

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

“Jesus grew in wisdom and in years, and in favour with God and human beings.”

Luke 2.41-52

Reflection

A memory lingers: a father holding his little daughter's hand. They waited for the bus to take her to her first day at school. She had chosen to wear a tee-shirt emblazoned with two words: Question Authority. We knew we had a daughter with a strong soul, but could we have fathomed what her calling would be?

In the first reading we hear of a promise Hannah made three thousand years ago. The vocation of her yet-unborn child was set. Samuel would be given to the Lord. John in the second reading tells us that we all have a calling to be “children of God.” What path would we each take to fulfill this mission?

Long-term Church crises such as those around abuse or racism may have led many of our youth to follow spiritual directions outside the institutional Church. Are they lost? Can we recognize that our youth may not at all be astray, but rather about their Father's business in unexpected ways? There should be no barriers to our welcoming acceptance of all God's children, whatever their path or calling.

Luke tells us Mary and Joseph looked for their lost twelve-year-old son for three days. They found a young Jesus in the temple, in his “Father's house.” They didn't understand that their child was not lost at all: he knew his vocation and had answered its call.

Michael Dougherty; Whitehorse, YT

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First Reading: 1 Samuel 1.20-22, 24-28

Responsorial Psalm:

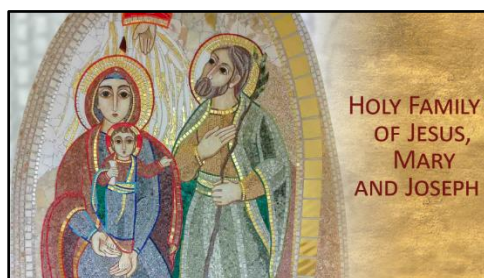
Blessed are those who live in your house, O Lord.

Second Reading: 1 John 3.1-2, 21-24

Gospel: Luke 2.41-52

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

– PARISH NEWS –



Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Devotion to the Holy Family flourished in the Renaissance. The leading artists of the time – Michelangelo, Raphael, El Greco, Rubens, to name a few – often portrayed the Holy Family in their work. This feast day was instituted in 1921 and is observed on the first Sunday following Christmas.

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.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Today at the 11 a.m. Mass, we pray for God's grace and blessing for the following couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries:

- 54th Elzbieta and Marian Zajac
- 52nd Felicja and Krzysztof Plucinski
- 50th Jadwiga and Jan Bubacz
- 40th Bozena and Andrzej Chyjek
- 40th Beata and Krzysztof Gruszka
- 40th Lidia and Marek Waszczuk
- 39th Beata and Przemyslaw Zych
- 35th Ewa and Zbigniew Romanski

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.

Gabriel Nicholas Kielbasinski, son of Oksana and Matthew

Laura Bozena Sobocinski, daughter of Natalia and Jaroslaw

Lena Aleksandra Cardinale, daughter of Olivia and Antonino

Mark Joseph Serwin Lopes, son of Marzena and Joshua

Simon Roman Pasternak, son of Anna and Rafal

Sofia Lily Chavez, daughter of Pamela and Luis

– COMING UP –

Thanksgiving and Supplication Devotion

On December 31 – in celebration of the last day of 2024 – all parishioners are invited for a Thanksgiving and Supplication Devotion at 6:30 p.m. followed by Holy Eucharist at 7 p.m. These will be celebrated in Polish.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Wednesday, January 1

This is a holy day of obligation on which Catholics are required to attend Mass and avoid servile work. In our parish, Mass schedule is as follows: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. (English), 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

Of all the Marian feasts of the Church, this day dedicated to Mary, Mother of God, is the greatest. Drawing on scriptural and patristic sources, it celebrates Mary's role in the Incarnation and in redemption. In this way, her special relationship with her son is emphasized, and she is acknowledged as a model of the Church. This day is marked as a holy day of obligation in Canada.

Upcoming Devotions

First Thursday of the month, January 2
Prayer for vocations at 6:30 p.m.

First Friday of the month, January 3
Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus after the 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Masses.
Confession starts at 6 p.m.

