

Second Sunday of Advent



Today we light the second Advent candle. It is purple and symbolizes peace. It is often called the **Angel's Candle** as it reminds us of the message of the angels: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward man."

Today's Gospel and last week's are taken from the Gospel of Mark, the earliest of the Gospels. In it we encounter Jesus who came to understand his pivotal role in the salvation of the world and in his mission to bring the Good News of God's reign to all of creation.

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist anticipates the coming of the Messiah. He proclaims a baptism with water for the forgiveness of sins, while attesting to his belief that the one who is to come after him will offer a baptism in the Holy Spirit that will provide the pathway to salvation.

Advent is a season charged with anticipation – when we are acutely aware of the promise made by Jesus our Messiah that he will return to us. While we await his return, our preparation consists of participating in Jesus' mission of furthering God's reign. We are his missionary disciples who feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to those who thirst, house the homeless, care for creation and work for justice, all the while proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.

This season of Advent is a gift to us. It is an opportunity to invite Jesus into our lives anew and to reflect on what our baptism by water and the Holy Spirit requires of us.

Connie Paré;
London, ON

First Reading: Isaiah 40.1-5. 9-11

Responsorial Psalm:

*Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.*

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3.8-14

Gospel: Mark 1.1-8

Rosary Intention for December

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (December 8th)

A feast dedicated to Mary's conception first appeared in the 7th century and by the 12th century it was firmly established in England. In the 13th century, great thinkers such as St. Bernard and St. Thomas Aquinas debated whether Mary could have been born without original sin if, as St. Paul says, all persons are born in sin (Romans 5.12). By the 19th century, the theological debate was resolved and in 1854 Pius IX defined the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception as a dogma of faith.

Each year on December 8th, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate celebrate their Feast Day. On this special day, we remember and pray for all Oblate Fathers and lay associates who serve in various ministries. We wish them an abundance of God's grace and continued protection of Mary Immaculate, their patroness.

Parish Office will be closed on December 8th.

Confession

Sacrament of Reconciliation is available by appointment only. **If you have access to the Internet**, please go to our parish website www.kolbe.ca, click on Confession, and choose a date and time. **If you don't have access to the Internet**, you may call the parish office at (905) 848-2420 and we will book an appointment for you. Space is limited. **Don't wait until the last minute to register for Confession as it may not be available at the last minute.**

Christmas Wafers – Oplatki

Christmas Wafers were in such popular demand last weekend that we ran out of them by mid-Sunday. We have ordered more and hope to have them delivered soon.

The Sacrament of Baptism

will be bestowed upon

Colton Jaymes Porter,
son of Anna & Kyle

Jakub Olejarz,
son of Patrycja & Rafal

Mia Bella Coppola,
daughter of Margaret & David

We welcome all children to our Church community and congratulate their parents and Godparents.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

On **Thursday, November 10th**, immediately after the evening Mass, Kolbe Pro-Life Group invites one and all to take part in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in reparation to Lord Jesus for sins against life and its dignity. Join us virtually through our Parish TV.

Food for Madagascar

Friends of the Missions (MAMI) has organized two initiatives to help feed children in Madagascar: Food Parcels and Hot Meals. Special envelopes are available near the entrance to the church and the parish office. A completed submission form (found inside the envelope) and your donation can be deposited into any of the collection boxes in our parish. More information can be found on posters in the main entrance to the church. Also, Fr. Adam Filas spoke about this initiative at the Advent Retreat. Thank you for supporting children in Madagascar. God bless!

Thank You to Our Volunteers



Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who served as greeters before each Sunday Mass. Thank you for your dedication and patience. Andrzej Dutkiewicz; Barbara and Janusz Ornat; Daniel Bagiński; Dominik Prymicz; Eddie Kida; Gabriela and Michał Kasprzak; Greg Broka; Henryk Gadowski; Irena Kaczmarczuk; Izabela Pitula; Janina and Mirosław Ruta; Kolbe Youth; Konrad Dabrowski; Krystyna and Stanisław Reitmeier; Krzysztof Kida; Krzysztof Kołodziejczyk; Krzysztof Markiewicz; Krzysztof Siuda; Magda Rogala; **Małgorzata and Mirosław Prochowski**; Marek and Krystian; Kowalczyk; Maria, Robert, Anthony Branka; Mariusz and Dominik Żuchowski; Mark Noster; **Michał Koturbasz**; Paweł Gieralowiec; Paweł Zajac; Polish Scouts; Rafał Chramęga; Ryszard Koziol; Tom Magnowski; Tomek Czubat; Zbigniew Chabinka.

