



Reflection

“Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

It's easy to forget how difficult it was for Mary to accept God's plan. To be found pregnant out of wedlock was not only a source of shame, but against Levitic law. It could mean her death – a painful death by stoning. Still, Our Lady trusted in the Lord whom she loved and gave her fiat – let it be done.

In today's Gospel, we see the first fruits of that trust. In the early days of her pregnancy when Mary arrived at her cousin Elizabeth's home, she must have wondered how Elizabeth would react. Maybe Mary would be able to conceal her pregnancy for a few months... Mary had no reason to believe that she and her child would be met with anything other than condemnation. Yet, the moment she arrived, Elizabeth greeted her with love, already knowing of the pregnancy and congratulating Mary for her faith.

Even in times of danger, Mary consistently submitted herself to the will of God. She trusted in him. In return, God cared for her. Although she endured suffering throughout her life, she was always provided for by the God of love. We too can put our trust in God, because he cares for us.

Gabrielle Johnson; Edmonton, AB

First Reading: Micah 5.2-5a

Responsorial Psalm:

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10

Gospel: Luke 1.39-45

Rosary intention for December

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

Advent Vespers – Nieszpory
This Sunday at 6:30 p.m.

Confession

Sacrament of reconciliation is available 30 minutes before each Mass. In addition, **Advent Reconciliation will take place on Monday, December 20 and Wednesday, December 22 at 6 p.m.** Face masks are mandatory. **Please note that there will be no confession on December 24 – 26, 2021 and January 1 – 2, 2022.**

Group Mass Intentions

There will be no Group Mass Intentions on **December 22.**



Poinsettias for the Manger

If you would like to help us decorate the Christmas Manger, please consider donating white or red poinsettias of any size. Plants can be dropped off at the sacristy or at the parish office during work hours until this Tuesday. Thank you kindly.

Keep Christ in Christmas

This Sunday, **December 19**, Knights of Columbus will be selling lawn signs encouraging us to **Keep Christ in Christmas.**

Food Drive

This weekend, Knights of Columbus continue their annual food drive in support of the Mississauga Food Bank and Good Shepherd Ministries. Non-perishable food items can be dropped off inside the entrance to the church. The following are in high demand: rice, pasta, coffee, and all kinds of canned goods (meat, soup, vegetables, fruits). **No expired food, please!**

Bible Contest Winners

Thank you to 32 young people from our parish who read the Gospel according to St. Matthew and took part in the Bible Contest. Congratulations to 10 individuals who earned high scores and moved on to the second round. All winners of the Bible Contest will be announced on Sunday.

CHRISTMAS 2021



In a few days, we will celebrate Christmas Eve with our families. May this be a truly Christian celebration and an opportunity for our families to unite and reconcile. Let us remember to pray and reflect on the birth of Christ by reading a passage from the Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 2, verses 1-14. The culminating point of the celebration should be our active participation in the midnight Mass.

Christmas Eve Mass for Children

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

Holiday Office Hours

Our parish office will be closed from Friday, December 24th to Monday, December 27th inclusive. It will reopen on Tuesday, December 28th at 9 a.m. Merry Christmas!

Mass for Children and Youth

On Sundays, **children** are invited back for a special Mass at **1 p.m.** All **youth** are invited for the **7 p.m.** Mass with the Gospel and homily preached in English.

Baby Wipes for Newborns

Sisters of Life and Oblate Youth are collecting baby wipes for newborns. Wipes can be dropped off in the entrance to the church. Thank you for supporting the congregation of the Sisters of Life and their initiatives.

A Cup of Living Water for Missions

Continuing this Sunday, Oblate Youth are collecting donations for the construction of a well in Fr. Jan Kobzan's mission in Cameroon and other local missions. So far, they have raised enough money to build two wells, and are trying to build one more. On behalf of the youth and those who will benefit from your generosity, God bless you.

The Sacrament of Baptism

will be bestowed upon

Sebastian Henrique Pereira,
son of Karolina & Jason

We welcome Sebastian to our Church community and congratulate his parents and Godparents.

Chapel of Perpetual Adoration

We are in need of individuals or families who can commit to regular weekly adoration in the chapel. If you can devote one hour of your time each week, please contact the coordinator, Malgorzata, at (647) 888-7487. **Please wear a face mask while praying in the chapel!**

Offertory Envelopes for 2022



Offertory envelopes for 2022 can be picked up from the parish hall. They are arranged in alphabetical order. All those whose envelope number was higher than #2030 have been assigned a new number.

We kindly ask that you write your full name and address on the first envelope in your set. This is important so as to avoid any confusion, especially since many families in 2022 have a set of envelopes with a different number. Such a correction of numbers was necessary because many parishioners did not collect their sets in 2021, while others moved out or passed away. Also, please do not use envelopes from previous years.

