

*“Let your word be
‘Yes,’ if ‘Yes,’
or ‘No,’ if ‘No.’”*

Matthew 5.17-37

Reflection

In today’s Gospel Jesus affirms that he has not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets but to fulfill them. Outward conformity to the law is insufficient. Jesus invites us to something more: a conversion of heart. This at times calls us beyond our current age’s sense of what is right or fair.

It can be tempting, when we are struggling individually or as a couple, to live our marriage as a contract rooted in laws instead of a covenant founded in love. Today’s Gospel reminds us that our marriage needs to go beyond the letter of any agreement; this beautiful sacrament calls us to share truthfully of our gifts and our brokenness. We are invited into a love without condition that leads us beyond the law to freedom.

This does not mean we do not make mistakes or that there is no struggle. By virtue of free will we wrestle with discerning true wisdom, for as Sirach says, “God has set before us fire and water to whichever we choose.” But God is not asking us to choose perfect conformity to rules. He wants us to know ourselves as beloved. Grounded in that deep knowing, we are compelled to love gratuitously. After all, as St. Irenaeus reminds us, the glory of God is the human person fully alive.

*Vanessa & Michael Nicholas-Schmidt
Toronto, ON*

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First Reading: Sirach 15.15-20

Responsorial Psalm:

*Blessed are those who walk
in the law of the Lord!*

Second Reading: 1 Cor 2.6-10

Gospel: Matthew 5.17-37

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

– THIS WEEKEND –

The Sacrament of Baptism

Through the sacrament of baptism, **Christian Jacob Karpel**, son of Natalia and Marcin will be initiated into the Catholic faith and welcomed into our parish community. We congratulate his parents and Godparents.

Coffee and Donuts Schedule

February 15 – Jubilee 2000 Children’s Choir
February 22 – Domus Ecclesiae

Rosary Intention for February

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Rose #53 leads the Rosary this week.

2025 Parish Tax Receipts

Parish tax receipts are being processed; you will receive them in the mail on or before Monday, February 23. Thank you for your generosity throughout the year.

– STARTING SOON –

Confirmation for Adults

The sacrament of confirmation complements the sacrament of baptism and fully initiates an adult into the Church. It is required if one wishes to act as a Godparent or receive the sacrament of marriage. In our parish, four preparation classes **in English** will take place on Fridays beginning **February 20** and in Polish on Thursdays beginning February 19. Meetings are in-person and attendance is mandatory. Adults will be confirmed during the Easter Vigil Liturgy on **Saturday, April 4** at 8 p.m. To register, go to www.kolbe.ca and click on *Liturgy and Sacraments* → *Confirmation* → *Confirmation for Adults*.

Bereavement Ministry in Polish

This newly established group is for those who are mourning the loss of a loved one. The goal of this ministry is to provide a safe place where the bereaved can share their experiences with others and be supported by other parishioners who have also experienced the death of a loved one and who have received bereavement training. This parish-based bereavement group is a peer ministry, not a therapy support group.

The program will begin on **February 23** and consist of 8 weekly meetings. To register, please contact the parish office.

– SEASON OF LENT –



FEBRUARY 18 – MASS SCHEDULE

8 a.m. / 10 a.m. / 7 p.m. – in Polish
5 p.m. – in English

FASTING

Ash Wednesday is an obligatory day of fasting for Catholics ages 14 to 60. On this day, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding for individuals from age 14 onwards. Please note that the Church encourages the practice of fasting even for those who are not required to do so.

ALMSGIVING

Lenten offering will be collected on Ash Wednesday at all Masses.

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:

Fri.	Feb. 20	Kolbe ProLife
Tue.	Feb. 24	Knights of Columbus
Fri.	Feb. 27	Domus Ecclesiae
Tue.	Mar. 3	Scouts
Fri.	Mar. 6	Holy Rosary Society
Tue.	Mar. 10	Retreat (in Polish)
Fri.	Mar. 13	<i>Krucjata Wyzwolenia Czlowieka</i>
Tue.	Mar. 17	Oblate Youth
Fri.	Mar. 20	Families of John Paul II
Tue.	Mar. 24	Retreat (in English)
Fri.	Mar. 27	Bible Group/Passion Crown

All groups leading the Stations of the Cross are asked to submit their text to the parish office for approval.

40 Days for Life

Kolbe ProLife invites parishioners to take up Lenten prayer for life as part of the global campaign 40 Days for Life. We pray in the Adoration Chapel daily throughout Lent, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

– COMING UP –

Kolbe Seniors Club Meeting

Tuesday, February 17 at 11 a.m.
at John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Sunday, February 22 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.

