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UNITY WITH CHRIST

In a magazine was an article about how Pope John Paul II, we see how he assisted the cooperative evangelization efforts of a Polish Catholic youth ministry named Oasis, and Campus Crusade for Christ which is a Protestant evangelical organization. The article reveals several ways in which the then Cardinal and later Pope extended arms of friendship and grace to several, clearly evangelical, Protestants in a desire to work together to bring Christ to Catholics in Poland and Italy. Two things are interesting about the article. One is the undertone of amazement that a Catholic would assist evangelicals. The other is the skepticism that he could clearly be ranked as an evangelical: "Was Pope John Paul II an evangelical? In the current usage and meaning of the word, many would say of course not. But many American evangelicals saw in Wojtyla a man devoted to a biblical faith in Christ and committed to proclaiming the gospel to an increasingly lost secular world. He shared the core values of American evangelicalism: Christocentrism, Biblicism, evangelism, and anti-secularism. Dah!, as the kids would say. If it looks like a duck, walks like a duck, and quacks likes a duck - it's a duck. I know of no other man who could more honestly be declared evangelical than our beloved Holy Father, Saint Pope John Paul II.

His behavior in advancing the cause of Christ by encouraging Catholics and evangelicals to work together is consistent with Christ, consistent with his life and values, and consistent with the Church's teachings. The Council has stated: Catholics must joyfully acknowledge and esteem the truly Christian endowments from our common heritage which are to be found among our separated brothers and sisters. It is right and salutary to recognize the riches of Christ and virtuous works in the lives of others who are bearing witness to Christ, sometimes even to the shedding of their blood. For God is always wonderful in his works and worthy of admiration.

Pope John Paul II, Popes Benedict XVI, and Francis I, along with their predecessors John XXIII, and Paul VI, have brought a new depth of understanding and spirituality to how we should relate to non-Catholic Christians. In this respect they have provided a wonderful service to the cause of Christ, not only within Catholicism but throughout Christendom. They have fully captured the heart of Jesus' mission and methodology for reaching the world: namely, that Christians' unity and love for one another should be a light and beacon of hope to a dark and divided world. (John 13:34.35)

We wonder how Christendom could have missed and ignored for so long; Jesus' desire for unity and love among his followers, it is beyond comprehension. That is, it is beyond our comprehension until we reflect on our own feelings of rivalry, competition and party spirit toward other Christian groups, parishes, and denominations. In our human understanding, to be for something, necessarily means to be against some other thing. This should not be so. In Jesus' heart and mind, to be for something means to be for it in whatever various forms it appears. Consequently, Jesus rejects his disciples call for partisanship, and does not forbid others who willingly bear his name, from doing so just because they were not part of his specific band of disciples. Jesus' concern is not partisanship but the spread of the Good News to a corrupt and hopeless world.

Today the world is increasing in moral decay and hopelessness. To sit around arguing about who is the greatest and expending our energies to put down those who do not totally agree with us in every detail, while ignoring their unity with us regarding Jesus' divinity, salvation, and mission, is to lose sight of both reality, and Jesus' objective. Today more than ever we must unite to know, honor, and glorify the Savior, to bring his saving truth to a lost world. In the eyes of the world, cooperation among Christians becomes a form of common Christian witness and a means of evangelization which benefits all involved. Only those who choose to remain out of the spiritual battle for the hearts of the world can enjoy the luxury of expending their energies on intra-Christian squabbling. **Emmaus Journey Reflections**

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

Pastor Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.

> Sunday Masses Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 10:00 a.m.

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament To Be Re-Scheduled

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 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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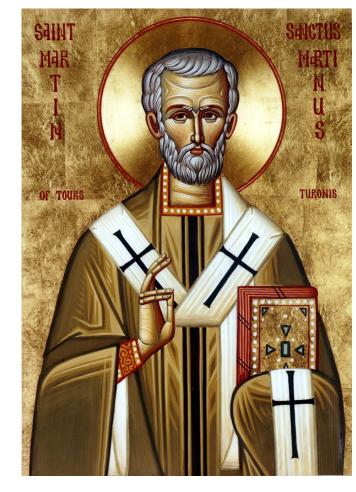
Parish Organizations Catholic Women's League Knights of Columbus

Parish Groups Scripture Study . Children's Liturgy West Lincoln Loaf of Bread Parish Events Group

Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

Diocese of St. Catharines

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



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

Ministry Schedule - October 6/7 **Hospitality Ministers**

5:00 pm - Dosseh & Claudette S 10:00 am - Marcel Pouliot

Altar Servers

5:00 pm - Needed 10:00 am - Needed

Children's Liturgy

Next Hospitality Sunday

October 7th - Welcome Back & Sign Up Sunday

September 30, 2018

The 26th Sunday in **Ordinary** Time

5:00 pm #1 - Sue Armstrong #2 - Mitch Pogoda 10:00 am #1 - Tom Richardson #2 - Marg Van Geest

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 pm - Tom S. & Yolanda B. 10:00 am - Andrew, Caroline & Vern