Please do not use the new envelopes until January 2022.

Our Church is Open

Our church is open for in-person celebrations. All Masses are held indoors.

• **Livestreaming** of services and dispensation from physical participation in the Sunday Eucharist continues. The elderly, those with compromised immune systems or other health conditions should be encouraged to exercise extreme caution about any outings, including attendance at church.

• **Local municipal by-laws remain in place – the use of face masks inside all public places is still in effect, even for those who are fully vaccinated.**

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY, December 20th

8⁰⁰ ◦ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's blessing and Mother Mary's protection for Szczepan, Jerzy, Sebastian, and Michal – mother
✠ Maria & Jozef Jemiolo – daughters
✠ Maria Maciejewska
18⁰⁰ *Advent Confession*

TUESDAY, December 21st

8⁰⁰ ✠ Edward Wilk – wife with family
✠ Edmund Ciesielski & Agnieszka, Wladyslaw, and Witold Bicz
◦ For conversion and healing for Ryszard
18⁰⁰ *Church Cleaning and Decorating*

WEDNESDAY, December 22nd

8⁰⁰ ✠ Danuta Pisarek
✠ Piotr & Maria Kapa and Franciszek & Dariusz Niemczyk
◦ For reconciliation between Anna & Jerzy
18⁰⁰ *Advent Confession*

THURSDAY, December 23rd

8⁰⁰ ✠ Deceased members of the Manka & Zamarlik families
◦ For gifts of the Holy Spirit for children and grandchildren
19⁰⁰ ◦ For health and God's blessing for newlyweds Piotr & Cathy and the Pawka, Radej & Szluga families
✠ Wladyslaw & Wladyslawa Jaskiewicz (10th anniv.) – children with families

FRIDAY, December 24th

8⁰⁰ ◦ For God's continued blessing for Ewa on her birthday
20⁰⁰ **Church:** ◦ For God's blessing for the children of our parish
Centre: ✠ Janina Paradiuk (1st anniv.)
22⁰⁰ **Church:** ✠ Eddy Niedziela
Centre: ◦ For God's grace and health for Urszula and her family
24⁰⁰ **Church:** ✠ Seweryn and Jacek Stadnik – wife and mother
Centre: ✠ Krystyna – children

Holy Land Christians

This weekend, **December 18-19**, a representative of "Handicraft Holy Land Christians" will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land who graciously ask our support through conscious prayers. Representatives will also have many unique hand carved olive wood religious art pieces made by families from Bethlehem. Proceeds of the sales generate much needed employment for our Christian brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.

www.HolyLandChristians.ca

Youth Teams of Our Lady

Youth Teams of Our Lady (YTOL) is inviting all young adults 18-33 for a retreat from December 29 to January 2! For more details, please contact Natalia at (647) 517-2541 or ytolcanada@gmail.com

SATURDAY, December 25th

8⁰⁰ **Church:** ✠ Kazimiera Bartoszek and members of the Bartoszek & Jozefowicz families
Centre: ◦ In thanksgiving for all the graces received in 2021
9³⁰ **Church:** ✠ Kazimiera & Kazimierz Pakulski (1st anniv.)
Centre: ◦ For reconciliation among the members of Barbara's family
11⁰⁰ **Church:** ✠ Antoni Oleszczuk – wife, children, grandchildren
Centre: ✠ Anna
13⁰⁰ **Church:** ◦ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's continued blessing for Nicole on her 16th birthday – parents
Centre: ✠ Diane Perreira & Kazimierz Kokosza – mother and wife
14³⁰ ◦ For vocations to priesthood and religious life
19⁰⁰ ◦ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for Mother Mary's protection and gifts of the Holy Spirit for sons Tomasz & Lukasz

SUNDAY, December 26th

8⁰⁰ **Church:** ◦ In thanksgiving for Zbigniew & Beata on their 40th wedding anniversary
Centre: ◦ For God's blessing for the Prymicz family
9³⁰ **Church:** ◦ In thanksgiving for Anna & Artur on their 18th wedding anniversary and for God's continued blessing and Mother Mary's protection for them and their family
Centre: ◦ For God's grace for daughter Benefactors
Centre: In thanksgiving for Helena & Jozef Kuzar on their 55th wedding anniversary
13⁰⁰ **Church:** ✠ Anna & Jozef Osadca and deceased family members
Centre: ◦ For God's blessing for all the families in our parish, especially those undergoing personal crises – Marriage Family Counselling
14³⁰ ◦ In thanksgiving for Eugeniusz & Marianna Kulina on their 50th wedding anniversary
19⁰⁰ ◦ For health, God's protection, and gifts of the Holy Spirit for Marek Ciesla

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