26 December 2021

Feast of the Holy Family

PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION

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

Welcome to Your Father's House!



In the first reading, Hannah bears a son and offers him to the Lord. John writes that the Father's love bestowed on us has allowed us to be called the children of God, and we should … love one another just as he commanded us. In the Gospel, Mary and Joseph search for Jesus with great anxiety. After they find him in the temple, Jesus explains that he had to be in his Father's house. Jesus is the Son of God, sent out of love to do the Father's will. Out of love, he obeys. Through the life and sacrifice of Jesus, we become children of God and heirs to the Kingdom, which in turn requires of us – in love – to keep his commandments and do what pleases him. As Christ was meant to be in his Father's house, so, too, are we meant to join him: in worship here in this life and for eternity in the next. We do this through love of God and one another, with the help of the Spirit he gave us.

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.

Most Rev. Thomas Dowd, D.D.
Bishop of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie

Rev. Larry Rymes
Pastor of the Pro-Cathedral Parish

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. 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: Saturdays 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 CLOSED
UNTIL TUESDAY, 04 JANUARY 2022
EMAIL & TELEPHONE MESSAGES WILL BE PERIODICALLY CHECKED DURING THIS TIME

OFFICE HOURS

READINGS: 27 DEC—02 JAN	
Monday	1 John 1. 1-4; John 20. 2-8
Tuesday	1 John 1. 5—2.2; Matthew 2. 13-18
Wednesday	1 John 2. 3-11; Luke 2. 22-35
Thursday	**1 John 2. 12-17; Luke 2. 36-40**
Friday	1 John 2. 18-21; John 1. 1-18
Saturday	**Numbers 6. 22-27; Galatians 4. 4-7; Lk. 2. 16-21**
Sunday	Isaiah 60. 1-6; Ephesians 3. 2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2. 1-12

New Year's Day ~ Saturday, 01 January

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

11:00 AM Mass



January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - the oldest feast of Mary celebrated in the Catholic Church. This is the day where we honour Mary in the Octave of Christmas for **saying "yes"to Gabriel at the Annunciation to become** the Mother of Jesus. It is a Day of Obligation in Canada as are all Sundays.

Why RCIA?

Our lives are a journey to God until the day when we all join together in our eternal home and worship the Lord face -to-face. You are among friends. As we build community through our RCIA sessions, it becomes clear that we all have times of doubt, fear, and frustration. During RCIA, we come together to look at our lives in light of the Gospel so that we can embrace a fuller discipleship of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

There are many reasons people decide that they are interested in becoming a Catholic. It makes no difference if you have been raised in another denomination, have no church affiliation or experience or even if you were never baptized. You may have started out Catholic but never completed your initiation with the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. RCIA is the process by which we welcome and prepare adults to enter the Catholic faith.

The RCIA process is sensitive to your needs before you make any commitment to the Catholic Church. The extent and the requirements of the process are adapted to your specific needs.

Is The Time Right For You?

Why not make the time to come and see how God works in your life. The only regret you may have is that you didn't do it earlier! Call the Parish Office at 472-3970 to see how we can welcome you into the Church.



Collection Report: 19 DECEMBER	
Sunday Offering	**Building Fund**
$4,082.00	$655.00

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Celebrations are Held at 12:05 PM

Monday, 27 December - Feast of St. John, Apostle/Evangelist
NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE TODAY

Tuesday, 28 December - Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs
For Souls in Purgatory - A Parishioner
Laurier Brisson - Andree Cornish

Wednesday, 29 December - Fifth Day of the Nativity Octave
Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Prior to Mass

Clarence and Geraldine Lefebvre - Carol Lefebvre and Family
Marilyn Hummel - Sheila Stepaniak

Thursday, 30 December - Sixth Day of the Nativity Octave
Stan Slinger - Suzanne Lukasik
Dr. Frank Fazzari - The De Grosbois Family

Friday, 31 December - Seventh Day of the Nativity Octave
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 11 am to 12 Noon

Zofia and Wiktor Nowicki - Margaret Sroga and Family
Sylvia Burnett - Myrtle Veraldi

11:00 AM - Saturday, 01 January
Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Did you know? New Year's Day is a Holy Day of Obligation

