



# st. lawrence o'toole & sacred heart parishes

### Mass schedule

**St. Lawrence**  
**Saturday Vigil**  
 5:00, 7:30 pm (Spanish)  
**Sunday**  
 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish)  
 5:30 pm  
**Monday-Friday**  
 8:30 am  
**Rosary**  
 7:45 am M-F  
 6:30 pm Monday  
 8:30 am Saturday  
**Confessions**  
 4:00 pm- 7:00 pm M & F

### Sacred Heart

**Sunday**  
 10:30 am  
**Daily Rosary**  
 9:00 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](http://stlawrenceotoole.org)  
 31 Prospect Street  
 Brewster, NY 10509  
 845-279-2021

[sacredheartpattersonny.org](http://sacredheartpattersonny.org)  
 414 Haviland Drive  
 Patterson, NY 12563  
 845-279-4832

**Instagram:** stlawrenceotoole\_brewsterny  
 sacredheartchurch\_pattersonny

**Facebook:** St. Lawrence O'Toole & Sacred Heart

**Twitter:** St. Lawrence O'Toole Church

**YouTube:** Saint Lawrence





YOUR INVITED TO  
**cheer in the  
NEW YEAR!**

YOUNG ADULTS  
AGES 21-35



You're Invited!  
**TO A HOPPY NEW  
YEAR'S EVE**

December 29th • 7:00 PM

**Quirk Works Brewing & Blendery**  
78 Triangle St., Suite 2, Danbury, CT 06810

Bring your brain power for trivia.  
Grab some grub from the food truck, and keep  
warm at the fire pit. The first 40 people to  
register will get their first beer for free!  
Don't miss out on this opportunity  
to start the new year with new friends.

**REGISTER TODAY!  
SCAN QR CODE**

YOU'RE INVITED!  
**COUNTDOWN TO  
NOON YEARS!**

December 31 •

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

St. Lawrence O'Toole • 31 Prospect St,  
Brewster, NY 10509

**A FAMILY FUN NEW YEAR'S  
EVE CELEBRATION!**

Families can enjoy tons of fun activities including  
a balloon drop at noon with an apple juice toast.  
Enjoy crafts, trivia, cornhole tournament,  
games, DJ, and photo booth.

Mark your calendar!

**REGISTER TODAY! SCAN QR CODE**

**family fun  
New Year's Eve**





December 25, 2022

## while we're at it

Dear Friends,

Blessed Christmas to all of you – long-time parishioners, newbies, visitors, and those just exploring and maybe looking for a place to land: welcome to St. Lawrence and Sacred Heart.

Here we believe that the parish should be a place where people discover who Jesus is, and are drawn into a deep relationship with him. We try to keep Jesus front and center in all we do, because he is the “**Way, the Truth, and the Life**” and only through him do we truly discover who we are and why we are in this world. It is Jesus who unlocks the mystery of the human person for us and teaches us all the potential we have as redeemed persons and children of God our Father.

Here we connect with people wherever they are in their relationship with God – whether they are cradle Catholics and always practiced, those who have drifted away, and those who never knew what it means to have faith in a God who becomes one of us and lives among us to save us. We try to help people become aware that God created them with a loving plan and is always seeking us out, always forgiving, and always faithful to us.

Here we help build people up to live a life of faith in Jesus who loves every one of us and wants us to enjoy eternal happiness with him. We were created for that, and for nothing less than that. The only real tragedy in life is to have never discovered the love of God and the purpose for which he made us.

May this Christmas season bring you to know this Son of God who enters our world to bring us his love and his peace.

God bless,

Fr. Richard Gill



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





## BECOMING CATHOLIC OR RETURNING CATHOLICS

Classes run  
January 15 to April 2, 2023  
New York Room • 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Reception of sacraments on  
the Easter Vigil April 8, 2023

For more information  
Contact 845-279-2021

**ONE DAY RETREAT**  
SATURDAY: IN-PERSON  
Jan 14  
8:30 am – 4:00 pm  
DINING HALL



Who Do You Say  
*that* I AM?

