

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE **DORMITION** OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Парафія Успіння Пресв. Богородиці

A PARISH OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF EDMONTON

Address:

15608 -104 Avenue,
Edmonton, AB
T5P 4G5

Services:

Sundays at 10:00 am
Most Wednesdays at 6:00 pm
(see calendar)

Parish Website:

[http://
dormition.eeparchy.com](http://dormition.eeparchy.com)

Eparchial Website:

www.eeparchy.com

Pastor:

Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

Fr. Bo's cell phone:

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Sunday, January 6, 2019

The Holy Theophany of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Christ is Baptized! In the Jordan (by John)!

Христос Хрищається! В Ріці Йордані!

and Happy New Year!

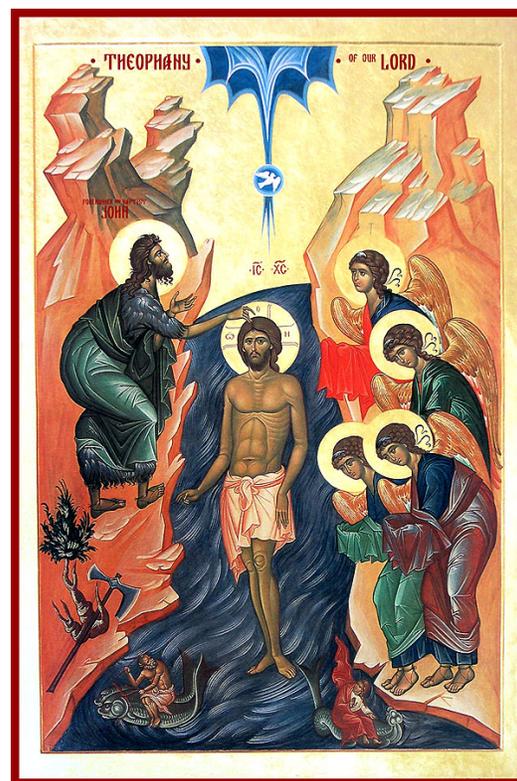
Today, in addition to the great feast of Theophany, we will celebrate the 3 Sacraments of Initiation for our lovely parishioner Shiela Leiding. Joining with us for this occasion we welcome Bishop David, Fr. Stephen Wojcichowski and staff from the Pastoral Centre. We also warmly welcome all of Shiela's family and friends to our parish, and our regular parishioners and guests.

Today's Feast: (texts from the OCA website)

The Holy Theophany of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ

The sixth of January is the feast of the Epiphany. Originally it was the one Christian feast of the "shining forth" of God to the world in the human form of Jesus of Nazareth. It included the celebration of Christ's birth, the adoration of the Wisemen, and all of the childhood events of Christ such as His circumcision and presentation to the temple as well as His baptism by John in the Jordan. There seems to be little doubt that this feast, like Easter and Pentecost, was understood as the fulfillment of a previous Jewish festival, in this case the Feast of Lights.

Epiphany means shining forth or manifestation. The feast is often called, as it is in the service books, Theophany, which ...



Theophany: Continued...

... means the shining forth and manifestation of God. The emphasis in the present day celebration is on the appearance of Jesus as the human Messiah of Israel and the divine Son of God, One of the Holy Trinity with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Thus, in the baptism by John in the Jordan, Jesus identifies Himself with sinners as the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (Jn 1.29), the “Beloved” of the Father whose messianic task it is to redeem men from their sins (Lk 3.21, Mk 1.35). And he is revealed as well as One of the Divine Trinity, testified to by the voice of the Father, and by the Spirit in the form of a dove. This is the central epiphany glorified in the main hymns of the feast:

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, calling Thee his Beloved Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his Word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee (Troparion).

Today Thou hast appeared to the universe, and Thy Light, O Lord, has shone on us, who with understanding praise Thee: Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, O Light Unapproachable! (Kontakion).

The gospel readings of all the Epiphany services tell of the Lord's baptism by John in the Jordan River. The epistle reading of the Divine Liturgy tells of the consequences of the Lord's appearing which is the divine epiphany.

For the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds (Titus 2.11–14).