Stewardship Counting

Beth Davis & Sandy Johnson

September 30, 2018 The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



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

Monday	Oct 1	(NEW) NO MASS rather emistopher's Day Off	
Tuesday	Oct 2	 The Holy Guardian Angels 9:00 am +In memory of Joseph Olascki, Charles Parjker, Olga Mous and Winnie Stadelbauer (Benefactors) 	by St. Martin's Parish
Wednesday	Oct 3	 10:30 am. Gethsemane Centre Wellandport - followed by Exposition 6:30 pm For the special intentions of John & Riky Mulder on their 65 by John & Riky Mulder Knights of Columbus General Meeting 7:00 pm Parish Hall 	
Thursday	Oct 4	St Francis of Assisi 9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of James Flaherty	by Maureen Flaherty
Friday	Oct 5	9:00 am For the special intentions of the Devlin children, in-law Children and grandchildren +For the repose of the souls of John & Regina Newman	by Doug & Maeve Devlin by family
Saturday	Oct 6	<i>The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> 5:00 pm For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	
Sunday	Oct 7	10:00 am For the God's blessings upon Anita Duggan on her birthday +For the repose of the soul of Fred Bell For the health and healing of Andy Wirth	by Heather Belmont by Sherri deWilde by Heather Belmont

(NEW) NO MASS Father Christopher's Day Off

"With thankfulness to God, Smithville Christian Reformed Church is excited to announce the Grand Opening of their new facility, and is hosting a Grand Opening weekend, featuring an Open House for the community on Saturday, October 13, 2018, from 1-4 pm. Take a walk through at your own leisure, refreshments provided! There will be a Celebration evening Saturday from 7 – 8 pm featuring greetings from local churches and our elected officials, and there will be a Dedication Service on Sunday, October 14 at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited... come as you are!"

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY

The Diocesan SEPARATED AND DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY support group monthly meeting. September topics are:

- Cause of Anger Tues. Oct. 9
- Working Through The Anger Oct 22

Meetings are the second and fourth Mondays from 7pm to 9pm at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, 7020 Stanley Ave. Niagara Falls. For a pamphlet or information call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154 or email separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com.

ST. MARTIN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

Confirmation and First Reconciliation and First Eucharist Package has been presented to our young people.

PARENT MEETING

Tuesday, October 23, at 7:00pm in the Church

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 7:00pm

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Tuesday. Dec. 11 & 18, 2018 – 7pm

PARENT MEETING

Thursday, Nov ember 15 at 7pm in the Church

FIRST EUCHARIST

To be confirmed based on numbers. Sunday. Apr 28 and May 5, 2019 – 1pm

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OCTOBERFEST DINNER DANCE PARISH HALL

Saturday October 27th
Doors open at 6:00pm
Dinner at 7:00pm
Food provided by The Best Little Menu
Music by 5th Avenue
Tickets: \$25.00/person
Tickets will be sold after every Mass
All proceeds go the Knights of Columbus

BISHOP'S COLLECTION FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN CANADA

September 29-30 Every year, the Bishops of Canada make an appeal for financial assistance to support their work and the work of each diocese/eparchy by means of the Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada. This collection is an Invitation to "all the faithful to participate in the life and mission of the Church through their active involvement in the life of their parish community, their prayers, their diverse charisms, their moral support, and the contributions of their time and talents". This annual charitable initiative furthers the collegiality and synodality of the Bishops' ministry in leading, shepherding, teaching, guiding, sanctifying, and pastorally caring for all of God's children, disciples of Christ in Canada.

BISHOP'S CHARTIES DINNER

Saturday October 20th, Club Roma St. Catharines.
Doors open at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m.
There will be door prizes, a 50/50 draw and a silent auction with many stellar items. Circle the date
October 20th, and plan on joining us.
Tickets \$50.00 per person.

Please contact the Knights of Columbus St. Martin of Tours Council 16241. Speak with a Knight following Mass. Or visit church notice board for further information.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SEPTEMBER 8/9, 2018

Sunday Offering (70 Env): \$ 1,800.00 Loose: \$ 197.40

Thank you for your faithful stewardship

PARISH DISCERNMENT GROUP V Next Parish Team Meeting is Saturday October 20, 2018 - 9:30 am to 12 noon.

At Gethsemane Centre Wellandport.

DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY MASS

Married couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th anniversary in the year 2018 are invited to the Diocesan Anniversary Mass, Monday November 26, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. Catherines of Alexandria, St. Catharines. To register and receive a formal invitation from Bishop Gerald Bergie, contact the parish office to fill out a registration form by October 12. Details will be included in the formal invitation.

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

Isabella Sposato – Sept 30
Maria Jones/Sheri Harkin – Oct 1
Kayla Grant/Avery Takacs – Oct 2
Giullianna Bruzzese/Juno Evans – Oct 3
Patrick Porzuczek/Alex Joyner – Oct 4
Tom Shields/Adam Pereira – Oct 5
Jamie Hayward – Oct 6
Joshua Dayboll – Oct 7

Anniversaries:

Doug & Sylvana Oliver – Oct 1 John & Riky Mulder – Oct 3

GENTLE REMINDER

NEXT HOSPITALITY SUNDAY October 14th - Welcome Back & Sign Up Sunday.