



Today

How amazing it is to think that in today's second reading, Paul was actually writing from prison. While we may not

know his exact circumstances, we can imagine that imprisonment in the first century undoubtedly meant horrible living conditions, likely in darkness, with very little to eat. In spite of this, however, Paul exudes a profound sense of joy and peace and gratitude in his Letter to the Philippians. How is that even possible? It is possible because Paul knew to the very core of his being that God was with him, as real as the chains that bound him. Knowing that God was present sustained Paul and filled him with joy, even in the very midst of suffering. God is just as real and as present in our world today as he was for Paul. In today's gospel, however, John the Baptist challenges us to make that presence known and felt in very concrete ways. Share everything you have, he tells us. Be fair and honest in everything you do. Be satisfied with what you have, not always grasping for more. In less than two weeks, we celebrate the coming of Emmanuel. In a world much in need of joy and peace, our lives must be the witness that God is with us, here and now. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice!

Teresa Whalen Lux, Regina, SK

First reading: Zephaniah 3.14-18a
Responsorial Psalm: Shout aloud and sing for joy; great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
Second Reading: Philippians 4.4-7
Gospel: Luke 3.10-18

Rose # 34 will lead the rosary this week.

LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – new schedules for Polish Masses can be picked up in the sacristy.

COFFEE AND DONUTS will be served today by **the WYD Youth.**

HOT MEAL WILL BE SOLD BY WYD YOUTH TODAY AS WELL. The entire profit will go to help our youth who will travel to Poland for WYD 2016.

This year's last meeting for those going for WYD to Poland will take place on Sunday, December 20th at 8:00pm. A special guest, Bp Douglas Crosby OMI, the president of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, will give a lecture entitled "the True Meaning of Christmas."

Below are the upcoming dates of meetings and the names of the leaders of each one:

December 20 – Bp Douglas Crosby OMI
"True meaning of Christmas"
Fundraising activities: December 20 – pierogis

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH GOING TO WYD 2016

INNOVATIVE FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY MORTGAGE REFERRAL PROGRAM
We are pleased to introduce a Mortgage Referral Program through My Home Mortgage Lending Solutions. All mortgage referrals which come through St. Maximilian Kolbe church and result in a live deal, the Youth Group will receive a cash reward which will support those participating in WYD 2016. Offering professional services and best interest rates: purchase of a home, refinancing, secured Line of Credit, consolidating expenses, access to all financial institutions Info: Ewa Palferro 905 510-1673 ewa@myhomemls.ca or Emilio Palferro 647 883-5909 emilio@myhomemls.ca

Third Sunday of Advent

THANK YOU & GOD BLESS

We would like to thank the Holy Rosary Family, as well as the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring St. Nicolas gifts for children. 400 children received St. Nicolas gifts.

TODAY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS have a Christmas collection of non-perishable food items for the Mississauga Food Bank. All donations can be placed in the boxes by the entrance of the church or in the parish hall next Sunday.

Advent is a time during which we participate in Advent Retreats in our parishes. The Canon Law states that Pastors, in accordance with the decree of the bishop, should organize at certain times the proclamation which is called a Retreat or a Mission. It is worth asking at the beginning of Advent what we can do to wisely use the Retreat time given to us. Today we begin our Advent Retreat. We invite everyone for the Advent Retreat in our parish.

ADVENT RETREAT
Today we welcome
Fr. Pawel Wyszowski, OMI
a missionary from Ukraine, who will lead our Advent Retreat (in Polish).

The program is as follows:
Sunday, December 13th

Retreat message intended for all during all Polish Masses.

Monday, December 14th

10:00am Mass and message intended for all

7:00 pm Mass and message intended for all

Tuesday, December 15th

10:00am Mass and message intended for the elderly and Sacrament of the sick

7:00 pm Mass and message intended for all

Wednesday, December 16th

10:00am Mass and message intended for all

7:00 pm Mass and message intended for all & Conclusion of Retreat

On Wednesday there will be a special collection, which will go to support Oblate Fathers work in Ukraine. Envelopes can be found next to bulletins.

