

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

35 Karol Wojtyla Square,

P.O. Box 309, Barry's Bay, Ontario K0J 1B0

OFFICE/RECTORY: 613-756-2243

Web: sainthedwigparish.ca Email: office@sainthedwigparish.ca

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



Confessions: 15 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
Last Week's Attendance: 5 p.m.:116; 8 a.m.:135; 11 a.m.:199; Total: 450

Second Sunday of Lent

March 1st, 2026

Monday

March 2

Ferial

8:00 a.m.

+Keith Towns by Paul Kluge & Family

4:30 p.m.

Intentions of Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College

Tuesday

March 3

Ferial

8:00 a.m.

+Tadeuss Sibiga by Mark & Alexandra Zasowski

Wednesday

March 4

St. Casimir

8:00 a.m.

+Joe & Anastasia Yeretch by Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Yeretch

12:00 p.m.

+Sylvester 'Doc' Yantha by Roseanne Visutski & Family

Thursday

March 5

Ferial

8:00 a.m.

+Deceased Luckavitch Family Members by Debbie Coulas

First Friday

March 6

Ferial

8:00 a.m.

[World Day of Prayer]

+John & Annie Steffan by Sylvester & Frances Belaskie

12:00 noon

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Nocturnal Adoration

3:00 p.m.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

5:00 p.m.

Confessions

6:00 p.m.

+Lynn, Beverly & Brian by Faye & Greg Mask

7:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross [Led by the Franciscan Fraternity]

Saturday

March 7

St. Perpetua and St. Felicity, Martyrs

8:00-8:45 a.m. Confessions

9:00 a.m.

+Ian Malone by the Malone & Coulas Family

Third Sunday of Lent

March 8th, 2026

Saturday

4:00 - 4:45 p.m. Confessions

5:00 p.m.

+Sharon Tanguay by Bob & Margaret Serran

Sunday

8:00 a.m.

+Stella & Bobby, Glenn & Cathy Spilek by Frances & Tony Etmanski

11:00 a.m.

Intentions of the Parishioners

Sunday (March 8th, 2026) Third Sunday of Lent	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Readers of the Word	Joseph Olver	Noah Kluge	Richard Shaw
Holy Communion	Br. Grzegorz Loska, OMI	Deacon Jean-Nil Chabot	Deacon Robert Probert
Ushers	Duncan Barber (crew captain) and ushers	Stanley Rumleskie (crew captain) and ushers	Daniel Shalla (crew captain) and ushers

Offerings: Last Sunday: \$3,625.50; Building Maintenance: \$730.00; Heat & Fuel: \$380.00; Various: \$15.00

Important Invitation From the Bishop:

Parishioners of Pembroke Diocese are invited to attend one of the pastoral planning information meetings that will be held in all five deaneries of the diocese during the first weeks of Lent. Bishop Brehl and members of the diocesan steering committee will present relevant pastoral, statistical and financial data to help equip parishioners in ongoing dialogue and discernment on the future of the diocese. If you cannot make the local meeting in your home deanery, please feel welcome to attend any of the scheduled meetings.

Barry's Bay Deanery: Sunday, March 1st at John Bosco School, Barry's Bay - 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

Journey through Lent Series: As we journey through Lent 2026, the Second Sunday of Lent video of the series titled "Journey through Lent" is now available on the CCCB website: <https://www.cccb.ca/lent/>

Lenten Lamentation: After the Divine Mercy Chaplet on Sundays during Lent (except the 2nd Sunday), there will be a Lenten Lamentation or Gorzkie Żale in Polish.

Men's Rosary: Come for Rosary prayer open to men on Monday, March 2nd, 7:00 p.m. in St. Hedwig's Church. Men are invited, fathers bring your sons as well.

Euchre: The next Euchre games will be held on Sunday March 8th and 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Cost: \$5.00.

Altar-Server Training: As a reminder, Altar-server training will continue each second Saturday of the month. Starting March 7th it will happen after the 5pm Mass and will include pizza dinner and a movie in the church hall. New servers welcome.

Last Call for Applications! - Maintenance Position: A Part-time Maintenance/Groundskeeping position (with possibility of more hours) is open at St. Hedwig Church. For a complete job description, please contact the office at office@sainthedwigparish.ca Please apply by Friday, March 6, 2026.

Domestic Church Sunday Coffee: Coffee and snacks will be served in the church basement by the Domestic Church group immediately after the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday March 15th. Come enjoy a hot drink and something to eat while getting to know your fellow parishioners a little better! Coffee and snacks for this event are being prepared by members of the Domestic Church, donations are welcome. All parishioners are invited.

