



Reflection


Be God's Echo

If Jesus is the Word of God and John the Baptist is the voice that delivered that Word, then we can be the echo through which that voice will be heard for all eternity. Each of us is called to cry out: "Prepare the way of the Lord! Make His paths straight!" However, it must be remembered that – first and foremost – this cry is addressed to each of us. We, the echo of God, are to be the first to convert, to be the first to straighten our paths. John the Baptist teaches us to bear fruit worthy of conversion. We are neither unique nor privileged, yet even from these stones God can raise up children to Abraham. And when we remain silent, the stones will cry out. If people start to live like stones, who will announce the good news of the coming of the Messiah?

Lord Jesus Christ, you know that the voice of John the Baptist reaches deep into my heart. Awaken in me the desire to announce your coming to the world. You live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 11.1-10
Responsorial Psalm:
In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound forever.
Second Reading: Roman 15.4-9
Gospel: Matthew 3.1-12

Pope's Rosary intention for December
We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



Holy Rosary will be led by Rose #58.

– THIS WEEKEND –

This Sunday we light the second candle on the Advent wreath. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Through the sacrament of baptism, the following children will be initiated into the Catholic faith and welcomed into our parish community. We congratulate their parents and Godparents.

Gia Josephine Malek DiValentin,
daughter of Kristin and Andrew

Harlow Jeane Dompierre,
daughter of Natasha and Jean-Simon

Victoria Laktionov,
daughter of Kalina and Gennady

William Theodore Ozimek,
son of Jacqueline and Adrian

Coffee and Donuts

This Sunday, coffee and donuts will be served by Holy Rosary Family.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (December 8th)

The Hour of Grace for the World
December 8th, 12 p.m. – 1p.m.

The request of our Blessed Mother for the Hour of Grace: "It is my wish that the Hour of Grace for the World be made known and spread throughout the world. Our Lord, my Divine Son Jesus, will send His overflowing mercy if good people will pray continuously for their sinful brothers and sisters. If anyone is unable to visit his church, yet will pray at home, he will also receive graces through me."

Each year on December 8th, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate celebrate their Feast Day. On this special day, we remember and pray for all Oblate Fathers and lay associates who serve in various ministries. We wish them an abundance of God's grace and continued protection of Mary Immaculate, their patroness.

The parish office will be closed on Thursday, December 8th.

– COMING UP –

Novena

Join us daily at 6:30 p.m. for a novena before the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This prayer will help us prepare spiritually for the act of consecration to Mary, which will take place on Sunday, December 8 at the 7 p.m. Eucharist.

Meetings

Kolbe Seniors Club

Tuesday, December 6 at 10 a.m.
Mass followed by a meeting in John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre

Parents of children preparing for First Communion and Confirmation

Formation meeting for parents of children preparing for the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation at our parish will take place on Sunday, December 11 at 3:30 p.m. in the church (in English) and in the parish hall (in Polish).

Bereavement Day of Retreat

Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre is offering a Bereavement Day of Retreat on Saturday December 10, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Theme: "Let the healing hands of Jesus bless you with peace and Healing." This retreat will be preached by the Centre team. The cost is \$45.00 and includes lunch. Contact: 905-278-5229 or office@qoa.ca

World Youth Day News
Registration for World Youth Day is now closed.

Fundraising initiatives:

- December 4 – Christmas candles
- December 18 – frozen pierogi
- Ongoing: empty alcohol containers can be dropped off by the garage on the west side of the parking lot.

Christmas Gift and a Warm Meal for Madagascar

Next Sunday, December 11, Friends of the Missions are organizing an Advent aid campaign for missions in Madagascar. Our gift of \$10, \$15, or \$30 will help the Malagasy people get through the tough months of drought and put a smile on a child's face. Your donation will help purchase Christmas gifts and hot meals for families in Madagascar.

– IN PREPARATION –
– FOR CHRISTMAS –

Christmas Program can be picked up in the hallway of the church. Please take one home.

Advent Retreat for Adults

Advent retreat (in Polish) will take place December 11 – 14 and will be led by Fr. Pawel Szlacheta OMI, a Missionary from Ukraine.



Fr. Pawel was born on June 9, 1985, in Warsaw, Poland. In 2004, he entered the Congregation of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate and began his novitiate at Holy Cross. He was ordained on May 21, 2013, and received his first obedience to Turkmenistan, where he worked for 4 years. Afterwards, he was sent to work in Ukraine – in Kiev, then in Slavutych, and now in Poltava.

