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SPIRITUAL HUNGER

If you have ever tried feeding a toddler who doesn’t know what they want to eat you know how difficult it is to satisfy an unidentified desire. Though they are offered numerous and diverse lunch choices they push them away with dissatisfaction. Usually the issue is not one of hunger for food but of a general attitude of dissatisfaction and hunger of spirit.

The crowds who followed Jesus evidenced a similar hunger of spirit. Like a child’s question, “Mom, what is there to eat?” those who followed Jesus were also asking legitimate questions due to their spiritual hunger. But in a similar way to a child’s boredom and rejection of the choices, these seekers of Jesus rejected and were unwilling to receive the Bread of Life which the Father put before them to satisfy their hunger. Though in this week’s Gospel reading they responded, “Lord give us this bread always,” by the end of the day they abandoned Jesus and the Bread of Life which the Father sent from heaven.

Dissatisfaction of spirit is often manifest in many different ways. Some people have an uneasy restlessness that seeks satisfaction for spiritual hunger in the pursuit of one thing after another. This spiritual hunger often drives people to pursue the latest toy, the latest philosophy, or the latest experience. Like a universal remote control, they are haphazardly flipping through the options of life but never able to settle on anything that fully satisfies their inner hunger. We would do well to heed Jesus’ advice to them to re-evaluate their lives and to not continue to expend their energies on things which do not satisfy.

Even as we cannot live without food, so the spirit of man cannot survive and thrive without the spiritual nourishment which is Jesus himself. In the subsequent three weeks, the Gospel readings will explore John 6 and Jesus’ discourse on the Bread of Life. We will read of the promise that by partaking of him we will receive real life. St. Thomas à Kempis said, “This most high and venerable Sacrament is the health of soul and body, the cure of every spiritual malady. By it, our vices are cured, our passions restrained, temptations are lessened, grace is given in fuller measure, and virtue once established is fostered; faith is confirmed, hope is strengthened, and love kindled and deepened.” Jesus is the source of life and when he comes to us in the Eucharist he comes to make a difference in us.

One difference we can expect to see in our life is that our hunger of spirit will be satisfied. However, we would be remiss if we over-looked the corresponding truth of this week’s second reading. Jesus fully intends to reveal himself to us through Sacred Scripture also. It is through the Scriptures that he brings about renewal of our mind, and enables us to know him; his values, his character, his nature, his truths in an intimate way, and so “learn Christ.” It is this relationship of knowing him that removes the hunger of spirit.

In the coming weeks we will also hear afresh the invitation to believe and to receive him into our heart and life through the sacred Scriptures and in the Eucharist. We are invited to receive his Body and Blood as confirmation of our faith and commitment to follow him. St. Thomas à Kempis went on to say, “Blessed is the man who, whenever he celebrates the Eucharist or receives Communion, offers himself to Our Lord as a living sacrifice.”

In the coming weeks we will learn both the right and the wrong way to respond to Jesus and the truth that he is the Bread of Life sent from the Father. How, in the future, will we respond to this invitation? May God help us to do so with an active faith which enables us to continually offer ourselves to him as a living sacrifice.

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
Mon, 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.

Bookkeeper
Tracy Pigott

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

Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

Ministry Schedule - Sept 8/9
Hospitality Ministers
5:00 pm - Claudette & Dosseh S.
10:00 am - Andy & Pat Wirth

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

Children's Liturgy
Begins on Sept 23rd

Next Hospitality Sunday
October 7th - Welcome Back &
Sign Up Sunday

Diocese of St. Catharines

St. Martin of Tours

Roman Catholic Church



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www.stmartinsparish.com

September 2, 2018

**The 22nd
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time**

Lectors
5:00 pm #1 - Tom Shields
#2 - Katrina Shields
10:00 am #1 - Marg Van Geest
#2 - Tom Richardson

Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers
5:00 pm - Tom S. & Yolanda B.
10:00 am - Marcel, Sherri & Victoria

Stewardship Counting
Mary Anne Paradis & Jennifer Fife

September 2, 2018

The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



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

Monday	Sept 3	St Gregory the Great/ Labour Day 9:00 am +In memory of Joseph Olascki, Charles Parker, Olga Mous and Winnie Stadelbauer	by St. Martin's Parish
Tuesday	Sept 4	9:00 am For the special intentions of Doug & Maeve Devlin	by Heather Belmont
Wednesday	Sept 5	****NO MASS TODAY****	
Thursday	Sept 6	9:00 am +For the repose of the soul of Manuel DaSilva +For the repos of the soul of Nick Shea	by Maria Borges by Andy & Helen Lipiec
Friday	Sept 7	9:00 am For the special intentions of the Devlin children, in-law children and grandchildren	by Doug & Maeve Devlin
Saturday	Sept 8	The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 11:00 am Baptism of Ayden Leitao 5:00 pm For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish family	
Sunday	Sept 9	10:00 am +For the repose of the souls of Joseph & Dorothy Bering +For the repose of the soul of Nick Shea For the health and healing of Tori Whitaker	by daughter, Brenda by Joan & Bob Hignett by Heather Belmont

YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE

Rev. Father Christopher G Gillen
30 years of Priestly Service
Anniversary Mass to be celebrated Sunday,
September 16th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
A luncheon at 12:00 P.M. in the church hall.
Please RSVP Via Sign up form in church foyer.
Please indicate number of adults and children to attend.
Thank You.

September 14, The Triumph of the Holy Cross marks
one year of Father Christopher's appointment as parish
priest to St. Martin of Tours.

