

december 6, 2020 second sunday of advent



st. lawrence o'toole & sacred heart parishes

Mass schedule

St. Lawrence

Saturday Vigil

5:30, 7:30 pm (Spanish)

Sunday

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish)

5:30 pm

Monday-Friday

8:30 am

Wednesday

7:00 pm

Sacred Heart

Saturday Vigil

4:00 pm

Sunday

10:30 am

St. Lawrence Cemetery

Plots and cremation niches are available for purchase.

Cemetery office 845-279-2021 x201
call to schedule an appointment.

stlawrenceotoole.org

31 Prospect Street
Brewster, NY 10509
845-279-2021

sacredheartpattersonny.org

414 Haviland Drive
Patterson, NY 12563
845-279-4832

Instagram: [stlawrenceotoole_brewsterny](https://www.instagram.com/stlawrenceotoole_brewsterny)

Facebook: St. Lawrence O'Toole
& Sacred Heart

Twitter: St. Lawrence O'Toole Church

YouTube: Saint Lawrence



Volunteering at St. Anthony of Padua in the Bronx

THE SHROUD OF TURIN

Dec 12-22, Jan 6-12 Exhibit in Gym

Dec 18 & 20 Sean Fitzgerald
Shroud of Turin Expert

the man of the shroud

The Shroud of Turin has long been venerated by the faithful and is believed by many to be the burial cloth of Jesus of Nazareth. The Shroud is one of the most scientifically studied religious icons in history. As science has progressed, so has the speculation on how the image of the crucified man of the Shroud was made.

The exhibit presents the results of a comprehensive scientific, historical and forensic study with numerous photographs and illustrations. The exhibit is the work of the Center for the Study of the Passion of Christ and the Holy Shroud and Monsignor Giulio Ricci and other scientists, who spent more than 25 years researching the Holy Shroud.

The centerpiece of the exhibit is a full-length replica of the Shroud developed from a photographic image of the Shroud made by the Eastman Kodak Co. The replica shows the front and back of the shroud. In addition, the mobile exhibit contains a large crucified corpus showing the wounds of Christ corresponding to the passion narrative in the Gospel accounts and the wounds shown on the Shroud. The exhibit contains 66 panels detailing the history and science of the Shroud.



SEAN FITZGERALD, SHROUD OF TURIN EXPERT THE SHROUD OF TURIN & THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Dec. 18 - 7pm - 8:30 pm

Dec 20 - 2 pm - 3:30 pm

GYM

Theologian Sean Fitzgerald has two Master's Degrees in Catholic Theology, as well as a Post-Master's Certificate in Shroud Studies from Rome. His presentation will cover the history and science of The Shroud, and demonstrate how the image is a valuable reflection of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Our Lord, as well as a reflection of the Gospels. Sean lives with his wife of 29 years, and 5 children, in Highland, NY.
Social distancing and face coverings are required.



December 6, 2020

while we're at it

our vision Create a parish of missionary disciples whose personal relationship with Jesus Christ inspires others into a life-changing relationship with Him.

Dear Friends,

A word of thanks is in order for the 100+ parishioners who worked on **Thanksgiving Day** for the poor, either at St. Anthony's in the Bronx feeding the homeless, or those who fed our local poor in the Brewster area. It was a beautiful demonstration of generous giving, committed service and fraternity as Christians. Thank you all – whether you could be there in person, or donated money, or contributed food and essential items. We gave upwards of \$25,000 in material assistance, but most importantly we gave them a sense that as human beings, they matter to us.

This Tuesday we celebrate the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**, a holy day of obligation. Check the schedule for Mass times here in the bulletin. Let's be sure to honor Our Lady by celebrating the day she was conceived free from original sin and God began preparing her to be the Mother of the Redeemer.

Work is coming along nicely on the projects for the **Parish Improvement Program** at Sacred Heart – the fundraising is getting closer to the goal of \$135,000. Already we have work going on repairing the gutters at the Parish Center. By spring we hope to have several of the projects coming along. I encourage everyone to make a pledge to keep Sacred Heart Strong!

Monday night, December 7 we launch the new **Brewster Cares** emergency shelter program for the homeless in our area. The former non-profit went out of business leaving a void for the dozens of homeless persons living in the woods around the reservoirs. So St. Lawrence and Sacred Heart took up the call to serve the poor. Pray for its success. If you can help by volunteering or financially, we would be so grateful. To give or to help <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/BCShelterGive> or <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/BCShelterHelp>.

