

# Second Sunday of Advent



Advent is comprised of four Sundays of Advent, whose number is linked to the Israelites' wanderings through the desert for a span of forty years.

Remember the scene in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" when the Grinch is picturing Christmas morning in Whoville: "That's one thing I hate! All the noise, noise, noise, NOISE!" Sometimes the lead-up to Christmas is like that: overtired, screaming toddlers in the mall; non-stop Christmas music everywhere; or the incessant commercials on TV can all bring out the Grinch in the best of us. So I am especially grateful for the calming voices in today's readings that encourage us to focus on what's really important during these weeks before Christmas. Both Isaiah and John the Baptist remind us that this season of Advent is about preparing the way for the Lord. It's about clearing some space, making room for Jesus and welcoming him into our lives in an ever deeper way. For some of us, that might mean committing more time for prayer each day, even in the midst of the December hustle and bustle. Perhaps for others it means giving the gift presence to someone who is lonely or housebound in this festive season. Maybe it is even something as simple as making a conscious effort to treat the harried cashier with courtesy and respect. In today's celebration, prophetic voices reach out to us across the centuries. As we continue our Advent journey, may we have ears to hear their words and hearts to heed their call.

Teresa Whalen Lux, Regina, SK

**First reading:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.  
**Second Reading:** 2 Peter 3:8-14  
**Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8

**Rose # 14** will lead the rosary this week.

**COFFEE & DONUTS** will be sold today by **FRIENDS OF OBLATE MISSION.**

A new **Coffee & Donuts schedule for 2018** is available in the parish office.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** – is available in special envelope by the entrance to the church, as well as in the main hall. Please pick up one!

**2018 PARISH CALENDAR** – was issued already and is available in the parish hall today. Cost \$5.00. Our new calendar illustrates parish life as well as informs about all important parish events. We encourage each family to have one.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS & BLESSED CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATEK)** are available in the parish hall.

## Baptism



The following children will receive the Sacrament of Baptism:

Chloe Pio daughter of Fatima & Muhanad  
 Tristan Tadeusz Brown son of Agnieszka & Donovan

We welcome those children and congratulate their parents and godparents.



## Weddings

The following couples are planning to be married:

Malgorzata Ewa Niewiada daughter of Krystyna & Zbigniew  
 Jeffrey Gordon Henry McVean son of Karen & Larry

Marta Wojcik daughter of Danuta & Krzysztof  
 Tomasz Andrzej Sawarski son of Danuta & Andrzej

We wish them all God's blessing.

**FAMILIES OF JPPII** - have their meeting today, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm. Meeting is held at St. Maximilian Room (new Catechetical Centre).

**THANK YOU & GOD BLESS FOR ALL GIFTS FROM THE HEART DONATED LAST SUNDAY**

- ◀ food & clothing for Good Shepherd Ministries
- ◀ all donations to sponsor "Great Packages" for children from an orphanage in Poland
- ◀ special donation to cover the cost of the gifts offered by Altar Servers and Youth from our parish

Christmas gifts for the children from five orphanages in Poland were already ordered and will be delivered to children in a few days as a gift from St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish.

We also would like to thank the Holy Rosary Family, as well as the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring St. Nicolas gifts for children from our parish.



## ADVENT RETREAT

(IN POLISH)

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.

Advent is a time during which we participate in Advent Retreats in our parishes and a time when we have a great opportunity to prepare to fully experience the Birth of Jesus.

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 in Polish and we would like to welcome Fr. Lukasz Krauze, OMI a missionary from Gdansk, Poland.

Retreat will be held until Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

The program is as follows:  
**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

Retreat message intended for all during Polish Masses

**Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

10:00am Mass and message intended for all  
 7:00pm Mass and message intended for all

**Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

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

7:00pm Mass and message intended for all

**Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am 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 for the Seminary of Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Odra, Poland.

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

Wednesday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm and Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 Tuesday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm. All volunteers are welcome!

## From the Pulpit

In our prayers, let us remember in a special way the group of pilgrims from our parish with Fr. Janusz Blazejak travelling to Guadalupe.

We ask God to bless them during their trip.



**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**  
**Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> - Our Lady of Guadalupe** (Spanish: *Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe*), also known as the **Virgin of Guadalupe** (Spanish: *Virgen de Guadalupe*) is a celebrated Roman Catholic icon of the Virgin Mary. In 1910 Our Lady of Guadalupe was declared Patroness of Latin America, and in 1945 Pope Pius XII declared Her to be the Empress of all the Americas. She appeared to an Indian convert named Juan Diego on December 9, 1531. She left a marvelous portrait of herself on the mantle of Juan Diego. This miraculous image has proved to be ageless, and is kept in the shrine built in her honor, the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**GROUP MASS INTENTION**

Due to the Christmas Season preparation there will be no Group Mass intentions as well as Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Wednesdays: December 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>.

All offered intentions will be read on Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>

On Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> our Youth is inviting for PEROGIES and unpasteurized HONEY.

Please support our Youth preparing for Panama WYD.

**OFFERATORY ENVELOPES FOR CURRENT & NEW USERS FOR 2018** – 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 on it.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH** – The next Exchange of Mysteries of the Living Rosary for the English groups will take place on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 2018, after which the Rosary Group shares the Christmas Wafer (OPLATEK), in the parish hall at 10:30am. All are welcome!

