15 December 2019

Third Sunday of Advent

PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION

480 McIntyre Street West - North Bay, Ontario - P1B 2Z4

Welcome to Your Father's House!



In the first reading, Isaiah speaks of a day when the glory and splendor of God will be apparent to all. God will come to save. James encourages the community to be patient as they await Christ's return. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples of John the Baptist to go and tell John of miracles that have occurred. He then tells the crowd of John the Baptist's greatness. Advent is a season of hopeful anticipation, a time of preparation – for celebrating the birth of our Savior, and of readying ourselves for his eventual return. In God's goodness he gave us his own Son, who willingly took on our humanity to save us. Jesus forgives sins, heals the suffering and teaches the truth – he is the long-awaited Messiah.

Our Parish Mission Statement

We, the members of the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption community, believe that we have been called through Baptism to live the Good News of Jesus Christ under the patronage of Mary, our Mother. We accomplish this by proclaiming the Word, celebrating the Sacraments, & reaching out to others.

PASTOR **Most Rev. Marcel Damphousse , D. D.**
Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie

RECTOR
Msgr. Dave Tramontini

ASSISTANT
Rev. Rex Lumine

PERMANENT MINISTERS

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Albert Falconi
Rev. Mr. Donald Shago
Rev. Mr. Rick Hamelin
Rev. Mr. Gary Westenenk

Diocesan Order of Women

Mrs. Shirley Falconi
Mrs. Norma Milligan
Miss Ruth Godon

Our faith community dates back to 1886 when we were **originally located on Main Street West and called St. Mary's of** the Lake and the cornerstone of the existing Cathedral was laid in 1904. The history of our parish is recorded in the memories of thousands of people who built our community.



(705) 472-3970

(705) 494-8222

office@procathedral.ca

www.procathedral.ca

facebook.com/procathedral

Parish Sacraments



Marriage: Please pick up a Marriage Information Booklet in the Church Vestibule to review prior to contacting the parish office.

Anointing the Sick: Please call the parish office for more information.

Reconciliation: Every Saturday from 3:00 until 3:45 PM.

Eucharist: Please see mass schedule published in this bulletin. Call the parish office to arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to visit the sick and shut-in who are unable to attend Mass.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: On the First Friday of each month from 10:00 AM until 12:00 noon.

Baptism: Please pick up a Baptism Information Booklet in the Church Vestibule to review prior to contacting the parish office.

The Pro-Cathedral is **wheel chair accessible**. The entrance to the elevator is on Algonquin Avenue. Please enter the vestibule and ring the bell for an attendant. Service available at all weekend masses. Weekday masses service available 11:30 AM to 12:45 PM. A **Hearing Aid System** is available for use by the hearing impaired. Please ask an Usher or Sacristan to assist you upon entering the church.

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Monday	**8:30 AM to 12:00 NOON**
Tuesday to Friday	**8:30 AM to 4:30 PM**

WEEKLY READINGS: 16 — 22 DECEMBER

Monday	Numbers 24. 2-7, 5-17a; Matthew 21. 23-27
Tuesday	**Genesis 49. 2, 8-10; Matthew 1. 1-17**
Wednesday	**Jeremiah 23. 5-8; Matthew 1. 18-24**
Thursday	Judges 13. 2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1. 5-25
Friday	**Isaiah 7. 10-14; 8. 10d; Luke 1. 26-38**
Saturday	**Zephaniah 3. 14-18a; Luke 1. 39-45**
Sunday	Isaiah 7. 10-14; Romans 1. 1-7; Matthew 1. 18-24

DATE	TIME	WHAT'S UP?
December 15	12 NOON	Social Sunday
December 25	11 AM—1 PM	Christmas Day Dinner

Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve—Tuesday, 24 December
5:00 PM ~ 8:00 PM ~ 12:00 MIDNIGHT
Music Reflections Prior to 8:00 PM & Midnight

Christmas Day- Wednesday, 25 December
11:00 AM Christmas Mass

Incense will be used at 8 PM & Midnight Masses

(12:05 PM Mass Cancelled)

Thursday, 26 December & Friday, 27 December
Regular 12:05 PM Mass

Holy Family Weekend
Saturday, 28 December & Sunday, 29 December
Regular 4:00 PM, 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Masses

Monday, 30 December
Regular 12:05 PM Mass



Tuesday, 31 December - **Year's Eve**
Regular 12:05 PM Mass

New Year's Day
Wednesday, 01 January
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
11:00 AM Mass
(12:05 PM Mass Cancelled)



Christmas Memorial Flowers & Decorations

A beautiful way to remember loved ones during this holy season is to donate memorial flowers and decorations in their memory. Your donation will help decorate the altar and sanctuary during the Christmas Season.

