



Mary, the Holy Mother of God

"God sent His son, born of a woman." This mysterious encounter, where a vulnerable girl finds the strength to say yes, brings about our adoption into the family of God. That fragile young woman becomes our holy mother, to whom we turn in our own moments of fragility. And God becomes our "Abba," to whom we cry out like a small child calling for their daddy. From that "born of a woman" miracle, we are welcomed into an economy of grace that turns the power structures of this world on their heads. You want to see tough? Meet this unmarried girl face to face with a terrifying angel. You want to see a powerful king? Here is Christ crucified. The encounter with the living God turns this broken world, full of oppression and abuses of power, onto its head. Mary embraced the encounter, and through that Christ enters our world to "bring good news to the poor." The world-transformation we long for isn't subtle. Jesus promises captives released, blindness reversed, the oppressed going free: no half measures. The encounter with the face of God is an encounter with a terrifying, purifying light. That light transforms with burning heat and renders the darkness unrecognizable. From vulnerability, strength. From the darkness, light. May the Lord make his face to shine upon us.

Kate McGee, Toronto, ON

First reading: Numbers 6.22-27
Responsorial Psalm: May God be gracious to us and bless us.
Second Reading: Galatians 4.4-7
Gospel: Luke 2.16-21

Rose # 28 will lead the rosary this week.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE – January 1st. The World Day of Peace was established by Pope Paul VI in 1968 who asked that "every year, this commemoration be repeated as a hope and as a promise, at the beginning of the calendar which measures and outlines the path of human life in time, that Peace with its just and beneficent equilibrium may dominate the development of events to come." Each year has a specific theme, chosen by the Holy Father.

MASS INTENTIONS & GREGORIAN MASS SERIES – All those who did not get a chance to reserve individual Mass intentions in our parish can still book Mass intentions in our parish office. Those extra Masses will be celebrated at Provincial House or at Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre or by Fr. Marcin Rosinski.



Weddings

The following couple is planning to be married:

Renata Victoria Reitmeier daughter of Krystyna & Stanislaw
 Michal Marcin Ramzia son of Barbara & Jacek

We wish them all God's blessing.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God January 1st

The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God falls exactly one week after Christmas, the end of the octave of Christmas. It is fitting to honour Mary as Mother of Jesus, following the birth of Christ. When Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God we are not only honouring Mary, who was chosen among all women throughout history to bear God incarnate, but we are also honoring our Lord, who is fully God and fully human. Calling Mary "Mother of God" is the highest honor we can give Mary. Just as Christmas honours Jesus as the "Prince of Peace," the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God honours Mary as the "Queen of Peace" This solemnity, falling on New Year's Day, is also designated the World Day of Peace.

CHURCH RENOVATION IN 2016

This past year we had a lot of church renovations and new equipment replacements.

Along with many changes the entire sanctuary was renovated. A new carpet, tabernacle, baptism font, ambo as well as a new altar were installed. The new altar is made from the altar on which St. John Paul II celebrated the Holy Eucharist during the World Youth Days that took place in Toronto in 2002. Additionally, the church sound system was replaced. The old one was installed at the time when Fr. Stanislaw Bak was the pastor. The new sound system was installed by RDUCH Company from Poland. This company is very well known for their spectacular work with church sound systems. The last step is to replace the sound system in the downstairs parish hall. This is planned for the beginning of the next year.

We have completed the construction of the new entrance to the church. It is the most-used entrance to our church. The cost of the entire investment is \$300,000.00 plus unforeseen expenses. Due to snow, the area outside will be cleaned during the spring.

We ask that each family donate a minimum of \$50.00 towards this cause, however we greatly appreciate each and every donation. Currently we have collected \$87,387.00 for this project. We thank all parishioners for their understanding and generosity. God Bless!



WHAT IS NEW IN OUR PARISH?

There are 15,182 families officially registered with our parish. We kindly ask to contact the parish office of an address or phone number change so you can continue to be formally registered member of our parish.

In the year 2016 we welcomed 232 new members into our parish community through Baptism, 165 children received their First Holy Communion, 187 were confirmed, 51 marriages were blessed and 114 members passed from this life to eternal life.

Our community is quite extensive, therefore let us take care of one another, raise our children and youth with kindness and concern for others, let us respect each other and above all, let us grow and develop spiritually within our families and our community.

Happy New Year!

We would like to take this opportunity and wish all of our parishioners a multitude of God's grace in this New Year 2017. May God bestow his blessings on our parish organizations, catechists, animators, coordinators, members of the parish committees, volunteers, and all those who contribute to the building of our parish community. May God, the source of all blessing, impart His grace upon you.

And may He preserve and guide your spiritual and physical well-being. May He also sustain in you a steadfast genuine faith, unwavering hope and enduring love. May the God of Peace guide you in your life and work; may He always hear your prayers, and lead you to eternal life.

May you be blessed in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



200th Anniversary of Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

The Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Assumption Province cordially invite you to the closing celebrations of the 200th anniversary. **January 22, 2017 at 3:00pm – Solemn Mass at St. Eugene de Mazenod Church in Brampton.** The Presider and homilist will be Cardinal Orlando Quevedo OMI Archbishop of Cotabato, Philippines. Thomas Cardinal Collins as well as many other Bishops confirmed their attendance. We invite parish communities, organizations, and all people of goodwill to join us for this event. Following the Eucharist a standing reception will take place at Millennium Gardens Banquet Hall located beside the church (20 Polonia Ave, Brampton).

