

# Saint Lawrence O'Toole Parish

www.stlawrenceotoole.ca

stlawrenceotoole@hotmail.com

**Fr. John N. Burchat, Parish Priest**

19450 Opeongo Line, P.O. Box 118  
Barry's Bay, Ontario K0J 1B0  
Fr.JohnN.Burchat@gmail.com

## Office Hours

*Tuesday & Friday*  
9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
613-756-2037



## ✠ Second Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

*January 19, 2025*

**THREE MANIFESTATIONS OF CHRIST'S DIVINITY:** Once woven together into the ancient liturgy of the Epiphany were Christ's manifestation to the Magi, his baptism in the Jordan, and the wedding feast at Cana. Today, we conclude with Cana and Christ's performance of his first miracle. Jesus Christ, in whom divinity and humanity are united, is himself the first and greatest sign of that full communion of life and love with God and with one another into which he draws us through the Eucharist. A marriage feast is a fitting context for the revelation of this nuptial mystery, for marriage is a sign of this promised communion.

At a wedding at Cana, Christ performed the first of the seven signs (miracles) recounted in the Gospel of John. The wanting wine threatens to spoil the celebration of new love. But the Mother of God notices the need and speaks to her Son. With one word from his Mother, Jesus reveals his divinity so that, just as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, all people can realize just how much our God rejoices in us. Just as it did for his first disciples, this revelation of glory leads us to a deeper belief in Christ. The miracle of "good wine" continues through the outpouring of the spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit to each individual. The wedding prefigured at Cana will be celebrated in glory at the coming of Christ, in whom humanity and divinity are wedded in everlasting love.

**DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLANNING:** Bishop Brehl has asked that his letter be attached to the parish bulletin this weekend. The issues that he outlines in his letter have already affected our 3 communities of Holy Canadian Martyrs, St. Francis de Sales and St. Lawrence O'Toole when in February 2022 they were formed into a pastoral cluster with one pastor.

**POT OF GOLD TICKETS** will be distributed out after the Saturday and Sunday masses on January 18/19<sup>th</sup> and January 25/26<sup>th</sup>. ~ *Sponsored by the CWL*

## Second Week in Ordinary Time

January 20 – 25

**Tuesday** 9:00 a.m. (*with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions*)  
+ Elmer Dombroskie *by Family*

**Friday** 9:00 a.m. + Marie Nicholas *by Carmel Rumleskie*

## + Third Sunday in Ordinary Time +

January 26, 2025

**Saturday** 4:00 p.m. + Theresa Yantha *by Tony Yantha*

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

Liturgical Appointments	January 25	January 26
Readings	<i>Susan Coulas</i>	<i>Tom Ryan</i>
Communion	<i>Maxine Smaglinski</i>	<i>Ursula Jeffrey</i>
Offertory	<i>Bruce Sullivan</i> <i>Richard Luckasavitch</i>	<i>John Jeffrey</i> <i>Jamie 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 parishioners and friends who are sick, especially: *Ray Vananburg, Brad Parisien, Carmel Rumleskie.*

- for those who have died, especially: *Fr. Steve Ballard, Nathaniel Burchat.*

### ROMAN CALENDAR:

**Monday** - St. Fabian, pope, martyr & St. Sebastian, martyr

**Tuesday** - St. Agnes, virgin, martyr

**Wednesday** - St. Vincent, deacon, martyr

**Friday** - St. Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor

**Saturday** - The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

**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.

**THE WEDDING FEAST:** Today the liturgy proposes the Gospel episode of the wedding at Cana, recounted by John, an eyewitness of the event. This episode has been allocated to this Sunday which immediately follows the Christmas season because, together with the visit of the Magi from the East and the Baptism of Jesus, it forms the trilogy of the Epiphany, in other words the manifestation of Christ. The miracle of the wedding at Cana is in fact “the first of his signs” (Jn 2:11), that is, the first miracle that Jesus worked with which he showed his glory in public, inspiring faith in his disciples.

Let us briefly recall the events that occurred during that wedding feast in Cana of Galilee. It happened that there was not enough wine and Mary, the Mother of Jesus, pointed this out to her Son. He answered her that his hour had not yet come; but then acquiesced to Mary’s request and, having had the six large jars filled with water, he transformed the water into wine, an excellent wine, better than the previous one. With this “sign” Jesus revealed himself as the messianic Bridegroom come to establish with his people the new and eternal covenant, in accordance with the prophets’ words: “as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you” (Is 62:5). Moreover, wine is a symbol of this joy of love; but it also alludes to the blood that Jesus was to pour out at the end to seal his nuptial pact with humanity.

The Church is the Bride of Christ who makes her holy and beautiful with his grace. Nevertheless, this bride formed of human beings is in constant need of purification. And one of the gravest sins that disfigure the Church’s face is that against her visible unity, the historical divisions that separated Christians and that have not yet been resolved. The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is taking place in these very days, from 18 to 25 January, an event much appreciated by believers and communities, which reawakens in all the desire for, and spiritual commitment to, full communion. ~*Pope Benedict, Angelus, January 20, 2013*

**ABUNDANT LOVE:** The Lord was invited and came to a wedding. Is it any wonder that he who came to that house for a wedding came to this world for a wedding? ... Therefore, he has a bride here whom he has redeemed by his blood and to whom he has given the Holy Spirit as a pledge. He wrested her from enslavement to evil, he died for her sins. He arose again for her justification. Who will offer such great things to his bride? Men may offer some trinket or other from the earth, such as gold, silver, precious stones, horses, slaves, farms or estates. Will any offer his blood? For if he gives his blood to his bride, he will not be alive to take her as his wife. But the Lord, dying free of anxiety, gave his blood for her in order that when he arose, he might have her whom he had already joined to himself in the womb of the Virgin. For the Word was the bridegroom, and human flesh was the bride. ~ *from St. Augustine, "Tractates on the Gospel of John," 8.4.1-3*

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

**2025 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.

**LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:**

Total: \$8,016.40 (Envelopes: \$2,157.00; Loose: \$207.50; Visitors: \$240.00; E-transfers: \$800.00; Christmas: \$4,536.90; Building Fund: \$75.00)

**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.

**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

**WOMEN'S RETREAT 2025:** Directed by Madonna house members Fr. Michael Weigl and Christina Milan. Retreat near Peterborough – Elm Lodge. March 14 to 16, 2025; Retreat near Combermere – Graphite Bible Camp. April 4 to 6, 2025. For more information email: [womensretreatcombermere@gmail.com](mailto:womensretreatcombermere@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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 9<sup>th</sup>, depending on the response for volunteers. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Judy Fillion at 613-602-6580.