



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DORMITION

OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
ПАРАФІЯ УСПІННІА ПРЕСВ. БОГОРОДНЦІ

December 5, 2021

Twenty-Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Tone 3; Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Sabbas the Sanctified (532)

Our Mission is to joyfully bring all people into the knowledge, love and service of the Holy Trinity, Who dwells amongst us.

Address:

15608 -104 Avenue,
Edmonton, AB
T5P 4G5

Services:

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

new

Major Feast Days at 7pm

Parish Website:

<http://dormition.eeparchy.com>

Eparchial Website:

www.eeparchy.com

Pastor:

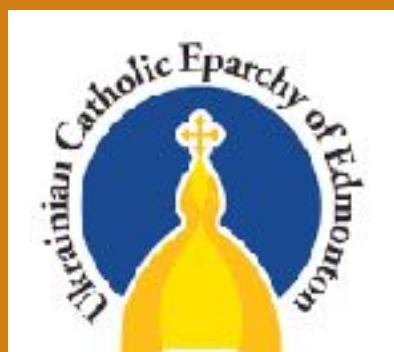
Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

Fr. Bo's cell phone:

780-340-FR.BO (3726)

Fr. Bo's Emails:

fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com



A PARISH OF THE UKRAINIAN
CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF
EDMONTON

Christmas Eve Schedule:

7 pm English

10 pm Bilingual

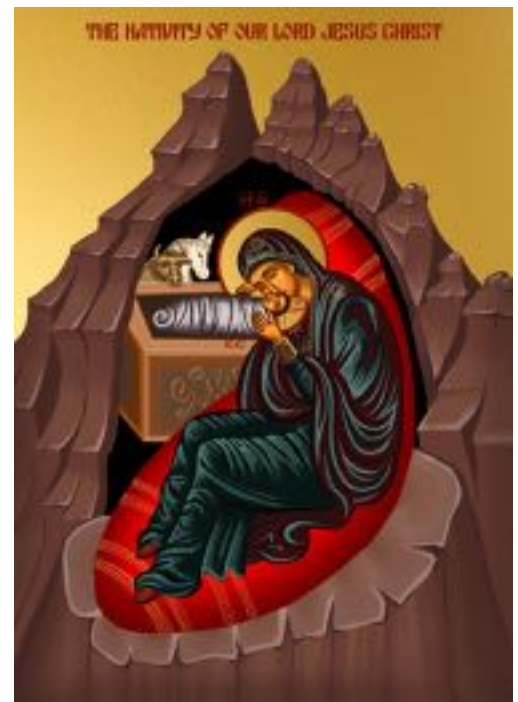
Unless current covid restrictions change we will be reciting the services as singing is not currently permitted.

In order to guarantee a spot at the services you are encouraged to go to our website:

dormition.eeparchy.com

and reserve a spot.

We can only allow 44 persons (as mandated by the current covid laws). If you reserve a spot it will be there for you. If you come without reserving a spot, there may or may not be a spot available to you.



St. Nicholas the Wonderworker is planning to say hello to the kids after Liturgy next Sunday.

If you are planning to come with a child under 14 years old please let us know ahead of time (by Thursday), so that we can make sure St. Nicholas has enough treats.

Call Fr. Bo at 780-340-3726.

Unfortunately due to covid we will not have a big concert as usual, but rather the saint will say hello and bless us in church after the liturgy.



**I, Bishop David, invite you to join the
Armchair Gala 2.0!**

THIS THURSDAY AT 7PM.
Details on the following page.

This year's Gala will be like no other, with a first look into the launch of the Eparchy of Edmonton's Family and Life Ministry.

Today, more than ever, the Church is called to accompany families in the joys and challenges in what it means to be a family today, especially in the family's mission as the domestic church in passing on the faith to their children and grandchildren.

All donors will receive an emailed link to join the Armchair Gala 2.0.

Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Supporting: The Eparchy of Edmonton Office of Family and Life Ministries.

Tax Receipt: All online donations will have a tax receipt automatically emailed.

Special Gift: Donations of \$250 and more receive a Thank-You Gift

Auction: Bid on unique items from December 1 to 9.

Event: A look back at our Evangelize 2021 campaign, Bishop David's Message, the first look at the launch of our new Family and Life Ministry, and more!

Entrance: All donors will receive a link emailed for this online private event.

Giving Back: A donation will be made to the Marian Centre for each attendee.

