

*“My Lord
and my God.”*

John 20.19-31

Reflection

Today, Jesus shows himself to the disciples for the first time since his resurrection. When Thomas, who was not there, is told they have seen the Lord, he doubts. However, eight days later Jesus reappears to the disciples and singles Thomas out, inviting him to believe. Thomas responds in awe: “My Lord and my God!” Scripture teaches that faith is our response to God. Jesus personally invites each of us to believe, as he did with Thomas. Faith is saying yes!

At the Ascension, the disciples were commissioned to go out and preach the gospel to all nations, even though they had abandoned and denied Jesus only weeks before. In today’s reading from the Acts, we see them zealously proclaim the gospel and suffer willingly for their faith in Jesus. They show us that faith is followed by surrendering our lives to Jesus. This is the “obedience of faith,” where we commit our whole self freely to God, putting Jesus at the centre of our lives.

In today’s second reading, Peter writes about the inexpressible peace and joy that come from faith in Jesus and in giving our lives to him. Jesus wants us to live in this freedom as well. On this last day of the Easter Octave, he calls out to us too by name. Do not doubt, but believe!

*Connor Brownrigg
Ottawa, ON*

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First Reading: Acts 2.42-47

Responsorial Psalm:

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever.*

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1.3-9

Gospel: John 20.19-31

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

– THIS WEEKEND –



Divine Mercy Sunday

Today, on the first Sunday after Easter, the Catholic Church celebrates **Divine Mercy Sunday**, a feast day established by St. John Paul II. The cult of Divine Mercy is associated with the apparitions experienced by St. Faustina Kowalska, to whom Jesus appeared in 1935, recommending that she spread the message of God's Mercy to the whole world. On August 17th, 2002, during a pilgrimage to Poland, John Paul II entrusted the whole world to God's Mercy.

Parishioners and guests are invited to take part in a Eucharistic procession following the 11 a.m. Mass.

Chapel of Perpetual Adoration

You are warmly invited to participate in the perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament taking place in our parish continuously, 24 hours a day. This is a special time for personal prayer and contemplation in the presence of Jesus. Those interested can sign up for a special hour of Adoration by calling Margaret, the chapel coordinator, at (647) 888-7487.

Sacrament of Confirmation

This Saturday, April 11, **Bishop Ivan Camilleri** celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation at our parish, with 76 young people receiving the final sacrament of Christian initiation.

Congratulations to all who were confirmed and a big thank you to the catechists who helped prepare the youth for this important spiritual milestone:

Sister Halina Pierozak, Claudia Ogorek, Justyna Armatowicz, Monika Ulman, and their assistants:
Amelia Peszko, Bartosz Lewy, Dominik Rozanski, Jose Carlo Dairo, Katarzyna Migdal, Nicola Berent, Patricia Paradiuk, Urszula Beben, Veronica Rapacz.

Thank you for sharing your time and talent with our parish community.

– THIS WEEKEND –

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.

Teodor Surowiec,
son of Bernadeta and Kamil

Zuzanna Rita Idzik,
daughter of Pamela and Kazimierz

Meeting for Parents of First Communion Children

An important meeting for parents of children currently preparing to receive the sacrament of Holy Eucharist will take place **today** (Sunday, April 12) at **3:30 p.m.** in the parish hall.

Coffee and Donuts Schedule

April 12 – Domus Ecclesiae
April 19 – Oblate Youth

Evening of Adoration

Today (Sunday, April 12), immediately after the evening Mass, Kolbe Pro-Life Group invites one and all to take part in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in reparation to Lord Jesus for sins against life and its dignity.

– COMING UP –

Kolbe Seniors Club

Members of the Kolbe Seniors Club are invited for Mass on **Tuesday, April 14** 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, patron saint of our parish – this **Thursday, April 16** after the evening Mass.

Second Collection

April 18/19 – Building Renovation Fund
Thank you for your generosity.

