

Saint Lawrence O'Toole Parish

Barry's Bay; 19450 Opeongo Line

Holy Canadian Martyrs Parish

Combermere; 2797 Dafoe Rd.

Saint Francis de Sales Mission

Latchford Bridge; 4864 Palmer Rd.



Fr. John N. Burchat, Pastor

jnburchat@gmail.com

Fr. Wilfried Lenius, retired - residing locally

OFFICE/RECTORY

Barry's Bay:

Tue. & Fri. 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

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613-756-2037

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✠ Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

August 2, 2026

THE UNBROKEN LOVE BENEATH OUR BROKENNESS: Romans 8:35, 37–39

Nothing in all creation can sever us from the love that has seized us in Jesus the Christ, the Anointed One. Paul asks whether anything — affliction, distress, persecution, hunger, nakedness, peril, or the sword — can unmake the bond Christ has forged. The implied answer is already thunderously clear: no created force has the capacity to unmake what God has willed in love.

“In all these things we are more than conquerors,” Paul says. *We do not merely prevail; we are carried beyond victory itself by the One who has loved us into freedom.*

Paul’s conviction is not stoic endurance but a kind of cosmic assurance: that the love of God in Christ is not simply stronger than suffering, but categorically different, belonging to a realm untouched by the powers that threaten us.

Thus Paul’s great crescendo: Neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor things present nor things imminent, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creaturely thing — nothing with the status of “created reality” — can ever tear us away from the love of God that has come to dwell in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God’s love in Christ is the deepest truth of reality, and therefore no lesser reality can undo it. Suffering may shake us, but it cannot reach the foundation on which we now stand. We live inside a love that is unassailable, unconditioned, and unbreakable.

Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time

August 3 – August 8

Tuesday **SLO** ***NO MASS***

Wednesday **HCM** 9:00 a.m. For Fr. John Lacey *by Jerome & Dragi Anderchek*

Thursday **HCM** 9:00 a.m. + John Maingot *by Janine Maingot*

First Friday **SLO** 9:00 a.m. + Anna Vajda *by Robert & Agnes Nick*

+ Cathy Serran *by John Recoskie*

+ Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time +

August 9, 2026

Saturday **SLO** 4:00 p.m. + Josephine Etmanskie *by Eddie & Diane Etmanskie*

Saturday **SFds** 6:00 p.m. + Margaret Abbott
by Tannin, Dallas, Landen, Kayeden & Jaden Madigan

Sunday **HCM** 9:00 a.m. + Norah Ford *by Baxter Family*

Sunday **SLO** 10:30 a.m. Mass for the People

Liturgical Appointments

Readings

Communion

Offertory

SLO August 8

Susan Coulas

Maxine Smaglinski

Bruce Sullivan

Richard Luckasavitch

SLO August 9

Ursula Jeffrey

Pierre-Paul Fillion

John Jeffrey

Jason Dombroskie

Liturgical Appointments

Readings

Communion

Offertory

SFds August 8

Dorothy Byrnes

HCM August 9

St. Joseph House

Joseph Hamon

Emile Bouchard

ROMAN CALENDAR:

Tuesday - St. Jean-Marie Vianney, priest

Wednesday - Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major &
 Blessed Frederic Janssoone, priest

Thursday - Transfiguration of the Lord

Friday - St. Sixtus II, pope, and Companions, martyrs & St. Cajetan, priest

Saturday - St. Dominic, priest

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL describes the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves that Jesus worked for a great throng of people who had followed him to listen to him and to be healed of various illnesses (see Mt 14:14). As evening fell the disciples suggested to Jesus that he send the crowds away so that they might take some refreshment. But the Lord had something else in mind: "You give them something to eat" (Mt 14:16). However, they had "only five loaves... and two fish". Jesus' subsequent action evokes the sacrament of the Eucharist: "He looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds" (Mt 14:19).

The miracle consists in the brotherly sharing of a few loaves which, entrusted to the power of God, not only sufficed for everyone but enough was left over to fill 12 baskets. The Lord asked this of the disciples so that it would be they who distributed the bread to the multitude; in this way he taught and prepared them for their future apostolic mission: in fact, they were to bring to all the nourishment of the Word of life and of the sacraments.

