

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sometimes I feel I have so much to be thankful for, while at other times – less so. Life is filled with ups and downs: what I need to remember is that God is here with me through good times and bad. I remember times when I felt like I'd hit bottom, and I imagine similar times are ahead. At the moment, I feel as though I am on top. God was there with me when I felt down and low and I turned to him. Now, feeling up and on top, I turn to him less. Clearly this is not what he or I want. In the first reading today, Micah reminds us of how tough will come to pass, and how God will be there to provide a sense of peace. Then, in the Letter to the Hebrews, the author writes about sacrifice. Ours no longer being sufficient, Christ makes the ultimate sacrifice for all of us. In the gospel, Luke's portrait of Elizabeth reflects her mindfulness of the highs and lows of life: we learn she has patiently waited for a child and now, she does not lose sight of God. Instead she gives him praise and glory, just as we should remember to do, in both good times and bad.

Dana Kenny, Charlottetown, PE

**First reading:** Micah 5.2-5a  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.  
**Second Reading:** Hebrews 10.5-10  
**Gospel:** Luke 1.39-45

**Rose # 35** will lead the rosary this week.

**COFFEE AND DONUTS** will be served today by the **Rosary Family**.

**PIEROGIES FROM SUPREME PIEROGIES** will be sold today in the parish hall by **Youth heading to WYD 2016**.

We are warmly invited for pierogis: cabbage & mushrooms, fruits (strawberry or blue berries), potato & onions, potato & cheddar cheese, sweet cheese, cottage cheese, meat and more.

Cost: \$3.00 or for 5kg (165 pierogis) - \$25.00  
**You make your purchase at the youth table in the parish hall and pick up your pierogis from the car at the parking lot.**

Today is a last meeting in 2015 for those going for WYD to Poland. Meeting will be held 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." Next meeting for Youth will be held on Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> and will be led by Bp John Boissonneau.

**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](mailto:ewa@myhomemls.ca) or Emilio Palferro 647 883-5909 [emilio@myhomemls.ca](mailto:emilio@myhomemls.ca)

## Baptisms

The following children will receive the Sacrament of Baptism:

*Doris Raquel Benavides daughter of Doris & Pawel  
 Sandra Lajci daughter of Sylwia & Kustrim  
 Elizabeth Adriana Kolaczek daughter of Katarzyna & Dominik*

We welcome those children and congratulate their parents and godparents.

### PENITENTIAL SERVICE

In both languages will be held: in our parish on **Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm.** We remind everyone that penitential service is also held a half hour before every Mass. A reminder that there is no confession during Sunday Masses or during the Christmas Octave.

**ANNUAL CLEANING OF THE CHURCH - before Christmas will be on Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm.** 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.

We invite everyone to take part in the Christmas Eve Masses. We would also like to remind you that participating in the Eucharist on Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup> is mandatory.

**PARISH OFFICE** will be closed on **December 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**ADVERTISEMENT** - The cost of printing the church bulletin is covered by businesses advertising in them. Our appreciation and thanks to all our existing sponsors. Let us repay their sponsorship and patronage by using the services that they provide.

**PARKING** - Please be aware that when parking on private property there are certain bi-laws that must be obeyed by all drivers. The Pastoral Team is not held responsible for any parking tickets issued by the city's authorities.

**JASELKA & CHRISTMAS CAROLS CONCERT** - Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup> following the evening Mass in the parish hall - performed by Youth from WYD 2016 Group & Youth Choir & Jubilee 2000 Choir.

**GOLEC uORKIESTRA CHRISTMAS CONCERT** featuring the best carols on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 8:00pm at Living Arts Centre in Mississauga. Tickets available in Polish parishes.

## From the Pulpit

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

**PRAYER EVENING IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZE led by Adoremus Prayer Group** - today, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

**BLESSING FOR CHILDREN** - Next Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup> on the occasion of the Feast of the Holy Family there will be a special blessing for children held after the Holy Mass at 9:30am, as well as 1:00pm.

**ADOREMUS PRAYER GROUP** - invites all on Saturday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**OPLATEK FOR THE ROSARY FAMILY** will take place on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 4:00pm in the parish hall. Members and their families are welcome. Admission by tickets only! Tickets can be obtained from the Leaders for \$5.00.

**PRAYER EVENING IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZE led by Adoremus Prayer Group** - January 17<sup>th</sup> 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!

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE** - The next course will be held from Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> - March 7<sup>th</sup> 2016. Classes will be held on Monday from 8:00pm to 10:00pm, for a total of 6 classes. Sign up - parish office.

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

**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

## Pilgrimages

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

## Gloria in Excelsis Deo!



### 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 8<sup>th</sup> 2015. It will end on the day of Solemnity of Christ the King - Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 2016.

A special decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary signed by Cardinal Marus Piacenza in response to the request of Fr. Janusz Blazejak, OMI, 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.



### 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 200<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 2016. Testimonies may be submitted by e-mail to [secretary@omiap.org](mailto: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.

At this time of the Year, millions of people all over the world exchange Christmas greetings.

Dear Parishioners,  
 From the bottom of our hearts we wish you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas. May the New Born Jesus bring you Peace, which the world cannot give, Love, whose authorship is He alone, and Hope, which comes in our lives through His coming. May the miracle of the birth of the Son of God open our hearts to accept the King of Mankind into our lives and permit Him to rule over them. Merry Christmas!