Advent Retreat for Youth

Advent retreat for youth take place each Sunday of Advent at the 7 p.m. Mass. The Mass is in Polish, but the homily is in English.

Rorate Caeli for Children

Rorate Caeli and a mini retreat for children will take place December 15 – 17 at 7 p.m. Please bring a lantern.



Advent Confession

Monday, December 19, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Wednesday, December 21, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
There will be no confession December 24-26.

Christmas Wafers – Opłátky

Blessed Christmas Wafers are available in the hallway of the church and in the parish office.
Large pack (3 wafers) – \$2.50
Small pack (2 wafers) – \$1.50

Christmas Cards

Beautiful Christmas Cards (in Polish) are available for purchase this Sunday in the church and in the parish office during office hours. Cards are \$1.75 each. All proceeds will support the Jubilee 2000 Children's Choir led by Sister Halina.

Parish Calendar 2023

~ available at \$5 each ~

– ADORATION –

Ten Surprising Effects of Frequent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

4. We experience boredom, but that's ok

There will be times when adoration will seem anything but wonderful. We'll get distracted, our thoughts will start to wander, and after a while adoration will lose its appeal. Despite all of this, we have to remember that we're giving God the best possible gifts – our time and company. He will often be silent, but He will never be boring.

– OTHER –
Offertory Envelopes

Offertory envelopes for 2023 are arranged in alphabetical order in the parish hall and can be picked up today. Please check if the number on the label matches the number on the envelope. If there are any discrepancies, let the parish office know. Please do not use next year's enveloped this year.

Group Intentions

There will be no group intentions on December 14, 21, and 28. Intentions requested for those days will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 7.

Events at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre
Christmas Market • Santa's Visit • Hot Food
This Sunday, December 4, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Movie Screening
Wyszyński: Revenge or Forgiveness

This film tells the story of lieutenant Stefan Wyszynski, the future Primate of Poland. It is 1944. In the heat of war, we meet a young priest Wyszynski, who has recently been appointed chaplain of the Home Army (Kampinos group) and its insurgent hospital. In the face of war, he has to make difficult choices and answer the question of how to fight for hope and love, especially when facing the enemy.

Screening dates and times:

- Friday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.
St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, Hamilton
- Saturday, December 17, 4 p.m.
St. Casimir's Church, Toronto
- Sunday, December 18, 4 p.m.
St. Maximilian Church, Mississauga

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY December 5th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Apolonia and Antoni Maksimowski – son Edward and family
- 19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing and health for Mariusz Zegan on his birthday – mother ✠ Andrzej Socha and Aleksander Ruszczky

TUESDAY December 6th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Julian Lizon (36th anniv.) – son and family
- 10⁰⁰ ○ Members of Kolbe Seniors Club
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Janina Front and Aleksandra Mistela – Robert and family ✠ Wladyslawa Robak – son and family

WEDNESDAY December 7th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Andrzej Roman Andrzejewski (2nd anniv.) – sister ○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's continued blessing and health for Urszula on her birthday
- 19⁰⁰ ○ Group Intentions

THURSDAY December 8th
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Adela Glogowska (5th anniv.) – daughter
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Jerzy Scieszka – wife and children ○ For God's blessing and protection of Mary Immaculate for the Rogala family

FRIDAY December 9th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Leokadia Swiercz
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Zygmunt Kucz – son and family ✠ Zofia and Jerzy Pudelko and deceased family members – daughter and family
- 20⁰⁰ Evening of Praise by Adoremus

SATURDAY December 10th

- 8⁰⁰ RORATE CAELI ✠ Maria and Jerzy Redel; Anna and Aleksander Studzinski; deceased family members
- 17⁰⁰ ✠ Franciszek Boczkowski (5th anniv.) – daughter and family
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Tadeusz Gal Gawron (6th anniv.) – sister and family

SUNDAY December 11th

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Jozef Mis and Marian Mis – son and brother with family
- 9³⁰ ✠ Anna and Stanislaw Kopycki and their son Stanislaw – daughter
- 11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
- 13⁰⁰ ✠ Lucyna Woloszczak (15th anniv.) – children and families
- 14³⁰ ✠ Ewa Konaszenko – parents
- 18³⁰ ADVENT VESPERS
- 19⁰⁰ RETREAT FOR YOUTH ✠ Filomena Belza – grandson and family