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PLACE YOUR TRUST IN THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Today's readings on this fourth Sunday of Easter offer us a glimpse into the heart of our loving Savior. He is the Good Shepherd and we can confidently place our trust in Him as we live the stewardship way of life.

This endearing image of Jesus as shepherd, and His personal love for each one of us, is described in our Gospel passage from John, through the words of Jesus Himself. Here we read Jesus' description of Himself as the "Good Shepherd." He says of Himself, "The sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice."

This aspect of our Lord's tender and personal love for each one of us is a compelling reason to embrace the stewardship way of life - in the offering of our time, talent and treasure to Him, we can express our gratitude to Him for the incomprehensible love He has for us.

Embracing this way of life certainly requires trust on our part. But Christ has proven Himself worthy of our trust. He "bore our sins in His body." He calls Himself our shepherd and He offers Himself as the guardian of our souls. He has withheld nothing of Himself and His goodness from us. He would never ask anything of us that would bring us harm. He tells us "I came so that you might have life and have it more abundantly."

This Easter season, let us resolve to entrust ourselves and our lives gratefully to Him.

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**



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

May 3, 2020 - Year A
The 4th Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2019

The 4th Sunday of Easter - Year A

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, CALENDAR

Mon	May 4	9:00 am	Catholic Education Week for students and teachers at St. Martin's.	
Tues	May 5	9:00 am	Intention available	
		11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Zoom Bible Study Group	
Wed	May 6	9:00 am	For the special intentions of Fr. Christopher Gillen	by Pauline Lewis
		1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Webinar Conference	
Thurs	May 7	9:00 am	Intention available	
		7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	ACTS Women's Team Zoom Meeting	
Fri	May 8	9:00 am	Intention available	
		7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Zoom Men's Support Group	
Sat	May 9	The 5th Sunday of Easter		
		5:00 pm	+ John Fedorik Sr.	by John & Mary Mojeski
		1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Webinar Talk on dealing with anxiety with COVID -19	
Sun	May	9:30 am	Live-Stream Mass from Gethsemane Centre Wellandport	
		10:30 am - 11:00 am	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Stream from Gethsemane Centre	
			(When Father Christopher is not invited for Sunday Mass at Gethsemane the parish Mass will be celebrated at 12:00 pm)	

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 or YouTube for viewing:
www.saintcd.com

GOD WINKS AND SUNDAY HOMILY

A weekly publication God Winks along with Father Christopher's Sunday homily is available upon request by simply emailing him at:

fr.christopher@hotmail.com

You can follow him on Facebook:

Christopher Gerard Gillen

Twitter: RCSchnauzer

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK begins on Sunday, May 3, 2020.

Publicly funded Catholic education has existed in Ontario since 1841 and its graduates have served Ontario and Canada very well. The current generation of students in our publicly funded Catholic schools will serve with the same spirit and generosity as their previous generations.

This year's Catholic Education Week theme is, "**Igniting Hope**" and was inspired by three sources:

The Papal Exhortation, *Christus Vivit*

The Ontario Bishops' Pastoral Letter,

Renewing the Promise (2018)

The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, Institute for Catholic Education (2011)

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.

Though 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.