

5th Sunday of Lent

The Season of Lent



FR. PASTOR'S REFLECTION

Dear parishioners! For the past several months, the world has been living subdued by news of the spread of coronavirus. Every day we hear frightening news that not only create chaos, but also have us doubt our human possibilities. In a spirit of solidarity, we unite with all those who are suffering painfully from this pandemic. We unite with them spiritually and ask God for mercy over us and the whole world.

Today is the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Since Ash Wednesday, we have been undertaking specific actions to cleanse our conscience and try to deepen our relationship with our Savior. This is a time of Lenten Retreats which under regular circumstances draw large number of participants into our parish building. Yet this year, for the first time in the history of this parish, the church will be empty. Instead, we will be praying privately and avoiding contact with people.

Today, everyone has a lot of information on what to do and how to act under these extraordinary conditions. Everyone, according to their own capabilities and competences, is trying to prevent this terrible virus from spreading. Thank you all for your understanding. For us, priests, this situation is so foreign and distant that we are unable to explain certain things to ourselves. We've reached apocalyptic times. Let us hope and pray that soon all restrictions will be lifted, and we will be able to participate in the holy sacrifice of the Eucharist.

As painful as this situation is, we cannot give up religious practices and refrain from making Sunday a Christian experience. On the contrary! The situation we find ourselves in calls us to engage in a spiritual battle – for ourselves and for others. I am asking you to keep praying in your homes and in your families. Parents! Look after the spiritual life of your children. Remind them to say their prayers. I encourage all individuals and families to pray the Rosary, the Stations of the Cross, and to meditate on the Holy Scriptures at home. Television and radio broadcasts of Masses and online retreats are all very helpful in our spiritual life. This time of the epidemic is for all of us a test of our Christian maturity and faith.

Computers! I turn mine on and then have to wait for everything to open. I have to wait maybe a nanosecond. I press a button; I'm still waiting. But then my son comes and gently takes the time to explain the program. It turns out I don't understand computers, I'm impatient and I take them for granted.

John's story of Lazarus reminds us how important time is to understanding. Lazarus is sick, yet it takes Jesus four days to arrive in Judea. Why does it take him so long? Jesus says, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." But this is so difficult to understand.

The disciples don't seem to understand the relationship that Jesus has with his father. Some of the Jews have already taken Jesus for granted, saying that, because he cured the blind man, he could have cured Lazarus too if he'd arrived earlier.

Even Martha and Mary, who have enormous faith, have trouble understanding. Lazarus has been dead for four days and Jesus raises him from the dead so that everyone may see the Glory of God, his father.

If there is an area in our life that causes us grief, and we walk closely with Jesus, he will help us gain a new perspective – when the time is right!

Liz Summers; Victoria, BC

First Reading: Ezekiel 37.12-14

Responsorial Psalm:

With the Lord there is steadfast love and great pow'r to redeem.

Second Reading: Romans 8.8-11

Gospel: John 11.1-45

Please check our parish website and Facebook page for the latest information concerning our parish.

www.kolbe.ca

Mass at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church

Mass is broadcast on our parish website:

- on weekdays at 8 a.m.
- on Sundays at 8, 9, 10, 11 a.m.

Mass at St. Eugene de Mazenod Church

St. Eugene de Mazenod Parish in Brampton wishes to inform that all weekday and Sunday Masses are being celebrated in the private chapel of the Oblate Fathers and are being broadcast live on their Facebook page and YouTube channel. For more information please visit the parish website at www.demazenod.org

Stations of the Cross

Friday, **March 27th** and Friday, **April 3rd** at 7 p.m. on our parish website

Lenten Retreat Online

Fr. Andrzej Juchniewicz OMI, a Missionary from Belarus, will preach the Lenten Retreat on Sunday, **March 29th** at 8, 9, 10, 11 a.m. and from **Monday, March 30th** to **Wednesday, April 1st** at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. All homilies will be in Polish and can be viewed on our parish TV through our website at www.kolbe.ca

Fr. Andrzej was born in Adamovichi, Belarus on January 3rd, 1982. He attended the Oblate Seminary in Obra and was ordained there on May 31st, 2008. His first assignment was at a parish in Minsk. He currently works in Sumilina as the pastor and treasurer of the community there. He is also the Superior of the Belarus Mission.

The following are closed:

Church
Perpetual Adoration Chapel
Parish office

The following have been cancelled:

Lenten Lamentations
First Communion classes
All parish group meetings
Pilgrimage to Wilno

The following have been postponed:

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sacrament of Confirmation

Lessons for First Communion Students

Children preparing for their First Holy Communion are invited to take part in virtual lessons which can be accessed through a YouTube channel on our parish website. All homework should be submitted to communionkolbe@gmail.com

If you are an elderly person and can't or shouldn't leave the house, call the parish office and our parish youth will do your grocery shopping for you.



MyParish App – our parish now has a mobile application. Install myParish App on your phone, select St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Mississauga, and stay up to date on all current events taking place at our parish. Important! In your phone settings remember to *Allow Notifications* in order to receive most up-to-date information, e.g. when public Mass will be celebrated again.

