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SEEKING WISDOM

Wisdom: “The ability to discern inner qualities and relationships.” (From Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary)

Have you ever been in a place where all light was obscured? It is disconcerting isn’t it? I’ve experienced this disconcerting darkness on a moonless summer night, walking on an unlit Colorado dirt road. The majestic evergreens and the sandstone rock formations obscured all real and all ambient light, creating a black cavern of uncertainty. We could not see where the dirt roadside ended and the steep sides of the perilous ditch began. Consequently, progress was slow as we carefully walked feeling with our feet for the road’s edge. For the person without wisdom, life is equally as perilous and confusing. As one progresses through life the absence of wisdom, God’s light on our human darkness, quickly magnifies the dangers and confusion.



By contrast the presence of God’s light makes even the darkest hours light. On another occasion at 3:00 a.m. on a Colorado mountainside, some 11,000 feet in elevation, all darkness was dispelled by the large, brilliant, illuminating full moon. Though we were in the deepest hours of night’s darkness, this heavenly light was so illuminating that we could have literally read a book without difficulty. This too is a good analogy about God’s wisdom. When we are immersed in situations that normally would be dark and confusing, the heavenly presence of God’s wisdom, dispels the darkness, and enlightens our path.

These two contrasting analogies are not an overstatement, or an over-simplification of the value of wisdom. Though wisdom doesn’t enable a person to escape the difficulties and challenges of life, wisdom does enable us to make sense of the seemingly senseless, and provides enlightening direction when choices must be made. On the other hand a foolish person, one who does not avail himself of God’s wisdom, suffers both confusion and the consequences of stumbling responses to life’s choices, made without light.

Where does one get wisdom? It comes from dwelling in the presence of Wisdom. Saint Cyprian explains it well, “The commands of the Gospel are nothing else than God’s lessons, the foundations on which to build up hope, the support for strengthening faith, the food that nourishes the heart. They are the rudder for keeping us on the right course, the protection that keeps our salvation secure. As they instruct the receptive minds of believers on earth, they lead safely to the kingdom of God.”

We make ourselves available to soak in, and absorb wisdom as we make ourselves available to the Holy Spirit through sacred Scripture and godly people. Insight becomes second nature, as we become “partakers of the divine nature,” (2 Peter 1:3-4) and as we learn from God’s truth and see life from God’s perspective. St James says, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives to all men generously and without reproaching, and it will be given him.” We simply need to develop a lifelong program of asking God for wisdom, and making ourselves available to God to be taught wisdom by the Holy Spirit. Pope John XXIII provides a good example to follow. Not only did he begin pursuing wisdom as a youth, but even at 76 years of age, he was still seeking wisdom and praying, “O Lord, we are now in the evening of our life. Give me more light as evening falls.” May God find us also pursuing wisdom.

Emmaus Journey Reflections

Bishop of the Diocese
Most Reverend Gerard P.Bergie, D.D.

Pastor
Father Christopher Gerard Gillen

Sunday Masses
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00 a.m.
Wed @ 6:30 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
First Friday @ 8:00am

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
Communion for the Sick and Shut-ins
Please call the office.

Secretary
Sandy Johnson
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

St Martin School
Phone 905-957-3032

Cemetery
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

Diocese of St. Catharines

St. Martin of Tours
Catholic Church



In Remembrance

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

Ministry Schedule - Nov 18/19

Hospitality Ministers
5:00 pm - Needed
9:00 am - Needed
11:00 am - Needed

Altar Servers
5:00 pm - Needed
9:00 am - Needed
11:00 am - Needed

Children's Liturgy
Needed

Next Hospitality Sunday
December 3

Nov 12, 2017

32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Keep Awake

Lectors
5:00 pm #1 - Yolanda Baldasaro
#2 - Kelly Staples
9:00 am #1 - Tom Richardson
#2 - Marg Van Geest
11:00 am #1 - Caroline Steger
#2 - Andrew Steger

Ministers of Communion
5:00 pm - Doug Devlin & Tom Shields
9:00 am - Vern Dell & Dick V.
11:00 am - Sherri deWilde & Barb J.

Counting
Adam Gryzbek & Sandy Johnson

November 12, 2017

The 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



*Lord, may the request of your people
rise before you like a fragrant offering*

Monday	Nov 13	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Michael Chorley	by Maria Chorley
Tuesday	Nov 14	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Dina Klunder	by John and Riky Mulder
Wednesday	Nov 15	6:30 pm	+For the repose of the soul of John Newman	by the Newman family
Thursday	Nov 16	9:00 am	For health and healing of Paul Massad	by Joyce and Rodney Ross
Friday	Nov 17	St. Elizabeth of Hungary 9:00 am	For the health and healing of Lenora & Regina Newman	by Valerie Newman
Saturday	Nov 18	The 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 pm	For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	
Sunday	Nov 19	9:00 am	+For the repose of the soul of Antonietta Carbonara	by Vern and Josie Dell
		11:00 am	For the health and healing of Bob Hignett	by Heather Belmont

CWL CORNER

The CWL are still selling Giant Tiger Gift Cards in the following denominations: \$10, \$25 and \$50. All the proceeds will go our parish CWL. There will be a CWL member at each of the Masses selling these cards.

