



Reflection

The theme of 40 days comes up repeatedly in Scripture. Noah sent the raven out 40 days after the flood abated (Gn 8). Moses fasted 40 days on Mount Sinai (Ex 34). Goliath taunts the Israelite army for 40 days until his battle with David (1 Sm 17). In today's Gospel Jesus fasts for 40 days and nights prior to being tempted by the Devil. And there are other examples.

Each case involves a period of penance and sacrifice, leading to transformation and fulfilment. God cleanses the earth of evil during the flood, and then establishes a new Covenant. Moses' fast is followed by the Ten Commandments and Mosaic Law. After 40 days of humiliation, David emerges to slay Goliath and the Israelites vanquish their enemies. Jesus' fast and temptation in the desert prepare him to being his public ministry, culminating in his death and resurrection.

Every year Our Lord invites us to join him in his redemptive suffering through 40 days of prayer and sacrifice. This Lent, may the Holy Spirit cleanse us of our worldly and sinful attachments and bring us closer to Jesus. Let us give ourselves fully to the Divine Mercy of Jesus in the Sacrament of Confession. Our Heavenly Father will forgive us, and we too shall be renewed and made whole. The promise of Easter awaits.

*Connor Brownrigg
Ottawa, ON*

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First Reading: Genesis 9.8-15

Responsorial Psalm:

Your paths, Lord, are love and faithfulness for those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3.18-22

Gospel: Mark 1.12-15

– PARISH NEWS –

Rite of Election

The first Sunday of Lent is the day that is set aside in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for the Rite of Election. It marks an important milestone in the life of the catechumen – the person seeking baptism. Today at the 9:30 a.m. Mass, we pray especially for **Sean** whose name will be inscribed in the Book of the Elect and who is preparing to be baptized in the Roman Catholic faith. We also pray for **Arthur, Jiri, and Michelle** who will be fully initiated into the Roman Catholic Church on Easter Vigil.

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.

Elora Felicita Recinos,
daughter of Kelly and Edgar

Ignacy Kazimierz Karp,
son of Anna and Patrick

Stephanie Jane Rzekec,
daughter of Anastasiia and Arkadiusz

Art Contest for Children

Children ages 6-12 are invited to take part in an art contest entitled "Stations of the Cross with Jesus." Artwork should be done on a sheet of letter-size paper (8½"x11") using any art technique: crayons, paint, pencils, collage, fingerpaint, etc. Artwork must be done by children themselves. On the reverse side please provide the child's full name, age, and parent's phone number. Please submit all artwork to Sister Halina or to the parish office by the 4th Sunday of Lent. Winners will be announced on the 5th Sunday of Lent at the end of the 1 p.m. Mass. Age group categories are: 6-8, 9-10, 11-12.

Coffee and Donuts Schedule

February 18 – Oblate Youth

February 25 – MAMI: Friends of the Missions

2023 Income Tax Receipts

Income tax receipts for contributions of \$50 or more were mailed out last week. Please look for them in your mailbox.

Parish Collections

February 24/25

Building Renovation Fund
Thank you for your support.



Lenten Lamentations

Come grow with us in prayer and reflect on Christ's passion during Lenten Lamentations each Sunday of Lent at **6:15 p.m.** (in Polish)

Stations of the Cross

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in English
Fridays at 6:30 p.m. in Polish

Parish groups responsible for leading the Stations of the Cross:

Tue.	Feb. 20	Scouts
Fri.	Feb. 23	Krucjata Wyzwolenia Czlowieka
Tue.	Feb. 27	Oblate Youth
Fri.	Mar. 1	Families of John Paul II
Tue.	Mar. 5	Altar Servers
Fri.	Mar. 8	Domus Ecclesiae
Tue.	Mar. 12	Knights of Columbus
Fri.	Mar. 15	Bible Group Passion Crown
Tue.	Mar. 19	Fr. Krzyzostaniak OMI
Fri.	Mar. 22	Holy Rosary Society

All groups leading the Stations of the Cross are asked to submit their text to the parish office ahead of time for Father Pastor's approval.

Parish Lenten Retreat

– in Polish –

Lenten retreat in Polish will take place from March 17 to 21 and will be preached by Fr. Grzegorz Krzyzostaniak OMI from Poland.

Prayer for Peace

From Monday to Friday during Lent, until March 22 inclusive, we invite you to pray for peace in Ukraine. Prayer will take place in our church, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

40 Days for Life

Silent Prayer in the Intention of All Life in the Chapel of Perpetual Adoration throughout Lent, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Kolbe Pro-Life Group invites all parishioners to join in prayer to save the lives of unborn children and those considering euthanasia. All that is needed is an hour of your time. "Coins for Life" bottles can still be dropped off at the sacristy after Mass or at the parish office.

– COMING UP –

Evening of Praise

Adoremus Prayer Group is hosting an evening of praise on **Friday, February 23**, after the evening Mass. Join us for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, reflection, and prayer.

