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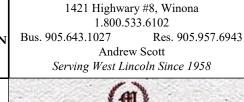
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THE BEATITUDES

The Beatitudes accurately portray the way Christians ought to be in their attitudes and behavior.

The poor, hungry, sorrowful, and persecuted are those who warrant Jesus' compassion and his blessing. The wealthy, full, happy, and popular also warrant Jesus' compassion but it appears in the form of a woeful warning. Surely it does not suggest that it is preferable for people to be poor, hungry, sorrowful and persecuted, does it? Or that being wealthy, having a full stomach, being happy, or popular is inherently evil and to be avoided, does it? Perhaps God is acutely aware and consciously concerned about the physical, emotional, social and economic inequities mankind heaps upon people.

We must pay attention to what Jesus did not say. His remedy did not speak of the economic redistribution of wealth, nor of social or political revolution and revenge. His remedy, was to bless the unfortunate. Jesus knew that over time the nature of man would make moot the leveling of society by economic redistribution and humanity would simply supplant it with another system of equal or greater evils. Jesus' remedy was to create a society of the compassionate within the society of the indifferent. He is looking to his disciples to bless the poor, hungry, sorrowful, and persecuted by sharing their wealth, their material possessions, their happiness, and their friendship. This was Jesus' remedy for alleviating suffering.

The physical, emotional, economic and social welfare of the unfortunate is of utmost importance to Jesus, and should be to us. The hope that Jesus provides to sustain them in their need is the reality and presence of the Kingdom of God, and a sure future in heaven, as seen in and through those who are his body. That is why our (his disciples) participation in relieving suffering is so essential. We are the living icons and visual aids of this heavenly reality. Consequently, we too must hold out not only the temporary hope of overcoming societal ills, but also hold out the transformational reality, and the open invitation to participate in life eternal through faith in Jesus. For like Jeremiah we do not want the poor, hungry, sorrowful, and persecuted to trust in the flesh of man, but rather to trust in the Lord. **Emmaus Journey Reflections**

Bishop of the Diocese

Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D. Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

Pastor

Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P. Diocesan Social Justice Rep

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

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament See bulletin for schedule

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 am to 12:00 pm

> Bookkeeper **Tracy Piggott**

St Martin School Phone 905-957-3032

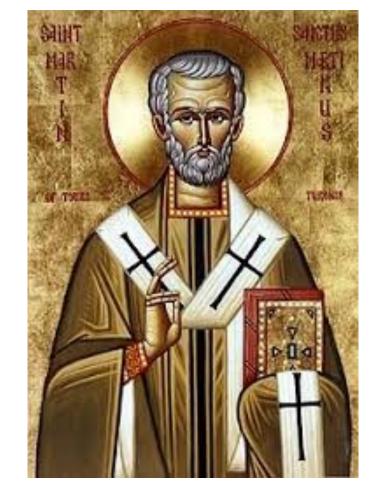
Cemetery Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

Parish Organizations Catholic Women's League **Knights of Columbus**

Parish Groups Children's Liturgy. Youth Ministry West Lincoln Loaf of Bread Parish Events Group Parish Financial Council Acts Retreat Team

Diocese of St. Catharines

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

Ministry Schedule - February 23/24

Hospitality Ministers

5:00 pm - Tony Mous 10:00 am - Pat Wirth & Anthony N.

Altar Servers

5:00pm -10:00 am -

Children's Liturgy

Carolyn Vaugn

Next Hospitality Sunday

March 3

February 17, 2019

The 6th Sunday in **Ordinary** Time

Lectors

www.stmartinsparish.com

5:00 pm #1 - Mary Pikula #2 - Kelly Anne Staples

10:00 am #1 - Marg Van Geest

#2 - Heather Tomascin

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm - Yolanda & Tom 10:00 am - Andrew, Caroline & Sherri

Stewardship Counting

Beth Davis & Mary Anne Paradis

February 17, 2019

The 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

	Monday	Feb 18	NO MASS. Father Christopher's Day Off		
	Tuesday	Feb 19	9:00 am For the special intentions of the children & grandchildren of Dick & Marg Van Geest 10:00 am - 11:00 am Father Christopher at Tai Chi	by Dick & Marg Van C	
	Wednesday	Feb 20	9:00 am For the special intentions of Fr. Christopher	by Martha Devlin	
	Thursday	Feb 21	9:00 am For the special intentions of Marnie Kervin 10:00 am - 11:00 am Father Christopher at Tai Chi	by Martha Devlin	
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Haldimand D			12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Haldimand Deanery Meeting- St. Joseph's Parisl	Deanery Meeting- St. Joseph's Parish Grimsby	
	Friday	Feb 22	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Frank Modrzejewski	by family	
	Saturday	rday Feb 23 <i>The 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 9:30 am - 12: 00 pm- Diocesan Launch for Share Lent/ Development & Peace St. Catharis 5:00 pm For the special intentions of St. Martin of Tours parish family Youth Ministry Gathering			
	Sunday	Feb 24	10:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Gabriella Bush For the health and healing of Tori Whitaker 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm ALPHA COURSE Smithville Christian Reformed	by Sherri deWilde by Joan & Bob Hignett d Church	

ACTS19 RETREAT 2019 Adoration, Community, Theology, Service

This is one visible sign of this community living out its mission "to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to all God's people through work and action." This evangelization retreat experience is intended to be a doorway through which individuals gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be an active, conscious, participating member of St. Martin's parish and the larger Catholic Church. The primary purpose of ACTS is to strengthen this parish as a Eucharistic Catholic Community, through renewed participation in worship, fellowship and service.

