

REFLECTION FOR THE DAY

In today's gospel passage, John the Baptist points to Jesus as "the Lamb of God," who is, he goes on, the one "who takes away the sin of the world." The phrase at first seems odd. What could this mean? What does it mean that Jesus takes away the sin of the world? What is this "sin" and how does Jesus take it away? And what does taking it away accomplish? Does this mean there is no more sin in the world? In practical terms, does this have any relevant bearing on our lives?

It is obvious that sin has not been removed from the world. If anything, it abounds all around us. This cannot, then, be the meaning John's assertion that Jesus take sin away. Something more subtle is indicated, something tied in with the goal of John's preaching. Both Jesus and he called for conversion to a whole new way of life. The success of this transformation, however, would necessitate leaving the old way behind. What we learn from the Baptist's intriguing assertion is that Jesus, as the Lamb of God, releases us from the burdens of the past so that we are free to pursue a new course of life in the future.

We can never take advantage of opportunity if we are anchored to the past. Nor are we really free to pursue a better life for ourselves if we are burdened with guilt and self-recrimination. When Jesus takes away sin, he is not condoning sin or relieving us of personal responsibility for our sins; he is encouraging us to lay our burdens down, get on with our lives, and not get stuck with the baggage of the past.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays at 6:00 pm. Please join us.

Volunteers will be needed to take down Christmas decorations on **Sat, Jan 21st** beginning at **9:30 am**.

If you were a **reader or eucharistic minister** before Covid, and would like to be put back on the list, please call the parish office or send an email.

Rosary Society meeting on Mon, Feb 13th at 6:30 pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

Kindergarten registration at Renfrew County Catholic District School Board is opening soon! From **Jan 23rd to Feb 3rd** go to **www.rccdsb.ca to enrol your child** and learn about our inclusive caring and engaging Kindergarten program. Then make an appointment with your designated school to finalize your registration.

The parish bulletin has an empty space available on the back. If you wish to **advertise your business or organization**, call the office 613-756-2344, or email us at stmaryswilno@gmail.com Continue to support our bulletin advertisers.

Plan to attend **pancake breakfast** on **Sun, Feb 19th** in our parish hall.

The Knights intend to have another **Yard Sale** this year so after your Spring cleaning call Delmar 613-756-1785 or Ed 613-756-6535 for pick up anytime.

2023 Northern Ontario Catholic Youth Leadership Conference - LEVEL UP, Find Your Purpose—North Bay, Ontario, Feb. 25th—This event is for ages 13-19 and includes a day full of various activities and motivational talks from **Keynote Speaker, Ken Yasinski**. Ken Yasinski has been speaking full time for 20 years within the Catholic Church. The **Diocese of Pembroke, Family Life and Youth Ministry Office**, is organizing transportation to attend this 1 day conference. The **cost is \$30.00 per participant (includes transportation, lunch and dinner)**. Deadline is Fri, Feb. 17th. Contact Yvette for more information or to receive a registration form. (613) 585-6301 or yvettebourque@pembrokedioocese.com. **See bulletin board for more details.**

Funeral homes are not accepting donations at this time in their office. We will have envelopes with *In Memory Pamphlet* available for pick up there, for **St. Mary's Building and Renovation Fund, St. Mary's and St. Stanislaus Koska cemeteries or Mass Offering**. If you wish to make a donation, kindly pick a pamphlet up. Pamphlets are also available in church office and at the back of the church at a later date. See next page for the pamphlet.. Thank you for your continued support.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Please use stmaryswilno@gmail.com when you are making an etransfer from your bank account. It will be directly deposited and the church will be notified. There is a section to make a note, **please indicate if donation is regular Sunday collection, building fund or In Memory Of (with name)**. Also, if you are **not a parishioner, please provide mailing address there**. All donations will be recorded as usual, designated as per request, and will appear on the year end tax receipt.

2023 Envelopes can still be picked up at the back of the church, near elevator. If you would like to receive a set, please fill our a registration form and submit to the office. For income tax purposes, please indicate your **mailing address** on the first envelope you use for **2023**.