The main feature of the feast of the Epiphany is the Great Blessing of Water. It is prescribed to follow both the Divine Liturgy of the eve of the feast and the Divine Liturgy of the day itself. Usually it is done just once in parish churches at the time when most people can be present. It begins with the singing of special hymns and the censing of the water which has been placed in the center of the church building. Surrounded by candles and flowers,

this water stands for the beautiful world of God's original creation and ultimate glorification by Christ in the Kingdom of God. Sometimes this service of blessing is done out of doors at a place where the water is flowing naturally.

Sometimes people think that the blessing of water and the practice of drinking it and sprinkling it over everyone and everything is a “paganism” which has falsely entered the Christian Church. We know, however, that this ritual was practiced by the People of God in the Old Testament, and that in the Christian Church it has a very special and important significance.

It is the faith of Christians that since the Son of God has taken human flesh and has been immersed in the streams of the Jordan, all matter is sanctified and made pure in Him, purged of its death-dealing qualities inherited from the devil and the wickedness of men. In the Lord's epiphany all creation becomes good again, indeed “very good,” the way that God Himself made it and proclaimed it to be in the beginning when “the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters” (Gen 1.2) and when the “Breath of Life” was breathing in man and in everything that God made (Gen 1.30; 2.7).

The world and everything in it is indeed “very good” (Gen 1.31) and when it becomes polluted, corrupted and dead, God saves it once more by effecting the “new creation” in Christ, his divine Son and our Lord by the grace of the Holy Spirit (Gal 6.15). This is what is celebrated on Epiphany, particularly in the Great Blessing of Water. The consecration of the waters on this feast places the entire world—through its “prime element” of watering the perspective of the cosmic creation, sanctification, and glorification of the Kingdom of God in Christ and the Spirit. It tells us that man and the world were indeed created and saved in order to be “filled with all the fullness of God” (Eph 3.19), the “fullness of him who fills all in all” (Eph 1.22). It tells us that Christ, in Who in “the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,” is and shall be truly “all, and in all” (Col 2.9, 3.11). It tells us as well that the “new heavens and the new earth” which God has promised through His prophets and apostles (Is 66.2; 2 Peter 3.13; Rev 21.1) are truly “with us” already now in the mystery of Christ and His Church.

Thus, the sanctification and sprinkling of the Epiphany water is no pagan ritual. It is the expression of the most central fact of the Christian vision of man, his life and his world. It is the liturgical testimony that the vocation and destiny of creation is to be “filled with all the fullness of God” (Eph 3.19).



Home Blessings

It is the hope of Fr. Bo to visit every household of the parish over the next several weeks to bless your house and to visit with you. At least a day before he comes, he will phone you and make the appropriate arrangements. If you want to book a particular date or time with him you can send him an email at fr.bo.nahachewsky@gmail.com or text or call on his cell phone 780-340-3726. You don't need to do anything special, just open your door and have a short visit with him.

If you have ideas for the parish you can pass a note onto him, or if any of your contact information has changed this would be a great time to update it.



Lots and Lots and Lots of Sacraments of Initiation in our parish

Our parish has been blessed with a small flood of people wanting to be joined to Christ!

- Last week, on January 1st, baby Sophie Vizza received the three Sacraments, and her two wonderful older sisters Joanna and Katherine received their Chrismations and First Communions. You can see Fr. Dan in the pictures above with the Vizza family.
- Today Shiela Leiding receives the three Sacraments.
- Next Sunday the 13th we will Baptize, Chrismate and Eucharistize young Tamara Ruff, child of Jeff and Rachel Ruff.
- The following Saturday we will do the same for Sam Ostapowich, the newborn of the Steven Ostopovich family.
- Sunday, February 10 we will bring Declan Mattern into the Church, he is the son of Jordie and Kate Mattern.

Our parish is growing! Glory be to You, our God, Glory be to You!

And we also have a few others preparing for other sacraments including Elizabeth Shakeshaft who will be receiving her First Confession, and First Solemn Communion at the end of the month, and Justin and Stacey Schabel's wedding in February. Please pray for all of these courageous people as they seek to follow God's will.

Parish "Kutia"

After Liturgy next week we will be eating and carolling for each other to celebrate as a parish the presence of our God. We invite all of you to join us in this light and joy filled feast.





Young Adult Pilgrimage to Mt. Tabor Monastery

Over the Christmas break a group of young adults went to Redwood Valley in California not to seek fame and fortune, but to experience silence and community.

