

# March 5, 2017

## 1st Sunday of Lent - Year A

Monday	Mar 6	9:00 am	For the health and healing of Vanessa & Lenora Newman by Val Newman	
Tuesday	Mar 7		<b>St. Perpetua &amp; St. Felicity, martyrs</b>	
		9:00 am	+For the peaceful rest of Sean Robinson	by Marg & Dick Van Geest
		10:45 am	Junior Class Mass	
Wednesday	Mar 8	9:30 am	School Reconciliation in the Church	
		6:30 pm	For the intentions of the children of Marg & Dick Van Geest	by Marg & Dick Van Geest
Thursday	Mar 9	9:00 am	For the intentions of Heather Belmont	by Joan and Bob Hignett
		10:45 am	Intermediate Class Mass	
Friday	Mar 10	9:00 am	For God's blessings upon John and Riky Mulder	by Nelly Wolbers
		9:30 am	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	
		6:30 pm	For the intentions of Marcel Pouliot	by Geraldine Bell
		7:00 pm	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	
Saturday	Mar 11		<b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b>	
		5:00 pm	For the intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	
Sunday	Mar 12	9:00 am	+For the peaceful rest of Joe and Amy Mulder	by Tante Nelly
		11:00 am	For the intentions of Pauline Lewis	by Josie and Vern Dell

### SAINTS THIS WEEK

#### St. Perpetua & St. Felicity, martyrs; March 07.

In the year 203, during the persecution of the church under the Emperor Severus, five catechumens were arrested in Carthage, North Africa. They were Revocatus, a slave; Felicity, a pregnant slave; Saturnius; Secundulus; and Perpetua, a 22 year old mother, who was married to a man of good position. These were joined by Saturnus, their catechist. After terrible imprisonment they were all killed in a public spectacle. The men were killed by wild beasts, and the women were killed by swords thrust through their throats. They died on March 07, 203.

Their feast began in the year 354.

#### St. Innocent I, pope; March 12.

Born in Italy, Innocent I became Pope in the year 401. He understood the unique position of the see of Rome as compared to other sees, and established the Pope as the supreme and universal arbiter in matters of faith and morals. This has been the case ever since.

Innocent served as Pope for sixteen years, dying on March 12, 417.

### LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING

Generosity brought \$1840.45 to our parish last week.

### BAPTISMS

Baptisms will be celebrated today at 12:30 pm. Please remember Paislee Rosa Lynn and Marshall Eric Peavoy, children of Jason and Amanda (Cognigni) Peavoy.

May the Lord bless and keep them in His love.

### RESULTS OF THE CHRISTMAS MANGER QUESTIONNAIRE

Father Brian would like to thank all of those who took the time to give their thoughts regarding our Christmas Manger Scene. The following points summarize the results.

1. 3 responses to no longer use.
2. 9 responses to keep it as it is.
3. 4 responses to keep it and repaint it.
4. 1 response to replace it.
5. 2 would like to see a stable added.
6. 1 would like to see trees and a star added.
7. 1 would like to see a stable and a star added.

The Liturgy Committee will be consulted as to what decision we will take.

### THE YEAR OF THE ROSARY

Bishop Bergie has decided to proclaim the rest of the year 2017 to be the *Year of the Rosary* in our Diocese.

We will be praying the *Hail Mary* right after the final blessing and before the prayer to *Saint Michael the Archangel*.

We will continue with this sequence throughout the *Year of the Rosary*.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Available this week:

Wednesday 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm

Friday 8:15 am - 8:45 am

Friday 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm

Saturday 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Or by request.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday March 10th following both the morning and evening Masses.

This Friday the Stations are entitled "The Centurion Speaks".

### THANK YOU

St. Martin of Tours would like to thank Mr. Reid, the custodian of St. Martin's Elementary School, and Marg and Dick Van Geest for their time spent refinishing the floor in our hall. They spent last Friday and Saturday doing this job and the results are fantastic.

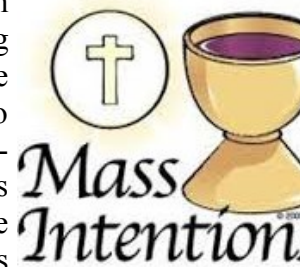
### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have time on your hands? Are you available 1/2 day or 1 day a week? Branches Catholic Book Store is looking for volunteers to work in the St Catharines store. The hours are flexible and the work is fun. Come and join like minded co-workers and like minded customers. If you are interested contact Janine Hendriks at [janine@gotobranches.com](mailto:janine@gotobranches.com) or call 289-362-1417.

### MASS INTENTIONS

There are many ways to remember those who have died, but none are greater than having them remembered during the Mass. For the Mass is the most direct and powerful way to present our thanks, praise and petitions to God. We listen to God's word for us, we receive and share in the Body and Blood of Jesus that he makes available to us, we join in the prayers of the entire Church and not only our own and we are able to be reminded again and again that we are part of the great community of living love known as the Communion of Saints.

