



december 3, 2023 first sunday of advent

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  
sacredheartchurch\_pattersonny

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

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

**YouTube:** Saint Lawrence



ADVENT  
SEASON OF HOPE

OUR BISHOPS TELL  
OF THEIR LOVE FOR THE EUCHARIST

# SHEPHERDS speak



Monday, Dec. 11

BISHOP BONNICI

Thursday, Jan 18

BISHOP COLACICCO

Thursday, March 7

CARDINAL DOLAN

MONDAY  
DEC 11  
7:00 PM

BISHOP  
BONNICI



EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL HOLY HOURS



st lawrence o'toole  
sacred heart

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



December 3, 2023

# while we're at it

Dear Friends,

There have always been plenty of people around predicting the second coming of Jesus right around the corner, and so far, they've always been wrong. Fortunately for us.

I used to think they were oddballs and chuckled when their doomsday dates came and went, and the world just kept ticking along. But I don't anymore. Now I feel like they just may on to something. Something we feel deep down in our souls.

Our world is in chaos all the time, isn't it? We aren't seeing peace anywhere in the world. We're just grateful there haven't been any world wars lately or any nuclear holocausts. Just plenty of regional wars. Plenty of ideological conflicts, power struggles, plenty of disparity between rich and poor. Opinion polls reveal plenty of worry about our future. No wonder the world population is starting to shrink. When people lose hope, why think of bringing kids into the world? Just live for yourself – that's all that's left.

Within our society, we suffer from different visions of what America should be and even whether America is a good thing. The moral compass that told us right from wrong broke a long time ago. We used to all share similar values. Many people inside our country seem to hate it and want to remake it into something we won't even recognize. We try to resist and stand for what's right. For lack of a better term, we call it the "culture wars".

All that takes its toll on our relationships and our families, and too often we are pulled apart. Families are collateral damage in the culture wars, and increasing numbers of kids are growing up in single family homes, or in homes where God is just an afterthought.

All that division and confusion creeps into the Church of course – we've got no vaccine against bad ideas. Having the guidance of the Holy Spirit doesn't save us from dumb ideas and from doing dumb things and making some bad decisions. Some Catholics and even Church leaders get confused.

When we stop paying attention to God, this is the world we get.  
And we can't fix it.

Today we begin Advent. And we cry out with all those who still believe:  
**"Come, Lord Jesus! Come back to this world and save it. Only you can save us from what we have done with your creation."**

Maybe some of those folks were on to something. We feel it in our souls, and we also look to heaven for our Savior to come.

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.



## presence: the mystery of the eucharist

MARIA DEL ROSARIO (ROSY)

I feel a great connection to Jesus in the Eucharist and when the opportunity came for me to run Presence for our Spanish community, I was excited and grateful. I attended the program in the past and since then I have experienced evidence of the miracles that Jesus is doing for those who receive his body and blood. Knowing that Jesus in the Eucharist is the real presence of God who came to the world to stay with us and prepare us for the journey, draws us closer to a personal relationship with Jesus.

The four sessions were very powerful: Jesus is with Us, The History of the Eucharistic, Bread for the Journey, and the Eucharistic Bible Foundation. Those sessions helped us to open the eyes of our souls and let us be better prepared to receive Holy Communion and receive Jesus in our hearts. I saw so many fruits in the four-week program, people sharing what they have learned with family and friends, going to confession, and family members of participants starting to attend Mass. One mom is doing her best to show her adult children why they need to receive the sacraments.

One participant said, "I came to the program to learn more about The Real Presence of God. I took notes on each

video and now that I know more about Jesus in the Eucharist, I am going to visit some protestant families that I know and share what I have learned here."

**Others shared these experiences:**

***"We are a married couple and we were very touched by stories of men, women, and children who risked or even sacrificed their lives to protect the Blessed Sacrament. Thank you for this program. May God bless us and give us strength to continue with the positive faith that we need".***

~ Jose and Maritza Javier

***"I live in Danbury and Presence was such a good experience that my wife and I are now joining a Discipleship group."***

~ Luis Toledo



## parish updates



Sacred Heart Church Improvement Program—Front deck is completed.



Blessing of the Donor Board for the Campus Improvement Program at St. Lawrence on Sunday, Nov. 26

## thankful for volunteers



Thanksgiving at St. Anthony of Padua— Fr. Hernandez packing meals with our parishioners in the Bronx to feed 900 homeless.



## thank you

The Secular Franciscans and the Knights of Columbus, St. Lawrence Council #1495, extend a heartfelt thank you to all the donors and volunteers who prepared, packed, and/or delivered turkey dinners to those who were ill, homebound or alone in our community in Brewster and Patterson on Thanksgiving.

**SOLEMNITY  
OF THE  
Immaculate  
Conception**

**Thursday, December 7**  
6:30 PM  
7:30 PM Spanish

**Friday, December 8**  
8:30 AM  
12:00 PM  
6:00 PM *Sacred Heart*  
6:30 PM

**BREWSTER cares**

**The Homeless Shelter  
OPENS DEC 4**

To sign up to help  
scan below



**REJOICE! AN ADVENT  
PILGRIMAGE INTO  
THE HEART OF  
SCRIPTURE, YEAR B**  
THURSDAYS  
Nov 30 – Dec 21  
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM  
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM

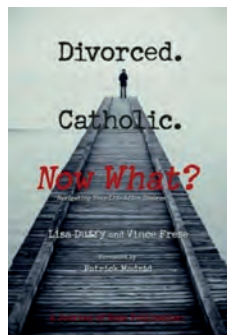


This Advent program by Fr. Mark Toups will help you to grow in your understanding and appreciation for the incredible gift of Christ's Incarnation. **As you slow down and meditate on the readings each week, you'll find your experience of Advent transformed.** By contemplating the coming of the Prince of Peace at Christmas, your heart will be filled with his peace and joy.

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

**JOURNEY OF HOPE**  
WEDNESDAYS  
Nov 29  
12 week class  
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM  
PARISH CENTER-BOARDROOM

Discover trusted, spiritual, and emotional support for divorced and separated Catholics. The Journey of Hope program by Lisa Madrid Duffy offers support from a truly Catholic perspective and addresses the important issues divorced/separated Catholics face. This is a video-based program with ample time for discussion, accompanied by a book and workbook.



**REGISTER:** [stlawrenceotoole.org/JourneyofHope](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/JourneyofHope)  
FREE childcare available—click to add on registration.



**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 Suzanne 914-523-8165

**December 9  
Challenges of Grief**

**Psalm 9:10-11**

*The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, you never forsake those who seek you, LORD.*



Site where Christ was born in the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem

**o'toole seniors**

MONDAY  
December 11  
1:00 PM  
NEW YORK ROOM

Our monthly meeting will get everyone into the spirit of the season as we watch **ADVENTUS: A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE** — a 33 minute video from Formed.org. It's a tour of modern-day Jerusalem and Bethlehem and shows the sites where the actual events of Christ's life took place.

There will be a gift exchange! \$10 max gift to participate. Bring a bagged lunch. Tea, coffee and cookies will be available.

THIS MEETING IS FOR ALL SENIORS 65 AND OLDER.  
Contact us with any questions at [slotbea@gmail.com](mailto:slotbea@gmail.com)



## Be There When God **MOVES**

**COME IN FAITH. LEAVE WITH HOPE.**

God hears our prayers for the renewal of our Church. He will answer them through a life-changing transformation of our own hearts. The 10th National Eucharistic Congress is an invitation to experience profound personal revival so we can be sent out to share Christ's love with a world that so desperately needs it.

### THE FIRST NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS IN 83 YEARS

This is a pivotal moment in both American history and the legacy of the Catholic Church. We are expecting tens of thousands of pilgrims—but space is limited. Jesus Christ will be there. Will you?

#### **WHEN**

July 17–21, 2024

#### **WHERE**

Lucas Oil Stadium  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

#### **WHO**

Laypeople, Clergy, & Religious

## eucharistic revival, thanksgiving, and the call to love

DAVID G BONAGURA, JR./ THECATHOLICTHING.ORG

The Eucharistic revival, thanksgiving, and the call to love are all interconnected. Someone who attends Mass daily on their lunch break or stops their car to visit our Lord in the tabernacle understands the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist. They know that being with Him and receiving Him is a tremendous blessing that allows them to love and serve Christ more effectively.

However, simply knowing these essentials of faith is not always enough to motivate someone to take these actions. Personal experience has shown that knowledge alone does not move the soul to love. What is needed is a personal relationship with Christ, where one believes deeply in Him and loves Him as they do their family and friends.

This understanding of the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist reflects the liveliness of our faith and our love for Christ. Therefore, a successful Eucharistic revival requires successful evangelization - leading others into friendship with Christ.

