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BELIEVE AND SEE

Easter, when delight was turned to disappointment and disappointment was turned to delight. Surely Satan and the forces of evil must have thought they had won the great battle. If the forces of evil could have danced, surely they must have been dancing in the streets. They thought they had killed the Son of God.

Darkness seemed to have been reigning supreme from the time when Judas and an armed crowd, came to arrest Jesus under the cloak of darkness. Darkness provided the cover for the evil intentions of those persecuting Jesus but also for the shameful abandonment of Jesus by his disciples. Even Peter had to slink away into the darkness to hide his shame.

How the forces of evil must have rejoiced as "from noon onward there was darkness over the whole land," until at last Jesus "gave up his spirit." How they must have believed that this darkness was just a foretaste of the spiritual darkness which would envelope the earth unabated by the Light of the World. But God had another plan and turned their delight to disappointment.

While darkness still seemed to reign, Mary Magadalene and her companions, and later Peter and John, came "while it was still dark" only to find an empty tomb. Disappointment upon disappointment, or so it seemed at first. But when they realized that the face cloth was separate from the other burial wrappings, a ray of hope and light pierced the darkness, never to be extinguished again. Rather, it was a ray of hope and light which was to grow in brilliance as Christ's resurrection became known and its meaning understood. Praise God, disappointment is now turned to delight!

Christ's arrest, suffering, death, burial and resurrection introduced a new creation, a new life that has not only escaped the bonds of death but also the chains of enslavement to our natural passions and their subsequent evil behavior. With Jesus' resurrection comes power to live differently. Jesus introduces a whole new perspective and purpose to life - life lived in union and communion with the Trinity. This new-creation life is described in Ephesians 5 as walking in the Light because through the Holy Spirit's abiding presence we are able to see life with new insight. In addition, walking in the Light implies a life of holiness is possible, free from the shadows of darkness.

Wherever or whenever you are experiencing darkness of the soul, Jesus is there, a Light shining in darkness just as John said in the beginning of his Gospel. We should no longer shrink into our fears believing the lie that evil will triumph, but follow the disciples' example and seek out the resurrected Christ. He is risen, he is triumphant, we are in him, full recipients of his victory. In Christ, we are a new creation, and can experience living as a new creation in the peace and power of Jesus. Contrary to the disciple in today's Gospel reading, we need not see and believe, but instead we have the opportunity to believe and see. **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 Men & Women Retreats Team Diocese of St. Catharines

St. Martin of Tours **Roman Catholic Church**



God raised him on the third day and he appeared to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses. Acts 10.40-41

166 West Street, P.O. Box 74 Smithville, Ontario L0R 2A0 Telephone: 289-956-0221

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

Ministry Schedule - April 27/28

Hospitality Ministers

5:00 pm - Tony Mous 10:00 am - Pat Wirth & George Y.

Altar Servers

5:00pm -10:00 am -

Children's Liturgy

Deanne Long

Next Hospitality Sunday

May 5

April 21, 2019

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Lectors

5:00 pm #1 - Kelly Ann Staples

#2 - Katrina Shields 10:00 am #1 - Theresa Wilson

#2 - Tom Richardson

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers

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

Stewardship Counting

James Gunn & Antonella Presta

April 21, 2019

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - Year C MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

	1			J 1	
	Easter Octave Tues Apr 23	9:00 am	For all Blessings received from Parishioners	by Father Christopher	
	Easter Octave Wed Apr 24	9:00 am	Deceased Members of our Parish	by Father Christopher	
	Easter Octave Thur Apr 27		For the health and well-being of Martha Devlin Funeral planning meeting	by Father Christopher	
	Easter Octave Fri Apr 26	9:00 am	- 10 pm Acts Retreat Team Meeting Mississauga For graces received from Alpha Course and The Holy Spirit	by Father Christopher by Father Christopher	
1:00 pm First Holy Communion Rehearsal for both groups. Easter Octave Sat Apr 27 <i>The 2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday</i>					
			Funeral Mass For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family		
	Sunday Apr 28		+For the repose of the soul of Ken Lewis For God's blessings upon Anthony & Mateo Notarianni	by Pauline Lewis by Julie & Tony Notarian	
	1:00 pm First Holy Communion Mass - Mrs. Lee-Anne Szabo's Class				

UPCOMING IMPORTANT CELEBRATIONS

Easter Octave Mon Apr 22 9:00 am For Acts Retreat Teams Men and Women

- First Holy Communion (2)
 April 28, May 5 both at 1:00 pm
- Wedding Celebration May 25, 2:00pm
- Acts19 Women's Retreat May 2nd 5th
- Acts19 Men's Retreat May 30 June 2

LENTEN FOOD DRIVES

Thank you for supporting the Knights of Columbus and St. Martin's Catholic Elementary School Lenten Food Drives. Another successful appeal on behalf of others. Catholic Social Justice is extremely active in Smithville and West Lincoln.

