

“I am the resurrection and the life.”

John 11.1-45

Reflection

At funerals, we often hear St. Paul’s admonition not to grieve „as others do who have no hope” (1 Thes 4.13). Grief is natural, but even in grief, we have hope.

The prophet Ezekiel and his people were exiled in Babylon, grieving the loss of their homeland. Ezekiel assured them of God’s presence and God’s promises: his people will be delivered and will return home. People died, new generations were born; the exile continued. Exile felt like death. Ezekiel offered hope: God’s restoration would be like coming back to life, coming out of the grave.

The Gospels were written many years after Jesus’ death and resurrection. People died; new generations were born. Even the great leaders of the faith eventually died. What was the fate of those who had died? In today’s Gospel, when Jesus says that Lazarus will rise again, Martha affirms that he will rise on the last day. But Jesus goes further, declaring that he himself is the resurrection and the life.

Sadness, loss, death are realities in all lives. We grieve. But we do not despair. We hope and trust in new life. Each Lent, we face the reality of suffering and death. But we do this with Easter faith, looking forward to the resurrection, for death is not the end of the story.

*Dinah Simmons
Halifax, NS*

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First Reading: Ezekiel 37.12-14

Responsorial Psalm:

With the Lord there is steadfast love and great power to redeem.

Second Reading: Romans 8.8-11

Gospel: John 11.1-45

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

– THIS WEEKEND –

Lenten Retreat in English

This weekend we welcome in our parish Fr. John O’Brien SJ, who will preach the Lenten Retreat in English. We invite all English-speaking parishioners as well as all youth to join us for this special time of spiritual renewal as we prepare our hearts for Easter.

Saturday, March 21 at 5 p.m.

Sunday, March 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Mass with a retreat homily

Monday, March 23

7 p.m. Mass with a retreat homily

Tuesday, March 24

6³⁰ p.m. Stations of the Cross

7 p.m. Mass with a retreat homily

Coffee and Donuts Schedule

March 22 – Kolbe ProLife

March 29 – Radosc Joy

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.

Georgia Danuta Surma,
daughter of Kinga

Kaya Kossakowski,
daughter of Justyna and Kamil

Matteo Tomasz Radny
son of Aundrea and Julian

Meeting for Parents of Confirmation Candidates

An important formation meeting for parents of youth preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation will take place this **Sunday, March 22 at 3:30 p.m.** in the parish hall.

Camino Fair

Those interested in walking the Camino in Spain are invited for an information session this **Sunday, March 22 at 5 p.m.** in the parish hall. All are welcome to attend. Buen Camino!

Second Collection

This Weekend – ShareLife

March 28/29 – Building Renovation Fund

Thank you for your generosity.

Rose #58 leads the Rosary this week.



Easter Program is available in the hallway of the church. Please take one home.

Lenten Lamentations

Come grow with us in prayer and reflect on Christ’s passion during 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 this week:

Tue. Mar. 24 Fr. John O’Brien SJ
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.

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*.

Extreme Way of the Cross

Extreme Way of the Cross will take place this upcoming **Friday, March 27**. It will commence with Mass at St. Casimir’s Church in Toronto at 7 p.m. and conclude at St. Eugene de Mazenod Church in Brampton. The entire route – known as St. Joseph’s – is 42 km and is walked in silence, individually or in very small groups. For details and to register, please visit www.edk.org.pl or download the EDK App.

– COMING UP –

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Wednesday, March 25

This ancient feast, celebrating the Incarnation of the Word, is a joint celebration of Christ and the Blessed Virgin: of the Word who becomes the Son of Mary and of the virgin who becomes the Mother of God. In the universal Church, this liturgy celebrates the beginning of redemption. It also honours Mary as the ‘new Eve,’ the obedient and faithful woman who generously agrees to be the Mother of God.

Spiritual Adoption of a Conceived Child

Spiritual Adoption is a prayer commitment offered for a child at risk of abortion. It lasts for nine months and consists of praying one decade of the Rosary each day (1×Our Father, 10×Hail Mary), along with a short prayer for the child and his or her parents. Participants may also choose to include a personal good resolution during this time.

The Kolbe Pro-Life Group invites everyone to take part in Spiritual Adoption. The commitment can be made during the solemn Holy Mass this upcoming **Wednesday, March 25** at 7 p.m. Registration will take place starting at 6 p.m. in the church vestibule. All are warmly invited!

Evening of Praise

Adoremus Prayer Group is hosting an evening of praise on **Friday, March 27**, after the evening Mass. Join us for the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, reflection, and prayer.