Abbot Damian Higgins of the monastery and his band of merry monks kept their usual monastic routine of morning Matins, Divine Liturgy, Noon Prayers and Vespers. This in conjunction with talks from priests, monks, nuns and priest wives, the meal time readings, the God inspiring landscapes, opportunities to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation, the fresh air and the stair-climber-like mountains all contributed to a profound experience of discernment for all.

In total 18 young adults and organizers (including Fr. Bo & one young adult from our Dormition Parish here) went. They came from all walks of life including students, nurses, tree huggers and teachers. And they came from across two countries from Winnipeg to Edmonton, from Arizona to North Carolina.

Thank you to all who prayed for us. It was truly a blessed and fruit filled trip.

For more about this trip you can go to this link:

<http://stjosaphateparchy.com/pilgrimage-and-retreat-at-mt-tabor-monastery/>

Dormition News

- We **pray for the health and well-being** of all the servants and handmaidens of God who need our prayers: **Sarah Komar, Marge Woitas, Katie Bunio, Stella Dronyk, John Puto, Ann Horsman, Annie Polack, Louis Pewar & Rosa Maria Santos.** (If you know any other people who should be on this list: please email me.)
- We wish God's blessings and a **happy birthday** to our parishioners: **Samuel Bryson, George Laschuk, Michael Orysiuk & Kristofer Workun** who all celebrate their birthdays this week. God grant you many years!

If we don't have your birthday, or if we have your birthday info wrong... please send an email (or at least a piece of paper) with the corrected birthdate and your name.
- **Bible Study with an Eastern Twist:** Our next session will resume in the new year with our regular Bible Study on January 9th. The theme for that class will be "Egypt & Exodus" part 1. All are welcome. Free tea.
- It's time for people to consider helping the parish by serving on the **Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)**. If you would like to serve, please tell Fr. Bo or one of the members on the current PPC. Likely we will be voting in new members on a weekend near the beginning of February.
- **Confessions:** Fr. Bo is always around before services, so please do not hesitate to ask him to hear your confession. If you are

planning to make a "longer" confession, he is always available by appointment too.

- **Call for Casino Volunteers.** The dates for our parish casino are **Monday March 18 & Tuesday March 19, 2019** at the Starlight Casino at WEM. We still have a number of volunteer positions to fill. Our completed application needs to be submitted to AGLC by January 19th.
 - Day shifts begin at 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
 - Afternoon shift from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm
 - Evening shift from 7:30 pm to 3:15 am (including count-room)

If you are able to help, please see Alex Schabel or Iryna Laschuk to complete the required AGLC volunteer forms in the church office or contact Alex at aschabel@shaw.ca.

- *Early in the new year we will be working on several projects:*
 - Moving our "Little Friends of Jesus" classroom upstairs.
 - Working on our Liturgical singing.
 - Getting all of our "Safer Environments" Policy work up to date.
 - Maybe a fundraiser?
 - Updating our Parish Bylaws including our Parish's Mission Statement. Our current proposal is:

"To joyfully bring all people into the knowledge, love and service of the Holy Trinity who dwells within us."

Social Mission Workshop/Retreat

Jan. 25-26 at Camp Oselia

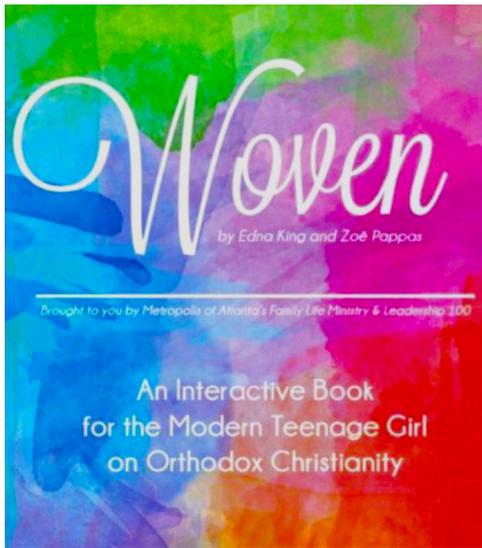
This will be a jam-packed 24 hours!

