



### Reflection

In today's Gospel, we hear these familiar words from John the Baptist: "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" During each Eucharistic celebration we hear these words and then repeat them three times – personalizing, affirming, and professing – "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world." The triple repetition of these words is purposeful: for the emphasis, following long-standing tradition and the spiritual significance of the number three.

Can we truly believe this? Did Jesus take away the sin of the world? John the Baptist knew Jesus, and his testimony and his experience convince his listeners, including us today, that it is indeed true.

The power of such an act – taking away the sin of the world – is quite beyond comprehension. As believers we have faith that this is true. Jesus' sacrifice was for the world and for each one of us. With this knowledge of our forgiveness, we can also believe Isaiah – that the Lord formed each one of us from the womb – and pray with St. Paul that the peace of Christ can be ours. Is it any wonder that the psalmist expressed such joy in the "glad news" and such willingness to do God's will? Let us show and tell our gratitude for this good news.

Jeanne Lambert  
Bishop's Mills, ON

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**First Reading:** Isaiah 49.3, 5-6  
**Responsorial Psalm:**  
*Here I am, Lord;  
I come to do your will.*  
**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1.1-3  
**Gospel:** John 1.29-34

## – PARISH NEWS –

### 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.**

### The Sacrament of Baptism

Through the sacrament of baptism, **Joaquim Americo Tkacz Oliveira**, son of Urszula and Manuel, will be initiated into the Catholic faith and welcomed into our parish community. We congratulate his parents and Godparents.



### Coffee and Donuts

This Sunday, coffee and donuts will be served by Jubilee 2000 Children's Choir.

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity January 18 – 25, 2023

"Do good; seek justice" (cf Isaiah 1:12-17) is the theme for the 2023 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The week has been part of the Church calendar since 1896 when Pope Leo XIII set it as a perpetual observance. Numerous resources are available at <http://weekofprayer.ca>.

### Memorials and Feasts

Tuesday, January 17 • Saint Anthony  
Friday, January 20 • Saint Fabian  
• Saint Sebastian  
Saturday, January 21 • Saint Agnes

## – COMING UP –

### Meetings

**Kolbe Seniors Club**  
Tuesday, January 17, 11 a.m.  
Meeting and *Oplatek* in the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre.

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

**M.A.M.I. – Friends of the Missions**  
Saturday, January 21, 3 p.m.  
Meeting and *Oplatek* in the parish hall.

### Radosc-Joy Christmas Concert



Sunday, January 29 at 4 p.m.  
in the Parish Hall

Tickets available at the door Adults: \$15  
Children/Seniors: \$10

### Marriage Preparation Course

Marriage Preparation Course for couples who were never married will take place on 7 consecutive Mondays from **February 13<sup>th</sup> to March 27<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m.** Cost: \$100 per couple. 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 at the Archdiocese of Toronto. Contact [www.cfstoronto.com](http://www.cfstoronto.com) to register.

### Pope's Rosary Intention for January

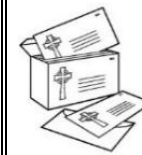
We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.



Holy Rosary will be led by Rose #6.

## – 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!!!**

### Income Tax Receipts for 2022

We are in the process of preparing income tax receipts. If your address has changed recently, please notify the parish office before the end of the week.

### 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

**9. We will want to seek frequent reconciliation** Confession seems scary, but it's not. It allows us to experience the power of God's grace. His mercy absorbs all our sins and gives us true freedom. Going to confession increases our awareness that we are in the arms of a Father who loves us very much and "never tires of forgiving us" (Pope Francis). The closer we get to God, the more self-awareness we gain.

### 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.

## – 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](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://www.kolbe.ca)

## – MASS INTENTIONS –

### MONDAY January 16<sup>th</sup>

8<sup>00</sup> ○ For God's blessing and health for Stanislaw Janik on his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday – daughter and family  
19<sup>00</sup> ✠ Henryk Skwarko – wife and children  
○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's continued blessing for Janina and Andrzej Szaflarski on their wedding anniversary

### TUESDAY January 17<sup>th</sup>

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Melania and Mikolaj Paluszkiwicz – granddaughter  
19<sup>00</sup> ○ For God's blessing, gifts of the Holy Spirit, and health for Klara and Sara – grandmother  
○ For God's care and blessing for Przemyslaw Jan Nawara – parents

### WEDNESDAY January 18<sup>th</sup>

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Henryka Bednarczyk and Ludwika Paska – Agnieszka  
✠ Anna Ozga – daughters and families  
19<sup>00</sup> ○ Group Intentions

### THURSDAY January 19<sup>th</sup>

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Marianna Tworz (1<sup>st</sup> anniv.) – daughter  
✠ Members of the Sulej and Wojcik families – granddaughter and family  
19<sup>00</sup> ✠ Wacław Jonca – wife and daughters

### FRIDAY January 20<sup>th</sup>

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Anna Czarnicka (34<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – daughter and family  
19<sup>00</sup> ✠ Ewa Dunajski and members of the Kobiela family – family  
✠ Eugenia and Stanislaw Jakobczyk, Jadwiga Niekrasz, Jadwiga Pietrakiewicz – Darek and Dorota

### SATURDAY January 21<sup>st</sup>

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Members of the Pukas, Wroblewski, Janicki, Czekerda, Plocienich, Skorek, Dudziak, Blicharz, and Bozek families  
17<sup>00</sup> ✠ Henryk Chuchla (19<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – wife and children  
19<sup>00</sup> ✠ Wacława Stepień

### SUNDAY January 22<sup>nd</sup>

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Danuta and Wladyslaw Pisarek – son Leszek and family  
9<sup>30</sup> ✠ Mieczyslaw Grabowski (13<sup>th</sup> anniv.) – Ilnicki family  
11<sup>00</sup> ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors  
13<sup>00</sup> ○ In thanksgiving for all graces received and for God's grace for Monika and Gabriel Pliszka and their children  
14<sup>30</sup> ✠ Bronisława and Kazimierz Oblak – family  
19<sup>00</sup> ✠ Maria and Mieczyslaw Gorecki – son and family

Please inform the parish office of any errors in the spelling of the above names.