

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD PARISH



Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

PARISH OFFICE

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Parish Priest: Rev. Kerry Brennan
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Deacon: Don Smith
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St. Francis Xavier Cemetery
Cheryl ext. 3
Email: sfxcemetery@bellnet.ca

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Most Precious Blood Church
8:30 a.m. Sunday

WEEKDAY MASS
Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Friday

Sunday Offerings

St. Francis Xavier

Sunday, December 22, 2024	\$ 4,524.60
Envelopes	\$ 3,973.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 230.00
Loose	\$ 321.60

Attendance: Sat. 135 Sun. 144

Sunday, December 29, 2024	\$ 3,373.10
Envelopes	\$ 2,849.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 230.00
Loose	\$ 294.10

Donations	\$ 5,750.00
Care Fund	\$ 390.00
Christmas to-date	\$ 12,397.55

Attendance: Sat. 116 Sun. 169

Christmas Eve – 5:00pm – 421 8:00 pm – 130

Christmas Day - 119

Most Precious Blood

Sunday, December 22, 2024	\$ 751.00
Envelopes	\$ 676.00
Loose	\$ 75.00

Sister Betty Fund	\$ 50.00
Donation	\$ 1,200.00

Attendance: 51

Sunday, December 29, 2024	\$ 993.00
Envelopes	\$ 558.00
Loose	\$ 335.00
EFT	\$ 100.00

Sister Betty Care Fund	\$ 300.00
Christmas	\$ 1,494.10

Attendance: Dec 29th – 57

Christmas Eve - 140

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS	
Mon. Jan. 6	
8:00am	Intentions of Elaine Turner by Mary Steele
Tues. Jan. 7	
8:00am	Helen McIntyre by Mary & Doreen Visutskie
Wed. Jan. 8	
8:00am	Barbara White by Richard & Maureen Brennan
Thur. Jan. 9	
8:00am	Gertrude Lepine by Roy & Jan Leitch
Fri. Jan. 10	
8:00am	Donald Mitchell by Roselle Ducasse
Sat. Jan. 11	
4:30pm	Intentions of Parishioners of both Parishes by Father Brennan
Sun. Jan. 12	
Calabogie 8:30am	Blanche Danziel by Marg Sullivan & Family
SFX 10:30am	Ruth McEachen by Bonnie & Charles Coulterman Peter English Charlotte & Hugh Nolan

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS	
Mon. Jan. 13	
9:00 AM	The ongoing Conversion and Spiritual Growth of the Staff and Students of St. Joseph's High School
Tues. Jan. 14	
8:00am	Harry Enright by Tom & Cathy Prince
Wed. Jan. 15	
8:00am	Gordon Wren by Arnold & Family
Thur. Jan. 16	
8:00am	Leonard Desjardine by Wife Lois
10:30am Bonnechere Manor	May Windle by Leo & Elsie Coulas
Fri. Jan. 17	
8:00am	Repose of the Soul of Dolly McDonald by Rita Lajoie
Sat. Jan. 18	
4:30pm	Intentions of Parishioners of both Parishes by Father Brennan
Sun. Jan. 19	
Calabogie 8:30am	Matilda Murphy by The Bowersox Family
SFX 10:30am	Brian O'Connell by Daughter Jennifer Cuff CJ, Gladys, Mark, Murray & Randy McNulty by Lori, Donna & Families

Epiphany of the Lord, Sunday, January 5, 2025

Baptism of the Lord, January 12, 2025

Prayers for the Deceased: We pray for our loved ones who have died especially Father Steve Ballard, Kevin Kearney and Stephanie Nickel.

Prayers for the Sick and Shut-in: We pray for those who seek God's healing, especially, Jeanne Rossi & son Adam, Lawrence Mahusky, Jacques Payette, Lois Desjardine, Elaine Turner, Sandra Carroll (mother of Robert Carroll), Susan Hanniman, Mary Visutskie, Yvonne Kohl, Marie Budden, Annlea O'Rourke, Doris Long, Johanna Mathieu, Margarita Kurth and Georges & Jeannette Blanchette.

If you have a family member in the hospital or at home and wish a priest to visit, please call the office to arrange.

CALABOGIE JANUARY SANCTUARY LAMP: Leo Murphy by the Murphy Family

Pope's Prayer Intention for January 2025: For the right to an education. Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

ATTENTION LECTORS: We have a new resource to help you Proclaim the Word of God at Mass. It's a workbook for Lectors Gospel Readers and Proclaimers of the Word. It gives good suggestion about phrases to emphasize and pronunciations of difficult words along with good explanations of the readings. I would suggest that you try to arrive 10 minutes before Mass to avail yourself of the excellent resource.

Bishop's Christmas and New Year Messages: Bishop Brehl's Christmas and New Year messages are available on our diocesan YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/@pembrokediocese>.

St. Francis Xavier Blessings: Thanks to all who made our Christmas Celebration so special this year: Gord & Sharon Harper and Brian & LeeAnn Shepherd who decorated our Church so beautifully and our Singers, Musicians, Lectors and Hospitality Ministers. A special thanks to all who remembered myself, Father Kenney, Deacon Don, Father Lukas and Parish Staff with cards and baked goods. Your generosity is much appreciated. *Father Brennan*

Most Precious Blood Blessings: Thank you for everyone who helped out with the beautifully decorating of the Church. And to Annette Charbonneau for donating the beautiful poinsettias.

Knights of Columbus Council 1916 is happy to announce they delivered close to 365 meals on Christmas Day. Thank you to all the volunteers who served and/or delivered the meals. Truly Christianity in action!

