

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE

DOR/ITION

OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD Парафіга Успінніа Пресв. Богородиці A PARISH OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF EDMONTON

Address:

15608 -104 Avenue, Edmonton, AB **T5P 4G5**

Please register online or by phone to attend services.

Services:

Twitter:

Pastor:

Sunday Divine Liturgy (Ukr & Eng) at 10 am

& Melkite (Arabic) D.L. at 2 pm

Parish Website: http://dormition.eeparchy.com

@dormitionparish

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Eparchial Website: www.eeparchy.com

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February 21, 2021 First Sunday of the Great Fast - Sunday of Orthodoxy, Tone 5; Our Venerable Father Timothy of Symbola (8th c.); Our Holy Father Eustathius. Archbishop of Great Antioch (338)

At Dormition everyone is always welcome....

...so long as you are wearing a mask and keep your social distance... ... unless you are feeing sick... If you are please stay home. Get well first, then come and join us again. We take covid seriously.

The Sunday of Orthodoxy

Fr. Thomas Hopko

Each of the Sundays of Great Lent has its own special theme. The first Sunday is called the Feast of the Triumph of Orthodoxy. It is a historical feast commemorating the return of the icons to the churches in the year 843 after the heresy of iconoclasm was overcome. The spiritual theme of the day is first of all the victory of the True Faith. "This is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith" (1 Jn 5.4). Secondly, the icons of the saints bear witness that man, "created in the image and likeness of God" (Gen 1.26), becomes holy and godlike through the purification of himself as God's living image.





We we were unable to record a Presanctified Liturgy this week, maybe we will find time together to do it next week.

Instead I have recorded an Akathist for you and put it on our website. I have recorded it so that you can pray along with me on the Fridays of Lent.

(Especially but not limited to Fridays, it can be prayed on any and every day of the year.)

Introduction to the Akathist Hymn from the prayer booklet printed by Madonna House Publications:

This Office, probably composed in the year 532, is to the Byzantine Church what the Rosary and the Litanies of the Blessed Mother are to... 1

Saints of the Day from OCA.org

Venerable Timothy of Symbola in Bithynia

Saint Timothy of Symbola was of Italian descent. He became a monk at a young age and pursued asceticism at a monastery called "Symbola", in Asia Minor near Mount Olympus. At that time Theoctistus was the archimandrite of the monastery. Saint Timothy was the disciple of Theoctistus and also of Saint Platon of the Studion Monastery (April 5).

Attaining a high degree of spiritual perfection, he received from God the gift of healing the sick and casting out unclean spirits. He spent many years as a hermit, roaming the wilderness, the mountains and forests, both day and night offering up prayer to the Lord God. He died at a great old age, in the year 795.





Saint Eustathius, Archbishop of Antioch

Saint Eustathius, Archbishop of Antioch (323-331) was born in Side, Pamphylia in 324. He was Bishop of Beroea (modern Aleppo), and enjoyed the love and esteem of the people, and at the request of his flock he was elevated

by the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council (325) to the See of Antioch.

Saint Eustathius was a learned theologian, and was also distinguished by his broad knowledge in secular sciences. When the heresy of Arius began to spread in the East (Arianism denied the consubstantiality of the Son of God with the Father), Saint Eustathius struggled zealously for the purity of the Orthodox Faith through his words and his writings.

The First Ecumenical Council was convened in the year 325 by the holy God-crowned Emperor Constantine the Great (306-337). The first to preside over this Council was Saint Eustathius. The Council condemned the heretical teachings of Arius and incorporated the Orthodox confession into the Symbol of Faith (the Nicene Creed).

But the mad Arius, as Saint Eustathius called him, refused to renounce his errors. He and those who shared his opinion were excommunicated from the Church by the Council. Among the bishops who signed the Nicene Symbol of Faith were some who sympathized with the heresy of Arius, but signed the Acts of the Council through fear of excommunication.

After the Council, his enemies plotted against Saint Eustathius. With great cunning they gained his consent to convene a local Council at Antioch. Having bribed a certain profligate woman, they persuaded her to appear at the Council with an infant at her breast, and falsely declare that Saint Eustathius was the father of the infant.

The Arians declared Saint Eustathius deposed, violating the Apostolic Rule that accusations against the clergy must be substantiated by two witnesses. Without a trial he was sent off into exile in Thrace. But the lie was soon unmasked: the woman repented after falling grievously ill. She summoned the clergy, and in the presence of many people, she confessed her sin.

Saint Constantine the Great died around this time, and his son Constantius (337-361), who shared the heretical views of Arius and favored the Arian bishops, succeeded his father on the throne. Even in exile, Saint Eustathius struggled for Orthodoxy with the same zeal. He died in exile, in the city of Philippi or Trajanopolis, in the year 337.

Convened in the year 381 at Constaninople, the Second Ecumenical Council confirmed the Orthodox Symbol of Faith, which Saint Eustathius had so vigorously defended. The Arian heresy was once again anthematized.

