

# *St. Mark's Catholic Church*

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**Pastor: Rev. Edward Koroway**



*We saw his star in the East  
and have come to worship Him*

**Due to the provincial government limitation of 10 persons in places of worship, Cardinal Collins has cancelled all public Masses in Toronto until further notice. The Church will be open for private prayer during the following times, subject to a limit of 10 persons:**

**Sunday: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**

**Saturday: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**(Confessions will be heard from 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Saturday in the children's room beside the sanctuary, or by appointment)**

century. This beautiful tradition is carried out in many countries, including Poland. The Blessed Chalk is used to inscribe the first letters of the names of the Magi and the current year (K+M+B 2021) on the front door of Catholic homes. A small piece of chalk may be taken home and the following is said with family and friends gathered at the front door:

*Leader:* And the Word was made Flesh.

*All:* And dwelt among us.

*Leader:* May Christ dwell in our midst.

*All:* Amen.

**BECOMING A STAR.** This Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. This feast day invites us to reflect on the revelation of Christ to humanity. One principal episode that the Epiphany celebrates is the visit of the Magi. The Magi represent the Gentiles and all nations coming to know and worship Christ.

St. Leo the Great said that this revelation "came to be fulfilled, as we know, from the time when the star beckoned the three wise men out of their distant country and led them to recognize and adore the King of heaven and earth. The obedience of the star calls us to imitate its humble service: to be servants, as best we can, of the grace that invites all men to find Christ."

As stewards, we should strive to be like that great star that led the Magi to encounter Christ. The star, as spectacular as it was, did not draw the Magi to itself but instead pointed towards Christ. So too, when we perform acts of stewardship and charity we should not take the glory or expect people to sing our praises. We should rather strive to remain humble and direct any praise to Christ who always sustains us in our good works. Moreover, the star stood out from the rest of the stars in the sky. As stewards, the joy of the Gospel should be our identifying characteristic. Therefore, let us strive to imitate that great star and joyfully point others to an encounter with Christ our Saviour. ([www.archtoronto.org/stewardship](http://www.archtoronto.org/stewardship))

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR 2021:** These have been placed on tables at the back of the Church, *in numerical order. If you are unable to get to the Church to obtain your box, please phone the rectory and we can arrange for you to pick it up at the rectory.*

If you are concerned about the restrictions placed on places of worship by the government, please contact your local M.P.P. ([christine.hogarth@pc.ola.org](mailto:christine.hogarth@pc.ola.org)), the Premier (correspondence.premier.gov.on.ca), and the Mayor ([mayor\\_tory@toronto.ca](mailto:mayor_tory@toronto.ca)).

**SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY:** The word "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word meaning "appearance" or "manifestation". Today we honour the revelation Our Lord made of himself to the wise men, or magi, who, inspired by almighty God, came to worship him and gave him presents. Of the four evangelists, only St. Matthew relates the events described in today's Gospel. He says some "wise men" came to Jesus. He does not name them, but by tradition, they have been known as Gaspar, Melchior and Balthasar. Their remains are believed to have been taken to Cologne, Germany, and are enshrined in the cathedral there. These were the first of the Gentiles, that is, the non-Jews, to come to see the King of the Jews. That is really the main point of today's feast. Our Lord has come as Saviour of all peoples, of all nations, of whom the Magi were the first to come and worship Our Lord.

**BLESSED CHALK ON THE SOLEMNITY OF EPIPHANY:** Gold and frankincense were blessed on the Feast of the Epiphany in the 15th/16th centuries. Blessing of chalk was first introduced in the 18th

**NEW ST. JOSEPH SUNDAY MISSALS** are for sale in the vestibule of the Church for **\$5.00** each.

**PARISH OFFERING:** During this period of restrictions, our finances will be facing challenges. Our expenses are never in lockdown. So please, in your charity, remember your parish, especially in this Christmas season. **THANK YOU!** to all who have been contributing to our parish by dropping off your envelopes at the rectory mail box, mailing them in, or donating online. You may, of course, still leave your offerings in the baskets/boxes at the back of the Church during the times the Church is open. To donate online by credit card or through your bank chequing account, just go to our parish website: [stmarkset.archtoronto.org](http://stmarkset.archtoronto.org), and on the home page, click the "Support your parish" icon, or orange quadrangle in the upper right hand corner (where there is a hand and a \$ sign). Then click "Your Parish", select the "Toronto West" region, then our parish (St. Mark's) in the drop down menu. You can make a one time or recurring contribution to our parish's offertory or building fund using your credit card, or your bank chequing account.