Saint Savva the Sanctified (from oca.org)



Saint Savva the Sanctified was born in the fifth century at Cappadocia of pious Christian parents, John and Sophia, and his father was a military commander. Journeying to Alexandria on military matters, John and Sophia left their five-year-old son Savva in the care of an uncle. When the boy was eight years old, he entered the nearby Monastery of Saint Flavian. The gifted child quickly learned to read and became an expert on the Holy Scriptures. His parents urged Saint Savva to return to the world and enter into marriage, but all in vain.

When he was seventeen years old he was tonsured as a monk, and attained such perfection in fasting and prayer that God found him worthy of the gift of working miracles. After spending ten years at the Monastery of Saint Flavian, he went to Jerusalem, and from there to the Monastery of Saint Euthymios the Great (January 20). Saint Euthymios, however, sent the young man to Abba Theoktistos, the head of a nearby monastery with a strict cenobitic Rule. Saint Savva lived in obedience at this monastery until the age of thirty.

After the death of Elder Theoktistos, his successor blessed Savva to seclude himself in a cave. But on Saturdays, he left his hermitage and came to the Monastery, where he took part in the Divine Services and ate with the brethren. After a certain time, Saint Savva received permission not to leave his hermitage at all, and he struggled in the cave for five years.

Saint Euthymios directed the young monk's life, and seeing his spiritual maturity, he began to take him to the Rouba wilderness with him. They left on January 14, and remained there until Palm Sunday. Saint Euthymios called Saint Savva a Child-Elder, and encouraged him to grow in the monastic virtues.

When Saint Euthymios fell asleep in the Lord (+ 473), Saint Savva withdrew from the Lavra and moved to a cave near the monastery of Saint Gerasimos of Jordan (March 4). After several years, disciples began to gather around Saint Savva. As the number of monks increased, a Lavra sprang up. Guided by a pillar of fire which appeared before him as he was walking, Saint Savva found a spacious cave in the form of a church.

The holy Elder founded several more monasteries. Many miracles took place through his prayers: at the Lavra, a spring of water welled up, during a time of drought there was abundant rain, and the sick and those possessed by demons were also healed. Saint Savva composed the first monastic Rule of Church Services, the "Jerusalem Typikon," followed by all the Palestinian monasteries. The Saint surrendered his soul to God in the year 532.

Saint Savva is depicted holding a scroll which reads: "He who loves God disdains corruptible things, and prefers the knowledge of Him."



Let us prepare ourselves to greet Christ at His Nativity. **If you are looking to receive the Sacrament of Confession:** Fr. Bo is available in the Church after the 10 am Sunday Service. Sometimes before... but it is best to do so well in advance of the liturgy so that we do not start late. If you are in doubt, just call Fr. Bo.

The Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession)

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are selfless in all their actions, constantly pouring fourth their love for each other. We humans are made in the image and likeness of this self-giving God. We are created to constantly grow in communion with God, through self-less relationships.

In the beginning when God created humanity we read that a serpent tempted us to eat some fruit promising that: "your eyes will be opened and you will be like God' (Genesis 3:5). The problem was not in being like God, but rather the problem was taking the fruit for ourselves when it was not ours to be taken.

Our selfish act of taking caused us to be subject to death and corruption (as God had warned). Now we live in a world where things around us are not all in harmony. We get sick, we get hungry, we need shelter, and we eventually die. Due to fear of death have a tendency to sin even more (i.e. be self-serving). But...

...God wants us to return to our true nature (of being self-less) and to have eternal life with Him once again. God Himself came down amongst us, He conquered death, and therefore we no longer need to fear death. Death being conquered, we can now be with God eternally.

Thank goodness God offers His forgiveness freely. God does not hold our shortfalls against us, but rather he looks forward to our repentance and renewed goodness. The only thing that separates us from God (now that He has trampled death) is ourselves. We only have to 'get up' when we 'fall down', admit that we fell and move on. To gain God's forgiveness we only need to ask for it.

To be able to ask for forgiveness we need to realize that we have done wrong in the first place. Just like an addict that thinks that they are still in control, cannot receive help until they realize and admit that they have a problem, so it is with us. Until we can recognize our selfishness (inhumanity) we cannot accept God's forgiveness. Not recognizing our own inhumanity is perhaps one of the greatest of our self-serving acts.

We need to examine our lives regularly and strive to reconcile ourselves with God and our brothers and sisters in order to be truly human. When we recognize that we have done wrong, and we have a desire to turn our lives back to God (metanoia), we to

come to the Holy Church in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (a.k.a. confession).

