

Reflection

Today's Gospel story is so familiar that it feels like a warm blanket surrounding us, comforting us, giving us a sense of peace and security. We are drawn into the unfathomable mystery of God's astounding decision to enter our reality as one of us so that, through the Son, we might find the way to eternal life. That statement alone is enough to engage us in fruitful contemplation.

In his Gospel, Matthew is inviting his Jewish readers to consider how Jesus is the fulfillment of everything they have heard from the long line of prophets in their history. He emphasizes the role of Joseph, who is of the house of David, to assure the unbroken patrilineal heritage of the Messiah, which is detailed at the beginning of chapter 1 of Matthew's Gospel. The angel encourages Joseph to accept the responsibility of supporting Mary in bringing the Son of God into the world.

But for me the most significant detail in this beautiful story is Matthew's quotation from Isaiah: "and they shall name him Emmanuel... 'God is with us.'" It is utterly mind-boggling to consider that the omnipotent, eternal, omniscient God is whom we believe would deign to put aside all that to become human just so he could be with us. May this inspire our contemplation in the days that remain before Christmas.

Rev. Leonard Altilia, SJ Montreal, QC

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First Reading: Isaiah 7.10-14

Responsorial Psalm:

May the Lord come in; he is king of glory

Second Reading: Romans 1.1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1.18-24

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 we prepare for and celebrate Christ's birth, may our hearts be filled with peace, joy, and God's unending love. Merry Christmas to all parishioners and quests!

Thank You

Thank you to all parishioners who donated money or beautiful poinsettias for the Christmas Manger. Thank you all for your generosity.

On behalf of the Mississauga Food Bank and the Good Shepherd Ministries, thank you for donating non-perishable food for the less fortunate in our community.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Through the sacrament of baptism, Amelia Wojciechowski, daughter of Pauline and Robert will be initiated into the Catholic faith and welcomed into our parish community. We congratulate her parents and Godparents.

Advent Retreat for Youth

Last day of the Advent retreat for youth is this Sunday at 7 p.m. Mass will be celebrated in Polish, and the Homily will be in English.

Coffee, Donuts, Pierogi

Join us for coffee, donuts, and pierogi served by Oblate Youth. Next week's coffee and donuts will be served by Knights of Mary Immaculate.

Don't forget to pick up...

- Christmas program in the church hallway
- Christmas wafers in the sacristy
- 2026 Calendar in the church hallway

- PARISH NEWS -

Advent Confession

Tuesday, December 23, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

NO CONFESSION DECEMBER 24-26

Second Collection

This weekend's second collection is for the Building Renovation Fund. Please take note of some of the major renovations that we were able to accomplish this year, all thanks to your generosity:

- Maintenance services for HVAC equipment • Church lighting • Renovation of the office entrance and hallway • Replacement of old motion detectors in the church and church hall
- Replacement of the old carpet in Sr. Faustina and St. Eugene's rooms • Floor renovation in the parish hall • Rosary garden: lighting and pathway renovation • Maintenance of existing cooling system and installation of a heating system in the church
- Replacement of the soffit and gutters on the church building.

2025 Income Tax Receipts

A reminder that all donations that are to be included on a tax receipt for 2025 must be made before December 31, 2025.

Annual Church Cleaning MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

As we prepare for Christmas, we want to make sure our church is spotless for the holidays. Will you lend a hand? Please join us for our annual church cleaning tomorrow (Monday, December 22) at 6 p.m. Groups who use parish rooms are especially welcome. There's lots to do for everyone!

Rorate Mass

Our last Rorate Masses in Polish will be on Tuesday, December 23 at 8 a.m. Thank you to all who joined us for this beautiful Mass during Advent.

Holiday Office Hours

December 22 closed Monday December 23 9 am – 5 pm Tuesday Wed. December 24 closed Thursday December 25 closed Friday December 26 closed December 27 9 am – 12 noon Saturday December 28 closed

- FEAST DAYS -

WEDNESDAY, 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

THURSDAY, 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

FRIDAY, 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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27 Feast of St. John, Apostle

Day Mass: 8 am Sunday Mass: 5 pm, 7 pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28 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.

- COMING UP -

Marriage Preparation Course

Marriage Preparation Course for couples who were never married will take place on seven Mondays, from February 2 to March 23, 2026, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Meetings are inperson and attendance is mandatory at all sessions. Fee: \$100 per couple. To register, go to www.kolbe.ca and click on Liturgy and Sacraments and then Marriage. Next course will be offered in October 2026.

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 to register.