Every December we send a special appeal for a Christmas gift to the parish – this fundraiser makes up a significant part of our annual budget and allows us to keep expanding our ministries to educate our young people in the faith, to offer our adult faith formation programs and our outreach to the poor. Please consider a special Christmas gift this year.

God bless,

Fr. Richard Gill

NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER

Dec 8, 7:30 pm to
Dec 9, 8:30 am

stlawrenceotoole.org/NightOfPrayer

TODAY, MORE THAN EVER, WE NEED TO PRAY FOR LIFE.

Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Lawrence O'Toole Church from 7:30 pm Tues, Dec 8 to 8:30 am, Dec 9. We will be united with parishes across the country in prayer to end abortion and all offenses against the dignity of the human person, to make reparation for those sins, and healing of those who are suffering.



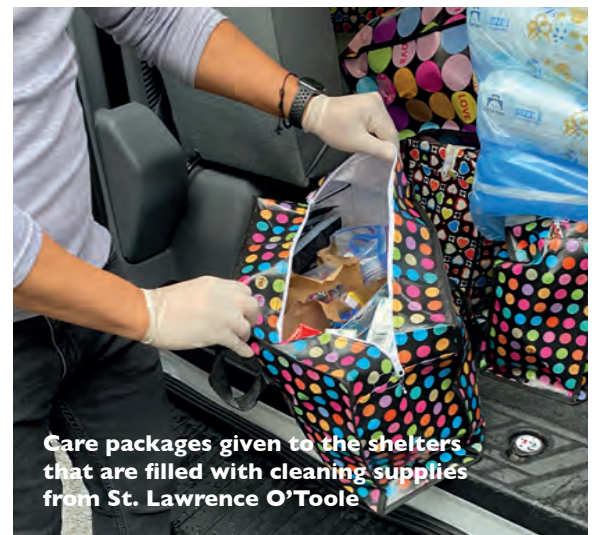
Packaging up Thanksgiving meals at St. Lawrence O'Toole



St. Anthony of Padua packing up meals



Preparing meals for those who are homebound in our area



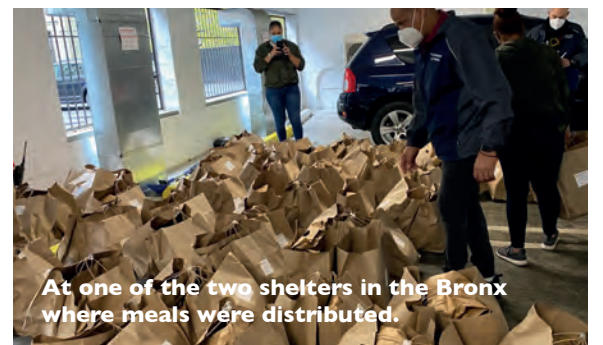
Care packages given to the shelters that are filled with cleaning supplies from St. Lawrence O'Toole



Preparing meals for shelters at St. Anthony of Padua



Packaging up the meals at St. Anthony of Padua



At one of the two shelters in the Bronx where meals were distributed.



Our St. Lawrence and Sacred Heart volunteers at St. Anthony of Padua on Thanksgiving

thanksgiving here and in the bronx

The enormous outpouring of money, food, and supplies from our generous parishioners filled the beds and back seats of five pickup trucks and the caravan made its first run on Tuesday night. We helped other St. Lawrence and St. Anthony parishioners unload the supplies desperately needed for their local food bank. We also delivered the 500 packs of cleaning supplies for homeless families that had been compiled in our gym by other volunteers the previous Sunday.

Serving in the Bronx

JUDY CALLAHAN

On Thanksgiving Day, I had the privilege of accompanying about 50 other parishioners and Fr. Gill to our sister parish in the Bronx, St. Anthony of Padua. Thinking I knew what to expect since we were going to help with packaging meals for the homeless and homebound, the experience proved to be so much more than just that. The organization of this undertaking clearly showed that this was not the first time these folks had done something of this nature. All the supplies were ready for the dozens and dozens of St. Anthony parishioners who worked in shifts: through the night to cook the meals for more than 600 people, in the morning to package the meals, in the afternoon to deliver the meals and finally a crew that stayed behind to do the clean-up. That alone was impressive, but it was by no means the highlight of the day.

