

# 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  
613-756-2037



## ✠ First Sunday of Lent ✠

*February 22, 2026*

**OUR LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION:** Parishioners of the pastoral family of St. Lawrence O'Toole, Holy Canadian Martyrs, and St. Francis de Sales are invited to a Lenten Day of Reflection with Most Reverend Michael Brehl, C.Ss.R., Bishop of Pembroke. At St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish Hall on Saturday, March 21, 2026, beginning at 10:00 a.m. and ending at approximately 2:30 p.m. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. Refreshments will be available upon arrival. Lunch will be served onsite at 12:00 noon and will include soup and sandwiches. There is no fee for the day; a free-will offering will be gratefully accepted. Formal registration is required so we can prepare adequately for lunch. Please call St. Lawrence O'Toole parish office at 613-756-2037 or e-mail at stlawrenceotoole@hotmail.com. Last date to register will be Friday, March 13.

**LENTEN ALMSGIVING:** Moved by the sacrifice of Christ, we give sacrificially to the poor and not just from our surplus. We can simplify our lifestyle, reduce our consumerism, and give that discretionary income to those in need. Almsgiving can be combined with fasting, giving to the poor the money saved by eating, drinking, or buying less as we rely more upon God's abundant grace. May the experience of physical hunger also remind us of our deep need and desire for Christ the Bread of Life. The Lenten Mission & Development collection taken up on Good Friday is the fruit of our sacrificial giving.

**EASTER FLOWER OFFERINGS** made for the glory of God and in memory of loved ones or for special intentions, may be submitted using the Flowers for Easter envelopes found in your box of Sunday Offering Envelopes, or the Flower Offering envelopes available at the entrance of the church. The Masses of Easter will be offered for all intentions received. To have names included on the Easter bulletin memorial page, please return your donation by Monday, March 23.

## First Week of Lent

February 23 – February 28

**Tuesday** 9:00 a.m. (*beginning with the Way of the Cross*)  
+ Nicholas Stoppa by *Bruce & Karen Sullivan*  
**Friday** 9:00 a.m. + Barbara Kuiack by *Stanley Golka*

## + Second Sunday of Lent +

*March 1, 2026*

**Saturday** 4:00 p.m. + Michael James Murray by *Sean Murray*  
**Sunday** 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments	February 28	March 1
Readings	<i>Jane Beahen</i>	<i>Judy Filion</i>
Communion	<i>Beverly Glofcheskie</i>	<i>Ursula Jeffrey</i>
Offertory	<i>Bruce Sullivan</i>	<i>John Jeffrey</i>
	<i>Barry Dombroskie</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 all of us beginning this Lenten journey may be awakened to the nearness of Christ who turns every desert into a place of return and renewal.
- for those who celebrated the Rite of Commitment to Gospel Life in the Secular Franciscan Order: *Morris and Virginia Korneluk, Mary-Ann McCrae and Joseph Rideout.*
- for parishioners and friends who are sick, especially: *Shirlee Etmanskie, Diane Green, Jean-Paul Patenaude, Ray Vananburg, Carmel Rumleskie.*
- for those who have died, especially: *Jeannette Bonnette Stoppa, Joan Florent.*

### ROMAN CALENDAR:

- Monday** - St. Polycarp, bishop, martyrs  
**Friday** - St. Gregory of Narek, abbot, doctor

**Spare Your People Lord,  
for You are Kind and Merciful**

# DIOCESE OF PEMBROKE PASTORAL PLANNING

\* Parishioners of the Barry's Bay Deanery will meet on **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.

At these recent Regional Deanery Meetings, the Bishop and the Diocesan Steering Committee are presenting significant information about the current situation of the Diocese of Pembroke, including clergy availability, demographic trends, administrative and financial realities, and the opportunities and challenges affecting parish life and sacramental ministry.

A basic summary of our current situation, **Walking Together in Hope**, can be accessed at: <https://pembrokediocese.com/article/pastoral-planning-overview-report/>

**\* Bishop Brehl has asked every Pastor to hold a parish meeting with parishioners to reflect together on this information and to consider three guiding questions for our diocesan discernment:**

1. What did you hear at the Regional Deanery Meeting? Please share how this information affects you, and please listen to one another carefully.
2. In the short term, the diminishing number of active priests will necessitate some interim decisions to address the situation of the Diocese. Please reflect on the pastoral, financial, and building status of your parish. What do you think you can change or adapt in your parish community/parish cluster to begin to respond to these circumstances?
3. As you consider the longer-term plans for our Diocese, do you have any proposals, suggestions, or considerations which will help the Bishop and the Steering Committee in guiding the process of pastoral planning?

**\* Our local meetings are:**

<b>St. Francis de Sales</b>	Saturday, March 7	after the 6:00 p.m. Mass
<b>St. Lawrence O'Toole</b>	Tuesday, March 10	7:00 p.m. in the hall
<b>Holy Canadian Martyrs</b>	Wednesday, March 11	7:00 p.m. in the church

The meeting will be an opportunity for parishioners to share their thoughts and for us to listen carefully and record all responses. It will not be a time for debate. Fr. Burchat will serve as moderator solely to ensure that responses remain focused on the three questions.

**CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN:** Preparation for First Holy Communion (7 years of age and up) and Confirmation (11 years of age and up) in our parish is conducted in accordance with diocesan policy, which encourages a process of individualized family faith formation. Families who wish to have their children begin preparing for these sacraments are invited to speak to Fr. Burchat after Sunday Mass. The parish provides resources, catechetical assistance and preparatory meetings to support this journey.

**LAST WEEK'S SUNDAY OFFERINGS:**

Total: \$3,201.00 (Envelopes: \$2,835.00; Loose: \$141.00; Initial: \$20.00; Fuel: \$45.00  
Building Fund: \$140.00; New Years Day Offering: \$20.00).

**2025 CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS:** will be issued TODAY and next weekend, along with the Financial Report. Please review your receipt carefully and contact the parish office with any questions, corrections, or omissions. Thank you for your faith-filled generosity and continued financial commitment to the parish.

**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.

**PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR:** Fridays at 9:45 a.m., following the 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish.

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“Our Lord Jesus Christ was tempted by the devil in the wilderness. Christ was tempted by the devil, and in Christ you were tempted. For Christ took your flesh and gave you, his salvation; he took your death and gave you, his life; he took your humiliation and gave you, his glory. Therefore, he took your temptation and gave you, his victory.

If we have been tempted in him, we overcome the devil through him. Do you think only of Christ's temptation and fail to consider his victory? See yourself as tempted in him and see yourself as victorious in him. He could have kept the devil from himself; but if he had not been tempted, he would not have taught you how to triumph over temptation.”

*From St. Augustine of Hippo, Sermon 2 on Lent*

*(also cited in the Office of Readings for the First Sunday of Lent)*