

22 December
2024

Fourth Sunday
of Advent

PRO-CATHEDRAL OF THE ASSUMPTION

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

Welcome to Your Father's House!



The prophet Micah foretells that the one who is to rule over Israel shall come forth from Bethlehem-Ephrathah. In the second reading, the author writes that Christ came to do God's will and by that will we *have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all*. In the Gospel, Mary travels to visit her cousin Elizabeth and at the sound of Mary's voice, the infant in Elizabeth's womb *leaped for joy*. The Lord God is always faithful to his promises. As our celebration of Christmas draws near, we prepare for the coming of Christ by rejoicing with Mary and her cousin Elizabeth as they witness to the mysterious fulfillment of those divine promises in their lives.

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

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Joseph de Viveiros, CR Chaplain, Nipissing-Parry Sound District Schools

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

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: 3:00 to 3:45 PM each Saturday.

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: Each Friday from 11:00 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 Noon.

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 |
| Tuesday | 8:30 AM to 12:00 NOON |
| Wednesday to Friday | OFFICE CLOSED |

READINGS: 23 - 29 DECEMBER

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Monday | Malachi 3. 1-4; 4. 5-6; Luke 1. 57-66 |
| Tuesday | 2 Samuel 7. 1-5, 8-12, 16; Luke 1. 67-79 |
| Wednesday | Isaiah 62. 11-12; Titus 3. 4-7; Luke 2. 15-20 |
| Thursday | Acts 6. 8-10; 7. 54-59; Matthew 10. 17-22 |
| Friday | 1 John 1. 1-4; John 20. 2-8 |
| Saturday | 1 John 1. 5—2.2; Matthew 2. 13-18 |
| Sunday | 1 Samuel 1. 20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3. 1-2, 21-24; Luke 2. 41-52 |

What's Happening at the Cathedral This Week Monday to Sunday, 23 - 29 December

| Date | Time | Location | Event |
|-----------|---------|----------|------------------------------|
| Monday | 1:00 PM | Church | Decorating Committee |
| | All Day | Hall | Christmas Dinner Preparation |
| Tuesday | All Day | Hall | Christmas Dinner Preparation |
| Wednesday | All Day | Hall | Christmas Dinner Preparation |

Please note that there is no Children's Liturgy on Sunday, December 29th. We will resume at the 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday, January 5, 2025. Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year from your catechists of Children's Liturgy!

**Thank you to a very special team of people
who have recently retired
from the Ministry of Ushers**

Sharon Brown and one of her teams from the 4:00 PM Mass have recently retired.

With over 12 years of service, Sharon has been an amazing leader in this ministry. Thank you!

Her fellow-ushers, Denise McMahon, Kelly McGinnis, Yvon Cadrin, and Wendy and Richard Ducharme have supported our parish for many, many years and we want to thank them for their dedication.



This ministry supports everyone who attends Mass, and their discreet service means they often go overlooked for what they regularly do on our behalf.



If you get a chance to thank our ushers who have retired, and those who continue to serve in this ministry, please do so—it is appreciated!

Sunday Collection - 15 December

| Sunday Offering | Building Fund |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| \$6,549.00 | \$1,648.00 |

ROOF CAMPAIGN REPORT to 15 December 2024

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Roof Campaign Balance | \$167,962.50 |
| Sunday, 15 December Collection | |
| Roof Loose | \$610.35 |
| 37 Receipted Donations | \$13,578.50 |
| Euchre Tournament Profit | \$379.16 |
| Orchard Gift Card Sales | \$265.00 |
| 53 Cards X \$5.00 Profit | Profit to Date: \$4,260.00 |
| Twiggs Gift Card Sales | \$65.00 |
| 13 Card X \$5.00 Profit | Profit to Date: \$450.00 |
| NEW CAMPAIGN BALANCE | \$182,860.51 |

Outstanding Week for Donations - Thank you!

Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, 24 December
5:00 PM & 8:00 PM (12:05 PM Mass Cancelled)
10:30 PM Syro Malabar Mass



Christmas Day - Wednesday, 25 December
11:00 AM (12:05 PM Mass Cancelled)

Thursday, 26 December - 12:05 PM
Carmen and Dominic Fruci - Cathy Fruci and Family
Intention of Cathy Carlino - Lisa Henry
Intention of Rick Hamelin - Jeannette Hamelin

Friday, 27 December - 12:05 PM
Emile Lamothe - Ella Lamothe
In Memory of Rose - Johnson
Intention of Kristy and Nicholas Beaulieu - Karen Beaulieu

Saturday, 28 December: Feast of the Holy Family 4:00 PM
Mary Straus - Judith and Armand Bellemare
Emile Lamothe - Jessica and Pedro Costa



Sunday, 29 December: Feast of the Holy Family

9:00 AM For Souls in Purgatory - A Parishioner
Intention of those Remembered in the Memorial Fund
Geraldine & Clarence Lefebvre - Carol Lefebvre & Family

11:00 AM Marilyn Campbell - The Waltenbury Family
Intention of Léo Beaupré - Wilda Beaupré
Intention of the Parishioners - Fr. Larry Rymes

Tuesday, 31 December - 12:05 PM

Intention of Judy and Robert - Jessica Costa
Intention of Kristy and Nicholas Beaulieu - Karen Beaulieu



**Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God**

Wednesday, 01 January 2025 ~ 11:00 AM
(12:05 PM Mass Cancelled)

**All Sundays and New Year's Day
are Holy Days of Obligation**



REMINDER

AT OUR CHRISTMAS MASSES

A Secret Santa has generously offered to Match the Roof Loose Collection at our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day collections up to \$2,000.

The challenge is to match the loose collection only - not donations for which people receive credit for so please be generous when donating to the Roof Loose Collection at Christmas.

Thank you for your generosity!



Christmas Greetings from

The Catholic Women's League



Dear Sisters in the League and
Pro-Cathedral Parishioners,

Peace, Joy and Love to you and yours this Christmas and
always.

May God's Blessings come to you a thousand fold;
May the Love in your heart never grow old;
And may you find treasures more precious than gold.
May this Christmas be full of light and laughter.

Let us remember our loved ones, those suffering, those
alone, as we celebrate with Hope, Love and Joy, the
happening that night, long ago, in starlit Bethlehem,
and the blessed gift from our God, in the birth of Jesus,
born into the world as our Saviour.

As the New Year dawns, may it be filled with hope and a
promise of a bright tomorrow. May health and happiness
be yours in the New Year ahead. May you live your life to
the fullest.

Mary-Lynn Truchon, President

Thank
You

A big thank you to the countless volunteers that worked tirelessly behind the scenes leading up to and including this year's CWL Annual Christmas Bazaar & Tea. Hundreds of people attended this year's signature fundraiser on Saturday, November 16, raising \$9,051.22 in support of numerous charities including: School Breakfast Programs, Meals on Wheels, the North Bay Food Bank, Catholic Charities, the Gathering Place, and the Compassionate Committee for the Homeless in North Bay. With 173 members, the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption CWL is part of the larger national CWL of more than 63,000 members each called to grow in faith, and to witness the love of God through ministry, service and social justice.



Thank you so much to our generous
parishioners for their huge donations to
our Catholic Charities Food Bank.
Your response to our Advent Calendar
Giving was tremendous!

Advent Week 4 ~ Prayer

Light four candles on your advent
wreath and sit for a moment in silence.



Prayer: Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to heart the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thank you to everyone who selected ornaments off the Giving Tree to assist Mother St. Bride School help families to provide a nice Christmas for their children.



The gifts were beautiful, thoughtful and generous! Our parishioners are amazing!

PARISH DONATIONS

Just a reminder to please consider using our pre-authorized methods for your contributions in 2025 as it allows us to have a steady stream of income, even when you are away from the parish.

Other ways you can support:

- Parish Envelopes
- Pre-authorized donations from your bank account.
- Credit card donations
- E-transfer music.finance@procathedral.ca
- Use our "Donate Today" button on our website at procathedral.ca
- Download the app Tithe.ly
- Text "GIVE" to 1-833-423-1163 and follow instructions
- Support our Monthly 50/50 RAFFLE
- Purchase Twiggs and Orchard Gift Cards

\$25 Twiggs and Orchard Gift Cards
Available at the Parish Office Only
until Last Weekend of January





FIRST GATHERING coming up January 26

The celebration of First Reconciliation will be held March 26, 2025 and First Communion will be held on June 1, 2025.

