

# 4th Sunday of Advent



Imagine what it must have been like for Joseph to hear Mary's extraordinary tale of her mysterious pregnancy. Joseph was "a righteous man." He believed in, longed for, the coming of the promised Messiah of whom Isaiah speaks in the first reading. Then to be asked to accept that God was about to fulfill that promise in such an unforeseen and scandalous way? And yet Joseph, awakening from a dream, welcomed the unexpected into his life.

Fast forward thirty years and we see the child born to Mary and Joseph spending much of his time doing the unexpected and the scandalous. Whether sitting at table with sinners and prostitutes or embracing lepers and tax collectors, Jesus would challenge people's ideas of what God was like.

Today's readings confirm that God comes to us in ways that can confuse or challenge us. At this time of year, we might expect to encounter God in cozy family gatherings and beautiful liturgical celebrations. We might not recognize him in the shivering street person or the cranky relative everyone wants to avoid.

Our celebration of Christ's coming at Christmas is an invitation to open ourselves to new possibilities and new ways of seeing God. May we, like Joseph, welcome him with open and generous hearts...in whatever guise he appears.

Teresa Whalen Lux; Regina, SK

**First Reading:** Isaiah 7:10-14  
**Responsorial Psalm:**

May the Lord come in;  
he is king of glory.

**Second Reading:** Romans 1:1-7  
**Gospel:** Matthew 1:18-24

**Coffee and Donuts** are being served by the Holy Rosary Family.

**Rosary** is being led by Rose number 58.

## The Sacrament of Baptism

will be bestowed upon:

**Leo Arthur Gilbert,**  
son Anna & Matthew

**Max Victor Krzyzanowski,**  
son of Halina & Robert

**Ellie Strzabala,**  
daughter of Beata & Sylwester

**Nicholas Peter Ulman,**  
son of Stefanie & Michal

We welcome all children and congratulate their parents and Godparents.

## Advent Confession

Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8 p.m.  
at St. Casimir's Parish

There will be no confession between December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.

## Christmas Eve Mass for Children

Children who will be attending the 8 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass are encouraged to dress up at characters from the Christmas Manger: Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, wise men.

## FR. PASTOR'S REFLECTION

This Tuesday marks the end of Advent. In the evening we will sit down to a Christmas Eve dinner and begin Christmas celebration. Please remember to keep alive our beautiful Christian traditions associated with this day, especially the reading of the Gospel passage about the birth of Jesus (Lk 2:1-14), and a solemn prayer before meal. Let us have sensitive and open hearts. Many people would like to remove Jesus from the holidays, and limit the celebrations to simply a meal and some entertainment, but with our attitude and our witness we can show them the true meaning of the mystery of God's incarnation.



"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord."

This Good News brings joy to people of all times. May these holidays be for our dear parishioners and their guests full of God's blessing and love, brought to us by God's Son, Jesus Christ.

May this great joy be rooted in a conviction that God is with us. May it strengthen our hope that with His power we can overcome our difficulties, troubles, anxieties and fears. May the fruit of this belief be love that overcomes all grudges, prejudices, and resentments, and opens our hearts to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Christmas a truly festive experience.

Have a Joyous and Blessed Christmas.

## Christmas Octave

**Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>**

Feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr. Mass will be celebrated according to a regular Sunday schedule, except there will be no 2:30 p.m. Mass.

**Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**

Fest of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist

**Saturday, December 28<sup>th</sup>**

Feast of the Holy Innocents

**Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>**

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. On this occasion, there will be an annual blessing of all children at the 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Mass.

Please join us!

## Christmas Collection

On Christmas Day there will be only one collection. Regular offertory envelopes and holiday offerings should be placed in the same collection basket.

## Thank You

To all individuals and families who generously donated poinsettias and made our Christmas Manger especially beautiful.

## Parish Office Hours

On Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, the parish office will be open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Please note that beginning next year, the parish office will be open on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

## 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



Envelopes are displayed in the parish hall in alphabetical order by last name. Please make sure that the number on the label matches the number on the envelope. Also, please write your full name, address, and phone number on the first envelope in order to match the envelope number with the family name printed on it. Any errors should be directed to the parish office.

## 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](http://www.kolbe.ca), click on support in the top right-hand corner and then click on 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 receipt directly from the Archdiocese of Toronto.

## 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.

## Parish Photo Directory

About 50 families, who had their photo taken for the pictorial directory, have not picked it up yet. If you are one of them, please visit the parish office.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**AA Open Meeting** will take place on Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m. in Br. Anthony Room. Individuals struggling with the problem of alcoholism and families of alcoholics are welcome to attend.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday of St. John Paul II

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020, we will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Saint John Paul II. Our parish will begin celebrating this special occasion in early February, with the main celebrations taking place on the weekend of May 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Details will be announced soon.

