

Presentation of the Lord



FR. PASTOR'S REFLECTION

Today – forty days after Christmas – the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. This is in remembrance of Mary and Joseph offering their firstborn son, Jesus, in the temple of Jerusalem. Prior to 1969, this day was known as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. After the Second Vatican Council, the name was changed to show the Christocentric significance of the ceremony.

In the Polish tradition, this day is also known as Candlemas Day (Matki Bożej Gromnicznej); the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world.

February 2nd is also the Day of Consecrated Life. Priests and religious, like Jesus in the Jerusalem Temple, offer their lives for the sole service of God.

The Gospel for the feast of the Presentation is a fitting way to mark the World Day for Consecrated Life. In today's Gospel, two prophets, Simeon and Anna, proclaim Jesus as the longed-for Saviour. Simeon, in particular, is filled with the Spirit, the Spirit through whom Jesus is "a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

The prophetess Anna spent her life in the Temple, praying and fasting. While Jesus is here presented as a sign of contradiction, so too is Anna. How her life contradicts a world indifferent to God!

Those in religious orders and other forms of consecrated life give a unique prophetic witness. Their vows (or promises) of poverty, chastity and obedience offer a stark contrast to a world where wealth, sexual "freedom" and personal autonomy are often the highest values. Religious men and women challenge us to give ourselves totally to Jesus.

Although few can spend all our days in the temple, we can live in union with the Holy Spirit in secular life. We can make time each day to sit silently in God's presence, longing for the fullness of that presence. Hunger for the Spirit is transformative of both our personal lives and our society. Lay people too can consecrate ourselves to God.

Glen Argan, Edmonton, AB

First Reading: Malachi 3.1-4

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord of hosts, he is king of glory!

Second Reading: Hebrews 2.10-11,13b-18

Gospel: Luke 2.22-40

Coffee and Donuts are being served by the Domestic Church for the needs of the parish.

Holy Rosary is being led by Rose #6.

100th Birthday of St. John Paul II



Today in our parish we begin official celebrations on the occasion of St. John Paul II's 100th Birthday. Solemn Mass will be offered at 11 o'clock. The presider and homilist will be Fr. Alfred Grzempa OMI, Provincial of the Missionary Oblates.

Afterwards, all parishioners and guests are invited to view an exhibition on Eucharistic Miracles around the world. This unique and beautiful display will be available for viewing today and next Sunday in the parish hall. A special *Thank You* to Mrs. Dina Oanes from Brampton for preparing the exhibition.

Closing celebrations will take place on the weekend of **May 30th and 31st, 2020**.

Families of John Paul II

On this beautiful occasion of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Saint John Paul II it is worth learning more about the life and charism of this great Pope. Young families are invited to consider joining **Families of John Paul II**, a parish group which studies the works of John Paul II and lives by his charism. Contact information can be found on the cover of the Polish bulletin under „Wspólnota Rodzin JP II”.

Catechesis for Parents of Confirmation Candidates

is **today (February 2nd) at 4 p.m.** in the church (Polish) and in Bro. Anthony Room (English). Attendance is mandatory.

First Thursday of the month, February 6th
Prayer for Vocations at 6:30 p.m.

First Friday of the month, February 7th
Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus after the 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Mass

Confession: before each Mass



Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

Bible Study Group begins a new series of meetings on the topic of the Apocalypse of St. John. Meetings are in Polish and are held every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Sister Faustina room. The first meeting will take place on **February 5th, 2020**.

Income Tax Receipts



All income tax receipts have been sent out. Look for them in your mailbox.

NEW Parish Office Hours

On Wednesdays, the parish office is open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and again from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. consecutively.

Online Giving Now Available

Please note that you are now able to submit Sunday offerings through on-line payments. To use this method, visit www.kolbe.ca, click on *support* in the top right-hand corner and then *donate*. You will be transferred to the Archdiocese of Toronto website where you will choose your church and fill out a form. You can make a one-time donation or choose a weekly option. Parishioners using this form of parish support will receive a tax certificate directly from the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Next week's **Second Collection** will be taken for Oblate Missions.

