

# 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



## ✠ Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

*June 9, 2024*

**THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES:** In all the literature of the world, I don't know of a richer account of who we are, what we're called to be, and what goes wrong with us than the first chapters of Genesis—especially the third chapter, from which our first reading comes. And we see in our Gospel for today that what happens to us in the immediate wake of original sin—alienation, shame, self-centeredness, scapegoating—helps us immensely to understand Jesus and his work. ~ *Bishop Robert Barron*

**THE MONTH OF JUNE:** is dedicated to The Sacred Heart of Jesus, a Solemnity that falls on the Friday following the second Sunday after Pentecost and during the Liturgical Season of Ordinary Time. Like the lush June growth all around us, the green of the liturgical season points to the new life won for us by the Redemption of Jesus Christ, the new life of Charity. God is Love and the Sacred Heart of Jesus — present on earth in the Blessed Sacrament — is the human manifestation of God's Love for humanity. Understood in the light of the Scriptures, the term "Sacred Heart of Jesus" signifies the entire mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Word Incarnate and Saviour.

Of all devotions, devotion to the Sacred Heart was, and remains, one of the most widespread and popular in the Church, even anticipating Divine Mercy Sunday and its devotions. As Saint John Paul II wrote in the Encyclical *Dives in Misericordia*: "The Church seems in a particular way to profess the mercy of God and to venerate it when she directs herself to the Heart of Christ. In fact, it is precisely this drawing close to Christ in the mystery of his Heart which enables us to dwell on this point a point in a sense central and also most accessible on the human level of the revelation of the merciful love of the Father, a revelation which constituted the central content of the messianic mission of the Son of Man" (13).

## Tenth Week of Ordinary Time

June 10 – 15

**Tuesday** 9:00 a.m. (*with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions*)  
+ Stanley Zilney by *Xavier & Beverly Hudder & Family*  
**Friday** 9:00 a.m. + Theresa Yantha by *Martin & Noelle Recoskie*

## + Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time +

June 16, 2024

**Saturday** 4:00 p.m. + Joan Marie Potvin by *Karen Yakabuski*  
**Sunday** 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

### Liturgical Appointments

#### Readings

#### Communion

#### Offertory

### June 15

*Susan Coulas*

*Leona Chapeskie*

*Bruce Sullivan*

*Richard Luckasavitch*

### June 16

*Ursula Jeffrey*

*Pierre-Paul Fillion*

*Jason Dombroskie*

*Jamie Prince*

**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 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: *Martin Byrnes; Margaret Kauffeldt; Francis (Frank) Anderchek; Doreen Dombroskie; Lucinda Jane (Hartwick) Jessup.*

### ROMAN CALENDAR:

**Tuesday** - St. Barnabas, apostle

**Thursday** - St. Anthony of Padua, priest, doctor

**Saturday** - Our Lady's Saturday

**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.

**THE ETERNAL SIN:** The Church is clear and consistent in her teaching that there are “no limits to the mercy of God.” (CCC 1864) Jesus Christ died for everyone’s sins, and anyone who repents of his sins and follows Christ can receive forgiveness and new life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.” (John 3:16). This should matter when we think about how our salvation is achieved through Christ.

So then why does Jesus say in the Gospels that “whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”? (Mark 3.29) Is this some sort of exception that we must be wary of? Yes, but not in the way you might expect. And here’s why.

But first, let’s look at what Christ says exactly. Our Lord’s teaching on “blasphemy of the Holy Spirit” is recorded in all three of the Synoptic Gospels. In Mark, Jesus says: “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, but **whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness but is guilty of an eternal sin.**” (Mark 3.28-29) Matthew and Luke have something similar.

How are Christians to understand this? Thankfully, the *Catechism* addresses this teaching directly: “There are no limits to the mercy of God, but anyone who deliberately refuses to accept his mercy by repenting, rejects the forgiveness of his sins and the salvation offered by the Holy Spirit. Such hardness of heart can lead to final impenitence and eternal loss.” (CCC 1864)

In other words, the *Catechism* says that “blasphemy of the Holy Spirit” is **rejecting the forgiveness of God all the way to the end of one’s life**. It’s blasphemy *of the Holy Spirit* because salvation is offered to every person by the Holy Spirit. Pope St. John Paul II explains this in his encyclical on the Holy Spirit, *Dominum et vivificantem*:

“Why is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit unforgivable? [...] St. Thomas Aquinas replies that it is a question of a sin that is ‘unforgivable by its very nature, insofar as it excludes the elements through which the forgiveness of sin takes place.’

“According to such an exegesis, “blasphemy” does not properly consist in offending against the Holy Spirit in words; it consists rather in the refusal to accept the salvation which God offers to man through the Holy Spirit, working through the power of the Cross.”

So should we all be wary of committing the sin of blasphemy of the Holy Spirit? Not in the sense that we should be worried about committing a sin so bad that God can’t forgive it *if we repent*. No such sin exists.

But we should be wary about refusing God’s forgiveness. In his loving kindness, God has offered us a chance for salvation. We should humbly, and speedily, repent of our sins and accept God’s gratuitous gift of grace.

Finally, why is it called a sin specifically against the Holy Spirit? This is because it is a form of **persistent malice**, which is contrary to goodness, the special attribute of the

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

**Total:** \$2,954.50 (Envelopes: \$2,237.50; Loose: \$150.00; Visitors: \$75.00; Evangelization Project: \$327.00; Building Fund: \$25.00; E-transfer: \$140.00) [People at Mass: 4:00 p.m./91; 10:30 a.m./103]

**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.

**SCRIPTURE STUDY** of the Gospel of Mark is taking a break for the summer and will resume in September continuing with Mark chapter 10 on forming disciples.

**CWL POTLUCK BBQ:** June 12 at 554 Arbor Vitae Rd at 4 PM. Please let Lorraine know if you will be attending 613 585 1702. Hope to see you there.

**FATHER'S DAY TREATS:** After each Mass on the weekend of June 15-16, the Knights of Columbus will have popsicles and other cold treats for all parishioners.

**THE SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES:** Would you be interested in discerning a secular (lay) vocation? Are you spiritually attracted to St. Therese of Lisieux or St. Teresa of Avila? Our group (not a prayer group) meets monthly at St. Andrew Parish in Killaloe, Ontario. For more information call Patricia at 613-756-2267.

**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO STE-ANNE-DE-BEAUPRE AND OUR LADY OF THE CAPE:** From the Dioceses of Ottawa-Cornwall, Pembroke, Mont-Laurier/St-Jérôme, Kingston and Gatineau **on August 10-11, 2024.** If you are planning on attending time is running out as space is filling up. Departures from Pembroke, Renfrew, Arnprior, departing Pembroke at 4:00 a.m. Reach out at your convenience if you have questions. Mike @ 613-224-8110.

**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!