

Epiphany of the Lord



Reflection

The wise one is the one who asks

The hero, or rather the anti-hero, of today's Gospel is Herod. Who was he? A hypocrite and a man full of lies. He wasn't able to engage in a dialogue with the Wise Men, which would open his eyes to the fact that the newborn king would not take his throne away. He could have used their knowledge to meet the King of kings, but he did not do it. Thus, he wasted his chance to go down in history as a great man with a big heart. Instead, he began plotting. A lie ended in a massive crime. This is a lesson for us. It is not wise to downplay the little lies in our lives. A fear of losing something, combined with a lie, can lead to terrible things!

The Wise Men had a completely different attitude. They were people seeking the truth. The greatest of their qualities was their humility, expressed in the question: Where is the newborn king of the Jews? This is also a lesson for us. We lack humility so much. These days, when we travel, we don't ask for directions. Why bother? After all, we have smartphones with free navigation systems. Why ask someone else for directions? Why stop and enter into dialogue? Why waste time? Everyone wants to be a wise man, but the wise man is the one who asks.

Lord Jesus, I know that I lack humility. It's hard for me to admit when I'm wrong, and I often pretend to be smarter than I am. All because of the fear of losing power and position in the eyes of other people. Please take this fear away from me. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

– PARISH NEWS –

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." With these words, the Church proclaims that today's feast brings to a perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent. Epiphany, therefore, marks the liturgical zenith of the Advent-Christmas season. — *Pius Parsch*

The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek *epiphainen*, a verb that means "to shine upon," "to manifest," or "to make known." Thus, the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11).

K + M + B 2023

Today we bless incense and chalk. After returning home from the church, we use the chalk to mark the door of our home with the initials of the names of the Wise Men and the year 2023.

You may also write **C + M + B** (Christus Mansioni Benedicat) which means "May Christ bless this house."

The letters on the door are a visible sign that a Christian family lives in the house.

2022 Parish Statistics

There are **15,155** formally registered families in our parish. In the year **2022** we welcomed **159** new members into our parish community through the sacrament of baptism, **102** children received their First Holy Communion, **91** were confirmed, **39** marriages were blessed, and **130** 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.

If your address or phone number has changed, please fill out a Change of Address Form (found in the hallway of the church) and place it in the collection basket on Sunday.

– COMING UP –

Coffee and Donuts

This Sunday, coffee and donuts will be served by Ladies Guild.

Oblate Retreat

This coming week, from **January 9th to January 13th** all Oblates will be away on their annual retreat. Please pray for God's blessing and guidance for our priests during this time of retreat and renewal. **There will be no morning Mass from Monday to Friday.**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

On **Thursday, January 12**, immediately after the evening Mass, Kolbe Pro-Life Group invites one and all to take part in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in reparation to Lord Jesus for sins against life and its dignity.

Evening of Praise

Adoremus Prayer Group is hosting an evening of praise on **Friday, January 13**, after the evening Mass. Join us for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, reflection, and prayer.

Meetings

Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, January 10, 7 p.m.
Mass and exchange of Rosary Mysteries for Rose #17, followed by a meeting at John Paul II Centre

Secular Franciscans

Saturday, January 14, 12 – 2 p.m.
in Fr. Eugene Room

Church Committee

Saturday, January 21, 11 a.m.
Meeting and *Oplatek* in the parish hall.

Pope's Rosary Intention for January

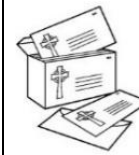
We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.



Holy Rosary will be led by Rose #5.

– OTHER –

Offertory Envelopes for 2023



Offertory envelopes for 2023 are arranged in alphabetical order in the hallway of the church.

We kindly ask that you write your full name, address, and phone number on the first envelope in your set. This is important so as to avoid any potential errors.

PLEASE DO NOT USE ENVELOPES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS!!!

World Youth Day News



Youth are fundraising by collecting empty alcohol containers. These may be dropped off by the garage on the west side of the parking lot.