We thank you for your generosity.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE
In both languages will be held: in our parish on Friday, Dec. 18th at 7:00pm and Tuesday, December 22nd at 7:00pm. We remind everyone that penitential service is also held a half hour before every Mass.

ANNUAL CLEANING OF THE CHURCH - before Christmas will be on Monday, Dec. 21st.
All volunteers are welcome!

We invite especially our youth, who can use this opportunity to complete their volunteer hours required for their high school diploma. If there is anyone who would like to donate flowers for the nativity scene, we ask for big red poinsettias.

From the Pulpit

In the four weeks of Advent the third Sunday came to be a time of rejoicing that the fasting was almost over.

The shift from the purple of the Season to pink or rose for the third Sunday Advent candles reflected this lessening emphasis on penitence as attention turned more to celebration of the season.

CHRISTMAS CARDS (Polish & English) & BLESSED CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATEK) & CALENDAR 2016
are available in the parish hall.

FRIENDS OF OBLATE MISSION – Fr. Adam Filas OMI would like to invite all members of the Mission group for the meeting on **Monday, Dec. 14th following the evening retreat Mass at 7:00pm.** Also Fr. Adam will have his Mass intention for Friends of Oblate Mission during the Mass at 7:00pm on Dec. 14th. All are welcome.

A.A - support group (reg. problems with consumption of alcohol). The next open meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 16th at 8:30pm** in Br. Anthony Room. Info: Wojtek 647 920-5859

PRAYER EVENING IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZE led by Adoremus Prayer Group - December 20th from 8:00pm - 9:00pm in the church (following the evening Mass). The spirit of Taize is based mainly on prayer through singing, the most important way of expression when looking at God's closeness.

WIGILIA – Polish Congress as well as Association of Polish Combatants and Association of Ladies of Hope invite all the lonely to a **Christmas Vigil on Thursday, December 24th** at the SPK Centre, 206 Beverley Street at **6:00p.m.** A fee of \$30.00 per person in cash to be paid until December 16th at Piast Travet located at 113 Roncesvalles Ave. Toronto, or in Mississauga at 2014 Dundas Str. E or 35 King Str. E. Info: 416 531-8786 or 416 486 7346

ANNIVERSARY MASS – December 27th at 11:00am for couples celebrating their wedding anniversary. Please forward the names to the parish office at 905 848-2420.

ADOREMUS PRAYER GROUP – invites all on **Saturday, January 2nd 2016 from 8:00-9:30pm** for a meeting with Jesus at the Holy Sacrament. Formation conference will be led by Fr. Marcin Serwin, OMI.

PRAYER EVENING IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZE led by Adoremus Prayer Group - January 17th 2016 from 8:00pm - 9:00pm in the church (following the evening Mass).

ADOREMUS is a new prayer group at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish. We adore the Lord through the Blessed Sacrament. If you want God to start changing your heart join us!

OFFERATORY ENVELOPES FOR CURRENT & NEW USERS FOR 2016 – are displayed in the parish hall in alphabetically order according to the family name.

JUBILEE OF MERCY

An extra ordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy was inaugurated in Vatican City by Pope Francis on the day of **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception - Tuesday, December 8th 2015.** It will end on the day of Solemnity of Christ the King – **Sunday, November 20th 2016.**

The opening of the Holy Door of Mercy of St. Peter's Basilica by Pope Francis will symbolize the beginning of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The door was closed and bricked at the end of the Jubilee Year 2000. The Holy Door was unveiled during the celebration of "confirmation" led by Cardinal Angelo Comastri. The main sights of the Jubilee Year of Mercy will be all four basilicas of Rome, including St. Peter's Basilica Vatican City. The main aim of the Church during this Jubilee of Mercy is to remind the faithful of the merciful God, who invites, forgives and forgets every sin. In order to receive an indulgence, it is required to visit a Cathedral or a church or a sanctuary of special significance and pass through the Holy Door of Mercy, as well as fulfil the conditions: say the Creed and a prayer for the Pope and for his intentions. Designated churches for the Jubilee with a Holy Door of Mercy:

