



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DORMITION

OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

ПАРАФІЯ УСПІННІА ПРЕСВ. БОГОРОДНИЦІ

A PARISH OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF EDMONTON

Address:

15608 -104 Avenue,
Edmonton, AB
T5P 4G5

Services:

Sunday Divine Liturgy
(Ukr & Eng) at 10 am
& Melkite (Arabic) D.L.
at 2 pm

Akathist or Molebyn
Most Wednesdays at 6 pm
(see calendar)

Parish Website:

<http://dormition.eeparchy.com>

Twitter:

@dormitionparish

[https://twitter.com/
dormitionparish](https://twitter.com/dormitionparish)

Eparchial Website:

www.eeparchy.com

Pastor:

Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

Fr. Bo's cell phone:

780-340-FR.BO (3726)

Fr. Bo's Email:

fr.bo.nahachewsky
@gmail.com

Sunday, December 22;

Sunday before the Nativity of Christ, Tone 3; The Holy Great-Martyr Anastasia (305)

Christmas Eve, December 24th

Eve of the Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Christmas Day, December 25th

Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ



Christ Is Born! Let us Glorify Him!

It is with profound awe and wonder that we should meditate on the fact that our God chose to become a human. For as He embraces our form, and as He is embraced by His Holy Mother, our ignorance is mended and death trembles.

May all of you have a joy filled and profound Christmas season.

Fr. Bo & Family

Christmas Eve: Tue. Dec. 24	Complines & Liturgy	10 pm
Christmas Day: Wed. Dec. 25	Festal Divine Liturgy	10 am
Sunday after the Nativity: St. Joseph, St. King David & St. James	Sunday Divine Liturgy	10 am
New Year's Day: Wed. Jan. 1 St. Basil & Circumsion of our Lord	Divine Liturgy	10 am
Sunday & Theophany Eve: Jan. 5	Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Water	10 am
Theophany: Mon. Jan. 6	Divine Liturgy	10 am

Please invite your friends, neighbours and family members to the services. Let's tell the whole world about how God loves us so much that he comes to dwell with us.



The Sunday before the Nativity of the Lord

(December 18-24) is known as the Sunday of the Holy Fathers. On this day the Church commemorates all those who were well-pleasing to God from all ages, from Adam to Saint Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, those who are mentioned in the genealogy of Luke 3:23-38. The holy prophets and prophetesses are also remembered today, especially the Prophet Daniel and the three holy youths (December 17).

The Nativity of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, was born of the Most Holy Virgin Mary in the city of Bethlehem during the reign of the emperor Augustus (Octavian). Caesar Augustus decreed that a universal census be made throughout his Empire, which then also included Palestinian Israel. The Jews were accustomed to be counted in the city from where their family came. The Most Holy Virgin and the Righteous Joseph, since they were descended from the house and lineage of King David, had to go to Bethlehem to be counted and taxed.

In Bethlehem they found no room at any of the city's inns. Thus, the God-Man, the Saviour of the world, was born in a cave that was used as a stable.

"I behold a strange and most glorious mystery," the Church sings with awe, "Heaven, a Cave; the Virgin the Throne of the Cherubim; the Manger a room, in which Christ, the God Whom

nothing can contain is laid." (Irmos of the 9th Ode of the Nativity Canon).

Having given birth to the divine Infant without travail, the Most Holy Virgin "wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger" (Luke 2:7). In the stillness of midnight (Wisdom of Solomon 18:14-15), the proclamation of the birth of the Saviour of the world was heard by three shepherds watching their flocks by night.

An angel of the Lord (Saint Cyprian says this was Gabriel) came before them and said: "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, Who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11). The humble shepherds were the first to offer worship to Him Who condescended to assume the form of a humble servant for the salvation of mankind. Besides the glad tidings to the Bethlehem shepherds, the Nativity of Christ was revealed to the Magi by a wondrous star. Saint John Chrysostom and Saint Theophylactus, commenting on Saint Matthew's Gospel, say that this was no ordinary star. Rather, it was "a divine and angelic power that appeared in the form of a star." Saint Demetrius of Rostov says it was a "manifestation of divine energy" (Narrative of the Adoration of the Magi). Entering the house where the Infant lay, the Magi "fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented Him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh" (Mt. 2:11).