Next Men's Acts Retreat is Thursday May 30, at 7:00pm, to Sunday June 2, 2019 ,1:00 pm Queen of Apostles Centre Mississauga.

Next Women's Acts Retreat is Thursday May 2, at 7:00pm, to Sunday May 5, 2019, 1:00 pm

Queen of Apostles Centre Mississauga

If you are interested in the Men's Retreat speak with Father Christopher or email him at:
fr.christopher@hotmail.com

If you are interested in the Women's Retreat speak with Sandy at the parish office or email: st.martins@cogeco.ca

(NEW) YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST.MARTIN'S Youth Group Ages 12-14

Group will meet bi-weekly centered around the 5:00pm Mass - and then engaging in a number of activities in the parish hall and in the community.

Next Gathering: February 23
Make your own pizza, Scavenger Hunt.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Everyone Welcome!

Please join in this year's service prepared by the women of Slovenia being held at Smithville United Church, Friday March 1st at 2 pm followed by refreshments and fellowship in their downstairs hall. We will host in 2 years, so let's show our support! Contact Heather Tomascin with any questions at 905 957-7805 or email heathertomascin@bell.net

DIOCESAN SEPARATED & DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY SUPPORT GROUP

We meet every second and fourth Monday (7:00-9:00 p.m.) at Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre, Niagara Falls. For information, call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154, or email separated and divorced @saintcd.com.

• February 25, March 11, March 25

ST. MARTIN'S PARISH EVENTS GROUP

The Parish Events Group (PEG) would like to thank everyone that supported the Feb.9th Annual Pasta Dinner. Much effort was put forth to create a true home cooked Italian meal to be enjoyed by those with discriminating taste. We, also, would like to thank members from community churches that also came to join us eg Smithville United Church, St .Joseph's Church, Grimsby, St. Helen's Church, Beamsville, St.Kevin's Church, Welland, from Hamilton, the Presbyterian Church.

Unfortunately there were some unexpected challenges in spite of our very detailed preparations. However, with every challenge came a blessing. We received the necessary help at some unexpected critical moments. Yes, things did not unfold as timely as we had planned and we want to express our heartfelt apologies to those that were affected by the extreme delays. Fortunately, many saw it as an opportunity to relax and enjoy the moment and socialize (they realized it was not a drive through buying a simple burger, fries & a drink for \$10.00). It was very significant to have received emails from visitors acknowledging how much they appreciated the evening. It helped to lift our heavy hearts and our exhausted bodies.

The next event which the Parish Events Group will be sponsoring will be **Father Christopher's 60th Birthday celebration**, on Sunday, March 3rd after the 10 AM Mass.

A luncheon will be served to celebrate this special occasion. Please mark this date on your calendar. Other upcoming events which will be sponsored will be the First Communion reception followed by the Parish Picnic in June and the Confirmation reception in the Fall.

Yes, your support by attending our Pasta Dinner will keep on giving. Our sincere thanks for providing those opportunities for our St. Martin's Parish Community. God Bless you all.

NIAGARA FOUNDATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Annual Benefit Gala Saturday, March 30 at 5:30 p.m. Club Roma, 125 Vansickle Rd. St. Catharines

The after-dinner speaker will be Pat Stapleton, NHL legend and Team Canada '72 member. Tickets are \$80 each and must be Purchase by March 25,

on-line at: www.niagaracatholic.ca

For more information call: 905-735-0240,ext.213 or e-mail foundationgala@nfce.com

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

FEBRUARY 9/10

 Sunday Offertory (85 Env):
 \$ 1,765.00

 Loose:
 \$ 159.75

 Late Facility Maintenance (4 Env):
 \$ 65.00

 New Years Offering (1Env):
 \$ 20.00

 Bulletin Ad:
 \$ 200.00

 HST Rebate:
 \$ 1584.29

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LIFE JESUS HIGHER RALLY

Be inspired, encouraged and healed at the largest single-day Catholic event in Canada - the 27th annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally! Inspired talks by Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, and keynote guest speaker Fr Mark Goring (Food for Life, Companions of the Cross)

The adult high mass (with Sunday readings) will be celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins.

There will be a separate youth event (13-18 years) with great music, dynamic talks and inspirational skits The Youth Mass (with Sunday Readings) will be celebrated by Father Mark Goring. Tickets are \$25 each for adults and \$15 each for youth, plus \$10 for bus fare. Bus will be leaving St Joseph Parish in Grimsby. For more information call Domenic at (905) 945-7536.

INVEST 1 HOUR TO SAVE A LIFETIME 40 Days for Life

Be part of this peaceful campaign by prayer and fasting during Lent, March 6th – April 14th. We ask each church to adopt <u>ONE DAY</u> from 8 am – 8 pm, with two or more people to give public witness for one or two hours standing on Portage Street at the Niagara Falls General Hospital, holding a sign "Pray to end Abortion."

This is a prayerful, silent VIGIL.

To sign up: see the <u>sign-up table</u> at your church, or contact Annette: <u>loeffenlife@gmail.com</u>, or 905-325-1251, or Angela: angelabraun@live.com

PARISH FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2018

Annual Report and Statement were presented last weekend. Extra copies are made available at front foyer. Please pick up a copy and be informed. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Are made available. Please pickup in main church foyer. Thank you for supporting our parish through your good stewardship.