Please pre-register your child now and correspondence will be sent to you at a later date regarding preparation gatherings. The on-line registration form can be found on our website under SACRAMENTS under both Eucharist and Reconciliation. The forms have the option to register for one or both of the sacraments and once completed, they can be emailed to: office@procathedral.ca

Children who have already celebrated Baptism are welcome to register. To register for First Communion, children should be baptized and have already celebrated First Confession.

As with all of our sacraments for children, the preparation process takes place “in the midst of the community” especially when it gathers at the Sunday assembly throughout the year. Children preparing for the reception of the sacraments are invited to participate in the Sunday Celebration of the Word with Children at the 9:00 AM Mass.

Preparation Dates—All Gatherings in Parish Hall Sacrament Celebrations in Church

1st Reconciliation AND 1st Communion Meeting

Welcome Meeting Sunday, 26 January 10:00 AM

Meet and greet for all children celebrating either one (or both!) of these sacraments will be held.

First Reconciliation Preparation Dates

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Gathering One | Thursday, 12 February | 6:15 PM |
| Gathering Two | Thursday, 26 February | 6:15 PM |
| Rehearsal | Sunday, 23 March | 10:00 AM |
| Celebration | Wednesday, 26 March | 6:15 PM |

First Eucharist Preparation Dates

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Gathering One | Wednesday, 30 April | 6:15 PM |
| Gathering Two | Wednesday, 14 May | 6:15 PM |
| Rehearsal | Sunday, 25 May | 10:00 AM |
| Celebration | Sunday, 01 June | 9 or 11 AM Mass |

The Good Samaritan

The Compassionate Committee for the Homeless in North Bay would like to thank the parishioners and congregants from the local churches, and the community of North Bay who supported this year's Winter Boot Campaign. Because of your generosity we filled 5 trunks with hats, mitts, scarves, socks, and gloves.

Through our partnership with Soles4Souls Canada and monetary donations made by you, we were able to purchase 104 pairs of boots. The following frontline organizations will be able to support people experiencing homelessness because of your compassion: Cold Weather Response Program, AIDS Committee of North Bay, True Self, Catholic Charities, Open Arms Café, Children's Aid Society, and Tracy's Heart and Hands. ***Rejoice for God is Good!***

For more information about the Compassionate Committee for the Homeless contact Leah Pierce at compassionnorthbay@gmail.com or 705-472-5687 or <https://www.facebook.com/compassionatecommitteefornorthbay/>

This year's Northern Ontario Catholic Leadership Conference hosted by the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie is taking place **Saturday, February 22, 2025 at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall in North Bay.**



This event is open to all young people **aged 13-19** who will gather for a day of prayer led by International Catholic Speaker, Singer, Comedian and Social Media Icon **Paul J. Kim**. The day will also include time for socializing, recreation, personal reflection, prayer and reconciliation. This year's theme is **“AWAKEN – Live for More”** giving young people the chance to reflect on making Christ-centered choices in their life within the challenges of today's world.

For details & registration, visit: www.northerncatholic.ca

In this special Jubilee Year, we will sponsor youth from REGISTERED FAMILIES OF THE PRO-CATHEDRAL. In order for us to take advantage of the early registration discount you must register by January 17, 2025.

Parents/Guardians: Contact the parish office soon to ensure you are registered as your child's registration fee will only be paid if you are a practising and registered family with the Pro-Cathedral Parish.

Don't be alone on Christmas Day: Come to a Free Christmas Dinner on December 25 at the Pro-Cathedral Parish Hall. Sit-down Dinner from 11 AM to 1 PM, Take-out available from 1:30 to 2:00 PM.

North Bay Pregnancy Help & Resource Centre—support for women experiencing unexpected pregnancy. Call 705-475-9270 or email nbphrc@hotmail.com to see how they can help.

Information Night at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School on Wednesday, January 15. See what makes SJSH the school for you and your child(ren)! Tour the halls, speak with teachers and staff, and be entertained by their acclaimed Musical Theatre program, all while learning about their dynamic school programming. Discover what being an SJSH Bear is all about! Visit sjsh.npsc.ca for more details and to register!

YES Student Exchange looking for a host family for a Grade 12 student from Italy arriving on February 1st for 5 months. For more information about this student, contact Laura at 705-796-3329 Email: lauram@youthedservices.ca

