



Sacré-Cœur de Jésus (Corbeil) Ste-Bernadette (Bonfield)

On unceded land of the Algonquin Nation

Bienvenue aux paroisses A-B-C, les paroisses catholiques romaines desservant les territoires d'Astorville, Bonfield, Corbeil et leurs environs.

Welcome to A-B-C Parishes, the Roman Catholic parishes serving the territories and surrounding areas of Astorville, Bonfield and Corbeil.

Curé/Pastor: Rev. Cyril Okebanama, S.M.M.M.

Mattawa / A-B-C Parishes Administration: c/o Paroisse Ste-Anne Parish - 241 Second Street, Box 160, Mattawa ON P0H 1V0

tel: 705-744-5391 // **courriel/email:** stannemattawa@gmail.com

Bureau paroissial A-B-C / A-B-C Parish Office:

c/o Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 1994 Corbeil Rd., Corbeil ON P0H 1K0

tel: 705-482-7999 // **courriel/email:** abcparishes@gmail.com

Les heures de bureau: Le jeudi 10h00 à 16h00 // Le samedi sur rendez-vous

Office hours: Thursdays 10:00am–4:00pm // Saturdays by appointment

site web/website: stannemattawa.ca au/or ourabcparishes.com

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BE
THE
LIGHT

Dimanche 6 septembre 2026 // Sunday, September 6, 2026

23e dimanche du temps ordinaire / 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Calendrier Liturgique / Liturgical Schedule

Année A / Year A

CETTE SEMAINE:

Fête/Celebration

Intention de messe / Mass Intention

Samedi 5 septembre Lecteur/Reader: Jocelyn Gervais	16h30	Corbeil * FR/EN	23e dimanche du temps ordinaire 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	† Bill LaCroix par/by Joyce LaFontaine
Dimanche 6 septembre	8h30	Bonfield FR/EN		Prières exaucées / Prayers Answered par/by un paroissien / a parishioner
	10h30	Mattawa		

LA SEMAINE PROCHAINE:

Samedi 12 septembre Lecteur/Reader: Aline Coote	16h30	Corbeil * EN/FR	24e dimanche du temps ordinaire 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	† Raymonde Rancourt par/by Jeannette Latour
Dimanche 13 septembre	8h30	Bonfield EN/FR		† Betty Rittenhoff Cotter par/by Jim Rittenhoff
	10h30	Mattawa		

LA SEMAINE DERNIÈRE: LAST WEEK: (29-30 août)	La Participation Attendance	Offrandes / Offerings	Fonds de réparation et d'entretien Repair & Maintenance Fund
Sacré-Cœur de Jésus (Corbeil)	39	\$800.00	\$10.00
Ste-Bernadette (Bonfield)	33	\$528.00	\$30.00

> **Sacrement de la confession:** disponible 15 min avant toutes les messes. // **Sacrament of Confession:** available 15 min prior to all Masses.

> **Le Rosaire:** les mercredis à 9h, paroisse Ste-Bernadette. // **The Rosary:** Wednesdays at 9:00 am, St. Bernadette Parish.

* Diffusée en direct sur Facebook / publiée le lendemain sur YouTube. // * Live streamed on Facebook / posted next day on YouTube.

Notes du Père Cyril / Notes from Fr. Cyril

Chers amis dans le Christ,

Dans l'Évangile d'aujourd'hui, nous avons entendu Jésus dire : « Amen, je vous le dis, si deux d'entre vous sur terre se mettent d'accord pour demander quoi que ce soit, ils l'obtiendront de mon Père qui est aux cieux. En effet, quand deux ou trois sont réunis en mon nom, je suis là, au milieu d'eux. » Cela nous rappelle l'importance des rassemblements communautaires pour la prière. C'est toujours une bonne chose que nous nous réunissions pour prier et adorer Dieu comme une seule famille.

Les prières personnelles sont également une bonne chose, seul avec Dieu, mais réfléchissez à ceci : si vous priez seul, en faisant vos prières personnelles, et que vous avez d'autres personnes à l'esprit, en priant aussi pour elles, pensez-vous que vous priez seul ? Je ne le crois pas, et cela nous rappelle également l'importance de penser aux autres en priant. Demandez toujours à Dieu de faire pour les autres ce que vous souhaitez qu'il fasse pour vous. Je vous suggère ceci : si vous avez de quoi manger et que vous souhaitez prier avant de prendre votre repas, demandez à Dieu de donner de quoi manger à ceux qui n'ont rien. Rappelez-vous : certains ont de quoi manger mais ne peuvent pas manger, d'autres peuvent manger mais n'ont rien ; quant à vous, vous avez de quoi manger et vous pouvez manger, c'est une raison de remercier Dieu. Réfléchissons-y pendant que nous savourons nos repas. Je vous souhaite à tous une semaine bénie.

Dear friends in Christ,

In today's gospel, we heard Jesus say; "Truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." This reminds us of the importance of community gatherings for prayers. It is always good when we gather together to pray and worship God as one family.

