

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



The family is a jewel of God's creation. Our God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – is a family. Just as individual humans are made in the image and likeness of God, so is the human family. For this reason, Satan seeks to destroy both the institution and our personal families. This is evident in the cultural and spiritual war against the family we see happening all around us. Many of us are also disheartened by the heavy discord in our own families.

Let us turn to the Holy Family for help. In Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we see the human family as God intends it to be. Their home was uncorrupted by sin. For thirty years, Jesus lived in this setting. Contemplate the harmony, warmth, and love in their household. Meditate on how selfless, patient, gentle, and kind they were with each other. Imagine the peace and joy in the home of the Holy Family.

If there is pain, anger, or discord in your own family, do not lose heart. Call upon Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, for they will bring healing, forgiveness, and peace. If you feel discouraged by the apparent demise of the family in our society, do not be afraid. Pray to the Holy Family and remember God's solemn promise. The gates of hell shall not prevail.

*Connor Brownrigg;
Ottawa, ON*

The Holy Family

Devotion to the Holy Family flourished in the Renaissance. The leading artists of the time – Michelangelo, Raphael, El Greco, Rembrandt, Rubens, to name a few – often portrayed the Holy Family in their work. When this feast day was instituted in 1921, it was originally assigned to the third Sunday after Christmas. It is now observed on the first Sunday following Christmas

Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate
the splendour of true love,
to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again
experience violence, rejection and division:
may all who have been hurt or scandalized
find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
make us once more mindful
of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,
and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.
Amen

Wedding Anniversary Mass

God's grace and blessing to the following
couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries:

30th Anniversary
Zofia & Janusz Siwicki

35th Anniversary
Malgorzata & Jan Podolak

40th Anniversary
Urszula & Romuald Gulbinowicz

50th Anniversary
Elzbieta & Marian Zajac

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already here, and I unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from You.

~St. Alphonsus Liguori

Upcoming Devotions

First Friday of the month, January 1st
The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
takes precedence over the Devotion
to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

First Saturday of the month, January 2nd
Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
after the 8 a.m. Mass

First Sunday of the month, January 3rd
Holy Rosary Devotion at 7:30 a.m.
Please arrange for a private exchange of
Rosary Mysteries among your group members.

January 1st, 2021 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Of all the Marian feasts of the Church, this day dedicated to Mary, Mother of God, is the greatest. Drawing on scriptural and patristic sources, it celebrates Mary's role in the Incarnation and in redemption. In this way, her special relationship with her son is emphasized, and she is acknowledged as a model of the Church. January 1 is marked as a holy day of obligation in Canada.

Thank You So Much



Thank you to Sister Karolina who helped set up our Christmas Manger and to all the volunteers who cleaned and disinfected the church in preparation for Christmas. Your time and talent are very much appreciated. Thank you to all who donated poinsettias for the Christmas Manger. We have received close to 70 beautiful plants. Thank you so much for your generosity. May God bless you all.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Please join us in praying for

Agata Brozda,
daughter of Mariola & Kazimierz
& **Michal Mularski,**
son of Mirosława & Jerzy

Gabriela Wisniewska,
daughter of Czesława & Zbigniew
& **Alexander Podgorzec,**
son of Danuta & Bogdan

who are preparing for Holy Matrimony.

Faithful Departed



The following parishioners passed away recently.
May they rest in peace.

✠ Baby Faith
✠ Alfred Szramek, 62
✠ Wanda Tkaczuk, 65
✠ Czesław Giczewski, 69
✠ Roman Krupski, 98

Holiday Office Hours

Monday, December 28th – closed
Tuesday, December 29th – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday, December 30th – 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday, December 31st – 9 a.m. to 12 noon
Friday, January 1st – closed
Saturday, January 2nd – 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Sunday Collection

We are very grateful to our parishioners who regularly bring their Sunday collection and support the parish in these challenging times. Sunday collection can be placed in a secure box found on the steps of the altar or by the parish office door. Donations can also be made online at www.kolbe.ca by clicking on *Donate Now* and choosing *St. Maximilian Kolbe Church* from the list of parishes.

**Thank you for your understanding
and continued support.**

Offertory Envelopes for 2021



Offertory envelopes for 2021 are available for pick-up in the parish hall. The church and the parish hall are open outside of Mass times. Please write your complete name and address on the first envelope of the 2021 set.

Mass Intentions

There are no more individual Mass intentions available for the year 2021.
Intentions for Wednesday evening Mass should be submitted by phone.

2021 Calendars

Religious calendars highlighting the life and missionary work of Brother Antoni Kowalczyk are available for purchase at the parish office at \$5 each. Exact change, please.