I met a lovely woman there named Josie who told me it was “all for the glory of God”. Those weren’t just words, they were backed by the dedication of everyone there. You felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in the room and knew that these people believed with all their heart and soul. Once everything was packed and ready to go, Fr. Gill officiated at a Mass in their beautiful church. You could feel faith alive in that church, in those people, in their prayers and in their singing. St. Anthony’s is a poor parish by financial standards, but they are very rich in faith and works. We witnessed their annual Thanksgiving Day tradition of presenting gifts of food during the offertory (instead of taking up a collection). People lined up to offer their gifts individually, generously giving of what they had. It struck me that the less people had, the more willingly they gave. Am I that willing to give?

Sometimes, a word or two from someone touches us. Sometimes, it’s not even a word but a kind gesture or action. This day it was all those things. I think there was an important lesson to be learned from our brothers and sisters at St. Anthony’s, and that lesson was one more thing to be thankful for this Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving for our local Homebound

ALAN PATRIE, PEG SMITH & CATHY QUARANTA

Here at St Lawrence over 50 volunteers helped in preparing, cooking, baking, packaging and delivering. The volunteers practiced social distancing and wore masks. Our drivers picked up the meals at curbside in front of the Parish Center and more than two hundred meals were delivered on Thanksgiving to the Brewster, Carmel, Patterson and Mahopac areas.



guidance on Covid vaccine

FR. RICHARD GILL

Fr. Tom Berg is a moral theologian and specialist in bioethical issues. I asked him whether we should be concerned about any ethical issues involved in taking the Coronavirus vaccines. His judgment and that of most Catholic moral theologians is that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are not morally problematic.

“The rapid development of Covid vaccines raises the perennial question of whether it is acceptable to receive vaccines that, in their production, have relied to some degree on human cells historically derived from aborted fetuses.

These cell lines were derived many years ago from post-abortion fetal tissue. Examples: HEK-293, MRC-5 and WR-38 were generated from abortions that occurred in the 1960s and 1970s. HEK cells, for example, are kidney cells from the aborted fetus. They are routinely used in research today--almost without thought.

With regard to the two leading candidate vaccines (one produced by Pfizer, the other by Moderna), there is much good news. Given the technology used, there is no need for a culture medium, no need for live cell cultures, etc.

Instead of using live or diminished Covid virus to generate an immune response, these vaccines rely on coronavirus outer spike proteins, which are what antibodies use to recognize the virus. Researchers use the genetic code that coronavirus uses to produce spike proteins. They employ molecules called RNA to transport this synthetically made genetic information into our cells. When injected into a patient, the RNA enters healthy cells where it helps orchestrate the production of coronavirus spike proteins. Once in the system, this prompts the body to create antibodies. This same technology is currently used in cancer therapy to genetically target specific cancers. There is no use of any fetal tissue in the actual process or production of the vaccine itself.”

The bottom line is Catholics should feel it is morally right to take the vaccine when it becomes available.

Due to Covid-19 challenges, instead of setting up a Giving Tree in the entrance of the church, St Lawrence and Sacred Heart parishes will assist the Sisters of Life help women in crisis pregnancies by utilizing an Amazon Gift Registry.

It's easy!
Your gift will ship directly to the Sisters of Life by shopping from the registry using the link or QR scanning code below.

The Sisters of Life are so grateful for our generous participation in their Christmas gift collections each year. So many families benefit from our contributions!

SISTERS OF LIFE VISITATION MISSION

ACCEPTING DONATIONS THROUGH
DECEMBER 14, 2020

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[SISTERSOFLIFE.ORG/REGISTRY](https://sistersoflife.org/registry)

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the way

LYNDA HOLLER DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP



Series 2: Obedience #3 – The Cookie Jar
My parents were loving and patient, so a rare memory of my father's anger remains vivid: My mother had told me that I couldn't have a cookie. Without her knowing, I asked Dad and he approved. Perfect! I got permission and the cookie! Then they talked... Dad made it clear that his permission didn't justify disobeying Mom; I was punished.

I think the cookie jar analogy is perfect in reflecting on obedience to God. We often seem to think that as long as we can get what we want without getting caught, it is okay, even though it means disobedience. We may convince ourselves that God doesn't know or care that we are taking forbidden cookies because we do not see his response or receive an immediate punishment.

Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit, thinking God wouldn't know, models the serious ramifications of disobedience. Along with losing their beautiful home and intimate relationship with God, they also lost their innocence. By eating from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, they came to truly learn what evil was and its painful contrast to good. God had hoped to protect them from that.