## RADIO MARYJA BANQUET

will be held on **Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 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 Szydlowska (905) 818-1040  
Joanna Strzezek (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.

## PILGRIMAGE TO JAPAN

A pilgrimage "In the Footsteps of St. Maximilian Kolbe" – is being organized for **May 6<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020** under the spiritual direction of Fr. Janusz Blazejak. The itinerary is very impressive, hence only four spots remain. More information is available by calling POLIMEX at: (905) 238-6683, ext. 427 (Mira)

**Events at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre**

[events@jp2pcc.ca](mailto:events@jp2pcc.ca)



## December 24, 5 p.m.

Christmas Eve Dinner for those in Solitude  
Pre-registration is required at:  
(416) 828-2582 or (647) 466-6207.

## December 31, 7 p.m. – 3 a.m.

New Year's Eve Party with the Kompot Band. Dinner prepared by Master Chef Jan Gromada, open bar, lottery, photo booth. Tickets: \$140 per person / Info: (905) 306-9900

## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, December 23<sup>rd</sup>** **St. John of Kanty**  
8<sup>00</sup> ♫ Jadwiga (28<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – daughter with family  
○ Special intention for God's blessing for Ewa on her birthday  
♫ Wladyslawa Bendkowska  
♫ Jan Wojciech Sambor – Teresa Soforek  
19<sup>00</sup> No Mass

**TUESDAY, December 24<sup>th</sup>** **Christmas Eve**

8<sup>00</sup> ♫ Henryk Zmudka (5<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – sister with family  
♫ Gustaw Frackiewicz – son with family  
♫ Bronislaw Magdzinski (30<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – daughter with family

○ For health and God's blessing for Ewa and her family  
20<sup>00</sup> ○ For the children of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish  
22<sup>00</sup> ♫ Boleslaw Rybka – Dianne Paukovit  
22<sup>00</sup> ○ For the youth of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish  
24<sup>00</sup> ♫ Stanislaw & Aleksandra Teczar – son  
24<sup>00</sup> ♫ Krystyna Siemiginowska – children

**WEDNESDAY, December 25<sup>th</sup>** **Christmas – The Nativity of the Lord**

8<sup>00</sup> ♫ Darrin Wilkie – wife with children  
9<sup>30</sup> ♫ Roma & Jerzy Zabinski – children

11<sup>00</sup> ○ For parishioners and benefactors  
13<sup>00</sup> ○ Special intention for God's blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for Nicole on her 14<sup>th</sup> birthday – parents and grandparents  
14<sup>30</sup> ○ Thanksgiving for Wanda & Ryszard Zebrowski on their 46<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
19<sup>00</sup> ♫ Eugeniusz Wieliczko (1<sup>st</sup> anniv.) – wife, daughter, and son-in-law

**THURSDAY, December 26<sup>th</sup>** **St. Stephen**

8<sup>00</sup> ♫ Roman Sroslak – wife Julia Sroslak  
9<sup>30</sup> ○ Special intention for Beata & Zbigniew Serwin on their 38<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary – children

11<sup>00</sup> ○ In Thanksgiving for Anna & Artur on their 16<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
13<sup>00</sup> ♫ Parents Wiktoria & Bronislaw Wolek – daughter with family

19<sup>00</sup> ♫ Kazimierz Mieczkowski and all deceased family members – wife and children

**FRIDAY, December 27<sup>th</sup>** **St. John**

8<sup>00</sup> ♫ Janina & Marian Ambrozy and Tadeusz Wrobel – family  
19<sup>00</sup> ♫ Stanislaw Lipiec – wife with family

○ Janusz Smagala (6<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – wife and children

**SATURDAY, December 28<sup>th</sup>** **Holy Innocents**

8<sup>00</sup> ○ For all life at risk of abortion and euthanasia – Kolbe ProLife

11<sup>00</sup> Wedding: *Bacibel de Marie Vasquez & Kamil Pawel Klos*

17<sup>00</sup> ♫ Marek Grzesik (8<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – wife, children, and family  
19<sup>00</sup> ○ In thanksgiving for children Adam & Ewa – mother

**SUNDAY, December 29<sup>th</sup>** **The Holy Family**

8<sup>00</sup> ♫ Boleslaw Rybka – Friends of the Scouts  
9<sup>30</sup> ♫ Janina Wielgus (3<sup>rd</sup> anniv.) & Edward Wielgus (2<sup>nd</sup> anniv.) – wife with family

11<sup>00</sup> ○ For couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries  
13<sup>00</sup> ○ Special intention for God's blessing and graces for all families of the Domestic Church

14<sup>30</sup> ♫ Zbigniew and Stanislaw Burek – Dorota with family  
19<sup>00</sup> ♫ Romualda & Stanislaw Lazarski – family