

The Baptism of the Lord

January 10th, 2021

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The celebration of the Baptism of the Lord draws the Christmas season to a close. Tomorrow we move into Ordinary Time. And Jesus moves into the time of his public ministry.

Jesus' baptism prepares him for ministry. As he rises from the waters, the heavens open and the Spirit descends upon him. God says, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." Secure in his identity as God's Beloved and graced by the Spirit, Jesus is ready for his mission. Do we see our baptism as preparing us for mission? Many of us were baptized as babies; we don't even remember it.

We may not have experienced the heavens being "torn apart" but we were claimed as God's children and received that Spirit in baptism. God continually reminds us that we are uniquely known and loved, uniquely gifted and called to serve. He "tears apart the heavens" to connect with us through the Mass, the sacraments, Scripture, hymns, prayer and one another.

These ways may not seem special, compared with Jesus' baptismal experience. Ordinary Time may not seem special compared with Christmastime. But God is with us in the ordinary moments as much as in the extraordinary ones. Ordinary Time is a time of growth and maturing in discipleship.

Everyone's baptism is an invitation into Jesus' mission. Responding is the work of a lifetime.

*Dinah Simmons
Halifax, NS*

First Reading: Isaiah 55.1-11

Responsorial Psalm:

*With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.*

Second Reading: 1 John 5.1-9

Gospel: Mark 1.7-11

Change of Address

If your home address or telephone number has changed, please call the parish office.

MONDAY, January 11th	
8 ⁰⁰	○ For health for Wanda and the Bazyl family
19 ⁰⁰	✠ Wojciech, Antonina, Wieslaw, Janina, and Mariusz Poplawski
TUESDAY, January 12th	
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys	
8 ⁰⁰	○ For health for Katarzyna – mother
19 ⁰⁰	○ For God's blessing in the new year for the Hofman, Kolatek, and Arabski families
WEDNESDAY, January 13th	
St. Hilary	
8 ⁰⁰	○ For an intention known to God
19 ⁰⁰	<i>Group intentions</i>
THURSDAY, January 14th	
8 ⁰⁰	✠ Ryszard Plewa – Polenceusz family
19 ⁰⁰	○ For God's blessing and grace for the Brozda, Karp, and Mularski families
FRIDAY, January 15th	
8 ⁰⁰	✠ Mother Lucyna Ulecka (26 th anniv.) – son and daughter with families
19 ⁰⁰	○ For health for Mariusz
SATURDAY, January 16th	
8 ⁰⁰	✠ Anna Milkowska (18 th anniv.) – sister with family
17 ⁰⁰	✠ Roman Srosnak – wife
19 ⁰⁰	○ For God's blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for children and grandchildren of the Rybinski family – parents
SUNDAY, January 17th	
8 ⁰⁰	✠ Apolonia Trzeciakowska – daughters with families
9 ³⁰	✠ Stanislaw Siemiginowski
11 ⁰⁰	○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
13 ⁰⁰	✠ Bronislaw & Kazimierz Oblak – family
	○ For God's continued blessing for Oswiecinski, Kolba, and Milewski families
19 ⁰⁰	○ For health and God's grace for Maria Forys on her 90 th birthday – son with family

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

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.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

On **Tuesday, January 12th**, 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.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion will be distributed in the Good Shepherd Catechetical Centre on Sunday, January 10th and 17th from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Maximum 10 people in the building, including the priest. Face masks are mandatory.

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. Confession takes place in the Good Shepherd Catechetical Centre. Face masks are mandatory.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Please join us in praying for

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

Kathryn Baniak,
 daughter of Malgorzata & Grzegorz
& Artur Gaca,
 son of Grazyna & Cezary

who are preparing for Holy Matrimony.

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.

Dear Grandparents!

May God bless you and fill you with His grace as you celebrate your special day this month.

Marriage Preparation Course

Marriage Preparation Course for couples who were never married will take place on 7 consecutive Mondays **from February 15th to March 29th at 8 p.m.** Delivery method: ZOOM or in-person. Cost: \$100 per couple. Registration: (905) 848-2420.

Marriage Preparation Course for couples where one or both partners were previously married is facilitated by Catholic Family Services. Contact www.cfstoronto.com to register for an appropriate re-marriage course.

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.

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:

- All public Masses are temporarily cancelled. All Masses are celebrated privately by the parish priests and the faithful are encouraged to take part in Mass through the parish TV.

- Parishes throughout the region of Peel must restrict attendance inside the church building to 10 people. Our church is open for private prayer and the hours are posted on the church door. 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.

