

*"I am the gate."*

John 10.1-10

### Reflection

One of the hallmarks of the Gospel of John is the series of "I am" statements, with Jesus telling us how to understand who he is and what he holds out to us. Some, such as "I am the bread of life," are easier to understand. But the image of Jesus as "the gate," as he asserts in today's Gospel, can seem confusing.

In my hometown, gates are most often designed as a barrier, a way to keep the unwanted and unknown at bay. But the very nature of a gate allows it to swing open, and Jesus the shepherd assures us that he has kept the gate open to us in welcome. The gate leads to the sheepfold, a place of safety and security, of peace and life.

Jesus – the gate – is the point of entry to that sheepfold, but it is up to us to listen to his voice, avoiding the pitfalls of attempted shortcuts or false guides. While all of us will encounter the "thieves and bandits" who come "only to steal and kill and destroy," the gate reminds us that faith creates a discipline in us that allows us to overcome the temptations standing in the way of eternal life. The gate is open and inviting, allowing us to "find pasture" – eternal peace and eternal life.

Catherine Mulrone  
Toronto, ON

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**First Reading:** Acts 2.14a, 36b-41

**Responsorial Psalm:**

*The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.*

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 2.20b-25

**Gospel:** John 10.1-10

### 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.

## – THIS WEEKEND –

### Sacrament of Marriage

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

**Michelle Nieto Palencia,**  
daughter of Maritza and Rafael  
& **Matthew Kowalczyk,**  
son of Agnieszka and Piotr

### 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.

**Alexander Anthony Hieronim Hernandez,**  
son of Eva and David

**Ava Rose Coppola,**  
daughter of Margaret and David

**Charlotte Salgado Wasilewski,**  
daughter of Sara and Sebastian

**Eleonora Teresa Zych,**  
daughter of Daniella and Arthur

**Sophia Joanna Doracin,**  
daughter of Diana and James

### Wedding Anniversary Mass

Today at the 11 a.m. Mass, we pray for God's grace and blessing for the following couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries:

58<sup>th</sup> Danuta & Henryk Pyz  
56<sup>th</sup> Lila & Jozef Studzinski  
55<sup>th</sup> Danuta & Dominik Szewczyk  
50<sup>th</sup> Anna & Marek Zarkowski  
46<sup>th</sup> Stanislaw & Jozef Sobura  
43<sup>rd</sup> Beata & Jan Nicki  
35<sup>th</sup> Anna & Slawomir Gruszczynski  
25<sup>th</sup> Agnieszka & Robert Blazejowski

### Coffee and Donuts Schedule

April 26 – Altar Servers  
May 3 – Knights of Columbus

### Special Collection

**This Weekend** – ShareLife  
Thank you for your generosity.

### Rosary Intention for May

Let us pray that all people will avoid food waste and strive to ensure that everyone has access to healthy nourishment.

**Rose #4 leads the rosary this week.**

## – COMING UP –

### Upcoming Devotions

**First Friday of the month, May 1**  
Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus after the 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Masses.  
Confession starts at 6 p.m.

**First Saturday of the month, May 2**  
Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary after the 8 a.m. Mass

**First Sunday of the month, May 3**  
Holy Rosary Devotion at 7:15 a.m.

### MAY, THE MONTH OF MARY

#### Solemnity of Our Lady Queen of Poland

On **May 3**, the Catholic Church in Poland celebrates the solemnity of Our Lady Queen of Poland. This solemnity highlights the country's great faith in God's protection that Poles have experienced and continue to experience through Mary's intercession.



#### Loreto Litany

Join us as we pray the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto Litany) daily at 6:30 p.m.

#### Fatima Devotions

From May to October, on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the month, join us as we pray through the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima. After the evening Mass, we walk in procession to the Rosary Garden. Please bring a candle.

### March for Life in Ottawa

The Kolbe ProLife Group is organizing a one-day trip to Ottawa for the *March for Life* on **Thursday, May 14**. Registration took place last weekend, but there are still some seats left. If you would like to register, please email [kolbeprayprolife@gmail.com](mailto:kolbeprayprolife@gmail.com)

### YTOL Retreat

YTOL (Youth Teams of our Lady) Canada is inviting all young adults ages 18 to 30 for a retreat from **Friday, May 15 to Monday, May 18**. The theme of this year's retreat is: *Thy Will Be Done – Knowing the difference between God's will and your own. Providence or Self Interest?* For more details, please contact Karolina Jach at (226) 789-1228 or [ytolcanada@gmail.com](mailto:ytolcanada@gmail.com)

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

## – IN MEMORIAM –



The following parishioners passed away recently. Let us keep them in our prayers.

✠ Tadeusz Prochorowicz, 94  
✠ Andrzej Lubaszka, 82  
✠ Jerzy Gorczyca, 82  
✠ Tadeusz Golec, 80  
✠ Grzegorz Ciszewski, 70  
✠ Franciszek Kozdra, 69  
✠ Ewa Krystyna Jaworska, 68  
✠ Janusz Loboda, 66

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

## – OTHER NEWS –

### ShareLife

**ShareLife Sunday is this weekend, celebrating 50 years**



Today is ShareLife Sunday, the second weekend of special collections. Since 1976, ShareLife has been rooted in our Catholic values of charity and in living the Gospel by caring for those in need. Over the decades, thousands of people across our archdiocese have come together through parish campaigns, school drives, workplace giving, and personal acts of kindness to make a difference in the lives of countless individuals and families.