March for Life in Ottawa

The Kolbe ProLife Group is organizing a trip to Ottawa for the March for Life on **Thursday, May 14**. Registration will take place on the weekend of **April 18–19** in the parish hall. Cost: \$50 (discounts available for students and families). Space is limited. More details will be provided at registration. Join us and stand for life.

– OTHER NEWS –

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.

Wedding Anniversary Mass Sunday, April 26 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.

Rosary Intention for April

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Rose #2 leads the rosary this week.

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.

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).

– OTHER NEWS –

Through ShareLife,
you provide safety to those in need



Your kindness makes it possible for refugees to create a sanctuary here in Canada, providing hope and new beginnings to our brothers and sisters in need. Like

Hetvi, who came to Canada seeking refuge but found her hope shattered by her husband’s control and abuse. Isolated and desperate, her cries for help initially went unheard. Because you care, she found solace through Catholic Crosscultural Services (CCS), a Catholic Charities agency you support through ShareLife. Here, she received housing support and counselling in her native language, as well as financial and legal assistance, food banks, childcare, and healthcare.

The Office for Refugees of the Archdiocese of Toronto is another agency you support through ShareLife, facilitating critical care for refugees. Director Deacon Rudy Ovcjak says: “On behalf of the thousands of refugees who have been forced to flee their homes and native lands, and who now find refuge in Canada—a land of freedom and peace—I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for your incredible kindness and generosity. Your unwavering support allows our office to sponsor hundreds of refugees each year, the majority of whom are Christians fleeing persecution for their faith in Christ.”

The second ShareLife Sunday of the year is April 26. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

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.

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

– MASS INTENTIONS –

MONDAY April 13

8⁰⁰ ☩ Parents Julia and Wiktor Lipowicz
19⁰⁰ ☩ Szymon, Agnieszka, Jan, Kazimierz Styrzula
☩ Jan and Genowefa Sobolewski, siblings, Maryla, Halina, Janina i Wieslaw Kobialka

TUESDAY April 14

8⁰⁰ ☩ Parents Julia and Franciszek, deceased from family
10⁰⁰ ○ For members of Kolbe Seniors Club
19⁰⁰ ☩ Jozefa and Marian Chojnacki

WEDNESDAY April 15

8⁰⁰ For health and God’s blessing for Renata Slotwinska on her 65th birthday
☩ Parents Antonina and Boleslaw Kocemba, sister-in-law Zenobia – daughter and family
19⁰⁰ ○ Collective Mass Intentions

THURSDAY April 16

8⁰⁰ ☩ Czeslawa Opitek, Bronislaw Jastremski – Katarzyna and family
19⁰⁰ ☩ Barbara Wawrzusiak – Lucy Dworak and family
☩ Eugenia and Lucjan Perkowski (anniv.) – family

FRIDAY April 17

8⁰⁰ ☩ Kazimiera Kedzia (11th) – Krystyna and Adam
19⁰⁰ ☩ Tadeusz Szaran, deceased from family – wife and family
☩ Wiktoria and Stefan Witkos, Stanislaw and Piotr Stachura

SATURDAY April 18

8⁰⁰ ☩ Marianna and Stanislaw Kuk
17⁰⁰ ☩ Roman Sroslak – wife
19⁰⁰ ☩ Barbara Mialkowski

SUNDAY April 19

8⁰⁰ ☩ Emil, Michal, Bogdan, Stefania, deceased from the Rainer and Sobilo family
9³⁰ ☩ Deceased from the Naranowicz, Abramowicz, Dobrzanski, Ludwinski, Crossman, Bigatti-Ferreira families – Ryszard and June Naranowicz
11⁰⁰ ○ For Parishioners and Benefactors
13⁰⁰ ○ For God’s blessing for daughter and her husband, grandchildren Solowij – mother
14³⁰ ○ In thanksgiving on the 56th wedding anniv. of Lidia and Jozef Studzinski and for Mary’s protection and gifts of the Holy Spirit for them and their family
19⁰⁰ ○ In thanksgiving on the 56th wedding anniv. of Teresa and Stefan Szczurek and for God’s blessing and the protection of Mary and St. Joseph for sons and their families

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