- Weddings, funerals and baptisms (without Mass) are restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry (priest, cantor, etc.).

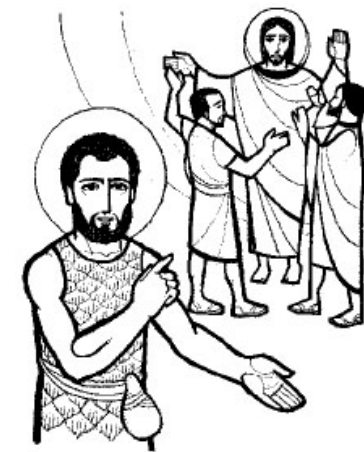
- No meetings should take place in parish halls or other church spaces at this time. The only exception would be those deemed as essential services.

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

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 17th, 2021

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Listening has become a lost art in our contemporary culture. Paradoxically, with the vast number of messages that we are exposed to, we are presented opportunities to listen to a message that resonates with the questions we are facing in our lives. God is present in our search for meaning – if only we are patient and attentive to the Spirit operating continuously in our lives, inviting us to “come and see.”

Following Jesus involves listening for the message that both draws us in and teaches us a response to our question that is consistent with living in the Spirit. Consider our experience when we're looking for something – and the panic at not knowing if or when we will find it, along with the feeling of joy that comes when we find exactly what we are looking for. In a similar way does our Teacher – Jesus – work with us in our lives. We are anxious in our searching but there is joy when we hear God's call.

Come and see the enormous feast that awaits us – if only we are open to the Spirit guiding us to move from where we are to where God intends us to be. We will benefit if we consider that we are being continuously invited to come and see through our lives.

John O'Brien; Oakville, ON

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3.3b-10, 19

Responsorial Psalm:

*Here I am, Lord;
I come to do your will.*

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6.13c-15a, 17-20

Gospel: John 1.35-42

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity January 18 – 25, 2021

“Abide in my love...and you shall bear much fruit” (cf Jn 15.5-9) is the theme for the 2021 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Week has been part of the church Calendar since 1896 when Pope Leo XIII set it as a perpetual observance. Numerous resources are available at <http://weekofprayer.ca>.

MONDAY, January 18th	
8 ⁰⁰	○ For health for mother Alicja
19 ⁰⁰	✠ Jozefa & Michal Krawiec ✠ Anna & Jozef Janos
TUESDAY, January 19th	
8 ⁰⁰	✠ Maria & Stanislaw Platek
19 ⁰⁰	✠ Parents Stanislaw & Boleslaw Szczesny ✠ Ryszard Gadowski, Czeslawa & Szczesny Gadowski, Elzbieta Walus
WEDNESDAY, January 20th	
St. Fabian / St. Sebastian	
8 ⁰⁰	○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for gifts of the Holy Spirit and Mother Mary's protection for Liliana and Stanislaw on their birthdays
	○ For God's blessing, Mother Mary's protection, and health for grandchildren Veronika & Alexander DiCarlo
19 ⁰⁰	<i>Group intentions</i>
THURSDAY, January 21st	
St. Agnes	
8 ⁰⁰	○ For God's blessing and health for Stefania on her 90 th birthday
19 ⁰⁰	○ For God's blessing, Mother Mary's protection, and health for Alexander, Gabriela, Emilia, and Adrian ✠ Stanislaw Bazylewicz and deceased members of Bazylewicz and Dyda families
FRIDAY, January 22nd	
St. Vincent	
8 ⁰⁰	○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's continued blessing, Mother Mary's protection, and health for Stanislaw Janik on his 92 nd birthday
19 ⁰⁰	✠ Wieslaw Kowalewski (2 nd anniv.) ✠ Helena Czubyryj
SATURDAY, January 23rd	
8 ⁰⁰	○ For God's blessing and health for Renata & Tomasz on their 15 th wedding anniversary
17 ⁰⁰	○ For God's blessing and Mother Mary's protection for Urszula & Romuald Gulbinowicz on their 40 th wedding anniversary
19 ⁰⁰	✠ Maria & Mieczyslaw Gorecki
SUNDAY, January 24th	
8 ⁰⁰	✠ Halina Grajek (25 th anniv.)
9 ³⁰	○ For Monika Pakulska on her 23 rd birthday
11 ⁰⁰	✠ Fr. Stanislaw Bak OMI (26 th anniv.)
13 ⁰⁰	○ For Mother Mary's protection for Monika & Gabriel and their children
14 ³⁰	✠ Ewa Grabowska (14 th anniv.)
19 ⁰⁰	✠ Halina Dul (3 rd anniv.)

Parish Website
www.kolbe.ca