



ST. ANDREW ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



292 Red River Road
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1A8
Phone: 807 345-5202 Email: standrewrc@tbaytel.net
Web Site: www.standrewrc.ca



St. Andrew's Parish is a unique - diverse community of people who live and share life through trusting, loving and serving.

Our community is already gifted and enriched by many cultures and voices on a Mission to listen to the needs of others with an attitude of openness and acceptance for a deeper understanding and cooperation.

In our journey of life and faith, we work and strive to build a more peaceful and better society for a greater future. We like to share our talents by developing and maintaining a parish community that is active, vibrant and spiritually strong.

We look forward to preserving our faith traditions, reaching out to others as the living Body of Christ in this changing world.

Pastoral Team and Staff

Pastor:	Rev. Berchmans Francis
Deacon:	Rev. Mr. Andre Nicol
Deacon:	Rev. Mr. Joey Terhljan
Minister of Service:	Kathie Terhljan
Secretary/Bookkeeper	Angela Grimolizzi
Custodian:	Kerry Baraniuk

Office Hours

Tuesday to Thursday - 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Daily & Weekly Mass Schedule
See Mass Intentions inside Bulletin

Parish Registration

New Parishioner Welcome Packages are available on the Forms Rack at the back of the church.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parish Registration and Baptism Formation are required. Please contact the office.

Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Sundays from September to June during the 10 a.m. Mass. All children and parents are welcome.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Individual Confessions will be heard one-half hour before each mass.

Hospital/Home Visits

Please contact the Parish Office. In an emergency, if Father cannot be reached, please contact the TBRHSC at 807 684-6000 and ask for the Priest on Call.

R.C.I.A.

Please contact the office for more information about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Sacrament of Marriage

Parish Registration and a Marriage Preparation Course are required. Contact the office at least 12 months in advance.



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*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the poor.*

There is no mistaking the theme which rings out loud and clear in today’s liturgy – it’s a message of hope and rejoicing. The dawn is beginning to break and the Lord is very near, closer to us than we realize. Christ’s nearness is the strength which touches all our lives for he is now working with us and in us. This call to rejoice, lift up our hearts and be happy, presents us with a challenge and requires some soul-searching in the face of the problems confronting us at any given moment.

Christian joy does not come from the absence of sorrow, pain or trouble, but from an awareness of the presence of Christ within our souls. How are we to attain this spiritual joy which should be rightfully ours? We ask the same question as John was asked by the people. He replies in uncompromising language that the secret is to commit ourselves to God’s way and in so doing find our peace. Happiness comes from doing good, being honourable and showing concern for those in need. If the Gospel is Good News, could this conclusion be reached from the expression on our faces? The test of Christianity in troubled waters is not to be over-alarmed at what is happening, but to face the world with hope and confidence. The purpose of our whole being is happiness.

THIS WEEK – December 16th to December 22nd

PARISH MASS SCHEDULE:

Date	Location	Time	Mass Intention	Requested By
Tues. Dec 17	Our Lady’s Chapel	12:10 pm	Rickard Cederwall	The Cederwall Family
Wed. Dec 18	Our Lady’s Chapel	12:10 pm	Deceased MacRae Family Members	Barbara Jaatinen
Thurs. Dec 19	Our Lady’s Chapel	12:10 pm	Special Intentions of Kathie & Joey Terhijan	Mark Simpson
Fri. Dec 20	St. Joseph’s Chapel	4:15 pm	Rita Nevins	The Nevins Estate
Sat. Dec 21	Main Church	5:00 pm	Special Intention of Susan Tocheri	Mark Simpson
Sun. Dec 22	Main Church	10:00 am	Oliva Beaulieu Norris Badanai	Diane & Family Sharon & Family

FEAST DAYS:

- Dec 21 St. Peter Canisius
- Dec 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent



*Readings:
Micah 5.2-5a
Hebrews 10.5-10
Luke 1.39-45*

2025 JUBILEE YEAR – A HOLY YEAR OF HOPE:



This Christmas Eve, Pope Francis, like Pope John Paul II in 1999, will open the Holy Door to begin the Jubilee Year for 2025. It will be an ordinary holy year – in accordance with the tradition of the Church to celebrate such a year every

25 years, to give every generation a chance to experience that special time of grace and mercy in their life. Pope Francis encourages us to pray that “the coming Jubilee will be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God” and that we might recover “the confident trust we require in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God’s gift of creation.”

