

4th Sunday of Advent



Reflection

Some 50 years ago, I had a profound spiritual awakening. Being touched by the Holy Spirit in such a real and deep manner compelled me to enthusiastically go and share the experience with everyone. In today's Gospel we are privileged to witness just such a movement of the Spirit in the lives of Mary and Elizabeth.

Luke gives us an insight into the heart and person of Mary: prompted by the Spirit, she unselfishly forgets her own needs and visits her cousin who has miraculously conceived in her old age. Mary did not think twice, but in haste took the arduous journey to share the joy of her own impending motherhood. We are also given a glimpse of the Spirit at work in the heart of Elizabeth who cannot contain her joy but must bestow blessings upon her younger cousin.

This Gospel invites us to journey with Mary into the Judean hill country – a journey that will continue with Joseph to Nazareth, in flight after the Nativity and ultimately to the Cross. When our own journey is challenging, we can take heart from Mary. She followed the Promptings of the Spirit, found the strength to carry out her journey and received blessings in return.

In this holy season, may the intercession of Mary and the saints give us a deeper intimacy with the Holy Family.

Denis Grady, OFS; Calgary, AB

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First Reading: Micah 5.2-5a
Responsorial Psalm:
*Restore us, O God;
 let your face shine, that we may be saved.*
Second Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10
Gospel: Luke 1.39-45

*Moved? Please keep us up to date.
 Not registered? Please sign up.*

– PARISH NEWS –



*For God so loved the world
 that he gave his only Son,
 so that everyone who believes in him
 might not perish
 but might have eternal life. John 3:16*

*As you prepare for and celebrate Christ's
 birth, may your heart be filled with peace,
 joy, and God's unending love. Merry
 Christmas to all parishioners and guests!*

Thank You So Much

THANK YOU to the many individuals who donated beautiful poinsettias for the Christmas Manger. **THANK YOU** to Sister Halina and her team of helpers for setting up and decorating the Christmas manger. **THANK YOU** to our wonderful and hardworking parishioners who helped clean the church before Christmas. **THANK YOU** to all who supported the Mississauga Food Bank and the Good Shepherd Ministries by bringing in non-perishable food items. **THANK YOU** to all individuals and families who maintain our parish financially throughout the year and support the priests and staff with their prayer and kind words.

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 pray for God's blessing for them and congratulate their parents and Godparents.

Alice Victoria Carfagnini
Archer Jay Carfagnini
 children of Caroline and Jason

Advent Confession

Monday, December 23, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
 There will be no confession December 24-26.

Rose #49 leads the rosary this week.

– FEAST DAYS –

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve

Day Mass: 8 a.m.
 Midnight Mass:
 8 p.m. / **10:00 p.m.** / 12:00 a.m.
 No confession / Parish office is closed

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

The Nativity of the Lord

Mass Schedule:
 8 am, **9:30 am**, 11 am, 1 pm, 2:30 pm, 7 pm
 No confession / Parish office is closed

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

Feast of St. Stephen, First Martyr

Mass Schedule:
 8 am, **9:30 am**, 11 am, 1 pm, 7 pm
 No confession / Parish office is closed

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

Feast of St. John, Apostle

Mass Schedule: 8 am, 7 pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

Feast of Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Mass Schedule: 8 am, **5 pm**, 7 pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Mass Schedule:
 8 am, **9:30 am**, 11 am, 1 pm, 2:30 pm, 7 pm

Blessing of children will take place after the 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Mass.

Blessing of couples celebrating their wedding anniversary will take place at the 11 a.m. Mass. Please call the parish office if you wish to have your name added to the list of couples celebrating their anniversary.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Mass Schedule:
 8 am, **9:30 am**, 11 am, 1 pm, 2:30 pm, 7 pm
 No confession / Parish office is closed

Don't forget to pick up...

Christmas program – in the church hallway
 Christmas wafers – in the sacristy
 2025 Calendar – in the sacristy

– PARISH NEWS –

Pierogi, Uszka...and Carols!

This Sunday Oblate Youth are selling coffee, donuts, frozen *pierogi* (dumplings) and *uszka* (little ears). ☺ These can be purchased in the parish hall and picked up in the parking lot. Families wishing to invite carolers into their home on Friday, December 27 may make arrangements directly with the youth in the parish hall.

Coffee and Donuts Schedule

December 22 – Oblate Youth (Jubilee Year)
 December 29 – Knights of Mary Immaculate

Holiday Office Hours

Monday	December 23 closed
Tuesday	December 24 closed
Wed.	December 25 closed
Thursday	December 26 closed
Friday	December 27 9 am – 5 pm
Saturday	December 28 9 am – 12 noon
Sunday	December 29 closed

Income Tax Receipts for 2024

A reminder that all donations that are to be included on a tax receipt for 2024 must be made by December 31, 2024.

Offertory Envelopes for 2025

Parishioners who use offertory envelopes are asked to pick up their set from the parish hall.

– CONCERTS –

Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 29 at 2 p.m.

