the ushers and cleaners and their tasks; their willingness to serve is of benefit to us all because if there are no ushers and no cleaners there can be no "open church". All of the above is for your safety and the protection of all. It is not meant to be unwelcoming.

## **REGISTRATION FOR HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Lent calls us to Easter. As we begin plans and preparation, we invite you to register for the Holy Week Services. Easter is a time when many of our families and friends join us to celebrate the Paschal Mystery – The Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ. Given the situation of COVID-19, we need to limit the numbers and we need to plan for the masses. We want to try to give as many chances as possible for the people and your registration will greatly help in our planning.

Even though it is a pandemic, let us not forget that we need God in our lives and only God can lead us, guide us and give us the strength to face any situations. The pews and all top surfaces will be disinfected after every Mass. Strict protocols are in place to assure your safety.

The pandemic has caused financial difficulty for a lot of families, our parish is not an exception. I invite all those who can do a little more to support our parish. Currently, less than half of our members have supported us throughout the pandemic. Let us act together for a just recovery that includes all. Thank you for your generosity and solidarity.

There will not be an official collection to avoid the interaction between people, but we invite you to leave your offering in the basket at the foyer or you can send in your donation through e-transfers (see below for the e-transfer donation email address. I hope you will show your generosity as we celebrate the love of God being shared with you and your family.

If there is a need, more Masses will be added. Therefore, we must receive early registration from you by March 25.

Your registration will be confirmed by email or phone call. Please do not assume you are registered until you have heard back from the parish office. Thank you; and God bless.

**Please register!**

Here is our proposed schedule.

- Holy Thursday – April 1 at 8:30 pm
- Good Friday – April 2 at 3:00 pm
- Easter Vigil – April 3 at 8:00 pm
- Easter Sunday – April 4 at 10:00 am ( 11:30 am? Potential at this time)

Parish Office: Phone: (289) 956-0221

Email: [st.martins@cogeco.ca](mailto:st.martins@cogeco.ca)

E-Transfer Email:

[st.martinsdonation@gmail.com](mailto:st.martinsdonation@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.stmartinsparish.com>

Shalom, Christopher+  
Parish Priest.

### **PARTICIPATION AT MASS**

The wearing of masks notwithstanding, everyone who is in attendance at Sunday and weekday Mass is very much urged to participate by way of sharing the responses to the prayers, responsorial psalm and acclamations. It has become apparent that the level of responses has dropped off to some degree over the past several months.

Let's not view the mask as an inhibitor to full involvement.

### **INCOME TAX RECEIPTS FOR 2020**

Are now available for pickup in the front foyer. Please call the office to arranged a safe pickup time.

## **LENT 2021**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This past year has been very difficult as the world has had to deal with a pandemic. We have given up a great deal and endured many difficulties. In certain ways it seems that we have been living a 'long Lent' since March of 2020. So why would we want to embrace this penitential season that begins again on Ash Wednesday? Have we not done enough already?

The truth is that we have endured a great deal; however, many of the things that we have experienced have been more of a distraction than a source of spiritual growth. A number of people feel anxious and lack a genuine sense of peace in their lives thanks to the coronavirus.

Father Jacques Philippe in his book, Searching for and Maintaining Peace – A Small Treatise on Peace of Heart, states: "Often, we cause ourselves to become agitated and disturbed by trying to resolve everything by ourselves, when it would be more efficacious to remain peacefully before the gaze of God and to allow Him to act and work in us with His wisdom and power, which are infinitely superior to ours." Father Philippe reminds us that when we are troubled, we need to humbly turn to the Lord if we want peace. When we only rely on ourselves, we are bound to fail and feel frustrated.

We know that after his baptism, Jesus entered the wilderness for forty days and nights. He found peace in this isolated place as he united himself with the Father. Satan tried to distract him; however, Jesus remained steadfast in his response. In his human nature, by his acts of self denial, Jesus became even more dependent on the love of his Heavenly Father. It was doing the will of the Father that gave Jesus the greatest peace.

During Lent we are called to follow the example of Jesus in the wilderness. Through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, the three pillars of Lent, we are able to focus on God and others. The more we abandon ourselves to the love of God, the greater the peace in our lives. We do not need to worry or be afraid because we know that the Lord will look after us. We pray with greater confidence, "Thy will be done."

Despite the difficulties of this past year, let us use this Lent as a time to cultivate a peaceful heart. May we not allow ourselves to be troubled as we keep our gaze on the Lord. During this time of uncertainty, be confident in the love of God which always brings hope and healing to our anxious world.

Yours sincerely in Christ,  
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.  
Bishop of St. Catharines