

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



✠ Second Sunday of Advent ✠

December 8, 2024

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.

An Examination of Conscience to help in preparation is available on the entrance tables.

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 to have Loved Ones listed in the Christmas bulletin memorial page.

KOLEDY CONCERT: The Wilno Heritage Society Community Choir Presents *Koledy*, a collection of traditional Polish Christmas Carols at St. Mary's Church, Wilno on Friday, December 27th at 7:00 p.m. Accompanist: Joseph Platt; Director: Peter Glofcheskie; in collaboration with the Polish Heritage Institute Kaszuby.

BIBLE STUDY: We will begin a study of **The Gospel of John (Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture by Fr. Francis Martin)** on Wednesdays, starting January 22nd from 7 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. in the St. Lawrence O'Toole Hall. A typical evening begins with opening prayer, a hymn, and a conversation about the current chapter we're reading with regular attention to the Old Testament and Catechism. We close each week with intercessory prayer. These evenings are led by John Morris. Books for this study have been ordered and are \$30 each. Please contact the office to reserve yours, 613-756-2037. ~ Fr. John

Second Week of Advent

December 9 – 14

- Tuesday** 9:00 a.m. (*with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions*)
+ Teresa Sullivan by *Catholic Women's League*
+ Beverly Hare by +*Ronald Murack*
- Friday** 9:00 a.m. + Al Smaglinski by *Debbie* & +*Gerard Coulas*

+ Third Sunday of Advent ~ Gaudete Sunday +

December 15, 2024

- Saturday** 4:00 p.m. + August & Coulas Families by *Gwen Coulas*
+ Kay Luckasavitch by *Maxine Smaglinski & Family*
- Sunday** 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments

Readings

Communion

Offertory

December 14

Jane Beahen

Maxine Smaglinski

Bruce Sullivan

Barry Dombroskie

December 15

Beverly Glofcheskie

Terry Recoskie

John Jeffrey

Jason Dombroskie

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: *Leonard Hudder, Carmel Rumleskie.*

- for those who have died, especially, *Fr. Ken O'Brien, Ronald Murack, Theresa Marie Yaskolskie, Stella Susan Luckovitch.*

ROMAN CALENDAR:

- Monday** - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Tuesday** - Our Lady of Loreto
- Wednesday** - St. Damasus I, pope
- Thursday** - Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas
- Friday** - St. Lucy, virgin, martyr
- Saturday** - St. John of the Cross, priest, doctor

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL: In the Season of Advent, the liturgy highlights in a special way two figures who prepare for the coming of the Messiah: the Virgin Mary and John the Baptist. Luke discredits all the mythical interpretations that are often made of the Gospels, by putting the Baptist's life in its historical context and by writing: "In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor... in the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas" (Lk 3:1-2). The great event, the birth of Christ, which his contemporaries did not even notice, fits into this historical framework. For God the great figures of history serve as a frame for the lowly!

John the Baptist is described as "the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord, make his paths straight" (Lk 3:4). The voice proclaims the word, but in this case the Word of God comes first, since the word of God came to John, the son of Zechariah, in the wilderness (see Lk 3:2). He therefore plays an important role but always in terms of Christ. St Augustine comments: "John is the voice, but the Lord is the Word who was in the beginning (see Jn 1:1). John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning Christ is the Word who lives for ever. Take away the word, the meaning, and what is the voice? Where there is no understanding, there is only a meaningless sound. The voice without the word strikes the ear but does not build up the heart" (*In ev. Johannis tractatus* 293, 3: pl 38, 1328).

Today it is up to us to listen to that voice so as to make room for Jesus, the Word who saves us, and to welcome him into our hearts. Let us prepare ourselves in this Season of Advent to see, with the eyes of faith in the humble Grotto of Bethlehem, God's salvation (see Lk 3:6). In the consumer society in which we are tempted to seek joy in things, the Baptist teaches us to live in an essential manner, so that Christmas may be lived not only as an external feast, but as the feast of the Son of God who came to bring men and women peace, life and true joy.

Let us entrust our journey to encounter the Lord who comes, to the motherly intercession of Mary, the Virgin of Advent, in order to be ready to receive, in our heart and in our whole life, the Emmanuel, God-with-us. ~ *Pope Benedict, December 9, 2012*

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

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

2025 AN - 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.

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$3,106.20 (Envelopes: \$2,152.00; Loose: \$79.20; Visitors: \$65.00; E-transfers: \$520.00; Christmas Flowers: \$190.00; Building Renewal: \$100.00)

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.