Plenary Indulgence during Lent

During Lent, plenary indulgence under regular conditions may be obtained by praying the Stations of the Cross or Lenten Lamentations, as well as by praying "It is I, o good and most sweet Jesus" on each Friday of Lent.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE Kolbe Pro-Life Group invites all parishioners to join 40 Days for Life – a global prayer campaign to defend the lives of unborn children. This campaign takes the form of individual prayer at home (since the Chapel of Perpetual Adoration had to be closed.)

The Sacrament of Marriage

Please join us in praying for

Brooke Sayewich,
daughter of Nancy and Paul
& **Jakub Binkiewicz,**
son of Teresa and Mirosław

Annabel Maria Coelho,
daughter of Eva Maria and Denzil Joseph
& **Marek Dorna,**
son of Lidia and Roman

Magdalena Maria Pierog,
daughter of Anna and Stanisław
& **Hicham Roumieh,**
son of Nzha and Elias

who are preparing for Holy Matrimony.

New Pilgrimage Dates

- Pilgrimage to **Holy Land** is postponed until September (exact date TBD).
- Pilgrimage to **Japan** will now take place from September 30th to October 8th.
- Pilgrimage to **Medjugorje** will take place from September 27th to October 7th.



Living the Gospel locally and around the world

"Last year, your generosity to ShareLife made a difference in the lives of over 140,000 people locally and countless more around the world. Thank you for helping so many people experience God's love and compassion." – *Cardinal Thomas Collins*

Please support ShareLife

Sunday Collections

In these difficult times, we ask parishioners to continue to support their parish by making Sunday offerings. The following options are available:

- drop in your donation into a secure box found on the steps leading to the parish office;
 - mail your donation to the parish office;
 - donate online on the parish website or through myParish App.
- Thank you for your understanding and generous support.

Parishioners are asked not to use offertory envelopes from previous years.



Text Scam Targeting Parishioners

Please be aware of scammers who send text messages to parishioners, pretend to be their parish pastor, and ask them to purchase iTunes gift cards to help sick parishioners in the hospital. Similar email scams have taken place in the past. The scams appear to target parishioners who have phone numbers listed on the front of the bulletin or on the parish website. Please note that we never send such requests by phone, e-mail, or text message. If you are a target, we recommend that you contact the police and make them aware of the situation.

Władysław Reymont Foundation

Scholarship applications from the Władysław Reymont Foundation are available at: reymontfoundation.com Application deadline is June 1st, 2020.

Flag Raising Ceremony

The annual flag raising ceremony at Toronto City Hall to celebrate Pope John Paul II Day has been cancelled.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, March 30th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Stanisław & Maria and Edward & Antoni Palka
○ For God's blessing for Frank Fraczek on his 9th birthday
✠ Ludwik Stefaniak
✠ Lucyna Wszolek
10⁰⁰ ✠ Antonina Ulinska
19⁰⁰ ✠ All deceased from the Siuda and Kolodziejczak families

TUESDAY, March 31st

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Stanisława & Zygmunt Pracon
✠ Leokadia Bruz
✠ All deceased from the Bansarzewski and Czeranowski families
✠ Marianna Romanowska
10⁰⁰ ✠ Eddy, Władysław, and Katarzyna Niedziela, and Walenty Siuda
19⁰⁰ ✠ Brothers: Stanisław & Franciszek, sister-in-law Janina, and deceased from the Weglowski families

WEDNESDAY, April 1st

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Piotr Sasa
✠ Janusz Gruszka (3rd anniv.)
✠ Wiesława Zurek
○ Thanksgiving on a 60th birthday
10⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for grandchildren: Sean, Justin, and Kaylen
19⁰⁰ ✠ All deceased from the Sulej and Wojcik families

THURSDAY, April 2nd

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Daniela & Wojciech Prokopczyk
✠ Maria Antonik (5th anniv.)
✠ Parents Andrzej & Irena and grandparents
✠ Monika & Leon Ladzik
○ For God's grace for Beata Chojecka and her family
○ For God's blessing for priests and religious

FRIDAY, April 3rd

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Edward Kosjaniak
✠ Leokadia, Kazimierz, Stanisław, Edwarda, Czesława, Anna
✠ Roman Sroslak
✠ Irena Burdyszek
✠ Jadwiga & Roman Langenberger
19⁰⁰ ✠ Anna & Stanisław Guzda

SATURDAY, April 4th

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For all members of the Rosary Society and Knights of Mary Immaculate
✠ Tomasz Mycek (1st anniv.)
✠ Ryszard Stobiecki, Gertruda & Klemens Fobka, Stanisław Fobka
✠ Michalina Jankiewicz-Chojnacka – family

SUNDAY, April 5th

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For all members of the Rosary Society
9⁰⁰ ✠ Henryk & Sabina Ziolkowski
10⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing and health for Emilia & Alexander
11⁰⁰ ✠ Teofil Kurzatowski (4th anniv.), Jan & Natalia Wajdzik, all souls in purgatory
13⁰⁰ ✠ Wiktor Stojanowski