



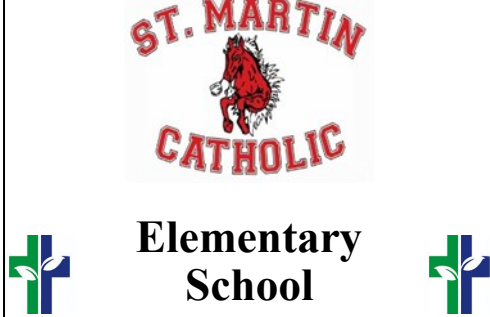


PLEASE PATRONIZE THE SUPPORTERS OF ST. MARTIN OF TOURS BULLETIN

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Vision of St. Martin of Tours

To be a thriving parish community rooted in our Catholic faith, evangelizing, and welcoming all to participate in Worship and to serve our parishioners, schools and those in our community of West Lincoln.

HOW WILL WE DO THIS?

- Faith:** We will meet parishioners where they are in their faith journey and help grow their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Evangelize:** We will share the hope and joy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by living and leading by good example, fostering healing and reconciliation where and when needed.
- Welcoming:** We will invite, welcome, and build healthy relationships, to provide a sense of belonging and community for all.
- Worship:** We will place Jesus Christ at the center of the Liturgy and actively participate.
- Serve:** We will invite all to actively share their talents to establish a vibrant and thriving parish that lives and serves by example.

Hospitality	Ministry Schedule - Dec 23/24/25	Holy Communion
<p>5:00 pm - Sandy Johnson 10:00 am - Joan & Bob Hignett 5:00 pm - Marcel Pouliot 10:30pm - Cathy & Frank Cartagine 10:00 am - Cathy Ransome</p>	<p>Lector</p> <p>5:00 pm - Mitch Pogoda 10:00 am - Caroline Steger 5:00 pm - Sherri deWilde 10:30 pm - Andrew Steger 10:00 am - Mitch Pogoda</p>	<p>5:00 pm - Valerie Newman 10:00 am - Andy Lipiec 5:00 pm - Valerie Newman 10:30 pm - Caroline Steger 10:00 am - Paula Verrecchia</p>

Pastor
Very Rev. Fr. Christopher Gerard Gillen
Parish Priest / Vicar Forane
(Dean of Haldimand)

Administrative Assistant
Financial Recorder
Sandy Johnson
In Office Hours
Tuesday & Thursday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Sunday Masses
Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am
Weekday Masses
See Schedule inside of the bulletin

Reconciliation/Confessions
Saturday: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Requesting Sacraments
Interview and Classes Required

St Martin Elementary School
905-957-3032

Blessed Trinity High School
905-945-6708

Cemetery Management
Nick Sarantakos - 289-440-2929

Parish Organizations
Catholic Women's League
President - Maryanne Mous
StMartinsCWL@hotmail.com
Knights of Columbus
Grand Knight Tony Zanni
t.zanni@hotmail.com

Facility Maintenance
Chair Frank DeFilippis

Parish Groups
Parish Pastoral Council
Parish Financial Council
Parish Events Group
Cemetery Committee
Responsible Faith Ministry
Children's Liturgy.
ACTS Retreats Teams
RCIA TEAM

Diocese of St. Catharines
Bishop of the Diocese
Most Reverend Gerard Paul Bergie, D.D.
President of Assembly of Ontario Catholic Bishops
Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Faith Community
1866 -2023



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

Mission of St. Martin of Tours
We will follow Jesus Christ and love all people.

December 17, 2023 - Year - B
The Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

The 3rd Sunday of Advent - Year B

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

Recitation of the Holy Rosary takes place before each Weekday Mass beginning at 8:35 am

