

ST. GREGORY'S CHURCH

Roman Catholic Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie

71 Estelle Street,
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6C 2C3



OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Telephone: 705-949-8883

Pastoral Team:

Pastor: Fr. Trevor Scarfone
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Rob Thibodeau
cell: 705-975-2893/
E-mail: robthibodeau@hotmail.ca
Secretary: Cathy Fabiano

**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary
and Joseph**

Year B

Sunday, December 27th, 2020

Celebration of Masses, Devotions and Sacraments

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday-Friday:
No Scheduled Liturgies

Baptism

Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office. A preparation course is required.

Reconciliation (Confession)

Every Saturday from 3:45 to 4:15 pm
or by appointment.

Marriage

Contact the Pastor at least six months prior to the wedding. A preparation course is required.

Visitation of the Sick

If any member of your family is sick at home or in the hospital, please call and let us know.

Welcome to St. Gregory's

We warmly welcome **NEW PARISHIONERS** to our parish. You are asked to register by completing a registration form, located in the entrance or by calling the Parish Office.

Almighty God and
Father of Light,
a child is born for us,
and a son is given to us.
Your eternal word
leaped down from heaven
in the silent watches of the night,
and now your Church
is filled with wonder
at the nearness of her God.

Open our hearts to receive His life
and increase our vision
with the rising of dawn, that our lives may be filled
with His glory and His peace, forever and ever. Amen



E-mail: gregoryssm@shaw.ca / Website: www.stgregoryssm.com
www.facebook.com/St. Gregory's Church



St. Gregory's Parish News

Intentions & Readings for week of December 28 - January 3 2021

Monday, December 28

—No Scheduled Liturgy

1 John 1.5-2.2/Matthew 2.13-18

Tuesday, December 29

—No Scheduled Liturgy

1 John 2.3-11/Luke 2.22-35

Wednesday, December 30

—No Scheduled Liturgy

1 John 2.12-17/Luke 2.36-40

Thursday, December 31

—No Scheduled Liturgy

1 John 2.18-21/John 1.1-18

Friday, January 1

—No Scheduled Liturgy

Numbers 6.22-27/Luke 2.16-21

Weekend of January 2 & 3

—No Scheduled Liturgy

Isaiah 60.1-6/Ephesians 3.2-3a/Matthew 2.1-12

Week of January 4—8, 2021

—No Scheduled Liturgy

Weekend of January 9 & 10

—No Scheduled Liturgy

Isaiah 42.1-4/Acts 10.34-38/Matthew 3.13-17

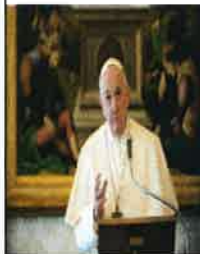
St. Gregory's mass streaming
on YouTube,
our parish website
and Facebook page.



Finance Report

Envelopes Brought In	\$5,339.00
Building Fund	\$107.00
Weekly Average (PADP)	\$372.00
TOTAL	\$5,818.00

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR GENEROSITY!!!



The Holy Father's
Prayer Intention for December...

We pray so that every country decides
to take necessary measures to make the
future of the very young, especially
those who suffer, a priority.

Parish Activities for the Week

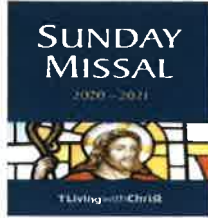
December 28—January 3

Monday 28	No Scheduled Events
Tuesday 29	No Scheduled Events
Wednesday 30	No Scheduled Events
Thursday 31	No Scheduled Events
Friday 1	Happy New Year
Saturday 2	No Scheduled Events
Sunday 3	No Scheduled Events

Parish Happenings

Sunday Missals (2020-2021)

Contact the office between Tuesday and Friday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm to purchase a copy. **Cost: \$5.00**



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

December 24th: 4:30 pm and 8:00 pm

Christmas Day

December 25th: 9:00 am and 11:00 am

December 26th: **No Scheduled Liturgy**

December 27th: **No Scheduled Liturgy**

New Years Day

January 1st: **No Scheduled Liturgy**

January 2nd: **No Scheduled Liturgy**

January 3rd: **No Scheduled Liturgy**



A Blessing for the New Year..



CWL Membership Fees
(\$22.00) are now due.

Please include your payment (cheque payable to St. Gregory's CWL) or cash in an envelope with your name, address & phone number. Payment can be put in the collection box or mail to St. Gregory's Parish (71 Estelle St. P6C 2C3) or dropped off in the parish office mailbox. New members are welcome!!

Due to recent announcements made by the Provincial Government, the **Parish office will be closed for 2 weeks**

**beginning December 29, 2020
through to
and including January 12, 2021.**

We appreciate your patience and continued support as we continue to navigate these times.