WHY SHOULD I CONFESS TO A PRIEST?

The Church has seven sacraments in which we know that reality both on heaven and earth are affected. Reconciliation is one of these sacraments. Through sacred orders the priest receives the faculty to forgive or not forgive sins, however the priest is not the one you are confessing to; rather he is merely a tangible witness to your conversion experience.

The priest lets us hear the words we dearly need to hear: "You are forgiven." He can also give you advice and help you overcome your struggles. At the same time, the priest keeps you honest with yourself and with God; if he senses that you are not sincere and have no intention to grow spiritually, then he will not give you absolution.

In the early church people would confess before the whole congregation, to make it easier and less scandalous the priest stands in alone for the whole Church.

WHAT SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES DO YOU HAVE ON CONFESSING?

Here's a few:

Jesus "said to them (the disciples) "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:22-23)

"Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed." (James 5:16)

"what ever you (Peter) bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19)

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us form all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:8-10)

HOW SHOULD I EXAMINE MY LIFE?

Listen to your conscience. If you need to, use the 10 commandments as a guide (Exodus 20). Reflect on how your relationship is with God, how it is with your family, friends, co-workers, fellow students, parishioners, neighbours, and reflect on how you treat yourself. Are your relationships with these people healthy?

DO I HAVE TO TELL EVERYTHING?

You should confess everything that you remember. You are not able to fool God, and it is to Him that you are confessing. If you forget to mention some sin during confession do not worry, God forgives ALL your sins. But if you know your faults... be honest with yourself and bring them forward.

WILL THE PRIEST TELL ANYONE?

ABSOLUTELY NOT! The priest cannot even talk to you about your own confession after it is complete. In no way are priests allowed to talk about anything that happens within the sacrament to anyone. Not even in a court of law.

The priest will not think poorly of you if you are trying to be a better person. How can you be angry or disappointed with someone who is trying to do good?

HOW OFTEN SHOULD I GO?

We should participate in this sacrament as often as we have a significant division between us and God, and others. It is good to go before major feasts and on significant events in our lives. The Church recommends that we should approach this sacrament in preparation for receiving the Eucharist, and states that we should at very minimum reconcile ourselves at least once a year during the preparation for Easter.

HOW DO I GO TO CONFESSION?

If you are not sure what to do and say during the sacrament of reconciliation, do not fret. The priest will coach you through it. The following is the usual order of things:

Pray before confession. Ask God to help you to know when you have sinned.

When you come before the priest, tell him when the last time you came to confession was (# of weeks, months, years, or first time), and then confess all your sins.

The priest may ask you some questions to see if you are truly sorry for your sins, and he will probably try to give you advice to help you sin less in the future.

The priest will then ask you to say a prayer, or do a good deed to show your joy for forgiveness and to bring you closer to God and other people. This is called "Penance."

Following this the priest will likely ask you to say an act of contrition. See below. This prayer helps you state your desire to return to God, and avoid sin.

Finally: Jesus, through the words of the priest, gives you forgiveness. Listen to these words the priest says:

O LORD GOD, SALVATION OF YOUR SERVANTS, GRACIOUS, BOUNTIFUL AND LONG-SUFFERING, WHO REPENTS CONCERNING OUR EVIL DEEDS, AND DESIRES NOT THE DEATH OF A SINNER, BUT RATHER THAT HE (SHE) SHOULD TURN FROM HIS (HER) WICKEDNESS AND LIVE: SHOW YOU MERCY NOW UPON YOUR SERVANT N., AND GRANT HIM (HER) AN IMAGE OF REPENTANCE, FORGIVENESS OF SINS, AND DELIVERANCE; PARDONING HIS (HER) EVERY TRANSGRESSION, WHETHER VOLUNTARY OR INVOLUNTARY.

RECONCILE AND UNITE HIM (HER) TO YOUR HOLY CHURCH, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, TO WHOM, WITH YOU, ARE DUE DOMINION AND MAJESTY, NOW AND FOREVER, AND UNTO AGES OF AGES.

MAY OUR LORD AND GOD, JESUS CHRIST, BY THE GRACE AND MERCIES OF HIS LOVE FOR US ALL, FORGIVE YOU ALL YOUR SINS, AND I, AN UNWORTHY PRIEST, BY THE POWER GIVEN TO ME BY HIM, FORGIVE AND ABSOLVE YOU FROM ALL

OF YOUR SINS, IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN!

When it is over, talk to God. Thank him for the gift of forgiveness and for His love. And as soon as you are able, go and do your penance.