SEXUAL ABUSE CRISIS

We share with you Bishop Gerard Bergie's Pastoral
Letter regarding the Pennsylvania Grand Jury report
with today's bulletin as an insert. Extra copies are
available at main foyer. We're all devastated by the
horrific suffering of these many victims, and we're
wondering what to do next. In the victims' testimonies,
one feels the pain and the shame even these many
years later. The magnitude of the violation is hard to
imagine when the victim sees the abuser as a
representative of God. The abuse is horrific. Perhaps
this scandal will help us to claim our humanity as the
church, the people of God, inviting us all to reimagine
how to live into the future. God, have mercy, on us all.

MASS OF PENANCE AND HEALING

Bishop Bergie will pray for all those harmed by the
sinful actions of priests and religious in our diocese and,
in a spirit of repentance, will seek forgiveness and God's
mercy. During our anniversary we need to celebrate the
good, and also acknowledge the pain that is part of our
history. At this Mass we will pray for God's healing as we
focus on the cross which is the greatest sign of God's love.

As part of our observance of the 60th anniversary of our
diocese, a Mass of Penance and Healing will be
celebrated on Friday, September 14, 2018, the Feast of
the Triumph of the Cross, at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral of St.
Catherine of Alexandria.

SCHOOL RETURNS TUESDAY, SEPT 4. Opening School Mass, September 14.

Catholic schools and parents share "in the central mission
of the Church, which is to proclaim Jesus and His Gospel in
the world today and, in so doing, hand on our faith to our
children." Catholic Education is education with a purpose. It
is a joint effort, between parents, teachers, trustees,
administrators and our entire Catholic Community to educate
our children in a manner that is permeated by the Catholic
faith. Our parishes play a vital role in education, and you will
regularly find our priests in our schools, speaking to students,
and providing spiritual guidance as needed. We are
essentially teaching our students not only the skills they need
to be successful in the workplace, but also the skills and
morals necessary to be a well-rounded Christian.

Catholic Education is moral-based education, where every
student is seen as a gift from God to be nurtured and
cherished.

Parish Discernment Group V

Next Parish Team Meeting is Saturday
September 29, 2018 - 9:30am to 12 noon.
At Gethsemane Centre Wellandport.

Results of Parish Survey

Eternal Light, shine in our hearts. Eternal Power, be
our strength. Eternal Wisdom, guide us as we serve
you. Eternal Goodness, you have drawn us to your
heart and united us in the Sacrament of Christ's Body
and Blood. Now grant that with all our heart, and mind,
and strength, We all may evermore seek your face.

And finally, by your infinite love, grant us wisdom as
we seek to discern Your will for this Parish of St. Martin.
Help us to keep the needs of every member and of the
greater community in our minds and hearts through
every step of this discernment process.

In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

HEALING MINISTRY

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

- The Journey of Separation and Divorce – Sept 10
- Coping with stresses of Separation and Divorce – Sept 24

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 infor-
mation call 905-356-4113 or 905-684-0154 or email
separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com.

No preregistration required.

BEST WISHES THIS WEEK TO

Birthdays:

Quincy Johnson – Sept 2
Daniel Grzybek/Desiree Hayward – Sept 3
Janet Vacon – Sept 6
Hunter Duliban/Candace Pavao - Sept 8
Jozef Porzuczek/Kendall Sarantakos - Sept 8
Casey Yakowenko – Sept 8
Barbara Gumieniak/Emily Chiarcos - Sept 9
Ethan Rakonjac – Sept 9

Anniversaries:

Adam & Kelly Duliban – Sept 3
Steven & Elizabeth Joyner – Sept 5
Tom & Kathleen Diletti – Sept 8

**Visit parish notice boards for more Community
Events as we cannot publish all events.**

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

AUGUST 4/5, 2018

Sunday Offering (62 Env):	\$ 2045.00
Loose:	\$ 109.00
Facility Maintenance (41 Env):	\$ 480.00
Loose:	\$ 47.00
Hall Rentals (Funerals):	\$ 300.00
CWL Donation to Parish:	\$ 350.00

AUGUST 11/12, 2018

Sunday Offering (61 Env):	\$ 1614.00
Loose:	\$ 87.00
Catholic Missions (36 Env):	\$ 475.00
Loose:	\$ 22.00
Late Facility Maintenance (2 Env):	\$ 15.00
Summer Mission Appeal (3 Env):	\$ 35.00
Candle Monies:	\$ 187.00

AUGUST 18/19, 2018

Sunday Offering (65 Env):	\$ 1500.00
Loose:	\$ 62.00
Late Catholic Missions (3 Env):	\$ 50.00
Baptism Donations (2 Env):	\$ 150.00
Memorial Donations:	\$ 410.00
HST Rebate:	\$ 1284.97

AUGUST 25/26, 2018

Sunday Offering (63 Env):	\$ 1501.00
Loose:	\$ 42.00
Mission Appeal (24 Env):	\$ 552.00
Loose:	\$ 229.10
Facility Maintenance (1 Env)	\$ 1150.00

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

REGENERATED 2018 CONFIRMED

Are you aware that the gifts you received at
Confirmation from the Holy Spirit are to prepare you for
battle? You may ask what kind of battle are we talking
about? It's called "Spiritual Warfare" ... it's real and it's
growing!

On Saturday, November 17th join Branches Catholic
Ministries at the Scotiabank Convention Centre in
Niagara Falls as it host **Regenerated 2018**. Keynote
speakers such as Johnnette Benkovic, Thomas
Sullivan, Dr. Edward Sri and others will address the
misconceptions about this Sacrament and its
importance to the stability of the family and ultimately
society at large. **Regenerated Youth** will run
concurrently for ages 12 to 18.

If you are interested in purchasing "early-bird" tickets
(before Oct 31st) or for more information about these
conferences visit: branchesoftheword.org.

**Summer Should Get A Speeding Ticket.
HAPPY LABOUR DAY WEEKEND.**