

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



✠ Fourth Sunday of Advent ✠

December 21, 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

For most people, Christmas ends on December 25th. After weeks of parties, carols, and decorations, attention shifts to the New Year. In the Catholic Church, however, Christmastide is only beginning. With its own rhythm, the Church continues to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord — the revelation of what every heart desires: to be loved by a Love that removes our restlessness.

The heart of the Christmas Gospel is simple: we are loved by God. Love created us, sustains us, and has changed our destiny forever. In the Incarnation, God restores to humanity the dignity and freedom intended from the beginning. His birth reveals the Father's love and confirms the value of every person. Without this Love — without it being revealed, encountered, experienced, and made our own — we cannot participate in it, and we remain incomprehensible to ourselves.

The mission of the Church is to proclaim this generous love and to guard human dignity transformed by the Word made flesh. May the blessings of Christmastide fill your hearts and overflow to family, friends, and neighbors.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. John N. Burchat

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

+ The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas +

*The Masses of the Christmas season are offered for your in-memoriam flower donations
and for the general intentions of all parishioners.*



CHRISTMAS EVE *Wednesday, December 24*

St. Lawrence O'Toole 4:00 p.m.

St. Francis de Sales 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY *Thursday, December 25*

Holy Canadian Martyrs 9:00 a.m.

St. Lawrence O'Toole 10:30 a.m.

+ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph +

December 28, 2025

St. Lawrence O'Toole Saturday, December 27 4:00 p.m.

St. Francis de Sales Saturday, December 27 6:00 p.m.

Holy Canadian Martyrs Sunday, December 28 9:00 a.m.

St. Lawrence O'Toole Sunday, December 28 10:30 a.m.

+ The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God +

New Year's & World Day of Peace

January 1, 2026

St. Lawrence O'Toole Wednesday, December 31 4:00 p.m.

St. Francis de Sales Wednesday, December 31 6:00 p.m.

Holy Canadian Martyrs Thursday, January 1 9:00 a.m.

St. Lawrence O'Toole Thursday, January 1 10:30 a.m.

+ The Epiphany of the Lord +

January 4, 2026

St. Lawrence O'Toole Saturday, January 3 4:00 p.m.

St. Francis de Sales Saturday, January 3 6:00 p.m.

Holy Canadian Martyrs Sunday, January 4 9:00 a.m.

St. Lawrence O'Toole Sunday, January 4 10:30 a.m.

ROMAN CALENDAR: December 22 – January 3

Tuesday - St. John of Kanty, priest
Thursday - NATIVITY OF THE LORD
Friday - St. Stephen, the first martyr
Saturday - St. John, apostle, evangelist

Monday - St. Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr
Wednesday - St. Sylvester I, pope
Thursday - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Friday - St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen, bishop, doctors
Saturday - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

SUNDAY OFFERINGS: will be reported after Christmas.

CHARITABLE DONATION DEADLINE: Please note that all charitable donations intended to be included on this year's receipt must be received by Monday, December 29. Contributions received after this date will be recorded on next year's charitable donation receipt. *Thank you for your generosity and continued support of our parish.*

SUNDAY OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR 2026 are available on back table in alphabetic order. If I have missed anyone, please contact the office. Use church envelopes for a secure and personalized contribution.

DIOCESE OF PEMBROKE PASTORAL PLANNING: Parishioners of the Barry's Bay Deanery are invited to **save the date of Sunday, March 1**, to attend a meeting at St. John Bosco School, Barry's Bay - 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - to attend a pastoral planning information meeting. Bishop Brehl and members of the diocesan steering committee will present relevant pastoral, statistical and financial data to help equip parishioners in ongoing dialogue and discernment on the future of the diocese.

SAVE THE DATE: *Family of 3 Churches Lenten Day of Reflection* with Bishop Brehl on Saturday, March 21, 2026, in St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish Hall.