The Great Story of Jesus  
*in nine acts*

REGISTER:  
[stlawrenceotoole.org/AllDayRetreat\\_Jesus](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/AllDayRetreat_Jesus)  
FEE: \$30



## SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD MASS TIMES AND CONFESSIONS

### NEW YEAR'S EVE MASSES

Saturday, December 31  
ST. LAWRENCE  
5:00 pm, 7:30 pm Spanish

### NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Sunday, January 1  
ST. LAWRENCE  
8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am,  
12:30 pm Spanish, 5:30 pm  
SACRED HEART  
10:30 am



# winter faith formation 2023



**THE BIBLE AND THE VIRGIN MARY**  
THURSDAYS: IN-PERSON  
Jan 12 – Feb 16  
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM



We can't fully understand Christ, without understanding Mary. Following the authors of Scripture and the Fathers of the Church, **The Bible and the Virgin Mary** examines the role of Mary in Salvation History. Join us to gain a fuller understanding of her role in our life and how she longs to lead us to her Son.

**REGISTER:** [stlawrenceotoole.org/BibleandVirgin](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/BibleandVirgin)  
**FEE:** \$25

**GAINING CONTROL OF YOUR MONEY**  
WEDNESDAYS: IN-PERSON  
Jan 11 – Feb 15  
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
NEW YORK ROOM



Learn how to save, reduce debt, and achieve your financial dreams in this 6-week immersive class that gives you practical, easy to-use, biblically compatible tools and ideas to get the most of your income for immediate peace of mind, and future wealth. In addition to the 6 group sessions, the program includes a personalized consultation with the financial expert.

**REGISTER:** [stlawrenceotoole.org/GainControl](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/GainControl)  
**FEE:** \$50



**WOMEN'S GIFT**  
(GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER)  
**WINTER BOOK DISCUSSION**  
**AT HOME IN MITFORD** BY JAN KARON  
Jan 10, and 17  
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM



Episcopalian, Father Tim, a cherished small-town rector, is the steadfast soldier in this beloved slice-of-American-life story. The rector's forthright secretary worries about her employer, as she sees past his Christian cheerfulness, ministering to his diverse flock, into his aching loneliness. This homespun tale provides great food for discussion, so read the book and join us for this 2-evening discussion program.

**REGISTER:** [stlawrenceotoole.org/GIFT\\_BookClub](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/GIFT_BookClub)  
**Purchase a book on your own**

**FROM MOURNING TO JOY BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM**  
SATURDAYS: IN-PERSON  
Jan 7 - ongoing  
9:00 am – 11:00 am  
BOARD ROOM



Our Christian faith is the very key to healing after the death of a loved one and it is vital to living a life filled with promise, peace, and joy. St. Lawrence O'Toole's Bereavement Ministry meets weekly to help you work through your loss with group support and the GriefShare program. Practical strategies will help you move through the grief process with the goal of rebuilding your life while experiencing significant healing and growth in faith.

**REGISTER:** [stlawrenceotoole.org/GriefShare](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/GriefShare)  
**FEE:** \$20



# MARCH FOR LIFE

Jan 20, 2023

ST. LAWRENCE & SACRED HEART



## march for life schedule

JOIN US ON FRIDAY, JAN. 20, 2022

- 3:30 am Coach Bus Leaves Brewster, NY to Washington DC
- 10:30 am Cardinal Dolan Mass for the NY Pilgrims
- 1:00 pm March up Constitution Avenue to Capitol Building
- 3:00 pm Finish marching
- 3:30 pm Bus back to Brewster, NY
- 9:10 pm Arrive at St. Lawrence O'Toole

Sign up today

[stlawrenceotoole.org/MarchForLifeBus](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/MarchForLifeBus)

For more information contact Maureen at 845-279-2021

Reserve Your Seat: \$45



St. Lawrence O'Toole Alpha

## join the conversation. alpha!

### RITA GIANFRANCESCO

Whether you are searching for a newfound relationship with God or you are looking to rekindle the faith which you were baptized into, Alpha is a wonderful place to begin or continue that most precious bond with our Lord. For me, Alpha sparked the continuation of my own individual quest of spiritual growth. It reignited the spark of my journey home to God and I hope that it proves true for all those willing to embark on theirs.

### SULI RICHARDSON

Attending Alpha for the first time, I wasn't sure what to expect. I didn't know anything about Alpha other than there would be people and conversation about the Lord. Alpha has given me the opportunity to meet new people and I have enjoyed getting to know some of them.

### JOE BIRD

Alpha taught me how to pray again - for myself, for the people I love, and for humanity. Alpha renewed my optimism for the world by reminding me that all is happening under God's watchful eye, and his plan is magnificent. Finally, Alpha reinvigorated my love of community by bringing people of very different backgrounds together in a safe and open environment where we were able to have a free exchange of ideas devoid of judgment and ridicule.