Christian Mothers: The Confraternity of Christian Mothers (and all women with motherly hearts) is meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. New members welcome. Date of the next meeting: March 17th.

The Knights of Columbus: Knights of Columbus Meeting: The next meeting is on Wednesday March 18th. Rosary at 7:00 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:30 at St. Jerome's meeting room.

The Seven First Words of Mercy: A Sacred Encounter with Divine Mercy: The CWL warmly invites you to enter into a prayerful and grace-filled celebration, The Seven First Words of Mercy, led by Father James Zettel on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 12, at 3:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Renfrew. Gather in the gentle presence of the Risen Lord as we adore the Blessed Sacrament, lift our voices in the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and reflect together on the words spoken by Jesus after the Resurrection—words that continue to heal, console, and restore hope. This sacred hour will also include the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and conclude with Solemn Benediction.

Pro-life News and Other Social Issues: There is a very alarming bill before the Canadian parliament, Bill C-9. If you wish a copy of this letter expressing the opinion and concerns of the Canadian Bishops regarding Bill C-9, it is available on the tables at the back of the church. You can also sign a CLC petition on-line. Just google "Campaign Life Coalition on-line petition for Bill C-9".

Dr. Keith Cassidy Lecture: Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College invites you to the annual Dr. Keith Cassidy Lecture on Wednesday, March 4th at 7:30pm in St. Hedwig's Church Hall in Barry's Bay. Founder of the Gregory the Great Institute, our guest speaker Dr. Ryan N.S. Topping, will be lecturing on 'Cardinal Newman Among the Doctors'. Admission is free and open to all. Light refreshments will be served. For those who are unable to attend in person, the event will be livestreamed and available on the College's website (www.seatofwisdom.ca).

2026 Women's Retreat Combermere: All women are warmly invited to a weekend retreat at Elim Lodge, March 13-15, 2026; \$365(696 Elim Lodge Rd. Lakehurst, Ontario K0L 1J0). Led by the team from Madonna House – Shatzi Duffy and Fr. Zach Romanowsky. Register Here: <https://forms.gle/kazuMJt1RUZbHr9M8>. For more information, please call Astrid (Elim retreat) at 905 377-0688.

From Fr. Michal:

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

1) Genesis 12:1-4a

2) Timothy 1:8b-10

3) Matthew 17:1-9

These words from Saint Paul to Timothy in today's reading are a wonderfully encouraging summary of the Christian life. First, the Gospel is something we all share. While God calls each one of us to himself, and we each have a responsibility to respond in faith, we are not a group of discrete individuals, alone in our journey. Instead, we are baptized into a community, whose communal presence forms the Church. We celebrate together, worship together, pray together and for one another, and we literally grow the kingdom of heaven here on earth by loving one another as God loves us.

Second, there will be hardship in this life. While that is not news to us, Paul's words remind us that, as we share in the good news of the Gospel, we also share in the inevitable hardship that arises in being faithful to Christ's message and our call to holiness. Whatever the hardship is, we are called to share with one another. Sharing provides strength in numbers, and makes burdens easier to bear. And bearing one another's burdens is another command of the Gospel (Cf., Galatians 6:2). This is why we pray for one another, or offer material or financial assistance to one another. It's why we celebrate baptism, but also attend each other's funerals.

It is also why the sacrament of penance is more than "just" confessing our individual sins, and receiving absolution from God. The sacrament restores our relationship to the greater Catholic community which has (even in unseen ways) been broken. Just as every part of the human body is important and must be in perfect order for the body to function at its best, so every person of Christ's body is important and must be reconciled to the whole with forgiveness and grace in order for his body, the Church, to be at its best for the world.

Finally, we do all things fortified by the strength of God. God never abandons us, never leaves us to face things on our own. We can choose not to ask him for help; we can choose to ignore his commands or to cooperate with his grace. But God never withholds that grace when asked. Never withholds his strength. If we ever feel far away from God, we can be sure that it is we who have moved, not him.

When Jesus took his disciples – James, John and Peter – up the mountain and was transfigured before them, they had a glimpse of the glorified future that awaits all who are faithful to the Gospel. We who celebrate this liturgy today also have a glimpse of that glorified future, as we literally and metaphysically share in the heavenly banquet with the communion of saints. So, as we strive in holiness to join them, in the fullness of time, may we take to heart the good news and encouraging words of Paul, sharing in the promise of God and knowing that the Lord gives us strength for all things.

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