Greatmartyr Anastasia the “Deliverer from Potions”, her teacher, Martyr Chrysogonus, and many with them

The Great Martyr Anastasia the Deliverer from Potions, a Roman by birth, suffered for Christ at the time of Diocletian’s persecution of Christians. Her father was a pagan, but her mother was secretly a Christian. Saint Anastasia’s teacher in her youth was an educated and pious Christian named Chrysogonus. After the death of her mother, her father gave Saint Anastasia in marriage to a pagan named Publius, but feigning illness, she preserved her virginity.

Clothing herself in the garb of a beggar, and accompanied by only one servant, she visited the prisons. She fed, doctored and often ransomed captives who were suffering for their faith in Christ. When her servant told Publius about everything, he subjected his wife to a beating and locked her up at home. Saint Anastasia then began to correspond secretly with Chrysogonus, who told the saint to be patient, to cleave to the Cross of Christ, and to accept the Lord’s will. He also foretold the impending death of Publius in the sea. After a certain while Publius did indeed drown, as he was setting out with a delegation to Persia. After the death of her husband, Saint Anastasia began to distribute her property to the poor and suffering.

Diocletian was informed that the Christians who filled the prisons of Rome stoically endured tortures. He gave orders to kill them all in a single night, and for Chrysogonus to be sent to him at Aquileia. Saint Anastasia followed her teacher at a distance.

The emperor interrogated Chrysogonus personally, but could not make him renounce his faith. Therefore, he commanded that he be beheaded and thrown into the sea. The body and severed head of the holy martyr were carried to shore by the waves. There by divine Providence, the relics were found by a presbyter named Zoilus who placed them in a coffer, and concealed them at his home.

Saint Chrysogonus appeared to Zoilus and informed him that martyrdom was at hand for Agape, Chione and Irene (April 16), three sisters who lived nearby. He told him to send Saint Anastasia to them to encourage them. Saint Chrysogonus foretold that Zoilus would also die on the same day. Nine days later, the words of Saint Chrysogonus were fulfilled. Zoilus fell asleep in the Lord, and Saint Anastasia visited the three maidens before their tortures. When these three martyrs gave up their souls to the Lord, she buried them.

Having carried out her teacher’s request, the saint went from city to city ministering to Christian prisoners. Proficient in the medical arts of the time, she zealously cared for captives far and wide, healing their wounds and relieving their suffering. Because of her labors, Saint Anastasia received the name Deliverer from Potions (Pharmakolytria), since by her intercessions she has healed many from the effects of potions, poisons, and other harmful substances.

She made the acquaintance of the pious young widow Theodota, finding in her a faithful helper. Theodota was taken for questioning when it was learned that she was a Christian. Meanwhile, Saint

Anastasia was arrested in Illyricum. This occurred just after all the Christian captives there had been murdered in a single night by order of Diocletian. Saint Anastasia had come to one of the prisons, and finding no one there, she began to weep loudly. The jailers realized that she was a Christian and took her to the prefect of the district, who tried to persuade her to deny Christ by threatening her with torture. After his unsuccessful attempts to persuade Saint Anastasia to offer sacrifice to idols, he handed her over to the pagan priest Ulpian in Rome.

The cunning pagan offered Saint Anastasia the choice between luxury and riches, or grievous sufferings. He set before her gold, precious stones and fine clothing, and also fearsome instruments of torture. The crafty man was put to shame by the bride of Christ. Saint Anastasia refused the riches and chose the tools of torture.

But the Lord prolonged the earthly life of the saint, and Ulpian gave her three days to reconsider. Charmed by Anastasia’s beauty, the pagan priest decided to defile her purity. However, when he tried to touch her he suddenly became blind. His head began to ache so severely that he screamed like a madman. He asked to be taken to a pagan temple to appeal to the idols for help, but on the way he fell down and died.

Saint Anastasia was set free and she and Theodota again devoted themselves to the care of imprisoned Christians. Before long, Saint Theodota and her three sons accepted a martyrdom. Her eldest son, Evodus, stood bravely before the judge and endured beatings without protest. After lengthy torture, they were all

thrown into a red-hot oven.

