

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.
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✠ The Ascension of the Lord ✠

June 1, 2025

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS: Too often we think of the Ascension as the moment when Jesus “went away,” when he left us on our own and went off to heaven, where we hope some day to join him. But the Ascension is not Jesus going away; it is Jesus assuming his glorious kingly position in heaven as Head of the Body of Christ and continuing as Shepherd of the Church’s life on earth where the Kingdom of God is already being experienced and made visible through the animating power of the Holy Spirit.

OUR DIOCESAN NEWSPAPER ECCLESIA: is now available at the entrance.

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS: Recent changes can be found in ECCLESIA. Latest changes can be found posted on the bulletin board.

OUR CEMETERIES: We remind you that our cemetery by-laws indicate that all flowers, ornaments, candles, etc. must be affixed to a monument. If they are not, they may be removed and discarded by the cemetery caretaker to enable proper grass cutting.

CELL PHONES IN CHURCH: As we gather together for Mass, let's take a moment to ensure our cell phones are on silent mode. This helps maintain the peaceful and reverent atmosphere we all cherish. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our focus on prayer and reflection and creating a space for undistracted prayer.

TODAY our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. While in heaven he is also with us; and we while on earth are with him. He is here with us by his divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love. Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. ~ *St. Augustine*

Seventh Week of Easter

June 2 – June 7

Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	+ Deceased Family Members of the Hannay Family <i>by Karen Yakabuski</i>
		Intentions of Lorraine Leddy <i>by Robert & Monica Radey</i>
First Friday	9:00 a.m.	+ Patrick Cowan <i>by Terri MacLeod</i>
		Intentions of the Starflowers Prayer Initiative

+ Pentecost Sunday +

June 8, 2025

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+ Jim & Jean Zagol <i>by Bryan & Jean Madigan</i>
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments	June 7	June 8
Readings	<i>Martin Yakabuski</i>	<i>Ursula Jeffrey</i>
Communion	<i>Beverly Glofcheskie</i>	<i>Terry Recoskie</i>
Offertory	<i>Bruce Sullivan</i>	<i>John Jeffrey</i>
	<i>Richard Luckasavitch</i>	<i>Jason 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:

- that our risen Saviour may transform and fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven.
- for parishioners and friends who are sick, especially: *Ray Vananburg, Carmel Rumleskie, Linda Pilgrim.*
- for those who have died, especially: *Albert Cybulski.*

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Monday	- St. Marcellinus & St. Peter, martyrs
Tuesday	- St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, martyrs
Thursday	- St. Boniface, bishop, martyr
Friday	- St. Norbert, bishop

COFFEE SOCIAL will take place downstairs in the parish hall on **NEXT SUNDAY** on June 8 after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Come and enjoy a hot drink while catching up with old friends and new parishioners.

THE PENTECOST NOVENA: *(to be recited every day on the 9 days before Pentecost)* is the oldest of all novenas since it was first made at the direction of Our Lord Himself when He sent His apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost.

**O Lord Jesus Christ, Who, before ascending into heaven,
did promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work
in the souls of Your Apostles and Disciples,
deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that He may perfect in my soul,
the work of Your grace and Your love.
Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this
world and aspire only after the things that are eternal,
the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind
with the light of Your divine truth,
the Spirit of Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God
and gaining heaven,
the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with You
and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation,
the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself
and grow perfect in the science of the Saints,
the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable,
and the Spirit of Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God
and may dread in any way to displease Him.
Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of Your true disciples
and animate me in all things with Your Spirit. Amen.**

THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT comes our restoration to paradise, our ascension into the kingdom of heaven, our return to the adoption of sons, our liberty to call God our Father, our being made partakers of the grace of Christ, our being called children of light, our sharing in eternal glory. – *Saint Basil the Great*

PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR: Fridays at 9:45 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY: Summer Series on the Gospel of John (Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture by Fr. Francis Martin). For those who might like to attend a bible study in the summer, we will be studying the Gospel of John Chapter 6 to Chapter 8 starting Wednesday June 11th ending August 27th. Books can be ordered online. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. in the St. Lawrence O'Toole Hall. For more information contact John Morris, 613-729-6647.

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$2,789.00 (Envelopes: \$2,052.00; Loose: \$117.00; E-transfer: \$40.00;

Visitors: \$110.00; Pope's Pastoral Works: \$430.00; Building Fund: \$40.00).

Thank you for your consistent financial support which enables us to have a church and community for worship, education and outreach.

HEARING THE CALL: In today's first reading, St. Luke gives the surprising news that there is more of the story to be told. The story did not end with the empty tomb, or with Jesus' appearances to the Apostles over the course of forty days. Jesus' saving work will have a liturgical consummation. He is the great high priest, and he has still to ascend to the heavenly Jerusalem, there to celebrate the feast in the true Holy of Holies. The truth of this feast shines forth from the Letter to the Hebrews, where we read of the great high priest's passing through the heavens, the sinless intercessor's sacrifice on our behalf (see Hebrews 4:14-15).

Indeed, his intercession will lead to the Holy Spirit's descent in fire upon the Church. Luke spells out that promise in the first reading for the feast of the Ascension: "in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5). Ascension is the preliminary feast that directs the Church's attention forward to Pentecost. On that day, salvation will be complete; for salvation is not simply expiation for sins (that would be wonder enough), but it is something even greater than that. Expiation is itself a necessary precondition of our adoption as God's children. To live that divine life we must receive the Holy Spirit. To receive the Holy Spirit we must be purified through baptism.

The Responsorial Psalm presents the Ascension in terms familiar from the worship of the Jerusalem Temple in the days of King Solomon: "God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord" (Psalm 47). The priest-king takes his place at the head of the people, ruling over the nations, establishing peace.

The Epistle strikes a distinctively Paschal note. In the early Church, as today, Easter was the normal time for the baptism of adult converts. The sacrament was often called "illumination" or "enlightenment" (see, for example, Hebrews 10:32) because of the light that came with God's saving grace. Saint Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, speaks in terms of glory that leads to greater glories still, as Ascension leads to Pentecost: "May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened," he writes, as he looks to the divinization of the believers. Their "hope" is "his inheritance among the holy ones," the saints who have been adopted into God's family and now rule with him at the Father's right hand.

This is the "good news" the Apostles are commissioned to spread—to the whole world, to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem—at the first Ascension. It's the good news we must spread today. ~ *Dr. Scott Hahn*

I have returned to the Father. You are with me.