



august 20, 2023 twentieth sunday in ordinary time

## 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 on Zoom

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](https://www.instagram.com/stlawrenceotoole_brewsterny)  
[sacredheartchurch\\_pattersonny](https://www.instagram.com/sacredheartchurch_pattersonny)

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

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

**YouTube:** Saint Lawrence



OUR BISHOPS TELL  
OF THEIR LOVE FOR THE EUCHARIST

# SHEPHERDS speak



**TUESDAY  
SEPT 19**

**7:00 PM**

**BISHOP ED WHALEN**



## EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL HOLY HOURS

Tuesday, Oct 31  
**BISHOP ESPAILLAT**

Monday, Nov. 27  
**BISHOP BYRNE**

Monday, Dec. 11  
**BISHOP BONNICI**

Thursday, Jan 18  
**BISHOP COLACICCO**

Thursday, March 7  
**CARDINAL DOLAN**

7:00 pm Worship Music

7:10 pm Spiritual Talk bishops  
of the Archdiocese of New York

7:30 pm Exposition & Praise and Worship music

8:15 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction



**st lawrence o'toole  
sacred heart**



August 20, 2023

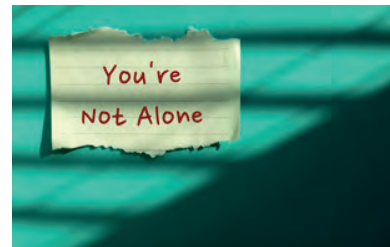
# while we're at it

Dear Friends,

We don't normally worry about suicide unless we have had the tragic experience of a friend or a loved one who has been a victim. But an article I read made me start to wonder about it. It seems that the suicide rate rose 5% last year and there were nearly 50,000 in this country. I was shocked at the numbers, and it seems like it is at epidemic proportions... after all, that is nearly the number of losses we had in the ten years of the Vietnam War – in just 2022!

On top of that number, we also had 109,000 deaths attributed to all sorts of drug overdoses, an 18% increase over the year before. That's more people than who live in Brewster and Danbury combined!

Those all are preventable deaths. Why do so many in our society see life as such a burden and look to escape it somehow? What leads to such deep and widespread depression that people look for relief in these frightening and irreversible ways?



There are so many reasons, I suppose. Severe depression, lack of good understanding of and treatment for mental health issues, the powerful addictive tendencies of drugs like fentanyl or meth...

But from my point of view at least, there is something even more fundamental. Once we had a culture that had a sense of what life was about, a direction to things, a meaning to the world we inhabit. We knew we were creatures made in the image and likeness of a good God. And that we each had a purpose because that God freely chose to call each of us into being – not as some kind of evolutionary accident – but as persons willed by God into existence with a purpose. And that ultimately our lives had meaning in the plan he set for us – and that would bring us to eternal life and happiness with him.

We believe in that as Catholics, but the wider society really doesn't believe that our lives have any transcendent meaning. To most, we're just making our way through several decades of existence, with no real point to it all. We get a job and form a family, keep ourselves busy and distracted. Not much hope in that picture of the human person.

But everything changes, and starts to take on meaning if we truly are made "in the image and likeness of God", and if "God so loved the world that he sent his only Son so that the world might not perish but have eternal life". We've got to get people to see life that way once again.

God bless,

Fr. Richard

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

# faith formation

## WOMEN'S GIFT BOOK CLUB

*Convicted by Mercy,  
The Journey of Frank Simmonds  
from the Streets to Sanctity*

by Rita A. Simmonds

THURSDAY

August 24

PIETA COURTYARD/LARGE CON-  
FERENCE ROOM

Bring your own lawn chair.

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm



This riveting book tells the true story of a saint. A saint who was a crack addict, who once lived in a cardboard shack on the roughest streets of New York City, and who on one cold night told God that he would serve him for the rest of his life, and who was able to make good on that promise in the most extraordinary of ways.