Marriage and Family Counselling

Free marriage and family counselling is available at our parish. If your family needs guidance, please call (647) 677-1142 and leave your name and phone number. A qualified counsellor will call you to schedule a meeting.

10 People in the Church

Please note that we are only allowed to have 10 people in church at one time. As you enter the church foyer, you'll notice a binder with a large number indicating the number of people presently in the church. If the number is less than 10, turn the page and go in. If the number is already at 10, please wait for someone to leave the church. As you leave the church, turn the page back. This way we'll be able to keep track of the number of individuals inside the church building. Thank you for your cooperation.

COVID-19 and Our Parish

Recognizing the health and safety measures announced by the Province of Ontario on November 20, 2020, Cardinal Thomas Collins directed parishes to implement the following in the Toronto and Peel regions:

- Parishes throughout the region of Peel must restrict attendance inside the church building to 10 people, including priests hearing confessions or a staff member/volunteer required to monitor capacity restrictions. Due to these measures, public Masses are temporarily cancelled. Priests are asked to celebrate private Mass daily for the intentions of parishioners and for those suffering from COVID-19.

- Churches, wherever possible and according to the judgement of the pastor, are encouraged to remain open for private prayer and for the faithful to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Weddings, funerals and baptisms (without Mass) are restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry (priest, cantor, etc.).

- Parishioners are encouraged to view online/livestream/televised Masses. A full list is available at www.archtoronto.org

- No meetings should take place in parish halls or other church spaces at this time. The only exception would be those deemed as essential services.

- Parish offices are closed to the public; limited essential appointments only.

Did you know?

Dec. 28th • The Holy Innocents are the male children recorded slain by King Herod in Matthew's Gospel.

Dec. 29th • Saint Thomas Becket was martyred in Canterbury Cathedral in 1170.

Dec. 31st • As pope, Saint Sylvester was a strong defender of the Church against heresies.

Jan. 2nd • Basil and Gregory were born in Asia Minor about 330. Both men are Doctors of the Church.

Parish Website

www.kolbe.ca

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 28th

The Holy Innocents

8⁰⁰ ✠ Janina & Marian Ambroz and Tadeusz Wrobel
19⁰⁰ ○ For all life at risk of abortion and euthanasia
○ In thanksgiving for all the graces received and for God's blessing, Mother Mary's protection, and gifts of the Holy Spirit for Izabela and Tomasz and their family

TUESDAY, December 29th

St. Thomas Becket

8⁰⁰ ✠ Andrzej Witkowski
19⁰⁰ ✠ Andrzej Gut
✠ Lidia Labenda (1st anniv.)

WEDNESDAY, December 30th

8⁰⁰ ✠ Marianna Bialy
✠ Franciszek, Stanislaw, and Andrzej Kacprzyk
19⁰⁰ *Group intentions*

THURSDAY, December 31st

St. Sylvester I

8⁰⁰ ✠ Stanislaw Kruk (20th anniv.), Janina Kruk, and deceased members of the Weglewski, Kruk, and Andres families
18³⁰ *Liturgy*
19⁰⁰ ✠ Lidia Labenda (1st anniv.)
○ In thanksgiving for God's providence and for gifts of the Holy Spirit and for abiding in the faith and teaching of the Church

FRIDAY, January 1st, 2021

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

8⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing and Mother Mary's protection for Damian
9³⁰ ✠ Janina (5th anniv.) & Edward (4th anniv.) Wielgus
11⁰⁰ ○ For health for Roman – Boleslaw with family
○ For Mother Mary's protection and health for Jozef
✠ Marianna, Stanislaw, and Mieczyslaw Jarzabek, and Janina Lukasik
19⁰⁰ ✠ Marek Kaczanowski (2nd anniv.)

SATURDAY, January 2nd, 2021

Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

8⁰⁰ ○ For all members of the Rosary Family and Knights of Mary Immaculate
17⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing and health for the Skrobucha family
19⁰⁰ ✠ Janina Fiwek (1st anniv.)

SUNDAY, January 3rd, 2021

Epiphany of the Lord

8⁰⁰ ○ For members of the Holy Rosary Family
9³⁰ ✠ Henry Chychla (17th anniv.)
11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
13⁰⁰ ✠ Leokadia Mendel (anniv.)
14³⁰ ○ For health for Maria Dardzinska
19⁰⁰ For God's grace and health for son

First Reading:

Genesis 15.1-6; 17.3b-5, 15-16; 21.1-7

Responsorial Psalm:

*The Lord is our God,
mindful of his covenant forever.*

Second Reading:

Hebrews 11.8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel:

Luke 2.22-40

Rosary Intention for January

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.