Thank You to Our Sponsors



Each year, various businesses and individuals advertise their services in our parish bulletin. By doing so, they offset the printing cost of the bulletin. We thank them for their continued support and encourage our parishioners to support these fine businesses and individuals.

Sunday Collection

We are very grateful to our parishioners who regularly bring their Sunday collection. The parish must function despite the crisis and continue to pay expenses on regular basis. Sunday collection can be placed in a secure box found 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. May God Bless you.

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 on weekdays from approximately 9 o'clock in the morning until approximately 6:00 p.m.

Change for Life Bottles

Change for Life Bottles in support of Pro-Life will not be collected in December as originally scheduled. However, there is a collection box beside the Relics Altar where you can drop off your collection bottle. Thank you for your generous support.

Poinsettias for the Manger

If anyone would like to help us decorate our Christmas Manger, we will gladly accept red poinsettias of various sizes until Monday, **December 21st**.

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.

Honey

Kolbe Youth has some light honey for sale. If you would like to purchase a 1kg jar at \$10, please call the parish office.

Did you know?

Dec. 7th • St. Ambrose was a Doctor of the Church.

Dec. 8th • Oblate Fathers' Feast Day

Dec. 9th • On this date in 1531, the Blessed Virgin appeared to Juan Diego at Tepeyac near Mexico City.

Dec. 10th • Our Lady of Loreto is a patroness of air travellers and aviation.

Dec. 11th • St. Damasus I was a Pope. He commissioned St. Jerome to translate the Bible into Latin.

Dec. 12th • Our Lady of Guadalupe is a patroness of the Americas.

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:

- By Monday, November 23, 2020, parishes must restrict attendance inside the church to 10 people, including priests hearing confessions or a staff member/volunteer required to monitor capacity restrictions. Due to these measures, public Masses must be 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.

Mass Intentions

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

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 7th St. Ambrose

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Antoni & Apolonia Maksimowski – son Edward with family
- 19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for Urszula on her birthday and for God's blessing and grace for her
- For an intention known to God – Dorota

TUESDAY, December 8th The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Parents Jozefa & Michal Krawiec – daughter with family
- 19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for Anna on her birthday
- ✠ Alicja Lewandowski – mother

WEDNESDAY, December 9th St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatocatzin

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Leokadia Swiercz
- ✠ Wieslaw Kowalewski – son
- 19⁰⁰ Group intentions

THURSDAY, December 10th Our Lady of Loreto

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Tadeusz Gawron-Gal – sister with family
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Jan & Tadeusz Chudzinski and Czeslaw Leszczewski
- ✠ Jerzy Sciezka – wife and children

FRIDAY, December 11th St. Damasus I

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Teresa Krzak (12th anniv.) – mother
- 19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for Alexandra on her birthday and for God's continued blessing
- ✠ Zygmunt Kucz – son with family and wife

SATURDAY, December 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for continued protection of Our Lady of Guadalupe and fruitful service in the parish – ProLife Group
- 17⁰⁰ ✠ Zofia Rusin (1st anniv.) – daughter Dorota with family
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Ireneusz Wos and Krzysztof Wos – wife and mother with family

SUNDAY, December 13th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Zygmunt Trzeciakowski – daughters with families
- 9³⁰ ✠ Maria & Jozef Jemiolo – daughters with families
- 11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
- 13³⁰ ✠ Stanislaw Wilk
- 14³⁰ ✠ Son Leszek Szczygłowski and brother Stanislaw Cieslikiewicz
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Katarzyna & Michal Mazurkiewicz and deceased family members