

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-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

September 21, 2025

THIS SUNDAY'S SECOND READING from 1 Timothy 2 reveals the inclusive scope of God's redemptive will: He desires all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. This divine longing is rooted in His character: goodness, merciful, patient, and just. The passage emphasizes prayer for all, including rulers, showing that salvation is not reserved for a spiritual elite but offered universally. Christ's role as the one mediator underscores that this salvation is accessible, not abstract. It's a call to the Church to reflect God's heart in its mission, intercession, and witness.

TRANSITUS OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI: here at St. Lawrence O'Toole on Friday, October 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Join us for a solemn & prayerful commemoration marking the passage of St. Francis from earthly life to eternal life. Let us gather in the spirit of Saint Francis—humble, joyful, & full of peace—as we remember his final moments & celebrate his legacy of love for Christ, creation, & all people. *All are welcome.*

CWL TICKET DONATION: Members and parishioners are invited to consider making a monetary donation towards prizes for our fundraiser, the "Pot O'Gold" raffle. Any amount is appreciated. Please place your donation in an envelope marked **CWL – ticket donation** and drop off in the collection basket or Maureen at the church office or give to Maxine Smaglinski (756-0194) before **October 26th**. If you are donating \$100 or more and wish to be recognized on the ticket, please make note of that along with your donation. Thank you.

FOOD BANK OFFERING IN THANKSGIVING: In gratitude for our many blessings, beginning next weekend, parishioners are invited to bring donations of non-perishable food for the Madawaska Valley Food Bank and personally place them on the table at the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary near the vigil stand. Let us adorn our church and place of worship with our offerings for the poor.

Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

September 22 – September 27

Tuesday (*with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions*)
9:00 a.m. + Beverly Brotton *by Alphonse Brotton*
Friday 9:00 a.m. + Cathy Serran *by John Francis Burchat*

+ Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time +

September 28, 2025

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + Debbie Yantha *by Eric & Susan Coulas*
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments	September 27	September 28
Readings	<i>Jane Beahen</i>	<i>Judy Filion</i>
Communion	<i>Beverly Glofcheskie</i>	<i>Terry Recoskie</i>
Offertory	<i>Bruce Sullivan</i>	<i>Paul Rivett-Carnac</i>
	<i>Richard Luckasavitch</i>	<i>Greg Kelly</i>

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: *Kenny Kedroskie; John Hildebrandt, Kevin Andrew Young, Conway McGrath.*

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Tuesday - St. Pius of Pietrelcina, priest
Wednesday - Blessed Emilie Tavernier-Gamelin, religious
Thursday - St. Cosmas and St. Damian, martyrs
Friday - St. Jean Brebeuf & St. Isaac Jogues, priests, & Companions, martyrs
Saturday - St. Vincent de Paul, priest

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.

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

TODAY, the telling the Parable of the dishonest but very crafty administrator, Christ teaches his disciples the best way to use money and material riches, that is, to share them with the poor, thus acquiring their friendship, with a view to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Money is not “dishonest” in itself, but more than anything else it can close man in a blind egocentrism. It therefore concerns a type of work of “conversion” of economic goods: instead of using them only for self-interest, it is also necessary to think of the needs of the poor, imitating Christ himself, who, as St Paul wrote: “though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (II Cor 8: 9).

It seems paradoxical: Christ has not enriched us with his richness but with his poverty, with his love that brought him to give himself totally to us.

Here one could open up a vast and complex field of reflection on the theme of poverty and riches, also on a world scale, in which two logics of economics oppose each other: the logic of profit and that of the equal distribution of goods, which do not contradict each other if their relationship is well ordered.

Catholic social doctrine has always supported that equitable distribution of goods is a priority. Naturally, profit is legitimate and, in just measure, necessary for economic development.

In his Encyclical *Centesimus Annus*, John Paul II wrote: “The modern business economy has positive aspects. Its basis is human freedom exercised in many other fields” (no. 32). Yet, he adds that capitalism must not be considered as the only valid model of economic organization (see *ibid.*, no. 35).

Starvation and ecological emergencies stand to denounce, with increasing evidence, that the logic of profit, if it prevails, increases the disproportion between rich and poor and leads to a ruinous exploitation of the planet.

Instead, when the logic of sharing and solidarity prevails, it is possible to correct the course and direct it towards an equitable, sustainable development. ~ *Pope Benedict, September 23, 2007*

We could then say, paraphrasing one of St Augustine’s thoughts, that through earthly riches we must procure for ourselves those true and eternal riches: indeed, if people exist who are prepared to resort to every type of dishonesty to assure themselves an always unpredictable material well-being, how much more concerned we Christians must be to provide for our eternal happiness with the goods of this earth (see *Discourses*, 359, 10). Now, the only way of bringing our personal talents and abilities and the riches we possess to fruition for eternity is to share them with our brethren, thereby showing that we are good stewards of what God entrusts to us. Jesus said: “He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much” (Lk 16: 10). ~ *Pope Benedict, September 23, 2007*

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$2,440.55 (Envelopes: \$2,044.75; Loose: \$145.80; Visitors: \$20.00;

E-transfer: \$160.00; Needs for the Church: \$100.00).

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, WILNO is the designated church for the Jubilee Indulgence on **Tuesday, October 7, 2025, the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.** Mass will be offered at 11:00 a.m. followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day, concluding with Rosary at 3:30 p.m. and Benediction at 4:00 p.m. Confessions will be available from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Please, see Jubilee 2025 – Indulgence – Diocese of Pembroke for more information about the graces of the Jubilee Indulgence.

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL: YOU CANNOT SERVE BOTH GOD AND MONEY

Have you ever thought that your attitude toward money might be enslaving you to it? Here are questions that we can ask ourselves to know if we love money.

1. Do we strive to live a simpler lifestyle and with greater detachment from what I own?
2. Do we tithe to the church and her mission and give money to the poor?
3. If God is inspiring us to give more to others, do we follow that inspiration?
4. Do we see whatever wealth we may have as means for assisting others in their need?

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2424-25):

The disordered desire for money cannot but produce perverse effects. It is one of the causes of the many conflicts which disturb the social order. Every practice that reduces persons to nothing more than a means of profit enslaves man, leads to idolizing money, and contributes to the spread of atheism.

GOD DESIRES ALL TO BE SAVED; (From the Catechism of the Catholic Church)

CCC74:"God desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Timothy 2:4)

CCC 2822 (on the Lord's Prayer): "Our Father 'desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.' He wills the salvation of everyone through the knowledge of the truth."

CCC 851 (on the missionary mandate): "God wills the salvation of everyone through the knowledge of the truth. Salvation is found in the truth. Those who obey the prompting of the Spirit of truth are already on the way to salvation."

CCC 1257 (on baptism): "God has bound salvation to the sacrament of Baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments."