

SAINT HEDWIG'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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

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

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Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m. - Noon & 1 - 2 p.m.



Confessions: 20 minutes before Mass and other times (see below) • **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Monday to Friday, from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. • Sundays, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. **Recitation of the Rosary:** 30 minutes before each Mass. **Attendance August 30th:** 5 p.m.: 95; 8 a.m.: 156; 11 a.m.: 270: Total 521

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sept 20th, 2026

Monday

Sept 21
St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist [Feast Day]
8:00 a.m. +Stefania Kolakowska by Andrew & family
5:00 p.m. Intentions of Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College

Tuesday

Sept 22
Ferial
8:00 a.m. +Percy Coulas by Michael & Debbie Palubeskie

Wednesday

Sept 23
St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
8:00 a.m. +Wayne Hudder by Carl Zilney
12:00 p.m. + Randal Marlin by Richard & Josee

Thursday

Sept 24
Blessed Emilie Tavernier-Gamelin, Religious
8:00 a.m. +Genevieve Yantha by Rose Anne & David

Friday

Sept 25
St. Cosmas and St. Damian, Martyrs
8:00 a.m. Intentions of the Reilander Family by Maria
5:00 p.m. Confessions

Saturday

Sept 26
St. Jean de Brebeuf and St. Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs
8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Confessions
9:00 a.m. +Kathleen & Bernard Norlock by their children

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sept 27th, 2026

Saturday

4:00 – 4:45 p.m. Confessions
5:00 p.m. +Michael & Julia Coulas and Frank & Mary Palubeskie by Michael & Debbie

Sunday

8:00 a.m. +John & Marianna Peplinskie by Vincent & Susan
11:00 a.m. Intentions of the Parishioners

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sept 27, 2026)	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Readers of the Word	Altar Server	John Boskill	James Shaw
Ushers	Duncan Barber (crew captain) and ushers	Stanley Rumleskie (crew captain) and ushers	Daniel Shalla (crew captain) and ushers

Offerings August 30th: Sunday: \$3,843.60; Building Maintenance: \$1,472.00; Heat/Fuel: \$70.00; Various Funds: \$55.00

Euchre: The next euchre games will be held on on September 20th & October 4th at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$5.00.

Sacred Heart League Meeting: The next meeting is on Tuesday, September 29th at 2pm in the Church hall.

The Bible Timeline: St. Hedwig's will offer the second part of The Bible Timeline:The Story of Salvation beginning Wednesday Sept. 30th at 7:00-8:45 p.m. until Nov. 11th, 2026 (7 weeks). There will be a group discussion on assigned Scripture readings for the session, followed by an engaging high production video on the material. For those who have not taken the first session, there will be a short review of that part offered on Wed Sept 23. For more information, contact Julie Culshaw at (613) 756-1136 or at julieculshaw5@gmail.com

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS): Registration is now open for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The weekly program runs from mid-October to the end of May. Level 1 (ages 3-5) will run Wednesday morning from 10:00-11:40 am. There will be two sessions for Level 2 (ages 6-8): Tuesday or Wednesday 3:00-4:45 pm. Children new to CGS are welcome into level 2. The cost for St. Hedwig's parishioners is \$150, with a discount for siblings, and \$200 for non-parishioners with a discount for siblings. Please register at the parish office during regular office hours by September 25, 2026. For questions about St. Hedwig's program, please contact Maria Reilander at st.hedwigs.cgs@gmail.com. To learn more about CGS, visit: www.cgsac.ca

Choir Practice: Practices resume at 6 p.m. Thursdays in the choir loft. All are welcome.

PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR: Fridays at St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish at 9:45 a.m. (shortly after the 9:00 a.m. Mass) - praying together for the sanctity of life, marriage and family.

Life Chain 2026: On Sunday, October 4th from 2 – 3 p.m. - Come and join us on the street in downtown Barry's Bay for a peaceful, prayerful, silent hour of public witness in solidarity and defense of the inviolable dignity of Human life from conception to natural death.

St. Alphonsus Parish Supper: Sunday September 20th from 12 to 6 p.m. Upper Pontiac Sports Complex, 52 Pembroke St, Chapeau QC. Turkey and all the trimmings. Homemade beans and pies. Take-out is available. Wheel-Chair Accessible. Everyone Welcome!!

Knights of Columbus: Gentlemen, Council 6894, is active in Barry's Bay, Palmer Rapids and Combermere. We are a group of Catholic men who gather for charitable causes, fellowship and spiritual growth. We would like to encourage all Catholic men to consider joining the Knights, for their good and the good of others. For more information or to discuss joining, please contact the Grand Knight, Dennis Buonafede, at: kofc6894@gmail.com

Mass Transfers to Fr. Jerry Gauvreau C.C.: +Thomas & John & Michael Yandernoll by Raymond (x5), +Peter Brotton by Julien, +Peter Brotton by Percy & Francis Coulas, +Peter Brotton by Marilyn Macmillan, +Peter Brotton by Clementine & family (x3), +Percy Coulas by Tommy Coulas, +Percy Coulas by Karen Yakabuski, +Percy Coulas by Richard & Lorna Strack, +Percy Coulas by Eddie & Eleanor Trader, +Deceased Shalla & Burchat family members by Robert & Joyce (x2), +Deceased Cybulski & Palbiski family members by Robert & Joyce, +Nick Vandergragt & Sylvie Barrett by Alison, +James Hanlon by Holmquist family

Pope’s Prayer Intention for September 2026

For the care of water – Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

From Fr. Michal: 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 1) Isaiah 55:6-9
- 2) Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
- 3) Matthew 20:1-16a

Perhaps we are familiar with the concept of *schadenfreude*, which Merriam Webster's dictionary describes as "enjoyment obtained from seeing or hearing about the troubles of others." If we're honest with ourselves, we all may fall into a bit of *schadenfreude* at times, particularly when we feel the person experiencing the troubles had it coming to them. Though certainly far from the love of neighbor our Lord calls us to, it's easy to be tempted to delight when someone whom we dislike, or whom we feel deserves it, experiences some hardship or other.

But there's also another less than charitable tendency we see in today's Gospel: We can have a particularly strong reaction when someone we feel hasn't earned it gets something good. There's no fancy word like *schadenfreude* to describe that feeling, but it's very real. In our Gospel we see the anger and confusion of the laborers who worked from dawn until dusk, grumbling against the landowner that the laborers who only worked an hour got the full daily wage. They are angry because the landowner's generosity defies their sense of justice, which wants each person to get exactly what they're due, and no more.

But God's justice doesn't work the way human justice works. *As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways*, the Lord says through the prophet Isaiah. Other places in Scripture tell us that God *makes the sun rise on the good and the bad, and causes rain to fall on the just and unjust* (Mt. 5:45). Or, as our psalm tells us, *The Lord is good to all and compassionate toward all his works*, good and bad, deserving and undeserving alike.

Why? Why is the Lord so indiscriminately generous, even when someone doesn't deserve it? Because of his infinite mercy. *Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the Lord for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving*, Isaiah tells us. The radical generosity of God's mercy helps the sinner to have confidence that it's never too late to turn back, it's never too late to come home.

The message of today's Gospel is that no matter what, all is not lost. Though we may have squandered our lives in dissolute living – like the prodigal son – upon coming home to the Father, we know that a heavenly banquet awaits us.

When we move from seeing this Gospel through our small-minded lens of someone getting more than they deserve to understanding it from the vantage point of the infinite mercy of God, then perhaps we can move from our all-too-human reaction of grumbling at the unfairness to praise of God's goodness. May this Eucharist we share help us to offer thanks and praise to God for his unfathomable mercy, which gives each of us infinitely more than we could ever deserve.