

# Saint Lawrence O'Toole Parish

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**Fr. John N. Burchat, Parish Priest**

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## Office Hours

*Tuesday & Friday*

*9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

613-756-2037



## ✠ Third Sunday of Lent ✠

*March 3, 2024*

**THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday morning during Lent at 9:00 a.m. *Have you and your family ever experienced this way of meditating on Our Lord's Passion as part of your Lenten journey?*

“The Way of the Cross is not only a great testimony to an inner depth and maturity, but it is in fact a school of interiority and consolation. It is also a school for the examination of conscience, for conversion, for inner transformation and compassion – not as sentimentality, as a mere feeling, but as a disturbing experience that knocks on the door of my heart, that obliges me to know myself and to become a better person.” ~*Pope Benedict XVI*



**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Before all weekday and weekend Masses. With visiting priest-confessors on:

Sunday, March 17; 1:00 p.m. at Holy Canadian Martyrs

Sunday, March 24; 1:00 p.m. at St. Lawrence O'Toole

Sunday, March 24; 3:00 p.m. at St. Mary's, Wilno

Sunday, March 25; 5:30 p.m. at St. Hedwig's

## COMMEMORATION OF THE SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM: March 28-31, 2024

Holy Thursday: 7:00 p.m. at St. Lawrence O'Toole

Good Friday: 12:00 p.m. at St. Lawrence O'Toole

3:00 p.m. at Holy Canadian Martyrs

Easter Vigil: 8:00 p.m. at Holy Canadian Martyrs

Easter Sunday: 8:30 a.m. at St. Francis de Sales

10:30 a.m. at St. Lawrence O'Toole

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME** begins on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, Spring forward 1 hour ahead, on Saturday night!

## Third Week of Lent

March 4 – 9

**Tuesday** 9:00 a.m. (*with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions*)  
+ Wilfred, Josephine & Kevin Cowan by *Thelma Cowan*

[*Wednesday @ Holy Canadian Martyrs – 7p.m. Mass beginning with the Stations of the Cross*]

**Friday** 9:00 a.m. (*Beginning with the Stations of the Cross*)  
+ Constance Chippure by *Catholic Women's League*

## + Fourth Sunday of Lent +

*Laetare Sunday*

March 10, 2024

**Saturday** 4:00 p.m. + Al Smaglinski by *Albert Cybulski*  
+ Mary Ann Lorbetskie by *Larry & Annette Lapenskie*

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

Liturgical Appointments	March 9	March 10
Readings	<i>Susan Coulas</i>	<i>Ursula Jeffrey</i>
Communion	<i>Beverly Glofcheskie</i>	<i>Terry Recoskie</i>
Offertory	<i>Bruce Sullivan</i>	<i>John Jeffrey</i>
	<i>Barry Dombroskie</i>	<i>Jason Dombroskie</i>

**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.

### IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- that these 40 days of spiritual renewal may help us turn away from sin, be faithful to the Gospel, and receive new life in Christ Jesus.
- that the Lord Jesus would anoint with the gift of the Holy Spirit the process of calling forth a new bishop to shepherd our diocese.
- for parishioners and friends who are sick, especially: *Carmel Rumleskie*.
- for those who have died, especially: *Gerard O'Malley, Glenn Prince, Martha Prince*.

**EASTER FLOWERS:** for the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones or specific intentions can be made with the envelopes provided at the entrance of the church. The Masses of Easter will be offered for your intentions. Donations must be submitted by Tuesday, March 26 in order to have loved ones listed in the Easter bulletin memorial page.

**JESUS, LIVING TEMPLE OF GOD:** today's Gospel presents the episode of the expulsion of the merchants from the temple. Such a gesture gave rise to strong impressions in the people and in the disciples. It clearly appeared as a prophetic gesture, so much so that some of those present asked Jesus: "What sign have you to show us for doing this?" And He responded: "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (v. 19). They did not understand that the Lord was referring to the living temple of his body, that would be destroyed in the death on the Cross but would be raised on the third day.

In effect, this gesture of Jesus and His prophetic message are fully understood in the light of his Paschal Mystery. We have here, according to the evangelist John, the first proclamation of the death and resurrection of Christ: His body, destroyed on the Cross by the violence of sin, will become in the Resurrection the universal meeting place between God and mankind. And the Risen Christ is Himself the universal meeting place — for everyone! — between God and mankind. For this reason, his humanity is the true temple where God is revealed, speaks, is encountered; and the true worshippers, the true worshippers of God are not only the guardians of the material temple, the keepers of power and of religious knowledge, [but] they are those who worship God "in spirit and truth" (Jn 4:23).