**Merry Christmas
and a very Prosperous
and Safe New Year to all.**



May you find truth in the year's smallest grace
and hope in this time of pandemic.

May a pillar of light before your face
drive out the darkness so you're never lost.

May your journey be safe where ever you go
and angels protect you from hassle and fuss.

May you learn to walk a little bit slow
and to grow each day in hope and trust.

And may the God of new beginnings
grant you a new year of love and peace
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!!



Look at the gifts scattered and stacked beneath the tree. We all get caught up in the hustle and bustle of Christmas. We are so worried about what we are going to buy for whom and how much we are going to spend. Even our children and grandchildren are caught up in the gifts and toys. They have looked through the Christmas wish books and made their lists. When we start to place those presents under the tree, there they are counting, shaking and trying to guess what they have received.

When we get worried about gifts, we lose the sense, actually forget, that real gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ. We do not see Jesus as a gift because it does not have to be unwrapped. It has already been opened for us. We did not have to pay for it and its price does not appear on any of our bills. It is a FREE gift.

Since God's Son is a gift, shouldn't this precious gift be placed under the tree? It is there that we can clearly see that what we are celebrating is not "Santa" mas but "Christ" mas. Jesus is God's gift to us.

The three wise men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to honour Jesus at his birth. What do we bring as our gifts of honour? We need only to bring one thing, ourselves, in our humanness, in our fragility, with all our frailties. Now that we have opened all our gifts, we still have a gift to open.

In silence, then, we ponder and reflect about the great gift that never has to be opened. As we look at that serene scene of Mary and Joseph looking down at the baby Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger, we hear that song of the angels,

*"Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace on earth
for those highly favoured."*

As we continue to look at the baby Jesus, we feel that happiness, that joy, he brings. We express this joy with everyone we meet. There is reason for rejoicing...

JESUS CHRIST IS BORN!!!

*Merry Christmas!
Blessed Nativity!
Fr. [Signature]*

DIOCESE OF SAULT STE. MARIE



DIOCÈSE DE SAULT STE-MARIE

Christmas Eve, 2020

Dear members of the diocesan family,
Dear friends of all faith traditions,

It gives me great pleasure to address this letter to you just a week after the inauguration of my ministry as bishop for the diocese of Sault Ste. Marie. With Christmas arriving just around the corner, one joyous occasion follows another!

There is something special about this time of year. Even as we struggle against the COVID-19 pandemic, hope bursts forth. We will have the chance to celebrate Christmas itself, for which I am grateful, and the new year carries with it the promise of a vaccine which will help us return to a more normal way of life.

To help combat this virus, residents of Ontario are being asked to enter another lockdown. Looking on the bright side, it will be a chance for us to slow down and spend time with our families and loved ones. Let us not forget that the reason for this "pause" is to protect the most vulnerable.

Many of us have experienced a loss this year, myself included. Christmas will feel different, no question about it. I invite all of us, therefore, to also remember those who may be feeling sad or alone at this time. Christmas is a chance for us to renew community, and this spirit of mutual communion is one of the great gifts Jesus gave to the world over 2000 years ago. Let's open that gift, and our hearts!

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a most blessed and happy New Year!



Yours in Christ,

+Thomas Dowd
Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie

Roman Catholic Diocese
of Sault Ste. Marie



Diocèse catholique romain
de Sault Ste-Marie

December 22, 2020

Ontario Announces Province-Wide Shutdown to Stop Spread of COVID-19 and Save Lives.

Opening Comments

The province announced today that hospitalizations for COVID-19 have increased by 74 per cent over the last four weeks and are more than 15 times higher than they were at the beginning of September.

As a result of these changing conditions, the Premier announced that the **entire Province** will move into shutdown status (grey zone) effective December 26, 2020.

COVID-19 Response Framework

As a result of the impacts of these changing conditions, time-limited measures will be implemented and evaluated throughout **14 days in Northern Ontario** and 28 days in Southern Ontario beginning December 26, 2020. The government, through its assessment, will determine if it is safe to lift any restrictions or if they are to be extended.

The Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie will adopt the directives.

DIOCESAN DIRECTIVES

Current Practices implemented until Dec 25th, 2020 at 11:59pm

The current Diocesan COVID-19 standard practices in parishes will remain in place until Dec 25th, 2020 at 11:59pm. Bishop Dowd wishes that the celebration of Christmas masses continue as previously planned by each parish.

Practices as of December 26th

There are now limits for attendees at religious services, rites or ceremonies, including weddings and funeral services. Instead of 30% capacity, the *newly* allowed number of attendees for religious services is **10 people** (including clergy, support staff and volunteers, both indoors and outdoors). Virtual religious services, (livestreaming Mass) are strongly encouraged.

Wishing you a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Jean Vezina, Chancellor
On behalf of the COVID-19 Team