

ST. LAWRENCE O'TOOLE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

19450 Opeongo Line, Barry's Bay, ON K0J 1B0

Est. 1934



Fr. John N. Burchat, Parish Priest
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Maureen Kiedroski, *Office Administrator*
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday & Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

*For emergencies during the week also call
Holy Canadian Martyrs at 613-756-3606
during Office Hours: Wednesday & Thursday,
9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE: As the Advent season comes to its climax, we are reminded that all of time and history comes to a kind of fulfillment in the Messiah. All of the strands of history are gathered together in him. To use the language of St. Paul, all of space and time is recapitulated in Christ. This Sunday our three readings show a pattern in history that spans seven centuries and calls out to us now two thousand years later: It's all about Jesus. ~ *Bishop Robert Barron*

ADVENT CONFESSION IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS:

Before all weekday and Saturday Masses

Sunday, December 18 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. @ Holy Canadian Martyrs

Sunday, December 18 from 3:00 p.m. @ St. Mary's

Monday, December 19 starting at 5:00 p.m. @ St. Hedwig's

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Fourth Week of Advent

December 19 – 23

Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	+Josephine, Wilfred & Kevin Cowan <i>by Thelma, Robert, Vanessa & Danielle Cowan/Williams</i>
Friday	9:00 a.m.	+ Deceased & Living Family Members <i>by Eddie & Diane Etmanskie</i>

+ The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas +

December 25

The Masses of Christmas are offered for your in memoriam flower donations and for the general intentions of all parishioners.

CHRISTMAS EVE **Saturday, December 24**

St. Lawrence O'Toole	4:00 p.m.
St. Francis de Sales	7:00 p.m.
Holy Canadian Martyrs	9:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY **Sunday, December 25**

St. Lawrence O'Toole	10:30 a.m.
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Liturgical Appointments	December 24	December 25
Readings	<i>Jane Beahen</i>	<i>Paul Aikenhead</i>
Communion	<i>Leona Chapeskie</i>	<i>Ursula Jeffrey</i>

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Saturday	- Ferial – ordinary weekday – <i>O Wisdom</i>
Sunday	- 4 th Sunday of Advent – <i>O Adonai</i>
Monday	- Ferial – ordinary weekday – <i>O Flower of Jesse's Stem</i>
Tuesday	- Ferial – ordinary weekday – <i>O Key of David</i>
Wednesday	- St. Peter Canisius, priest, doctor – <i>O Radiant Dawn</i>
Thursday	- Ferial – ordinary weekday – <i>O King of All the Nations</i>
Friday	- St. John of Kanty, priest – <i>O Emmanuel</i>
Saturday	- Ferial – ordinary weekday

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

-The sick and all who asked for our prayers; for those who died, especially: *Sandra (Coulas) Yaraskavitch, David Joseph Afelskie, Kenneth Kosnaskie, Evelyn Cybulski, Randy Zilney, and Rita Guilbault.*

SEATING LIMITS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00 PM MASS: While 2 Masses easily accommodate our regular Sunday Mass attendance, I realize some parishioners will have family coming home for the feast and the 4:00 p.m. will probably be packed.

* Please consider the option of attending our Christmas day 10:30 a.m. Mass or even the other Christmas Eve Masses at Holy Canadian Martyrs and St. Francis de Sales.

* Because of fire codes, building capacity and liability, there will be no chairs put out that would block aisles, stairwells, or entrances. People will not be allowed to stand blocking the entrances either.

* When capacity has been reached, people will be invited to go to the church hall to listen to Mass and have Holy Communion brought to them or to come back for the 10:30 a.m. morning Mass.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: The Diocese of Pembroke and our parishes comply with the policy of Catholic Mutual Canada Insurance regarding standard practices for snow/ice removal, salting, sanding, and the logging of all winter maintenance. However, during the winter months, when environment Canada has announced a public winter weather warning regarding snow or freezing rain for the area, everyone, especially the elderly, ought to exercise their prudence (common sense) in attempting to attend Mass or meetings and gatherings of any kind.

WINTER FLU SEASON & PROTOCOL: Please, if you have any flu-like symptoms you and your family should remain at home. Those who wish to receive the Host on the tongue are asked to come forward towards the end of the procession for Holy Communion.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: Closed between Christmas and New Year's. For emergencies or urgent requests, please leave a message in voice mail or send an email to Fr. Burchat.

PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP GUY DESROCHERS: Evangelization and the Reform of Diocesan Structures (November 17, 2022). Available at the entrances.

SUNDAY OFFERINGS FOR 2022: Please make sure you have your 2022 Offerings in the office by, Sunday, December 25th so this will be included for your tax receipts, or it will be included in your 2023.

ON THIS FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, the liturgy invites us to contemplate in a special way the Virgin Mary and St Joseph, who lived with unique intensity the period of expectation and preparation for Jesus' birth. The Evangelist Matthew stresses that through Joseph the Child belonged legally to the lineage of David and thus fulfilled the Scriptural prophecy that the Messiah would be a "son of David".

But Joseph's role cannot be reduced to this legal aspect. He was the model of a "just" man (Mt 1: 19) who, in perfect harmony with his wife, welcomed the Son of God made man and watched over his human growth. It is therefore particularly appropriate in the days that precede Christmas to establish a sort of spiritual conversation with St Joseph, so that he may help us live to the full this great mystery of faith.

St Joseph's silence does not express an inner emptiness but, on the contrary, the fullness of the faith he bears in his heart and which guides his every thought and action. It is no exaggeration to think that it was precisely from his "father" Joseph that Jesus learned - at the human level - that steadfast interiority, which is a presupposition of authentic justice, the "superior justice" which he was one day to teach his disciples (see Mt 5: 20).

Let us allow ourselves to be "filled" with St Joseph's silence! In a world that is often too noisy, that encourages neither recollection nor listening to God's voice, we are in such deep need of it. During this season of preparation for Christmas, let us cultivate inner recollection in order to welcome and cherish Jesus in our own lives. ~ *From an Angelus Address by Pope Benedict XVI; December 18, 2005*

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS: Total: \$3,466.35; (Envelopes: \$2,147.00; E-Transfers: \$500.00; Loose: \$22.35; Visitors: \$40.00; Christmas Flowers: \$205.00; Building Fund: \$552.00) [People at Mass: 4:00 p.m./88; 10:30 a.m./92]

2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please pick up your new box at the church entrance. Please write your full address on the first few envelopes of the year so that tax receipts are mailed to the proper address. If your name is missing, please contact the office by phone or email.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLANNING: Counting People at Mass – "Starting on the First Sunday of Advent and continuing for one calendar year, all parishes in the Diocese of Pembroke will provide an accurate count of these who are attending Mass each weekend. This will be reported in the weekly parish bulletin and then collated at the end of 2023 to assist with conversations around diocesan pastoral planning and evangelization: how best to serve our parish communities, provide access to the Sacraments and build up the mission of the Church." ~ *Bishop Guy Desrochers, C.Ss.R.*