

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

jnburchat@gmail.com

Office Hours

Tuesday & Friday

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

613-756-2037



✠ Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe ✠

November 23, 2025

Today's Solemnity marks the culmination of the liturgical year and proclaims the full cosmic and eschatological scope of Christ's reign. It also affirms that His kingship is already at work in the world through the light and life of the Church as the Body of Christ, even as it awaits its final fulfillment—when all creation will be drawn into the fullness of divine renewal. *For God's Word, by whom all things were made, was Himself made flesh so that as perfect man He might save all men and sum up all things in Himself. The Lord is the goal of human history, the focal point of the longings of history and of civilization, the center of the human race, the joy of every heart and the answer to all its yearnings.* (Vatican II, *Gaudium et Spes*, no. 45).

Today's feast calls the faithful to acknowledge Christ's sovereignty not only in personal devotion, but in every sphere of human life: social, cultural, and economic. It summons us to participate in the work of reconciliation, to shape our communities with justice, mercy, and love, and to live in hope of the Kingdom that is both already present and yet to come.

In this light, the Feast of Christ the King stands as a radiant witness to the Lordship of Christ over history and the destiny of the human family. Upon this great feast let us be filled with joy. Let us unite with the prayer of the Church to say:

Christus vincit!

Christus regnat!

Christus imperat!

Christ conquers!

Christ reigns!

Christ commands!

Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

November 17 – November 22

Tuesday (with *Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions*)
9:00 a.m. + Rita Murray *by the Murray Family*
Friday 9:00 a.m. + Barbara Pineau *by Maxine Smaglinski*

+ First Sunday of Advent +

November 30, 2025

Saturday 4:00 p.m. + Edmund Kubesheskie *by Arlene Kubesheskie*
+ Edna Coulas *by Richard & Suzanne Luckasavitch*
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments	November 29	November 30
Readings	<i>Susan Coulas</i>	<i>Paul Rivett-Carnac</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>

2026 SUNDAY MISSALS: Have arrived and are now available at entrance for \$5 each. Quantities are limited.

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 the holy souls in final purification, especially those most in need of the mercy of divine healing: that through the infinite love of Christ and the prayers of the Church, they may be swiftly purified and welcomed into the joy of eternal life.
- for parishioners and friends who are sick, especially: *Diane Green, Jean-Paul Patenaude, Ray Vananburg, Carmel Rumleskie, Linda Pilgrim.*
- for those who have died, especially: *Edward Joseph Yantha*

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Monday - St. Andrew Dung-Lac, priest and Companions, martyrs
Tuesday - St. Catherine of Alexandria, virgin, martyr

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.

ADVENT IS ARRIVING NEXT SUNDAY: Advent is a sacred journey — a time of hope, waiting, and joyful expectation. Before the candles are lit and the hymns begin, we are invited to pause and ask: *Who truly guides our hearts during this season when heaven leans close to earth, and all creation waits in quiet expectancy for the coming of its Redeemer?*

The world urges us toward busyness. The pressures — to buy, to decorate, to plan — can be immense. Yet even amid this activity, our Lord gently calls us to slow down and make room for His presence. The true celebration of Christmas begins not in the noise of the marketplace, but in the quiet of a heart that waits in faith.

God calls us to a deeper rhythm. The same Word through whom galaxies were created now seeks to be born in the smallness of our hearts. Each prayer, each act of patience, each kindness given in love becomes a small echo of that divine descent — the Infinite entering the finite, the eternal Light shimmering in our ordinary days.

Each day of Advent offers a new opportunity to draw nearer to the Lord. A few moments of prayer, a simple act of kindness, a word of gratitude — these become our offering of love. As we pray with the Church and remember God's promises, our hearts are formed in hope and made ready to welcome the Child of Bethlehem.

When gratitude shapes our daily tasks, even our busy-ness is transformed. The cooking and cleaning, the gatherings and gifts — all can become sacraments of love when offered with hearts awake to the mystery of Emmanuel, God with us.

Advent teaches us that to wait is not to be idle, but to live within a sacred tension — between what is and what is coming to be. The world itself waits with us, straining toward its transfiguration, yearning for the light that will never fade.

To live Advent well is to let time become transparent to eternity — to live as though the air around us is charged with the nearness of God. We wait not only with weariness but in wonder. We prepare not in fear of what is undone, but in hope of what is being recreated.

For the Child we await is the dawn of all things, and in His coming the world is renewed. If we live this season with stillness and hope, Christmas will not arrive as a sudden burst of celebration, but as a revelation — the moment when we discover that the Love for which we have waited has been drawing near all along, quietly making the world radiant from within.

Let every Advent candle we light and every song we sing be filled with meaning and love. For when we allow Advent to shape our hearts, Christmas becomes far more than a day — it becomes a radiant celebration of God's nearness, peace, and everlasting joy.

May our preparation be filled with wonder and peace, until the day when the radiance of Christmas breaks upon us — not as the end of waiting, but as the revelation of the Love that has been waiting for us all along.

2026 SUNDAY MISSALS: Have arrived and are now available at entrance for \$5 each. Quantities are limited.

LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:

Total: \$2,592.00 (Envelopes: \$1,507.00; Loose: \$115.00; Visitors: \$65.00;

E-transfer: \$340.00; Christmas Flowers: \$65.00; Building Fund/In Memory of: \$500.00).

SUNDAY OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR 2026: Please find your envelope box on the back table at the entrance of the church in alphabetic order. If you use e-transfer, you are still issued a box which contains special collection envelopes authorized by the diocese. Make your financial gift in support of our parish count. Use church envelopes for a secure and personalized contribution.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS: for the Glory of God and in Memory of loved ones can be made with the envelopes provided at the entrance of the church or in your Offering box. The Masses of Christmas will be offered for your intentions. Donations must be submitted by Wednesday, December 17 in order to have loved ones listed in the Christmas bulletin memorial page.

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.

TURKEY DINNER & ADVENT VESPERS (Evening Prayer): is sponsored by the CWL and will be open to all parishioners. On Sunday, December 7 in the St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish Hall. Tickets are \$30 each & \$15 for children 12 & under. Tickets are available at the church office on Tuesdays & Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. or call Ursula Jeffrey at 613-756-3281. Doors open at 4:00 p.m., Advent Vespers at 5:00 p.m. (lead by the women of St. Joseph's – Madonna House), buffet dinner at 5:30 p.m. **The CWL will be selling tickets for the next 2 weekends in the link after Saturday and Sunday Masses.**

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL WEBSITES:

<https://amywelborn.wordpress.com>

<http://www.ewtn.com>

<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/>

<http://www.wordonfire.org>

<https://dynamiccatholic.com>

<http://www.catholicmom.com>

MEN'S RETREAT: at the Graphite Bible Camp in Maynooth (as usual), the weekend of January 9 - 11, 2026. With Fr. Michael Weitzl (Madonna House), lay associate, Steve Heroux. Mass, inspirational talks & the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For more info: contact Pierre-Paul Fillion at 613-602-6580 or email: ppfillion@yahoo.ca. We encourage you to register by December 20th. This will help us get a sense of numbers and plans for meals etc. It will also ensure that you won't be placed on a waiting list.