In the year 482 the relics of Saint Eustathius were reverently transferred from Philippi to Antioch, to the great joy of the people of Antioch, who had not ceased to honor and love their patriarch.

Saint Eustathius was esteemed by the great hierarchs of the fourth century: Basil the Great, John Chrysostom, Athanasius of Alexandria, Epiphanius of Cyprus, Anastasius of Sinai, and Jerome of Stridonia. The renowned church historian Bishop Theodoret of Cyrrhus calls Saint Eustathius a pillar of the Church and a man of piety, of equal stature with Saint Athanasius of Alexandria and the other bishops at the forefront of the struggle for Orthodoxy.

Saints in the Making: Our Online First Solemn Communion Class!





Arion S. Grade 3 Damen H. Grade 3

Jack B.

Grade 2

Gabby L. Grade 2



John C. Grade 4

Georges A. Grade 4

This year our parish will be preparing 5 young men and 1 young woman (yup, we lost one) for **FIRST SOLEMN COMMUNION.** (Note: our young lady has already gone through classes with me before Christmas.) These heroic characters are all on a profound adventure in real life that leads them deeper into the life of God.

3 are from Dormition Parish, 1 is from St. Josaphat's, and 2 are from St. Nicholas MGCC.

I am asking all parishioners to pray daily for these awesome kids.

I also invite any and all of you to journey along with them by watching the online FSC videos. These videos are on our parish website.



During Great Lent, the Eparchy of Edmonton conducts its annual collection for "Aid to the Missionary Church in Canada."

The purpose of this collection is to support the needs of the Church in Canada. Three charitable institutions are the recipients of the collection: the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Alberta, Catholic Missions in Canada, and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The **Ukrainian Catholic Church in Alberta** responds to the call of Christ to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28: 19-20). The Eparchy of Edmonton supports local priests in their travel, health care, pension, and clergy substitution, thus ensuring that they can respond to the pastoral needs of the faithful, especially the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and funerals in rural Alberta. Visit www.edmontoneparchy.com to see how the Church is working for you.

Catholic Missions in Canada supports over 600 missionaries – priests, deacons, sisters, brothers and lay ministers – throughout 27 eparchies and dioceses right here in Canada, including the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Catholic Missions supports the local churches in our call to proclaim the Gospel among Firsts Nations communities, missionary support,



religious education programs, building and repairs, lay pastoral leadership programs, and education of seminarians. To learn more about the work of *Catholic Missions in Canada* visit (<u>www.cmic.info</u>) and sign up for a free subscription to its quarterly magazine by calling toll free 1-866-937-2642.

Each year the **Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops** is asked to speak out, give leadership, and provide guidelines for the faithful on a wide variety of topics in our daily lives. For our bishops to do so, they must have the benefit of research and expert advice. Research and gathering information require staff, time and money. Through the yearly bishops' collection, an appeal is made to all Catholics to be generous towards the work of their bishops. To learn more about the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, visit www.cccb.ca.

Akathist (from First Page) continued

... the Latin Rite. There is in the Oriental Church no better prayer expressing love and veneration for Mary: all the figures under which she has been represented in the Scriptures are repeated here, not in the form of a dry enumeration, but as applied to her by the living people of the gospel, who this participate in the universal concert of praise and personally glorify the Virgin Mother. The episodes of Holy Scriptures come back to life before our very eyes; they set our hears aflame, and lead us to join the chorus of the saints who, at the time of Mary witnessed the great mystery of the Incarnation. The excellence of the Akathist Hymn is seen in this, that it always brings us back to theological truth: to the fact that Mary is great because she is the Mother of God, the bridge between heaven and earth, for her intercession is all-powerful with God, her Son' her holiness and beauty are such that even the angels in their full glory fall in admiration before her.

This hymn also exalts the mystery of the Incarnation in its plenitude: the miraculous maternity and perpetual virginity of Mary cannot be admired without concurrent adoration of the condescension, wisdom and omnipotence of God who enclosed his infinite Word in the virgin's womb.



O Lord and Master of my life, keep from me the spirit of indifference and discouragement, lust of power, and idle chatter. (prostration)

Instead, grant to me, Your servant, the spirit of wholeness of being, humble-mindedness, patience, and love. (prostration)

