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INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

In difficult times do you see the donut, or the hole? Is the glass half-empty, or half-full? More importantly when you see the glass as half-empty and there is a need for a full glass, do you see God as fully capable of supplying the missing portion? The chorus of a children's song goes, "There are infinite possibilities in little beginnings, if God is in it, if God is in it." This week's Gospel is about the infinite possibilities God can do with little beginnings.

Jesus' ministry, and several Old Testament accounts of God's dealing with Israel, demonstrate God's power to create and multiply food to meet people's needs. For instance, the Israelites were saved from starvation during the Exodus, by the provision of manna from heaven. The prophet Elisha in this week's first reading saw God multiply a small portion of bread and corn sufficiently enough to feed a hundred hungry men. Elijah's life, along with that of a widow and her son, was spared when the widow of Zarepath unselfishly gave the last of her meager supply of oil and flour to make Elijah's meal (1 Kings 17). And in the New Testament we see Jesus create wine from water, and twice multiply a few loaves of bread and fish sufficiently enough to feed thousands. In most of these incidences there was more food left over than when they began.

Can God create something out of nothing, and multiply a little bit into the needed amount? The answer is without question, "Yes!" However, the questions that should occupy us are: Why did he insure that we would have a written record of his miraculous power, and saving grace in these incidences? and What is the lesson he wants us to learn, and the knowledge he wants us to possess about him?

One lesson may well be that we should not discount the impact of the infinite possibilities our little contribution can make in the Kingdom of God, when it is willingly given over to God. The widow of Zarepath only had a cup of oil and a bit of flour, Elisha's servant only had a twentieth of what was needed, and the disciples had only a few loaves of bread and a few fish. Their resources, in proportion to what they needed, could only be described as falling far short even of being half-full. Yet even these small portions given over to an all-powerful God, could be multiplied to meet needs in tremendous ways in God's kingdom. Imagine how different sacred Scripture would be if the widow of Zarepath, Elisha, and the young boy had not voluntarily made their little beginnings available to God's infinite power. Imagine how impoverished would be both their faith and ours if they had not come to understand this "infinite possibilities" concept of God.

From all sides people have streamed to the man whose name is on every tongue. Their physical hunger is expressive of their spiritual. Jesus sees both and performs the symbolic act of blessing bread and fish and distributing them. Thousands eat their fill, and quantities of food are left over. The meaning of the miracle is clear. It does not consist of the feeding of the crowd. From the practical standpoint, the disciples are quite right to suggest that the people go into the surrounding villages and buy food. No, the feeding of the thousands is a revelation of divine abundance. This is the gesture of the active, giving source of divine love; the nourishing of the bodies is but the prefiguration of the sacred nourishment soon to be proclaimed from Capharnaum.

Let's become like little children in our faith and once again nourish the belief that, "There are infinite possibilities in little beginnings, if God is in it, if God is in it."

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 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses
Mon, 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 Pigott

