

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 in Ordinary Time ✠

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

January 26, 2025

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD is celebrated on the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time. This annual celebration was announced by Pope Francis in a Motu Proprio entitled *Aperuit illis*, published on September 30, 2019, the Feast of St Jerome. The Word of God Sunday, Pope Francis wrote in that Motu Proprio, “is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God”. Pope Francis desires that “the Church experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasure of his word and enable us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world.” **The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures just as she venerates the body of the Lord, since, especially in the sacred liturgy, she unceasingly receives and offers to the faithful the bread of life from the table both of God’s word and of Christ’s body.** ~*Vatican II, Dei Verbum 21*

THE CHURCH – THE BODY OF CHRIST: Among the biblical readings in today’s Liturgy is the famous text from the First Letters to the Corinthians, in which St. Paul compares the Church to a human body. The Church is perceived as a body, of which Christ is the head, and with him she forms a whole. Yet what the Apostle is eager to communicate is the idea of unity among the multiplicity of charisms, which are the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Thanks to these, the Church appears as a rich and vital organism not uniform fruit of the one Spirit who leads everyone to profound unity, because she welcomes differences without eliminating them and thus bringing about a harmonious unity. She extends the presence of the Risen Lord throughout history, specifically through the Sacraments, the word of God and the charisms and ministries distributed among the community. Therefore, it is in Christ and in the Spirit that the Church is one and holy, that is, that she partakes in an intimate communion that transcends and sustains human intelligence. ~ *Pope Benedict XVI, January 20, 2010*

Third Week in Ordinary Time

January 27 – February 1

Tuesday 11:00 a.m. *Funeral Mass: + Brad Parisien*

Friday 9:00 a.m. + Andrew Dombroskie *by Family*

+ The Presentation of the Lord +

~ *Candlemas* ~

February 2, 2025

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + Stanley Zilney *by David & Jackie Burchat*

+ Anthony Brotton & Anna Marie Burke *by Alphonse Brotton*

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

Liturgical Appointments **February 1**

Readings *Lorrain Flynn*

Communion *Leona Chapeskie*

Offertory *Bruce Sullivan*

Barry Dombroskie

February 2

Ursula Jeffrey

Terry Recoskie

John Jeffrey

Jason 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: *Ray Vananburg,*
Carmel Rumleskie.

- for those who have died, especially: *Brad Parisien, Nathaniel Burchat.*

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Monday - St. Angela Merici, virgin

Tuesday - St. Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor

Friday - St. John Bosco, priest

PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR: Fridays at 9:45 a.m., following the 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish as we continue to pray together for the sanctity of life, marriage and family.

2024 CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS: will be issued next month with which you will also receive a Financial Report. Thank you for your faith-filled generosity and financial commitment to the parish.

TODAY'S LITURGY brings together two separate passages of Luke's Gospel and presents them to us. The first (1:1-4) is the Prologue, addressed to a certain "Theophilus". Since this name in Greek means "friend of God" we can see in him every believer who opens himself to God and wants to know the Gospel. Instead, the second passage (4:14-21) presents Jesus who, "in the power of the Spirit", goes to the Synagogue in Nazareth on the Sabbath. As a strict observer, the Lord does not disregard the pattern of the weekly liturgy and joins the assembly of his fellow citizens in prayer and in listening to the Scriptures. The ritual provides for the reading of a text from the Torah or the Prophets, followed by a commentary. That day Jesus stood up to read and found a passage from the Prophet Isaiah that begins this way: "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted" (61:1-2). Origen's comment was: "It is no coincidence that he opened the scroll and found the chapter of the reading that prophesies about him, this, too, was the work of God's providence" (Homilies on the Gospel of Luke, 32, 3). In fact when the reading was over in a silence charged with attention, Jesus said, "Today this scripture has [now] been fulfilled in your hearing" (Lk 4:21). St Cyril of Alexandria says that "today", placed between the first and the final coming of Christ, is related to the believer's ability to listen and to repent (see PG 69, 1241). But in an even more radical sense, Jesus himself is "the today" of salvation in history, because he brings to completion the work of redemption. The word "today", very dear to St Luke (see 19:9, 23:43), brings us back to the Christological title preferred by the Evangelist himself, namely: "Savior" (soter). Already in the infancy narratives, it is present in the words of the Angel to the shepherds: "For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Lk 2:11).

Dear friends, this Gospel passage also challenges us "today". First of all, it makes us think about how we live Sunday, a day of rest and a day for the family. Above all, it is the day to devote to the Lord, by participating in the Eucharist, in which we are nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ and by his life-giving Word. Second, in our diversified and distracted time, this Gospel passage invites us to ask ourselves whether we are able to listen. Before we can speak of God and with God we must listen to him, and the liturgy of the Church is the "school" of this listening to the Lord who speaks to us. Finally, he tells us that every moment can be the propitious "day" for our conversion. Every day (kathēmeran) can become the today of our salvation, because salvation is a story that is ongoing for the Church and for every disciple of Christ. This is the Christian meaning of "carpe diem": seize the day in which God is calling you to give you salvation! ~ *Pope Benedict, Angelus, January 27, 2013*

EVENINGS OF PRAISE, WORSHIP AND INTERCESSORY PRAYER: You are invited every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Lawrence O'Toole parish hall. There are always a good number in attendance from this area of the diocese. For information, call 613-756-6643

ANNO DOMINI (in the year of the Lord) - 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.

“The Letter to the Hebrews in the New Testament introduces a splendid symbol, the anchor of hope (6:19), which has always been the Christian symbol of hope, a fine symbol of firmness and reliability. It has been a sign of Christianity from the very earliest times, even scratched on the walls of the Roman catacombs. Christian hope is not some timid wishful thinking. It is a firm, unshakeable conviction that God is in control of the situation and that his protection is such that nothing can really go wrong.” ~ *Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB*

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$3,790.00 (Envelopes: \$1,994.00; Loose: \$119.00; Visitors: \$20.00; E-transfers: \$285.00; Initial: \$15.00; New Year's Day: \$25.00; Fuel: \$1,332.00)

BIBLE STUDY: The Gospel of John (Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture by Fr. Francis Martin) on Wednesdays, starting January 22 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

ST. LAWRENCE O'TOOLE MONTHLY FAMILY POTLUCK AND ROSARY:

Join us as we gather as families for a potluck and to pray the rosary monthly. Open to all young families. We meet monthly on the 4th Saturday in the parish hall at 5:15-7:00 pm. Please be in touch with Caitlin Rivett-Carnac, if you are interested and to be placed on the email list. Email: caitlinrivettcarnac@gmail.com

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL: Every second Sunday of the month, (except through the summer) we hope to provide a coffee social in the church hall after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. In order to facilitate this service of hospitality to new and old parishioners, two teams of volunteers will need to be formed. We hope to be able to have the first coffee social February 9th, depending on the response for volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please contact Judy Filion at 613-602-6580.