05 December 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION

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

Welcome to Your Father's House!



The poem of consolation from Baruch urges Jerusalem to look ahead in hope to days of God's justice and glory. Saint Paul prays for an increase in virtue among the Philippians in preparation for Christ. In the Gospel, Luke places John the Baptist's ministry in historical context before describing his call for a baptism of repentance. Today we hear that John the Baptist proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. While repentance is a sobering act of admission of guilt, being forgiven of sin is a hope-filled relief that lifts the soul. Let us seek to prepare a straight path unto the Lord by pondering the lofty mountains we may have in our lives that need to be made low; and the age-old depths and gorges in our own character or soul that must be filled to level ground.

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	*Diocesan Order of Women*
Rev. Mr. Albert Falconi	Mrs. Shirley Falconi
Rev. Mr. Donald Shago	Mrs. Norma Milligan
Rev. Mr. Rick Hamelin	Miss Ruth Godon
Rev. Mr. Gary Westenenk	

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

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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 HOURS THIS WEEK

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

READINGS: 06—12 DECEMBER

Monday	Isaiah 35. 1-10; Luke 5. 17-26
Tuesday	Isaiah 40. 1-11; Matthew 18. 12-14
Wednesday	Genesis 3. 9-15, 20; Ephesians 1. 3-6, 11-12; Luke 1. 26-38
Thursday	**Isaiah 41. 13-20; Matthew 11. 11-15**
Friday	Isaiah 48. 17-19; Matthew 11. 16-19
Saturday	Sirach 48. 1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17. 10-13
Sunday	Zephaniah 3. 14-18a; Philippians 4. 4-7; Luke 3. 10-18

Bishop's Mission & Pastoral Visit

Bishop Thomas Dowd will be in the parish for a week beginning Saturday, December 4 and will be leading a Mission for four evenings in the Cathedral.
The evenings will consist of different 45 minute talks followed by a question and answer session.

Everyone is invited to come out on these evenings.

MISSION DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, December 5	7:00 PM
Monday, December 6	7:00 PM
Tuesday, December 7	7:00 PM
Wednesday, December 8	7:00 PM

During the week, he will visit the schools in our parish, parish committees and community groups. Bishop Dowd will also be celebrating and preaching at all Masses.





Christmas Mass Schedule

Please visit our website at procathedral.ca for a full Christmas & New Year's Schedule



Christmas Eve, 24 December
5:00 PM, 8:00 PM & 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day, 25 December
11:00 AM

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Celebrations are Held at 12:05 PM

Monday, 06 December - Weekday in Advent Season
Linda Jamieson - Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board
Allan Parslow - Andree Cornish
Rosemary Cappadocia - Elfio, Mary Lou, and Peter Cappadocia

Tuesday, 07 December - St. Ambrose, Bishop/Doctor
Bertha Yzereef - Helena Potter
For Souls in Purgatory - A Parishioner
Mervin Sullivan - Maureen and Kevin O'Connor

Wednesday, 08 Dec - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Prior to Mass

RESPECT FOR LIFE MASS - EVERYONE WELCOME

Thursday, 09 December - Weekday in Advent Season
Sheila Flannery - The Family
Lise Hudebine - Claire Achtenberg
Dick and Marc Smith - Katherine Voisin