### GINA TRONGONE

Recently, I returned to my Catholic faith at St. Lawrence O'Toole parish. The Alpha program has brought me closer to my faith as well as a stronger connection to God. The program is comforting and gives the opportunity to meet new people, listen to feedback, and share with one another. I have looked forward to going every week!



Sacred Heart Alpha

### PAT MAZZEI

Alpha, for me, was about open conversation regarding our personal faith and Jesus. It was very inspirational. We shared dinner, talking with kind caring people. There was no judgment, and everyone felt accepted.

### NINA ECKWERTH

Not only did I enjoy the good food from a local restaurant in our weekly Alphas, but I enjoyed the videos, meeting nice people from the community, and Tina's jokes. Some Thursdays, after a very long and tiring day, I didn't feel like going, but the Holy Spirit would encourage me, so I just went. I discovered that the Holy Spirit is in all of us, we just need to listen to Him. Through programs like Alpha, my faith gets stronger and it brings me closer to Jesus.

**Join our next Alpha!** Grow deeper in your faith for Lent!  
**Begins Ash Wednesday, Feb 22**  
 7:00 pm -9:00 pm, St. Lawrence O'Toole Dining Hall  
 Free  
**Register: [BrewsterAlpha.com](http://BrewsterAlpha.com)**



## pray for

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

Marilyn Ortiz ◦ Amy Neary ◦ Genevieve Gallagher ◦ Carmen Sidari ◦ Carol Ann Vaccarelli ◦ Thomas Joseph Kelleher ◦ Hilton Perez ◦ Silverio Calisi ◦ John F. Noone ◦ Nancy Streiton ◦ Stephan Martin ◦ Richard & Margarete Alexander ◦ Megan Gersh ◦ Joe Turturro ◦ Mark Shisler ◦ AJ Cuccio ◦ Joyce Bothe ◦ Sandy Kawecki ◦ Christine Cunningham ◦ Nick Vaccarelli ◦ Patsy Wanstedt ◦ Thomas Williams ◦ Lisa Moore ◦ Tommy O'Brian ◦ Amy Neary ◦ Mary Patricia ◦ Denise (Dee) Vanaria ◦ Anthony Zeoli ◦ Celia Martin ◦ Garry Oakes ◦ Robbie Shisler ◦ Monica Rolston ◦ Edna O'Hanlon

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](mailto:SLOT.SH.Office@gmail.com)

## dedications

### St. Lawrence O'Toole

The **Pascal Candle** is dedicated for **Mary Ortiz**

The **Blessed Mother Candle** is dedicated for **Michael Keegan** at the request of Geraldine Keegan

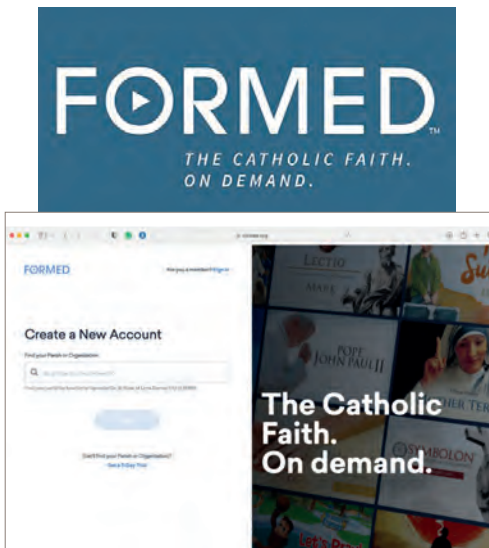
The **Tabernacle Candle** is dedicated for **Michaelina Cilenti**

## watch formed

Go to: <https://www.formed.org>

To sign on, choose **SIGN UP as a Parishioner** and put in **10509** zip code.

Then choose **St. Lawrence O'Toole** and create your own account so you can watch all sorts of wonderful Catholic videos on demand.



## rectory closed

The rectory is closed December 26 and January 2

## mass intentions

### Saturday, December 24

4:00PM Mary B. Kearns  
4:00AM *Sacred Heart* Denis & Gladys O'Connor Family  
5:30 PM Mary Kelly  
7:30PM Spanish  
10:00 PM Intentions of Jeff & Allison Eggelton

### Sunday, December 25

8:00AM Bill Henry  
9:30AM Bisogno Family  
10:30AM *Sacred Heart* Judy McDermott  
11:00AM Giovanni Malandrucolo  
12:30 PM Spanish

### Monday, December 26

8:30AM Anita Noce

### Tuesday, December 27

8:30AM Blanca Gomez

### Wednesday, December 28

8:30AM Blanca Gomez

### Thursday, December 29

8:30AM A. Lamorte Family

### Friday, December 30

8:30AM Bill Henry Jr.

