

1st Sunday of Lent



Today's first reading reminds us of the Noahic covenant of love God made with all creation – a covenant which, in the second reading, Peter tells us prefigures our baptism and is sealed for all eternity by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On our wedding day we vowed to be true to each other, to love and honour each other all the days of our lives. This amazing promise gives us a small glimpse into the covenant God has made with his people. Our marriage covenant blesses us with extraordinary joy and the challenge of self-emptying love. Likewise, God's love is both a gift and an invitation.

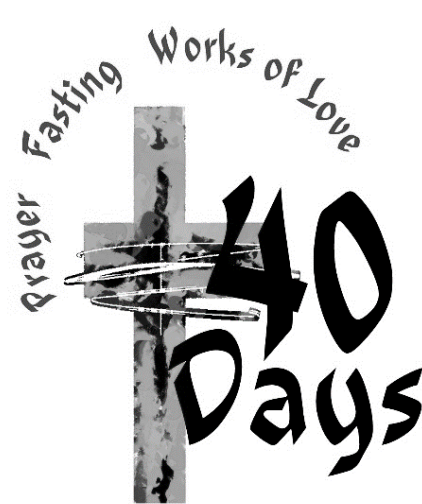
Immediately after receiving his Father's blessing and promise of steadfast love at his baptism, Jesus was sent into the wilderness. As we enter the Lenten season, we too are called to deepen our covenant with God by entering our own wilderness. Through fasting, prayer and giving this Lenten season, we deepen our relationship with God and neighbour, which in turn prepares our hearts for the extraordinary joy of Easter. God patiently waits for us to ask, "Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths." His covenant with us is a promise to be with us always, even in the desert. Like Jesus, may we emerge from the desert ready to proclaim the good news.

Michael & Vanessa Nicholas-Schmidt
Toronto, ON

First Reading: Genesis 9.8-15
Responsorial Psalm: *Your paths, Lord, are love and faithfulness for those who keep your covenant.*
Second Reading: 1 Peter 3.18-22
Gospel: Mark 1.12-15

Rosary Intention for February

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.



Lenten Lamentations

Come grow with us in prayer and reflect on Christ's passion during Lenten Lamentations each Sunday of Lent at 6 p.m. (in Polish)

Stations of the Cross

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in English
Fridays at 6:30 p.m. in Polish
Join us through the Parish TV.

Stations of the Cross for Youth

Kolbe Youth have prepared a unique Way of the Cross. Each Monday and Friday, a new reflection will be available on the following YouTube Channels: **Oblate Youth Canada** and **KolbeParish OMI**.

Lenten Retreat for Children

All children are invited for a special retreat that will help us learn how to be a disciple of Jesus. Watch the introductory video on the **KolbeParish OMI** YouTube Channel for more information.

Plenary Indulgence during Lent

During Lent, plenary indulgence under regular conditions may be obtained by participating in the Stations of the Cross or Lenten Lamentations, as well as by praying "It is I, o good and most sweet Jesus" on each Friday of Lent.

Rosary Prayer

Daily at 6:30 p.m.
Join us in prayer through the Parish TV.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion will be distributed in the Good Shepherd Catechetical Centre on **Sunday, February 21st** 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 specific 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.

Hospital Visits

Please note that a hospital chaplain – a Roman Catholic priest – is available 24 hours a day. To arrange for a visit from a priest, please ask a nurse to call the priest on duty. Parish priests are currently not allowed to visit hospitals.

Confirmation for Adults

The sacrament of confirmation fully initiates an adult into the Church and is required if one wishes to act as a godparent or enter into the sacrament of marriage. Adults who were baptized in the Roman Catholic faith but have not received the sacrament of confirmation may contact the parish office to sign up for a short preparation course. Classes begin this week.

Evening Prayer

Join us daily at 9 p.m. for the evening prayer. Simply tune in through the parish TV.