**REGISTER:** [stlawrenceotoole.org/WGift](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/WGift)

**FEE:** Book must be purchased in advance by the participant



## From Mourning to Joy Bereavement Program

Saturdays, 9:00 am – 11:00 am

PARISH CENTER, BOARDROOM

For information email: [slotbereavement@gmail.com](mailto:slotbereavement@gmail.com)

or call Pura Melendez 914-672-5186

### Session 5, Aug26th - Grief and Your Relationships

- How spending alone time helps.
- Trying to maintain relationships with friends and family/challenges.
- Forgiving those who offend **us**.

**Scripture: Luke 6:28b, 36**

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Pray for those who hurt you.

## Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord...

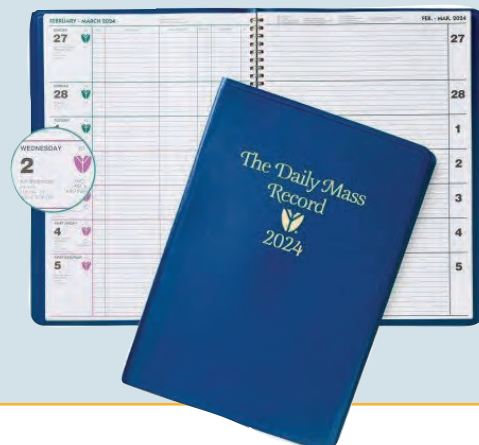
**NEW SECTION** opening soon at the cemetery with 800 new single and double depth graves. In-ground and Columbarium interment of ashes also available.

Contact the Cemetery Office at  
845-279-2021 x201 for more information

**ST. LAWRENCE CEMETERY**  
20 Turk Hill Road Brewster, NY 10509



## The 2024 Mass Intentions Book opens for St Lawrence & Sacred Heart 9:00 am-4:00 pm Friday, Sept 8 St Lawrence O'Toole RECTORY



# JESUS

# *fest*



st lawrence o'toole  
sacred heart



## OUTDOORS UNDER THE BIG TENT!

- ✦ Eucharistic Adoration
- ✦ Inspirational Speakers
- ✦ Live Music
- ✦ Healing Prayer
- ✦ Intercessory Prayer Candles
- ✦ Eucharistic Miracle Exhibit
- ✦ Prayer Garden
- ✦ Confession available
- ✦ Family Games and Activities
- ✦ Food



# SEPT 16 & 17

31 Prospect Street, Brewster, NY 10509



## 20-yr-old's reunion with birth mom has surprising twist

URŠKA KOLENC | ALETEIA.ORG

Holly Shearer from Utah had made what she now calls the most difficult decision of her life. When she was 15 years old, she decided to give her yet unborn child up for adoption.

Being in her sixth month, she began looking for new parents for her son. Through an adoption agency, she made contact with Angela and Bryan Hulleberg. The married couple had been struggling with infertility for years.

The teenager connected immediately with the couple. She decided that the Hullebergs would give her child what she would not be able to provide for him. "He deserved a mother and a father, a home with a playset in the backyard that he can play on, a dog, all of those things I couldn't give him," Holly told KSL TV5. Her son, Benjamin, was born in November 2001.

### A wonderful childhood

Angela and Bryan rose to the challenge and provided the boy with a wonderful childhood. All the time they were aware that his biological mother truly loved him and had placed him in their care out of genuine concern for his well-being.

### Best wishes for his 20th birthday

When Benjamin turned 18, he decided to find his biological mother. Since it was a closed adoption, he knew only her name. Holly had also begun to try and contact her son.

The woman was luckier than Benjamin, who didn't manage to gather much information. Holly found him on the internet and followed him on social media for several years. Finally, having gathered her courage, she wrote to him on his 20th birthday. She introduced herself and wished him well. The young man was extremely excited and wanted to meet his mother to thank her for her courageous decision to adopt. He understood that her sacrifice had given him a wonderful and safe life.

### They work in the same place!

One day, Holly and Benjamin and both families met for dinner. It turned out that the boy was a volunteer in the neonatal intensive care unit at the hospital where Holly works as a nurse!

