



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE  
**DORMITION**

OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD  
Парафія Успіння Пресв. Богородиці

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

new

Major Feast Days at 7pm

**Parish Website:**

<http://dormition.eeparthy.com>

**Eparchial Website:**

[www.eeparthy.com](http://www.eeparthy.com)

**Pastor:**

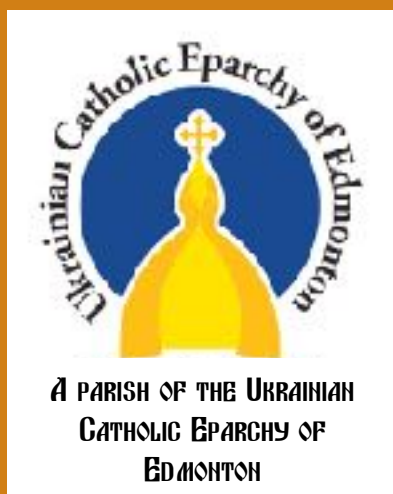
Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

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780-340-FR.BO (3726)

**Fr. Bo's Emails:**

[fr.nahachewsky@eeparthy.com](mailto:fr.nahachewsky@eeparthy.com)



A PARISH OF THE UKRAINIAN  
CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF  
EDMONTON

**Friday, December 24, 2021**

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

**Sunday, December 26, 2021**

Sunday after the Nativity; Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous  
Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James, Brother of the Lord;  
Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God;

**Христос народився! - Славимо Його!  
Christ is Born! - Let Us Glorify Him!**



# CHRISTMAS PASTORAL LETTER OF HIS BEATITUDE 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

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,  
good will toward men (Lk 2:14)

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Beloved in Christ!

Today we share with you a great joy that was first received and shared by nameless shepherds of Bethlehem, who outdoors in an open field watched over their flock in the middle of the night. As described by the evangelist Luke, when an angel of the Lord appeared to them, at first, they were filled with fear. But the angel spoke to them: “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord” (Lk 2:10-11). And then, when the shepherds heard the angelic choirs sing, “Glory to God in the highest,” they said to one another: “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us” (Lk 2: 15). And they went, they found Mary and Joseph with the Child, and, having given them due reverence, went out and told others about Jesus.

The good news of Christmas is a feast of trust—not only of trust shared among us, human beings, but, above all, of God’s trust in humankind. We often speak of our faith in God, but rarely do we make note of God’s good will towards us, His faith and trust in us. The Lord entrusted the first good news about the birth of the Divine Child to simple shepherds, and then He shared the Good News of the Gospel with the myrrh-bearing women, with fishermen and tax-collectors—with simple and largely unknown people.

In Christ’s Nativity, the Heavenly Father entrusts His Only-begotten Son to humanity, and God becomes man! The angelic choir proclaiming “peace on earth to men of good will” speaks to the fact that God sees man as worthy of his trust and favour, preference and good will (which is how we literally translate the Greek term, *eudokia*). He sees us as good and believes in us. He sees us not only as we are today, with all our weaknesses and sinfulness, our poverty and perplexity. The Son of God sees in us His Image. In His incarnation, He takes on our human nature and teaches us to see Him, the Saviour of the world, in a small child. Seeing us as people of His good will, He sees us as those who we can become by the power of His grace just as loving parents see in their child a talented future writer or artist, a

good mother or tender and responsible father, the leader of a people or their mighty protector.

In this Christmas mystery, the figure of the Theotokos personifies the trust that we humans should foster towards our Creator and Saviour, in response to God’s trust in us. The Mother of God, who holds in her arms the tiny Jesus in a cold stable, teaches us that we can and must trust God and our neighbour, since the Lord loved us first and entrusted Himself to us. In receiving the word of the archangel, she gives God space in her own body, gives Him her humanity—her human nature. Then St. Joseph, the guardian of Jesus and His Mother, having learned that Mary is pregnant, at first thinks of quietly releasing her. But, when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said: “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit” (Mt 1:20), he believed, entrusted himself to God, and did everything as the angel commanded, justifying the Lord’s trust in him.