A Prayer You Can Say Before Approaching For Confession:

Come, Holy Spirit. Help me to remember the words of Jesus asking me to be a loving person. Help me to know when I have sinned. Help me to be sorry for my sins. Help me to change.

An Act of Contrition:

O God be merciful to me a sinner.

O God cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me. I have sinned without number, forgive me, O Lord.

Another Act of Contrition (simplified)

O Lord my God, I love You with all my heart. I am sorry for all my sins. Please forgive me. Help me to change.

Current Covid Precautions:

- We need to wear masks
- We need to keep families 2 meters apart
- We need to limit the number of people in church to 1/3 of its normal capacity (now only 44 people)
- We can not all sing together, either we recite or we have 1 cantor (family)
- We will not be having fellowship after liturgy until further notice.

- **Please pray for** several of our parishioners and family members including (but not limited to): Sister Andrea, Kristopher, Greg, Peter, Ross, Ron, Peter, Jean, Verna, Miranda, Sarah, Marge, Ann, Louis & Rosa Maria.
- **Happy Birthday** to: Suanne Workun and Thomas Ostopowich **who** celebrate their birthdays this week. May God grant you all many happy years. Mnohaya Lita.
- **Next PPC meeting:** January 18. **AGM:** Feb 6.

Holodomor – one of the most monstrous crimes in the history of humanity, was the result of a deliberate political strategy masterminded by Stalin and his totalitarian communist regime. By the magnitude, losses during the Holodomor surpassed those of the Ukrainian nation during the Second World War. Ukrainians worldwide continue to suffer the consequences of this merciless act.



With the de-classification of documents in Ukraine and eyewitness accounts, the world has learned of a horrific crime against humanity about which little was previously known or officially confirmed. Ukraine itself made the confirmation in its quest for historical truth and national identity. It is a fact that the *Holodomor*: a) occurred; b) was deliberate, and was c) designed to destroy a nation.

Ukrainians in Alberta are united with the international community in commemorating the anniversary of the Holodomor-Genocide in Ukraine of 1932-33. Together we can spread the truth about the Holodomor and ensure acknowledgement of the Holodomor as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian nation. In Soviet Ukraine, the region known as Europe’s breadbasket, 7 – 10 million lives were suddenly eradicated by starvation, one of the most ruthless forms of torture and death.

Let us remember, thus ensuring that similar tragedies are never repeated!

There is an appeal to help build a National Holodomor Museum in Kiev from our Patriarch. If you would like to contribute, please see last week’s bulletin (available on our parish website).

Our parish casino has been tentatively rebooked for the 2nd quarter of 2022 at Gateway Casino located in West Edmonton Mall - Thursday June 3rd & Friday June 4th.

Recognizing remaining Covid concerns and other personal health considerations the Parish needs to determine if the required number of volunteers for this event can be obtained.

Any Parishioners that are still able to assist with the casino fundraising event, please contact our Casino Chairperson, Alex Schabel by January 16th @ 780-908-3339 (aschabel14@gmail.com)

Our UCWLC is collecting for a couple things:

Flowers! Every year a call goes out for funds to help us decorate the church with flowers on special feasts like Christmas. If you can make a donation towards flowers, just put it in an envelope and mark it for “UCWLC Flowers”, then throw it in with the regular Sunday Collection.

Donations to good charities. Our UCWLC is happy to pass on donations to needy charities. If you would like to contribute to any of them, talk to Virginia or Helen.

Special **Thank You** to Greg, Iryna, Kris, Darlene, Steve ad Janet who beautifully decorated the church for the feast of the Nativity. You are all awesome. God grant you many years.



This space is for rent.

(Children’s/Youth’s Art)
CHRISTMAS CARDS

The designs for these Christmas cards were beautifully created by the 12 winners of the Edmonton Eparchial UCWLC Student Rizdvo Art Contest. **They are now available for purchase!** All 12 designs are in each package which sells for only \$10. Your UCWLC branch president should have them for you to purchase. If not, please contact:

South Edmonton: Barb Olynyk (780) 722-3537
bdolynyk@gmail.com

North Edmonton: Darlene Atamaniuk (587) 523-6141
darlene.atamaniuk@gmail.com





It's official!
We now have a Catholic Scouts Group in Edmonton!
#221 Our Lady's Scouts



Be part of the Adventure!

