

ST. LAWRENCE O'TOOLE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Est. 1934



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PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Temporary closed – Leave phone message

PASTOR

Rev. Patrick M. Dobec, P.P.

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS

See Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday 3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. - Sacristy

Weekdays – Before weekday Masses in Sacristy,
or by appointment

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

16 MAY 2021

Let us pray . . .

Saint Joseph, Pray for Us

For the sick and the suffering . . . that those experiencing the wounds of illness, isolation, anxiety and abuse may find healing and wholeness in the peace bestowed by the Risen Christ.

For those who seek the mercy of God . . . that they may joyfully know the depths of God's infinite love and mercy, as won for them in Christ's passion, death and resurrection.

For those who have died and left this transitory life . . . especially the repose souls of all the Covid-19 Victims .
Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiescant in Pace!

EASTER OCTAVE

Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Phelanda Hall by the Family
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	(Anniversary) Reverend Jack Green by the Parish
Thursday	12:00 noon 12:10 p.m.	Regina Caeli Patrick Cowan by David and Carmel Rumleskie
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Teresa Sullivan by Phyllis Sieben

PENTECOST SUNDAY 23 MAY 2021

Saturday	4:30 p.m.	Alice and John Dwyer by the Dwyer Family
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo (Mass for all the People)

LITURGICAL APPOINTMENTS

May 22nd

May 23rd

Readers

Paul Aikenhead

Pierre-Paul & Judy Filion

**Extraordinary Ministers
of Holy Communion**

Paschal Candle: The Easter Candle remains near the altar or ambo until Pentecost Sunday inclusively to remind us of the presence of the Risen Lord.

Noble Offspring of David, Pray for Us: He [God] saw to it that Joseph be born of the royal family; He wanted him to be noble even with earthly nobility. The blood of David, of Solomon, and of all the kings of Judah flows in his veins – St. Peter Julian Eymard

Today's Gospel – What these two women have done is the work Jesus challenges all of us to take on. In every kindness we offer, in every word of encouragement and comfort we utter, in every moment we spend listening and supporting, we proclaim the Risen Jesus' Gospel of compassion, mercy and reconciliation. Every good work – however small or hidden – is a spark of the light of the Risen Christ in our midst.

Pope Francis is requesting that during this month of May the entire Church invoke the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the end of the pandemic and, in a special way, he is inviting all of us to pray fervently for those most closely affected by it.

During each day of May, guided by a calendar with specific intentions, all the Shrines around the world, united in a communion of supplications, will lift up their prayers, which, like the fragrance of incense, will rise up to heaven.

Thirty Marian Shrines will take turns leading this prayer throughout the Church and offering the faithful a series of prayer moments for them to participate throughout the entire day.

Perhaps you could participate, Salt & Light Channel at 4:00 p.m. or EWTN Channel 3:30 p.m.

May 16th – St. Mary's Cathedral (Australia) – For all victims of violence and human trafficking

May 17th – Immaculate Conception (U.S.A) – For all world leaders and for all heads of international organization

May 18th – Our Lady of Lourdes (France) – For all doctors and nurses

May 19th – Mother Mary's House (Turkey) – For all people at war and for world peace

May 20th – Our Lady of Charity of Copper (Cuba) – For all pharmacists and health care personnel

May 21st – Our Lady of Nagasaki (Japan) – For all social workers

May 22nd – Our Lady of Montserrat (Spain) – For all volunteers

Let us pray for the end of pandemic united in the recitation of the Holy Rosary together with the Shrines around the world.

Pentecost 2021 Festival of Praise – Featured online from 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. (prayer teams 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.), on Sunday, May 23rd. No charge. The Ark and The Dove is partnering with Praise Nation and Pentecost Today USA to bring you an afternoon of worship and renewal as we pray together for a new and ongoing Pentecost! Join us online at <https://www.thearkandthedoveworldwide.org/en/pentecost-2021/> for a Pentecost celebration at The Ark and The Dove, home of the Duquesne Weekend – Baptism in the Holy Spirit!

We are Grateful to Maxine Smaglinski who donated to the Building Fund in memory of Phelanda Hall and to John and Joanne Olsen who donated to the Building Fund in memory of Phelanda Hall and Sylvio Jean.