We live in a world where trust is not merely wounded, but under constant attack. A great crisis of trust is felt in different spheres of social and even church life. Through new communication technologies, the manipulation of truth, which has always existed throughout human history, today is carried with lightning speed all over the globe. We no longer know what to believe and whom to trust. Our understanding is permeated with the conviction that in the world there is no truth and no justice, and that at every step there is only deception, falsehood, and duplicity.

This dramatic situation is illustrated in the icon of the Nativity. The evil spirit, depicted in the form of an elderly man dressed in sheepskin, tempts Joseph, seeking to give rise to doubt in him regarding the Child and His Mother. This should surprise no one, for the devil, as the father of lies (see Jn 8:44) at every step seeks to sow mistrust and doubt regarding God’s good will towards us, and fosters interpersonal conflict at all levels, in personal, family, and community life.

The current pandemic has further increased this crisis of trust. Given that the virus hides inside a person, the other for me becomes a potential source of illness, and even death. This introduces into human relations elements of suspicion, fear, and escape.

Our attitude towards social and government institutions is also marked by mistrust. Various conspiracy allegations regarding the safety of the coronavirus vaccine augment a mistrust of authority, that is already prevalent in our society, and bring out in our fellow citizens even greater confusion and fear for the future. People don’t believe the government and other institutions called to care for the common good and for social

health services, as is their responsibility. Possibly, because of the history of the 20th century, post-Soviet societies have a greater tendency, than do other parts of the world, to disbelieve government institutions, and thus easily become susceptible to all sorts of manipulation and propaganda. Similarly, in the politically polarized countries of the Western world, the spreading of fear and mistrust is also utilized as an instrument of political warfare. However, it is important to remember that when we adopt a principle of “I don’t believe anyone,” we always play into someone else’s hands, someone exploits our disappointment for their own purposes. Mistrust destroys human relations at all levels. Mistrust destroys the family, society, a people, and nation!

In response to our present-day temptations regarding mistrust, the Lord Himself comes in order to reveal the truth and embrace us with His trust. On the vigil of the Nativity, we sing: “You have shone forth from a Virgin, O Christ, rational Sun of Righteousness. And a star showed You, Whom nothing can contain, contained in a cave. You led Magi to worship You and along with them we magnify You: Glory to You, O Giver of Life” (Vespers Troparion). To celebrate Christ’s Nativity is to trust the Divine Child who conquers death and, by accepting human life, brings the gift of His Divine Life. Christmas is not some devotional tale but a unique event in history, which bears witness to the Lord’s trust in humankind. God believes in His creation. He believes in us more than we believe in ourselves.

Through faith in God, in His birth among us, let us restore our trust in a humanity that searches for Him! Let us be people of God’s favour and let us learn to place our favour in others—to see in them their good characteristics, gifts and talents, abilities, and elevated spirit. Although today the circumstances of a spreading virus at times require us to cover with protective masks our mouths and nostrils, but in God’s name, let us not close off our hearts to others! Let others see joy, love, and goodness in our eyes! Indeed, in the midst of the challenges and trials of the pandemic, let us be heralds of Divine good will.

My wish is that, following the example of the Holy Family, our families be a place of mutual respect, love, and trust. I especially ask you, beloved parents, to foster a spirit of trust in your children, so that, when they encounter the challenges of this world, they know that they can always count both on you and on our Lord God, who entrusted them into your care. At various stages of your children’s growth, cultivate and build trust and mutual respect in joy, love, and patience. Be for them their first teachers of profound faith, an example of fervent prayer, encourage them to serve their neighbour at an early age. Give the greatest of attention to the time of transition from childhood to youth, take care that your children know how to distinguish between the false and the authentic, between divine truth and diabolical falsehood. May your offspring know that not only you believe in them and are able to see their future in realized talents and divine gifts, developed in their souls, but that our Lord God Himself believes in them and calls on them to do His good works in the world.

And so, let us celebrate Christmas together! Wherever we may be, through mutual trust let us create today our own Bethlehem! Those who celebrate in their family circle—with sincere joy. Those who are compelled to be far from your loved ones—with a sense of spiritual unity. Those who are able to come to church—with a profound experience of the feast’s solemnity and with love for Christ who gives Himself to us as spiritual food as a sign that He believes in us. Those who participate in divine services online—with a blessed longing for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let each of us share our Christmas joy with one another—any way we can! And may the traditional Ukrainian carol resound throughout.