Mon	Dec 18	NO PUBLIC MASS CELEBRATED	
Tues	Dec 19	9:00 am +Jose Carlos daSilva 9:30 am Choir Practice 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Reconciliation Service St. Joseph's Grimsby	by Melo & Mikhail Families Fr. Christopher
Wed	Dec 20	9:00 am +Harry Hyde Hodson 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Session 14	by Andrew & Caroline Steger Team
Thurs	Dec 21	9:00 am +David Robinson 9:30 am - 10:30 am Parish Bible Study	by Caroline & Andrew Steger
Fri	Dec 22	7:30 am - 8:00 am Paradisus Dei Men's Rosary Group Virtual. 9:00 am For the health and healing of Carol McNulty	Fr. Christopher by Helen & Andy Lipiec
Sat	Dec 23	The 4th Sunday of Advent - Year 5:00 pm +Beverly Henderson	by Lisa Poort
Sun	Dec 24	10:00 am +Pro Populo Dei - For the special Intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family The Nativity of the Lord 5:00 pm +Harry Belmont 10:00 pm For the special intention of Fr. Christopher	by Heather Belmont

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

We rely on your weekly stewardship to support our faith community of St. Martin. We thank you for your stewardship commitment to our parish, and diocese.

E-TRANSFERS

These transfers are often referred to as **e-Transfers** and done through your online banking, website or app. To transfer funds to St. Martin Parish e-Transfer to:

st.martinsdonation@gmail.com

Please do not enter a security question and answer. You will be informed that your transfer to: The Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation has been completed.

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Your 2024 Offertory Envelopes are in the foyer of the Church for you to pick up. Thank you for your continuing financial support.

YEAR END STEWARDSHIP

If you would like to make a financial contribution to be added to your 2023 income tax receipt, please ensure it is in the office before December 25, 2023. Thank you.

DECEMBER COFFEE SOCIAL

Please plan on attending Coffee Social in the parish hall following our Sunday Mass on, Dec. 17. We thank Parish Events Group for planning this social event. We look forward to gathering with you, and welcoming several new parishioners to our community of faith.

SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS HOLY FAMILY and NEW YEAR'S MASSES

The 4th Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve.

- Dec 23 - 5:00 pm Forth Sunday of Advent Vigil Mass
- Dec 24 - 10:00 am Forth Sunday of Advent Mass
- Dec 24 - 5:00 pm Vigil Mass for Christmas
- Dec 24 - 10:00 pm Anticipated Midnight Mass
- Dec 25 - 10:00 am Christmas Day Mass (Holy Day of Obligation)
- Dec 30 - 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass Feast of the Holy Family
- Dec 31 - 10 am Sunday Mass (No vigil Mass for New Year's Eve).
- Jan 1 - 10 am Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. (Holy Day of Obligation).

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE

"With input from the Synod Listening Sessions and the team, the Parish Pastoral Council has worked to develop a Parish Mission and Vision. The Mission is a reflection of Jesus call to his followers on a daily basis. It is what we need to do today and always. The Vision is a reflection of the journey St. Martin's will embark on. We invite everyone to join us on this journey and more will come on how you can participate in the new year."

GRADE 7 CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

St. Martin's Parish kicked off the award winning *Chosen* Confirmation program on Sat Nov 18 with 5 youth from St. Martin's School. We welcome and pray for these students as they start their Confirmation Journey.

Still want to join us?

Who: Grade 7 Students.

When: Next session - Jan 13 at 4:45 pm

Where: St. Martin's Church

Cost: \$50 cover meals and course material

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

- Dec 20 Christmas Breakfast at Lackis Mass at 9 am - husbands welcome
- Jan 10 Regular Meeting - Nominations at this meeting for the next year. Please give us your thoughts **before** the meeting and even consider taking a position. We need to move forward.

Memberships were due in November, hopefully you renewed.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION for the Month of December

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation (Apostleship of Prayer/Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network).

OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed the last week of December (25 - 29). The office will reopen on January 2, 2024.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Tue Dec 19 - 7:00 pm

Haldimand Deanery Initiative:

St. Helen's, St. Joseph and St. Martin

Advent Reconciliation Service (Confession Form 2 with individual priests hearing confessions) Host parish St. Joseph's. This presents an opportunity to spiritually prepare ourselves for the Christmas Feasts. Extra Confessions will be made available here at St. Martin. Check bulletin for further details.

Confession can also be requested any day by calling the parish office to schedule an appointment that is convenient to YOU!

NATIVITY BLESSING

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223. So, 2023 marks the 800th anniversary of this sacred tradition.

The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time.

When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R/Who made heaven and earth.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

R/Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The leader prays with hands joined: God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God with us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever. R/Amen.