

10 JANUARY 2021	PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION
Baptism of the Lord	480 McIntyre Street West - North Bay, Ontario - P1B 2Z4
Due to Covid-19 & Provincial Extension of the Lockdown there are no Celebrations until 23-24 January 2021	

Isaiah presents the Suffering Servant, sent to save God's people. In the Book of Acts, Peter declares salvation is available to all people, and is not restricted to the Israelites. In today's Gospel, Jesus is baptized by John. The heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends like a dove, while God the Father calls Jesus his *beloved Son*. God reveals the sacrament of baptism with dynamic power. The heavens are torn. The Spirit descends; the Father's voice is heard. Two brief verses paint a vivid picture depicting the unity of the Holy Trinity. Through our baptism, we are joined to the family of God and welcomed into the intimacy of the Trinity. Take hold of this gift.



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
Msrgr. 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 23, 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 25 JANUARY 2021

EMAIL & TELEPHONE MESSAGES WILL BE PERIODICALLY CHECKED DURING THIS TIME

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
11 - 17 January 2021	
Monday	Hebrews 1.1-6; Mark 1. 14-20
Tuesday	Hebrews 2. 5-12; Mark 1. 21-28
Wednesday	Hebrews 2. 14-18; Mark 1. 29-39
Thursday	Hebrews 3. 7-14; Mark 1. 40-45
Friday	Hebrews 4. 1-5, 11; Mark 2. 1-12
Saturday	Hebrews 4. 12-16; Mark 2. 13-17
Sunday	1 Samuel 3. 3b-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6. 13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1. 35-42

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION!

With the extended lockdown, our preparation for Confirmation will be delayed.

Even though our preparation is postponed - please register as soon as possible so we can keep in touch with you with further updates.



Students in Grade 7, 8 or 9 are invited to register now to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation! Our preparation program will begin soon.

Our preparation program brings everyone from across our region to prepare together. 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.

Catholic Women's League

Environment Message

Dr. Donna Orsuto, co-founder and director of The Lay Centre at Foyer Unitas, Rome, indicated during her Summer 2020 Speaker



Series presentation that Laudato Si' is more relevant in light of COVID-19 and that [the Catholic Women's] League [of Canada] is more needed today than ever. She indicated people cannot leave it to someone else to save the planet—they need to make a personal connection. Members across Canada have the means to make a difference. Take time to study Laudato Si'. During the Laudato Si' Special Anniversary Year (May 24, 2020-May 24, 2021), various resources are available at www.humandevlopment.va/en/news/laudato-si-special-anniversary-year-plan.html for the public and various institutions to begin the seven-year journey to total sustainability in the spirit of Laudato Si'. You are encouraged to watch the 18:38 minute video entitled Laudato Si' Action Platform on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZPcQ3HRYao> or on our website under Current News

For more information please do not hesitate to contact Leah Pierce, Education and Health Chairperson, at 472-5687.

Pope Francis' Laudato Si', the watershed encyclical letter that called world's attention to the increasingly precarious state of our common home, can be viewed on our website at procathedral.ca under Current News.

MASSES CANCELLED UNTIL WEEKEND OF 23-24 JANUARY 2021

Watch our Mass

Live-streamed from the Pro-Cathedral at 4:00 PM on Saturday, January 9 which will remain posted on our website for viewing.

Visit: procathedral.ca

The Provincial authorities have announced that the "Lock Down" will remain in place until January 23, 2021.

The parish will not be holding masses until the end of this lock down time.

Masses will be re-scheduled in the order they were received.

Thank you for your patience while we go through this trying time.

A dispensation from mass is still in place if you are unable to attend mass. 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>

World Day of Peace Message 2021

Care, common good, promotion of human rights, solidarity, safeguarding of creation: COVID-19 highlighted how everything is interconnected. No peace without a culture of care, says the Pope



Pope Francis' World Day of Peace Message 2021 "A Culture of Care as a Path to

Peace" can be viewed on our website at procathedral.ca under Current News and Bulletins.

Development and Peace Stamp Collection



Don't forget that your stamps affixed to the right corner of your envelopes can help fund Development and Peace projects as they sell them to stamp collectors. Please support this initiative by simply cutting off the stamps from your envelopes without damaging perforations.

Save them in baggies/envelopes & drop them into the office mail slot.