4:00 PM Saturday, 01 January - Epiphany of the Lord
Marg Ross - Mr. and Mrs. Dave Brennan
Intention of Marc Brisson - Andree Cornish
Intention of Alyssa Atchison - Karen Beaulieu

Sunday, 02 January - Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 AM Linda Jamieson - Rick and Becky Belisle
Sam Veraldi - Myrtle Veraldi
Patrick and Irene McGirr - Theresa Ringler

11:00 AM Intention of the Parishioners - Rev. Larry Rymes

Prayer for Families

Loving God,
During this holy season of Christmas, we ask for your blessing on all families.
Let Mary's openness to your wondrous ways be an inspiration to place all trust in you.
Let Joseph's courage provide hope during times of anxiety and uncertainty.
Let Jesus' life ignite all families with light and love.
May the grace that encircled the Holy Family widen to embrace all families.
For this we pray. Amen



Parish Donations 2022

God endows each of us with personal gifts, talents and material possessions. Stewardship is acknowledging that God is the source of each gift that has been received and each possession that has been accumulated. Stewardship also means to give a portion back to God, as a direct way of expressing our thanksgiving to Him for these gifts.

In another stressful year where many are affected by the coronavirus we are grateful for the support we have received that allowed us to meet our operating budget and to progress our Church in its mission to share the Gospel, support our ministries, and assist our community.

If you are currently not contributing financially we ask that you prayerfully consider making a financial commitment to the parish.

Ways You Can Help Support our Parish

2022 Parish Envelopes: Currently being handed out individually to those requesting them from an usher. ***We will do this each weekend so if we run out one weekend, please know that we will have more available the following weekend.*** You can also drop by the parish office to pick up your parish offering envelopes. ***Have you thought about changing to pre-authorized donations through your bank or credit card?*** It's a safe and reliable way of supporting the Cathedral while allowing us to better budget!

NOTE: If you are already donating through pre-authorized bank account or credit card donations your deductions will continue the same into 2022 unless you would like to revise the amounts deducted. Contact the parish office if you would like to revise your contribution amounts. If you donate through automatic withdrawals, you do not need to take parish envelopes.

Pre-Authorized Bank & Credit Card Donations

Please download the Banking Pre-Authorized Form or Credit Card form from our website at procathedral.ca under About Us, Stewardship/Contributions. Complete the form and mail or drop it off back to us at in the mailbox to the left of the rectory office door (480 McIntyre Street West).

You can also simply email the parish office at office@procathedral.ca or call us at 472-3970 and we will figure out how best to get the documentation to you.

Other ways you can contribute:

- We continue to accept **envelopes** at the parish door through the mail slot—you can drop off current and postdated cheques.
- Use our "**Donate Today" button** on our website. Just click and fill in the blanks and you can make a donation to the Cathedral.
- **E-transfer from your bank account through interac e-transfer** to music.finance@procathedral.ca Put in the message of the e-transfer how you would like your funds disbursed (i.e. Sunday, Building, Easter, etc.)

As it does not cause hardship to you, we are grateful for your continued support.

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who responded to the Advent Appeal for donations to our Catholic Charities Food Bank.
Your generosity is amazing!!

A very sincere thank you to our local schools, who took collections to donate as well.

Thank you students, parents and staff of St. Hubert's, Mother St. Bride, and St. Luke.
♥



For a Synodal Church

Pope Francis has opened a three-year synodal journey of consultations and discernment, which will culminate with an assembly in October 2023 in Rome.

The purpose of the Synod, and therefore of this consultation, is not to produce documents, but "to plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to hands.
More information will follow soon and you will be invited to participate during the consultation phase in January by sharing your ideas about the Church. Let us pray for the success of the Synod and may we welcome the Holy Spirit to guide us on this synodal journey together.

The following prayer invites the Holy Spirit to operate within us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partial influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.
All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.
Amen.



Our next Baptismal Preparation Meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on TUESDAY, JANUARY 11 beginning at 7:00 PM. Those who wish to register for this meeting to have their child baptized are asked to call the parish office by Monday, January 10.

Baptism Preparation is mandatory by Diocesan Policy.

♥ CATHEDRAL COVID CHAMPIONS! ♥

On behalf of the Pro-Cathedral Ushers, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your kindness and cooperation these past many months during COVID. We know it hasn't been easy to adapt to these protocols but you have demonstrated incredible commitment and compassion to your fellow parishioners by keeping one another safe. We could not have continued to worship safely without your dedication to this effort.

