

Father Casartelli's

Fr Casartelli's is one of the runways on the Icy Hill Chase. It's on the road going into Icy Hill and is located between the Hardwoods and the Sullivan Pine. Occasionally deer cross here and we cover the runway if we have sufficient hunters; otherwise it would be preferable to cover the Hardwoods and the Sullivan Pine.

Father Casartelli served several stints as the parish priest of St Francis de Sales in Latchford Bridge. His first appointment there was to replace Fr. H. Maloney in September of 1943. For years, Fr. Louis and later, Fr. Michael Hass hunted with the gang.

Fr. Louis once shot a deer at this runway named after him, and on another day, a nice buck came out to him and, for whatever reason, whether he was saying his Breviary or whatever, he didn't see it. However, Don and Denis, who were just young kids at the time, were between the Hardwoods and Casartelli's and they saw it. When the young lads started telling about it at lunch time, Fr Louis got quite heated telling them they were seeing things; there was no deer. The other hunters then began teasing Louis. He loved to debate and you can imagine how he would have stuck to his story. He could have a good roaring argument with you, say you were stupid and that was the dumbest thing he ever heard, (he must have been absent the day they taught that ad hominem arguments were illogical), but then he got over it; wasn't one to hold a grudge.

Between 1869 and the late 1930s, over 100,000 juvenile migrants were sent to Canada from Great Britain during the child emigration movement. Motivated by social and economic forces, churches and philanthropic organizations sent orphaned, abandoned and pauper children to Canada. Many believed that these children would have a better chance for a healthy, moral life in rural Canada, where families welcomed them as a source of cheap farm labour and domestic help. As a child, Father Louis was sponsored by a bishop in England and was raised by the Coyne family in Brudenell. He was ordained a priest at Our Lady of the Angels Church in Brudenell on June 24, 1936. Later, he served as pastor for a least two periods of time in Latchford Bridge, the first beginning in September of 1943, and later, was posted for a time at the parish in Combermere. During a good part of his pastoral career he served at the parish in Maynooth and was a trustee on the board of the Hastings & Prince Edward Catholic School Board. He fought for Catholic education in Bancroft, Maynooth, and Whitney, insisting that the schools in his area have equal access to the goods and services that schools had in the bigger centres of the southern part of the board.