Pre-printed envelopes are available for your donation at the entrance to the church. Please fill out the requested information as neat as possible (printing would be best!). Include your donation and return the envelope to the office or in the weekly collection. A listing of remembrances will be printed in the Christmas Sunday Bulletin. ***Please have your names to the parish office by Tuesday, December 16.***

Remember your loved ones this Christmas and give glory to the Lord by helping to decorate for this beautiful season!

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses are Held at 12:05 PM

Monday, 16 December - Weekday in Season of Advent
Mary Duggan - Clifford and Marg Riopelle
Donna Murphy - Richard Levesque
Intention of Ray and Marlene Walter - Judy and Robert

Tuesday, 17 December - Weekday in Season of Advent
Dianne Ross - Suzanne and Gary Wishak
John de Viveiros - Mary Lou and Paul Smith
Vernon Lariviere - Margaret Anne Lafontaine

Wednesday, 18 December - Weekday in Season of Advent

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

Antonietta and Danny Covatta - The Family
John de Viveiros - Marthe Smith and Family
Intention of Kristy and Nicholas Beaulieu - Karen Beaulieu

Thursday, 19 December - Weekday in Season of Advent
Jeanne Hodgins - Philip Paquette
Armand Schiavo - Arthur and Lucille Schiavo
Joseph Murphy - Joan Dunn and Family

Friday, 20 December - Weekday in Season of Advent
Joan McCauley - Christine Dawson-Zimbalatte
Lorraine Raymond - Noella Raymond and Family
John de Viveiros - Karen Anne McArthur

4:00 PM Saturday, 21 December - Third Sunday in Advent
Joan McCauley - Debbie Deering
Olga Bitonti-Guido - Ron and Daneen Dominico
Intention of Dan Murphy - Sharon Phillips

Sunday, 22 December - Fourth Sunday in Advent
9:00 AM Maria Spina - Maria Gosselin and Family
Simon Boulanger - The Family
Mike & Lidia Rossi - Michael Rossi & Mary Lou Peddle & Families

11:00 AM Intention of the Parishioners - Msgr. Dave Tramontini

Note: Only weekday masses are announced verbally.

Aiding Your Church ~ The Message of Stewardship

Thank you to those who have decided to use pre-authorized giving methods for 2020. This donation method is appreciated as it helps us budget.

This is a good time to review your stewardship options. You can donate through weekly envelopes (2020 envelopes are in the church); VISA or Mastercard or postdated cheques.

Have you reviewed your stewardship commitment since you began? If you are not currently donating—we need your support.

Talk to your financial advisor about making the Pro-Cathedral a recipient of ***securities*** (bonds, mutual funds, etc.); ***life insurance***, ***gift annuities***, ***endowment funds***, ***bequests***, ***real estate***, and ***gifts of retirement plan accumulations***.

The Pro-Cathedral needs everyone to become stewards of the gifts they have been given by God ... whether it is clothes for the poor, food for the hungry, or simply arms outreached to someone who is lonely.

Catholic Women's League



SAVE THE DATE!

January 30, 2020

Everything is Better with Chocolate!

A fun evening for everyone. This is likely our last fund raiser for our Council's 100th Anniversary celebration. More details to follow. Mark your calendars now—you don't want to miss out on this delicious event!



Pope Francis will celebrate his 83rd birthday this week on December 17. He also celebrated 50 years of priesthood on December 13.

Please keep our pope in your prayers as he continues to build up the Kingdom with courage, hope, compassion and love.

Silence

In our culture, we usually find the idea of silence uncomfortable. Silence might mean an awkward lull in conversation. We might experience silence in a packed subway car full of people who don't speak to each other. Silence could find us sitting alone, waiting for our phones to ring to assure us that someone is thinking of us. Today, silence often means isolation, loneliness, and lack.

What if … there is a different kind of silence?

What about the wordless awe of seeing a newborn baby for the first time? What of the natural silence of the hiker upon the mountain summit? What of that reverent hush that comes over the most intimate moments of our lives?