Christmas is the perfect time to thank God for the love that manifests in our lives; love that takes the form of wonderful people such as yourselves.

We know we're not out of the woods yet, but you deserve a huge pat on the back for all you've done!

From our hearts to yours, Merry Christmas!



Feast of the Holy Family

Paul advised the Colossians, that in putting on holiness, kindness, gentleness, and forgiving one another, we "put on love, that is, the bond of perfection." Whatever we do, in word or deed, we ought to do in the name of the Lord Jesus. Fathers, mothers, and children are to love one another, seeking and choosing the good for one another, and helping each other along life's journey – whether for an hour in the car, a three-day hike, or a lifetime in every situation. On this feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we honor their perfect holiness and love, and pray that God may continue to perfect us in holiness and love within our own families, that we may bear good fruit for the Kingdom.

Three Days? Mary and Joseph couldn't find Jesus for three days! It is a remarkable scene: Jesus' parents are astonished to see him teaching in the temple, and Jesus is curious as to why they were looking for him – did they not know where he would be? This event marks a sort of milestone in their lives together, as Jesus has hinted at his future public ministry, and his parents have experienced that first bit of soul-piercing that Mary will later fully undergo. For each of them, love is what directed their actions. Joseph and Mary put aside everything to search for their son; Jesus put aside everything to serve his Father; and they joined together in humble obedience to God's will for them. The Holy Family models a way of living for us to imitate, and to witness to others in that imitation.

MEMBERSHIPS

Make joining the CWL or renewing your membership part of your New Year's Resolutions! ***$25 Membership Fee for 2022 is due now.*** **Drop off with your name and address through the parish office mail slot or into the collection addressed clearly to "CWL MEMBERSHIP CHAIR" Call Brenda at 474-0447 if you have questions.**



The Pro-Cathedral Prayer Line consists of a group of parishioners who pray for the needs of others.

Concerns great and small are presented to the Lord on your behalf.
If you have a prayer request
or would like to join the group **call**
Sister Shirley McNamara at 474-3800, Ext. 295
or Lorraine Atchison at 474-0613

REGIONAL NEWS

Marriage Preparation Program: 6:30—9:30 pm on Friday, January 28, followed by 9:30 am—5:00 pm on Saturday, January 29. Interested couples should call Samantha at 705-471-3284 for more information or to sign up.

North Bay Right to Life works to deepen respect for human life and heighten public opposition to abortion and euthanasia and other threats against human life both in the Christian Community and among the general public.

North Bay Pregnancy Help & Resource Centre: Appointments can be made to see clients/visitors by calling 475-9270. Along with guidance and support, did you know that we provide layettes to new moms and also have a baby clothes closet? Donations of diapers, wipes, baby wash, etc. & much more are appreciated. Please call to see what our requirements are. If you would like to volunteer, or be part of our prayer ministry, email judyproulx@icloud.com

The Good Samaritan Corner

The Compassionate Committee for the Homeless in North Bay recognize that the homeless have urgent needs.
Please consider providing help to the homeless in the cold weather. Here 's how you can make a difference:

1) Donate winter clothing – winter coats, heavier jackets, boots, hats and gloves to Rebuilt Resources at 1356 Regina St.
2) Contact Emergency Homeless Services – helping the homeless in the cold can save a life. Hypothermia is a genuine concern for those on the streets. Contact the 24-hours crisis line at 705-474-1031.
3) Volunteer your time – you can make a big difference in the life of a brother or sister. If you are looking for ways to volunteer consider The Gathering Place, the North Bay Food Bank, or our very own Compassionate Committee for the Homeless in North Bay!

Do you know the top 5 reasons for homelessness in the Nipissing District? During the recent Nipissing Counts the causes include:

#1 – reasons not indicated on survey
#2 – conflict with spouse/partner
#3 – substance abuse
#4 – incarceration
#5 – not enough income



15% of respondents stated that their most recent housing loss was related to COVID-19.

For more information visit https://www.facebook.com/compassionatecommitteeofnorthbay or contact Leah Pierce at 705-472-5687 or at pn.thebay@gmail.com