- **St. Paul's Basilica** 83 Power Street, Toronto
- **St. Patrick's Parish** 131 McCaul St., Toronto
- **Merciful Redeemer Parish** 2775 Erin Centre Blvd., Mississauga
- **St. Anthony of Padua Parish** 940 North Park Dr., Bramalea
- **St. Patrick's Parish** 11873 The Gore Rd., Brampton
- **St. Theresa's Parish** 2559 Kingston Rd., Scarborough
- **The Martyrs' Shrine** 16163 Highway 12 West, Midland
- **Marylake Shrine** 13760 Keele St., King City
- **St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish (Divine Mercy Chapel)** 4260 Cawthra Rd. Mississauga

A special decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary signed by Cardinal Marus Piacenza designated the door to the Chapel of Divine Mercy as the Holy Door meaning that everyone who comes to adore in the chapel will have the opportunity to receive an indulgence by passing through the Holy Door and fulfilling the requirements.

The Apostolic Penitentiary, for the increase of the piety of the faithful and for the salvation of souls, by special mandate granted to it by His Holiness, from God's grace Holy Father Pope Francis, in response to the request of Fr. Janusz Blazejak, OMI, pastor of the parish under the patronage of St. Maximilian Kolbe in the Archdiocese of Toronto, taking from the spiritual treasury of the Church willingly grants a jubilee Plenary Indulgence, which can be also offered in a manner of intercession for the souls of the faithfully departed in purgatory, which may be obtained on the usual conditions (sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff) by the faithful, who portray authentic remorse and are guided by Christian Charity, who unite themselves in heart with the spiritual intentions of the Year of Mercy, visit the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel of Perpetual Adoration of God's Divine Mercy and for a suitable time will remain in pious meditation concluding with the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and request the intercession of the Most Blessed Mother Mary... This decree remains valid throughout the entire Holy Year of Mercy.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary Given in Rome, at the Offices of the Apostolic Penitentiary, November 18th, in the year 2015 since the Incarnation of Our Lord.

+ **Card. Maurus PIACENZA**
Major Penitentiary



OMI JUBILEE –CELEBRATIONS

On the occasion of 200th Anniversary of Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the Assumption Province cordially invites you to the following events:

- **January 18, 2016 at 7:00 pm – Solemn Mass at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church in Mississauga for the official opening of Jubilee Year. The Presider and homilist will be Thomas Cardinal Collins.** We invite all priests, religious, parish communities, organizations, and all people of good will to join us for this event.
- **January 21, 2016 at 6:00 pm – Jubilee Banquet at Pearson Convention Centre in Brampton.** This event will be filled with powerful testimonies of young people, families, representatives of various parishes and organizations, as well as with performance of well-known vocalist Jacek Wojcicki from Poland. Delicious dinner and wine will be served. **Tickets are \$50 and are available in the parish office or at (416) 767-4760.**

Come and celebrate with us the 200 years of our ministry!

OMI JUBILEE TESTIMONIES

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate we invite you to submit a short testimony of how the ministry of the Missionary Oblates influenced your life. Length no more than 500 words, **deadline February 17th 2016.** Testimonies may be submitted by e-mail to secretary@omiap.org. (Documents saved as docx, doc or pdf files) or by mail to 200 Years of OMI, 71 Indian Trail, Toronto, On. M6R 2A1. If you wish to participate in a prize draw, complete contact info: address, telephone & e-mail (optional) must be included in top right hand corner of submission. Draw will be May 21, 2016. Selected testimonies will be featured in Jubilee Book and on Oblate website.

X INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS
Saturday January 23rd 2016
Evening with *Andrzej Cierniewski* in concert at the „Millennium Gardens” banquet hall

- Oplatek wishes before dinner
- Delicious meal served with wine
- **Andrzej Cierniewski** concert
- Midnight buffet
- Live music for your dancing pleasure by **"NON STOP"**

Tickets will be available for sale in our parish office and from **January 3rd** at the back of the church after each Sunday Mass. Reserve this unforgettable evening in your calendars today.