St Martin School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

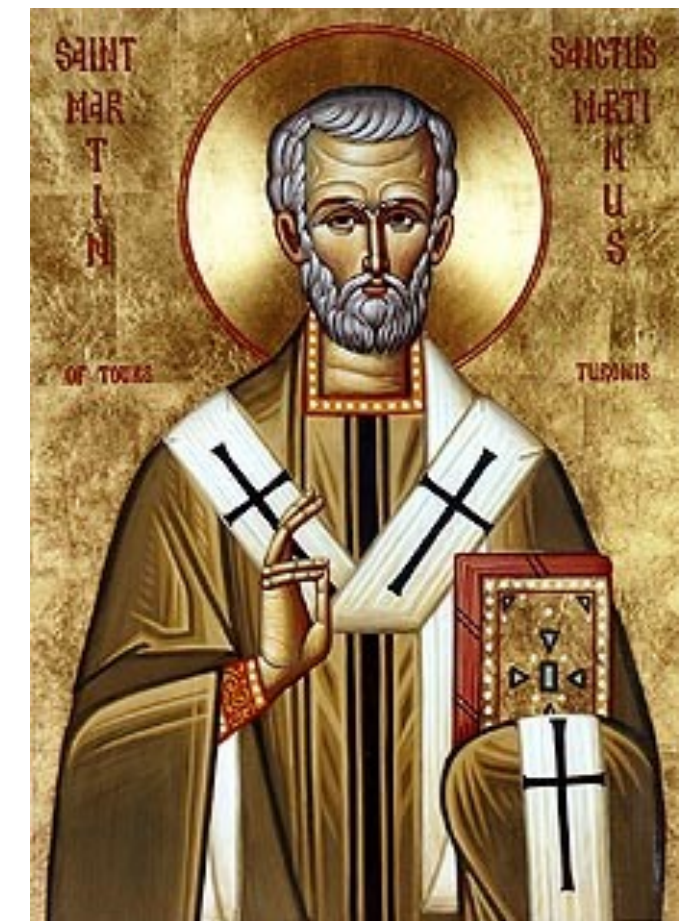
Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
Knights of Columbus

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 - August 4/5

Hospitality Ministers
5:00 pm - Ron & Janet Roscovich
10:00 am - Chuck & Elaine Parry

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

Children's Liturgy
No Children's Liturgy until Sept 9th

Next Hospitality Sunday
September 3rd

**July 29, 2018
The 17th
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time**

Lectors
5:00 pm #1 - Sue Armstrong
#2 - Anne Favero
10:00 am #1 - Lisa Poort
#2 - Marg Van Geest

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers
5:00 pm - Doug, Maeve & Yolanda
10:00 am - Bea, Dick & Nick

Stewardship Counting
Mary Anne Paradis & Sandy Johnson

July 29, 2018

The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



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

Monday	July 30	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Amy Mulder and for God's blessings upon Henriette Mulder	by John & Riky Mulder
Tuesday	July 31	9:00 am	St. Ignatius of Loyola +For the repose of the soul of Dave Harris	by the Chorley family
Wednesday	Aug 1		****NO MASS TODAY****	
Thursday	Aug 2	9:00 am	For private special intentions	
Friday	Aug 3	9:00 am	For the special intentions of the Devlin children, in-law children and grandchildren	by Doug & Maeve Devlin
Saturday	Aug 4	5:00 pm	The 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time For the special intentions of and God's blessings upon The Melo family grandchildren	by Mr & Mrs Melo
Sunday	Aug 5	10:00 am	For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	

PARISH MISSION APPEAL

Each year our diocese invites us to welcome a Missionary. We will welcome Father Paul Varuvel, Mission Co-ord-Diocese of Kuzhithur or his assistant. This Mission Appeal will take place the weekend of August 25,26,2018. Visit their website at: <http://www.kuzhithuraidiocese.com/>

Pope Francis created a new Latin rite Diocese of Kuzhithurai, carved out of the Diocese of Kottar, in Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu, India making it a suffragan of the metropolitan see of Madurai and with great joy and pastoral concern, he announced it officially on 22nd December 2014 at 12.00 hrs, Italian Time/16.30 hrs (IST) appointing Fr.Jeromedhas Varuvel S.D.B. as its first Bishop. He was consecrated by Most Rev. P. Remigius, Bishop of Kottar on 24th February 2015 at Trinity Central School Campus, Chithrancode.

This new diocese comprises of Mulagumoodu and Thirithuvapuram vicariates and has 264,222 Catholics in 100 parishes, 123 mission stations and a Shrine, spread across 915 sq km. served by 131 priests and 269 religious men and women. The Cathedral of the new diocese is the church of the Most Holy Trinity at Thirithuvapuram in Kuzhithurai Town and municipality. It is the administrative headquarters of the Vilavancode Taluk. The new diocese of Kuzhithurai (nom. Lat. Diocese Kuzhithuraien(sis), bordered to the north with the diocese of Palayamkottai; east and south with the mother diocese of Kottar; south-west by the Indian Ocean; and to the west with the Archdiocese of Trivandrum and the Diocese of Neyyatt (in the state of Kerala).