The same thing happens when we sin, right? Teenagers that defy their parents' rules and associate with forbidden people and activities lose innocence that they can never regain. The same with adults that partake in sexual and moral sins; they can never return to their previous innocence. All sin separates us from God, little by little.

As disciples, we must acknowledge that we sin and humbly turn to God in Confession. He clearly knows our every action, punishment is inevitable, unless we turn to Him first. He has promised that through the Sacrament of Reconciliation our sins are both forgiven and forgotten. Let us earnestly trust Him and chose The Way of obedience and reconciliation.

Scripture: Read 1 John 2:3. (The first book of John, not the Gospel of John.) What is it saying to you?

Call to Action: St. Lawrence O'Toole offers Confession every Monday, 4-7:00 PM. Allow Jesus to remove your burden of sin.

order your crèche

Made from PVC material and crafted by the Knights of Columbus. Lawn tie downs included. Free delivery in Brewster/Southeast. Price: \$70. To order contact Bruce Colombraro-845-279-6461 or Andrew Simmons 203-241-3746.

Checks payable to St. Lawrence Council #1495, Mail to St. Lawrence Council #1495, PO Box 268, Brewster, NY 10509.

a night out on the knights

Tickets for the new '20-'21 program are now on sale. Contact Tom Radak at 845-279-7934 or any Knight of Columbus.

magnificat companions

The Catholic Daughters at St. Lawrence are selling Magnificat Companions. In addition to the Advent 2020 and Lenten 2021 (\$4 each or the set for \$6) we have the The Magnificat Adoration Companion (\$6 each). Contact Donna Iazzetti at diazzett@gmail.com or on 845-803-6367.

formed.org

You can sign up to formed.org by going to stlawrenceofoole.formed.org. There is all sorts of Catholic content from movies, faith programs and more.



surviving the holidays

JENNIFER LOGAN

The holidays can be a challenging time for those who are grieving. The thought of celebrating without our loved ones can be emotionally overwhelming. Thankfully, we don't have to face the holiday season alone.

On November 15th, St. Lawrence's Bereavement Ministry hosted its third annual "Surviving the Holidays" event, a GriefShare seminar focused on practical survival tips and perspectives of those who have navigated the holidays without their loved ones. The large conference room was festooned with flowers, pumpkins and cheerful fall decorations, and participants took home fall-themed gifts and treats.

Despite a power outage that threatened to derail the evening, the night was deemed a success by all. In-person participants watched the planned video on a battery-powered laptop, and Zoom participants watched online. Just as the candles were found, power was restored. After the video, participants discussed in groups their feelings about the upcoming holidays. Some suggested honoring their loved ones by lighting a candle. Others discussed creating new traditions instead of focusing on traditions they have lost. Most importantly, we learned that it is possible to enjoy the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons again.

St. Lawrence O'Toole's **From Mourning to Joy** Bereavement program is a 13-week grief support group that meets year-round every Tuesday from 7-9pm in the New York Room and on Zoom. Anyone interested is welcome to join at any time during the program, and as often as they need. Personally, I have been attending GriefShare meetings since losing my mother in October of 2019 and am so grateful for the fellowship I've found. These meetings allow me to grieve my mother with others who truly understand the pain and challenges of deep, life-altering loss. I have benefited so much from the wisdom of those in the Bereavement Ministry that I have joined the team myself and am co-facilitating the current program. We hope you will join us. Email us at slotbereavement@gmail.com with questions.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

CHRISTMAS market

FREE ADMISSION

DEC 6
8 AM-2 PM

come find unique gifts for everyone on your list

mass intentions

Saturday, December 5

4:00PM *Sacred Heart* John Kawulicz
5:30PM Jesse McTiernan
7:30 PM Spanish

Sunday, December 6

8:00AM Joseph Pontonio
9:30AM Madeline Crusco
10:30AM *Sacred Heart* Deceased of
The DiSarro Family
11:00AM McCluskey & Ebert Families
12:30 PM Intentions of the Shkreli Family
5:30 PM Harvey & Teresa Barnes

Monday, December 7

8:30AM Quinlan & Calise Families
6:30PM Paul Pember
7:30PM Spanish

Tuesday, December 8

8:30AM Emma & Bob Yates
12:00PM Antoinette Carolla
6:00PM *Sacred Heart* Patrick Harley
6:30PM Andrew McCarthy