What if silence could lead us out of our restless noise and into the silent, active presence of God? For in silence, the love within the Trinity sets the cadence of every ocean tide, the blooms of spring, and the richness of autumn — all in soundless wonder.

Real silence is not an absence, but a presence. Silence is not simply a lack of speech or "playing the quiet game." Silence, in fact is a language all its own. It is an invitation for Another to speak.

God's silence is not void, but active and creative. Jesus sits before us in the Eucharist in silence. He gives Himself to us in Communion in silence. The Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit dwells within the baptized soul in silence. In his mysterious wisdom, God loves to be with us in silence.

As Saint Mother Teresa said, "God is the friend of silence. See how nature — trees, flowers, grass — grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence."

By Sr. Zelie Maria Louis, SV

Widows Helping Widow's Group



"Widows helping widows is primarily a social support group and we gather for: coffee at Twiggs every Wednesday at 10 am, good movie & dinner, once/ month for lunch, catered Christmas dinner, annual healing Mass, as well as other social events as they arise throughout the year. We would love to have you join our group of widows. Please think about it.

You can call Karen Beaulieu for more information at 495-6675. Looking forward to meeting you!

Confirmation

We are currently reviewing our Confirmation program to make it a better experience for our students and parents alike. We have listened to suggestions from former candidates for Confirmation, parents and sponsors, and our leaders of our Confirmation program. Together with the leaders of the program, the priests in North Bay, and with the help of our young people's suggestions, our Confirmation program will be re-vamped. Because this process takes time - *the Sacrament of Confirmation will not be celebrated until the Fall of 2020.*

In the Fall of 2020, we will offer the Sacrament of Confirmation for those in Grades 7, 8 & 9 - to make sure that our young people do not miss this opportunity to receive this great Sacrament of the Holy Spirit. Questions, comments, or suggestions? Please contact the parish office.

Spend some time in silence and listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit. What a great way to prepare for Christmas—listening to the voice of your own heart!

Decades ago, a Dutch seminarian named Hans Snel had a conviction: people need silence. He wore pin buttons that read "10 minutes" and when people asked him what it meant he would challenge the person to spend 10 minutes in silence sometime during the week. No speaking was allowed. He gave out his phone number and followed up with participants.

Some individuals said, "I did the silence, and … I think God exists." Some encountered God in a new way. Some people came back to the Church. Some found vocations or calls to service they could never hear before. People more deeply noticed what was going on inside and began to discover another world where God is gently waiting.

When we take time to be silent, we step aside from the noise and anxieties of the world. Our hearts can gradually become calm, and, over time, we begin to catch the rhythm of God's steady presence that brings that peace only He can give.

COLLECTION - 08 DECEMBER	
Sunday Offering	**Building Fund**
$7,130.90	**$1,138.00**

REGIONAL EVENTS

Free Christmas Dinner! On December 25 from 11 AM until 1 PM at the Pro-Cathedral's parish hall. Come and share a warm Christmas dinner with family and friends. Please don't be alone or hungry at Christmas. Everyone welcome!

Christ Anglican Church celebrates its 12th annual Christmas Carol Singalong on Sunday 22 December at 6:30 PM. Always a fun evening. A Perfect Fifth String/Piano Ensemble begins the evening with a selection of Christmas music. At 7:00 pm the Singalong begins featuring Christmas Carols old and new. Also featured is Shadow, a men's a capella group. Free! Bring a friend

The Promises of Fatima: Come pray the Rosary with a group of people who form a Fr. Gobbi Cenacle honouring our Blessed Virgin Mary. Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM at St. Peter's

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I Training Session for those interested in becoming a catechesis working with the 3-6 year old child will be held March 2020. For more information and to register visit www.cgsac.ca>training or contact Erin Tayler at 840-8509

CLAY: A fun filled Catholic Youth Program for ages JK to Grade 6. Clay meets Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00 PM at St. Gregory's School in Powassan. Enter via the back door (Gym Entrance). No charge. Come and join us for games, crafts and faith teachings in a fun filled environment. For information please contact Jessica Sheppard at (705) 496-6219 or jessicasheppard@gmail.com.