"Every morning, I would come in through the women's pavilion to come into work. So I passed right by the NICU every single day. We parked in the same garage, could have been on the same floor, had no idea that we were so close," Shearer told Good Morning America.

What's more, Holly and Benjamin had lived about 5 miles apart for many years! Mother and son are extremely happy that they didn't give up trying to find each other. As a result, Benjamin was also able to meet his half-siblings!

Watch their story at <https://youtu.be/5qwkFh4wpyg>



JOIN US ON A DIVINE JOURNEY:  
EXPERIENCE THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS ON  
OCTOBER 21ST!



## NYS Eucharistic Congress

Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine, Auriesville, NY

### EVENTS INCLUDE:

MASS • CONFESSION • GREAT SPEAKERS  
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION PROCESSION

**Join with 10,000 other Catholics from all over New York State for this day of Eucharistic worship and renewal:**

**-Saturday October 21**, at Our Lady of the Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville, NY. This historic site, just outside Albany is the place where St. Isaac Jogues, St. Charles Lalande and Bl. Rene Goupil were martyred and where St. Kateri Tekakwitha was born.

Our bishops from around the State will be present to lead this day of prayer, along with great musicians and inspired speakers...

St. Lawrence and Sacred Heart Parishes will be traveling in buses leaving at 8:00 am and returning at 10 pm that night. The bus for Spanish speaking parishioners will leave at 6:00 am and return in the early evening. The ride is just over two hours from Brewster. Food trucks will be available or you can bring your own food. **Sign up with your whole family today. Seats on the bus are just \$25 round trip.**

**REGISTER** at [stlawrenceotoole.org/NYS\\_EC](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/NYS_EC)  
\$25 per person



## pray for

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

Ted Rozzi ◦ Joe Piteo ◦ Julie & Jullianna Sejfijaj ◦ Thomas Blackman ◦ Luca Gargiulo ◦ Francine O'Connor ◦ Angel Piteo ◦ Joseph J. Piteo III ◦ Tom Garrity ◦ Mike Debeauvernet ◦ Kelly Guzman ◦ Chris Greene ◦ Thomas Cople ◦ Eddie Dabrowski ◦ Gail Rampolla ◦ Vincent Ritell ◦ Jeanna Petrillo ◦ Pattie Sutton ◦ Morgan Worthington ◦ Jim Morgan ◦ Michael Taylor ◦ John Byrne ◦ Ronald Longobardo ◦ Albert Distefano, Jr. ◦ Donna Sweene ◦ Kathleen Othouse ◦ Joan Williams ◦ Shirley McKeon ◦ Helen & John McCabe ◦ Suzanne Yaremko ◦ Victor Opromolla ◦ Bea Jacobsen ◦ Grace Pontecorvo ◦ Victor Anderson ◦ Daniel Dwyer ◦ Erin Gagarin ◦ Gail Sullivan ◦ Kevin Palmer ◦ Jennifer Palmer ◦ Thomas Palmer ◦ Mary Carter ◦ William Barfield ◦ Garry Katen ◦ Laurie Muller ◦ Dena A Figura ◦ Joe Turturro ◦ Noah Martinez ◦ Ava Di Benedetto ◦ Suzanne McIntyre ◦ Dave Sambora ◦ Eileen Lynch ◦ Lucille Carleton ◦ Gary Sinclair ◦ Tyler Fawcett ◦ Joyce Bothe

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:



## mass intentions

### Saturday, August 19

5:00 PM Michael Carbone  
7:30 PM Spanish

### Sunday, August 20

8:00 AM James Dowdle  
9:30 AM Vincent LaMorte  
10:30 AM *Sacred Heart* Edward Richardson & Silvio Maron  
11:00 AM Helen Rozzi  
12:30 PM Spanish  
5:30 PM Lorraine Feroletto & Family