Flowers for the Tomb

If any parishioner would like to help decorate the Lord’s tomb, Sister Halina will gladly accept monetary donations for a special flower arrangement she has been working on. Please do not bring any potted plants this year. Thank you for your understanding and generosity.

Radio Maria Banquet

Easter Banquet in support of Radio Maria will be held on **Sunday, April 19** at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre. Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. and banquet will begin at 1 p.m. Special musical performance by Anna Wojcik (soprano) and Alex Wang (piano). Tickets at \$70 are available from: Joanna Szydłowska - (905) 819-1040 Joanna Strzezek - (905) 845-3553 Health from Nature Store - Roncesvalles Ave. John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre

– OTHER NEWS –



ShareLife Celebrates 50 Years ShareLife Sunday is this weekend

Today is ShareLife Sunday. Special collections will be taking place this weekend on March 22. 2026 marks 50 years since Archbishop Philip Pocock made a bold and compassionate decision that would shape our community for generations: the founding of ShareLife. Building on a legacy of charitable giving in the Archdiocese of Toronto that stretches back to 1927, Archbishop Pocock launched ShareLife in 1976—an appeal rooted in the belief that every life matters, at every stage.

Today, his vision lives on through more than 40 ShareLife-funded agencies providing unconditional care to people in need—regardless of religion, background, or circumstance and through people like you who make their work happen.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

Pilgrimages

**Buffalo, NY
Sunday, June 14**

Holy Rosary Family is organizing a one-day bus trip to Buffalo, NY to visit Our Lady of Fatima Shrine and Our Lady of Victory Shrine and Basilica. Information and registration:

Wiesława (416) 799-2122

Teresa (905) 495-7035

**Portugal, Spain, France
September 27 – October 10**

Spiritual leader: Fr. Tomasz Jarosz OMI

For more information please contact:

Stan (647) 463-9057

**Japan – October 12-23
Guadalupe – November 9-15**

For more information please contact:

Marzena (647) 284-1631

Malgorzata (416) 859-8469

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 March 23

8⁰⁰ ✠ Deceased from the Paradiuk, Laskowski, Paszkiewicz, Rejer families

19⁰⁰ ✠ Jerzy Fiwek (anniv.) – children and families

✠ Elzbieta and Zenon Wetoszka, Marianna and Jerzy Pogroszewski, deceased from the Pogroszewski and Wetoszka families

TUESDAY March 24

8⁰⁰ ○ For health and God’s blessing for son and his family – mother

18³⁰ **Stations of the Cross in English**

19⁰⁰ ✠ Joaquim Lopes – son Nelson and family
○ For God’s blessing, faith, gifts of the Holy Spirit for Grzegorz, Krystyna, David, Maxim, and Agnieszka

WEDNESDAY March 25

8⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God’s blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for Aleksandra on her birthday

✠ Anna Ozga – daughters

19⁰⁰ ○ That every conceived life would be surrounded by love and could develop and live for God’s glory – Kolbe ProLife

THURSDAY March 26

8⁰⁰ ✠ Mieczyslaw Feret – wife and children

19⁰⁰ ✠ Zofia, Michal, Jerzy, Tadeusz, Adam

Kwiecien; Jan Tabor; Zofia Ryczko

✠ Parents Irena and Edward Burdyszek – children and grandchildren

FRIDAY March 27

8⁰⁰ ○ For God’s blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for children and grandchildren – parents

✠ Jozef Krzak

18³⁰ **Stations of the Cross in Polish**

19⁰⁰ ✠ Father and brother Jan Suron, deceased from the Suron and Kmiecik families

SATURDAY March 28

8⁰⁰ ✠ Deceased from the Cislo, Ratkowski, Kanigowski, Boczar families

17⁰⁰ ✠ Agnieszka Rumianowski – nephew Edward

19⁰⁰ ✠ Janina Kosciszyk – husband Czeslaw and children with families

SUNDAY March 29

8⁰⁰ ○ For God’s blessing for daughter Natalia – mother

9³⁰ ✠ Henryk and Sabina Ziolkowski – Lucy Dworak and family

11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors

13⁰⁰ ✠ Genowefa, Jan, Henryk Stepień – Halina and family

14³⁰ ✠ Jan and Jadwiga Podsiadlo

18¹⁵ **Lenten Lamentations**

19⁰⁰ ✠ Tadeusz and Olga Kaczmarek, Boleslaw, deceased from family, souls in Purgatory

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