Preaching about the Eucharist can be effective when there already exists a relationship with Christ. However, teaching someone about the Eucharist who has little or no faith may accomplish little without first helping them develop their relationship with our Lord.

To do this, we must roll up our sleeves and help others develop their relationship with Christ by teaching them how to love Him. This can be done through catechesis at home, urging more effort into Mass and prayer, and bringing others along for holy hours or other special events where they can work on their relationship with God.

Prayer is essential throughout this process as we implore God's help because ultimately it is His grace pouring down upon us that leads to a true Eucharistic revival.

The success of this revival does not solely depend on "the Church" or "the bishops" but rather on each individual's efforts in directing others towards friendship with Christ. As Pope Benedict XVI stated in *Sacramentum Caritatis*: "The more ardent the love for the Eucharist in the hearts of the Christian people, the more clearly will they recognize the goal of all mission: to bring Christ to others."

## pray for

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

Francine O'Connor ◦ Angel Piteo ◦ Joseph J. Piteo III ◦ Tom Garrity ◦ Mike Debeauvernet ◦ Kelly Guzman ◦ Chris Greene ◦ Thomas Cople ◦ Eddie Dabrowski ◦ Vincent Ritell ◦ Jeanna Petrillo ◦ Pattie Sutton ◦ Morgan Worthington ◦ Jim Morgan ◦ Michael Taylor ◦ John Byrne ◦ Ronald Longobardo ◦ Albert Distefano, Jr. ◦ Donna Sweeney ◦ 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 ◦ Tyler Fawcett ◦ Joyce Bothe ◦ Susan Farrell ◦ Randy Anderson ◦ Logan Meisse ◦ Thomas Mazzarulli ◦ Sherry Malbety ◦ MaryLu Hyatt ◦ Paula Schlick ◦ Casey Spor ◦ Rodney Ward ◦ Nancy Pironti ◦ Gerardo Bianchini ◦ James McCloud ◦ Jim Morton ◦ RoseAnn Taranto ◦ Larry Campbell ◦ Lou Riolo, Sr ◦ Lori Jean Rooney ◦ Jason Morales ◦ Brianna Martinez ◦ Eddie Fernandez ◦ Tim Murphy ◦ Kenneth Winter ◦ Stephanie Martin ◦ John Tomassetti ◦ DJ Alix ◦ John Curra

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)

## advent christmas concert

Fr. Michael Connolly, Fr. Kareem Smith, & Fr. Jon Tveit with an orchestra of their friends will be held on Dec. 16 at Holy Trinity Church, 775 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Call for tickets by Dec. 4 - (845) 452-1863

## Jesus is waiting for you!

**Adoration Open hours include:**

Tuesday 1am, 9am • Thursday 11pm  
• Saturday 10pm

*Our goal is 2 adorers for every hour,  
so there are many hours available.*

Sign up at: [stlawrenceotoole.org/adoration](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/adoration) or  
Call/Text Ellen 845-216-4883 or  
Llamada/Texto Wilda 845-406-8432

## JOIN THE ADVENT ADORATION COMMITMENT

Sign up for an hour for  
the 3 weeks of Advent  
Dec. 3rd to Dec. 23rd

Sign up at: [stlawrenceotoole.org/adoration](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/adoration)



## mass intentions

### Saturday, December 2

5:00 PM  
7:30 PM

Denise (Dee) Vanaria  
Spanish

### Sunday, December 3

8:00 AM  
9:30 AM  
10:30 AM *Sacred Heart*  
11:00 AM  
12:30 PM  
5:30 PM

Vincent DiTaranto  
Rose Marie Pietronigro  
John McDonnell  
Gregory Taylor  
Spanish  
Edward Babon

### Monday, December 4

8:30 AM

Patrick Martin, Sr.

### Tuesday, December 5

8:30 AM

Gaetana Cipriano

### Wednesday, December 6

8:30 AM

Michael Rozzi

### Thursday, December 7

8:30 AM  
6:30 PM  
7:30 PM

St. Lawrence O'Toole Society  
Arthur Mancini  
Spanish

### Friday, December 8

8:30 AM

Msgr. McCabe  
Scholarship Fund  
Emma & Bob Yates  
Edmund O'Connor  
Kathleen Civetta

12:00 PM

6:00 PM *Sacred Heart*

6:30 PM

### Saturday, December 9

5:00 PM  
7:30 PM

Mary Lou Lynch  
Spanish

### Sunday, December 10

8:00 AM  
9:30 AM  
10:30 AM *Sacred Heart*

Frank Fernandes  
Holler & Fitzgerald Families  
Bill & Joseph Lewis &  
Marianne Gallacher  
McCluskey & Ebert Families  
Spanish-Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Ellen & Chris McBride

11:00 AM  
12:30 PM  
5:30 PM

## dedications

### St. Lawrence O'Toole

The **Pascal Candle** is dedicated for **Vincent LaMorte** at the request of his family

The **Tabernacle Candle** is dedicated for **Gregory Taylor** at the request of Marianne Taylor

The **Blessed Mother Candle** is dedicated for **Allen & Moran Families** at the request of Dot Moran.

## FLOWER MINISTRY- HELP WANTED!

Join us in beautifying our church

We appreciate any  
volunteer support that can be given  
with flowers or maintenance.

Call Patty Brady at 914-882-3539







LYNDA HOLLER  
DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

### TWINKLING LIGHTS OR THE ONE LIGHT?

A few years ago, I received a Christmas card from a cousin entitled: "It is all about the twinkling lights." That seemed like a new low. We are immersed in a culture that tells us that Christmas is all about Santa Claus and presents, about family and friends gathering to eat and drink in excess, about spending time buying and making extravagant and do-it-yourself indoor and outdoor decorations, and on and on. Jesus is given very little consideration in an average American's Christmas preparations. As Christians, it is essential that we do not cave into a secular commercialized Christmas. We are clearly being manipulated for evil and not for good. When we lose sight of Christ at Christmas, an enormous opportunity is lost. The truth that God our creator loves us so much that He sent his only son into the trenches of our world, lowered himself to be born a helpless infant, and

that Jesus grew up to teach, sacrifice, and start the Church, demands our attention. If you can gain an enriched understanding of this divine mystery this year, this will be your best Christmas ever.

This Sunday begins Advent and there are many ways that we can commit our hearts to growing closer to Jesus in the weeks leading up to Christ's birth. The writings of CS Lewis are very inspiring to me, and I plan to listen to **Advent Pray 25 with C.S. Lewis on Hallow** beginning today. If you haven't downloaded the **Hallow** app yet, try it. It is free for 30 days. You can listen to it on your way to work or bedtime and start or end each day with a positive inspiring message.

Our **Rejoice!** Program is a favorite every year. This year's program, **Rejoice: An Advent Pilgrimage into the Heart of Scripture**, Year B is running on Thursday nights from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm in the Large Conference Room. It started last Thursday, but it isn't too late to join.

Register at [stlawrenceotoole.org/Rejoice](http://stlawrenceotoole.org/Rejoice).

Most of the popular Catholic speakers/authors offer emailed meditations for Advent. You can receive Matthew Kelly's **Best Advent Ever** messages by signing up at [dynamiccatholic.com/advent](http://dynamiccatholic.com/advent). Search your favorite speaker/author to find others and read them daily.

**Scripture:** Read Luke 2:6-7. What stands out?

**Call to Action:** Whether attending, listening, or reading fits your lifestyle best, choose one Advent devotion to distract you from the superficial twinkling lights and point you to the One True Light.

## parish support

### st. lawrence parish support

#### Weekend of November 19

In Pew Collection	\$	7,274.00
October <i>WeShare</i> weekly	\$	6,967.86
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>14,241.86</b>

#### Weekend of November 26

In Pew Collection	\$	8,239.00
October <i>WeShare</i> weekly	\$	6,967.86
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>15,206.86</b>

### sacred heart parish support

#### Weekend of November 19

In Pew Collection	\$	1,114.00
October <i>WeShare</i> weekly	\$	485.71
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>1,599.71</b>

#### Weekend of November 26

In Pew Collection	\$	1,063.00
October <i>WeShare</i> weekly	\$	485.71
<b>Total</b>	\$	<b>1,548.71</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
<i>fr-richardgill@gmail.com</i>	
Fr. Osvaldo Hernandez.....	Parochial Vicar
<i>oswald24.oh@gmail.com</i>	
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 Pastoral Outreach
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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John Schlick  
 845-490-0096 cell

**BON Venture**

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**Anthony "Tony" Berardi**  
 Real Estate Associate Broker  
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 tony.berardi@randrealty.com

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**BON Venture**

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