

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. **Last Week's Attendance:** 5 pm: 79; 8 am:157; 11 am:227: Total: 463

The Ascension of the Lord

[Solemnity]

May 17th, 2026

Monday

May 18

St. John 1, Pope, Martyr [Note time change]

9:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving for a New Child by Anthony & Elizabeth Hamon

Tuesday

May 19

Ferial

8:00 a.m. + Peter Brotton by Clementine & Family

Wednesday

May 20

St. Bernardine of Sienna, Priest

8:00 a.m. +Wladyslaw Jaworski By Szymon Jaworski & Family

Thursday

May 21

St. Eugene de Mazenod, Bishop

8:00 a.m. +Charles Packer & Gerard O'Malley

Friday

May 22

St. Rita of Cascia, Religious

8:00 a.m. Br. Grzegorz Intention

5:00 p.m. **Confessions**

Saturday

May 23

Ferial

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

9:00 a.m. +Kathleen & Bernard Norlock & All Deceased Relatives by their Children

Pentacost Sunday

[Solemnity]

May 24th, 2026

Saturday

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

5:00 p.m. +Abby Cybulski by a Parishioner

Sunday

8:00 a.m. +Patricia Milan by Marek Milan

11:00 a.m. Intentions of the Parishioners

Pentacost Sunday (May 24 th , 2026)	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Readers of the Word	Karen Yakabuski	John Boskill	Mark Westen
Ushers	Duncan Barber (crew captain) and ushers	Stanley Rumleskie (crew captain) and ushers	Daniel Shalla (crew captain) and ushers

Offerings: Last Sunday: \$3,748.80; Building Maintenance: \$1,075.00;
Heat & Fuel: \$70.00; Pope's Pastoral Works: \$40.00; Various Funds: \$20.00

Euchre: The next Euchre game will be held on Sunday May 17th and 31st, at 7:00 p.m. Cost: \$5.00.

Wednesday Rosary at the Grotto: Come pray the Rosary at the grotto of Our Lady, next to St. Hedwig's Church, every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m., during the month of May. All are welcome to attend.

Apostolic Blessings: If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary this year and would like an Apostolic Blessing, please contact the parish office, well in advance of the anniversary date.

Christian Mothers: Please note the Christian Mothers date change! We will have one last meeting on Tuesday May 26 at 7:00 p.m. before we break for the summer. This meeting will be instead of our regularly scheduled meeting on the 19th of May. All mothers and all women with motherly hearts are welcome!

The Knights of Columbus: The next meeting is on Wednesday May 20th. Rosary at 7:00 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:30 at St. Jerome's meeting room.

Bible Study: There will be a Bible Study held on Thursdays, May 14th to June 18th, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the back meeting room of St Casimir's Parish, Round Lake Centre. Topic: **Atonement in the Bible.** Why do Catholics believe in confession? Why does St. Paul talk about presenting one's bride as a pure offering and what is all that about the red heifer and scapegoat? We'll talk about this and more in our course. Bring your Bible and be ready to take notes! Instructor: Patrick Sullivan, M.Div. All are welcome.

Celebration of Retirement: Open House for Rev. Patrick M. Dobec hosted by Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Staff on Sunday, June 7, 2026 from 1 to 3 pm. You're invited to celebrate with us at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall, 11 Mohns Ave, Petawawa. Best wishes only.

Catholic Family Land: This summer, some of the parish youth are working at Catholic Family Camp in Ohio, administering to over 6,000 people. If you would like to support their mission, consider donating at <https://afc.org/donate-today/>, and please keep the missionaries in your prayers. For more information, reach out to peter_a_shaw25@yahoo.com.

The Most Reverend Michael Brehl, C.Ss.R. announces the following:

Retirements:

Reverend Kerry Brennan retires from full-time parish ministry with the status of retired priest.

Reverend Patrick Dobec retires from full-time parish ministry with the status of retired priest.

Reverend John Lacey retires from full-time parish ministry with the status of retired priest.

Pastors:

Reverend Michael Coyne is appointed pastor of St. Michael Parish, Douglas; St. Pius V Parish, Osceola; Sacred Heart Mission, Cobden and St Patrick Parish, Mount St. Patrick.

Reverend Réal Ouellette is appointed pastor of Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Pembroke, while remaining as pastor of Paroisse St-Jean-Baptiste, Pembroke.

Administrators:

Reverend Peter Do is appointed administrator of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Petawawa.

Reverend David Butler, a priest of the Diocese of London on loan to the Diocese of Pembroke, is appointed administrator of Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Renfrew, St Francis Xavier Parish, Renfrew and Most Precious Blood Parish, Calabogie.

An announcement about the appointment of a parochial vicar to Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Renfrew, St. Francis Xavier Parish, Renfrew and Most Precious Blood Parish, Calabogie, will be forthcoming in due course.

Seminarian:

Mr. Felix Ujo has been appointed to St. Columbkille Cathedral Parish, Pembroke for his pastoral year.

All appointments are effective 2 July 2026.

Bishop Brehl expresses heartfelt appreciation to those priests who are retiring from full-time parish ministry, and he gives thanks to the Lord for their many years of priestly service to the Church.

Please pray for those who have generously accepted new pastoral assignments.

From Fr. Michal:

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

1) Acts 1:1-11

2) Ephesians 1:17-23

3) Matthew 28:16-20

Today marks the Feast of the Ascension, a momentous occasion in the life of the Church. As Christians, we believe that forty days after his resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven, to sit at the Father's right hand. This event is powerful and mysterious, and it may also confuse and even provoke doubt in us.

As today's readings show us, we are not alone in our doubt. In the Gospel, the eleven disciples encounter Christ risen and worship him – but they also doubt. This image of Jesus' closest companions navigating doubts as they worship the risen Lord powerfully illustrates the human condition, which is imperfect. This scene calls to mind the phrase first echoed in the Gospel of Mark and later by saints throughout the life of the Church: I do believe, help my unbelief! (Mk 9:24).

So the disciples doubt – and yet Christ remained with them, received them in that doubt, and stewarded them forward. As Matthew writes, Jesus provides direction to his disciples, commanding them to go forth and make disciples of all nations, sharing the Good News and Christ's teachings with the entire world. As Christians, we are called to join in this task of growing God's kingdom. As today's second reading illustrates, this call is a hopeful one. All those who come to know the Lord and belong to his Church are destined to share his inheritance among the holy ones in heaven.

We may still be struck with moments of doubt, worry, and loneliness at times in this journey. Yet we do not walk alone. As Matthew writes, Jesus provided his disciples – and provides for us today – a powerful reminder: I am with you always, until the end of the age. Jesus' promise of his presence in this life provides great comfort and helps us better understand our relationship to God.

The Ascension is not a moment of fracture, where Jesus has left us behind. Rather, the Ascension is a moment of transformation, where humanity's relationship to God deepens. As Christ's parting words remind us, God is close to us and remains near, even when we doubt. So as Jesus joins God the Father at his right hand, we can rest knowing that our life's journey is grounded in God's loving presence. As we journey forth today to spread the Good News, may we be consoled and encouraged knowing that Jesus Christ, our divine compass and steadfast guide, is always with us.