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HEAVEN - THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION

Today's readings focus on a theme of "sojourning." As Christian stewards, we know our lives are a sojourn towards the ultimate destination of heaven.

Our Gospel passage today describes the sojourn of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. The two are dejected and despondent after Jesus' death. They knew Jesus personally. They had heard the Gospel message directly from His lips. They heard the testimony of the women who discovered the empty tomb of our Lord and saw a vision of angels announcing He was alive. They had been informed by other disciples who went to the tomb that all was exactly as the women reported.

How much more obvious could the Good News be?

And yet, at times, the reaction of the two disciples describes our own stewardship journey, doesn't it? We have the fullness of the Catholic faith, the power of the sacraments, the support of our parish family. Yet, we often lose our way. We fail to see all the gifts we have been given. We lack trust in the perfect goodness and almighty power of God.

But notice what happens to the two men when eyes are opened once again and they recognize Jesus in the Eucharist - the "breaking of the bread." They are transformed! Their hearts are set on fire with love for the Lord and their faith. They recall that their hearts began "burning within" as the Lord was explaining the Scriptures to them. When we find we have lost our way, we can go to the same sources as the two disciples on the road to Emmaus - the Scriptures and the Eucharist.

In this Easter season, resolve to feast deeply on these two sources of grace. They are the fuel that will propel us on journey towards heaven.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

Pastor
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.

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

Weekday Masses
Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00am

Office hours
Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Administrative Assistant
Sandy Johnson

Financial Recorder
Tracy Piggott

Reconciliation/Confessions
Sat 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. or on request

Requesting Sacraments
Must be registered and practicing
Call office for details

St Martin 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 - Lloyd Buchan
koc.16421@gmail.com

Facility Maintenance
Tom Diletti - tom.diletti@sympatico.ca

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



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Email: st.martins@cogeco.ca
www.stmartinsparish.com

April 26, 2020 - Year A
The 3rd Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2019

The 3rd Sunday of Easter - Year A

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Please know though, if you are at home alone, isolated, you are never really alone.

Even though we do not have Mass in public, Father Christopher is celebrating Mass privately each day. We will have your intentions at that Mass as well as the proper intention that was given to us for that day. When Mass is being prayed in church, you are there. Each of us is connected to one another through Christ by virtue of our Baptism. Online Mass is an important way to connect to daily and weekend Mass.

Please watch EWTN and Salt & Light Television for excellent programmes.

Father Christopher also prepares a Sunday homily and you can request that by emailing him at fr.christopher@hotmail.com. He sends out a weekly reflection called God Winks. He has also recently went on Facebook and connects with many parishioners there. He posts upcoming Masses, Holy Hours and prayer, spiritual reflections and other points of interest. Personal phone calls, texts and emails others daily.

| | | | | |
|-------|--------|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Mon | Apr 27 | 9:00 am | April Greschuk Birthday Blessings | by Father Christopher |
| Tues | Apr 28 | 9:00 am | +Past Benefactors | by St Martin's |
| Wed | Apr 29 | 9:00 am | +Sophie Modrzejewski | by Family |
| Thurs | Apr 30 | 9:00 am | For the People of Nova Scotia and their deceased loved ones | by Father Christopher |
| Fri | May 1 | 9:00 am | Intention Available | |
| Sat | May 2 | The 4th Sunday of Easter | | |
| | | 5:00 pm | Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family | |
| Sun | May 3 | 10:00 am | +Manuel Bettencourt and deceased Family members | by Maria daSilva |

ONLINE DAILY EUCHARIST

With no public weekday or weekend Masses we offer the following We continue to keep Holy Sabbath. In an effort to continue the practice of our faith in these trying times, I would like to invite you to [join us online](#) for daily Mass.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 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 |
| yesTV | Sun - 10:30 am Mon - Sat - 1:00 pm |
| Internet | www.dailytvmass.com www.youtube.com/dailytvmass |

Mass each Sunday is streamed live from our Cathedral at 11:30 am.

Visit the diocesan website for viewing:
www.saintcd.com

FROM FATHER CHRISTOPHER

"Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourself be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:4-5).

One of the profound challenges of the past few weeks has been the restrictions on public gatherings that have prevented our communities from gathering for daily and Sunday Eucharist. As difficult as it has been, it is also an opportunity for us to discover the importance of the domestic church. We are called to build up, like living stones, into the household God. That construction project begins at home. A theme that has been reinforced these days with the command: "Stay Home."

Prayer as a family is important preparation for our prayer as the gathered community of faith. An easy way to pray as a family is grace before meals, and night prayers with young children. Even homework can become a prayer and a teaching experience with your children. The Rosary, and Scripture reflections are other ways to pray together as a family.

Prayer is to our Christian life, as oxygen is to our bodies. May these difficult days of self-isolation and physical distancing be a time to turn more fervently to the Risen Lord, imploring a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and lives.

Know that you are remembered at my daily Mass and Sunday Mass here at St. Martin. Please hold the people of Nova Scotia and their deceased loved ones in your prayer and online Masses. A tragedy beyond words - truly heartbreaking.

God bless you.
Shalom, Christopher +

PARISH ONLINE POSTING OF STEWARDSHIP IN COVID 19

It has been highly recommended that we discontinue posting our weekly revenue online/parish website. We kindly ask you to mail in your church offering. We would ask you to discontinue dropping off your offering in the rectory mail box unless you call ahead and let Father Christopher know that you are dropping them off. The risk is too high leaving envelopes with cash in the mail box. Unfortunately, this self-isolation and physical distancing will remain for many weeks to come. We thank you for your cooperation with these new procedures.

Thank you and God bless.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Although we are unable to celebrate public Masses, the parish expenses for salaries, (we have maintained our staff in this pandemic) church insurance, property tax, clergy aid, maintenance, etc, all continue. While our primary concern is your spiritual and physical well-being, the weekly offertory gifts are very important for our parish.

We have been receiving "some" but not many weekly offerings through the mail or dropped off in the mail slot at the rectory, thank you. If at all possible if others could do the same it would be greatly appreciated so that we can continue the upkeep and maintenance of our parish. We all need to take co-responsibility of our parish and contribute as best we can.

In the case of any emergency do not hesitate to contact the parish office as we check our messages daily.

Through our buildings are closed, the church is still open! We are still leading others in faith although scattered rather than in a gathered way. This time of crisis requires us to maintain and strengthen our ability to minister to one another in the midst of heightened anxiety.

Thank you.

COVID -19 PRAYER

*Almighty God,
we know that everything
is in Your sovereign control.
We ask that You keep this novel coronavirus
from continuing to spread.
Give government officials
the ability to safely handle people
arriving from other countries.
Help people decide to stay home
instead of traveling or going out needlessly.
Holy Spirit,
remind people to wash their hands properly.
And while it may be heartbreaking,
comfort families as they decide to keep their
distance from elderly
or other high-risk family members.
Jesus, we trust in you.
Amen.*