Catechesis on ZOOM

Each Saturday at 6 p.m. you're invited for an on-line catechesis (in Polish) focusing on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The upcoming topics are: **February 21st** – The last three petitions & The Final Doxology (2838-2865). This event will take place on ZOOM and is one hour in duration.

Adoremus

Adoremus Prayer Group is hosting an evening of praise on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month, after the evening Mass. Join us for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, reflection, and joyful praise. This is a virtual event – tune in through the Parish TV.

Sacrament of Marriage

Parishioners who wish to marry in the Roman Catholic Church must contact the parish office to open a wedding file and obtain a list of required documents. This must be done **one year** prior to the anticipated date of the wedding. In addition, marriage preparation course is mandatory for all couples intending to be married in the Roman Catholic Church.

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.

Important Reminders

- Please do not use envelopes from 2020 or from previous years. If you wish to us them, you must write your name and address on the envelope.
- Offertory envelopes for 2021 are available for pick-up in the parish hall. Those who still wish to receive a set of offertory envelopes are asked to contact the parish office.
- All donations made for parish upkeep, renovations, retreats, and any Archdiocese of Toronto collections are tax deductible. This does not apply to offerings made for Mass intentions.
- Income tax receipts for contributions of \$50 were mailed out last week. Individuals who made their offering on-line will receive income tax receipts directly from the Archdiocese of Toronto.

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.

Change of Address

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

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 and funerals are restricted to 10 persons, including those who are involved in ministry. Baptisms take place outside of Mass and are also restricted to 10 persons.

- 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.

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for adult volunteers to help out when public Masses resume in our church. So far, of the 30,000 registered parishioners, only 8 signed up to volunteer. Please call the parish office if you are interested in giving of your time and talent.

Did you know?

Feb. 22nd • The feast of the Chair of Saint Peter celebrates Peter and his successors as bishops of Rome.

Feb. 23rd • Polycarp is one of the Fathers of the early Church.

Parish Website
www.kolbe.ca

MONDAY, February 22nd The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Wladyslawa & Ludwik Tomaszewski – children
19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for Nicolas on his 11th birthday and for gifts of the Holy Spirit and intercession of Mother Mary
✠ Mieczyslaw Feret (24th anniv.) – wife and children

TUESDAY, February 23rd St. Polycarp

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Czeslawa & Waldemar Grochowicz (anniv.) – sister with family
18³⁰ **Stations of the Cross**
19⁰⁰ ✠ Ryszard Jankowski – brother and sister
✠ Halina & Antoni Nenko – Danuta with family

WEDNESDAY, February 24th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Jadwiga & Marian Towarek and Kazimierz Daniel – family
✠ Michal Warski (3rd anniv.) – wife and friends
19⁰⁰ Group Intentions

THURSDAY, February 25th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Jan Mogielnicki (1st anniv.) – wife and daughter
19⁰⁰ ✠ Malgorzata Twardowska (1st anniv.)
✠ Janina Konaszenko – son with family

FRIDAY, February 26th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Franciszek Rabianski – wife
18³⁰ **Stations of the Cross**
19⁰⁰ ✠ Bronislaw, Kazimiera, and Stanislaw Chobotko – family
✠ Marianna, Stanislaw, and Joanna Kowalczyk

SATURDAY, February 27th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Piotr Niemiec – son with family
17⁰⁰ ✠ Ryszard Michalec and deceased members of the Michalec family
19⁰⁰ ✠ Andrzej Przychodzko, parents on both sides, Wladyslaw Sobolewski and Janina Kobialka – family

SUNDAY, February 28th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Jozef Waciega (10th anniv.) and his parents and siblings – daughter with family
9³⁰ ✠ Monika & Zdzislaw Slawski – son with family
11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
13⁰⁰ ✠ Ryszard Michalec and Natalia & Stefan Michalec – wife and children
14³⁰ ✠ Zbigniew Karczmarczyk – wife, children, and grandchildren
18⁰⁰ **Lenten Lamentations**
19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit and Evelin on her 1st birthday – grandparents