

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



✠ First Sunday of Advent ✠

December 1, 2024

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS: Booklets for personal and family use are available from the parish office. Here are also some good websites that also provide materials:

<https://amywelborn.wordpress.com>

<https://dynamiccatholic.com>

<http://www.ewtn.com>

<http://www.catholicmom.com>

<https://www.wordonfire.org/>

<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/>

ADVENT CONFESSIONS: with visiting priest-confessors.

Holy Canadian Martyrs – Wednesday, December 18; 10:00 a.m.; 6:30 p.m.

St. Lawrence O'Toole – Sunday, December 22; 1:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS: for the Glory of God and in Memory of loved ones can be made with the envelopes provided at the entrance of the church or in your Offering box. The Masses of Christmas will be offered for your intentions. Donations must be submitted by Monday, December 16 in order to have loved ones listed in the Christmas bulletin memorial page.

2025 - A JUBILEE YEAR: Pope Francis has designated the 2025 ordinary jubilee year with the title PILGRIMS OF HOPE. It is 2025 years since the Incarnation and 1700 years since the First Council of Nicaea. It's a period of spiritual renewal, forgiveness and celebration that lasts from Christmas Eve 2024 until Epiphany in January 2026. The Church — the Body of Christ and People of God — does not give in to despair but truly continues to trust in God and all of his many promises of mercy, love and salvation.

First Week of Advent

December 2 – 7

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. (*with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions*)
+ Theresa Yantha by *Barbara Kuiack & Family*
+ Stanley Zilney by *MaryAnn, Randy & Bailey Dombroskie*

First Friday 9:00 a.m. + Phelanda Hall by *Family*
Intentions of the Starflowers Prayer Initiative

+ Second Sunday of Advent +

December 8, 2024

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + Cathy Serran by *Edward & Marla Recoskie*

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

Liturgical Appointments

Readings

Communion

Offertory

December 7

Martin Yakabuski

Neil O'Reilly

Bruce Sullivan

Richard Luckasavitch

December 8

Ursula Jeffrey

Terry Recoskie

John Jeffrey

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:

- for parishioners and friends who are sick, especially: *Fr. Ken O'Brien, Leonard Hudder, Carmel Rumleskie.*

- for those who have died, especially, *Ronald Murack, Theresa Marie Yaskolskie, Stella Susan Luckovitch, Mary-K Murray-Bleskie, Helen Jean Shulist, Marcella Chippior.*

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Tuesday - St. Francis Xavier, priest

Wednesday - St. John Damascene, priest, doctor

Friday - St. Nicholas, bishop

Saturday - St. Ambrose, bishop, doctor

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

CHRIST THE ARRIVING ONE: Today on the First Sunday of Advent, we enter that four-week Season with which a new liturgical year begins and that immediately prepares us for the Feast of Christmas, the memorial of the Incarnation of Christ in history. Yet, the spiritual message of Advent is more profound and already orients us to the glorious return of the Lord at the end of our history.

Adventus is the Latin word that could be translated by “arrival”, “coming” or “presence”. In the language of the ancient world, it was a technical term that indicated the arrival of an official, and especially the visit of kings or emperors to the provinces, but it could also be used for the appearance of a divinity, which emerged from its hidden dwelling-place and thus manifested its divine power; its presence was solemnly celebrated with worship.

By using this term, “Advent”, Christians wanted to express the special relationship that bound them to the Crucified and Risen Christ. He is a King who, having entered this poor province called earth, made us the gift of his visit and after his Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven desired in any case to stay with us; we perceive his mysterious presence in the liturgical assembly. Indeed, in celebrating the Eucharist, we proclaim that he did not withdraw from the world, that he did not leave us alone and, even though we cannot see and touch him as with material and tangible realities, he is in any case with us and among us. Indeed, he is in us, because he can attract to himself and communicate his life to every believer who opens his/her heart to him.

Thus, Advent means commemorating the first coming of the Lord in the flesh, with his definitive return already in mind, and, at the same time, it means recognizing that Christ present in our midst makes himself our travelling companion in the life of the Church who celebrates his mystery. This knowledge, dear brothers and sisters, nourished by listening to the Word of God, must help us to see the world with different eyes, to interpret the individual events of life and history as words that God addresses to us, as signs of his love that assure us of his closeness in every situation; this awareness, in particular, should prepare us to welcome him when “he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end”, as in a little while we shall repeat in the Creed. In this perspective, Advent becomes for all Christians a time of expectation and hope, a privileged time for listening and reflection, as long as we let ourselves be guided by the liturgy, which invites us to advance to meet the Lord who comes. *From a Homily by Pope Benedict XVI; November 30, 2008*

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

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| December 24 | 4:00 p.m. St. Lawrence O’Toole, Barry’s Bay
6:00 p.m. St. Francis de Sales, Latchford Bridge |
| December 25 | 9:00 a.m. Holy Canadian Martyrs
10:30 a.m. St. Lawrence O’Toole, Barry’s Bay |

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$2,340.00 (Envelopes: \$1,627.00; Loose: \$83.40; Visitors: \$110.00; E-transfers: \$125.00; Christmas Flowers: \$395.00) [People at Mass: 4:00 p.m./90; 10:30 a.m./86]

I would like to thank everyone who has helped count Mass attendance numbers over the past 2 years. This count was requested by the Council of Priests of the Diocese of Pembroke to assist in future pastoral planning. ~ Fr. John

THE ANGELUS: (Latin for "angel") is a Catholic prayer commemorating the Incarnation. As with many Catholic prayers, the name Angelus is derived from its incipit—the first few words of the text: Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariæ ("The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary").

It also “commemorates the Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38), the decisive moment when God knocked at Mary's heart and, having received her "yes," began to take flesh in her and from her. The collect prayer of 4th Sunday of Advent is also the same prayer that is recited at the end of the Angelus. Advent prepares us for the feast of Christmas by inviting us to fix our gaze upon the ineffable mystery that Mary carried for nine months in her virginal womb: the mystery of God who becomes man. This is the first hinge of Redemption. The second is Jesus' death and resurrection, and these two inseparable hinges manifest a single divine plan: to save humanity and its history, assuming it to the very end by completely taking on all the evil that oppresses it.” ~ *Pope Benedict XVI*

It is traditionally prayed at dawn, noon and twilight, or with Grace before meals. Why not cut out the prayer at the bottom of this page and keep it on your table during Advent.

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- V. The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:
R. *And she conceived the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary . . .*
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
R. *Be it done unto me according to Thy word. Hail Mary . . .*
V. And the Word was made Flesh:
R. *And dwelt among us. Hail Mary . . .*
V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
R. *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.