

Epiphany of the Lord



By the time the wise men arrive, the Gospel recounts that they find Jesus in a house. This detail – which I haven't noticed before – is comforting to me. Somewhere after the unanticipated stable delivery, room was found for the fledgling family. The wise men go seeking Jesus surrounded by his family, held by another family.

We are the people making room for Jesus and for the people who are seeking him in the world today. Right in the middle of the Christmas leftovers, the decoration which will soon be put away, and the ache to get back to routine after feasting, Jesus is with us. The star could be stopping over our imperfect, crowded or messy homes.

The Gospel doesn't talk about what the wise men ate, where they slept or whether things were cleaned up. The star stopped over the place where they could encounter Jesus. And when they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy."

Who is overwhelmed with joy at the light God has set over you? Who needs the Jesus that resides in your heart and home? We celebrate Epiphany not so that we can pay homage with the kings of Jesus' time, but so that we can practice being overwhelmed with joy by the places in our lives where the star has stopped – even when that place is within us.

Leah Perrault; Saskatoon, SK

First Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

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.

K + M + B 2021

Today we bless incense and chalk. After returning home from the church, we use the chalk to write the initials of the names of the three kings and the current year.

You may also write **C + M + B** (Christus Mansioni Benedicat) which means "May Christ bless this house."

The letters on the door are a visible sign that a Christian family lives in the house.

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

2020 Parish Statistics

In the year 2020 we welcomed **108** new members into our parish community through the sacrament of Baptism, **94** children received their First Holy Communion, **122** were confirmed, **24** marriages were blessed, and **94** members passed from this to eternal life.

Our community is quite large. Please remember to take care of one another, raise our children and youth with kindness and concern for others, let us respect each other and above all, let us grow and develop spiritually within our families and our community.

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.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion will be distributed in the Good Shepherd Catechetical Centre on Sunday, January 3rd from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Maximum 10 people in the building, including the priest. Face masks are mandatory.

Upcoming Devotions

First Thursday of the month, January 7th
Prayer for vocations at 6:30 p.m.

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.

Oblate Retreat

From **January 11th to January 15th** all Oblates will be attending their annual (virtual) study days. Please pray for God's blessing and guidance for our priests during this time.

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.

Technical Difficulties

We have been experiencing technical difficulties transmitting sound to some devices. If you're participating in Mass using a computer, you should be able to see and hear everything. If you are using a tablet or phone, you may be unable to hear anything. As a temporary solution, try plugging in a set of headphones or speakers. Otherwise, please wait patiently while we fix the problem. **Sorry for the inconvenience.**

Marriage and Family Counselling

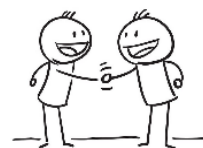
Free marriage and family counselling is available at our parish. If your family needs guidance, please call (647) 677-1142 and leave your name and phone number. A qualified counsellor will call you to schedule a meeting.

Thank You for Supporting ProLife



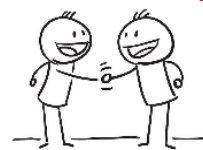
Kolbe ProLife Group would like to thank everyone who supported the Change for Life campaign. Your donation will allow us to continue the work of protecting life from conception to its natural death and will allow us to support those in need.

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.

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.

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?

Jan. 7th • Known to many in Montreal as Brother André, André Bessette served for years as the porter at the Collège Notre-Dame, where he welcomed the sick and afflicted, praying with them through the intercession of Saint Joseph.

Jan. 8th • Raymond of Penyafort had a profound influence on the original code of canon law.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, January 4th

8⁰⁰ ○ For an intention known to God – Grazyna
19⁰⁰ ✚ Halina Trzcinska-Kowalczyk – husband and children
○ For God's grace for Mike and Justin – parents

TUESDAY, January 5th

8⁰⁰ ✚ Wincenty, Maria, Andrzej Butrym
19⁰⁰ ✚ Brother Tadeusz and niece Monika

WEDNESDAY, January 6th

8⁰⁰ ✚ Emilia Serwin
○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for Mother Mary's continued protection for family in Poland and Canada
19⁰⁰ *Group intentions*

THURSDAY, January 7th

St. André Bessette

8⁰⁰ ○ For an intention known to God
19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for family – Halina ✚ Anna Onaszkievicz – husband and daughter with family

FRIDAY, January 8th

St. Raymond of Penyafort

8⁰⁰ ✚ Anna & Piotr Rogoza
19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for Jolanta & Krzysztof Gogol on their 20th wedding anniversary and for God's continued blessing – brother with wife
○ In thanksgiving for Janina & Andrzej Szaflarski on their 30th wedding anniversary and for God's continued blessing – brother with wife

SATURDAY, January 9th

8⁰⁰ ✚ Piotr Derecki (13th anniv.) – family
17⁰⁰ ✚ Ted Rynkun – Rynkun family
19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's blessing for Jozef on his birthday – wife

SUNDAY, January 10th

Baptism of the Lord

8⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for children, grandchildren, and great granddaughter – parents and grandmother
9³⁰ ✚ Stanislaw Gdyczynski (2nd anniv.) – wife and children
11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
13⁰⁰ ✚ Janina Dobosz
○ For God's grace for family – Justyna & Mariusz
19⁰⁰ ✚ Sebastian Kosiba – parents and children

Parish Website
www.kolbe.ca