

ST. CASIMIR’S PARISH

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Pastor: *Fr. Janusz Blazejak OMI*

*Fr. Pawel Pilarczyk OMI*

*Resident: Fr. Kazimierz Kozicki OMI*

*Copernicus Lodge Chaplain: Fr. Roman Majek OMI*

*Sr. Weronika Maronska MChR*

December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.

For Polish Masses, see Mass Intention schedule.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Wanda Gryguc

Eternal rest grant them, Lord

PASTOR’S REFLECTION

From the very beginning of today's liturgy of the word, the presence of Mary, the Advent heroine, is emphasized. Micah, although he lived eight centuries before the birth of the Messiah, reveals the location of the coming into the world of the One who will rule in Israel, and invokes the Mother of the Lord who is to give birth. Her role is clearly emphasized by the joyful Elizabeth praising her cousin in the blessed state, who does not lack faith when she accepts the angel’s announcement. The meeting of the two mothers in Ein Karem is a praise of the ability to accept the word that God leaves to people, which did not escape Elizabeth’s attention, since the Gospel passage ends with her bowing to the Mother of the Lord for accepting the word and believing in its fulfillment. May the Word, which will soon become flesh, dwell in us today.

CONFESSION

I encourage you to go to confession. The Church comes to our aid as a minister of God's mercy. Let us remember that our life path leads to the final meeting with God - the Just Judge. In our church, an opportunity for pre-holiday confession today from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the parish halls. During this time, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church.

CHRISTMAS EVE

This Tuesday is Christmas Eve and the following holidays. Are we well prepared to experience them in a Christian way? We should celebrate the birth of the Infant Jesus joyfully and with a pure heart. Let it be a religious experience. Let us remember that it is God who enters our history and gives our lives a divine dimension. Let us remember that the Word that became Flesh is still among us, has dwelt among us forever and constantly enables us to bring the Good News to others.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

This week, on December 24, Pope Francis will solemnly open the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. In this way, the celebrations of the Jubilee Year 2025 will begin throughout the universal Church. This Holy Door will not close until January 6, 2026. The motto of the Jubilee Year is *Pilgrims of Hope* and experiencing this holy time should serve to revive not only our faith, but also our hope. May it be a time of living and personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, who is the gate of our salvation.

MIDNIGHT MASS

The liturgical celebration of the birth of Christ will begin with Midnight Mass at 10:00 PM in English and at midnight in Polish. Before that, in our homes and family communities, let us take care of the traditional, Christian setting of the Christmas Eve supper. Let this be an opportunity, perhaps the only one in the year, for reconciliation, agreement, extending a friendly hand to someone from among our loved ones, acquaintances, in the neighborhood. Let the Christmas Eve supper be accompanied by a joint prayer, reading a fragment of the Holy Scripture about the birth of the Savior of the world, breaking the wafer, singing carols and pastorals together. Let us not serve alcohol on the Christmas Eve table, and let us traditionally abstain from meat dishes during the Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS

Dear Parishioners! On Christmas Eve, when we sit down to the table, in accordance with the beautiful Polish custom, we share the Christmas wafer. It is a symbol of forgiveness and love. May these wishes also be an expression of our special memory and kindness. May the coming Jesus give you true Peace, which the world cannot give, Love that never ceases, and simplicity of heart, so that we can see God in another person. Fathers and sister wish you a blessed Christmas.

SECOND DAY OF CHRISTMAS

On Thursday, December 26, there is the second day of our celebration and the feast of St. Stephen. We invite everyone to prayer. Holy Masses in Polish will be celebrated at 9:30 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm.

WORSHIP ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

We invite you to the Worship Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with the individual blessing at the end on Saturday, December 28 at 8:00 p.m.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY FROM NAZARETH

Next Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They are a model for us and for our families. Let us embrace all the families of our Parish with a heartfelt thought on this day. Let us also ask God that in our difficult times, with so many threats and deliberate attacks, our

families may become a true domestic Church. May individual families, creating a large parish family, develop in an atmosphere of mutual love, joy and peace.

