

27 December 2020	PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION
Feast of the Holy Family	480 McIntyre Street West - North Bay, Ontario - P1B 2Z4
Due to Covid-19 & Provincial Directives there are no Celebrations until 9-10 January 2021	



In today's first reading, God promises Abram an heir, even though Abram is very old. Before too long Sarah, his wife, bears him a son. In the second reading, the author of Hebrews tells the story of Abraham (Abram) as an example of true faith in God. In the Gospel, Joseph and Mary take Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. The devout and righteous Simeon beheld the child Jesus, and prayed to the Lord that he as the Lord's servant might now be dismissed for he had seen the salvation that had been promised. Simeon also foretold the destiny of Jesus and the suffering Mary would undergo. On this Feast of the Holy Family, we celebrate God's Incarnation into a human family who loved, protected and taught him. They were holy because they were perfect in obedience and virtue; blessed because they feared the Lord and walked in his ways. We, too, may strive to attain this holiness, in our imitation of the Holy Family's example and through the grace of Christ.

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. Thomas Dowd, D.D.
Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie

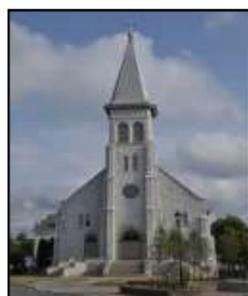
RECTOR **ASSISTANT**
Msgr. Dave Tramontini Rev. Rex Lumine

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
 www.procathedral.ca
 facebook.com/procathedral

Parish Sacraments

Due to the coronavirus new directives are in place for the preparation and celebration of our sacraments. Please call the parish office if you require more information for: Marriage, Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Anointing of the Sick.

Reconciliation is postponed until Saturday, January 9, 2021 Please watch for updates on our webpage at procathedral.ca and on our Facebook Page.



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 11 JANUARY 2021
EMAIL & TELEPHONE MESSAGES WILL BE PERIODICALLY CHECKED DURING THIS TIME

OFFICE HOURS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
28 December ~ 03 January	
Monday	1 John 1. 5-2.2; Matthew 2. 13-18
Tuesday	1 John 2. 3-11; Luke 2. 22-35
Wednesday	1 John 2. 12-17; Luke 2. 36-40
Thursday	1 John 2. 18-21; John 1. 1-18
Friday	Numbers 6. 22-27; Galatians 4. 4-7; Luke 2. 16-21
Saturday	1 John 2. 22-28; John 1. 19-28
Sunday	Isaiah 60. 1-6; Ephesians 3. 2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2. 1-12

Know What's Happening by Visiting Our Homepage at procathedral.ca

The Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, is imposing a Provincewide Shutdown. We are asked to stay at home as much as possible to minimize transmission of the virus and prevent hospitals from becoming overwhelmed.

This shutdown will go into effect as of
Saturday, December 26, 2020 at 12:01 AM.

The Cathedral and Parish Office will be closed at that time.
The anticipated return to our regularly scheduled celebrations
is the weekend of 9-10 January 2021.

A dispensation from mass is still in place while we are unable to attend mass.

If you are unable to receive the Eucharist physically,
Pope Francis invites us to make a Spiritual Communion—
that is to invite Christ in to our hearts, and ask that Christ
come close to us, and that we come close to Christ.

You can join Pope Francis for Spiritual Communion at:

<https://youtu.be/5LNjJaWuidw>

This link is also posted on our website under LINKS
at procathedral.ca

You can pray An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy
Sacrament. I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramental-
ly, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite
myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

The government will continue to
evaluate throughout the 14 days
of the shutdown to determine if it is
safe to lift any restrictions or if they
need to be extended.

The Church is a community of
people who love Jesus and love
each other.

Please stay connected to one
another with email, Instagram,
telephone calls, zoom, etc.

The Feast of the Holy Family in the midst of the Christmas season is a poignant reminder that families are the bedrock of our faith; a domestic Church; the primary transmitter of the faith. Jesus, God's promise fulfilled for us, both fully human and fully divine, was born into a human family. We are to imitate the Holy Family through sacrificial love for one another. Sirach speaks of the honor and respect that children and parents must have for one another. And while we are not divine, we can celebrate the Divine presence in our midst, as Simeon did in today's Gospel, when he said: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."