ShareLife recognizes that all humans are created in the image of God, with a commitment to the dignity of the individual and the right to life, working on behalf of the poor and vulnerable. As we celebrate this milestone anniversary in 2026, we invite you to join us in honouring this legacy of serving the marginalized in our parish community and around the world.

With your support, ShareLife-funded agencies can continue to provide vital services—like counselling for families, support for isolated seniors, and care for those facing mental health challenges—for years to come.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

### 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.

## – COMMUNITY NEWS –

### Gloria in Excelsis Deo

The Novi Singers Toronto invites you to an Easter Concert of Polish Music performed by the choir, soloists, and instrumental ensemble of the Toronto Sinfonietta, conducted by Maciej Jaśkiewicz. The concert will take place **today (Sunday) at 4 p.m.** in our church.

The concert program includes Jan Maklakiewicz's *Polish Mass*, Jan Szopiński's *Missa Brevis.*, Johann Sebastian Bach's *Tocatta* and *Fugue in D minor.*

### Mazowsze Concert Wednesday, April 29 at 8 p.m. Meridian Hall, Toronto

150 artists – dancers, choir, and orchestra – will perform on stage, presenting the most beautiful Polish folk songs and dances. This extraordinary event will allow you to experience the richness of the Polish tradition, culture, and faith passed down from generation to generation. We cordially invite all parishioners and families to this special, uplifting evening. For more information, call (416) 371-8972.

### Constitution Day

On **Sunday, May 3**, the Canadian Polish Congress in Mississauga is organizing the commemorations of the 235<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the enactment of the Polish Constitution. The festivities will commence at 11 a.m. with Holy Mass at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church. Afterwards, a short ceremony will take place at the Polish Patriots' monument square adjacent to the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre. All are welcome!

### Polish Heritage Month

On **Sunday, May 10**, the Canadian Polish Congress invites the Polish community to a celebration of Polish Heritage Month and the 235<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Constitution of May 3<sup>rd</sup> at City Hall in Toronto, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The program includes a grand parade through the streets of Toronto, band performances, a Polonaise, many attractions for children and adults, Polish food, and a DJ. Parking at City Hall is only \$10 for the entire day. Let's celebrate together in red and white – let's be seen and heard! More information: <http://www.polishmayparade.ca>

A bus will be leaving from the John Paul II Centre. Tickets are \$10 for adults, free for children and youth. Space is limited and reservations are required. Call (647) 539-6248

## – MASS INTENTIONS –

### MONDAY

April 27

8<sup>00</sup> ◦ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God's blessing for the Krempaszanka family  
19<sup>00</sup> ✠ Feliksa and Walenty Siuda, Eddy Niedziela, Zofia, Czesław, Eugeniusz, Kazimierz Bubacz  
◦ For God's blessing and Mary's protection for Maria, Tomasz, Antoni, Katarzyna, Daria

### TUESDAY

April 28

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Lukasz Majchrowicz (4<sup>th</sup>)  
19<sup>00</sup> ✠ Grace Teresa Brynczka – Marek, Jared, Caitlin Brynczka  
✠ Eddy Niedziela – sisters and family

### WEDNESDAY

April 29

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Maria and Wojciech Kostka – son and family  
✠ Kazimierz, Leokadia, Stanislaw, Edwarda, Czeslaw, Anna from the Krysztolik family – sister and daughter  
19<sup>00</sup> ◦ Collective Mass Intentions

### THURSDAY

April 30

8<sup>00</sup> ◦ For God's blessing and gifts of the Holy Spirit for children and grandchildren – parents  
◦ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God's continued blessing for Andrzej Chyjek on his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday  
19<sup>00</sup> ◦ For God's blessing, health, and gifts of the Holy Spirit for Kaylin, Sean, Justin – grandparents

### FRIDAY

May 1

8<sup>00</sup> ✠ Husband Jerzy Michalowski, his parents Pelagia and Zbigniew Michalowski, Stanislaw and Leon Sybis, deceased from family  
10<sup>00</sup> ✠ Helana and Jan Krzynowek – daughter and family  
18<sup>30</sup> *Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
19<sup>00</sup> ◦ For healing for Krzysztof, God's blessing, health, Mary's protection for Teresa, Romuald, Wanda, Janina and their families

### SATURDAY

May 2

8<sup>00</sup> ◦ In thanksgiving for graces received and for God's continued care and gifts of the Holy Spirit for Anny, Krzysztof, and their families – parents  
17<sup>00</sup> ✠ Patrick Polubiec (12<sup>th</sup>) – parents  
18<sup>30</sup> *Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
19<sup>00</sup> ◦ For health and God's blessing for Czeslaw and Stanislaw Janik on their 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniv. – daughter and family

### SUNDAY

May 3

8<sup>00</sup> ◦ For members of the Rosary Family and Knights of Mary Immaculate  
9<sup>30</sup> ✠ Zofia Talarek (9<sup>th</sup>) – daughter and family  
11<sup>00</sup> ◦ For Parishioners and Benefactors  
13<sup>00</sup> ✠ Katarzyna and Bronislaw Sitarz  
14<sup>30</sup> ✠ Jadwiga Targonska (5<sup>th</sup>) – husband Wladyslaw  
18<sup>30</sup> *Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
19<sup>00</sup> ✠ Lukasz, Grazyna, Czeslaw Dracz, Krzysztof Komsa, deceased from the Dracz and Komsa families

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