KOLEDY CONCERT: The Wilno Heritage Society Community Choir invites you to attend our KOLEDY concert Sunday, December 28th at 3:00 p.m. in St. Mary's Church, Wilno. You will hear an uplifting collection of Traditional Polish Carols, sung in Polish and English. Free admission event. See you there!

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: Closed between Christmas & New Year's. Emergencies or urgent requests, please leave a message in voice mail at St. Lawrence O'Toole or send an email to Fr. Burchat - jnburchat@gmail.com.

The Decorations for Christmas are for the Glory of God and In Memory of Our Loved Ones

+ Donald Murray *by Loretta Murray* + In Memory of Our Dearly Loved Family Members & Friends *by David & Julia Cannon* + Jerry & Bill Green *by Diane Green* + Karl & Robbie Coulas & Deceased Coulas & August Family Members & Margaret Cowan *by Gwen Coulas* + Leo, Lyn, Doris, Bernice Bonnah *by Anne Bonnah* + Beverly Brotton *by Alphonse Brotton* + Brad & Ronnie Parisien & Jeffrey Grandmont, Tony Sr. & Barry Burant *by Tony & Debbie Burant* + Parents, Melvin, Dr. Gabrielle, Sylvester & Elizabeth *by Eric & Susan Coulas* + Deceased Family & Friends *by Connie Coulas & Mitchell Dombroskie* + Family, Friends & Former Parishioners *by Fr. John N. Burchat* + Jerome Cybulski *by Viola Cybulski* + Martin & Agnes Etmanskis *by Jerome & Shirlee Etmanskis* + Kubesheskie & Luckasavitch Families *by Arlene Kubesheskie* + Joseph & Barbara Kuiack *by Gerard Kuiack* + Parents of Richard & Suzanne Luckasavitch + Shaun O'Malley *by Daniel & Patricia O'Malley* + Clarence, Michael & Brian Prince *by Dorothy Prince* + Our Families *by Terry & Patsy Prince* + August, Theresa & Wayne Hudder & Majella Rodway Rush *by Debbie Rodway* + Cathy Serran *by Larry Serran* + Wladyslaw & Helena Krolikowscy *by Vicky Skoczylas* + Alfred & Evelyn Villeneuve & Deceased Family Members *by Claire Sullivan & Family* + André & Clare Noël *by David & Christine Trudel* + Siblings Lost in 2025 & Alfred Jr. & Jackie Villeneuve *by Marie Villeneuve* + Stanley, Agnes & Cindy Chippior *by Larry & Sharon Chippior* + Souls in Purgatory *by Andrew & Colleen Dombroskie* + Margaret & Elmer Dombroskie *by Lori-Kay Dombroskie* + Deceased Relatives *by Tom & Carolyn Etmanskis* + Scott Jeffrey *by John & Ursula Jeffrey* + John MacLeod, Patrick & Ruth Cowan *by Terri MacLeod* + Billings & O'Grady Family *by John & Joanne Olsen* + Stanley, Apollonia, Richard & Ursula Dombroskie *by Rosemary Recoskie* + Luckasavitch & Smaglinski Families *by Maxine Smaglinski* + Joseph, Beatrice & Mildred Brotton *by Susan Brotton & Family* + John C. Hildebrandt *by Beth Hildebrandt* + Deceased Members of the O'Malley & O'Reilly Family *by Neil & Connie O'Reilly* + Thanksgiving to the Lord God *by John & Rita Hudder* + Sidney Pecarski *by Darlene Bresnahan* + Deceased Madigan & Dwyer Families & Friends *by Bryan & Jean Madigan*

For the Intentions of: *Dennis Max Herron; Barbara Conway; Monica Conway; Roy & Enise Hunter; Pat Kuiack; Bruce & Karen Sullivan; Edward & Bev Stoppa; Basil Herron, Terry & Helen Recoskie*

**The Masses for the Nativity of the Lord and Christmastide
are offered for these intentions
and for the general intentions of all parishioners.**