EDGE: NEW Catholic Youth Program: ALL students in Grade 6, 7 & 8 from any school or church are welcome to join our EDGE Youth Nights on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 PM at Holy Name of Jesus Church. Each includes music, games, prayer, teaching and social time. Evenings are led by Catholic high school students, Fr. Daniele Muscolino and a team of volunteer adults. EDGE provides a safe, fun place for youth to find solid friendships and learn more about our Catholic faith. For more information visit www.holynamestalphonsus.com/edge or call 705-495-1501.

ASCENT: A Journey of Discipleship for Catholic Young Adults 18-35 A new Catholic educational and spiritual program. Deepen your faith, grow in your relationship with Jesus, and learn about what it means to be truly Catholic. Become a true disciple of Jesus and have your questions about the Catholic faith answered. Join us Sunday afternoons from 12:45- 2:30 PM at Holy Name of Jesus Church. For more info visit www.holynamestalphonsus.com/ascent

CONTACT CANA FOR YOUR RELIGIOUS ARTICLES
Books & More! Email Kas or Alana at
Email: cana12cana@gmail.com Tel: 705-776-2192

North Bay pregnancy Help & Resource Centre, 323 Algonquin Ave, North Bay, ON P1B 8J8. Open weekdays 10:00 AM–4:00 PM. Tel: 475-9270. Offering free pregnancy testing, optional counselling, a friendly non-judgmental ear, baby supplies, and community service referrals.

Marriage Preparation Weekend: 6:30 PM Friday 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM Saturday. Call Regional Catholic Services at 472-5821 to reserve your place. Material cost of $75 is payable at registration. Limited to 18 couples register soon! **2020 Dates: February 21-22, June 5-6, October 23-24.**

Catholic Charities collects clothing for free distribution to those in need. Clothing for men, women, children and infants, shoes, or accessories. Also towels, tea towels and sheet sets. Drop off to Catholic Charities entrance off Algonquin Tuesdays 9:00 to 11:30 AM or weekdays to the Pro-Cathedral Rectory (480 McIntyre Street West.). Items should be clean and in good repair.

Going into or Have a Sick Family Member in Hospital? Mass is celebrated every Wednesday at 3:00 PM by a parish priest at the North Bay General Spiritual Centre (West Wing Entrance). And ... Eucharist is distributed Wednesday, Friday and Sunday by ministers of Holy Communion. Let pastoral care know your family member would like to be added to the list for visitation.

Regional Catholic Charities Food Bank is looking for assistance for distribution of food and/or to help pickup and carry food into the Food Bank. Clients from the entire North Bay region are served by this non-denominational service. Their mandate is to provide free food and clothing service to clients in a manner that allows them to have dignity while receiving assistance. Catholic Charities consistently serve 50-100 clients each week. For more information on how you can help, please call Theresa at 476-1515.

Knights of Columbus Meetings
Corpus Christi Knights of Columbus Council 12106 now meet second Tuesday of each month with regular and executive meetings held the same day at the Canadian Forces Base Church (Queen of Peace). Contact: Art Tiernay at 358-1368
Knights of Columbus Council #1007 Executive Meeting at 6:30 PM and General Meeting at 7:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month September to June at St. Peter's Church in the Parish Hall. Refreshments served. New or transferring members can contact Mike Joly at 495-1792.

Sisters of St. Joseph Present
Christian Meditation Beatitude "Blessed are the pure in heart" Tuesdays from 1:30-2:30 PM in the Holy Family Chapel. Join with others to experience contemplative prayer by entering into silence to open yourself to the love and presence of God.
Taize Prayer: Third Thursday of the month from 7:00-8:00 PM. A Taizé hour of worship involves song, periods of silence, a scripture reading and meditation, intercessory prayer and/or icons.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
St. Alphonsus in Callander: Every Friday 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon. First Friday 8:30 AM to 8:30 AM (24Hrs).
St. Peter the Apostle: First Wednesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Everyone is invited.
Holy Name of Jesus: Tuesday to Friday 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM. To make a weekly one-hour commitment, please call Gisele Champagne at 497-1911.
Pro-Cathedral: First Friday of the month 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon followed by 12:05 PM mass.
St. Joseph's Motherhouse second Sunday of the month from 3:30-4:30 PM in Holy Family Chapel and Pro-Cathedral First Friday 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.



Dear Jesus,
you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace.

Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most.

Help us to focus on you this busy season so that we may find you in the every day moments and come with gratitude to your manger.

Amen