



The Leper in today's Gospel violated the religious rules laid out in the Book of Leviticus – he broke the Law by approaching a clean man. Even then, Jesus did not send the leper away. Rather, Our Lord was so moved with pity that he touched the leper (yet another religious violation). Jesus also insisted that the man present himself to the priests as an example of his obedience to the law. Jesus saw this as a helpful and necessary step that made it possible for the man to be fully reintegrated into the community. The lesson is: we must constantly opt to serve our brothers and sisters in need. Also, we must respect laws that are truly designed to serve the common good. Sometimes social and economic problems seem too big and complex for us to handle. Oftentimes, it is just plain easier to settle for inaction. But Jesus shows us the best response: "I do choose. Be made clean." I wonder if in this story leprosy is really meant to be a metaphor of brokenness. Might we also need to kneel before Jesus requesting the deepest healing for which humanity yearns? Is today a new opportunity for each of us to choose to accept Jesus' challenge to fully love our neighbour?

Joe Gunn, Ottawa, ON

First reading: Leviticus 13.1-2,45-46
Responsorial Psalm: You are my refuge, Lord; with deliverance you surround me.
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10.31-11.1
Gospel: Mark 1.40-45

Rose # 24 will lead the rosary this week.

COFFEE AND DONUTS will be served today by Jubileusz 2000 Choir.

TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION will be taken for **OBLATE FATHERS MISSIONS**.

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS - Receipts were mailed already to all parishioners who gave offerings over \$50.00.

YOUTH HEADING TO PANAMA WYD would like to invite today - Sunday, February 11th for **PIEROGIES FROM SUPREME PIEROGIES** and other delicious treats!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY On Tuesday, February 13th **Fr. Grzegorz Nowak** will be celebrating his birthday and on this occasion we wish him health, joy and energy in his pastoral work. Let the challenges of everyday activities allow him to see the beauty and the depth of life.

FAMILY DAY – Monday, February 19th. Office will be closed on Saturday, February 17th and open again on Tuesday, February 20th.

FAMILY FUN DAY – Sunday, February 18th from 11:00am - 5:00pm at JPPII Polish Culture Centre in Mississauga. Many attractions for children and adults. Free admission!

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Baptisms

The following children will receive

the Sacrament of Baptism:

Adam Victor & Christian Joseph Kalinowski sons of Anna & Krzysztof
Mya Grace Sheppard daughter of Ewelina & Darryl
Filip Grzegorz Chwiszczuk son of Lucyna & Radoslaw
Kaya Sobieski daughter of Kamila & Artur

We welcome those children and congratulate their parents and Godparents.

VALENTINE'S DAY FALLS ON THE SAME DAY AS ASH WEDNESDAY. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR CATHOLICS?

For the first time since 1945, Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday, a solemn day in the Christian faith, which is a day of fasting and marks the first day of Lent. Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting and abstinence for Catholics so that has to take priority over Saint Valentine. For the Catholic Church, the Feast of Saint Valentine is an optional day marking the life of the 3rd century Roman saint. To avoid potential conflict, is suggested to celebrate Valentine's Day, the day before.

World Day of the Sick February 11

The ministry of Jesus to the sick is central to the life of the Church. February 11 (Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes) highlights the healing ministry of the Church. It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease.

LENTEN AIMS March 3rd - 4th

The Association of St. Vincent in Mississauga and Toronto supports the homeless and the poor.

The Parish Committee decided to join this initiative and organize a collection of clothing and other household supplies that can be donated to the poor of the GTA.

All things will be passed directly to the Association of St. Vincent. The collection will take place on Saturday, March 3rd from 10:00am to 2:00pm and Sunday, March 4th from 8:00am to 3:00pm.

There will be a car parked by the garages in the church parking lot.

Donation Guidelines: St. Vincent the Paul accepts bedding, drapes and textiles, boots and shoes, clothing and coats - any and all, towels, new toys only. We ask that any clothing is clean and in good condition.

Countdown

for Lent



ASH WEDNESDAY - February 14th
Masses with the blessing of ashes at 8:00am, 10:00am, 5:30pm (Eng.) and 7:00pm.