Wednesday, December 9

8:30AM Victor Conforti
7:00 PM Sarah Huerstel

Thursday, December 10

8:30AM Phil Hessler

Friday, December 11

8:30AM Souls of St. Lawrence
O'Toole Cemetery

Saturday, December 12

4:00PM *Sacred Heart* Gladys O'Connor
5:30PM Michael Bozza
7:30 PM Spanish

Sunday, December 13

8:00AM Francis Joseph Hogan
9:30AM Robert Rocco Russo
10:30AM *Sacred Heart* Ralph Byrne
11:00AM Gregory Taylor
12:30 PM Elaine Healy
5:30 PM Connie Wetzel

pray for

Please remember our brothers and sisters in the Lord who have asked for prayers:

Kaitlyn King ◦ Mary McMahon ◦ Joseph P. Massimo ◦ Michael Brady ◦ Betty Lou Lawlor ◦ Maryann & Jackie Civita ◦ Carol Garcia ◦ Laura Faul ◦ John Donovan ◦ Hailey ◦ Bonnie Grant ◦ Andy Morehead ◦ Robert Sarlo ◦ Larry Tobin ◦ Michael Taylor ◦ John Curra ◦ Angie Salas ◦ Patrick Joyce ◦ Dawn Sarlo ◦ Amy Lauro ◦ Mary Kay Newman ◦ Patricia Lichtenberger ◦ Judy Bruen ◦ Henry Joyce ◦ Kayla Pinzur

Names will remain on the Prayer List for 90 days and then will be transferred to the prayer list in the Adoration Chapel. To add names to or remove names from the Prayer List, please email: SLOT.SH.Office@gmail.com

SILENT BAZAAR WINNER IS
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dedications

The **Tabernacle candle** at **Sacred Heart** is dedicated to **James & John Kawulicz**

The **Tabernacle candle** at **St. Lawrence** is dedicated to **Terence McConnell** at the request of the Tolan Family

The **Blessed Virgin Mary** at **St. Lawrence** is dedicated to **Intentions of the Secular Carmelites Community**

immaculate conception

Monday, December 7

6:30 pm Fr. Gill
7:30 pm Fr. Gill (Spanish)

Tuesday, December 8

8:30 am Fr. Heim
12:00 pm Fr. Berg
6:00 pm Fr. Meccia (Sacred Heart)
6:30 pm Fr. Gill



st. lawrence parish support

Weekend of
November 22 In Pew Collection \$ 5,769.00
 October *WeShare* weekly \$ 6,437.82
Total \$ 12,206.82

November 29 In Pew Collection \$ 6,076.50
 October *WeShare* weekly \$ 6,437.82
Total \$ 12,514.32

sacred heart parish support

Weekend of
November 22 In Pew Collection \$ 1,699.00
 October *WeShare* weekly \$ 556.50
Total \$ 2,255.50

November 29 In Pew Collection \$ 1,536.72
 October *WeShare* weekly \$ 556.50
Total \$ 2,093.22

sacred heart parish improvement program

29 gifts: \$117,500 Average gift: \$4,052
 Remainder to goal: \$17,500

Note: Regardless of whether you attend St. Lawrence or Sacred Heart, for convenience on a particular weekend, be assured your collection envelopes will be returned to the parish in which you are registered.

parish staff

- Rev. Richard Gill.....Pastor
- Rev. Thomas Berg.....Weekend Associate
- Mark Shkreli.....Deacon
- Julie Noce.....Pastoral Assistant
- Maureen Herbstritt.....Business Manager
- Lynda Holler.....Director of Discipleship
- Sally Silvestro.....Director of Communication
- Cecilia Britez...Director of Evangelization and Family Program
- Peter RyanDirector of Music
- Theresa Scorca.....Coord. of Religious Education
- Clara Segreti.....Family Program Assistant
- Janine Kristensen.....Family Program Coordinator Support
- Kim Santerre.....Director of Early Childhood Learning Center
- Irene Westin.....Adult Sacramental Administrator
- Eileen Stokes.....Cemetery Administrator

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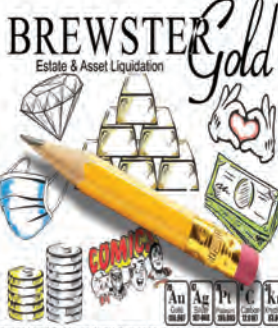
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