St. Eugene de Mazenod Church
 Quo Vadis Choir and Camerata Ensemble conducted by Mariusz Michalak cordially invite you to the Christmas Concert, featuring Karolina Podolak (soprano), Bartosz Hadala (piano), Burgundy Quartet, Julian Przybyslawski (violin), Mateusz Lachiewicz (piano), Kropeczki, and Źródło. Admission is free; possible donation during the concert.

Christ is Born – Christmas Concert

Sunday, January 12, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

St. Maximilian Kolbe Church
 Novi Singers Toronto and Toronto Sinfonietta Chamber Ensemble, under the musical direction of Maciej Jaskiewicz, present a concert entitled "Christ is Born." Performers include: Harnasie, Mali Harnasie, Adoremus-Agnes Dei, Fr. Bogdan Osiecki, Małgorzata Maye, Pawel Szczepanek. Suggested donation: \$20.

– SACRAMENTS – – AT OUR PARISH –

Anointing of the Sick

•A hospital chaplain – a Roman Catholic priest – is employed full-time at local hospitals and is on-call 24 hours a day. To arrange a **hospital visit**, please ask a nurse to call the priest on duty.
 •Please contact the parish office if you or your loved one require a **home visit** from a priest.

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 six weeks before the anticipated date of baptism. Preparation course is mandatory for all parents and Godparents. Baptisms take place during Mass:

- on Saturday at 5 p.m. in English
- on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in Polish

Godparents must meet all requirements outlined in Canon 874, paragraph 1:

- be at least 16 years old
- be fully initiated into the Catholic Church
- be in good standing with the Church (not married outside of the Church and not cohabitating)

Matrimony

Couples wishing to be married at St. Maximilian Kolbe Roman Catholic Church must contact the parish office at least one year prior to the anticipated date of the wedding in order to open a wedding file and obtain a list of required documents. In addition, marriage preparation course is mandatory for all couples. Please keep in mind that our priests can only officiate at marriage ceremonies of registered members of our parish who reside within the geographical boundaries of the Archdiocese of Toronto. Otherwise, permission of the local ordinary is required. For more information, couples may e-mail the parish office at kolbemagda@gmail.com.

Parish Registration Change of Address

Ours is an ethnic parish. Our parishioners are those who are of Polish descent and are formally registered at this church. Please note that we are not able to issue any references or letters of eligibility to non-parishioners. Registration forms and change of address forms can be found in the parish hallway. Filled out forms may be placed in the collection basket on Sunday.

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY December 23

8⁰⁰ ✠ Jolanta Kruk (2nd anniv.)
 ✠ Tadeusz Gal
 ✠ Jadwiga Meljon (1st anniv.)

18⁰⁰ Advent Confession

TUESDAY December 24

8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God's blessing for Ewa on her birthday
 20⁰⁰ **Church:** ✠ Janina Paradiuk (4th anniv.)
 22⁰⁰ **Church:** ○ For God's blessing for children and grandchildren (*Mass in English*)
Parish Hall: ○ For God's blessing and grace for the Chrzanowski family
 24⁰⁰ **Church:** ✠ Helena and Jozef Szczurek
Parish Hall: ✠ Franciszek Rabianski

WEDNESDAY December 25

8⁰⁰ ✠ Maria Kaniewska, Andrzej Przychodzko, deceased from Sobolewski and Kobialko families
 9³⁰ ✠ Boleslaw and Antonina Ulinski
 11⁰⁰ ✠ Karol and Maria Tomczyszyn
 13⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God's blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for Nicole Cislo on her 19th birthday
 14³⁰ ✠ Father Stanislaw Sojak
 19⁰⁰ ✠ Ryszard Zebrowski (4th anniv.)

THURSDAY December 26

8⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for Beata and Zbigniew Serwin
 9³⁰ ○ For God's blessing for the Olejniczak family
 11⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for the sacrament of marriage and for God's continued blessing and grace for Bozena and Andrzej Chyjek on their 40th wedding anniversary
 13⁰⁰ ✠ Bogumila and deceased from the Czechoski family
 19⁰⁰ ✠ Stanisława Wilczak and deceased from the Patrzyk family

FRIDAY December 27

8⁰⁰ ✠ Andrew Gut and Grazyna Policht
 19⁰⁰ ✠ Janusz Welna (16th anniv.)
 ✠ Parents Regina, Tadeusz Krzyszewski

SATURDAY December 28

8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for all lives saved from abortion and euthanasia – Kolbe ProLife
 17⁰⁰ ✠ Stefan Glod – children
 19⁰⁰ ✠ Benedykt Wojciechowski – wife and son

SUNDAY December 29

8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for the sacrament of marriage and for God's continued blessing and health for Zofia and Janusz
 9³⁰ ✠ Janina and Ed Wielgus and immigrants deceased from our parish – Diana Wielgus
 11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
 13⁰⁰ ○ For health and God's grace for family
 14³⁰ ○ For God's grace for the families of Domus Ecclesiae
 19⁰⁰ ✠ Anna and Mikolaj Minda, Eudocja i Teodor Wethacz – family

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