Our D & P Coordinator, Lorraine Atchison, will make sure they are sent to the Stamp Project.

Baptism of the Lord

Those of us who are parents or godparents remember fondly the day of our child or godchild's baptism. I remember feeling the warmth from the congregation and from extended family and friends as they joined us in welcoming our beloved infant into Christ's Church. The smell of the chrism from the anointing of his head with oil, and the sound of the flowing waters served as visceral reminders of our precious child's birth into new, divine life with Jesus. Today, as we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we give thanks to Jesus, who at his baptism immersed himself into the enormous weight of humanity's sinfulness [while of course remaining sinless himself]. Marking the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus' baptism is the foundation for our own, inviting us to become God's own sons and daughters "in whom he is well pleased." Just as the Spirit descended upon Jesus and anointed him, the Spirit descends on us at our baptism, empowering us to follow Jesus' example and build up the kingdom of God.



Water and oil are two of the symbols of baptism, a third is the white garment [sometimes a bib placed over a small child] worn by the one being baptized. I know of a pastoral associate who embroiders the name and date of baptism on the white garments of every child or infant baptized at her large parish. As we read in the *catechism*, "The white garment symbolizes that the person baptized has 'put on Christ,' has risen with Christ." (1243) Gratitude is the proper disposition to thinking about our baptism, and the ones who brought us to it. How might our lives be different, and richer, if each morning, as we dress for the day, we pray in gratitude for the ability, and what it means, to, "put on Christ" in our daily lives?

Express gratitude. Are your parents and godparents still alive? If so, call them or send a card thanking them for their presence at your baptism, and assure them of your prayers. If they are not alive, perhaps think of one or two people who have been there for you in your life as instruments of God's grace. And then extend your gratitude to them.



PRAYER LINE

The prayer line is 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

Vatican—Missionaries Killed in 2020

Vatican City (Agenzia Fides) – According to information gathered by Agenzia Fides, in 2020 20 missionaries were killed in the world: 8 priests, 1 religious man, 3 religious women, 2 seminarians, 6 lay people. This year the highest number of missionaries killed returns to be registered in America, where 5 priests and 3 lay people were killed (8). Followed by Africa, where 1 priest, 3 religious women, 1 seminarian, 2 lay people were killed (7). In Asia 1 priest, 1 seminarian and 1 lay man. In Europe 1 priest and 1 religious man. In the last 20 years, from 2000 to 2020, 535 pastoral workers have been killed in the world, 5 of whom are Bishops.



Agenzia Fides continues its service to collect information regarding the missionaries killed during the year. We use the term "missionary" for all the baptized, aware that "in virtue of their Baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples. All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization" (EG 120). As it has been for some time, the annual list of Fides does not look only to Missionaries ad gentes in the strict sense, but tries to record all the baptized engaged in the life of the Church who died in a violent way, not only "in hatred of the faith". For this reason, we prefer not to use the term "martyrs", if not in its etymological meaning of "witness", in order not to enter into the question of the judgment that the Church might eventually deliver upon some of them, after careful consideration, for beatification or canonization.

Even in 2020 many pastoral workers lost their lives during attempted hold-ups and robberies, ferociously committed, in impoverished, degraded social contexts, where violence is the rule of life, the authority of the state was lacking or weakened by corruption and compromises and in the total lack of respect for life and for every human right. None of them carried out striking feats or actions, but simply shared the same daily life as the majority of the population, bearing their evangelical witness as a sign of Christian hope.

Miscarriage & Loss

A miscarriage can have deeply felt and long-lasting effects on a woman and a couple. It is heart breaking no matter when it happens during pregnancy.

The parish is making available a Care and Comfort Package to parents who have lost a child through miscarriage in order to help in your time of loss and grief.

If you wish to receive a package, please call or email the parish office. Your information will be held in the strictest confidence.



Parish Donations 2021

We thank the many members of our community who continue to support the parish through planned giving.

While our public activities diminish, we still have many fixed operational expenses in our budget that need to be met. Your support during this time is welcomed and appreciated.

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: Available from an usher at all our masses. Or, please call or email the parish office and a box of envelopes can be mailed to you.

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.



PRE-AUTHORIZED DONATIONS: DEC

Sunday Offering	Building Fund
\$6,519.00	\$2,745.00

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION	Thank You for your Generous Support!
\$1,785.00	

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.



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

