

ST. CASIMIR'S PARISH

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Pastor: *Fr. Janusz Blazejak OMI*

Assistant: *Fr. Kazimierz Kozicki OMI*

Assistant: *Zbigniew Halemba OMI*

Sr. Weronika Maronska MChR

December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.

For Polish Masses, see Mass Intention schedule.

PASTOR'S REFLECTION

We are still experiencing the time of Advent waiting for the coming of the Savior - today we have the fourth and last Sunday of Advent. At the end of the week, on Saturday, we will experience Christmas Eve. Let us try to experience the last moments of Advent in concentration and prayer in order to prepare ourselves spiritually for the reception of God's Child. Therefore, in this last week of Advent we will have an Advent retreat. The retreat will last until Wednesday inclusive. Teachings will be preached at the Masses at 10:30 am and 7 pm. Confession will take place every day at 9:30 am. There will be no confessions in the evening, because our fathers will confess in other parishes. On Tuesday after the morning Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered.

ADVENT RETREAT MISSIONARY

Our retreat leader is Father Paweł Szlacheta OMI, born in Warsaw on June 9, 1985. In 2004, he joined the Congregation of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, beginning his novitiate at the Holy Cross. He was ordained a priest on May 21, 2013 and received obedience to Turkmenistan, where he worked for 4 years. Then he started working in Ukraine - in Kiev in the parish of St. Nicholas for 3 years, then in Slavutych for a year and for the second year he serves in Poltava. At the end of the retreat, on Wednesday, a collection will be collected for a missionary and for the great needs of missionaries working in Ukraine. The envelopes are at the back of the church.

THE LAST DAYS OF ADVENT

We have a short time left to prepare ourselves worthily, in a Christian way, for the Nativity of the Lord. Let's reconcile with the Lord God. Let's take advantage of the sacrament of penance today from 3 pm to 5 pm in the lower and upper parish halls, where 10 priests will confess. During confession, the Blessed Sacrament and adoration of the Lord Jesus will take place in the church.

RENOVATION FUND

Next Sunday, December 25, is the last Sunday of the month, the second collection will be for the Renovation Fund. We thank everyone for the donations.

CHRISTMAS EVE

The climax of the Advent experience in Christian families is Christmas Eve. The word "wigilia" means vigil. It has been the custom in the Church that on the day preceding an important event there was fasting and an atmosphere of concentration and prayer. Also in our time, on Christmas Eve, according to tradition, fasting and abstinence has been observed. You should not eat meat, smoked meats and you should absolutely avoid alcohol. In general, it should be remembered that the Christmas Eve supper should be of an eminently religious character. It is a time of reconciliation, peace, and waiting for Joy and Good News. When preparing Christmas Eve, we place a nursery with Baby Jesus in the center of the apartment. On the table, in the main place, there is a Christmas Eve Wafer (oplatek) and an open book of the Gospel. The supper should begin with prayer; you can read a fragment of the Holy Scripture describing the birth of the Lord Jesus. Then comes the solemn moment of sharing the wafer and making wishes. After breaking the Christmas Eve Wafer, it is time to take a seat at the table. Tradition requires that during the supper there should be one extra plate, symbolizing the family's memory of those who are no longer among the living and expressing readiness to receive someone abandoned. The supper ends with a prayer, which may be followed by the distribution of gifts and the singing of Christmas carols together. When experiencing Christmas Eve, let us remember that Christ sits at the table with us, ages ago as a Child of God laid on hay in a shed in Bethlehem.

MIDNIGHT MASS

We will start the joyful celebration of Christmas in our parish with Midnight Mass in English at 10 pm and at midnight in Polish. Once again, we will experience the joy that the Angel announced to the shepherds that the Savior had been born.

POLISH SCHOOL & CATEHESES CHRISTMAS BRAKE

There are no classes of catechesis and Polish School from December 24 until January 6 inclusive. The classes resume on January 7, 2023.

FLOWERS TO THE NATIVITY SCENE

As every year, we ask for flowers for the crib of the Lord Jesus. Flowers can be brought to the parish office or to the church, preferably red Stars of Bethlehem - Poinsettias.

CHRISTMAS DINNER "OPLATEK"

The Parish Council invites you to the Christmas dinner "Oplatek" on Sunday, January 8 at 2:30 pm. Tickets, priced at \$25, can be purchased at the parish office. A hot dinner prepared by our ladies will be served. There will also be time to sing carols together.

YOUTH & ALTAR SERVERS MEETINGS

We encourage children and young people to join the groups of our parish: Altar Servers & Youth - older and younger. More information on the posters in the display in front of the church.

SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2023

Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2023 may be picked up in the parish hall; they are arranged in alphabetical order. The parishioners, who until now have numbers above number **525**, receive the new number. Parishioners using envelopes for their donations are eligible to receive a tax receipt at the end of the year. The tax receipt will be sent in February 2023.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Cardinal Wyszynski Council of Knights of Columbus of St. Casimir's Parish are running a Christmas Food Drive during Advent to help the needy and are asking parishioners for their help. If you are able to donate any food that is "shelf-stable" or non-perishable, you can drop off your donations in the container in the Parish Hall on your way in to Sunday Mass with your family. Please remember; only donate food that has not reached its "sell-by" date yet like peanut butter, canned products like soup, fruit, vegetables, stew or fish, and beans, pasta, rice.

COPERNICUS LODGE ADULT DAY PROGRAM

Our Adult Day Program is open and accepting new clients. This Program provides respite to caregivers and provides seniors with much needed socialization through group activities, exercise and art classes, bingo, sing alongs and more in both English and Polish. The program runs Monday to Thursday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. All staff are fully vaccinated and follow all infection prevention and control protocols. We also offer virtual programs for those who cannot take part in person. For more information, please contact us at 416-536-7122 x.223 or email at adultstaff@copernicolodge.com.

CHRISTMAS CARDS, OPLATKI & CALENDARS

Christmas cards are available for purchase in the parish hall - a pack of 8 for only \$10, oplatek (Christmas Eve Wafers) - a pack of 3 \$3, Oblate calendars \$5.

MASS INTENSIONS

The Mass intentions for 2023 may be requested in person only at the parish office.

We inform you about possibility of ordering Mass intentions at the Oblate Missions in the parish office.

We thank you for ordering the Gregorian Masses. Anyone who wants to order Gregorian Mass, please contact the parish office.



MASS INTENSIONS AND DEVOTIONS

Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday, December 18

8:00 For the members of the Divine Mercy Society
9:30 For + parents Antonina & Bronislaw Hyc, Karol & Maria Iglar, Danuta & Wladyslaw Majka - children
11:00 For parishioners
13:00 For + Benedykt Czechrynski & deceased from Nawar & Wandowicz families - Maria
19:00 For + Sabina & Stanislaw - daughter with family

MONDAY, December 19

8:00 For + Anna & Jozef Bembenek - Krystyna & Eugeniusz Cudek
10:00 Rosary
10:30 For + Stanislaw Glica & Barbara Glica - Szydowski family
18:15 Rosary
19:00 For the fulfillment of God's wil in lives of Barbara, Juliusz, Maurycy, Roch & Alicja - Alina

TUESDAY, December 20

8:00 For + Anna & Jozef Bembenek - Malgorzata & Marcin Szyller
10:00 Rosary
10:30 For + Irena Cwik - daughter Alicja
18:15 Rosary
19:00 For + Anthony & Katherine Presz - son John Anthony Presz

WEDNESDAY, December 21 - St. Peter Canisius, priest, doctor of the Church

8:00 1. For + Stanislaw & Franciszka Sugocki - son with family
2. In thanksgiving asking for God's blessing for Filip on his 5th birthday - grandmother
10:00 Rosary
10:30 For + Antonina Karbowniczek - son with family
18:15 Rosary
19:00 For + Piotr Pieniazek - Roszak family

THURSDAY, December 22

8:00 For + Irena Grodecki - family
19:00 For + Henryk Wesolowski on the 1st anniversary of death - sister with family

FRIDAY, December 23 - St. John of Kanty, priest

8:00 1. For + Stella Korwin-Kuczynski - Chris & Mark Korwin-Kuczynski
2. For + Wladyslaw, Waleria, Zdzislaw, Jozef & Maria Soltys - sister Wladyslawa with family
19:00 For + Antonina Karbowniczek-Stachiw - son & family

SATURDAY, December 24 - Christmas Eve

8:00 For God's blessing & care of the Blessed Virgin Mary for Bogdan Hirniak - wife & son
22:00 For + Adam Raginia - daughter Maria & Mike
24:00 1. For parishioners
2. For + Wiktoria & Henryk Senkowski, Helena & Wlodzimierz Walter Uglyk, Krystyna & Ryszard Nosowicz & deceased from the family - Bozena
3. For + Anna & Walenty Koltas - daughter

The Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 25

8:00 For God's blessing in Panek, Kwiatkowski & Lesiuk families- family
9:30 For + Bruno Majewski - wife with family
11:00 For parishioners
13:00 For + Anna & Tadeusz Wolny & their parents - Ewa & Henryk
19:00 There is no Mass