Saint Anastasia was caught again and condemned to death by starvation. She remained in prison without food for sixty days. Saint Theodota appeared to the martyr every night and gave her courage. Seeing that hunger caused Saint Anastasia no harm whatsoever, the judge sentenced her to drowning together with other prisoners. Among them was Eutychianus, who was condemned for his Christian faith.

The prisoners were put into a boat which went out into the open sea. The soldiers bored holes in the boat and got into a galley. Saint Theodota appeared to the captives and steered the ship to shore. When they reached dry land, 120 men believed in Christ and were baptized by Saints Anastasia and Eutychianus. All were captured and received a martyr’s crown. Saint Anastasia was stretched between four pillars and burned alive. A certain pious woman named Apollinaria buried her body, which was unharmed by the fire, in the garden outside her house.

In the fifth century the relics of Saint Anastasia were transferred to Constantinople, where a church was built and dedicated to her. Later the head and a hand of the Great Martyr were transferred to the monastery of Saint Anastasia [Deliverer from Potions], near Mount Athos.





CHRISTMAS PASTORAL LETTER OF HIS BEATITUDE PATRIARCH SVIATOSLAV

Most Reverend Archbishops and Metropolitans, God-loving Bishops, Very Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics, Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters, in Ukraine and throughout the world

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy!

Lk 2:10

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Beloved in Christ!

Today the angels in heaven sing and celebrate, all creation is filled with joy, for the Saviour and Lord is born this day in Bethlehem of Judea. This joy, which we especially experience with today's illustrious feast, is an integral part of being for every believing Christian, a visible sign and fruit of God's unceasing presence. The joy of the Saviour's coming on earth dissipates all the fears and uncertainties of human life, for "God is with us," once and for all!

In the Gospel narrative the light of God's presence initially causes fear, as a human being by nature is afraid of the unknown, the unexpected or the uncertain: "And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear" (Lk 2:8-9). But the word spoken by the angel "Fear not!" and the good news about the birth of the Saviour takes away that fear: "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger" (2:12). The shepherds readily go to the place indicated by the angel, there they bow before the newborn Saviour, and in turn, themselves become proclaimers of joy.

The Newborn Saviour is the incarnate Love of God, who as the only and eternal source of joy dispels fear. Authentic love is not a temporary or passing human emotion, but a life-giving power, the expanse of life, given and guaranteed by God Himself. Only in the space of Divine love and joy can human beings fully live, develop, and be themselves. God does not desire for His creation to be afraid, and thus in the Nativity, He comes to us as a vulnerable child. The Son of God allows Himself to be laid on hay in a manger, He allows Himself to be embraced by human hands, to be fed at the human breast of the Mother of God. The Almighty God, who needs nothing, makes Himself needy, helpless, and dependent on the warmth and tenderness of human love! Today He makes us capable of opening our embrace to God and neighbour without fear.

So, where does this fear come from? Above all, humans are fearful because, being separated from God through sin, they feel abandoned and lonely: confronting the unknown world alone and unprotected before its hostility. When people are closed to the love of their Creator, they are fearful of Him, erroneously perceiving God as a hostile and foreign power, which seemingly might threaten them, and so they seek to build their life without Him. They hide before their God and Lord, as once did Adam in paradise following his sinful fall. We read in

the book of Genesis: "But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, 'Where are you?' And he said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid...'" (3:9-10). The life of a person without God's love is transformed into "a space of anxiety and restlessness." A human being, having distanced himself or herself from the face of God, falls into a place of constant fear for their life in the face of death. It is this fear that is the tool of evil, which inevitably takes over and paralyzes a person, takes away his or her freedom, deprives them of joy and hope. A person without God is also afraid of his or her neighbour, the foreigner, the emigrant, as subconsciously they see them as competitors for their illusory space of security and plenty. In the end, such persons fear themselves, their weaknesses and limitations. They are afraid of failing to fulfil the expectations of others, they are afraid of being a failure in learning and work in the context of increasingly aggressive competition in the world. And so today the voice of the heavenly angel resounds in our present night of fear and insecurity: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy!" (Lk 2:10).