Today, as we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, let us take a moment to remember that all families are called to be holy. Families are meant to be refuges of unity and peacefulness in an imperfect, sometimes harsh world. As members of a family, we are called to be patient and kind with one another. Let us pray for the grace to emulate the Holy Family. Like us, they certainly faced their challenges and disappointments, and yet they listened to God's voice in their lives and followed his will. Pray to Mary and St. Joseph for their intercession, and trust in the presence of God in your family.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15: 13

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION!

Students in Grade 7, 8 or 9 are invited to register now to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation! Our preparation program begins in January 2021!



Our preparation program brings everyone from across our region to prepare together. Due to the special circumstances of the pandemic, there will be three simultaneous celebrations of the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, February 13, 2021. Youth will celebrate at the parish where they are registered and attend.

Registration for all Candidates is available online only at: www.holynametalphonsus.com/confirmation A complete list of preparation dates and confirmation procedures can be found here as well.

Our preparation sessions will adhere to all safety protocols and are designed to inspire, have fun, deepen faith and build new friendships.

Registration Deadline is January 13, 2021.

Catholic Women's League



Winter Solstice has arrived...too bad it was so overcast we could not view "the magic star" like the one that appeared when Christ was born. I was looking forward to going to the waterfront to see it...perhaps another evening this week will work!



Today is born our Saviour!

Christ is the magic of Christmas, not the presents received but His Presence in us. This has been a very trying year and I know it is not over yet, however, there is hope for the coming year. May you have the gift of faith this Christmas to help you through your celebrations, as Faith makes all things possible.

May God fill your life with love, joy and peace throughout the coming year. I pray for your safety and want to wish everyone a very Blessed Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Shirlene and Your CWL Executive

Looking for Meaning in Your Life?

- Are childhood memories surfacing?
 - Have you made mistakes?
 - Do you need to forgive others?
 - Do you need to be healed?
 - Looking for fullness of truth and grace?
 - Want your children to have a faith foundation?
 - Looking to be part of a community?
 - Want to help other people?
 - Do you hunger for the Eucharist?
- ♥
- Come back to the Catholic Church**
 - We will Welcome You!**
 - Have Questions?**
 - Call us at 472-3970**
 - Email us at office@procathedral.ca**

COLLECTION REPORT: 20 DECEMBER

<u>Sunday Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
\$6,985.00	\$8,577.25

Pre-Authorized Banking: November

<u>Sunday Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
\$7,264.00	\$2,385.00

Parish Donations 2021

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. It also means to give a portion back to God, as a direct way of expressing our thanksgiving to Him for these gifts.

In this 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

2021 Parish Envelopes: Please call or email the parish office and a box of envelopes can be mailed to you. When we resume our mass schedule they will again be available at our masses.

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 2021 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.

REGIONAL NEWS

Shalom Place presents "Dear Heart Come Home: The Path to Midlife Spirituality" by Joyce Rupp an on-line small group opportunity. Midlife is a summons to grow and a challenge to discover our authenticity. We evaluate our goals, hopes, dreams, beliefs, behaviours, experiences, all that has marked us and contributed to the person we have become. We ask ourselves: "Is this the person I want to be in the future?" Using Joyce Rupp's book as the source of input, private journaling and group sharing during our sessions we will meet with facilitator Sister Stephanie Romiti, CSJ on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:00 PM January 20, 27; February 3, 10, 17, 24; and March 3, 10. A free-will offering is appreciated. Participants are asked to obtain their own copy of the book. Meet from the comfort of your own home—we will meet using zoom. To register contact shalomssm@shaw.ca or call 705-254-4690. You can also complete the contact form at www.shalomplace.ca

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. Looking for volunteers for different roles as well! Please call if you can help. If you would like to be part of our prayer ministry, email judyproulx@icloud.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS TO THE
PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

Are You Being Called? Have Questions?

Call our Local Diocesan
Vocation Director

Fr. Daniele Muscolino

705-495-1501



Cell Phone? Move Recently?

Have you changed from a land line to a cell phone in the past few years? Maybe you have moved and never let us know? Please send us an email or call us with your updated contact information so we can keep our records current.



Free Children's Liturgy of the Word Videos

Free 25 minute Children's Liturgy videos every week. This interactive programming encourages children to participate, appeals to various learning styles, and helps young children understand the Gospels and their faith more fully! You can access this free catechetical resource by visiting [Children & Youth](#) under Ministries on our website at procathedral.ca