



The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes February 11

The veneration of Mary as Our Lady of Lourdes arose first in popular devotion and later in the Church's liturgy.

In 1858 Mary, the mother of Jesus, appeared to Bernadette Soubirous in a cave at Massabielle, near Lourdes in France. Just four years earlier, in 1854, the Church had declared the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, so when the "beautiful woman" of Bernadette's visions identified herself as the Immaculate Conception, there was initial skepticism. Although others accompanied Bernadette to the grotto, no one else could see or hear the visions. It did not take very long for an Episcopal Commission, an official inquiry, to state: "We judge that Mary, the Immaculate Mother of God, did really appear to Bernadette Soubirous on February 11th, 1858, and on certain subsequent days, 18 times in all, in the Grotto of Lourdes; that this appearance bears every mark of truth and that the belief of the faithful is well-grounded."

A few years later, this date was added to the list of Marian feasts to honour the mysterious beauty of the Immaculate Conception.

– *Living with Christ*



Reflection

Just for a moment, put yourself into today's Gospel. Imagine the cries of the seagulls overhead, the noise of the crowd gathered to hear Jesus, the pungent smell of dirty nets, the salty language of cranky fishermen who have worked all night and caught nothing.

In the Incarnation, God loves us so passionately that he enters fully into the messiness of our human lives, stinky fishing nets and all. And, just as for Peter, it is often in the very midst of our ordinary, everyday lives that Jesus comes to us and calls us to bring his message of God's love into our world. Our listening ear to a distraught co-worker, even when we are behind on a project, reflects a God who cares deeply for us. Getting up in the middle of the night to comfort a frightened child speaks to a God who is always present to us. Heard with the ears of faith, the most mundane moments of our daily lives can be a call to follow Christ's way of self-giving love.

When we celebrate the Eucharist, we profess our belief that God comes to us most profoundly through the ordinary things of life. Simple bread and wine become Christ's Body and Blood. Nourished and transformed by his real presence, may we who celebrate this mystery today become the gift of God's presence to our world.

Teresa Whalen Lux; Regina, SK

First Reading: Isaiah 6.1-2a, 3-8

Responsorial Psalm:

*Before the Angels I sing your praise,
O Lord.*

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15.1-11

Gospel: Luke 5.1-11

The Sacrament of Baptism

will be bestowed upon

Violette Renee Clark,
daughter of Rachele & Andrew

We welcome Violette to our Church community and congratulate her parents and Godparents.

– BAPTISM –

Parents who are registered members of St. Maximilian Kolbe Church and would like to baptize their child must contact the parish office at least 6 weeks before the anticipated date of baptism. Nowadays, baptisms take place on Saturday mornings, outside of Mass.

– RECONCILIATION –

Confession takes place 30 minutes before each Mass. No registration is required. Masks are mandatory in the confessional.

Marriage Preparation Course

Marriage Preparation Course for couples who were never married starts on **February 14th at 8 p.m.** in the parish hall. For more information and to register, please call the parish office.

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.

Confirmation for Adults

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. This sacrament 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.

Intentions for Wednesday Mass

Wednesday evening Mass is celebrated in multiple intentions. These can be submitted by calling the parish office on weekdays before 5 p.m.

Office Hours

Monday: closed
Tuesday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Thursday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. – 12 noon
Sunday: closed
Lunch break: 12 noon – 1 p.m.

Bible Contest for Children



Children ages 7-14 are invited to take part in a Bible contest entitled "Parables as Comic Strips." Your task is to choose one of the parables listed below, write a creative continuation of the story (what happens to the characters(s) after the Biblical parable ends), and present it in the form of a comic strip.

All entries should be the size of 1/2 of a bristol board, consist of minimum 6 comics, with text either in English or in Polish. Remember to include your full name and your parent's phone number on the back of your work.

Complete work should be submitted to the sacristy or to the parish office by **Sunday, February 13**. There are diplomas and prizes for all participants, and they will be presented on **Sunday, February 20**, at the 1 p.m. Mass.

Parables to choose from:

- The sower - Mt 13:1-23
- The weed - Mt 13:24-30
- The mustard grain and leaven - Mt 13:31-43
- The treasure and the pearl - Mt 13:44-46
- The net - Mt 13:47-52
- The tenants - Mark 12:1-12
- The lost sheep - Luke 15:1-7
- The lost coin - Luke 15:8-10
- The prodigal son - Luke 15:11-32
- The good Samaritan - Luke 10:30-37

New Pastoral



newpastoral.net

New Pastoral is an at-home formation program intended for small groups of family and friends. It is currently offered in Polish and in French. More information can be found:

- on the parish website: kolbe.ca
- on the New Pastoral website: pastoral.net
- in the Polish bulletin

In preparation for the launch of the formation program, we invite you to join us for silent prayer and vigil before the Blessed Sacrament, from Monday to Friday after the evening Mass.

Offertory Envelopes for 2022

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



Please 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.

Please do not use envelopes from previous years.

2021 Income Tax Receipts



We are in the process of preparing income tax receipts for contributions of \$50 or more. They will be mailed out around **February 15**.

Change of Address

If your address or phone number has changed, please call the parish office to update your file.

Our Church is Open

• St. Maximilian Kolbe 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 are 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.

Calendar of Saints

Feb. 8th • Saint Jerome Emiliani was born in Venice in 1486. He is the founder of the Somascan Fathers and Brothers. **Saint Josephine Bakhita** is the first saint from Sudan.

Feb. 10th • Saint Scholastica, the twin sister of Saint Benedict, was the leader of a women's community.

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY, February 7th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Remigiusz Oswiecinski – daughter
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Wieslaw Kozlowski (38th anniv.) – daughter with family
- ✠ Fr. Aleksander Mierzwinski, Witold Ostrowski, Wladyslaw Slota and members of the Kaczorowski family

TUESDAY, February 8th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Waldemar Onak and members of the Kisielewicz and Tracz families
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Stanislaw, Zofia, Kazimierz, Edward, Wanda, Antonina Bystrycki – Rygiel family
- ✠ Adam & Eugeniusz Wasik and members of the Wasik family

WEDNESDAY, February 9th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Franciszek Olszewski – son and granddaughter
- ✠ Wladyslaw Ozga – daughters with families
- 19⁰⁰ ○ Group Intentions

THURSDAY, February 10th

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing and grace for Oksana on her birthday – mother
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Maria Wicherek – son
- ✠ Cecylia, Jozef, Slawomir Wieszczyk and Marek Hajduk

FRIDAY, February 11th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Aleksander Wojnarowicz and members of the Wojnarowicz and Gedos families
- 19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's continued blessing for grandchildren of the Degowski, Wozinski, and Mis families – grandparents
- ✠ Krystyna & Zenon Nizimski and their children – sister with family

SATURDAY, February 12th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Anna Maslowiecka
- 17⁰⁰ ✠ Agnieszka (4th anniv.) and Stanislaw Bilek – son with family
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Zdzislaw Stopa – wife with children

SUNDAY, February 13th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Mieczyslaw & Genowefa Lewicki – son
- 9³⁰ ○ For God's blessing and Mother Mary's protection for Amelia on her 1st birthday
- 11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
- 13⁰⁰ ✠ Felicia & Stanislaw Chabinka and members of the Szabla family
- 14³⁰ ✠ Jozef Ducki – son
- 19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for family

Parish Website
www.kolbe.ca