COMMUNITY NEWS —

Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 28 at 2 p.m. St. Eugene de Mazenod Church

QuoVadis Choir and Camerata Ensemble conducted by Mariusz Michalak cordially invite you to a Christmas Concert, featuring the most beautiful Polish Christmas Carols. Admission is free; free-will offering will be collected during the concert.

Great Polish Carolling

Sunday, January 4, 2026, at 3 p.m.

St. John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre Free – Donations Welcomed

Christ is Born - Christmas Concert

Novi Singers Toronto and Guests, under the musical direction of Maciej Jaskiewicz, present a concert entitled "Christ is Born." The concert will take place on Sunday, January 11, 2026 at 4 p.m. in our church.

Radio Maria Banquet

Radio Maria Christmas Banquet will be held on Sunday, January 11, 2026, at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre. Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. and the banquet will begin at 1 p.m. The event includes a concert by Kinga Mitrowska, Milena Boryczko, and Zosia Drozdowska. Tickets at \$75 are available from: John Paul II Centre (905) 306-9900, Something Special Store (905) 629-2347, Joanna Szydlowska (905) 819-1040, and Joanna Strzezek at (905) 845-3553.

Agnus Dei Parish Choir

Do you like to sing? Are you able to sing in Polish? Our parish choir is looking for new members. If you are interested, please contact Piotr at agnusdei.kolbe@gmail.com or (289) 795-3609.

Beware of Scams

Please know that no priest, religious sister, or employee of St. Maximilian Kolbe Church will ever ask you for money, gift cards, or to make purchases by email, text, phone or any other means of social communication.

- MASS INTENTIONS -

MONDAY

December 22

- 8⁰⁰ Tadeusz Ryszkiewicz (35th anniv.) and Alex Ryszkiwicz – family
- 4 Janina, Wladyslaw and deceased from the Warnas family
- ♣ Zofia and Stefan Cichocki son
- 1800 Church Cleaning

TUESDAY

December 23

- 8^{00} o For God's blessing and grace for the Stachon and Segal families
- Piotr and Maria Joniec and their parents
- ♣ Grzegorz Rakowski 1800 Advent Confession

WEDNESDAY

December 24

- 8⁰⁰ For God's blessing for Ewa on her birthday 20⁰⁰ Church: ♥ Helena and Jozef Szczurek – son Stefan and family
- 2200 Church: † Leon Bazner (anniv.) and deceased from the Bazner family (Mass in English) **Parish Hall:** ♣ Jan and his parents
- **Church:** O In thanksgiving for graces received and for God's blessing for the Olejniczak family Parish Hall: # Jerzy Szczerba (1st anniv.) – daughter

THURSDAY **December 25**

- 8⁰⁰ In thanksgiving for graces received and for Mary's continued protection for Jessika, Roslyn Tristan, Milana
- 9³⁰ Poleslaw and Antonina Ulinski daughter and family
- ₱ Jan Sas and son Piotr
- 1300 The Stanislaw and Helena Wilk, deceased from the Wilk family
- 1430 Andrzej Socha, Jozef Ostrowski, deceased from both families
- 1900 ♣ Anna Karp, Joanna Krys, Janina and Jan Bodys, Marianna and Stanislaw Podolak

FRIDAY **December 26**

- 8⁰⁰ In thanksgiving for a successful surgery and for God's blessing and Mary's protection for Danuta Marchewka
- 9³⁰ P Janina and Ed Wielgus and all souls of immigrants deceased from our parish - Diana Wielgus
- 1100 Teresa Krzak (18th anniv.) sister
- 13⁰⁰ † Feliksa Siuda children and grandchildren
- 19⁰⁰ ♣ Romuald Turek (1st anniv.)

SATURDAY **December 27** 800 To Deceased from the Stachowicz and Koza

- families Barbara
- 17⁰⁰ ♣ Alfred Szramek wife and children
- 19^{00} o In thanksgiving on the wedding anniv. of Beata and Zbigniew and graces received by children and grandchildren

SUNDAY

December 28 8^{00} o In thanksgiving on their wedding anniv. of

- Janusz and Zofia Siwicki
- 930 Bronislaw Kasprzyk and Maria Kasprzyk (5th anniv.) - Ewaschuk family
- 1100 For Parishioners and Benefactors
- 13⁰⁰ ♣ Jolanta Kwiatkowski friends
- 14^{30} \circ For God's grace for families of the Domus Ecclesiae
- 19⁰⁰ ♣ Deceased from the Kacinski and Glaubert families

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