Fr. Janusz Blazejak OMI - Pastor,  
 Fr. Tomasz Kosciński, OMI  
 Fr. Wojciech Stangel OMI  
 Fr. Marcin Serwin OMI,  
 and Sr. Karolina Szymkowiak MCHR.

### Christmas Eve - Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> -

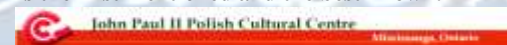
On Thursday, we will celebrate Christmas Eve in our families. Let us make sure that it is a truly Christian celebration. Let it be an opportunity to unite and reconcile. Let us not forget about a prayer and a lecture of the passage of the Birth of Christ from the Holy Bible (The Gospel according to Luke). Traditionally, we abstain from consuming meat products on Christmas Eve, although it is no longer obligatory. Let us all meet during the midnight Mass, celebrating the birth of our Lord.

### Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord - December 25<sup>th</sup>

On this day the Church focuses especially on the newborn Child, God become human, who embodies for us all the hope and peace we seek. We need no other special saint today to lead us to Christ in the manger, although his mother Mary and Joseph, caring for his foster-Son, help round out the scene.

### Feast of St. Stephen - December 26<sup>th</sup>

One of the first deacons and the first Christian martyr; feast on December 26<sup>th</sup>. In the Acts of the Apostles the name of St. Stephen occurs for the first time on the occasion of the appointment of the first deacons (Acts 6:5). Dissatisfaction concerning the distribution of alms from the community's fund having arisen in the Church, seven men were selected and specially ordained by the Apostles to take care of the temporal relief of the poorer members. Of these seven, Stephen is the first mentioned and the best known.



**NEW YEAR'S DANCE** - Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup> - 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

## Mass Intentions

### MONDAY, December 21<sup>st</sup>

8:00 ☩ Witold Debnak (4<sup>th</sup> anniv.) - Marta & family  
 ☩ Wladyslawa Robak - son & family  
 ☩ Henryk Zmudka (1<sup>st</sup> anniv.) - sister & her husband & daughter  
 ☩ Anna Wereszczynska - daughter & family

18:00 **Cleaning of the Church - No Mass at 7:00pm**  
**TUESDAY, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

8:00 ☩ Iza & Tadeusz Slotwinski ( 8<sup>th</sup> anniv.) - son & family  
 ☩ Halina Rozycka ( 6<sup>th</sup> anniv.) - sister & family  
 ☩ Helena Krasnodebska (19<sup>th</sup> anniv.) - daughter & family  
 Special intention for God's blessings for children Paulina & Bernadeta - parents

19:00 **Penitential Service & Confession**  
**WEDNESDAY, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

8:00 ☩ Jacek Stadnik (2<sup>nd</sup> anniv.) - wife & daughters  
 ☩ Edward & Helena Ambrozy - daughter & family  
 ☩ Wacław Kucharski & Krystyna & parents  
 ☩ Jadwiga (24<sup>th</sup> anniv.) - daughters & their families

19:00 **NO MASS**

### THURSDAY, December 24<sup>th</sup>

8:00 ☩ Franciszka & Adam Tyminski - daughter & family  
 ☩ Jacek Gogola - Rowinski & Maciag families  
 ☩ Stanislaw Szarek - family  
 ☩ Franciszek Cwik

20:00 (church-Pol.) In intention of children  
 22:00 (church-Eng.) ☩ Henryk Szczutkowski - wife & son

22:00 (hall-Pol.) ☩ Jozef Jasinski - wife & daughter & family

24:00 (church-Pol.) ☩ Aleksandra & Stanislaw Teczar - son

24:00 (hall-Pol.) ☩ Jozef & Helena Szczurek - son & family

### FRIDAY, December 25<sup>th</sup>

#### Christmas - The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 ☩ Remigiusz & Agnieszka Polom & Wladyslaw & Gertruda Lubinski  
 9:30 Special intention for God's blessings for Wanda & Ryszard Zebrowski & their family on their 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary

11:00 ☩ Szczepan Bryk - wife  
 13:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Nicole on her 10<sup>th</sup> birthday - parents

14:30 ☩ parents Anna & Jozef Osadca & all deceased from family

19:00 ☩ Honorata & Bronislaw Skrucz -son & family

**SATURDAY, December 26<sup>th</sup> St. Stephen**  
 8:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Julia & Roman Sroslak

9:30 ☩ Andrew Gut - wife & family

11:00 ☩ Krystyna Siemiginowska ( 25<sup>th</sup> anniv.) - children

13:00 ☩ Henryk Balcerzak ( 20<sup>th</sup> anniv.) - daughter Jolanta & family

17:00 ☩ Jakub Grad - family

19:00 ☩ Emilia & Jan Bis & Danuta & Wincenty Klin - family

### SUNDAY, December 27<sup>th</sup>

#### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Katarzyna & Marek Gwozdz & their family

9:30 ☩ Janina Ambroza & Tadeusz Wrobel - children

11:00 **Intention for couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries**

13:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Anna & Artur on their 12<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

14:30 ☩ husband Miroslaw Sadecki (3<sup>rd</sup> anniv.) - wife & children

19:00 ☩ all deceased from Romanowski & Dudziak families - family