Sunday January 24th 2016
- Christmas Carol contest followed by a concert by *Andrzej Cierniewski*

Pilgrimages

PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE - May 16th - 28th 2016 led by Fr. Janusz Blazejak, OMI – Pilgrimage includes: Aix-en-Provence, ND de Lumiere, Lourdes, La Salette, Avignon, Cassis, Carcasson & Lyon. Cost: \$3358 + airport taxes Info: Polimex Travel 905 238-6683 (ask for Mira) More detailed info www.kolbe.ca

CATECHESIS REGISTRATION (FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION)
Enrollment for First Holy Communion and Confirmation classes is still possible in the parish office during office hours.
For any question please contact **Fr. Wojtek or Sr. Karolina**



NEW YEAR'S DANCE – Thursday, December 31st – Cost \$130.00 Included in the cost of the ticket is a hot supper by Jan Gromada. Music provided by NON-STOP. Info & tickets: 905 306 9900

RADIO MARYJA OPLATEK will be held on **Sunday, January 10th 2016. 2:30pm Mass at St. Maximilian Kolbe and 4:00pm-banquet at Polish Culture Centre.** Info & tickets: Joanna Strzezek 905 845-3553

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 14th Saint John of the Cross

- 8:00 ✚ Piotr Ziemak & Wieslaw Bialy – Agnieszka & family
- ✚ Maria Piton (4th anniv.)
- ✚ Halina Andrusyszyn – daughter Zenobia
- Special intention for successful surgery for Joanna
- 10:00 ✚ Zygmunt – daughters & their families
- 19:00 Special intention for God's blessings for parents on their 54th wedding anniversary – daughter & family

TUESDAY, December 15th

- 8:00 ✚ Elzbieta Zolopa – daughter & family
- ✚ Jan Matusiak (2 months) – family & friends
- ✚ Felicja – wnuk
- Special intention for God's blessings for Jennifer & Tammy
- 10:00 ✚ Domicela Szumylo (9th anniv.) – daughter Grazyna & family
- 19:00 ✚ Kazimierz Pakulski & Stanislav Guzdek & Szczepan Balon

WEDNESDAY, December 16th

- 8:00 ✚ brother Edward Kulina - brothers
- ✚ Ryszard Dziedzic & Jan Cisla & all deceased from family
- ✚ Darrin Wilkie (8th anniv.) – wife & children
- Special intention for God's blessings for Anna on her 25th birthday - aunt & uncle
- 10:00 ✚ Stanislaw & Helena & Jan Kanty Grela – son & family
- 19:00 ✚ Maria & Piotr Bialoszewski & all deceased from both families – daughter & family

THURSDAY, December 17th

- 8:00 ✚ Irena Kaczynska – son Jaroslaw & family
- 19:00 ✚ Eugeniusz Janusz (4th anniv.) – son & family
- ✚ Roman & Marianna Tomczak - children

FRIDAY, December 18th

- 8:00 ✚ Maria & Wojciech Kowalczyk – daughter & family
- Special intention for successful surgery and for health for Mariah – family
- Special intention for God's blessings for Dawid Zelek on his 18th birthday – parents
- ✚ Wiktoria Janusz – daughter & family
- 19:00 **Penitential Service & Confession**

SATURDAY, December 19th

- 8:00 ✚ Marian Szlakiewicz (10th anniv.) – sister & family
- 17:00 ✚ Jozefa & Aleksander Ciezadlo & Irena & Tadeusz Czarnik (25th anniv.) – Stanislaw & Jozef Ciezadlo
- 19:00 ✚ Antonina & Medard Palikowski – daughter & family

SUNDAY, December 20th Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 ✚ all deceased from Grabowski & Wierciszewski families
- 9:30 ✚ Wladyslaw & Janina Styka - children
- 11:00 ✚ Fr. Jakub Szwarz, OMI (7th anniv.)
- 13:00 ✚ Seweryn Stadnik & Jacek Stadnik (2nd anniv.) – wife & mother & family
- 14:30 ✚ Bronislawa & Sergiusz & Antoni & all deceased from family
- 19:00 ✚ Janusz Smagala (2nd anniv.) – wife & children & grandchildren