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS	
Sat, Jan 14—5:00 pm	Edwin Echavarry
Sun, Jan 15—11:00 am	Catherine Bloskie /Ryszard Prusakiewicz
Sat, Jan 21—5:-00 pm	Ana & Tobias Sullivan
Sun, Jan 22—11:00 am	Len Gignac / Andrzej Suska
Sat, Jan 28—5:00 pm	Rita Coulas
Sun, Jan 29—11:00 am	Catherine Bloskie / Ryszard Prusakiewicz
Sat, Feb 4—5:00 pm	Steve Platt
Sun, Feb 5—11:00 am	Len Gignac / Andrzej Suska

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: Sat, Dec 31—96	Sun, Jan 1—126
Sat, Jan 7—56	Sun, Jan 8—No count taken

DIOCESAN NEWS

MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAMS: Online registration is available at <https://pembrokediocese.com/young-adult/marriage-and-family/>. Registration Fee is **\$100.00/couple**. E-Transfer is now available via donnabiggs@pembrokediocese.com or a cheque can be mailed to: Diocese of Pembroke – FLYMO – P.O Box 7, Renfrew St. Pembroke, ON K8A 6X1 along with this form filled out. Questions? Contact Yvette Bourque at (613) 585-6301 or email at yvettebourque@pembrokediocese.com . Forms available at back of church. Course dates are as follows:

LOCATIONS	1 st Saturday	2 nd Saturday
WINTER: St. Francis Xavier Parish, Renfrew <i>(Deadline: Feb. 11)</i>	Sat, Feb. 25 - 2023 9- 4:00 p.m.	Sat, Feb. Mar. 11 - 2023 9- 4:00 p.m.
SPRING: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Pembroke <i>(Deadline: Mar. 16)</i>	Sat, Apr 1 - 2023 9- 4:00 p.m.	Sat, Apr 15 - 2023 9-4:00 p.m.

We expect that a good number of parishioners will continue to wear masks, especially as attendance increases at our Masses. We encourage anyone who wishes to wear a mask to do so as their comfort is very important to all of us. Please self-monitor for any signs of illness, and to continue to avoid circumstances where you could transmit COVID-19 to others. **Masses will still be transmitted through the radio station 88.3 FM.**

SCHEDULE OF MASSES—Jan 15th to Jan 29th

Sunday, January 15—2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time—St. Paul the Hermit, St. Ita
11:00 am (Polish/English) +Marta Michalowski (1st Anniv) (Kazimiera Michalowski)

Monday, January 16—St. Marcellus, St. Joseph Vaz
10:00 am (Polish) +Souls in Purgatory (Parishioner)

Tuesday, January 17—No Mass—St. Anthony the Abbot

Wednesday, January 18—St. Prisca, St. Volusian
7:00 pm (English / Polish) +Agnes & Anthony Laturski (Laturski Family)
+Sylvester Recoskie (Jerome & Patsy Utronkie)
+Anthony Yaraskavitch (Gerard & Barbara Blank)

Thursday, January 19—No Mass—St. Marius, St. Canute

Friday, January 20—St. Fabian, St. Sebastian
6:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm +Andrew Kubsheskie (Andrew & Marlene Shulist)
Healing for Logan Martin (Linda Shulist)
+Mary Ann Etmanskie (Bernadette Kutchkoskie & Family)

Saturday, January 21—St. Agnes
5:00 pm (English) +Peter & Doris Hudder & Terry Hoffman (Lorraine & Craig Coulter)

Sunday, January 22—3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time—St. Felipe de Jesus, St. Vincent of Saragossa
11:00 am (Polish/English) For all of our Parishioners

Monday, January 23—St. Raymond
10:00 am (Polish) +Shaun Lapenskie (Mr. & Mrs. Ellard Hudder)

Tuesday, January 24—No Mass—St. Francis de Sales

Wednesday, January 25—Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
7:00 pm (English / Polish) +Alfie Stamplecoskie (Bernie & Sue MacDonald)
+Adolph Burchat (Rita Etmanskie)
God's blessing for Andre Arsenault (Monique Perry)

Thursday, January 26—No Mass—St. Timothy, St. Titus

Friday, January 27—St. Angela Merici
6:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm +Dominic & Rita Bloskie (Rachel & Charles Stamplicoski)
+Carl Lorbetskie (Wayne Etmanskie)
+Alex Shulist (Connie Smith)

Saturday, January 28—St. Thomas Aquinas
5:00 pm For all of our parishioners

Sunday, January 29—4th Sunday in Ordinary Time—St. Gildas
11:00 am (Polish/English) +Janiny Holub (Joanny i Andrzej Ropego)

In your prayers remember:



- * Our sick and hospitalized
- * Our elderly parishioners.
- * All those at the manor, lodge and homebound.
- * Our deceased family & friends.