Dear brothers and sisters! This festive day I express to you my trust and faith, that you yourselves intuitively sense how to properly greet the newborn Saviour, and know how to share the joy of this encounter with those at your side. With Christ’s Nativity, I warmly greet you all: from East to West, from North to South—in Ukraine and abroad, on all the continents of the world. In a special way, I unite myself to those who are sad or feel lonely, to all who labour far from home and precisely in this moment experience the absence of their loved ones and miss the warmth of the family home. I express my condolences to those families for whom this year it is painful to sit at Christmas Eve supper, when at the table there is an empty seat, not long ago occupied by a father or mother, husband or wife, brother or sister, son or daughter. With tearful eyes be joyful in the faith that today your loved ones are celebrating in heaven. I share my Christmas joy with our elderly—grandmothers and grandfathers, and also with the needy. I sincerely greet our soldiers on the front line—our pride. My thoughts fly to our prisoners of war and those held captive: in conveying my Christmas greeting I encourage you to not lose spirit, for our Lord God Himself believes in you. I greet our children and youth—our future, and wish that today your smile not leave your face, and that your joy be full.

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!

† SVIATOSLAV

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 2021st Year of our Lord

# PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF CANADA ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD 2021-2022

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

Christ is Born! Let Us Glorify Him!

Dearly Beloved in Christ!

“The earth offers a cave to the Inaccessible.” Kondak of the Nativity

The Kondak of December 25 heralds a true paradox. It reminds us of the sharp contrasts we find in the human condition.

Regarding the Incarnation of Jesus, the Indescribable, Eternal and Inaccessible God, is humbly born in a cave. This is truly a low place on earth, perhaps barely fit for animals at times and yet it is where Jesus was born. Today, we find it hard to believe that any person could be born outside of a hospital or a home. Of course, there are survival accounts of people enduring unimaginable challenges, but who could allow such intentional inhospitable human indignity?

Well, we don't have to look far to find human indignity today. Human tragedy is all around us. Physical, medical, emotional and spiritual injustice is the content of many news stories. And in the midst of these stories often there is a ray of light in the darkness, a person who shines and restores our hope in human dignity. Globally, in Ukraine, or in our own homes, the Holy Spirit is waiting to break through to others with good news and each of us would do well to ask God that question, “Lord, how do you want to use me in sharing this news?”

The good news is that despite our hearts being similar in some ways to the inhospitable cave, Jesus wants to dwell there. Our reflection on this profound mystery takes quiet time for prayer, away from the numerous demands requesting our attention as well as celebration of the Sacraments, particularly Eucharist and Reconciliation. In the stillness of our hearts, God will speak, God will give each of us grace and we have an opportunity to say “yes” like members of the Holy Family. Our hearts are mangers of humility, human dignity and love. Every

thought and action that honours God or another human being is born there. Jesus is born in the manger of our hearts. This is good news. Likewise prayer together as families and parishes uplifts and confirms that “God is with us!”

Therefore, let us intercede in prayer and perhaps take positive steps toward solutions to the many inhumane things we encounter in life. Let us learn from St. Joseph who, in his obedience to God through several dreams, became the person to ignite in Jesus a sense of obedience to the Father. Let us learn from Mary, the Mother of God, who trusted in God's plan for salvation as she gave birth to Christ and played a significant role in forming the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let us allow the Christ in us to be a light to those in our families and parishes. This is so important in an atmosphere that finds many people and numerous opinions at odds about how to deal with the COVID epidemic.

May our celebration of this profound truth this Christmas, that God is born in us, be a time to encounter Jesus Christ in our spouse, in our family members and in our parish because we are an essential part of this profound truth. May we be aware of the presence of Jesus, Mary and Joseph that give us the gift of the Holy Family which is present in our personal and parish families. And may this awareness bear fruit in our lives throughout the new year, 2022, and beyond.

God is with us! Christ is Born!