WEEKEND and WEEKDAY

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (VIGIL) at 5:00 pm

Sunday at 10:00 am

**Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday
9:00am**

No Masses on Wednesday

OFFICE HOURS HAVE CHANGED

**Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:00am to 12 NOON.**

MASS INTENTIONS

An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday) or for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit ones soul.

Please note that Mass Intentions for 2018 are filled for every weekend Mass and we are currently booking Mass Intentions for weekday Masses for the end of October.

If you have special dates that you would like for anniversaries of special occasion please get them to us one year in advance.

UPCOMING BAPTISM

Matthew Peter Gunn - July 29
Avery Elizabeth Takacs - August 5
Savannah Skarzinskas - Aug 12
Lucas Richard Hewage - August 25

Welcome to our community.

GETHSEMANE SUMMER FIAT (CAMP)

August 21-25

Gethsemane Ministries will be conducting a summer camp at the Robert Land Academy in Wellandport for young adults gr. 4-12. This will be an opportunity for a renewed spiritual experience with engaging Catholic speakers, daily Mass, confessions, teambuilding activities, campfires, and more. This 4-day overnight Catholic camp aims to foster fellowship and friendship among young people, and provide a solid foundation to deepen one's faith at a young age. Cost is \$250.

For more information and to register, visit: www.gethsemaneministries.com

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

"The gospel of the Family: Joy for the World". Dublin, Ireland, August 22-26, 2018. Held every three years, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray, and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society, and of the Church.

There will be four main elements of the meeting:

- a pre-catechesis on the theme.
- a Theological Pastoral Congress from August 22-26
- a celebration of the Feast of Families on Saturday, August 25
- a Solemn Closing Mass with the Pope on Sunday, August 26

For more information, visit:

www.worldmeeting2018

GOING ON VACATION?

Church bills never take a vacation.

Please remember your SUNDAY ENVELOPE!

THANK YOU!

PARISH STEWARDSHIP JUNE 21/22, 2018

Sunday Offering (60 Env):	\$1290.00
Loose:	\$231.75
Donation from Cemetary Board:	\$160.00

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

WORLD YOUTH DAY PILGRIMAGE

Panama City, Panama

Young people between 19 – 35 years of age are invited to come and learn about the Diocesan pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2019 being held in Panama City this coming January. This *final* information meeting is being held on **Friday, August 17th at 7 p.m. at Catholic Centre, 3400 Merrittville Highway, Thorold.** The Registration deadline is Sept. 16th.

Visit www.saintcd.com/wyd to download your pre-registration forms.

Questions?? Please email:

wydpanama2019saintcd@gmail.com or call Terri at the Family and Youth office, 905-684-0154 Ext. 209.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

**Grimsby Life Centre results of the
Life Change Campaign**

What amazing results from the 25 churches participating. This annual fundraising event has had a phenomenal effect and 2018 is classified as another successful year. As the bottles came back, counted, and recorded, collectively over \$35,000 was raised! We are in awe, having dubbed this as the most successful campaign in the history of the Grimsby Life Centre! We are so grateful for your contributions and that by the grace of God we are able to keep this local counselling ministry growing and thriving! Without your prayers and support we simply could not do what we do – walk alongside people who need help. Thank you again, from all of us at the Grimsby Life Centre!

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

Roseanne Morissette – July 28

Antonella Wolek – July 29

Aaron Shukovitsky – July 31

Alexandra Gumieniak/Vivana Volpatti – Aug 1

Kyla Mudjar – Aug 2

Ted Barnes/Jacqueline Hitchings – Aug 3