The Son of God was born in a human body in order to overcome the very reason for a person's alarm, fear, and uncertainty. This day, in His Nativity, with His liberating divine love He enters into the cold and dark cave of human existence, into our world, increasingly filled with anxiety, into our personal expanse of life. He is born in our midst in order to remove the paralyzing power of our contemporary fears and anxieties, and to say to the person of the XXI century, to say to each one of us: "Fear not!" We read of this in the Epistle to the Hebrews: "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery." (2:14-15).

Christmas is the source of victory over today's fears: fear of the future and the unknown, fear of others, fear of death. In celebrating the birth of our Saviour, His joyful entrance into the horizons of humanity today, let us not allow anyone to frighten us. The word of angels spoken today "Fear not!" is also directed to the Ukrainian people in the midst of the challenges we face in this historical period of our nation's existence. If "God is with us" then who can frighten us, take away or imprison our will to defend our country and people, our desire for true justice, dignity, and liberty? St. John writes: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us" (1 Jn 4:18-19)....

...Christmas in the unification of God with humankind: God Himself enters into human living space and begins living as a human being, accepting all discomforts, challenges, and threats. Let us rejoice, therefore, for we are the ones whom Christ in His Nativity has liberated from fear, granting us joy in love. He will also renew our capacity to love God and neighbour. In Him are the foundations of our national, state, and ecclesial existence.

Dear Brother and Sisters. With Christ's birth, I sincerely greet you all: those in Ukraine and abroad, those who celebrate together with loved ones and those who are far from family, the young and the old, children and parents, the healthy and the infirm, the wealthy and the poor. Today we are all rich in the joy and love of the newborn Saviour. In thought and heart, I am with those who suffer bodily and spiritual wounds. Those who have doubts and are searching in the midst of the dangers and anxieties of today's world, who thirst for true peace and joy – receive my Christmas greeting and my loving embrace. Today, in a special way I unite myself in prayer with those who fearlessly stand on the frontlines and defend our country. On the occasion of this feast, I express my gratitude and impart my blessings on our battle-worn veterans. May the words of our carol-koliadka speak to the heart of each of you:

*Let us imitate the shepherds,
Let us bow to the One Born
That He deign to grant us peace
Transform sorrows into joy,
For those who believe, who believe in Him
(Vselennaya Veselysia)*

From the bottom of my heart, I wish all of you the authentic joy of the children of God, a tasty kutia, a cheerful celebration of Christ's Nativity, and a happy, peaceful, and blessed New Year!

Christ is born! Glorify Him!



Given in Kyiv
at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ,
on the day of the all-praiseworthy Apostle Andrew the First-called
the 13th of December (30th of November) in the 2019th Year of our Lord

PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF CANADA ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD 2019-2020

To the Reverend Clergy, Monastics, Seminarians and Laity of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada:

Christ is born! Let Us Glorify Him!

*The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.
(Isaiah 9:2)*

*"God is With Us, Understand This All You Nations! And Be
Humbled, For God Is With Us!"*

This is a glorious and wonderful refrain sung at our liturgical services during this season. We have to admit it is very memorable and we might find ourselves singing this truth throughout the year, particularly when spirits are low and we need to remind ourselves of God's presence in our personal lives and the life of our church.

In fact it points to a mystery about the human person – presence. Why is "presence" so important to us? How is it that "presence" can change our disposition? When a person is present to us it changes how we think and feel and act. Even more so is the case when we are present to those who are present to us.

For instance, when a parent gives a child a warning not to sneak a snack just before a meal, it makes a big difference if the parent stays in the room or leaves the room. Or if a parent is there to calm the pain of a child who fell and hurt themselves. Likewise, if you are driving and, say, you're late for an appointment. The

temptation to speed is more under control if you see a police car in your rear view mirror. Yet how comforting is the presence of a police officer to assist in roadside trouble. Or if you are overwhelmed by those you love at a surprise party in your honour. The presence of so many you care for completely changes your heart.