At this time we are organizing ourselves and seeking families to help us get started. In particular we are looking for Adult Scouters and Volunteers. Children and Youth can be placed on the "We Are Interested: Waiting List" and will be kept up to date with our progress and notified when programming is ready to start (which will likely be in the new year, pandemic allowing). If you and your family are interested in being involved please contact Fr. Bo Nahachewsky at 780-340-3726 or at fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com



More info can be found at: dormition.eeparchy.com/scouts/



BEAVER SCOUTS

AGES 5-7

Discover adventures like camping, hiking, playing games and solving complex puzzles; gear, tent, tenting along the way, along with being involved.



CUB SCOUTS

AGES 8-10

Embark on adventures, adventures like film, weekend camps and canoeing. As a Cub, Cub are encouraged to try new and exciting activities including STEM projects and cultural experiences.



SCOUTS

AGES 11-14

Make your own trail. Develop your leadership opportunities and develop self-confidence by planning adventures with your troop and giving back to the community in a meaningful way.



VENTURER SCOUTS

AGES 15-17

Push your potential. Develop the skills to think the mountain of your goals and reach your personal summit, or challenge yourself to make meaningful contributions and meaningful experiences.



ROVER SCOUTS

AGES 18-26

The most advanced program for adult scouting experiences with a focus on developing your personal skills and helping to make a difference in the community you live in.

Next meeting: Saturday, December 11 at 11 am

You can attend in person or via Zoom.

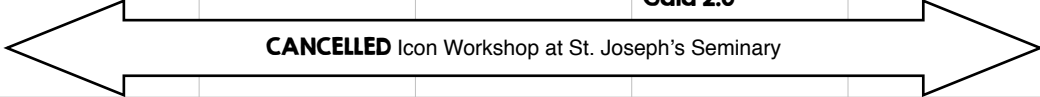
Meeting details can be found at dormition.eeparchy.com/scouts/



This Catholic Scouts group would help families become more active and involved in their community, faith and church. It is a youth ministry endeavour that hopefully will help our parish community grow too. If you have any questions about it just talk to Fr. Bo.

Some of the ways we will teach our Catholic faith in this Scouts group will be by explaining the meaning of Services, Sacraments, Saints and other such. (Note the great alliteration.) And at times we will welcome all the scouts and their families to participate in our parish's prayers and events.