The CWL Memberships are now due for 2018. It would be appreciated if you can please drop the \$20.00 membership into the collection basket marked for the CWL.

The CWL will be hosting a Paint Party on Wed. Nov 22 @ 7pm - Dragon Flies and Cattails. The cost is \$30 per person. You must preregister and prepay. More information will be in a flyer in next weeks bulletin or contact Elaine Parry at 905-957-0673

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Wednesday, November 29th at 10:00am.
First Meetings with parents and children,
Tuesday, November 14, at 6:30pm (church).
Retreat for Grade 2, Wednesday, November 22,
at school beginning at 10:00am.

KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

November 22, 2017, 9:00am-6:00pm

SANTA IS COMING

There is a Sign-Up sheet in the foyer of the church for children who would like to meet Santa Claus on Sunday December 3rd at noon following the 11am Mass.

Please indicate the number and the ages of the children so that a Christmas goodie bag will be waiting for them.

Thank you, St. Martin's CWL

POINSETTIA SALE

The Parish Events Group (PEG) will again be taking orders for Poinsettias. Payment must accompany your order. Cost of plants is \$10.00 for 6" and \$20.00 for 8". Choice of colours will be Red, White or Marble. Orders will be taken after masses on Nov.11/12 by a PEG Committee member.



This year you may pick up your order at the Parish Coffee social/bake sale on Sun Dec. 3 after masses or at Vineland Watering Can. from Nov 13 to Dec.15, 2017.

Both the parish and school are selling Poinsettias and are offering the same product at the same price at the same locations. The school profits are for the school and the PEG's profits are for the parish.

KOC CHRISTMAS CARDS

The KOC will be selling Christmas Card after the 9am and 11am Masses on Sunday November 19 and again after the 5pm Mass on Saturday November 25. A box set of cards will cost \$8.00.



All proceeds will go to Right To Life.

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

At the end of the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis called for a World Day of the Poor to be celebrated on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time each year. The first World Day of the Poor will take place on Sunday, November 19 with the theme "Let us love, not with words but with deeds." Pope Francis says: "This new World Day, therefore, should become a powerful appeal to our consciences as believers, allowing us to grow in the conviction that sharing with the poor enables us to understand the deepest truth of the Gospel". Here we find the purpose of this celebration.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of St. Andrew Parish and St. Mary Parish, Welland are hosting a Pope Francis Table at St. Mary's Church. Clients will be invited to a pasta lunch on Sunday, November 19 in the parish hall. This follows the example of Pope Francis who will be offering lunch to approximately 500 poor people in the Vatican's audience hall on that day.

DEO GRATIAS COLLECTION

Please support the *Deo Gratias* Collection of November 18/19, 2017. All revenue will go to our Clergy Aid Society. We are grateful to God, and to our retired clergy in the Diocese of St. Catharines who, from the time of their ordination, have cared for us and our spiritual needs. In thanksgiving to God for them and their years of faithful service, your generous support of the *Deo Gratias* collection will enable us to care for those who have dedicated their lives to caring for us. The revenue from this collection does not go into an endowment fund but goes directly to the Clergy Aid Society which provides an income for our retired clergy.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Last Sunday's Offering November 5, 2017
\$3,141.00 - Envelopes (85)
\$87.45 - Loose

Facility Maintenance Offering
\$845.00 - Envelopes (48)
\$31.40 - Loose

Catholic Women's League Donation
\$2,000.00

*Thank you for your tithe/stewardship.
God Bless.*

LAST CALL FOR REGENERATED 2017

Regenerated 2017 will take place again at the Scotiabank Convention Centre in Niagara Falls, Ontario on Saturday, November 18th. The theme is "What is Truth?" – great speakers will address atheism, relativism, the divisions in Christianity and how to discuss these issues with family and friends. **Regenerated Youth 2017** will also run concurrently for ages 12 to 18. Tickets are available at the door, at www.branchesoftheword.org or by calling Branches at 905-685-7000.

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

Zoe Dayboll – Nov 13
Dante Joyner/Erin Beckett – Nov 14
Patrick Koudys – Nov 15
Claudette Sassou-Messan - Nov 16
Brenda Wilson – Nov 16
Ana Ohlhoss – Nov 17
Hunter Diletti – Nov 19

Anniversaries:

Alfons & Bea Blokhuis – Nov 16
Derek & Jessica Pannozzo – Nov 16