The same is so true of our awareness of Jesus in our lives. Hopelessness and despair can be dealt with much more easily when we are aware of God's presence. This is especially true for those who find themselves in armed conflict while they defend human dignity against unjust aggressors. It is true for those fighting addictions, fighting loneliness, struggling with gender or sexual identity or battling against any unfair treatment by others because of someone's prejudice. Any challenge a person faces is most difficult if they are alone and what is worse, it is more difficult when they are not alone but they certainly *feel* alone. This can lead to depression, and in our opinion, is one of the worst lies about any person's reality.

The good news that God is with us is central to this Christmas season. May the Holy Spirit give you the grace to encounter Christ so that your awareness of His presence is undeniable all through your day. Our Church services and family traditions speak of his presence when we encounter each other, for indeed we encounter Christ in each other, especially...

... those who face mental or physical distress. In turn, may your awareness of His presence be a light to those who struggle to dwell on this important truth. He is the one who loves us and gives us hope in the midst of all we experience.

May your celebration of this profound truth this Christmas be a time to encounter Jesus Christ in your spouse, in your family members, in your parish that is Vibrant because you are part of it. May you be aware of the presence of the Jesus, Mary and Joseph that give us the gift of the Holy Family present in your personal and parish family. And may this awareness bear fruit in your life throughout 2020.

God is with us! Christ is Born!

Sincerely in Christ,

+Lawrence Huculak, OSBM

+Michael Wiwchar, CSsR

+Severian Yakymyshyn, OSBM

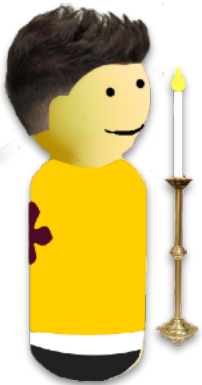
+David Motiuk,

+Stephen Chmilar,

+Ken Nowakowski,

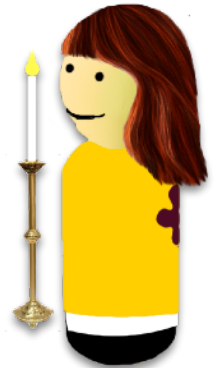
+Bryan Bayda, CSsR

Metropolitan Archbishop of
Winnipeg
Eparch Emeritus of Saskatoon
Eparch Emeritus of New
Westminster
Eparchial Bishop of
Edmonton
Eparch Emeritus of Toronto
Eparchial Bishop of New
Westminster
Eparchial Bishop of Saskatoon
and Administrator of Eparchy
of Toronto



Altar Servers brunch with Bishop David

We will be having an Altar Servers brunch with Bishop David this year on January 2nd at 10:00am. We will start with Divine Liturgy at St Josaphat Cathedral, followed by brunch and a guest speaker. Altar Servers and their parents are invited. The deadline to RSVP is December 28. If you are interested call Deacon Roman Kobyletsky the Pastoral Intern at St. Josaphat Cathedral at 780-422-3181.



**Join us for the
Liturgical Singing BLITZ!**

**Thursdays and Sundays of
January & February.**

**(Starting January 5th, and with the exception of
Thursday, January the 16th)**

All are welcome

- Sunday, December 29: Namisha at DL
- Sunday, January 5: Namisha at DL
- Thursday, January 9: Practice
- Sunday, January 12: Namisha at DL
- Sunday, January 19: Namisha at DL
- Thursday, January 23: Practice
- Sunday, January 26: Namisha at DL
- Thursday, January 30: Practice
- Sunday, February 2: Namisha at DL
- Thursday, February 6: Practice
- Sunday, February 9: Namisha at DL
- Thursday, February 13: Practice
- Sunday, February 16: Namisha at DL
- Thursday, February 20: Practice
- Sunday, February 23: Namisha at DL
- Thursday, February 27: Practice

DL = Divine Liturgy

You and your friends are invited to the first annual

THE GREAT DANCE BEFORE THE GREAT FAST

THE 2020 CAMP FUNDRAISER

PUSCHENYA



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7 PM - 11 PM AT ST. BASIL'S CULTURAL CENTRE
EDMONTON

Support two great Catholic Camps.

