

SAINT HEDWIG'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Michal Pajak, O.M.I., Administrator

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Fr. Jerry Gauvreau, C.C., Part-time Associate Pastor

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Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m. - Noon & 1 - 2 p.m.



Confessions: 15 minutes before Mass and at other times (see below) • **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Monday to Friday, from 12:00 noon • Sundays, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. **Recitation of the Rosary:** 30 minutes before each Mass, also on the radio at 88.5 FM (locally) • Attendance: 5 p.m.:115; 8 a.m.:72 ; 11 a.m.: 158; Total: 345

7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Feb 23rd, 2025

Monday February 24	Sault St. Marie (Optional Memorial) 8:00 a.m. Intentions of Mary Anne Kluge by the Jakelic Family 4:00 p.m. Intentions of Our Lady Seat of Wisdom
Tuesday February 25	Ferial 8:00 a.m. +Ingrid Coulas by Karen Shalla
Wednesday February 26	Ferial 8:00 a.m. +Vicenza Flaim by John Longo 12:00 Noon Intentions of Martha Kelner by a Friend
Thursday February 27	St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot, Doctor (Optional Memorial) 8:00 a.m. +Veronika Murack by Alice & Family
Friday February 28	Ferial 8:00 a.m. +Dominic & Helen Yantha by Lornie & Aileen
Saturday March 1	Our Lady's Saturday 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Confessions 10:30 a.m. Special Intentions 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. Confessions

8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

March 2, 2025

Saturday	5:00 p.m. +Ambrose, Bill, and Patrick by Valerie Petrik
Sunday	8:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving for Max, Luke, & Joseph by Robbie & Ela Lepine 11:00 a.m. For the Intentions of all Parishioners

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (March 2 nd , 2025)	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Readers of the Word	Karen Yakabuskie	Jacob Afelskie	Pete Baklinski
Holy Communion	Deacon Robert Probert	Deacon Jean-Nil Chabot	Bro. Grzegorz Loska, OMI
Ushers	Duncan Barber (crew captain) and ushers	Stanley Rumleskie (crew captain) and ushers	Daniel Shalla (crew captain) and ushers

Offerings: Sunday: \$2,819.00; Building Maintenance: \$906.00; Carpet: \$75.00; Heat/Fuel: \$1000.00; Various Funds: \$20.00

Let us remember in prayer those who are sick, especially Andy Weatherbed, Theresa Chapeskie, Esther T. Stoppa, Tessie Spence, Suzanne Bissonnette, Anne Chabot, Albert Cybulski, Karen Barber, Callam Olver, Mary Anne Kluge, Raymond Biernaskie, Denis Yeretch

Let us also pray for Joseph Robert Lepine, son of Robert & Ela who was welcomed into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, February 9th, 2025

Time Change for Saturday Morning Mass: Starting March 8th, the First Saturday in Lent, the morning Mass time will be changing from 10:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. This will affect confession time as well.

Euchre: The next Euchre games will be held on Sunday, February 23rd and March 9th at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$5:00

Sacred Heart League: The next meeting takes place on February 25th at 2:00 p.m. in the Church Hall.

Pancake Supper: You are invited to the Knights of Columbus 'Shrove Tuesday' dinner consisting of many pre-Lenten favourites, including pancakes (regular and potato), sausages, and baked beans. Tuesday, March 4, from 5-7 PM, in the **St. Lawrence O'Toole parish hall**. Live fiddle music. No cost—free-will donation graciously accepted. Bring the whole family.

Weekly Adoration Schedule: We are still in need of Adorers on Mondays & Thursdays from 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays & Fridays from Noon-1 p.m., and Friday 4-5 p.m. Please call Virginia Korneluk at (613) 650-7674.

Introductory Training on Pro-Life Issues: Some of our OLSWC students have received training on how to most effectively engage the public to change their hearts and minds on abortion, and are willing to share their skills with us. Come and participate in a lively debate while learning how to defend Catholic Life values. Tuesday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m. in St. Hedwig's basement. For more info, call Julia Szumowski at (416) 839-9312.

Sacrament of Holy Communion: Parents who think their children are ready for the Sacrament of Holy Communion, classes will start on the first Sunday of Lent, March 9th at 9:45 a.m. Please register at the Parish Office as soon as possible, so course materials may be ordered. Cost is \$15.00. First Reconciliation will take place on May 31st and First Holy Communion on June 1st.

