

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.
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✠ Fifth Sunday of Easter ✠

April 28, 2024

MAY AS "MARY'S MONTH": As a "Marian month," May always falls within the Easter season providing us with a reminder of the Blessed Virgin's share in the Paschal Mystery of her Son, and in the event of Pentecost that brought to birth the Church's pilgrim and missionary journey. We pray that, following the example of Mary and with her help, Christian parents will be strengthened as they educate their children in a deep faith so that they may become witnesses to the Jesus the Word of God who is our source of hope, joy and peace.

THE MOST HOLY ROSARY will be recited a half hour before weekend masses in May, the Month of Mary by the Catholic Women's League.

ANNUAL MAY 1st MEN'S PILGRIMAGE TO ST. JOSEPH'S ORATORY: Every year for the past 40 years, we bundle up all our cares and the needs of our families, sling them across our shoulders as fathers and as young men (13+), and take them to the feet of St. Joseph patron of father's and workers. Along the way we stop to visit St. Kateri's shrine in Kahnawake. An itinerary is posted at <https://tinyurl.com/stj-pilgrimage> Please contact Anton Casta at arc3@stmaxmedia.com or 613-756-6410 to register.

2024 MARCH FOR LIFE IN OTTAWA ON PARLIAMENT HILL: All are invited to participate in this important event to show support for life at all ages and stages. The march through downtown Ottawa begins **on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.** Masses and prayer services begin in the morning, a rally on the Hill at 12:30 p.m., and testimonies after the march. Theme "I will never forget you" - details: marchforlife.ca Let's pray for all attending the March.

Fifth Week of Easter

April 29 – May 4

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Mark Golka & Suzie (Golka) Coulas *by Debbie Rodway*
First Friday 9:00 a.m. + Phelanda Hall *by Family*

+ Sixth Sunday of Easter +

May 5, 2024

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + Gerard O'Malley *by Viola Cybulski*
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments	May 4	May 5
Readings	<i>Sean Conway</i>	<i>Ursula Jeffrey</i>
Communion	<i>Maxine Smaglinski</i>	<i>Pierre-Paul Filion</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:

- for Emmanuel Afalla who recently received his First Holy Communion.
- that we may be joyful witnesses to the New Life caused by Christ's Resurrection.
- 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: *Beverly Hare, Basil Gutoskie; Marie Nicholas; Francis (Frank) Anderchek*.

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Monday - St. Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor
Tuesday - St. Marie de L'Incarnation, religious
Wednesday - St. Joseph the Worker and St. Pius V, pope
Thursday - St. Athanasius, bishop, doctor
Friday - St. Philip and St. James, apostles
Saturday - Blessed Marie-Leonie Paradis, virgin

I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES: Today's Gospel shows us Jesus during the Last Supper, in the moment He knows His death is close at hand. His 'hour' has come. For it is the last time He is with His disciples, and now He wants to impress firmly a fundamental truth in their minds: even when He will no longer be physically present in the midst of them, they will still be able to remain united to Him in a new way, and thus bear much fruit. Everyone can be united to Jesus in a new way. If, on the contrary, one should lose this unity with Him, this union with Him would become sterile, or rather, harmful to the community. And to express this reality, this new way of being united to Him, Jesus uses the image of the vine and the branches: Just "as a branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches" (Jn 15:4-5). With this image He teaches us how to abide Him, to be united to Him, even though He is not physically present.



Jesus is the vine, and through Him — like the sap in the tree — the very love of God, the Holy Spirit is passed to the branches. Look: we are the branches, and through this parable, Jesus wants us to understand the importance of remaining united to him. The branches are not self-sufficient, but depend totally on the vine, in which the source of their life is found. So, it is with us Christians. Grafted by Baptism in Christ, we have freely received the gift of new life from Him; and thanks to the Church we are able to remain in vital communion with Christ. We must remain faithful to Baptism, and grow in intimacy with the Lord through prayer, listening and docility to His Word — read the Gospel —, participation in the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation.

When one is intimately united to Jesus, he enjoys the gifts of the Holy Spirit . . . The fruits of this profound union with Christ are wonderful: our whole person is transformed by the grace of the Spirit: soul, understanding, will, affections, and even body, because we are united body and soul. We receive a new way of being, the life of Christ becomes our own: we are able to think like Him, to act like Him, to see the world and the things in it with the eyes of Jesus. And so we are able to love our brothers, beginning with the poorest and those who suffer the most, as He did, and love them with His heart, and so bear fruits of goodness, of charity, and of peace in the world.

Each one of us is a branch of the one vine; and all of us together are called to bear the fruits of this common membership in Christ and in the Church. Let us entrust ourselves to the intercession of the Virgin Mary, so that we might be able to be living branches in the Church and witness to our faith in a consistent manner — consistency of one's own life and thought, of life and faith — knowing that all of us, according to our particular vocations, participate in the one saving mission of Christ. *From an Angelus Address by Pope Francis; May 3, 2015*

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$2,768.00; (Envelopes: \$2,152.00; Loose: \$136.00; Visitors: \$85.00; Share Lent: \$70.00; Easter Offering: \$275.00; Easter Flowers: \$10.00; Building Fund: \$40.00) [People at Mass: 4:00 p.m./90; 10:30 a.m./112]

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN: Preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation in our parish is in accordance with diocesan policy which encourages a process of individualized family faith formation. Families who wish to have their children begin preparing for these sacraments are invited to speak to Fr. Burchat after Sunday Mass. Parents will also be invited to return to the practice of the faith with regular Mass attendance. The parish provides resources and catechetical assistance.

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

GOSPEL OF MARK STUDY: This study continues on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the St. Lawrence O'Toole Church Hall. For more information, please contact John Morris, 613 729-6647. Feel free to drop-in as you can.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD: Reverend Mr. Lukas Časta will receive Sacred Ordination to the Priesthood on the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Saturday, June 29, 2024, at the Cathedral of St. Columbkille at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

POLISH BRUNCH: St. Hedwig's Church in the Parish Hall on Sunday, May 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$15.00 for adults, children 12 and under \$8.00. Menu: Pierogies, baked beans, fried bologna, sausage & sauerkraut, pickled eggs & cake for dessert. Take-out available.

RROCKATHON 2024 - Register for Rockathon 2024 in support of local healthcare, including the purchase of vital equipment for the residents at the Valley Manor. For more information call 613-756-3045 ext 217 or email us at office@sfvhfoundation.com.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT CANA COLONY: Madonna House, Combermere, Ontario: Looking for 4 Activities Coordinators for children and youth at a family camp that runs from June 28 – August 4, 2024. Must be 18+. For more information, please contact Christina Milan, Cana Registrar mhcanacolony@gmail.com or 613-756-3713.

DIOCESAN WEEKLY BULLETIN: There are various diocesan events scheduled for youth and young adults at <https://pembrokediocese.com/weekly-bulletin/> Be sure to check it out!