Private prayer is also good, alone with God, but think of this, if praying alone, saying your private prayers and you have others in mind, praying for them too, do you think you are praying alone? I don't think so, and it reminds us of the importance of remembering others in our prayers. Always ask God to do for others, what you want him to do for you. I suggest that If you have food to eat and wish to pray before eating, please ask God to give food to those who have nothing to eat. Remember; some have food but cannot eat, some can eat but have no food, but you have food and you can eat, it is something to thank God for. Let us think about this as we enjoy our meals. Have a blessed week everyone.



"The cross is the school of love"
+ St. Maximilian Kolbe (1894 – 1941)

Pope's Prayer Intention for September

For the care of water: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it. // ***Pour la protection de l'eau – Prions pour une gestion juste et durable de l'eau, ressource vitale, afin que chacun puisse y avoir accès dans des conditions d'égalité.***

Pembroke Diocese Online Prayer Meetings: Mondays' at 7:30pm. Now until Sept.28th: **A Rosary for Priests.** Join us on Zoom. Meeting ID: 814 1171 6854. Call Robert Poisson if assistance is needed at (416) 560-7024 or email: pembrokedioceseprayergroup@gmail.com.



Cemetery Sunday – September 13th

In keeping with our commitment to the community, every year, the Knights of Columbus hosts Cemetery Sunday, providing the Catholic community with a special opportunity to visit and pray for their family and friends they have lost over time. This year's observance of Cemetery Sunday will be held on **September 13th at 2:00 pm at All Saints Mausoleum, St. Mary's Cemetery, 132 Golf Club Rd., North Bay** and at **3:00 pm at Holy Cross Cemetery, 1075 Tower Dr., North Bay**. Remember, *praying for the dead is an act of mercy and we invite all to join us.*



A little Mattawa History

Just about anyone who comes to Mattawa is curious about the history of the legendary three crosses located across the Mattawa/Ottawa Rivers implanted on top of the Laurentian Mountains. Recently, in July, soon after Fr. Cyril's Anniversary Mass, it was decided to add this part of Mattawa's history to the Mattawa/A-B-C website, considering the cross's past connection to local priests and the Catholic faith. For your reading enjoyment, please find below from our website, a summary of *The Legend of the Three Crosses*, as we revisit a timeless piece of history showcasing a Catholic landmark that remains a treasure in the Mattawa area. May God continue to bless the work that we do for the Church, and in each of our communities.

THE LEGEND OF THE THREE CROSSES



The Legend of Mattawa's Three Crosses

High on the Laurentian hills across the Ottawa River, three white crosses overlook Mattawa—an unmistakable landmark and a symbol woven from history, faith, and local legend.



The Legend

A well-known legend tells the story of how a fire nearly destroyed Mattawa. A burning match accidentally ignited the tinder dry floor of an outhouse at the back of Mattawa's first town hall where it and the entire building were soon engulfed in flames, causing sparks to fly everywhere, threatening all of Main Street. Parishioners called upon Father Nelson Duquette, the pastor of Ste Anne Church (1917-1949) where he prayed in the street and vowed that if the town were spared, he would place three crosses on the mountainside across from the river. The winds shifted, the town survived. True to his vow, Father Duquette ensured that three crosses were erected in gratitude for what many called a "miracle". This legend remains one of Mattawa's most cherished stories—passed down through generations.



Historic Origins – 1686

The earliest recorded moment of the three crosses and Catholic worship in Mattawa, comes from the journal of Chevalier Sieur Pierre de Troyes. The entry states that his expedition stopped at the river's edge, at what is now known as Explorer's Point, to repair their canoes. It is also recorded that a Missionary priest, Father Silvie, a Jesuit, who was travelling with them, celebrated Mass at this site on Sunday, May 12, 1686. To mark the meeting place of the Mattawa and Ottawa Rivers, Le Chevalier de Troyes ordered three wooden crosses to be erected. The crosses stood there for a number of years commemorating Mattawa's first Mass and the passing of their successful expedition.



Community Unity

Another story is that in the summer of 1917, during the difficult years of World War I, two local priests and local volunteers decided that three crosses should stand on the high hill on the Québec side of the Ottawa River—visible to all who travelled through the valley. The crosses, built from 12-foot pine logs, were hauled to the top of the hill as a symbolic gesture of faith and solidarity during wartime. From that point onward, the hilltop of Laurentien Ridge became the home of Mattawa's Three Crosses.



A Symbol Rebuilt Through Generations

The crosses have never been permanent. Weather, rot, and vandalism have taken their toll, and each generation has stepped forward to rebuild them. They have been rebuilt many times—1927, 1953, 1975, 1986, and again in 1991, when local volunteers carried new crosses up the hill. Today, they stand on metal bases and are illuminated with solar lights, continuing a tradition kept alive by the people of Mattawa.

Whether born from explorer history, miraculous legend, or community devotion, the Three Crosses remain a defining symbol of Mattawa—faithful, resilient, and unmistakably ours.