GROUP MASS INTENTIONS

Please, note that there will be no Group Mass intentions on Wednesday, February 14th.

LENTEN ALMS

will be collected during Masses on Ash Wednesday.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS A UNIVERSAL DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT FOR ALL FROM 14 YEARS AND UP, AND A STRICT FAST (ONE FULFILLING MEAL AND TWO SMALLER MEALS) OBLIGES THOSE FROM 18-60 YEARS.

The Church encourages the practice of fasting even for those who are not required to do so.

We began the holy season of Lent. We place ashes on our foreheads as an external symbol of entering the road of penance. Ashes remind us that everything comes from nothing and will turn into nothing again.

The season of Lent is a time of fasting, sacrifices, as well as prayer; its aim is to prepare our hearts for a fruitful celebration of our Lord's Resurrection.

Commandments of the Church require us to restrain from participating in parties during the season of Lent, as well as to confess and receive Holy Communion during Easter.

We encourage everyone to give up something for Christ. It is still not too late. What will you give up? Smoking, alcohol, wasting time online? Perhaps you will try to be more understanding towards your spouse, or other family members. Perhaps you will give up sweets, gossiping or watching TV.

Pick just one thing so that you can fully experience the season of Lent. Do this for the crucified Christ.

Please, note that Holy Mass on Friday, February 16th will begin at 6:30pm due to the projection of the film "Two Crowns". The Way of the Cross will begin at 6:00pm.

SCHEDULE OF GROUPS LEADING THE WAY OF THE CROSS at 6:30 pm

16 II – Friday Dom.Church at 6:00pm Polish
 22 II - Tuesday Scouts English
 23 II - Friday Families of JPPII Polish
 27 III –Tuesday Youth English
 2 III - Friday Pro-Life Group Polish
 9 III –Friday Rosary Family Polish
 13 III – Tuesday Knights of Columbus English
 16 III – Friday Crusade for Liberation Polish
 23 III – Friday Altar Servers at 6:15p Polish

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Will be held on Mondays (for children), Tuesdays (English) and Fridays (Polish) at 6:30pm.

Indulgence may be obtained by participating in the Way of the Cross or Lenten Lamentations under regular conditions, as well as praying „It is I, o good and most sweet Jesus” on every Friday of Lent.

LENTEN LAMENTATIONS

We warmly invite you to grow with us in prayer and reflect on Christ's passion during Lenten Lamentations every Sunday at 6:15pm.

PRO LIFE GROUP – Pro-Life Group, which was established by our parish, is asking all of the parishioners for a daily silent prayer for the unborn children. We invite everyone to the Divine Mercy Chapel and to pray in the intention of life, every day between 8:00am and 8:00pm during the entire duration of Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Help save lives by joining the 40-day initiative and praying for mothers and their children.

EVANGELIZATION RETREAT WITH DOMESTIC CHURCH – February 16th – 19th in Melrose. Info & sign up 416 859-1583 or rwitulski@rogers.com

LENT TIME BOOK OF ALCOHOL ABSTINENCE

THE LIBERATION CRUSADE is a voluntary commitment to abstain from alcoholic beverages. Everyone is invited to join the Crusade and abstain from consuming alcoholic beverages, especially during the Lent time.

A special book is placed at the altar of St. Maximilian Kolbe and the relics, where everyone is welcomed to write their name and last name, not adding intention or reason to join.

Additionally, the intentions will be prayed in front of the Most Sacred Sacrament and you can add your intention by contacting Danuta or Krzysztof Wojcik 905 272-3717



This year Poland will celebrate 100th anniversary of its independence.

On this occasion, celebrations across the country will be prepared to commemorate events from 100 years ago. Those functions are held not only to remember what happened 100 years ago but to remind us to love our homeland, patriotism or our responsibility to protect Polishness.

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Mississauga joins these anniversary celebrations and encourages being part of prayers in intention of Poland during the 9-month novena held every 11th day of the month in our church.