In this miraculous sign the incarnation of God and the work of redemption are interwoven. Jesus, in fact, "went ashore" from the boat to meet the men and women (see Mt 14:14). St Maximus the Confessor said that "*the Word of God made himself present for our sake, by taking flesh, derived from us and conformed to us in all things save sin, in order to expose us to his teaching with words and examples suitable for us*" (Ambigua 33: PG 91, 1285 C).

Here the Lord offers us an eloquent example of his compassion for people. We are reminded of all our brothers and sisters in the Horn of Africa who in these days are suffering the dramatic consequences of famine, exacerbated by war and by the lack of solid institutions. Christ is attentive to material needs but he wished to give more, because man always "hungers for more, he needs more" (*Jesus of Nazareth*, 2007, p. 267) God's love is present in the bread of Christ; in the encounter with him "we feed on the living God himself, so to speak, we truly eat the 'bread from Heaven'" (p. 268).

Dear friends. "in the Eucharist Jesus also makes us witnesses of God's compassion towards all our brothers and sisters. The Eucharistic mystery thus gives rise to a service of charity towards neighbour" (*Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation Sacramentum Caritatis*, no. 88). St Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus whom the Church is commemorating today, also bore witness to this. Indeed, Ignatius chose to live "finding God in all things, loving him in all creatures" (see Constitutions of the Society of Jesus, III, 1, 26). Let us entrust our prayers to the Virgin Mary, so that she may open our hearts to compassion for our neighbour and to fraternal sharing. ~ *Pope Benedict, July 31, 2011.*

THE SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD PRAYER GROUP: Looking for a prayer group to attend? We meet every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church. Our purpose in being, is first and foremost, to give praise to God, and to intercede for the needs of others. All are welcome. For more information call Greg or Mary at 756-6643.

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- for parishioners and friends who are sick: *Diane Green, Ray Vananburg, Patricia Duggan, Judy Sauro, Carmel Rumleskie.*
- for those who have died, especially: *Josephine Etmanskis; Jennifer (Yakabuski) Huestis; Echo Lewis (Madonna House), Jacob DeVries; Marie Dombroskie.*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: *The grace we receive in Confession not only heals our sins and restores us in our friendship with God — it strengthens us to forgive others with the Divine Mercy we ourselves have received.*

SLO: Saturday 3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. in sacristy. Weekdays – before/after weekday Masses in the sacristy.

HCM: Before all weekday and weekend Masses.

SFds: Before/after Mass

LAST WEEK’S OFFERINGS:

SLO: Total: \$2,193.00 (Envelopes: \$1,855.00; Loose: \$238.00; Visitors: \$100.00)

HCM: Total: \$1,389.00 (Envelopes: \$846.00; Loose: \$218.00; E-Transfers: \$175.00; Summer Collection: \$130.00; Visitor: \$20.00)

SFds: Total: \$540.00 (Envelopes: \$295.00; Loose: \$155.00; Summer Collection: \$20.00; Visitor: \$10.00; E-transfer: \$60.00)

Every parish is its people: a community where Christ’s beauty and mercy take living form in faith and service. Thank you for your generous donations, which sustain our mission and ministry.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION: Families in our three parish communities who wish to have their children prepare for First Holy Communion **and** Confirmation are invited to an **informal information session** on **Saturday, September 12 at 10:00 a.m.** in the **parish hall at St. Lawrence O’Toole, Barry’s Bay.**

Parents are the **primary educators of their children in the faith.** Throughout the preparation period, **the parish will provide resources, guidance, and catechetical support** to help families walk this path with confidence and joy.

Jesus the Good Shepherd opens the gate before us and calls us into the generous, ever-awakening life of God. May this time of preparation be a moment of blessing for our children and for our whole parish family.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST: Hosted by the Barry’s Bay & Area Knights of Columbus Next Sunday August 9th at St. Hedwig Parish Hall from 9:00 a.m.. Free will offering. All welcome. Proceeds will go to Pro-Life and local charities.