Registered Households 182
Last Sunday Offering \$2575.00

51 Household Envelopes & 3 E-transfers: \$2449.00 Pastoral Works: \$61.00 Building Fund: \$65.00

“Building the Future of Our Faith”
Thank you for your faithful generosity. God will bless you..

If I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you.

(John 16.5-11)

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Why are you standing there looking at the sky?

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

An old woman once entered a small church on the feast of the Ascension. As she greeted the priest, she said to him, "Father, on this feast of the Ascension, you will surely talk to us about heaven!" And the priest replied, "Dear friend, you will probably be disappointed to hear what I have to say, but no: today I am going to speak to you rather about the earth, because the Ascension is the feast of the earth."

Why is this the feast of earth rather than of heaven? Let us consider the account in the Acts of the Apostles: as Christ ascended into the clouds, two men dressed in white (angels, no doubt) spoke to the disciples who were standing there with their eyes fixed on heaven: "*Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.*" (Acts 1:11)

The angels of God actually wanted to challenge the apostles and disciples to rejoice rather than grieve over the departure of their Master. And why did they say this? Because once he has returned to his Father, the Holy Spirit can be sent to us from heaven on the day of Pentecost, to clothe us with his Presence, his strength, his protection and all the necessary gifts and charisms that would allow us to continue the mission of evangelization that Jesus began on earth and that he now entrusts to each one of us.

Our world would hate and persecute us much less if we were content to contemplate the clouds, decorate the churches and promote a God who would not demand any change in the attitudes or behaviour of his children. This would be a religion of mediocrity. In such a case, what would happen to our apostolic zeal which impels us to announce the urgency of conversion in order to avoid the last judgment and to be welcomed into heaven? And with such a perception of God and religion, we would all become insipid and lukewarm Christians, without backbone and without savour, because the destiny and salvation of souls who stray from the path of God would not really dwell in our hearts and would leave us indifferent and without compassion.

If we Christians have come to disturb so much the world in which we live, it is precisely because the Spirit of Christ lives within us, challenges it and disturbs it deeply. Our belief in God, our time of intimacy with Him and our way of life often become a living reproach for these living dead who can no longer bear the divine light: on the contrary, it dazzles them and hurts them because their eyes have long since become accustomed to the darkness that invades this world. Having said this, we must admit that we nevertheless love deeply these living dead, because they are our brothers and sisters and because Christ offers them, as he did for each of us, the grace to be healed of their blindness, of this spirit of darkness which seduces them and imprisons them spiritually.

Here is an indisputable sign that describes the character and personality of true Christians: inhabited as they are by the Spirit of God, they no longer fear earthly death and they desire, following the example of Christ, to give their life for others if necessary, in order to introduce them also into the abundant and eternal life of which Jesus spoke in the Gospel of John. Authentic Christians are not afraid to offer themselves as a sacrifice and to serve God and neighbour, because their only motive is the eternal happiness of others. Like a mother who has just given birth to her first child and would want to share and express out loud her joy to the whole world, they always seem eager to share with them the profound spiritual happiness that inhabits them and inspires them.

On this feast of the Ascension, we should realize that our mission is both divine and earthly, for it must lead us to work for the well-being of human beings while keeping our hearts, not our eyes, fixed on the realities above through our actions and thoughts, our times of prayer and meditation.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us alleviate human miseries, let us console and heal all forms of illness, oppression and injustice, violence or lies, perversity or obsession of any kind that come our way. Let us dare to invite our brothers and sisters who have distanced themselves from the Christian faith to participate again in our liturgical assemblies and in our prayer or faith-sharing groups. The great celebration of the Ascension invites us to do so and challenges us to live in expectation of the fulfillment of the promise of the sending of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Until then, let us show the Lord our true desire to be clothed with this power from above to accomplish the mission he has entrusted to us on earth. Let us always keep heaven in our hearts and work boldly and joyfully at the tasks and activities that we must accomplish on earth as Christians. Yes indeed, the feast of the Ascension is the feast of earth rather than of heaven!

Sincerely yours in the Risen Christ,

+Guy Desrochers, C.Ss.R.

Bishop of Pembroke