BLESSED TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Save the date! Blessed Trinity High School, Grimsby is celebrating 25 years of Excellence! Saturday, June 8, 2019 Blessed Trinity is hosting a Pub Night and Open House. Doors open at 6pm. Tickets are \$15 each available through the school website or in person in the main office. Sunday, June 9, 2019 Anniversary Mass at St. Joseph Church at 12pm followed by Family Fun!

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

by Father Christopher

Group will meet bi-weekly centered around the 5:00pm Mass and engage in a number of activities following Mass in the parish hall and in the community. **Next Gatherings:**

April 27 Mass, Pizza, Craft
May 4 Food Drive, BBQ, Mass

May 25 Hike, Pizza, Picnic Activity Planning

WEST LINCOLN LOAF OF BREAD DINNER

This year's scheduled program at St. Martin's came to a close at the end of March. (We hosted also in January). The program continues at the Smithville Canadian Reform Church. It was truly a wonderful experience to serve and be served. A wonderful atmosphere in our church hall was experienced with music performances and delicious meals being served and enjoyed. Our numbers were less than in previous years for most Thursdays, but our last Thursday's dinner, we had a considerable increase in the number of our guests. Thank you, and to all who made this program happen; and for those that joined us for the first time. "A Big Thank You!" God bless you all for your generous hearts.

Loaf of Bread Committee

BE INSPIRED AT THE NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT 2019

Special Invitation to our
Parish Discernment Team ,Youth Ministry,
Catholic Women's League,
Knights of Columbus and Parish Events Group.
A rep or 2 from each group.

Host Site Location:

St. Michael Catholic High School, 8699 McLeod Road, Niagara Falls

When: Sat. May 4, 2019 8:45 am – 4:30 pm

Cost: FREE

Register: www.newevangelization.ca

Join thousands of Catholics from around the world at this premier conference on the New Evangelization. The event will be held live in Ottawa and webcast to host sites. Designed to inspire Catholics and help them live out their personal call to evangelize. This year's Summit features world-class Catholic speakers: Fr. James Mallon, Michael Dopp, Cardinal Gérald Lacroix, Michelle Moran, Fr. Jon Bielawski, and Michele Thompson.

Registration: The easiest and fastest way to register is to encourage your parish team to go online and register themselves at:

www.newevangelization.ca

If members wish to register online please inform the parish office immediately, as we do need to finalize numbers for the diocese. Please consider making time, and showing intent in attending this wonderful event. Thank you.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE SHARE LENT COLLECTION.

This annual collection will remain open for the entire month of April. Special envelopes are contained in the offertory envelope box. If you don't use offertory envelopes then kindly pick up the special envelopes that are available at front foyer. A good guide is to give \$1.00 per day for the 40 Days of Lent. Thankfully, many will give so much more.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

April 13/14

Sunday Offertory (91 Env):	\$ 2,018.75
Loose:	\$ 124.50
Facility Maintenance (58 Env):	\$ 725.00
Loose:	\$ 78.10
Development & Peace (8 Env)	\$ 205.00
Catholic Women's League Don	\$ 200.00
Parish Donation:	\$ 500.00
Candles:	\$ 239.00
Weekly Budget for 2019:	\$ 2,100.00
Snow Removal/Salt to date:	\$ 5,181.20
Parish Debt:	\$23,457.56

Thank you for your weekly stewardship

ACTS RETREAT PRESENTATION

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 28, a brief presentation following Mass will take place as we invite retreatants for the upcoming retreats for both men and women.

From our parish:

- Marcel Pouliot Retreat Director
- Bob Paquin Co-Director
- Dick Van Geest Core Team
- Sandy Johnson Co-Director for Women's Retreat.
- Father Christopher Spiritual Director for Men's Retreat and Main Celebrant and Preacher for Women's Retreat.

ACTS19 RETREAT

Adoration, Community, Theology, Service

A parish ACTS Retreat strives to achieve the directives of the Second Vatican Council.

It is a powerful community building experience.

Next Men's Acts Retreat
Thurs May 30, 7:00pm to Sun June 2, 1:00 pm
Queen of Apostles Mississauga.

Next Women's Acts Retreat
Thurs May 2, 7:00pm to Sun May 5, 1:00 pm
Queen of Apostles 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 or sandy.cj@live.com