



Reflection

Each of the readings for this Feast of the Holy Family features something atypical in the experience of most families. First, Hannah leaves her long-awaited first-born son at the temple to keep her promise to God. Then, John reflects on adoption as the great mark of belonging to God's family. Finally, Mary and Joseph lose 12-year-old Jesus, their son and the Son of God, on a family trip to the largest city in the area. The readings are a blessed far cry from "traditional family values," whatever that means.

Jesus radically redefined family for his contemporaries, challenging their understanding of belonging. He continues to challenge us to see the places where we judge our own or others' families. Home schooling or boarding school? Foster children or biological? Members lost or found? No option renders us outside of God's family.

Jesus' wonderfully adolescent question to his shocked parents is a great question for us too. When our own families are struggling, we will always find shelter and love, growth and hope in the God who has gifted us with our beautiful and broken families. Family is the place where we are called into the radical and abundant love found in the homes of generous parents. May God help us to love our families well, and may our witness inspire others to do likewise.

*Leah Perrault
Swift Current, SK*

The Holy Family

Devotion to the Holy Family flourished in the Renaissance. The leading artists of the time – Michelangelo, Raphael, El Greco, Rembrandt, Rubens, to name a few – often portrayed the Holy Family in their work. When this feast day was instituted in 1921, it was originally assigned to the third Sunday after Christmas. It is now observed on the first Sunday following Christmas.

Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate
the splendour of true love,
to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again
experience violence, rejection and division:
may all who have been hurt or scandalized
find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
make us once more mindful
of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,
and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.
Amen.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

God's grace and blessing to the following couples
celebrating their wedding anniversaries:

50th Anniversary
Irena & Wladyslaw Nowak

57th Anniversary
Alicja & Kazimierz Onyszko

Confession

Sacrament of reconciliation is available 30
minutes before each Mass. However, **there
will be NO CONFESSION on December
25 – 26, 2021 and January 1 – 2, 2022.**

Holiday Office Hours

Our parish office will be closed
from Friday, December 31st, 2021 at noon
to Monday, January 3rd, 2022 inclusive.
It will reopen on Tuesday, January 4th
at 9 a.m. Happy New Year!

January 1st, 2022

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Of all the Marian feasts of the Church, this day dedicated to Mary, Mother of God, is the greatest. Drawing on scriptural and patristic sources, it celebrates Mary's role in the Incarnation and in redemption. In this way, her special relationship with her son is emphasized, and she is acknowledged as a model of the Church. January 1 is marked as a holy day of obligation in Canada. At our parish, Masses are celebrated as per the Sunday Mass schedule.

Upcoming Devotions

First Saturday of the month, January 1st
Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
at 6 p.m.

First Sunday of the month, January 2nd
Holy Rosary Devotion at 7:15 a.m.

Thank You So Much



Thank you to Sister Halina who decorated our church for Advent and Christmas, and to all the volunteers who helped clean the church in preparation for Christmas. Your time and talent are very much appreciated. Also, thank you to all individuals, families, and our city councillor, Mr. John Kovac, for the beautiful poinsettias for the Christmas Manger. May God bless you all.

Faithful Departed



The following parishioners passed away
recently. May they rest in peace.

- ✠ Philip Derosio, 25
- ✠ Janusz Wisniewski, 51
- ✠ Stanislaw Antoni Dutkiewicz, 64
- ✠ Maria Grabiec Mroz, 66
- ✠ Andrzej Tutaj, 67
- ✠ Aleksandra Kopczynska, 68
- ✠ Wieslaw Smeda, 68
- ✠ Michalina Dabrowski, 71
- ✠ Stefania Wojciechowski, 99

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.

2021 Parish Statistics

In the year 2021 we welcomed 136 new members into our parish community through the sacrament of Baptism, 99 children received their First Holy Communion, 84 were confirmed, 45 marriages were blessed, and 115 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.

Bulletin Advertisements

Did you know that the advertising in our parish bulletin generates annual revenue towards our parish's financial obligations? Thank you for patronizing our advertisers! If you would like to advertise your business in the coming year, please contact the parish office.

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 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.

Rosary intention for January

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

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

Disposing of Blessed Items

What should be done with old or damaged icons, crosses, rosaries, and other items used for veneration? This is a common concern. Once a religious object is blessed and dedicated for divine worship or veneration, it must be treated with reverence and not be used in either an improper or profane way (cf. Code of Canon Law, no. 1171). Items that have been blessed but are now old or damaged should be disposed of in a dignified way. They should never just be laying around the house or thrown into the garbage. Traditionally, the item should be burned, while rosaries, crosses, etc. should be buried. If the item is large, it should be disposed of in water, such as in a lake. Holy water may be poured out in a place where it will not be stepped on.

www.kolbe.ca

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY, December 27th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Wladyslaw Liczner (anniv.)
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Maria & Jan Lazor
- ✠ Dariusz Binik

TUESDAY, December 28th

- 8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for saving the lives of children at risk of abortion, for their parents, and all who are engaged in pro-life initiatives
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Kazimierz Mieczkowski
- In thanksgiving for Zofia & Andrzej Liczner on their 34th wedding anniversary and for God's blessing and health for the family

WEDNESDAY, December 29th

- 8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's continued blessing and Mother Mary's protection for Zofia & Janusz Siwicki on their wedding anniversary
- ✠ Marta Krejca
- 19⁰⁰ ○ Group Intentions

THURSDAY, December 30th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Marianna Bialy
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Lidia Labenda (2nd anniv.)
- In thanksgiving for all graces received by the Dutkiewicz, Soltysik, and Kolodziej families

FRIDAY, December 31st

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Wladyslaw Kaczmarczyk
- ✠ Henryk Skwarko (1st anniv.)
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Boleslaw Ulinski
- For God's blessing and Mother Mary's protection for the Pawluch & Sondej families

SATURDAY, January 1st

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For members of the Rosary Family and Knights of Mary Immaculate
- 9³⁰ ✠ Janina & Edward Wielgus (5th anniv.)
- 11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
- 13⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's continued blessing, Mother Mary's protection, and health for Marta & Tomasz Sawarski on their 4th wedding anniversary
- 14³⁰ ✠ Grzesiczak Family
- 18⁰⁰ Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Malgorzata Adamek (1st anniv.) and Maria & Augustyn

SUNDAY, January 2nd

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For members of the Rosary Family
- 9³⁰ ✠ Minna Kallenbach (1st anniv.)
- 11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
- 13⁰⁰ ○ For God's grace, gifts of the Holy Spirit and Mother Mary's protection for Izabela & Tomasz and their family
- 14³⁰ ✠ Jozef Lech (33rd anniv.)
- 19⁰⁰ ○ For the grace of deliverance from addiction and the strength of the spirit for brother