### Saturday, December 31

5:00 PM John Harley  
7:30PM Spanish

### Sunday, January 1

8:00AM Louise & John A Cordil  
9:30AM Joellen Bukovsqui  
10:30AM *Sacred Heart* Christian Schlachter  
11:00AM Pat Quinlan & family members  
12:30PM Spanish-Efrain Javier Posadas  
5:30PM Pat Quinlan & family members

## the manger facilitated a metaphor

Newborn Jesus, the Bread of Life, lay in a feeding trough in the little town of Bethlehem, which means "the house of bread" in Hebrew.

**No other food has the power to give us everlasting life.**  
- John 6:51

**No other nourishment can yield lasting joy.**  
- Jeremiah 15:16







LYNDA HOLLER  
DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

**THE STORIES WE TELL**

Gathering at Christmas, we love to remember the family members who have shaped our lives. We tell stories: touching ones, funny ones, sad ones. The outrageous stories are repeated year after year and no one grows tired of them – children beg to hear them again and again, and the adults are happy to comply. What we can fail to understand is that Our Story is much bigger than the escapades of our parents and grandparents. We are characters in God’s Story of Salvation and all that have gone before us are part of our story too.

Matt Maher has a beautiful new song that reminds us of the epic picture; it is entitled, *The Stories I Tell Myself*. He writes: “When I think of Abraham, counting the stars up in the sky,

when I think of Jacob, fighting an angel for his life, when I think of Joshua walking around the walls until they fell, these are the stories I tell myself.” Those Old Testament stories are amazing, and it can appear that those people were extraordinary, but they weren’t. They were ordinary people like you and me that were born into that time and place for a particular reason.

A good author never writes unnecessary characters into his stories; God is the greatest of authors, and you were created to fill an important need in this time and place.

The climax of the story has passed: Jesus, the Son of God, was born to a woman on Christmas Day, lived 33 years as a human man, healed the sick, expelled demons, taught about the Kingdom of God, and started the Church. During the two thousand years before Jesus’ birth, people like Abraham, Jacob, Joshua, and millions of quiet, unknown, faithful people fulfilled their roles of waiting and pointing to the Messiah. We fall in the conclusion part of the story, between Jesus’ first and second coming. When the end of the world comes, the final book will be published, and we will have all eternity to read the captivating story, to pour over the riveting chapters, including our own contributions. We all will be in there, in glory or in shame. Have you followed or challenged God’s instructions? How do you want your story to be told?

**Scripture:** Read Genesis 15:5-6. What stands out?

**Call to Action:** Listen to Matt Maher’s song, *The Stories I Tell Myself* on your streaming service or YouTube and invite the Old and New Testament fathers and mothers into your story.

**parish support**

**st. lawrence parish support**

**Weekend of December 18**

In Pew Collection	\$	7,099.33
November <i>WeShare</i> weekly	\$	7,199.94
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>14,299.27</b>

**sacred heart parish support**

**Weekend of December 18**

In Pew Collection	\$	1,253.00
November <i>WeShare</i> weekly	\$	482.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,735.55</b>

**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
- Fr. Jim Lynch, MM.....Weekend Associate
- Julie Noce.....Pastoral Assistant
- Maureen Herbstritt.....Business Manager
- Lynda Holler.....Director of Discipleship
- Sally Silvestro..... Director of Communication
- Beatrice Jacobsen.....Director of Evangelization
- Cecilia Britez.....Director of the Family Program
- Dominick Russo.....Youth Minister
- Kim Santerre.....Director of Early Childhood Learning Center
- Denise Bassett.....Director of Music
- Melody Salas-Curra .....Sacred Heart Director of Music
- Gabriela Ramirez.....Office Assistant
- Savannah DeFelice.....Family Life Coordinator
- Janine Kristensen.....Administrator
- Karen DiTaranto .....Database Administrator
- Clara Segreti.....Early Childhood Assistant
- Eileen Stokes.....Cemetery Administrator
- Tom Healy.....Parish Trustee
- Joe Massimo.....Parish Trustee

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