OFFERATORY ENVELOPES FOR CURRENT & NEW USERS FOR 2017 – are displayed in the parish hall in alphabetical order according to the family name. All users of the envelopes are asked to write their name, last name and address on the first "beginning offertory" envelope in order to match the envelope number with the family name signed for it.

Parishioners who did not pick up their envelopes for 2017 are asked to do as soon as possible. Envelopes that were not collected will be passed onto other parishioners. We also ask not to use envelopes from previous years.

From the Pulpit

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH January 5th – Prayer for vocations at 6:30pm. "Golden Rose" Apostolate, which is an apostolate of prayer and fasting for priests working in our parish exists already for quite some time in our parish. Members of the "Golden Rose" Apostolate participate in the liturgy of the first Thursday of the month, during which they pray the rosary. Info: Marzena at 647-284-1631 or Beata at 416-453-2014.

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH – Jan. 6th Masses are at 8:00am, 10:00 am and 7:00pm. Confession starts at 6:00pm.

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH- January 7th - Mass and First Saturday Service are at 8:00am.

LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS OPLATEK - will take place on Saturday, January 7th at 3:30pm

PRAYER EVENING WITH THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Adoremus Prayer Group invites on Saturday, January 7th 2017 from 8:00pm – 9:30pm in the church (following the evening Mass) for a prayer evening with the Blessed Sacrament. We praise and worship God in joyful songs, listen to a formation talk on selected themes in spirituality, do a guided meditation on the Gospel, pray for healing and receive individually a blessing with the Blessed Sacrament.

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH – Due to the New Year First Sunday the next Exchange of Mysteries for the English Groups will take place on **Second Sunday, January 8th 2017** following the Mass at 9:30am, after which the Rosary Group shares the Christmas Wafer (OPLATEK), in the parish hall at 10:30am. All are welcome!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING - on Tuesday, January 10th following Holy Mass at 7:00pm and the exchange of the Mysteries of the Living Rosary. After Mass, a meeting will be held in the Knights of Columbus room at the John Paul II Cultural Centre.

100th ANNIVERSARY OF APPARITIONS OUR LADY OF FATIMA

On May 13, 2017, we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the appearance of Blessed Virgin Mary to three young Portuguese shepherds in Fatima, Portugal. We believe that the celebrations taking place in Fatima will be a time of special blessings.

Our parish is organizing a pilgrimage to Fatima, as well as other holy places in Portugal and Spain in May of 2017. It is currently sold out. Due to such high interest, we will organize a second pilgrimage from September 11th -18th 2017. It is, however, a program for those on a stricter budget but who wish to visit Fatima in the year of the 100th anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions, as well as Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Cost \$2195.00plus taxed \$504.00 Total: \$2699.00 Direct fly to Lisbon by Air Canada Sign up & info Polimex 905 238-6683 ext. 427 ask for Mira

In Short

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OPLATEK on Saturday, January 14th at 6:00pm Info & tickets 905 276-3789

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE - The next course will be held from Feb. 20th - March 27th 2017. Classes will be held on Monday from 8:00pm to 10:00pm, for a total of 6 classes. Sign up – parish office.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE FOR SECOND UNIONS – couples should attend a specialized marriage preparation offered by the Catholic Family Services 416 921-1163.

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.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, January 2nd

Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

8:00 ✠ Wladyslaw Beblo & Maria & Stanislaw Surowiec - family
 ✠ all deceased from Bilkiewicz family
 Special intention for God's blessings for Janina Kosnik on her birthday
 19:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Maria on her 82nd birthday – daughter & family

TUESDAY, January 3rd

8:00 Special intention for God's blessings for family – mother
 10:00 In intention of Senior Kolbe Club members
 19:00 ✠ Jozef Trybuszek

WEDNESDAY, January 4th

8:00 Special intention for God's blessings for daughter Agnieszka - father
 19:00 Group Intention

THURSDAY, January 5th

8:00 ✠ Zbigniew Piszczek (33rd anniv.)
 19:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Martin Guzda on his birthday - parents

FRIDAY, January 6th

8:00 ✠ Tadeusz Widota (2nd anniv.) - family
 Special intention for God's blessings
 10:00 ✠ Anna Tarkowska (5th anniv.) – children & grandchildren
 19:00 ✠ parents Genowefa & Wacław Andrzejewski & all deceased from Andrzejewski & Indul families – daughter Krystyna & family

SATURDAY, January 7th Saint Andre Bessette

8:00 Intention for Rosary Family & Knights of Mary Immaculate
 17:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Wladyslawa & Stanislaw Brozny on their 50th wedding anniversary
 19:00 ✠ parents Regina & Jozef Szulc & brother Mateusz – Malgorzata & family

SUNDAY, January 8th Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 Intention for members of the Holy Rosary Family & Knights of the Mary Immaculate
 9:30 ✠ Henryk Chuchla (13th anniv.) – wife & children
 11:00 FOR PARISHIONERS AND BENEFACTORS
 13:00 ✠ Aniela & Jozef Podczerwinski & all deceased from Antolak family
 14:30 ✠ Sebastian Kosiba (10th anniv.) – parents & children
 19:00 ✠ Janina Dobosz – husband & family