Dormition Parish Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5 🐟</p> <p>Twenty-Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Tone 3; Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Sabbas the Sanctified (532); Polyeleos Feast. Nativity Fast.</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy bilingual Ukr / Eng</p> <p>2 pm Divine Liturgy bilingual Arabic / Eng</p> <p>5:30 appointment</p>	<p>6 🐟</p> <p>Our Holy Father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; All-night Vigil Feast. Nativity Fast. Hebrews 13:17-21; Luke 6:17-23</p>	<p>7 🐟</p> <p>Our Holy Father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (397); Nativity Fast. Hebrews 4:1-13; Luke 21:12-19</p> <p>10:30 am Liturgy at Venta Care Centre</p> <p>3 pm Appointment</p>	<p>8 🐟</p> <p>Our Venerable Father Patapius; Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. Hebrews 5:11-6:8; Luke 21:5-7, 10-11, 20-24</p>	<p>9 🐟</p> <p>The Conception of Saint Anna when she conceived the Most Holy Mother of God; All-night Vigil Feast. Nativity Fast. Galatians 4:22-31; Luke 8:16-21</p> <p>7 pm Arm Chair Gala 2.0</p>	<p>10 🐟</p> <p>The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes and Eugephus; Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. Hebrews 7:18-25; Luke 21:37-22:8</p> <p>Happy Birthday to Thomas Ostopowich</p>	<p>11 🐟</p> <p>Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite (493); Nativity Fast. Ephesians 2:11-13; Luke 13:18-29</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">CANCELLED Icon Workshop at St. Joseph's Seminary</p>						
<p>12 🐟</p> <p>Sunday of the Holy Forefathers, Tone 4; Our Venerable Father Spiridon the Wonderworker, Bishop of Tremithus (337-61); Nativity Fast. Colossians 3:4-11; Luke 14:16-24</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy bilingual Ukr / Eng</p> <p>St. Nicholas Visits us!</p> <p>Special Bylaw Committee Meeting after Liturgy</p> <p>2 pm Divine Liturgy bilingual Arabic / Eng</p> <p>5:30 appointment</p>	<p>13 🐟</p> <p>The Holy Martyrs Eustratios, Auxentius, Eugenius, Mardarius and Orestes (284-305); the Holy Martyr Lucia, the Virgin (284-305); Polyeleos Feast. Nativity Fast. Ephesians 6:10-17; Luke 21:12-19</p>	<p>14 🐟</p> <p>The Holy Martyrs Thyrsus, Leucius (249-51), Philemon, Apollonius and Callinicus (284-305); Nativity Fast. Hebrews 9:8-10,15-23; Mark 8:22-26</p> <p>11 am Appointment</p>	<p>15 🐟</p> <p>The Holy Priest-Martyr Eleutherius; Our Venerable Father Paul of Latra (956); Our Holy Father Stephen the Confessor, Archbishop of Surozh (8th century); Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. Hebrews 10:1-18; Mark 8:30-34</p> <p>Happy Birthday to Brittany Kwas & Sharon Lonsberry</p>	<p>16 🐟</p> <p>The Holy Prophet Haggai (6th c. BC); Nativity Fast. Hebrews 10:35-11:7; Mark 9:10-16</p> <p>Happy Birthday to Sofie Vizza</p>	<p>17 🐟</p> <p>The Holy Prophet Daniel, the Three Holy Youths Ananiah (Ananias), Azariah (Azarias) and Mishael (Misael) (6th century BC); Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. Hebrews 11:8,11-16; Mark 9:33-41</p>	<p>18 🐟</p> <p>Saturday before the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Martyr Sebastian and His Companions; Nativity Fast. Galatians 3:8-12; Luke 13:18-29</p>
<p>19 🐟</p> <p>Sunday before the Nativity of Christ - Sunday of the Holy Fathers, Tone 5; The Holy Martyr Boniface (230); Nativity Fast. Hebrews 11:9-10,17-23,32-40; Matthew 1:1-25</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy bilingual Ukr / Eng</p> <p>2 pm Divine Liturgy bilingual Arabic / Eng</p> <p>5:30 appointment</p> <p>Happy Birthday to Sonia Dashkewytch, Steven Shakeshaft & John Vizza</p>	<p>20 🐟</p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Priest-Martyr Ignatius the Godbearer (110); Nativity Fast. Hebrews 11:17-23, 27-31; Mark 9:42-10:1</p>	<p>21 🐟</p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia (284-305); Nativity Fast. Hebrews 12:25-26; 13:22-25; Mark 10:2-12</p>	<p>22 🐟</p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Great-Martyr Anastasia (305); Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. James 1:1-18; Mark 10:11-16</p>	<p>23 🐟</p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; The Ten Holy Martyrs of Crete (249-51); Nativity Fast. James 1:19-27; Mark 10:17-27</p>	<p>24 🐟</p> <p>Eve of the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Venerable-Martyr Eugenia; Nativity Fast. Strict Fast. Abstinence from meat and dairy and foods that contain these ingredients. Hebrews 1:1-12; Matthew 13:31-36</p> <p>7 pm Complines & Divine Liturgy in English</p> <p>10 pm Complines & Divine Liturgy bilingually Ukrainian / English</p>	<p>25</p> <p>The Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ - Christmas; Feast of our Lord. Holy Day of Obligation. Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:1-12</p> <p>No services on this day. Please attend an evening service on Christmas Eve.</p>

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Twenty-Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Tone 3; Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Sabbas the Sanctified (532)

Troparion: 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: With the streams of your tears you cultivated the barren desert,* with deep sighs your toils bore fruit a hundredfold.* You became a beacon, shining throughout the world by your wonders,* our venerable Father, Sabbas.* Pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion: You rose from the tomb, O compassionate Lord,* and led us out from the gates of death.* Today Adam exults and Eve rejoices,* and the prophets together with the patriarchs* unceasingly acclaim the divine might of Your power.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion: In your virtue,* O blessed Sabbas,* you offered yourself to God from childhood* as an unblemished sacrifice,* becoming a gardener* in the garden of godliness.* Thus you became the adornment of monastics,* a praiseworthy citizen of the desert.* And so we cry to you:* Rejoice, most wealthy Sabbas.

Prokeimenon:

Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

verse: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout unto God with the voice of joy. (*Psalm 46:7,2*)

Epistle: Colossians 1:12-18 (NRSV)

Brothers and Sisters, giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

Alleluia verses:

In You, O Lord, have I hoped that I may not be put to shame for ever.

Be a protector unto me, O God, and a house of refuge to save me.

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord; he shall delight exceedingly in His commandments.

Gospel: Luke 17:12-19 (NRSV)

At that time Jesus entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.

The just man shall be in everlasting remembrance;* of evil hearsay he shall have no fear.

Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

