

SAINT HEDWIG'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Br. Grzegorz Loska, O.M.I., Resident Pastoral Assistant

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

35 Karol Wojtyla Square,

P.O. Box 309, Barry's Bay, Ontario K0J 1B0

OFFICE/RECTOR: 613-756-2243

Web: sainthedwigchurch.com Email: office@sainthedwigchurch.com

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.:107; 8 a.m.:126 ; 11 a.m.: 173; Total: 406

8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

March 2nd, 2025

Monday March 3	Ferial 8:00 a.m. +Peter & Victoria Yeretch & Deceased Family Members by Stanley & Anna Mary Lorbetski 4:30 p.m. Intentions of Our Lady Seat of Wisdom
Tuesday March 4	St. Casimir (Optional Memorial) 8:00 a.m. +Regnier Family by the Family
Wednesday March 5	Ash Wednesday [Lent Begins] 8:00 a.m. +Dr. Andy Chapeskie by Andrew & Lillian Maika 12:00 Noon Repose of the Soul of Tadeusz Sibiga by Kris & Agnes 6:00 p.m. + Anita McGrath by Zigmund & Jennifer Norlock
Thursday March 6	Ferial 8:00 a.m. Intentions of Paul & Immaculata Thanase by Decon Jean-Nild & Anne Chabot
1st Friday March 7	St. Perpetua and St. Felicity, Martyrs [World Day of Prayer] 8:00 a.m. +John & Stella, Larry, Dan Hudder by the Marsolais Family 12:00 noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Nocturnal Adoration 3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy 5:00 p.m. Confessions 6:00 p.m. +Bridget Gutoskie by the Sacred Heart League Followed by: The Way of the Cross
Saturday March 8	Our Lady's Saturday/St. John of God 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Confessions 9:00 a.m. Special Intentions 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. Confessions

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

March 9th, 2025

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	+Special Intention by Eddy & Eleanor Trader
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	+Ephrem, Jacob & Annie Peplinskie by Theresa Peplinskie
	11:00 a.m.	+Misa Pro Populo (for all the Parishioners)

1 st Sunday of Lent (March 9 th , 2025)	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Readers of the Word	Mary Yantha	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: \$4,016.55; Building Maintenance: \$1,531.94; Carpet: \$255.00;
Heat/Fuel: \$180.00; Various Funds: \$30.00

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, Dennis Yeretch

Just a Reminder... Please pick up your tax receipts at the back of the Church!

Ash Wednesday: There will be three Masses: 8 am, at noon and 6 pm. This is the day of fasting . One full meal and two smaller meals is appropriate. This is also day of abstinence from meat.

First Friday: This Friday is the first Friday of month. Confessions will take place at 5:00 p.m. followed the Holy Mass and Way of the Cross.

Lenten Devotions: There will be Stations of the Cross each Friday at 6.30 pm during Lent, as well as " Lenten Lamentation" " Gorzkie Żale " in Polish on Sundays after Divine Mercy Chaplet around 3.10 pm. This is very popular Lenten Devotion in Poland.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

Domestic Church Sunday Coffee: Coffee and snacks will be served in the church basement by our local Domestic Church group immediately after the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 16th. Come enjoy a hot drink and something to eat while getting to know your fellow parishioners a little better! Donations of treats welcomed if anyone wishes to bring something for sharing. **All parishioners are welcome.**

Christian Mothers: The Confraternity of Christian Mothers (and all women with motherly hearts) is meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. New members welcome. Coffee, tea and social afterwards. Date of the next meeting: March 18th.

Knights of Columbus Meeting: Our next meeting is on Wednesday, March 19th, 2024. Rosary at 7 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7:30 p.m. at St. Jerome's Meeting Room in the basement of St. Hedwig's rectory.

Another Pancake Supper: March 2nd at St. Mary's Church in Wilno 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Regular and potatoe pancakes with all the fixings. Adults \$15.00, children \$8.00.

O Quam Gloriosum: You are Invited to a Sacred Music Concert on Sunday, March 2 at 6pm in St. Hedwig's church Performed by The St. Wigbert's Scholars. Admission by Donation - Proceeds to equipment and future concerts.

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.

From Fr. Michal: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 1) Sirach 27:4-7
- 2) 1 Corinthians 15:54-58
- 3) Luke 6:39-45

The Christian faith is a carnal – embodied – one that uses our senses. We see and hear God present in the liturgy; we touch and taste the body and blood of Christ, and smell the incense present in worship. Jesus, the Son of God, was incarnated. He took on human flesh and, using its senses, saw those around him in need; he listened, spoke, and touched in order to heal. It is no accident that Jesus teaches us through attention to our humanity and how we perceive the world, for it is how he, too, engaged the world.

For example, in today's Gospel there is an interesting and somewhat paradoxical use of the metaphors of sight. First, Jesus asks if the blind can lead the blind, speaking of those who cannot see at all. But then he admonishes those *who notice the splinter in [their] brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in [their] own*. This contrast of being able to see, but yet still not being able to see, gets our attention not just for its imagery, but for its purpose. Sight, if wrongly focused, is just as much a problem as blindness in the spiritual life.

It is not just sight that can fail us, however. Presumably, those whom Jesus admonished in the Gospel for "noticing the splinter" were not so much guilty of this perception in and of itself, but because of their vocalization of it. This is the essence of hypocrisy, which involves both pride within oneself and criticism of others. As always, Jesus does not simply scold, and he does not condemn. He convicts, and offers grace, mercy, and a way forward. We are not doomed by our human nature and sin.

In the words of the prophet Sirach in our first reading, *The fruit of a tree shows the care it has had; so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind*. An arrogant heart produces a sharp tongue toward others.

Jesus explains what it looks like to bear *good fruit*. First, we must recognize our own limitations and sin, taking ownership of our wooden beams and repenting. Seeing ourselves with humility frees us to approach the brokenness of others with grace. Humility within ourselves produces words of encouragement toward others.

Second, as humility and grace abound within us, our ability to produce good fruit grows: A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good. Jesus is telling us how we can achieve what he is commanding us to do: be good, grow in goodness, produce more good – and the upward spiral of virtue continues.

We can take heart that Jesus understands us, and while he is without sin he knows the difficulties that sin causes *us*. His words, and his sight, are perfect. If we pay attention to them, and follow him as best as we can, someday ours may be too.