St. Hedwig's Confirmation Mass: Bishop Michael Brehl will be here on Sunday, May 18 for the Confirmation Mass. Classes will be taught by Hannah Afelskie and Katrina Hamon. The first class will take place on Thursday, February 27th from 7-8 pm in St. Hedwig's Church Basement; subsequent classes will occur weekly on Thursdays from 7-8pm. Materials used for the Confirmation program will be a combination of 'Youcat' and 'Chosen' by Ascension Press. The registration cost is \$25 and covers the cost of the Student workbook.

Evenings of Praise, Worship and Intercessory Prayer: You are invited every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Lawrence O'Toole parish hall. There are always a good number in attendance from this area of the diocese. For information, call 613-756-1389

Queen of the Angels Co-op: Queen of the Angels Co-op presents a Pancake Dinner followed by a performance of The Real Princess – A Princess and the Pea Story, at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Killaloe on Saturday, March 1st starting at 6 p.m. Cost: \$20 for adults – \$5 for children/students. For more information, or to reserve your tickets, please email: coopdrama@proton.me

Women's Retreats Combermere: We warmly invite all women to a weekend women's retreat... "The Eucharist: Christ our Hope" – two retreats offered: **March 14-16** at the Elim Lodge 696 Elim Lodge Road, Lakehurst, ON, led by Christina Milan and Fr. Brian Christie, Madonna House. **April 4-6** at the Graphite Bible Camp, 702 Graphite Road, Maynooth, ON, led by Christina Milan and Fr. David Linder, Madonna House. For questions or more information please call Astrid (Elim Retreat) at 905 377-0688 or Kristan (Graphite Retreat) at 613 585-0579.

Lift Jesus Higher Rally: The annual Toronto Lift Jesus Higher Rally will be Saturday, March 29th, 2025 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Information and registration: <https://www.ljhr.ca/>.

Two Upcoming Events: A Lenten Retreat with Bishop Brehl on April 5, 2025 and Divine Mercy Sunday with Bishop Brehl on April 27, 2025. More information to follow as we approach these dates.

Carpet Fund: Thank you for all donations toward the carpet fund. As we are now in the planning stages for the replacement project, please continue to help us build up capital for this bigger renovation project. In the meantime, all donations marked for this fund will be saved towards this purpose.

Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity en-kindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

From Fr. Michal:

FOCUS: Give, and gifts will be given to you.

For years, King Saul had plotted to kill David, who continually escaped Saul's attacks. Now, in today's first reading and for the second time, David finds Saul in a very vulnerable position. How easy it would be for David to do unto Saul what Saul has been trying to do unto him. He could even use Saul's own weapon against him. Yet David spares Saul's life once again.

This episode from the First Book of Samuel illustrates Jesus' teaching in today's Gospel. He speaks of enemies – and contextually this would have meant "evil persons," or anyone who opposes us in a harmful way. Though our enemies may hate, curse, or mistreat us, Jesus says, we are not to respond in kind. Rather than treating them as they treat us, Jesus says to bless and pray for them, to love and do good to them. Rather than judging and condemning, Jesus teaches us to be forgiving.

It is our hope that the hearts of our enemies are transformed by the love and kindness we share, and will come to treat us with the same love and kindness with which we treat them. Then also when we sin, they will show mercy and forgiveness in return, and not judge or condemn us. As Jesus teaches: *the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you*. What Jesus teaches is easier said than done. We all have "enemies," – in this same contextual understanding. Perhaps it is someone at work, in the neighborhood, or in our family. They have mistreated us, and our hurt, anger, or fear are real. Like David's comrade, Abishai, we may be tempted to lash out at them when given the opportunity. How can we resist?

This is our challenge: to see others as God sees them. When Abishai and David come across Saul, Abishai sees an enemy, whereas David sees God's anointed. David knows it is not for him, but for God, to judge Saul. Saul's life is ultimately in God's hands. David trusts that *the Lord will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness*. Those the disciples see as enemies and sinners, Jesus sees as worthy of goodness and love. Jesus knows that God is merciful and kind, even to *the ungrateful and the wicked*. As Jesus teaches and David sings in his psalm: *The Lord is kind and merciful ... not according to our sins does he deal with us*.

Jesus' standard applies not only to our treatment of others, but also to our treatment of ourselves. We can be our own worst enemies, denying ourselves the kindness we willingly share with others, and judging ourselves most harshly of all. We must see ourselves as God sees us – worthy of mercy and goodness like any one of his children, and allow him to love us. Ultimately, we are all in God's hands, and there is no better place to be. He pours upon us a good measure – *packed together, shaken down, and overflowing* – of redeeming grace, through the life, death, and resurrection of his Son, as celebrated in the Eucharist. United with Christ we bear his heavenly image, and that is how God will always see and judge us.