

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. – 12:00 noon

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✠ Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

September 7, 2025

HEALING SERVICE WITH EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: THIS THURSDAY, September 11, 7:00 p.m. **at St Lawrence O'Toole Church.** This service is open to all, especially anyone suffering physical, spiritual, financial, or emotional challenges. The guest speaker will be Deacon Adrien Chaput. A Eucharistic blessing will be given by Fr John Burchat. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available and there will be prayer teams available to pray individually with you for your intentions or the intentions of your loved ones following the service.

***AT THE HEART OF SEPTEMBER,** the Church celebrates the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 14 with its distinctive emphasis on the brightness of the cross – the cross as a source of joy, of triumph, of exaltation.*

**O Jesus Christ lifted high, O Love crucified,
heal the eyes of our hearts that we may see in your pierced heart,
the visible wounds of invisible Love.
Lord Jesus Christ,
you who accepted the Cross to make of it the sign of God's saving love for humanity,
Grant to all the men and women of our time
the grace of faith in this infinite Love and the charity to reflect it in our lives. Amen.**

ST. HEDWIG'S has requested the use of our church and hall for funerals during their church renovations this month, and as needed, these will take place Monday to Friday at 11:00 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY SOCIAL: On Sunday, September 14th, there will be a coffee social in the church hall after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Come downstairs for a hot drink and to chat with fellow parishioners.

Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time

September 8 – September 13

Tuesday (with *Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions*)
9:00 a.m. + Fr. Mervin Coulas by *Dan & Carolyn Letters*
Friday 9:00 a.m. + Scott Jeffrey by *John & Ursula Jeffrey*
Intentions of Zdzislaw Mielczarska by *Vicky Skoczylas*

+ The Exaltation of the Holy Cross +

September 14, 2025

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + Thomas & Veronica O'Reilly by *Sharlene O'Reilly*
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments	September 13	September 14
Readings	<i>Martin Yakabuski</i>	<i>Paul Rivett-Carnac</i>
Communion	<i>Leona Chapeskie</i>	<i>Pierre-Paul Filion</i>
Offertory	<i>Bruce Sullivan</i>	<i>John Jeffrey</i>
	<i>Richard Luckasavitch</i>	<i>Jason Prince</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: *Jean-Paul Patenaude, Ray Vananburg, Carmel Rumleskie, Linda Pilgrim.*
- for those who have died, especially: *Kevin Andrew Young, Conway McGrath, Joseph “Bud” Maika.*

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Monday - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday - St. Peter Claver, priest
Friday - The Most Holy Name of Mary
Saturday - St. John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor

EVENING OF PRAISE, WORSHIP AND INTERCESSORY PRAYER: Thursdays
at St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish Hall from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. All are welcome.

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: September 22 to 26.

THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY: The feast of the Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary originated in Spain and was approved in 1513. In 1683, Pope Innocent XI extended the celebration of the feast day to the universal Church, to be celebrated on September 12th, four days after the Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Mother. With the revisions of the *Roman Missal* in 1970 following the Vatican Council II, the feast day was removed from the universal calendar, although the Votive Mass remained. However, Pope John Paul II in the third edition of the *Roman Missal*, issued in 2003, reinstituted the feast day, technically as an “optional memorial.”

The name *Mary* is rooted in various ancient languages: in Hebrew *Myriam*; in Aramaic *Maryam*; in the Greek Old Testament, *Mariam*; and in Greek and Latin New Testament, *Maria*.

Modern philological studies of ancient Egyptian suggest that *Mary* means “lady, beautiful one, or well-beloved.” Some scholars of Ugaritic texts (ancient Syrian) suggest the name *mrym* derives from the verb *rwn*, thereby rendering the meaning of “high, lofty, exalted, or august.” These root meanings fit well with the message of the Archangel Gabriel: “Hail, Mary, full of grace [*or* Rejoice, O highly favored daughter]! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women” (Luke 1:28).

Of course, the name “Mary,” being the name of the Blessed Mother, deserves special respect and devotion, and is thereby celebrated in four ways: First, *Mary* is a name of honor, since the faithful praise Mary as the Mother of our Divine Savior; she is rightfully called “Mother of God,” for Jesus true God, second person of the Holy Trinity entered this world becoming also true man through Mary who had conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. Second, *Mary* is a most holy name, because the very mention of her name reminds us she is full of grace, has found favor with God, and is blessed among all women. Third, Mary is a maternal name, because she is our Mother, whom our Lord gave to us as He was dying on the cross (cf. John 19:26-27). Finally, *Mary* is a name of the mother who responds to all of our needs, protects us from evil, and prays “for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.”

The holy name of Mary has been revered in many ways. St. Louis de Montfort (d. 1716) said, “The whole world is filled with her glory, and this is especially true of Christian peoples, who have chosen her as guardian and protectress of kingdoms, provinces, dioceses, and towns. Many cathedrals are consecrated to God in her name. There is no church without an altar dedicated to her, no country or region without at least one of her miraculous images where all kinds of afflictions are cured and all sorts of benefits received.

As we celebrate this feast day, let us remember the opening prayer for the Mass: “Lord, our God, when your Son was dying on the altar of the cross, He gave us as our mother the one He had chosen to be His own mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary; grant that we who call upon the holy name of Mary, our mother, with confidence in her protection may receive strength and comfort in all our needs.” ~ *Fr. William P. Saunders*

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$3,070.50 (Envelopes: \$1,882.00; Loose: \$413.50; Visitors: \$295.00;
E-transfer: \$430.00; Building Fund: \$30.00; Special Northern Missions: \$20.00).

BIBLE STUDY: The Gospel of John (Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture by Fr. Francis Martin). Chapter 6 to Chapter 8. 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.

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL, from Luke 14:25–33, calls for a radical and wholehearted commitment to discipleship. The passage's striking language about "hating" family and possessions is a Semitic idiom, emphasizing the need *to prefer Christ above all else*, even the most cherished aspects of life. True discipleship demands *a total reordering of priorities*, not as a grim burden but as a joyful sacrifice that leads to authentic freedom and aligns us with Christ's self-giving love. The gospel is a warning against lukewarm faith, urging believers to embrace the cross with spiritual clarity and courage. In the context of modern life, this gospel is a wake-up call: discipleship is not about comfort but about risk, renunciation, and love. It demands an all-or-nothing response, *shaking us out of complacency and inviting us to missionary courage*, a willingness to leave behind security and bring Christ to the margins of society.

**O Cross of Christ immortal tree on which our Saviour died,
the world is sheltered by your arms that bore the crucified.**

**From bitter death and barren wood the tree of life is made;
its branches bear unfailing fruit and leaves that never fade.**

**O faithful Cross, you stand unmoved while ages run their course:
foundation of the universe, creation's binding force.**

**Give glory to the risen Christ and to his Cross give praise,
the sign of God's unfathomed love, the hope of all our days.**

~Stanbrook Benedictines, 1974

PARISH SUPPERS: Our Lady of Mercy, Bancroft; Sunday, September 7; 11:30 a.m.– 6:00 p.m.
St. Alphonsus, Upper Pontiac Complex, Chapeau; September 21; 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.
St. Patrick Parish, Mount St. Patrick; Sunday, September 28; 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.