We will focus on two themes:

- our relationship as Ukrainian Catholics with the Indigenous community. We will learn about each other and spend time sharing.
- the concerns of the environment and ways that we can move our Eparchy toward a better treatment of the gift of the earth.

Join us if you have an interest in social justice and development issues. Participants will leave with practical ideas for doing work in these areas, educating ourselves and others about these issues, and with contacts and materials to lead social justice presentations in their own parishes. We recommend that you approach your parish or parish organizations to support you with the cost of registration.

COST: \$70.00. Register by Jan. 11. 780-424-5496. A shuttle to Camp Oselia will be provided if there is an interest.



Woven: A Retreat For Teen Girls (13-18)

The Edmonton Eparchy is hosting a weekend retreat for teen girls aged 13-18 that explores what it means to be a young woman living according to the Eastern Christian faith in the modern world. Using the workbook, Woven, Victoria Kostyniuk, Joyanne Rudiak, and Bernadette Mandrusiak will lead participants through some of the most pressing topics teen girls have questions about such as identity, social media, friendship, relationships, and more!

February 2, 10:00am - February 3 until 3:00pm

Camp Oselia (53230 Range Rd 53, Fallis, AB on Wabamun Lake)

Cost: \$40.00/person. Remainder of cost will be subsidized.

To register, contact 780-424-5496 by Jan. 25, 2019. Spots limited, so register early!

Table for Two - You are My Valentine

A romantic candlelit dinner for couples, married or dating, "Table for Two" provides the ideal opportunity to focus on each other. Each of the courses is served up with discussion starters which invite couples to explore and deepen their relationship with each other and with God. A guest couple will give a short testimony and presentation on a topic related to sacramental marriage.

Feb 10 – Adult, Dating or Married

TIME: 5:30 pm

LOCATION: St. Vladimir Parish Hall, 12726-119St., Edmonton

COST: \$75 per couple.

CONTACT: Register with payment by Feb. 2, 780-424-5496



Where do you find a cow with no legs?

Right where you left it.

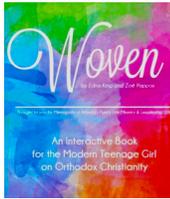


What do you call a cow with no legs?

Ground beef.



January - February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>6</p> <p>The Major Feast of Theophany (Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan River)</p> <p>9:15 am am the Great Blessing of Water</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy with the Baptism of Sheila Leiding (with Bishop David & Fr. Stephen Wojcichowski)</p> <p>2 pm Melkite Liturgy</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Samuel Bryson's Birthday</p> <p>7pm Ruff Baptismal Prep</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Fr. Bo has meetings at Bishop's Office</p> <p>George Laschuk's Birthday</p>  <p>House Blessings begin</p>	<p>9</p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>6 pm Prayer</p> <p>7 pm Bible Study with an Eastern Twist: All Welcome</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>House Blessings</p>	<p>11 FAST FREE</p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>Melkite Bible Study</p> <p>registration deadline for the Social Justice weekend</p> <p>Michael Orysiuk's & Kristofer Workun's Birthdays</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Preparations for the Parish "Kutia"</p> <p>First Solemn Communion Class for Elizabeth Shakeshaft</p>
<p>13</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy with the Baptism of Tamara Ruff</p> <p>Parish "Kutia" to follow Divine Liturgy</p> <p>2 pm Melkite Liturgy</p>	<p>14</p> <p>House Blessings</p>	<p>15</p> <p>House Blessings</p>	<p>16</p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>6 pm Prayer</p> <p>7 pm Bible Study with an Eastern Twist: All Welcome</p> <p>Luba Genyk's Birthday</p> 	<p>17</p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>4 pm Youth Commission Meeting</p>	<p>18 </p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>Olfa Hapak's Birthday</p> <p>(Postponed - Fr. Bo was to teach an Icon Workshop in Lethbridge, but this will happen later in the year.)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Baptism of Sam Ostapovich</p> <p>hall used</p> <p>(Postponed - Fr. Bo was to teach an Icon Workshop in Lethbridge, but this will happen later in the year.)</p>
<p>20</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>2 pm Melkite Liturgy</p> <p>(Postponed - Fr. Bo was to teach an Icon Workshop in Lethbridge, but this will happen later in the year.)</p> <p>Peter Sontrop's Birthday</p>	<p>21</p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>Adam Ostapovich's Birthday</p>	<p>22</p> <p>House Blessings</p>	<p>23</p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>6 pm Prayer</p> <p>7 pm Bible Study with an Eastern Twist: All Welcome</p> <p>Marta Dashkewytch's Birthday</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>House Blessings</p>	<p>25 </p> <p>Social Mission Weekend</p> <p>registration deadline for "Woven" Teen Retreat Weekend</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Social Mission Weekend</p>
<p>27</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy with First Solemn Communion for Elizabeth Shakeshaft</p> <p>2 pm Melkite Liturgy</p>	<p>28</p> <p>House Blessings</p>	<p>29</p> <p>House Blessings</p>	<p>30</p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>6 pm Prayer</p> <p>7 pm Bible Study with an Eastern Twist: All Welcome</p> 	<p>31</p> <p>House Blessings</p> <p>Donna Koziak's Birthday</p>	<p>1 </p>  <p>Hopefully we are done all House Blessings</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Major Feast of the Presentation of Christ.</p> <p>Woven, retreat for Teen Girls</p>  <p>registration deadline for the "Table for Two"</p>