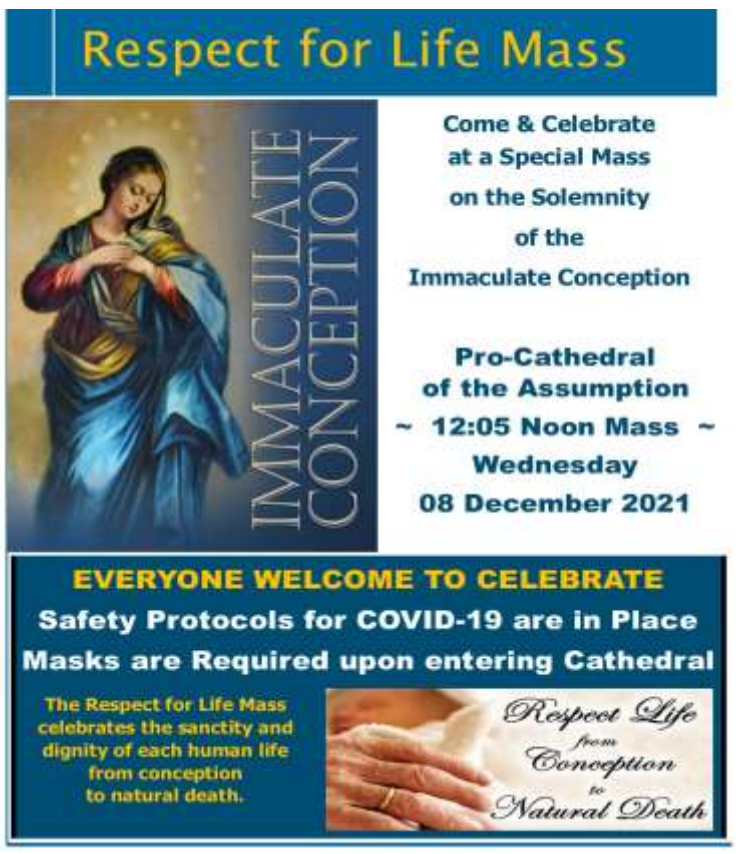
Friday, 10 December - Weekday in Advent Season
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Lloyd Voisin - Katherine Voisin
Msgr. Norm Clement - His Friends
Katheryn and Al Boudreau - High School Friends

4:00 PM Saturday, 11 December – Third Sunday of Advent
In Thanksgiving - Carol and John Rowe
Andrea Hayes - Suzanne Lukasik
Deceased Parents of Lloyd and Katherine Voisin

Sunday, 12 December - Third Sunday of Advent
9:00 AM Marilyn Campbell - The Waltenbury Family
Msgr. Norm Clement - Henriette and Simone Potvin
Mac Ukkong Laylay - Henscelle Laylay Amid

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





Our next Baptismal Preparation Meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14 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, December 13.

Baptism Preparation is mandatory by Diocesan Policy.



Synod 2021-2023: Pope Francis is inviting the universal Church to participate in this important Church event. In our diocese, we will mark the opening of the Synod on the third Sunday of Advent. In January 2022, you will be invited to participate during the consultation phase, 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.



Thank you for your donations—we now are well supplied with wipes but could use more cans of disinfectant spray (any brand). If you can donate a can or two it will be much appreciated! Drop off at the parish office or bring it to church on Sunday and give to an usher. Thank you!

If you have moved or now use a cell phone number please call or email the parish office so we can change this information on our parish data system



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. ***Please have your names to the parish office by Monday, December 20.***

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

Collection Report: 28 NOVEMBER	
Sunday Offering	**Building Fund**
$4,090.90	**$1,060.00**



The CCCB has created an Educational Work Group (EWG) created to prepare for the meeting of the indigenous Delegation to Rome and the eventual coming of Pope Francis to Canada.

Part of the work of the EWG is the preparation of homilies for each Sunday of Advent with connections to the issues of colonization and reconciliation, presented by Bishop Don Bolen in very short videos. The homily themes from the Feast of Christ the King to date are: Solemnity of Christ the King: Early Missionaries and the Encounter of Worldviews; 1st Sunday of Advent: The Spirit of the Treaties; 2nd Sunday of Advent: Residential Schools.
You can find these videos and future posted videos at:
https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/

View this link on our website under INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Catholic Women's League



Care for God's Creation Resources Launch

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is pleased to gift its members with the Care for God's Creation Resources through the work of the Catholic social teaching working group. As children of God, Catholics must be committed to being good stewards of His gift of creation. This resource will provide members with knowledge and awareness in the Catholic social teaching of caring for creation. The current national theme of Care for Our Common Home is reaching the end of its term; however, members are challenged to continue to care for the environment; to live at a planet-sustaining pace so that the world they enjoy may be enjoyed for generations to come. Please visit 625-Our-Common-Home-A-Crash-Course-Module.pdf (cwl.ca) to learn more about caring for God's creation through the Catholic Social Teaching Working Group.