**RADIO MARYJA OPLATEK** will be held on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> 2018. 2:30pm Mass at St. Maximilian Kobe and 4:00pm-banquet at Polish Culture Centre. Tickets \$60.00 can be obtained through: Joanna Szydłowska 905 819-1040 or Joanna Strzezek 905 845-3553 or Health from Nature Store at 416 532-9805 or Something Special Store at 905 629-2347 or John Paul II Culture Centre at 905 306-9900

## In Short

If there is anyone who would like to donate flowers for the nativity scene, we ask for big red poinsettias.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** – December 12<sup>th</sup> - Holy Mass and the exchange of the Mysteries of the Living Rosary will take place at 7:00pm Mass. Meeting following the Mass in the John Paul II Cultural Centre at 8:00pm

**PRAYER EVENING IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZE** led by Adoremus Prayer Group - December 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:00pm - 9:00pm in the church (following the evening Mass). We pray singing Taize songs, listen to a formation talk on selected themes in spirituality, do a guided meditation on the Gospel and allow some time for private prayer in silence around the icon of the cross.

**A.A** - support group (reg. problems with consumption of alcohol). **Oplatek for AA Group** will be held on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30pm. The next open meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30pm in Br. Anthony Room. Info: Wojtek 647 920-5859

**ANNIVERSARY MASS** – December 31<sup>st</sup> at 11:00am for couples celebrating their wedding anniversary. Please forward the names to the parish office at 905 848-2420.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE** - The next course will be held from January 29<sup>th</sup> – March 12<sup>th</sup> 2018. Classes will be held on Monday from 8:00pm to 10:00pm, for a total of 7 classes. Sign up – parish office. Cost \$100.00

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

**ADULTS PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION** - Meetings for adults preparing for the sacrament of confirmation will take place on following Fridays: February 23<sup>rd</sup> & March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm in Sister Faustyna Room (new Catechetical Centre). Classes will be held in both languages Polish and English. All those interested are asked to contact the parish office at 905 848 2420. A copy of the baptismal certificate is mandatory upon registration.



**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND & JORDAN** – April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan under the spiritual direction of Fr. Janusz Blazejak. In the program: Haifa, Nazareth, Cana of Galilee, the Yardenit Baptismal Site, Petra, Jericho, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Masada and Dead Sea. Cost: \$ 3,990.00 (taxes included). Info: Polimex Travel 905 238-6683 ext 427 (ask for Mira)

**NEW YEAR'S DANCE** at JPPII Polish Culture Centre – Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm – Cost \$140.00 Included in the cost of the ticket is a hot supper by Jan Gromada & many attractions. Music provided by POLANIE. Info & tickets: 905 306 9900

## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 ✚ Jan Kwiatek (1<sup>st</sup> anniv.) – son Cezary & Wiesława

✚ Tadeusz Gawron-Gal – sister & family

10:00 ✚ Jan & Pawel Poleszuk – sister & family

19:00 ✚ Jan Chudzinski (19<sup>th</sup> anniv.) & Czesław Leszczewski (17<sup>th</sup> anniv.)

**TUESDAY, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:00 Special intention for God's blessings and for healing for son Marko – parents

✚ Jadwiga & Jozef – daughter Teresa

10:00 ✚ Antoni Mydlak – brother

19:00 ✚ Irena Popkowska (7<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – husband & children & grandchildren

**WEDNESDAY, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

**St. Lucy**

8:00 ✚ Julian Zydonik – daughter & family

Special intention for God's blessings and for health for Malgorzata

9:30 ✚ Marcel Galek – Godparents

19:00 ✚ Henryk Zmudka (3<sup>rd</sup> anniv.) – sister Renata & family

**THURSDAY, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**St. John of the Cross**

8:00 ✚ Eugene Sztuka - Julia

19:00 ✚ Marian Szlakiewicz (12<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – sister

✚ Zbigniew Kochman – son & family

**FRIDAY, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 ✚ Eddy Niedziela – sister & family

19:00 ✚ Jozef Taborowski & Stanislaw Zadło & Janusz Posluszny - Guzda family

✚ all deceased from Stepien & Gradziel & Mazur & Bochra & Samolej families

**SATURDAY, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 ✚ Edward Kulina (5<sup>th</sup> anniv.) - brothers

17:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Jonathan Hodur on his 4<sup>th</sup> birthday - parents

19:00 ✚ Maria & Piotr Bialoszewski – daughter & family

**SUNDAY, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

8:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Michal & Sebastian & Szczepan - mother

9:30 ✚ Andrew Gut & Grazyna Policht - family

11:00 ✚ Fr. Jakub Szwarz OMI (9<sup>th</sup> anniv.)

13:00 ✚ Anna & Jozef Osadcow & all deceased from family

14:30 ✚ Jacek Mikołajko (2<sup>nd</sup> anniv.) - wife

19:00 ✚ Bronisława & Sergiusz & Antoni & all deceased from family – daughter & family

**THE POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS – DECEMBER 2017**

**THE ELDERLY**

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