Word Among Us: Please be advised that they will not be arriving until the second week of January due to the postal strike.

2025 Envelopes are Ready: There are a few boxes left to pick up at the front doors of the church. Please make sure to use your new envelopes. And due to the numbers changing, if you wouldn't mind writing your name on them for the first couple weeks, that would be helpful.

Knights of Columbus: General meeting **Monday, January 13th at 7:00 pm** at Knights of Columbus Hall.

Mass Time Change: Please note mass time change is on **Monday, January 13th at 9:00am** so that the students at St. Joe's High School can attend.

Do You Like to Sing? The Pembroke Community Choir invites you to join us in January as we begin rehearsals for our Spring Concert. Online registration begins on December 15. Practices are from 7-9 pm every Monday, starting January 6, at Wesley Community Church, 210 Renfrew Street, Pembroke. Our concert will take place on April 27. There are no auditions, but the ability to read music is helpful and you can expect some homework. Register between December 15 and 31, to get the early bird discount: \$40 for adults and \$25 for students. After December 31, the fee will be \$50 for adults and \$30 for students. Online registration and more info at the PCC website: www.pembrokecommunitychoir.org

Are you looking for that special gift this Season? Look no further! You won't need to exchange because of wrong colour or size! Join us for the Christian Unity Event, an evening of laughter and praise at the Pembroke Pentecostal Tabernacle **on January 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** All proceeds go towards the St. Vincent de Paul St. Columbkille Conference. Featuring live Gate 47, comedian Joey I.L.O., and last but not least, the great skit by the Pembroke and Area Clergy Association! Contact Deacon Adrien Chaput to get your ticket or special ticket packages today at 613 732-7933 ext. 206 or email at dcadrienchaput@pembrokediocese.com. Let's make someone's Christmas special while helping others right here in our community!

SFX Euchre Party/Potluck: Our next Parish Potluck is **Saturday January 18th** after the 4:30 Mass. Kitchen will be open before Mass to drop off food. This week we would like to entice those of you who would like to enjoy a few games of Euchre. You need not have a partner as partners will change throughout the evening. Attending the potluck is not a requirement as euchre will commence after the meal. Please join us for an evening of fun.

Christian Unity Week — January 18-25, 2025 To celebrate Christian Unity Week a 'Worship Service ' involving several church congregations in Renfrew is being organized by the clergy. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

This year's theme is "Do you believe this?" We will reflect on the story of Martha's confession of faith in Jesus.

The Worship Service is on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 2:00 pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

Epiphany means manifestation. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore Him. Christian tradition has ever seen in the Magi the first fruits of the Gentiles; they lead in their wake all the peoples of the earth, and thus the Epiphany is an affirmation of universal salvation. St. Leo brings out this point admirably in a sermon, read at Matins, in which he shows in the adoration of the Magi the beginnings of Christian faith, the time when the great mass of the heathen sets off to follow the star which summons it to seek its Saviour.

That is the meaning, too, of the wonderful prophecy from Isaias which the liturgy appoints to be read in the first nocturn at Matins and at the Epistle of the Mass. This same thought of universal redemption the Church returns to as she sings, in the antiphon to the Magnificat at 2nd Vespers, applying the words to herself, of the union with Christ typified by the wedding feast at Cana, by the baptism of her children foreshadowed by that of Christ in the waters of the Jordan. Formerly the Epiphany was an additional day for solemn baptisms.

JUBILEE YEAR: Pope Francis has declared 2025 as a Holy Year of Jubilee for the Catholic Church. Established in 1470 by Pope Paul II to occur every 25 years, the Jubilee is a sacred time for transformation through God's holiness. It invites Catholics worldwide to renew their relationship with God, one another, and creation, celebrating the central Christian Message of hope.

The Jubilee year began on Dec. 24th with the opening of the Holy Door in Rome. Pope Francis has dedicated this Jubilee to "Pilgrims of Hope." Rooted in baptism, we are nourished by Christ, guided by the Spirit, and called to walk in hope - trusting in God's grace and longing for eternal life.

The Ordinary Jubilee of 2025 offers an opportunity for all to embark on a pilgrimage of hope – whether locally in our diocese cathedral or shrine (like St. Ann's Cormac) or Canada's National Shrines, or by travelling to Rome. Over the coming months you will hear more about the Jubilee Year in our own Diocese.

Please check the Diocesan Website for more information.

World Day of Peace 2025: The Holy See published the Holy Father's Message for the 58th World Day of Peace, which will be celebrated on 1 January 2025, the liturgical Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, who is likewise the Queen of Peace. The theme chosen by Pope Francis is "Forgive us our trespasses: grant us your peace".

This theme aligns with the spirit of the Jubilee Year, focusing on hope, forgiveness, and bringing people together. Inspired by *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Tutti*, the message highlights the need for change to build lasting peace in our lives individually, in communities, and worldwide.

In his message, the Holy Father states: "May 2025 be a year in which peace flourishes! A true and lasting peace that goes beyond quibbling over the details of agreements and human compromises. May we seek the true peace that is granted by God to hearts disarmed: hearts not set on calculating what is mine and what is yours; hearts that turn selfishness into readiness to reach out to others; hearts that see themselves as indebted to God and thus prepared to forgive the debts that oppress others; hearts that replace anxiety about the future with the hope that every individual can be a resource for the building of a better world."



In the liturgical calendar, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord signifies the end of the Christmas season. The Baptism of the Lord is notable because it marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and confirms his identity as the Son of God. This event is documented in all the gospels except John.