### Monday, August 21

8:30 AM Stella Garcia Balandran

### Tuesday, August 22

8:30 AM Gerry Wands

### Wednesday, August 23

8:30 AM Fredrick & Olga Lyons & Susan Lyons

### Thursday, August 24

8:30 AM Vera Lundy

### Friday, August 25

8:30 AM Parmenio Sanchez

### Saturday, August 26

5:00 PM George Taranto  
7:30 PM Spanish

### Sunday, August 27

8:00 AM Maffalda (Maffie) Clair  
9:30 AM Vincent LaMorte  
10:30 AM *Sacred Heart* Ramon Cintron  
11:00 AM Grace Siemer  
12:30 PM Spanish  
5:30 PM Fredrick & Olga Lyons & Susan Lyons



## Homeless Shelter Fundraising Luncheon at Las Mañanitas

Rt. 22 Brewster

Saturday, September 30

1:00 pm

\$125 per person

Sponsorships of \$1000 available

RSVP: [weblink.donorperfect.com/BCLuncheon](http://weblink.donorperfect.com/BCLuncheon)

Checks made to Brewster Cares, Inc.

Brewster Cares is a local leader in sheltering the homeless, tutoring for the poor, teaching immigrants English as a second language, and providing meals for those grieving loss, for the sick and homebound.

Honoring Harold Lepler with our "Friend of the Poor" Award

Harold Lepler of Covington Associates for his philanthropy and his loyal support of Brewster Cares in its efforts to serve our community.

We thank Luis and Saida Sanchez, owners of Las Mananitas for their sponsorship of this event.





LYNDA HOLLER  
DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

**WHY DO IT ALONE?**

Over the last couple years, my son Tim and I have enjoyed watching the History Channel series, Alone. Ten survivalists compete to stay the longest in very inhospitable areas of the world. In each season of the show, ten men and women are dropped off alone in a specific region with only the barest necessities (and an abundance of camera equipment).

To survive this brutal environment, for potentially 100 days and win the big prize, they must build a good shelter, procure nutritious food, and protect themselves from injuries and local animals: for instance, predators that may try to kill them and mice that will eat their bow strings or berry cache. There is no end to the conflicts and likewise no end to the creativity that the competitors exhibit.

But we have watched several seasons by now and as prayerful Catholics, we have found it absolutely astounding that none of the participants ever pray. They film themselves in very compromising and emotional situations, tell very personal and painful stories, scream out in anger and frustration, weep from pain and discouragement, but never appeal to our great God for help.

As the weeks unfold, everyone loses dangerous amounts of weight. They are always camped by a big lake, but few are able to catch fish. They make poles, nets, baskets and generally have poor results. I wonder what might happen if one asked Jesus to fill his nets. When they trap a small animal or shoot large game, they commonly thank the animal for giving up its life, rather than thanking the God that provided the animal. The weather gets worse, injuries, frostbite, and malnutrition eliminate participants one-by-one. Might some of them have lasted longer if they had called upon our great Healer to cure the digestive ailment or sprained ankle?

Confidence in our own skills and experience is a good thing, but we limit our opportunities and potentially miss out on the big prize if we refuse the supernatural help God can give us.

**Scripture:** Read Mark 11: 22-24. What stands out?

**Call to Action:** Consider your strongest skills and talents, then ask God to pour out his grace to make them even greater.

**parish support**

**st. lawrence parish support**

**Weekend of August 13**

In Pew Collection	\$	7,698.00
June WeShare weekly	\$	6,559.70
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>14,257.70</b>

**sacred heart parish support**

**Weekend of August 13**

In Pew Collection	\$	1,194.00
June WeShare weekly	\$	343.03
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>1,537.03</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
- Fr. Osvaldo Hernandez.....Parochial Vicar
- 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
- Brittany Gauriloff..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.....Director of Family Program
- Trisha Thien .....Director of Youth Faith Formation
- Janine Kristensen.....Administrator
- Karen DiTaranto .....Database Administrator
- Danielle Salvo.....Early Childhood Assistant
- Eileen Stokes.....Cemetery Administrator
- Tom Healy.....Parish Trustee
- Joe Massimo.....Parish Trustee

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