When we seek to remember a person who is alive (Intentions) we can place their hopes and dreams, sorrows and difficulties, needs and wants before God and invite others to include them in their prayers. When we



seek to remember a person who has died (their Repose) we show God our concern for their eternal wellbeing, seek forgiveness of their sins and can ask that they will pray for us while we remain on earth.

Birthdays, anniversaries, death days and special events can all be celebrated and remembered by having the person(s) remembered in Mass.

Mass requests may be made by using the Mass Intentions Envelope located on the table in the church lobby, or by contacting the parish office or by speaking with Father Brian.

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER DANCE

The Knights of Columbus are having a St. Patrick's Day dinner dance, which just happens to be their 1st year anniversary as a council on Friday March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017.



The doors open at 6 pm, dinner at 7 pm and a dance to follow. The cost of this fun event will be \$25 a person. Contact Vern Dell or the Knight beside you for tickets or more information.

Come and join us as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of our Council.

### ZUMBA

Since the Hall is available at an earlier time, Zumba Classes will be from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm for the month of March. Come dance your worries away while getting fit at the same time.

### CWL 50th ANNIVERSARY QUILT

CWL Councils across Canada have made a quilt to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. Our Diocesan Council has contributed a square to this amazing tribute to the work of our Catholic social justice advocates.

This quilt is coming to St. Catharines this month of March and will be at St. Joseph's church on Monday morning March 13 for the 9 a.m. Mass.

St. Joseph CWL will host a coffee social following the Mass for all who wish to view this commemorative quilt as it passes from our diocese to the next in its journey across Canada.

### BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

#### Birthdays:

Robert Lemmon – Mar 7

Judy Brucclieri/Brodie Riley - Mar 9

Samantha Sposato – Mar 9

Naythan Pinto-Baccega/Kelsey Nicholson – Mar 11

#### Anniversaries:

Michael & Amy-Lynn Urban – Mar 6

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**LENT...WHY 40 DAYS?**

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is actually forty-six days before Easter. We say that Lent is forty days in number because the six Sundays are excluded from our efforts in Lent in order to give us a time to pause and ponder; gather new strength. Since the restructuring of the Liturgical Year after Vatican II, the Easter Triduum, is not included in the Lenten season, so the actual days of the Lenten observance are approximately forty days.

The number forty is found frequently in scripture to signify either a time of penitential preparation, or a time of punishment and affliction sent from God.

The Old Testament has many examples of the use of forty: God punished mankind by sending a flood over the earth that lasted forty days and forty nights (Gen 7:12); the people of Ninevah repented with forty days of fasting when Jonah preached the destruction of Ninevah (Jonah 3:4); Moses and the Hebrew people wandered in the desert for forty years (Num 14:34); Moses fasted forty days and forty nights while on Mt. Sinai (Ex 34:28); the Prophet Ezekiel had to lie on his right side for forty days as a figure of the siege that was to bring Jerusalem to destruction (Ez 4:6); and the Prophet Elijah fasted and prayed on Mount Horeb for forty days (1 Kings 19:8).

In the New Testament we find Jesus fasting and praying for forty days and forty nights in the desert in preparation for the public ministry that would end in his redeeming death (Luke 5:35). Jesus succeeds where the Old Testament Adam failed, and overcomes the temptations of the devil and remains faithful to God; Jesus is the new Israel, who reveals himself as God's servant by his total obedience to the divine will, in contrast to those who provoked God in the desert, while Moses led them.

The Church sets aside the forty days of Lent in order that we might imitate our Lord by fasting, prayer, self-denial and good works, and thereby prepare our hearts for an Easter renewal.

**TRADITIONAL FORMS OF PENANCE**

1. Giving up sin - by loving others as God has loved us.
2. Praying - make an effort to pray every day in the morning, the evening and at mealtime.
3. Fasting - reduce the amount and richness of our food and drink. Money saved can go to the poor.
4. Doing good works - help others, pray for them, give a good example. The list is endless!
5. Giving alms - help the poor through Development & Peace.
6. Carrying out your duties - be a good parent or worker or student or volunteer or boss.
7. Meditative reading - nourish your faith by reading the Bible or other Christian book.
8. Controlling your desires - cut down on collecting things so that we will not be tempted to buy more.
9. Abstaining - give up on meat or other desired foods once or twice each week, to help recall how much Jesus gave up in giving his life for us on the cross.

Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines  
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.

Pastor  
Father Brian Bevan

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 and Benediction  
1st Friday @ 8:00 am  
3rd and 4th Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm

Reconciliation/Confessions  
Wed 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.  
Fri 8:15 - 8:45 a.m.  
Fri 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.  
Sat 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.  
Or by request

Baptism  
Sunday by appointment

Marriage  
Contact Fr. Brian Bevan

Sacrament of the Sick  
Communion for the Sick and Shut-ins  
Please call the office.

Secretary  
Sandy Johnson  
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

St Martin School  
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery  
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

Diocesan Website  
www.saintcd.com

Diocese of St. Catharines

# St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church



166 West Street, P.O. Box 74  
Smithville, Ontario L0R 2A0  
Telephone: 289-956-0221  
Fax: 289-956-0109  
Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca  
www.stmartinsparish.com

**March 5, 2017**  
**1st Sunday of**  
**Lent**