### **Uroczystość Objawienia Pańskiego**

**MĘDRCY W BETLEJEM.** W święta Bożego Narodzenia cieszyliśmy się, że Bóg stał się człowiekiem i narodził się z Maryi Dziewicy w ubogiej stajni w Betlejem. W uroczystość Objawienia Pańskiego serca nasze wypełnia radość, że Bóg objawił swego Syna wszystkim narodom, które oddały Mu poklon w osobach Mędrów ze Wschodu. Spełniły się w ten sposób słowa psalmu: Uwielbiają Pana wszystkie ludy ziemi.

Trzej Mędrzy ze Wschodu ujrzaeli gwiazdę Boga Wcielonego, która wzbudziła w nich nadzieję zbawienia. Poszli za tą gwiazdą, a ona zaprowadziła ich do Betlejem. Tam zobaczyli Dzieciątka wraz z Matką Maryją, upadli na twarz i oddali Mu poklon. Ofiarowali Mu też dary pełne zbawczej symboliki: złoto, kadzidło i mirre.

Świętych Mędrów uważamy za ojców naszej wiary i śpiewamy na ich cześć najpiękniejsze kolędy. Ale czy sama radość z powołania do zbawienia wystarczy? Mędrzy ze Wschodu przebyli długą drogę do Betlejem. Była ona pełna różnych doświadczeń i

cierpień duchowych, jak znikanie gwiazdy, obojętność na przyjście Chrystusa, a nawet strach mieszkańców Jerozolimy z powodu Jego narodzin i nienawiść Heroda do nowo narodzonego Zbawiciela. Jednak podobnie jak droga krzyżowa wiedzie do zmartwychwstania, tak pełna doświadczeń droga Mędrów prowadzi do szczęścia z odnalezienia Chrystusa. [abp Stanisław Nowak]

**POŚWIĘCENIE KREDY.** Kredą oznaczamy drzwi na znak, że w naszym mieszkaniu przyjęliśmy Wcielonego Syna Bożego. Piszemy na drzwiach domu poświęconą kredą: K+M+B. Niech przypominają nam one imiona Mędrów: Kacpra, Melchiora i Baltazara, a także łacińskie życzenia „*Christus Mansionem Benedicat*” (Niech Chrystus błogosławi temu domowi). Módlmy się więc, aby Chrystus Pan w tym Nowym Roku zawsze przebywał między nami i aby wszyscy, którzy Go szukają, tak jak Mędrzy ze Wschodu, znaleźli Go w naszej rodzinie.

K+M+B=2021 (mówiąc przy tym:)

*Przewodniczący ceremonii:*

A słowo stało się ciałem

*Wszyscy: I mieszkało między nami*

*Przewodniczący ceremonii:*

Niech Chrystus mieszka w naszych sercach i umysłach i niechaj każdy, kto Go szuka znajdzie Go między nami. *Wszyscy: Amen.*

**OFIARY NA KOŚCIÓŁ.** Jesteśmy bardzo wdzięczni parafianom którzy przynoszą regularnie niedzielne ofiary. Ofiary można wrzucać do koszyczków czy skrzynki umieszczonych na stolikach przy wejściu do kościoła. Również ofiary można składać w biurze parafialnym wrzucając do skrytki na listy przy schodach, wysłać pocztą, lub przez kartą kredytową na naszej stronie internetowej parafialnej. W tym okresie ograniczeń, nasze finanse staną przed wyzwaniami. Więc proszę, w swojej miłości, pamiętajcie o swojej parafii. Wielkie Bóg zapalać!

**KOPERTKI NA NIEDZIELNĄ KOLEKTE NA ROK 2021.** Kopertki są wyłożone na stolikach przy wejściu do Kościoła według numerów. *Jeśli nie możesz dostać się do kościoła, aby odebrać swoje kopertki, zadzwoń do plebanii, a możemy zorganizować dla Ciebie odbiór na plebanii.*



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