

Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2026

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“...they knelt down
and paid him homage.”

Matthew 2:1-12

Reflection

Imagine being so full of wisdom that you see something before others do. Or having such a close relationship with God that you receive insights that transform your life. Revelations from God are a curious thing in our scientific age, as it respects the laws of reason (often working within them) but is not limited by them.

Often the stars in the sky will strike us as wonderful examples of the beauty of creation. For some of us these stars provide information (such as for those who use them as a means of navigation). Consider for a moment seeing in those stars a message that will change all of human history. This is what happened to the wise men in today's Gospel.

If the stars can provide an external source of information, perhaps our dreams and reflection can be an internal source, if we take care that they are not misunderstood. Revelation should always lead us to acts of faith, mercy and love.

Let us be grateful today for the gift of our Saviour and Lord who willingly accepted suffering to liberate us from our difficulties. May we pray today that God will reveal to us insights into our own lives that will change us, just as the wise men were transformed by the message hidden in the stars.

John O'Brien
Oakville, ON

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First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Responsorial Psalm:
*Lord, every nation on earth
will adore you.*

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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

— PARISH NEWS —

The Epiphany of Our Lord

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. “The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power.” With these words, the Church proclaims that today's feast brings to a perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent. Epiphany, therefore, marks the liturgical zenith of the Advent-Christmas season.

— Pius Parsch

Reflection

The word “epiphany” comes from the Greek *epiphainē*, a verb that means “to shine upon,” “to manifest,” or “to make known.” Thus, the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), the baptism of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11), and the miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11).

K + M + B 2026

Today we bless incense and chalk. We use the chalk to mark the door of our home with the initials of the names of the Wise Men and the year 2026.

You may also write C + M + B
(Christus Mansoni Benedicat)
which means “May Christ bless this house.”

The letters on the door are a visible sign that a Christian family lives in the house.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please join us in praying for God's blessing for the following couple as they celebrate Holy Matrimony. ♥

Veronica Siuda,
daughter of Evelyn and Tadeusz
& Jakub Szaniawski,
son of Agata and Boguslaw

Coffee and Donuts Schedule

January 4 – no coffee and donuts
January 11 – Polish Scouts

QuoVadis Children's Foundation

Today 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.

— COMING UP —

Happy Birthday Fr. Bogdan

This coming Monday, January 5th, Fr. Bogdan is celebrating his birthday. We wish him an abundance of God's grace and the continued intercession of his Patroness, the Immaculate Mary. May he continue to grow in faith and be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Let us keep Fr. Bogdan in our prayers and take a moment to wish him a happy birthday.

Kolbe Seniors Club

Members of the Kolbe Seniors Club are invited for Mass on **Tuesday, January 6** at 10 a.m., followed by a meeting at John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre.

Devotion to St. Maximilian Kolbe

Join us for a devotion to St. Maximilian Kolbe this **Thursday, January 8** after the evening Mass.

Evening of Praise

Adoremus Prayer Group is hosting an evening of praise on **Friday, January 9**, after the evening Mass. Join us for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, reflection, and prayer.

Memorials and Feasts

Wednesday, January 7

Saint André Bessette

Known to many in Montreal as Brother André, Saint André Bessette served for many years as the porter at the Collège Notre-Dame, where he welcomed the sick and afflicted, praying with them through the intercession of Saint Joseph.

Thursday, January 8

Saint Raymond of Peñafort

Saint Raymond of Peñafort had a profound influence on the original code of canon law.

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 in-person 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.

— OTHER NEWS —

2025 Parish Statistics

In the year 2025 we welcomed 99 new members into our parish community through the sacrament of baptism, 93 children received their First Holy Communion, 91 were confirmed, 32 marriages were blessed, and 119 members passed from this to eternal life. On average, 4,500 individuals attend Sunday Masses each weekend.

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.

Regular 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

Rosary Intention for January

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more Christ-like Church.

Rose #45 leads the Rosary this week.

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 Saturdays at 5 p.m. in English
- on Sundays at 2:30 p.m. in Polish
- on the last Sunday of the month at 2:30 p.m. – bilingual

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)

— COMMUNITY NEWS —

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 Szydłowska (905) 819-1040, and Joanna Strzezek at (905) 845-3553.

Polonia Ball

Canadian Polish Congress cordially invite you to the Polonia Ball on **Saturday, January 24 at 7 p.m.** at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre. Proceeds will help with organizing the May 3rd Parade. Delicious dinner prepared by Jan Gromada, lottery, dancing, and music by *Impuls*. Tickets at \$75 can be purchased from Janusz (416) 524-3763, at the Centre, and after Sunday Mass in the Parish Hall. Please join us and tell your friends as well.

Radosc-Joy Christmas Concert



Sunday, January 25 at 4 p.m.
in the Parish Hall

Over 100 performers from our parish! Tickets are \$15 and are available at the door or from RJ members. Seats are numbered.

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

8⁰⁰ o For God's blessing and Mary's protection for Fr. Bogdan Osiecki on his birthday
19⁰⁰ † Son Marian Trychta, husband Jan Trychta – mother, wife, family
† Irena and Bronislaw Szczotka, uncle Ryszard Migda – Teresa

January 5

TUESDAY

8⁰⁰ † Parents Jan and Sabina Cwalinski, husband Janusz Szajna – family
10⁰⁰ o For members of Kolbe Seniors Club
19⁰⁰ o For health and God's blessing for Marta and Tomasz Sawarski on their 8th wedding anniv. – mother

January 6

WEDNESDAY

8⁰⁰ † Julia and Zenon Szegda – daughter and son
† Wanda, Kazimierz, Romuald Kulesza
19⁰⁰ o Collective Mass Intentions

January 7

THURSDAY

8⁰⁰ o For God's blessing for Katarzyna Kuziora – daughter Wieslawa
† Michal and Emilia Serwin, deceased from the Serwin and Mroz families
19⁰⁰ † Aniela and Jan Tutaj, deceased from family, Janina and Leon Wiatr, Ryszard Malesza

January 8

FRIDAY

8⁰⁰ † Zofia-Barbara Niznik (1st)
19⁰⁰ o For health, God's blessing, success in school for Adriana Kolakowski
† Maria and Zdzislaw Gorka – daughter and family

January 9

SATURDAY

8⁰⁰ † Miroslaw Labieniec (27th) – wife and daughter
17⁰⁰ † Wladyslaw Kozlowski (1st)
19⁰⁰ † Tadeusz Kaczmarek (2nd) – wife, daughter-in-law, sons

January 10

SUNDAY

8⁰⁰ † Maria and Florian Wierzbicki, Alicja Malek
9³⁰ o In thanksgiving for graces received and for God's grace and blessing for Emanuel, Katarzyna, Paulina, Patricio
11⁰⁰ o For Parishioners and Benefactors
13⁰⁰ o For God's blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for son Mateusz
14³⁰ † Małgorzata Adamek (5th) and Maria and Augustyn Kisza
19⁰⁰ † Ryszard Kujawski

January 11

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