Family Friendly, Silent Auction, Games for the Kids, 50-50, Late Lunch,
Kubasa Tasting, Indoor Campfire, Door Prizes, Canoe Races,
Bar with Alberta brewed Moonshine, and Sweet Live Dance Music by:




Mike & The Relics



Tickets: Adults \$40 (\$50 after Feb 7). Youth 5-12 \$20 (\$25). Under 5 free.
Available at many Ukrainian Catholic Parishes & the U.C. Pastoral Centre or Online.

CAMPOSELIA.COM & STBASILSCHURCH.COM

All this and more at CampOselia.com




Camp Oselia
Retreats

Beginner through Advanced (Adult)
"St. Photini: the Woman at the Well"

Iconography Workshop

February 14-17, 2020
(Family Day Long Weekend)



Camp Oselia
Fundraiser

THE GREAT **DANCE** BEFORE THE GREAT **FAST**
THE 2020 CAMP FUNDRAISER
PUSCHENYA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21



Camp Oselia
RETREATS

March 26 - 29, 2020

Teen Lenten Spring Break Retreat



Camp Oselia
Retreats

Eparchial

Marriage Prep Course

April 17 - 19, 2020



Camp Oselia
Retreats

Sunday,
May 3

Catholic Festival

of the Mother of God



2019 Eparchial First Solemn Communion Camp



March 20 - 24

First Solemn Communion is an important step in the journey of every Catholic. It is all about receiving the Body and Blood of Christ on one's own, and learning how to prepare for it by the participation in the Mystery (Sacrament) of Reconciliation.

- This camp is for children (aprox. grade 2) who are ready to receive their First Solemn Communion, but do not fit into their own parish's First Solemn Communion program.
- It is a full program condensed into 4 full days, where the child and their parent/adult both learn, have fun, grow in community and are prepared to return to their own parish to receive the sacraments in and with their community.
- This camp works **WITH** your parish. Your pastor needs to know that you are planning to participate in this camp, and will be receiving the sacraments in your parish when it is done. If you don't currently belong to a parish community, we will happily help you find one near you.

- If you are interested in coming to this camp with your child (yes, one adult must be present too) please go to

CampOselia.com
for more information and to enrol.



Camp Oselia

Parish & Eparchial News:

