

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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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.*

✠ Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

February 19, 2023

ASH WEDNESDAY: As we begin Lent, first remember that deep within, by the grace of our baptism, God's love is already transforming us. Our conversion, our turning to God, has already begun. So, what is the Lenten journey about? We are called to more deeply collaborate with what God is already doing to transform us. The Lenten season is a more intense time of purification of the interior person, so that our hearts can be freed from any entanglement with worldly goods and sin and turn around (in Latin, *conversare*) to attend to God's presence and work in our hearts.

OBLIGATORY FASTING AND ABSTINENCE: The Catholic Church prescribes fasting (only one full meal and two smaller meals which together are not greater than the full meal) and abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Catholics aged 18-59 are bound to fast; those 14-59 to abstinence. Those who are ill are not obliged; anyone above the age of 59 may continue to fast and abstain as an act of devotion. Parents are reminded of their duty to introduce children to the understanding and practice of penance. Adult example will be the greatest influence. All Fridays during the year remain obligatory days of abstinence from meat and this spiritual discipline ought to be more stringently observed during Lent.

Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

February 20 – 25

- Tuesday** 9:00 a.m. +Aloysius ‘Al’ Smaglinski
by +Theodore & Martha Dombroskie
- Ash Wednesday** 9:00 a.m. + **Beginning of the Season of Lent** +
+ Rose Coulas *by Maureen Kiedroski*
- Friday** 9:00 a.m. +Nicholas Stoppa *by Bruce & Karen Sullivan*

+ **First Sunday of Lent** +

February 26, 2023

- Saturday** 4:00 p.m. +Andrew ‘Della’ Dombroskie *by Family*
- Sunday** 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments	February 25	February 26
Readings	<i>Sean Conway</i>	<i>Pierre-Paul Filion</i>
Communion	<i>Neil O’Reilly</i>	<i>Ursula Jeffrey</i>
Offertory	<i>Bruce Sullivan</i>	<i>Eddie Etmanskie</i> <i>John Jeffrey</i>

ROMAN CALENDAR:

- Monday - Ferial – ordinary weekday
Tuesday - St. Peter Damian, bishop, doctor
Wednesday - ASH WEDNESDAY
Thursday - Ferial – ordinary weekday
Friday - Ferial – ordinary weekday
Saturday - Ferial – ordinary weekday

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Christians persecuted throughout the world, for all victims and refugees of civil war.
- that the peoples, legislators, and healthcare practitioners of our country would choose life and not death regarding euthanasia, assisted suicide and abortion.
- for parishioners who are sick; and for those who have died, especially: *Marie Riley, Eva Kulas, Mary Patricia McConville, David “Rocky” Coulas, Cory Plebon, and Judy Shires.*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. in sacristy.
Weekdays – before weekday Masses in sacristy or by appointment during office hours.

LOCAL MASSES WITH THE BLESSING AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES:

Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. St. Hedwig
9:00 a.m. St. Lawrence O'Toole
12:00 p.m. St. Hedwig
6:30 p.m. Holy Canadian Martyrs
7:00 p.m. St. Hedwig

Saturday

6:00 p.m. St. Francis de Sales

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday at 9:00 a.m. followed with Mass.

THE MYSTERY OF REDEMPTION: The weekday homilies during Lent will focus on themes of the Mystery of our Redemption by Christ. *Why did Jesus die for my sins? How could the death of Jesus be the cause of our redemption? Was the Cross necessary? How does Jesus meet the demands of justice through his passion and death?*

THE PASCHAL MYSTERY: REFLECTIONS FOR LENT AND EASTER: A book from Word on Fire Ministries (Bishop Baron) is available from the parish office for \$10. Supplies are limited.

NEW! THEOLOGY ON TAP – BARRY’S BAY - Friday, February 24 – 7:30 p.m. at the Balmoral Hotel. Guest Speaker: Fr. Scott Murray. Topic: "The Plagues on Egypt: Let my son go that he may serve me".

1st THURSDAY HOLY HOURS TO PRAY FOR VOCATIONS: On Thursday, March 2nd, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at St. Francis de Sales Mission, Latchford Bridge – “Then Jesus said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest” (*Mt. 9:37-38*). The Holy Hour will consist of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Sacred Music, a reflection by Fr. Scott Murray, a Rosary for vocations, and time for silent prayer. March’s Holy Hour will be at St. Francis de Sales in Latchford Bridge. These Holy Hours are open to everyone, not just those considering a priestly vocation. The topic of the reflection this month will be “*Poustinia – Entering the Lenten Desert.*”

CWL NEWS: Pot O' Gold tickets can be returned to the church. Do Not put in the collection. Thank You to all for your support of our fundraiser. Plan now to attend the Sunday Social on March 12th after 10:30 a.m. Mass.

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS: Total: \$3,177.00; (Envelopes: \$2,624.00; E-Transfers: \$40.00; Loose: \$97.00; Visitors: \$125.00; Initial Offering: \$10.00; Building Fund: \$281.00 [People at Mass: 4:00 p.m./140; 10:30 a.m./82]

THE WORD OF GOD this Sunday speak to us of God's desire to make all human beings share in his life: "You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy", we read in the Book of Leviticus (19:1). With these words and with the consequent precepts the Lord invited the People whom he had chosen to be faithful to the Covenant with him "you shall love your neighbour as yourself" (Lev 19:18). Then the Lord says: "You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Mt 5:48).

Then if we listen to Jesus in whom God took a mortal body to make himself close to every human being and reveal his infinite love for us, we find that same call, that same audacious objective. Indeed,

But who could become perfect? Our perfection is living humbly as children of God, doing his will in practice. St Cyprian wrote: "that the godly discipline might respond to God, the Father, that in the honour and praise of living, God may be glorified in man (*De zelo et livore* [*On jealousy and envy*], 15: CCL 3a, 83).

How can we imitate Jesus? He said: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in Heaven" (Mt 5:44-45). Anyone who welcomes the Lord into his life and loves him with all his heart is capable of a new beginning. He succeeds in doing God's will: to bring about a new form of existence enlivened by love and destined for eternity.

The Apostle Paul added: "Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?" (I Cor 3:16). If we are truly aware of this reality and our life is profoundly shaped by it, then our witness becomes clear, eloquent and effective. A medieval author wrote: "When the whole of man's being is, so to speak, mingled with God's love, the splendour of his soul is also reflected in his external aspect" (John Climacus, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, XXX: PG 88, 1157 B), in the totality of life. "Love is an excellent thing", we read in the book the *Imitation of Christ*. "It makes every difficulty easy and bears all wrongs with equanimity.... Love tends upward; it will not be held down by anything low... love is born of God and cannot rest except in God" (III, V, 3). ~ *Angelus Address by Pope Benedict XVI; February 20, 2011*

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER on February 21st at St Lawrence O'Toole Hall. Served at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome. Entrance by free will offering, in support of the charitable work of the Knights of Columbus.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – Madawaska Valley Hospice Palliative Care: Weekly group begins Wednesday, March 1st, 2023, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. (6 sessions) and to register or for more information call us at 613-756-3045 ext. 350. The group will take place in Barry's Bay, specific location will be given to registered participants only.