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 - DIVINE LITURGY CHANGEABLE PARTS

9:15 Blessing of the Water: See Booklet

10:00 Baptism of Sheila from the Baptismal book, then...

Instead of the Trisagion Hymn

All you, who have been baptized into Christ, you have put on Christ! Alleluia! (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.
... have put on Christ! Alleluia!

All you, who have been baptized into Christ, you have put on Christ! Alleluia!

Prokeimenon, Tone 4

Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord; God the Lord has appeared to us.

verse: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good for His mercy endures forever.

Epistle Titus 2: 11-15; 3: 4-7

Brothers and Sisters: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. Declare these things; exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one look down on you.

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Alleluia, Tone 4

verse: Bring to the Lord, you sons of God; bring to the Lord young rams.

verse: The voice of the Lord is over the waters, the God of glory has thundered, the Lord reigns over vast waters.

Gospel Matthew 3: 13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Instead of It is truly right we sing:

O my soul, magnify Christ the King, baptized in the Jordan. And the Irmos: Every tongue is at a loss to praise you as is your due, O Mother of God. Even a spirit from above is filled with dizziness when seeking to sing your praises. But since you are good accept our faith, for you know well our love inspired by God. For it is you who protect all Christians; therefore, we magnify you.

Communion Hymn

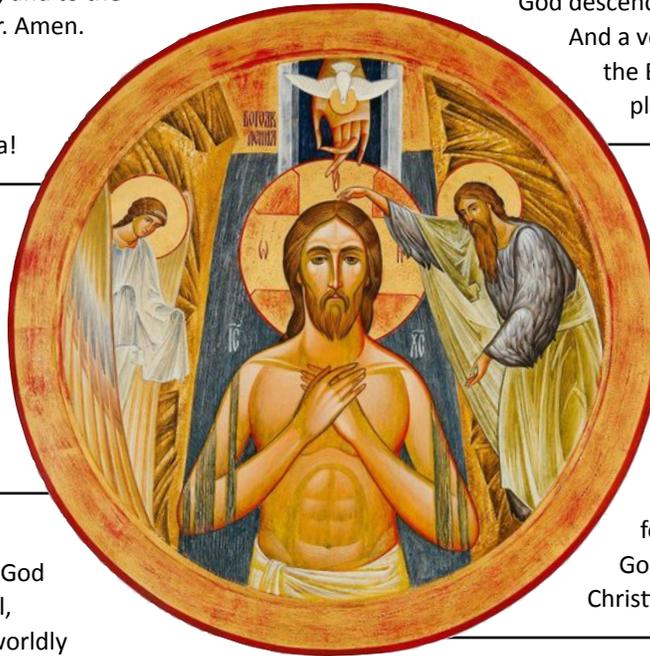
The Grace of God has appeared bringing salvation to all. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Instead of Blessed is He who comes..., We have seen the true light... we sing:

All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is baptized in the Jordan.

Instead of May our mouths... and Blessed be the Name... we sing:

All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is baptized in the Jordan. (3x)



**Christ is Baptized!
In the Jordan (by John)!**

**Христос Хрищається!
В Ріці Йордані!**