First Saturday of the month, January 4
Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary after the 8 a.m. Mass

First Sunday of the month, January 5
Holy Rosary Devotion at 7:15 a.m.

– CONCERTS –

Great Polish Carol Singing

The John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre is hosting the Great Polish Carol Singing on **Sunday, January 5, 2025, at 2:30 p.m.** Entrance is free, but donations are welcome.

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, Malgorzata Maye, Pawel Szczepanek. Suggested donation: \$20.

– IN MEMORIAM –



The following parishioners passed away recently. Let us keep them in our prayers.

- ✠ Kazimiera Kozinski, 92
- ✠ Tadeusz Dudkiewicz, 80

– PARISH NEWS –

Pope's Rosary Intention – January –

FOR THE RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION
Let us pray that immigrants, refugees and all those affected by war may have access to education necessary to build the Kingdom of God.

Rose #50 leads the rosary this week.

Coffee and Donuts Schedule

December 29 – Knights of Mary Immaculate
January 5 – Friends of the Missions

Office Hours This Week

Monday, Dec. 30	closed
Tuesday, Dec. 31	9 a.m. – 12 noon
Wednesday, Jan. 1	closed
Thursday, Jan. 2	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4	9 a.m. – 12 noon
Sunday, Jan. 5	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.

QuoVadis Children's Foundation

Next weekend, after each mass, QuoVadis Children's Foundation will be collecting new pajamas, winter boots, and school supplies for underprivileged children ages 6-18 from the orphanage *Nasz Dom* in Warsaw, Poland. Small monetary donations will be greatly appreciated as they will enable the shipping of parcels overseas. May God Bless you for your kindness and support.

– PARISH NEWS –

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.

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.

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY December 30

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Marianna Bialy – son
- 19⁰⁰ ○ For God's continued blessing for Andrzej and Janina Szaflarski on their wedding anniversary
- ✠ Maria, Jozef, Wladyslaw Augustyn

TUESDAY December 31

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Henryk Skwarko – wife and children
- ✠ Deceased from Glod and Duda families
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Deceased from Abramowicz, Kobylko, Szurgut families

WEDNESDAY January 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Izabela Zeglen – parents
- 9³⁰ ✠ Janina and Ed Wielgus – daughter Diana
- 11⁰⁰ ✠ Genowefa Grobarczyk (1st anniv.)
- 13⁰⁰ ✠ Zuzanna Kaluza (20th anniv.) and Patryk Kaluza (17th anniv.)
- 14³⁰ ✠ Marianna Basak – son Jan and family
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Janina Fiwek (5th anniv.) – children and family

THURSDAY January 2

- 8⁰⁰ ✠ Mother Michalina (80th anniv.) and brother Ryszard (45th anniv.) – daughter and sister
- ✠ Piotr, Kornelia, Teofil Kurzatkowski; Piotr, Helena, Waclaw Godlewski; Jan, Natalia Wajdzik; souls in purgatory
- 19⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for all Priests and Religious

FRIDAY January 3

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For God's blessing for Tristan, Zbigniew, Mariusz, Michal on their birthdays
- 10⁰⁰ ✠ Mieczyslaw Cisalowicz, Zofia Dul – son and family
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Jozef Lech (36th anniv.) – daughter Barbara and family

SATURDAY January 4

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For members of the Rosary Family and Knights of Mary Immaculate
- 17⁰⁰ ○ For health and Mary's protection for Marta and Tomasz Sawarski on their 7th wedding anniv. – mother
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Sabin and Jan Cwalinski – daughters

SUNDAY January 5

Epiphany of the Lord

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For members of the Rosary Family and Knights of Mary Immaculate
- 9³⁰ ✠ Henry Chuchla (21st anniv.) – wife and children
- 11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
- 13⁰⁰ ○ For the grace of faith for John – father
- 14³⁰ ✠ Karina Lesiak (2nd anniv.) – husband, daughter, family
- 19⁰⁰ ✠ Parents Edward and Kazimiera Studzinski, brother Tadeusz, grandparents, family – daughter and family

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