O Lord and King, grant me the grace to be aware of my sins and not to judge my brothers and sisters; for You are blessed, now and ever and forever. Amen. (prostration)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21 A First Sunday of the Great Fast - Sunday of Orthodoxy, Tone 5; Our Venerable Father Timothy of Symbola (8th c.); Our Holy Father Eustathius, Archbishop of Great Antioch (338); • Hebrews 11:24-26,32-40; 12:1-2; • John 1:43-51 IO am D.L. Bilingual Ukrainian / English 2 pm D.L. Bilingual Arabic / English	22 The Discovery of the Relics of the Holy Martyrs at Eugenius (345-408); Isaiah 4:2-5:6; Genesis 3:21-4:7; Proverbs 3:34-4:22 7 pm Youth Commission Meeting Katherine Vizza's Birthday	23 A The Holy Priest- Martyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (155-56); Isaiah 5:7-16; Genesis 4:8-15; Proverbs 5:1-15 2 pm Fr. Bo appointment	24 The First and Second Finding of the Precious Head of the Holy, Glorious Prophet and Forerunner John the Baptist; • Isaiah 5:16-26; • Genesis 4:16-26; • Proverbs 5:15-6:3	25 (a) Our Holy Father Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople (806); • Isaiah 6:1-12; • Genesis 5:1-24; • Proverbs 6:3-20 6:30 pm Camp Oselia Society Meeting	26 Our Holy Father Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza (420); • Isaiah 7:1-14; • Genesis 5:32-6:8; • Proverbs 6:20-7:1 II am Patristics Course for clergy 4pm Anticipated Liturgy Recording 6pm Children 7pm Upper Elementary 8pm Teen Youth Ministry Online	27 All Souls Saturday; our Venerable Fath and Confessor Procopius the Decapolitan (716-44 • Hebrews 3:12-16 • 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; • Mark 1:35-44; • John 5:24-30 Weekly day of editing the Liturgy video, making of this bulletin, updating the website and much more. Saturdays are busy. Ryan Gerace's Birthday
28 🔊 Second Sunday of the Great Fast: St. Gregory of Palamas, Tone 6; our Venerable Father and Confessor Basil, Ascetical Companion of Procopius (716-40); • Hebrews 1:10-2:3; • Mark 2:1-12 IO am D.L. Bilingual Ukrainian / English 2 pm D.L. Bilingual Arabic / English	March I The Holy Venerable- Martyr Eudocia (98-117); • Isaiah 8:13-9:7; • Genesis 6:9-22; • Proverbs 8:1-21	2 A The Holy Priest- Martyr Theodotus, Bishop of Cyrenia (c. 321); Isaiah 9:9-10:4; Genesis 7:1-5; Proverbs 8:32-9:11 Gpm Discussion with Scouts Canada	3 The Holy Martyrs Eutropius and His Companions Cleonicus and Basiliscus (286-305); Isaiah 10:12-20; Genesis 7:6-9; Proverbs 9:12-18 10:15 am Fr. Bo appointment	 ↓ ♠ Our Venerable Father Gerasimus of the Jordan (475); Isaiah 11:10-12:2; Genesis 7:11-8:3; Proverbs 10:1-22 Natasha Gerace's Birthday 	5 The Holy Martyr Conon (249-251); • Isaiah 13:2-13; • Genesis 8:4-21; • Proverbs 10:31-11:12 II am Patristics Course for clergy Upm Anticipated Liturgy Recording 7 pm Melkite Young Adults Online (Arabic) (see Fr. Bo for details)	6 All Souls Saturday; the Holy Forty-Two Martyrs of Ammorium (848); • Hebrews 10:32-3 • 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; • Mark 2:14-17; • John 5:24-30 Weekly day of editing the Liturgy video, making of this bulletin, updating the website and much more. Saturdays are busy.

- Please pray for several of our parishioners and family members including (but not limited to): Ross, Ron, Peter, Katie, Jean, Edward, Verna, Miranda, Sarah, Marge, Ann, Louis & Rosa Maria.
- Happy birthday to Katherine Vizza (Feb 22) and Tyan Gerace (Feb 27) who both celebrate their birthdays this week. May God grant you many happy years. Mnohaya Lita.
- No new news about the AGM. Once we figure it out, we shall let you know.
- Our website has been updated A LOT and we will continue to do so with the help of our Eparchial Communications Director. This is being done so that it not only looks and functions better, but it also has more content which is easier to use, and so that it also looks good and functions on mobile devices such as smart phones. If you notice any broken links, info that needs updating or anything missing, please feel free to send me an email. - Fr. Bo

Troparion: Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word,* co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,* and born of the Virgin for our salvation.* For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death* and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Troparion: We bow before Your most pure image, O kind Lord,* and beg pardon for our sins, O Christ our God.* Of Your own will You consented to ascend the Cross in the flesh to free Your handiwork from enslavement to the enemy.* In thanksgiving we cry aloud to You:* by coming to save the world, our Saviour, You filled all things with joy.

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

Kontakion: The uncircumscribed Word of the Father* became circumscribed when He took flesh of you, O Mother of God,* and when He restored the divine image to its ancient glory,* He suffused it with the beauty of God.* Therefore, confessing our salvation in deed and word,* we portray it in images.

Prokeimenon:

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

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

Epistle: Hebrews II:24-26,32-40; I2:I-2 (NRSV)

Brothers and Sisters, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called a son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to the reward. 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.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Alleluia verses:

Moses and Aaron are among His priests and Samuel among those who call upon His name.

They called on the Lord, and He heard them.

Gospel John I:43-5I (NRSV)

At that time Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Hymn to the Mother of God

In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all the human race. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins' pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before all ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider that all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

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.

At the end of Liturgy

You have Suffered the Passion for us, O Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on us! (3x with prostrations)