Meetings

Grade 8 and 9 Students

Tuesdays, 8:20 p.m. in Fr. Bak Room

Grade 10, 11, and 12 Students

Thursdays, 8:20 p.m. in Fr. Bak Room

College and University Students

Fridays, 8:20 p.m. in Bro. Anthony Room

Retreat for Youth

Oblate Youth Canada is organizing an amazing youth survival March Break retreat. It is open for youth ages 13 – 18 and runs from **March 11 to 15**. The survival retreat will be held at Camp Samac in Oshawa. The cost is \$230 for first sibling, less for next siblings. To sign up, email oblateyouthcanada@gmail.com

Retreat for Young Adults

Oblate Youth Canada is organizing a weekend survival retreat. It is open for youth ages 18 – 30 and runs from **March 15 to 17**. The survival retreat will be held at Camp Samac in Oshawa. The cost is \$150. To sign up, send an email to: oblateyouthcanada@gmail.com

Confirmation for Adults

A sacrament of confirmation fully initiates an adult into the Church and is required if one wishes to act as a Godparent or receive into the sacrament of marriage. Adults who were baptized in the Roman Catholic faith and wish to receive the sacrament of confirmation may contact the parish office to sign up for a short preparation course. Adults will be confirmed during the Easter Vigil Liturgy, on **Saturday, March 30** at 8 p.m.

Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and, in this way, to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life.
– Pope Benedict XVI

– OTHER NEWS –

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Sunday, February 25 at 11 a.m.

Please call the parish office if you wish to have your name added to the list of couples celebrating their wedding anniversary.

A Chopin Salon

at the John Paul II Cultural Centre

The Canadian Chopin Society invites you to a Chopin Salon on **Sunday, February 25** at 4 p.m. at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Center. The event marks the launch of the countdown towards the Sixth Canadian Chopin Piano Competition in January 2025. Dr. Janet Lopinski will share insights into the creative genius of this beloved Polish composer, with performances by outstanding Canadian Chopin Competition laureates Leonard Gilbert and Eric Guo. After winning the first prize at the prestigious International Chopin Piano Competition on Period Instruments in October, Eric Guo has emerged as a rising international star. We invite you to join us to celebrate the musical legacy of Fryderyk Chopin.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorie

May 3 – 13

For more information please contact:
Marzena (647) 284-1631
Malgorzata (416) 859-8469

Pilgrimage to American Czestochowa

Holy Rosary Family is organizing a 3-day pilgrimage to the American Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA and various shrines in Philadelphia, PA, USA from **May 10 to 12**, under the spiritual guidance of an Oblate priest. For more information and to register please contact:

Teresa (905) 495-7035 or
Wieslawa (416) 799-2122

Lost and Found

If you have lost something in the church, please take a moment and look through the lost and found shelf located in the church hallway, beside the large wooden door. More precious items, such as prescription glasses, keys, wedding bands, phone SIM cards, etc. are kept in the parish office. Stop by during office hours.

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY February 19

8⁰⁰ ✚ Rozalia, Stanislaw, Adam – sister and family
19⁰⁰ ✚ Olga, Tadeusz, Boleslaw Kaczmarek and Stefania Lukaszek – children
○ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God's continued blessing for Malgorzata

TUESDAY February 20

8⁰⁰ ✚ Kazimierz Rozanski and deceased family members – son and family
✚ Leon Haduk (1st anniv.)
18³⁰ Stations of the Cross in English
19⁰⁰ ✚ Maria and Tadeusz Kapa

WEDNESDAY February 21

8⁰⁰ ✚ Stanislaw Kuczynski (anniv.)
✚ Deceased members of the Zalewski family
19⁰⁰ ○ Collective Mass Intentions

THURSDAY February 22

8⁰⁰ ✚ Rozalia Gabiga – husband, son, grandchildren
19⁰⁰ ✚ Miroslaw Szewc – Anna and family
✚ Michal Warski – wife

FRIDAY February 23

8⁰⁰ ✚ Jozef and Jacek Faryniak and deceased members of the Faryniak and Zera family
18³⁰ Stations of the Cross in Polish
19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing, Mary's protection, and health for Nicolas on his 14th birthday
✚ Deceased members of the Lesniak, Ormaniec, Szymanski families

SATURDAY February 24

8⁰⁰ ✚ Maria Balcerzak (2nd anniv.) and Henryk Balcerzak – daughters and families
17⁰⁰ ✚ Zbigniew Karczmarczyk (8th anniv.) – wife, children, grandchildren
19⁰⁰ ✚ Irena and Tadeusz Stypik – daughter and family

SUNDAY February 25

8⁰⁰ ✚ Maria Targonska (3rd anniv.) – daughter Danuta and family
9³⁰ ✚ Richard Jankowski – siblings
11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
13⁰⁰ ✚ Jan Mogielnicki (4th anniv.) and deceased members of the Marzec and Mogielnicki families – wife and daughter
14³⁰ ✚ Katarzyna and Marian Wojcik – daughter and family
18¹⁵ Lenten Lamentations
19⁰⁰ ✚ Sebastian Kosiba – parents

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

ROSE #5 will lead the rosary this week.