Solemn inauguration of Poland's Independence Celebration will take place today – Sunday, February 11 during an 11:00am Mass. During the Mass a solemn procession with St. Andrzej Bobola relics will take place. John Paul II made St. Andrzej Bobola an additional Patron of Poland in 2002.

From the Pulpit

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING - on Tuesday, February 13th 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.

PRAYER EVENINGS IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZE – You are cordially invited to a prayer evening in the spirit of Taize led by the Praise and Worship Fr. Pio's ADOREMUS Group on Saturday, February 17th following the evening Mass from 8:00pm-9:00pm.

ANNIVERSARY MASS – February 25th at 11:00am for couples celebrating their wedding anniversary & 1:00pm for the blessing of children celebrating their 1st baptism anniversary. Please forward the names to the office at 905 848-2420

CATHOLIC MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELLING - There will be a meeting in Polish with Dr. Rostyslaw Shewmechko held on Sunday, February 25th from 12:15pm-2:00pm in Fr. Bak Room (new catechetical center). Topic of the workshop "How to cope with stress?"

ADULTS PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION - Meetings for adults preparing for the sacrament of confirmation will take place on following Fridays: February 23rd & March 2nd & 9th & 16th at 8:00pm in Sister Faustyna Room. 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.

WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT WEEKEND at Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre in Mississauga – February 16th - 18th. The retreat will be preached by the Centre team - Oblate Father Pawel Ratajczak and Mrs. Anne Hales. A beautiful way to begin the season of Lent. For information or registration please call 905-278-5229.

Pilgrimages

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND & JORDAN – April 30th – May 10th 2018 **ONLY 4 SPOTS LEFT!!**

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 Baptism 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)

PILGRIMAGE WITH THE ROSARY FAMILY led by Oblate Fathers – May 18th - 20th In Program: National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts & National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa near Doylestown, Pennsylvania & St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. Info & sign up Wieslawa 416 799-2122 or Teresa 905 495-7035

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, February 12th

8:00 ✚ Renata Demjan & Steven Skoda - family
 19:00 ✚ Walenty & Karolina & Franciszka Zajac – son & family

TUESDAY, February 13th

8:00 Special intention for God's blessings and for health for daughter & grandchildren - parents
 19:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Fr. Grzegorz Nowak OMI on his birthday
 Special intention for God's blessings for Oliwia Klej on her 32nd birthday

WEDNESDAY, February 14th Ash Wednesday

8:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Beata & Renata & Julianna on their birthday
 10:00 Special intention for God's blessings and for health for Irena on her birthday - friends
 17:30 ✚ Lucyna Ulecka – son & daughter & their families
 19:00 ✚ Maria & Stanislaw Raczywolski - family

THURSDAY, February 15th

8:00 ✚ Salomea & Tomasz Tarka – daughter & family
 19:00 ✚ Jozefa & Jozef Gwozdz – Ruta family
 Special intention for God's blessings and for health for family – Maria & Zdzislaw Kamycki

FRIDAY, February 16th

8:00 ✚ Marian Czarnuch (2nd anniv.) – Ewa & Krzysztof Pacholczyk
 Special intention for God's blessings for parents Eugenia & Stanislaw Kucfir – daughter & family
 18:00 The Way of the Cross (Pol.) - Domestic Church
 18:30 ✚ Jerzy & Janina Dzikowski & grandparents from Dzikowski & Komosinski families – Danuta & family
 Special intention for God's blessings and for health for mother

SATURDAY, February 17th

8:00 ✚ Rozalia & Stanislaw & Adam
 17:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Renata & Julianna
 19:00 ✚ Elzbieta Drobiecka – daughter & family

SUNDAY, February 18th

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 ✚ Rozalia Gabiga – husband & family
 9:30 ✚ Ted Zmijak (1st anniv.) – wife & family
 11:00 FOR PARISHIONERS AND BENEFACTORS
 13:00 Special intention for God's blessings for Renata & Wojciech on their 25th wedding anniversary
 14:30 Special intention for God's blessings and healing
 19:00 ✚ Wieslawa Machowska (2nd anniv.) – daughter & family