– ADORATION –

Ten Surprising Effects of Frequent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

8. We notice that God has a sense of humour

The more time we spend with God and let Him talk to us, the more we discover that God has a great sense of humor. And it doesn't manifest itself in mystical experience but in subtle everyday signs which will be evident to someone who lives by prayer, who is in a relationship with Jesus or strives for it. It is not literally seeing God tell jokes or hearing His inner voice. It's more about renewed attention to the things of life, to events and God's calls in our conscience (not inner voices). So, more humility and less fascination with supernatural events or visions! Saint John of the Cross, a true mystic, teaches that a soul that wants to be united with God shouldn't seek supernatural consolations or visions. Saint Teresa of Avila echoes his words. She says that if the soul craves many supernatural experiences, it will become barren. It is also worth noting that true mystics do not boast about their supernatural experiences, and they certainly don't shout it from the rooftops. Therefore, let us follow the advice of the saints who have walked the path to God before us. They did not look for sensations, but strived to see God in ordinary, everyday things. What greater miracle could there be? This is the highest form of spirituality to which we should aspire.

– IN THE COMMUNITY –

Christmas Concert

Novi Singers Toronto and Toronto Sinfonietta Musicians present a traditional Christmas concert with performances by Katleyn Bird, soprano; Anna Leszonska, vocal; Students of the Gen. J. Haller's Polish School. **Sunday, January 15 at 4 p.m.** at St. Casimir's Church in Toronto. Tickets at \$20 are available at novisingerstoronto.ca, Pegaz Bookstore, and at the door.

Carnival Ball

Canadian Polish Congress cordially invites you to a Carnival Ball on **Saturday, January 21 at 7 p.m.** at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre. Proceeds will help with organizing the May 3rd Parage. Delicious dinner with wine prepared by Jan Gromada, lottery, dancing, and music by Mr. System. Tickets at \$75 can be purchased from Leszek (289) 768-6056, at the Centre, and in the Parish Hall after the Sunday Mass.

Adult Day Program for Seniors



Adult Day Program at Copernicus Lodge is open and accepting new clients. This program provides respite to caregivers and offers seniors with much needed socialization through group activities, exercise and art classes, bingo, singalongs and more in both English and Polish. The program runs Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. All staff are fully vaccinated and follow all infection prevention and control protocols. We also offer virtual programs for those who cannot participate in person. For more information, please contact us at 416-536-7122 ext. 223 or email adultstaff@copernicuslodge.com.

Job Offer

The John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre is currently looking to hire a part-time and full-time worker. If you are interested, please contact the administrator at (905) 306-9900.



Parish Website
www.kolbe.ca

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY January 9th

8⁰⁰ No Mass
19⁰⁰ ◦ For God's blessing and Mother Mary's protection for Irena Uranowska on her 93rd birthday – family

TUESDAY January 10th

8⁰⁰ No Mass
19⁰⁰ ✚ Jozef Kolatek, his parents, and siblings

WEDNESDAY January 11th

8⁰⁰ No Mass
19⁰⁰ ✚ Wladyslaw and Katarzyna Janczura – son

THURSDAY January 12th

8⁰⁰ No Mass
19⁰⁰ ◦ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's continued blessing and health for Paulina Armacinski on her birthday

FRIDAY January 13th

8⁰⁰ No Mass
19⁰⁰ ✚ Janina Fiwek (3rd anniv.) – daughter Beata, son Jerzy, and family

SATURDAY January 14th

8⁰⁰ ◦ For faith and God's grace for Michal on his birthday – family
17⁰⁰ ✚ Wieslaw Nowicki (1st anniv.) – sister and family
19⁰⁰ ◦ For God's continued grace for Krystyna and Franciszek Ruszkowski on their 55th wedding anniversary – family

SUNDAY January 15th

8⁰⁰ ✚ All deceased from the Czarniecki, Wasowski, Strak, and Krolikowski families
9³⁰ ✚ Eugeniusz Wilczak and all deceased from the Wilczak and Szurek families
11⁰⁰ ◦ For Parishioners and Benefactors
13⁰⁰ ◦ For a safe trip and God's grace for Natalia – parents
14³⁰ ✚ Marek Mierzwa (2nd anniv.) – family
19⁰⁰ ◦ For God's blessing and acceptance of God's mercy for Katarzyna, Łukasz, Krzysztof, Elżbieta Bednarek; Czesława Dobrowolska-Bednarek; Henryk and Stefania Muszyński

Parish 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.