- We **pray for the health and well-being** of all the servants and handmaidens of God who need our prayers: **Miranda** Mayko, **Jean** Miskew, **Sarah** Komar, **Marge** Woitas, **Katie** Bunio, **John** Puto, **Ann** Horsman, **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 **happy birthday** to our parishioner: **Luba** Dasher and **Jesus** who's birthdays are this week. May God grant you both 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 your corrected birthdate and name.
- Do you want to top up your charitable tax donations for 2019? If so, you **MUST** donate (hopefully to us) before the end of the year.
- Are you able and willing to contribute to our **Christmas Flowers**? If so, mark an envelope with "Christmas Flowers" and throw it into the collection plate with your normal collection. These flowers will be set up Monday afternoon or evening.
- **Our Lady of Peace (OLOP) School** was very thankful to receive the socks, mitts and other stuff that we collected over the past several weeks. But our giving spirit should not stop. Now we transition back to our regular food gathering to help them out with breakfasts and lunches. You can drop off non-perishable food for them in the box under where you found this bulletin or you can make a financial donation. Simply mark an envelope with "Food for O.L.O.P. School" and throw it into the collection plate.
- The **First Solemn Communion Camp** at Camp Oselia will be our parish's FSC program. If your child is in or near grade 2 and ready to receive their sacraments, please contact Fr. Bo. Registrations will soon be available on CampOselia.com
- Fr. Bo and several others are planning to put together a "**Community Night**" which includes Prayers and a Free Soup Meal at our parish on Thursday, January 30th. More details will be forthcoming.
- Today after the Divine Liturgy the **PPC Nominating Committee** will be meeting for a short time to discuss who can help us with directing our parish. We ask you to please consider a position on our Parish Pastoral Council. The elections for our next PPC will take place at the AGM on January 26th after the Divine Liturgy.
- There will be a **Saturday Night English Divine Liturgy on January 18th** in our parish (time to be determined). This is to accommodate the participants of the Western Canadian Association of Catholic Youth Ministers (WCACYM), who will be having a banquet in our hall afterwards. Anyone and everyone is welcome to join us for this liturgy.
- Parishes and organizations are once again invited to share the joyous news of Our Lord's Birth with Bishop David with the age-old custom of **Christmas Carolling**. Please contact the **Pastoral Centre** to schedule a time on Thursday, **January 9** (5:00 pm – 7:00 pm).
- The **Ukrainian Musical Society of Alberta** will hold its annual **Concert of Carols**, 3:00 pm, Sunday, **January 26**, at Saint Josaphat Cathedral.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 10 am Divine Liturgy 2 pm Melkite Liturgy Luba Dasher's Birthday	23 🐟 Christmas Flowers are being set up in the afternoon... or evening.	24 🐟 The Eve of the Nativity of our Lord. 10 pm Complines & Festal Divine Liturgy	25 The Nativity of our Lord. 10 am Festal Divine Liturgy 2 pm Melkite Liturgy	26 Synaxis of the Mother of God	27 Clergy "St. Nicholas" Gathering	28
29 10 am Divine Liturgy 2 pm Melkite Liturgy Fr. Bo visit's his mom.	30 Fr. Bo visit's his mom.	31 New Years Eve Fr. Bo visit's his mom.	1 St. Basil the Great & the Circumcision of our Lord 10 am Divine Liturgy Irene Pryma & Anne Skwarchuk's Birthdays	2	3 Melkite Youth in our Church Hall Anticipated Youth at Camp Oselia Greg Ostopowich's Birthday	4 Anticipated Youth at Camp Oselia
5 The Eve of Theophany 10 am Divine Liturgy followed by the Great Blessing of Water 2 pm Melkite Liturgy	6 Theophany 10 am Festal Divine Liturgy 2 pm Melkite Liturgy	7 Samuel Bryson's Birthday	8 George Laschuk's Birthday	9 Singing with Namisha at 7:30 pm	10	11 Michael Orysiuk's and Kristofer Workun's Birthdays

Changeable Parts for Sunday the 22nd's Divine Liturgy

Troparion, Tone 3: Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.* He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead;* He saved us from the abyss of Hades* and granted great mercy to the world.

Troparion: Great are the achievements of faith!* In the fountain of flames, the three holy youths rejoiced as by the water of rest,* and the prophet Daniel was revealed shepherding lions like sheep.* Through their intercession, O Christ God,* save our souls.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion: Armed by the Being that defies description* You defied the man-made idol, O thrice blessed youth.* In the midst of the unbearable flames you stood and cried out to God:* “In Your mercy, O gracious One, hasten and come to our aid,”* for You can do whatever You will.

Prokeimenon:

Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers,* and praised and glorified is Your Name forever.

verse: For You are righteous in everything that You have done to us.

Epistle: Hebrews II:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

Brothers and Sisters: By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, of whom he had been told, “It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you.” He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked blessings for the future on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, “bowing in worship over the top of his staff.” By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions about his burial.

By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and

Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Alleluia:

verse: O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have told us the work You did in their days.

verse: You saved us from our oppressors and put to shame those who hate us.

Gospel: Matthew II:25

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the...

Continuation of Changeable Parts from Sunday Dec. 22.

... deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save

his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.*
Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous.*
Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

Changeable Parts for Christmas Divine Liturgies

Antiphon I

I will confess You, Lord, with all my heart,* I will declare all Your wondrous deeds.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.*

In the council of the just and the congregation,* great are the works of the Lord, conforming to His will in every way.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.*

His work is filled with praise and majesty,* and His righteousness endures forever.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.*

Glory... Now...

Only-Begotten Son...

Antiphon 3

The Lord said to my lord, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies the footstool of your feet."

Troparion, Tone 4: Your nativity, O Christ our God,* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge.* Through it those who worshipped the stars* have learned from a star to worship You, O Son of Righteousness* and to recognize You, the One who rises from on high.* O Lord, glory be to You.

The Lord will send you a sceptre of power out of Sion; reign in the midst of your enemies.