– RETREATS –

Retreat “Healing after Abortion”

February 20-22

This retreat is for those who have had an abortion or contributed to it and suffer psychologically and spiritually because of it. All information is strictly confidential. Location: Chicago, Illinois, USA
Information / Registration: S. Maksymiliana Kaminska MChR (773) 656-7703

Lenten Day of Retreat

When: Saturday, February 28
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., lunch will be served
Where: Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre
For more information please contact:
office@qoa.ca or (905) 278-5229

Oblate Retreat for Youth

Oblate Youth Canada is organizing an overnight March Break retreat. It is open for youth ages 13 – 18 and runs from **March 16 to 20**. The retreat will be held at Camp Samac in Oshawa. The cost is \$200 per person; discounts are available for siblings. Email oblateyouthcanada@gmail.com to sign up.

Oblate Retreat for Young Adults

Oblate Youth Canada is organizing a weekend retreat for young adults ages 18 – 30, from **March 20 to 22**. It will be held at Camp Samac in Oshawa. The cost is \$100 per person; discounts are available for siblings. Email oblateyouthcanada@gmail.com to sign up.

YTOL March Break Retreat

Youth Teams of Our Lady (YTOL) is inviting all high school students (grade 9-12) to a March Break Retreat from Sunday, **March 15** to Friday, **March 20**. The retreat will take place at the Blue Springs Scout Reserve in Acton. For more information regarding the topic, registration process, and price please contact Mrs. Anna Jach at (519) 571-9241 or (519) 588-9241.

– OTHER NEWS –

Memorials and Feasts

Tuesday, February 17

- The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
- 200th Anniversary of the approval of the Constitutions and Rules of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins

Saturday, February 21

Saint Peter Damian – Doctor of the Church

Book of Sobriety

A Book of Sobriety is placed beside the Altar of Relics. Parishioners are encouraged to sign their names as a pledge to take up abstinence during Lent. All individuals who take up the challenge to refrain from alcohol during Lent will be offered up in prayer by members of the *Krucjata Wyzwolenia Czlowieka*.

The Catholic Register

The Catholic Register newspaper has changed its delivery method. Each week 50 copies are delivered to our parish. Parishioners may pick up a free copy from the church hallway.

The Catholic Register is the oldest English language weekly newspaper in Canada, launched in 1893. News coverage includes local, national, and international church-related news plus various columns and editorials.

Pilgrimages

Medjugorje

May 11-21, 2026

For more information please contact:

Marzena (647) 284-1631

Malgorzata (416) 859-8469

Portugal, Spain, France

September 27 – October 10

Spiritual leader: Fr. Tomasz Jarosz OMI

For more information please contact:

Stan (647) 463-9057

Assumption Cemetery Offer

Assumption Catholic Cemetery has a limited inventory set aside exclusively for the Polish community. This dedicated area provides a special opportunity for families to plan ahead with peace of mind. If you are interested in finalizing a purchase or would like more information, please contact Marcos Carvajal at (905) 670-8801 Extension 1

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY February 16

- 8⁰⁰ ✚ Jan Janiszewski – son Czeslaw
- 19⁰⁰ ✚ Miroslaw Szewc (3rd) – parents and siblings
- ✚ Spomenke, Lize, George Hortik and deceased from the Franjic family

TUESDAY February 17

- 8⁰⁰ ✚ Wladyslawa and Bronislaw Malek – son Henryk
- ✚ Rozalia, Stanislaw, Adam – sister and family
- 19⁰⁰ ✚ Lidia and Juliusz Tsivenko

WEDNESDAY February 18

- 8⁰⁰ ✚ Elzbieta and Antoni Drobiecki, deceased from the Rutka and Drobiecki families
- 10⁰⁰ ✚ Jan, Jozef, Bronislaw Ploskonka – daughter Grazyna
- 17⁰⁰ ✚ Ludwika and Mieczyslaw Trela
- 19⁰⁰ ○ For health and God’s blessing for parents

THURSDAY February 19

- 8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God’s continued blessing for Lilianna on her birthday
- 19⁰⁰ ✚ Rozalia Gabiga – husband and children
- In thanksgiving for a successful surgery and for return to health

FRIDAY February 20

- 8⁰⁰ ○ For God’s blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for Renata and Beata on their 50th birthdays and for Julianna and Amelia on their birthdays
- For health and God’s blessing in Magda’s family
- 19⁰⁰ ✚ Zofia Bytnar (14th) and Boleslaw Bytnar (68th) – daughter and family

SATURDAY February 21

- 8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God’s continued blessing for Malgorzata and Waldemar on their 60th birthday
- 17⁰⁰ ✚ Bronislaw Szuber – son and family
- 19⁰⁰ ✚ Eliza, Kazimierz, Waldemar Prawdzik

SUNDAY February 22

- 8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God’s blessing, Mary’s protection and grace for Henryka and Jozef Zielinski on their 50th wedding anniv.
- 9³⁰ ○ For health and grace of charity for Marek Kolakowski
- 11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
- 13⁰⁰ ✚ Felicja and Stanislaw Chabinka, Edward and Stanislaw Szabla – Zbigniew Chabinka
- 14³⁰ ✚ Zbigniew Karczmarczyk (10th) – wife, children, grandchildren
- 19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for the gift of marriage of Joanna and Wlodzimierz on their 1st anniv.

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