Upcoming Events

Retreat for High School Students

Youth Teams of Our Lady (YTOL) movement will be hosting a retreat for high school students, grades 9-12, from Sunday **March 15th** to Friday **March 20th**. The retreat will take place in Acton. For more information, please contact Mrs. Anna Jach at (519) 571-9241.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

Gold Rose Apostolate is organizing a pilgrimage to Medjugorje, a place of spiritual rescue for everyone. There you will experience miracles, changes, conversions and healings. There, through Mary's intercession, you can pray for others. Pilgrimage dates: **April 26 – May 6, 2020**. For more information call Marzena: (647) 284-1631.

Pilgrimage to Washington

In the year of Saint John Paul II, the Rosary Society is organizing a 3-day pilgrimage under the spiritual direction of Oblate Fathers to the American Częstochowa in Doylestown, PA and the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C. Pilgrimage dates: **May 22-24, 2020**. Information and registration: Teresa (905) 495-7035 and Wieslawa (416) 799-2122.

Events at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre



Ostatki Dance – February 22, 7 p.m.

Dinner prepared by Master Chef Jan Gromada. Tickets at \$60 per person can be purchased at JPII Centre and Pegaz Bookstore.

Info: (905) 306-9900
events@jp2pcc.ca

JPII Cultural Centre is able to host **First Communion dinners** on May 10th and May 17th at 4 p.m. Interested individuals should contact the Centre at (905) 306-9900 or events@jp2pcc.ca

2019 Parish Statistics

In the year **2019** we welcomed **171** new members into our parish community through the sacrament of Baptism, **127** children received their First Holy Communion, **123** were confirmed, **39** marriages were blessed, and **135** members passed from this to eternal life. Please remember to take care of and pray for one another and our parish community.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, February 3rd

8⁰⁰ ✠ Maria, Karol, Jozef, Andrzej and Karol Brynczka – son with family
19⁰⁰ ✠ Maria & Jan Jazienicki and Teresa & Stanislaw Kedziora – family

TUESDAY, February 4th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Janina, Regina, and Jan Dobosz
19⁰⁰ ○ Intention known to God

WEDNESDAY, February 5th St. Agatha

8⁰⁰ ✠ Marian, Zeneusz, Maria and Mariusz Gajos – mother and sister with family
✠ Mieczyslaw Grabowski (10th anniv.)
19⁰⁰ Group Intentions

THURSDAY, February 6th St. Paul Miki and Companions

8⁰⁰ ✠ Piotr Pyrek (1st anniv.) – family
19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for all priests and religious – Gold Rose Apostolate
✠ Aleksander Wojnarowicz and all deceased from Wojnarowicz and Gedos families – Wojnarowicz family

FRIDAY, February 7th

8⁰⁰ ✠ For God's blessing and health for the Nitek, Lobzin, and Ucinski families
10⁰⁰ ✠ Remigiusz Oswiecincki – Ewa
19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing and health for Daniel on his 10th birthday – mother

SATURDAY, February 8th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Leon & Anna Kulik and Henryk Ojdowski – son
17⁰⁰ ✠ Apolonia Maksimowski – son Edward with family
19⁰⁰ ✠ Parents Aleksandra & Franciszek and brother Jan Jedrusiak – Helena

SUNDAY, February 9th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Fr. Stanislaw Kowal OMI (12th anniv.)
9³⁰ ○ Thanksgiving for children – parents
11⁰⁰ ○ Thanksgiving for Daniela & Ryszard Sadowski on their 50th wedding anniversary
13⁰⁰ ✠ Marian Cislo (2nd anniv.) – wife and children
14³⁰ ✠ Lidia Nowotniak – sister with family
19⁰⁰ ○ For the gifts of the Holy Spirit and health for Marcin, Monika, and Michal – mother

Liturgy of the Word for Children

We are still looking for Polish-speaking young adults or teachers willing to lead the Liturgy of the Word for children at the 11 o'clock Mass. Interested individuals are asked to speak to Fr. Pawel Pilarczyk.