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Our Priests: Please pick up a “Pray for Priests” Calendar for December at the entrance to the church.

The Sick of our Parish: Joseph Bechta, Maria Bilyk, Catherine Carr, Mary Carr, Joseph Fink, Wayne Harman, Ann Kossar, Joan Krisko, Bridget Lefave, Stephanie Lenton, Mary Lou Lopez, Clementine Petchenuk, George Petralia, Carmela Scali, Anne Scott, Robert Sliskovich, Liberto Soares, Mimi Zugic.

Parishioners at Home: Gerry Gagnon, Emmi Janko, Paul Morrison, Walter Respondek, Nora Zsakai and in **Care Homes:** Christine Cerutti, Richard Harkof, Suzanne Michaud, Betty Ann Mutrey, John Peloza, Susan Respondek, Maura Robinson, Ed Sepanary, Rae Scarnati, Vi Trevisanutto, Anadelina Wood.

Faithful Departed in particular for those whose first anniversary of death occurs about this time.

Pope’s Prayer Intention for December: Let us pray that this Jubilee strengthens us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

“HOLY MOMENTS” WEEKLY CHALLENGE



TAP INTO JOY – On this 3rd Sunday of Advent or Gaudete Sunday, we are reminded that we need to balance our suffering with the rejoicing that comes from knowing that our sinfulness has been defeated by the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

This week let’s create a healthy balance by injecting joy into our lives...share a special meal with someone, play music, sing, dance, share laughter and tap into the deep down gladness that sustains us at all times.

“Joy does not simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day.”

Henri Nouwen

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	PARISH COLLECTIONS			
	COLLECTION ENVELOPES	ELECTRONIC OFFERINGS	LOOSE COLLECTIONS	BUILDING FUND
DECEMBER 8, 2024	\$725.00	\$333.00	\$185.75	\$1,120.00

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2024		
	NOVEMBER 2024	YEAR TO DATE
Operating Income	\$9,633.90	\$123,534.79
Operating Expense	\$21,851.13	167,008.54
Net Gain/Loss	-\$12,217.23	-\$43,473.75

2025 CHURCH ENVELOPES and **2025 ELECTRONIC OFFERING PROGRAM SCHEDULES** are now available for pick up at the back of the church for parishioners who participate in these programs. Blank sets of envelopes as well as Electronic Offering Program Registration Forms are also available for those who wish to take part in these programs which support the financial well-being of our Parish.

PARISH EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Our BRUNCH WITH ST. NICK held last Sunday raised **\$1,265.60**. Many thanks to our Special Events Team of Volunteers, those who donated supplies and financial donations to help defray expenses and to all who came out to enjoy good food and fellowship. Special thanks to St. Nick who made the day extra special for everyone!



ADVENT OUTREACH PROJECT – The CWL would like to thank all who have donated items toward our **Purse Project** in support of women in our community. CWL members will be collecting and sorting items in Baxter Hall on **Wednesday, December 18th following the 12:10 p.m. Mass** so that they can be delivered to Faye Peterson Women’s Shelter and Beendigen Anishinabe Women’s Crisis Home in time for Christmas. If you would still like to support this project, but have not yet had an opportunity to do so, items can be dropped off at the rectory **Tuesday, December 17th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or from 9 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, December 18th.**



Still searching for a Christmas gift for that “*Special Someone*”? Visit our **PARISH GIFT SHOP** at the Rectory and check out our selection of crucifixes, rosaries, comfort crosses, medals, books, children’s items and more. The Parish Gift Shop is open Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or by appointment.



IN THE DIOCESE



The Jesuits will be concluding their mission in the Diocese of Thunder Bay effective January 5, 2025. In order to express our sense of gratitude to the Jesuit Community for their service and commitment to our diocese, a **THANKSGIVING**

AND FAREWELL MASS will be held on **Sunday, January 5, 2025** at **St. Peter’s Parish at 12:30 p.m.** A reception will follow in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

BISHOP’S CAMPAIGN

**Parish Goal
\$17,500**



The deadline for donations is December 22, 2024.

If we do not meet our commitment, the shortfall will have to be covered by Parish Funds.



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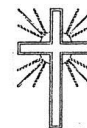


Knights of Columbus
Leo Council #1130

Meetings 2nd Tuesdays: Officers
4th Tuesdays: General
7:00 p.m. St Andrews R.C. Church

For Membership information, Contact
Mark Simpson 344-9737

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