RENOVATION FUND

Next Sunday, December 29, the second collection will be collected for the Renovation Fund. We thank everyone for the donation.

EXCHANGE OF THE ROSARY MYSTERIES FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

On Sunday, December 29, after the Holy Mass at 1:00 pm, we invite all children and youth to exchange the Mysteries of the Rosary.

SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2025

Sunday Offering Envelopes for 2025 may be picked up in the parish hall; they are arranged in alphabetical order. Parishioners using envelopes for their donations are eligible to receive a tax receipt at the end of the year. The tax receipts will be sent in February.

CHRISTMAS DINNER “OPLATEK”

Tickets for the Christmas Dinner are sold out; however, you can sign up for the waiting list by calling the parish office at (416) 532-2822. If tickets become available, the parish office will notify interested parties.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORE

Pilgrimage to Medjugore with the Warriors of Mary and the Catholic Pilgrimage Agency "FLIGHT WITH MARY" under the spiritual care of Fr. Paweł Pilarczyk, OMI, from April 21 to 30, 2025 Marzena (647) 284-1631 Małgorzata (416) 859-8469

CHRISTMAS WAFER & OBLATE CALENDAR FOR 2025

Christmas wafers, Christmas cards and calendars for next year are available in the parish hall or in the parish office.

MASS INTENSIONS

**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 INTENTIONS AT THE OBLATE MISSIONS

For + Jakub, Maria & Janusz Smagala – Peczar family



MASS INTENSIONS AND DEVOTIONS

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 22

8:00 For + parents Jozef & Elzbieta Wieczorek and Janina & Henryk Bul kowski – son with family

9:30 For + Bruno Majewski – wife & children

11:00 For parishioners

13:00 For + Irena Grodecka – daughter with family

19:00 For + Bronislawa Majewska & Franciszek Pekalski – Montrose Mizaga

MONDAY, December 23

8:00 1. For + Stella Korwin-Kuczynski – sons Chris & Mark

2. Jadwiga Rosinska – sister Teresa

19:00 There is no Mass

TUESDAY, December 24 – Christmas Eve

8:00 For God’s blessing & care of the Virgin Mary for Bogdan on his birthday – wife & son

22:00 For parishioners

24:00 For parishioners

WEDNESDAY, December 25 – The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 For + Tadeusz Biel – wife & children

9:30 For + Henryk Skibinski – Wojciechowski family

11:00 For parishioners

13:00 For + Anna & Tadeusz Wolny (anniversary)

19:00 There is no Mass

THURSDAY, December 26 – St. Stephen, 1<sup>st</sup> martyr

9:30 For + parents Wiktoria & Henryk Senkowski, Ryszard Zukowski, Wlodzimierz Walter & Helena Uglik, Krystyna & Ryszard Nosowicz, Lila & Bronislaw Kosiba & deceased form the family – Bozena Senkowska-Zukowska

11:00 In thanksgiving asking for God’s blessing for the family of Bozena & Piotr - own

19:00 For + Mieczyslaw Magda – wife with family

FRIDAY, December 27 – St. John Apostle & Evangelist

8:00 For + Jozef & Helena Malec and Jan & Sabina Malec – daughter & sister Marianna

19:00 For + Bronislawa Majewska & Franciszek Peklaski – Montrose Miazga

SATURDAY, December 28 – The Holy Innocents, martyrs

8:00 For + Mieczyslaw & Genowefa Lewicki – daughter

19:00 For + Mirosław Sadecki – mother-in-law & family

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sunday, December 29

8:00 For God’s blessing for the Lesiuk, Piatkowski & Panek families- own

9:30 For + Irena & Roman Hajdukiewicz

11:00 For parishioners

13:00 In thanksgiving asking for God’s blessing & care of the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Sepczynski family - Grazyna

19:00 For + Henryka Albinowski (10<sup>th</sup> anniversary) – daughters, grandchildren & grandson