Troparion, Tone 4: Your nativity, O Christ our God,* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge.* Through it those who worshipped the stars* have learned from a star to worship You, O Son of Righteousness* and to recognize You, the One who rises from on high.* O Lord, glory be to You.

Yours is the dominion on the day you are given power in the splendour of your holy ones.

Troparion, Tone 4: Your nativity, O Christ our God,* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge.* Through it those who worshipped the stars* have learned from a star to worship You, O Son of Righteousness* and to recognize You, the One who rises from on high.* O Lord, glory be to You.

At the Entrance

From the womb before the daystar I begot you. the Lord has sworn an oath and will not go back on His word: You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Troparion, Tone 4: Your nativity, O Christ our God,* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge.* Through it those who worshipped the stars* have learned from a star to worship You, O Son of Righteousness* and to recognize You, the One who rises from on high.* O Lord, glory be to You.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion: The Virgin today gives birth to Him who is above all being;* the earth offers the cave to Him whom no one can approach;* Angel with shepherds give Him glory,* while Magi make their way with a star,* for to us is born a little Child – the pre-eternal God.

Continuation of Changeable Parts for Christmas Divine Liturgies

Instead of Holy God:

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

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

You have put on Christ! Alleluia!

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

Prokeimenon:

Let all the earth worship You and sing to You; let it sing to Your Name, O Most High.

verse: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing now to His name, give glory to His praise. (Psalm 65:4,2)

Christmas Eve Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-12

Brothers and Sisters: Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Christmas Day Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7

Brothers and Sisters: when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children,

God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Alleluia:

verse: The heavens tell the glory of God, and the firmament declares the work of His hands.

verse: Day announces its message unto day and night proclaims its knowledge unto night. (Psalm 18:2,3)

Christmas Eve Gospel: Luke 2:1-10

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:

Christmas Day Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its

Continuation of Changeable Parts for Christmas Divine Liturgies

rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Hymn to the Mother of God and the Irmos:

O my soul, magnify Christ the King born in a manger.

A strange and glorious mystery do I behold:* the cave is heaven;* the Virgin, the throne of the cherubim;* the manger, a dwelling place* in which is laid Christ, the God Whom nothing can contain.* Singing His praises, we magnify Him.

Communion Hymn

The Lord has sent deliverance* to His people.* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Instead of “Blessed is He who comes...” we sing:

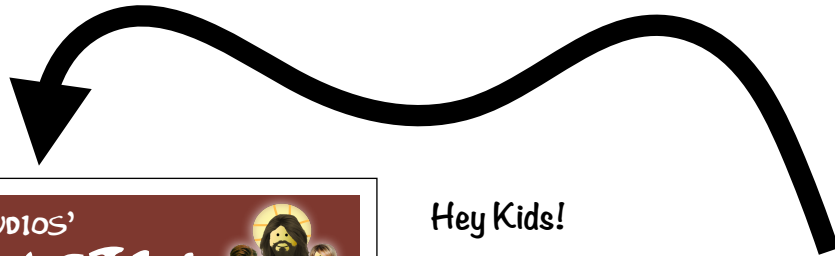
All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is born of a Virgin.

Instead of “We have seen the true light...” we sing:

All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is born of a Virgin.

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

All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is born of a Virgin. (3)



THEOSIS STUDIOS'
KID'S BULLETIN
FEAST OF THE NATIVITY - WWW.THEOSIS.CA



At this time we celebrate God choosing to be a human like us. God chose Mary to be his mom, and he grew in her tummy just like every other person. Even though God was powerful and could do anything, he chose to come into the world in a simple way so that he could love us and save us.

Thank you God for choosing to be with us.



The wise men gave gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. With these they recognized that Jesus is a king, God, and the one who will die for us all.

If you could give Jesus a gift, what would it be?

Hey Kids!

Ask your parents to get you a copy of the “Kid’s Bulletin”. There are copies next to the regular bulletin in church.

On the back of it is a colouring page.

After you colour it you can hang it up on the bulletin board in the church.

I’m looking forward to seeing your awesome art.

Have a great Christmas.

Christ is Born!
Fr. Bo