

Epiphany of the Lord



Don't tell me you love me, show me! Give me a sign.

When we fall in love with someone, we look for signs that they love us too. We want to show them our love. We shower them with gifts as tokens of our love. We also want it to be reciprocal, a two-way street. This is human nature.

The ancient world placed a lot of emphasis on signs. Sometimes they trusted signs more than the written or spoken word. The scriptures contain many passages about signs. Today's Gospel is full of signs and tokens of love. It is also a love story.

In the Gospel we see King Herod and astrologers, people whose function is to interpret signs, looking for signs in the stars of the promised Messiah. Herod sends the astrologers to follow a star and when they do, they find the baby Jesus. Recognizing the fulfillment of God's promise, they are filled with love and shower Jesus with signs of that love in the form of precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Yet the greatest love story is in the baby the wise men found. This child is none other than God's only son, the promised Messiah, the light to guide all of humankind out of darkness. What greater sign of love could God give to the world? Salvation through his own son!

Patrick M. Doyle; Carleton Place, ON

First Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

FR. PASTOR'S REFLECTION

Today the Church celebrates the Epiphany of the Lord. This is one of the oldest Christian feasts. It was known in the East in the 3rd century, and about one hundred years later appeared in the West, where it was known as the Feast of the Three Kings. The Gospel of St. Matthew speaks of the Magi, or – according to other translations – Wise Men from the East, who followed the star to Bethlehem looking for the newborn king of the Jews. “*On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh*” (Mt 2:11).

K + M + B 2020

Today we bless incense and chalk. After returning home from the church, we use the chalk to write the initials of the names of the three kings and the current year.

You may also write C + M + B (Christus Mansoni Benedicat) which means “May Christ bless this house.”

The letters on the door are a visible sign that a Christian family lives in the house.

Next Sunday the Church celebrates the **Baptism of the Lord**, an official end to the Christmas season. However, traditionally, Christmas decorations can remain in our homes until February 2nd. Our Lord's baptism is an opportunity for us to remember our own baptism through which we became God's children and joined our Church community.

Coffee and Donuts are being served by the Altar Servers.

Holy Rosary is being led by Rose #2.

The Sacrament of Baptism

will be bestowed upon

Jakub Sosnowski,
son of Edyta & Mariusz

We welcome Jakub to our Church community and congratulate his parents and Godparents.

Parish Council will meet on Monday, January 6th at 7:30 p.m.

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.

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.

Our community is quite large. Please remember to 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.

First Communion & Confirmation CLASSES RESUME THIS WEEK

Mandatory catechesis for all parents of First Communion children is on **Sunday, January 19th at 4 p.m.** in the church (Polish) and in Bro. Anthony Room (English).

Mandatory catechesis for all parents of Confirmation candidates is on **Sunday, January 26th at 4 p.m.** in the church (Polish) and in Bro. Anthony Room (English).

Electronic Devices in the Church

The use of electronic devices (such as e-book readers, smartphones or tablets) during Mass is inappropriate and strictly prohibited. Holy Eucharist is a communal celebration and the use of such devices shut us off from that community and is distracting to others. However, electronic devices may be used outside of Mass (inside the church or Chapel of Perpetual Adoration) if they aid our private prayer, e.g. reading of the Holy Scriptures, litanies, meditations, etc. It is inappropriate to publicly point out to others that they use electronic devices for their personal prayer.

Offertory Envelopes for 2020

When using offertory envelopes, please remember to include your full name and complete address on the very first envelope for the year 2020. Thank you.



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.

Oblate Retreat

From **January 13th to January 17th** all Oblates will be away on their annual retreat. Please pray for God's blessing and guidance for our priests during this time of retreat and renewal. **There will be no morning or evening Masses from Monday to Friday.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

100th Birthday of St. John Paul II
On **May 18th, 2020**, we will celebrate the **100th anniversary of the birth of Saint John Paul II.**



The Parish Council has prepared two events to begin this special celebration. On **February 2nd and 9th**, our parish will host an exhibition entitled *Eucharistic Miracles*, which will show all Eucharistic miracles in the history of the Church. Another is the peregrination of the *Triptych of John Paul II*. Following in the footsteps of this Great Saint, we wish to entrust ourselves, our families, our parish, the Church and the entire world to the protection of the Mother of God. Main celebrations are scheduled to take place on the weekend of **May 30th and 31st, 2020.**

RADIO MARYJA BANQUET

will be held on **Sunday, January 12th, 2020** at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre. Mass will be celebrated at 2:30 p.m. and banquet will begin at 4 p.m. Tickets at \$60 are available from:

Health from Nature Store (416) 532-9805
Something Special Store (905) 629-2347
Polish Cultural Centre (905) 306-9900
Joanna Szydłowska (905) 818-1040
Joanna Strzeżek (905) 845-3553

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.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, January 6th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Jan Rogowski – daughter with family
19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for Andrzej and Alina Szaflarski on their wedding anniversary
✠ Kazimiera & Grzegorz Skroban and Henryk Skroban – Jolanta with family

TUESDAY, January 7th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Emilia Serwin – son with family
10⁰⁰ ○ For all members of the Kolbe Seniors Club
19⁰⁰ ✠ Emilia Zwarycz (6th anniv.)

WEDNESDAY, January 8th

8⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for children – parents
○ For God's blessing and grace for Marko on his 19th birthday - family
19⁰⁰ Group Intentions

THURSDAY, January 9th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Franciszek Rabianski – wife with children
19⁰⁰ ✠ Sebastian Kosiba (14th anniv.) – parents and children
✠ Stanisław Bazylewicz and all deceased from Bazylewicz and Dyda families – Piotr with family

FRIDAY, January 10th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Anna Ozga – daughters with families
19⁰⁰ ✠ Ryszard Gdyczynski (1st anniv.) – Maria Rembisz and Justyna with family
✠ Czesław Zebrowski (anniv.) – son Ryszard with family

SATURDAY, January 11th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Janina Dobosz
17⁰⁰ ✠ Ryszard Leszczewski (3rd anniv.) – wife with children and grandchildren
19⁰⁰ ✠ Stanisław Gdyczynski (1st anniv.) wife with children

SUNDAY, January 12th Baptism of the Lord

8⁰⁰ ✠ Zenon Koczwara – wife
9³⁰ ✠ Karol Fajarczuk (1st anniv.) – wife with family
11⁰⁰ ○ For parishioners and benefactors
13⁰⁰ ✠ Teresa Rosinska (4th anniv.)
14³⁰ ✠ Helena Belz – family
19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing and health for Sebastian on his 18th birthday – grandmother

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. Paweł Pilarczyk.