

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.*

Christmas – The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2023



The Decorations for Christmas are for the Glory of God and in Memory of Our Loved Ones

+ For all our deceased Family members and Friends *by David & Julia Cannon* + Teresa Sullivan *by Greg Sullivan* + In Honour of our Parents & Deceased Family Members *by Eric & Susan Coulas* + Jerome Cybulski & Phelanda Hall & Margaret Peplinski *by Viola Cybulski* + In Memory of Scott Jeffrey *by John & Ursula Jeffrey* + In Memory of Alfred & Evelyn Villeneuve & Deceased Family Members *by Claire Sullivan* + For All Deceased Villeneuve Family Members *by Marie Villeneuve* + Patrick & Ruth Cowan & John MacLeod *by Terri MacLeod* + Vic Shulist *by Lorie Shulist* + Helena & Wladyslaw Kvolikowski *by Wieslawa (Vicky) Skoczylas* + In Loving Memory of Joseph, Beatrice & Mildred Brotton *by Susan Brotton & Family* + In Memory of Kubesheskie & Luckasavitch Family *by Arlene Kubesheskie* + Stoppa & Sullivan Families *by Bruce & Karen Sullivan* + August, Theresa & Wayne Hudder & Majella Rush *by Charlie & Debbie Rodway* + In Loving Memory of Clarence, Michael & Ambrose Prince and Ambrose & Martha Zilney *by Dorothy Prince* + Clarence, Clara and Eric Londry and Joseph, Vivienne and Timothy Murphy *by Terry & Shirley Murphy* + In Memory of Jerry & Billy Green *by Diane Green* + In Memory of Andrew Dombroskie *by Shirley Dombroskie* + In Memory of Karl & Robbie Coulas, the Coulas & August Families & Margaret Cowan *by Gwen Coulas* + Karin Walsh *by Natasha Walsh* + Elmer & Margaret Dombroskie *by Lori-Kay Dombroskie* + Sidney Pecarski *by Darlene Pecarski Bresnahan* + In Memory of Deceased Family Members *by Neil & Connie O'Reilly* + In Memory of Our Deceased Loved Ones and the Souls of Frank & Annie Serran & Ray & Anna Mullin *by Bob & Marg Serran* +

For the Intentions of: *Dennis Herron; Roy & Enise Hunter; Lorraine Finn; Loretta Murray; Anne Bonnah; John & Theresa Bray; Alphonse Brotton; Leona Chapeskie; Barbara Conway; Andrew & Colleen Dombroskie; Barry & Susan Dombroskie; John & Beth Hildebrandt; Gerard Kuiack; Pat Kuiack; Daniel & Patsy O'Malley; John & Joanne Olsen; Terry & Patsy Prince; Rosemarie Recoskie; Deborah Rodway; Maxine Smaglinski; Karen & Bruce Sullivan; John & Lorraine Morris; Tony & Debbie Burant; Raymond Dombroskie; Thomas & Carolyn Etmanskie; Timothy & Sandra Etmanskie; Edward & Bev Stoppa; Dave & Christine Trudel; Terry & Helen Recoskie; Jamie & Tammy Prince; Basil Herron.*

**The Masses for the Nativity of the Lord are offered for these intentions
and for the general intentions of all parishioners.**

Octave of Christmas

December 26 – 30

Friday 9:00 a.m. + Joan Marie Potvin *by Louis & Maxine Dombroskie*
+ Evelyn Cybulski *by Maxine Smaglinski*

+ **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph** +

December 30 / 31

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + Evelyn Rumleskie *by Eddie & Diane Etmanskie*
+ Clarence Prince *by Karen, Adam & Kaylee*

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

+ **The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God** +

New Year's & World Day of Peace

January 1, 2024

Sunday 4:00 p.m. Living Family Members of *Eddie & Diane Etmanskie*
+ Thomas Cybulski *by Karen Yakabuski*

Monday 10:30 a.m. + Gerry Burchat *by Barbara Conway*
+ Keith Towns *by Rozek Family*

Liturgical Appointments

	Dec. 30	Dec 31	Dec 31	January 1
	@4:00 pm	@10:30 am	@4:00 pm	@10:30 am
Readings	<i>Martin Yakabuski</i>	<i>Joanne Olsen</i>	<i>Karen Yakabuski</i>	<i>Judy Filion</i>
Communion	<i>Neil O'Reilly</i>	<i>Ursula Jeffrey</i>	<i>Neil O'Reilly</i>	<i>Pierre-Paul Filion</i>
Offertory				

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Monday - The Nativity of the Lord - CHRISTMAS
Tuesday - St. Stephen, the first martyr
Wednesday - St. John, apostle, evangelist
Thursday - The Holy Innocents, martyrs
Friday - St. Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr
Saturday - Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: Closed between Christmas and New Year's.

DEAR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS: *Christ is born! Glorify him!*

We now begin the liturgical season of Christmas which constitutes our solemn and festive celebration of the first coming of Jesus into the world: Emmanuel and our Saviour who is the Light from Light, true God from true God. Jesus is the Light of the world who shatters the darkness in the human heart and human history with divine love and light. Jesus is the Sun of Righteousness whose birth brings the healing love of God into the human heart and rebirth into a divine life as sons and daughters of God. Jesus is the Son of God who also fully reveals in the Paschal Mystery that the Father's patient and faithful love is stronger than any darkness and death itself. *On Christmas night, we celebrate the mystery of Bethlehem, the mystery of an incomparable night which is, in a sense, within time and beyond time. From the virgin's womb was born a child, a manger became the cradle of immortal life.* (St. John Paul II, Christmas 2000)

At Christmas, we are especially invited to contemplate the Infant Jesus just born and placed in the manger. This Child's face radiates the goodness, tender love and mercy of the Father. As Pope Francis has said: *The "sign" is in fact the humility of God, the humility of God taken to the extreme; it is the love with which, that night, he assumed our frailty, our suffering, our anxieties, our desires and our limitations. The message that everyone was expecting that everyone was searching for in the depths of their souls, was none other than the tenderness of God: God who looks upon us with eyes full of love, who accepts our poverty, God who is in love with our smallness.*

How do we welcome the tenderness of God? Do I allow myself to be taken up by God, to be embraced by him, or do I prevent him from drawing close? "But I am searching for the Lord"—we could respond. Nevertheless, what is most important is not seeking him, but rather allowing him to seek me, find me and caress me with tenderness. The question put to us simply by the Infant's presence is: do I allow God to love me? (Christmas 2014)

Like the shepherds of Bethlehem, may we too, with eyes full of amazement and wonder, gaze upon the Child Jesus, the Son of God. I extend to everyone my heartfelt prayerful best wishes for a blessed Christmas and God's peace in the New Year!

With much love, your brother in the Lord,
Fr. John

2024 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Please pick up your new box of envelopes. 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.

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$3,361.00; (Envelopes: \$2,570.00; E-Transfers: \$80.00; Loose: \$106.00; Visitors: \$305.00; Christmas Flowers: \$130.00; Building Fund: \$100.00; Christmas Offering: \$70.00 [People at Mass: 4:00 p.m./87; 10:30 a.m./80])