In this time of Lent, we are preparing for the celebration of Easter, when we will renew the promises of our Baptism. Let us walk in the world as Jesus did and let us make our whole existence a sign of our love for our brothers, especially the weakest and poorest, let us build for God a temple of our lives. And so, we make it "encounterable" for those who we find along our journey. If we are witnesses of the Living Christ, so many people will encounter Jesus in us, in our witness. But we ask — and each one of us can ask ourselves — does the Lord feel at home in my life? Do we allow Him to "cleanse" our hearts and to drive out the idols, those attitudes of cupidity, jealousy, worldliness, envy, hatred, those habits of gossiping and tearing down others. Do I allow Him to cleanse all the behaviours that are against God, against our neighbour, and against ourselves, as we heard today in the first Reading? Each one can answer for him/herself, in the silence of his/her heart: "Do I allow Jesus to make my heart a little cleaner?" "Oh Father, I fear the rod!" But Jesus never strikes. Jesus cleanses with tenderness, mercy, love. Mercy is the His way of cleansing. Let us, each of us, let us allow the Lord to enter with His mercy — not with the whip, no, with His mercy — to cleanse our hearts. **With us, Jesus' whip is His mercy.** Let us open to Him the gates so that He will make us a little purer.

Every Eucharist that we celebrate with faith makes us grow as a living temple of the Lord, thanks to the communion with His crucified and risen Body. Jesus recognizes what is in each of us and knows well our most ardent desires: that of being inhabited by Him, only by Him. Let us allow Him to enter into our lives, into our families, into our hearts. *From an Angelus Address by Pope Francis; March 8, 2015.*

## **LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:**

Total: \$2,180.00; (Envelopes: \$1,862.00; Loose: \$88.00; Visitors: \$135.00; Easter Flowers: \$95.00) [People at Mass:4:00 p.m./119; 10:30 a.m./90]

**SCRIPTURE STUDY:** on The Gospel of Mark is held on Tuesday mornings after mass January 30 - March 26, from 9:50 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. in St. Lawrence Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome to drop-in any week through Lent. Consider it an alm to our Lord. Please bring your Holy Bible.

**EVENINGS OF PRAISE, WORSHIP AND INTERCESSORY PRAYER** – Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Lawrence O'Toole parish hall.

**POT O'GOLD TICKETS** – CWL will be doing their Pot O' Gold ticket draw on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 a.m. mass and invite you to a social in the parish hall where the draw will take place. Come join us for some music, refreshments and the draw.

**LENTEN ALMSGIVING:** The root of the word 'alms' comes from ancient Latin and Greek words meaning 'mercy'. The root of the word 'charity' comes from the Latin word for love, caritas. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "Giving alms to the poor is a witness to fraternal charity: it is also a work of justice pleasing to God." (2462) In the Sacred Scriptures, there is a kind of economics of salvation. Sin, almsgiving and salvation are often analogously described in explicitly economic terms.

*"Water extinguishes a blazing fire: so almsgiving atones for sin." (Sir. 3:30)*

*"Whoever cares for the poor lends to the Lord, who will pay back the sum in full." (Prov. 19:17)*

*"Almsgiving delivers from death, and it will purge away every sin." (Tob. 12:9)*

*"If you satisfy the afflicted, your light shall rise in the darkness" (Isa. 58:10)*

Almsgiving accompanied by contrition can be a means of "paying" down the debt of sin. When connected to atoning work of Jesus, understood as the accumulation of an inexhaustible store of credit that can be applied to the sinner's debt, almsgiving becomes an outward sign of our gratitude for our redemption.

**Moved by the sacrifice of Christ, we give to the poor with sacrifice, not just from our surplus.** Saint Teresa of Calcutta said one should "give until it hurts"; in other words, we should make contributions that entail true sacrifice. Only then are we being conformed to the image of the Son, who, as Mother Teresa noted in her 1994 address to the National Prayer Breakfast, "gave even His life to love us." As we prepare to enter into the Passover Mystery of Christ and celebrate how "he made himself poor" so as to make us "rich".