MEMBERSHIPS



It is that time of year again. Membership Renewal Time!
There are a few ways to pay your memberships. Drop a clearly marked envelope off in the office mail slot; pay when you pick up your cookie orders on Dec. 3 or 4; or put an envelope in the collection at mass.
Please make sure your envelopes are clearly marked CWL MEMBERSHIP.

You can also call Brenda Passmore at 705-474-0447



Pope Francis' apostolic letter, *Admirabile signum*, on the meaning and importance of nativity scenes, called for this "wonderful sign" to be more widely displayed in family homes and public places throughout the world. In response, send us a picture of your nativity scenes at your home! We will display them on our website & share them on our Facebook page! A "Merry Christmas from Our House to Yours!"

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR
TO HELP MAKE ADVENT MEANINGFUL



Each day add an item to a box. On the weekend of December 18-19, bring your donations to the church to be donated to the Catholic Charities Food Bank. Located in the Pro-Cathedral parish rectory, our food bank distributes items on Tuesday mornings. Some ideas as you gather items: Box of cereal, peanut butter, school snacks, box of potatoes, macaroni and cheese, canned fruit, canned tomatoes, tea bags, instant coffee, cake mix, applesauce, granola bars, canned beans and potatoes, crackers, packages of rice, box of toothpaste, package of pasta, canned sauce, bar of soap, dried milk, relish, mustard, ketchup, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, canned soup, vegetables, tuna, jar of jam, drinking boxes, etc.

You don't have to wait until the end of December to drop items off. Feel free to bring them anytime you attend mass or drop by the parish during office hours.

St. Paul would be the ultimate life coach! All of his letters to the early Church offer wisdom, encouragement, and instruction, and the words we heard today are particularly significant as we prepare for Jesus' coming this Advent: "the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus." Unlike some of our modern-day resources, Paul's words go beyond simply helpful advice; they are rooted in faith and prayer, and in the truth of the Paschal Mystery. These words assure us that we are not alone on our journey, that what God has promised in the person of his Son will come to fruition: Christ will come again! And so, as John the Baptist did, we who are disciples are meant to witness to his coming, announcing the Good News and preparing for his – second – coming. Repent. Believe. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." How do we do this? Engage with Scripture – read it and really hear what the Word of God is saying to you. Pray for insight, that the grace of God might transform you to go forth and announce the Gospel.



Re-read today's Gospel, and then consider how Saint Paul followed in John the Baptist's footsteps in his Letter to the Philippians. Think of ways you, like John and Paul, can encourage one another, and be a voice crying out in the desert. Participate in the sacrament of reconciliation and pray that God may cleanse your heart to welcome him at Christmas, and when he comes again.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

The following children celebrated the Sacrament of First Reconciliation for the first time last Tuesday evening. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they put their faith in the One who shows mercy and love always.

Addison Amo	Emma Bertrand	Donna Brooks
Jackson Brooks	Samaya Brooks	Ava Carreiro
Rosalina Cicciarelli	Aimyia Coksurer	Bennett Commanda
Benjamin Dupuis	Nicholas Edwards	Antonino Faraci
Madison Griffith	Cash Hampel	Charlie Horsfall
Aylah Iati	George Lane	Chance Leroux
Johnathan Lewicki	Liv Loxton	Marie Monette
Sune Rachmann	Jackson Ross	William Shago
Ryder Sprague	Avery Wallace	Aaron Yarosh

REGIONAL NEWS

Christmas Day Dinner will again be held this year at Memorial Gardens on Christmas Day, December 25 from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Entertainment and Gifts for Everyone!
Please note that all volunteer positions have been filled.
Don't be alone or hungry this Christmas - everyone welcome!

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.



The Good Samaritan Corner: The Compassionate Committee for the Homeless in North Bay recognize that the homeless have urgent needs.

Providing help to the homeless in the cold weather

1) Donate winter clothing – winter coats, heavier jackets, boots, hats and gloves to Re-built 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!

~ Be that small act of kindness and love this Advent ~