Sincerely in Christ,

+Lawrence Huculak, OSBM Metropolitan Archbishop of Winnipeg  
+Michael Wiwchar, CSsR Eparch Emeritus of Saskatoon  
+Stephen Chmilar, Eparch Emeritus of Toronto and Eastern Canada  
+David Motiuk, Eparchial Bishop of Edmonton, Administrator of the Eparchy of New Westminster  
+Bryan Bayda, CSsR, Eparchial Bishop of Saskatoon, Administrator of the Eparchy of Toronto & Eastern Canada

Now available from the Eparchy of Edmonton:

## The Winter Program Guide!

to get a digital copy go to:

[https://eeparchy.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/FINAL-Winter-Program-Guide2\\_compressed.pdf](https://eeparchy.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/FINAL-Winter-Program-Guide2_compressed.pdf)

or for a limited edition printed one, pick one up from near the bulletins in the back of the church (while quantities last).



## *Bishop David's Christmas Message*

# **The Legend of the Elderly Grandmother: A Ukrainian Folk Tale**

Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!

It was the night the dear Christ-Child came to Bethlehem. In a country far away from Him, an old, old grandmother or "baba" sat in her snug little house by her warm fire. The wind was drifting the snow outside and howling down the chimney, but it only made baba's fire burn more brightly.

"How glad I am that I may stay indoors," said baba, holding her hands out to the bright blaze.

But suddenly she heard a loud rap at her door. She opened it and her candle shone on three old men standing outside in the snow. Their beards were as white as the snow, and so long that they reached the ground. Their eyes shone kindly in the light of baba's candle, and their arms were full of precious things – boxes of jewels, and sweet-smelling oils, and ointments.

"We have travelled far, Baba," they said, "and we stop to tell you of the Baby Prince born this night in Bethlehem. He comes to rule the world and teach all men to be loving and true. We carry Him gifts. Come with us, Baba."

But baba looked at the drifting snow, and then inside at her cozy room and the crackling fire. "It is too late for me to go with you, good sirs," she said, "the weather is too cold." She went inside again and shut the door, and the old men journeyed on to Bethlehem without her. But as baba sat by her fire, rocking, she began to think about the Little Christ-Child, for she loved all babies.

"Tomorrow I will go to find Him," she said; "tomorrow, when it is light, and I will carry Him some toys."

So when it was morning baba put on her long cloak and took her staff, and filled her basket with the pretty things a baby would like – gold balls and wooden toys – and she set out to find the Christ-Child.

But, oh, baba had forgotten to ask the three old men the road to Bethlehem, and they travelled so far through the night that she could not overtake them. Up and down the road she hurried, through woods and fields and towns, saying to whomsoever she met: "I go to find the Christ-Child. Where does He lie? I bring some pretty toys for His sake."

But no one could tell her the way to go, and they all said: "Farther on, Baba, farther on." So she travelled on and on and on for years and years – but she never found the little Christ-Child.

They say that old baba is travelling still, looking for Him. When it comes Christmas Eve, and the children are lying fast asleep, baba comes softly through the snowy fields and towns, wrapped in her long cloak and carrying her basket on her arm. With her staff she raps gently at the doors and goes inside and holds her candle close to the little children's faces.

"Is He here?" she asks. "Is the little Christ-Child here?" And then she turns sorrowfully away again, crying: "Farther on, farther on!" But before she leaves she takes a toy from her basket and lays it beside the pillow for a Christmas gift. "For His sake," she says softly, and then hurries on through the years and forever in search of the little Christ-Child.

Unlike the elderly grandmother – baba, WE KNOW the road to Bethlehem, for today we have traveled together with the angels, the wise men and the shepherds to rejoice with Mary and Joseph in the birth of the Christ-Child, who came into this world, taking upon Himself flesh, becoming one of us, that we may know how precious and loved we are by God.

Let us get to know this Christ-Child better – one day at a time, throughout the entire year – by being every-more attentive to our relationship with God, to our faith, to our prayer, to our Church, so that when our family and friends, our neighbours and our community approach us and ask "Where is the Christ-Child?," we may respond, "Yes, I KNOW HIM! He lives here in my heart, here in my home with my family, here in my Church, here in my community. Yes, I know Him very well. Let me tell you about Him."

And in this way the story of Christmas – of Jesus' birth, of God's presence among us – will continue to inspire the world, transforming it through peace and love into the Kingdom of God here on earth.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, may Christ, truly bless you and your family with peace, love and joy, now and in the New Year!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Bishop David Motiuk - Eparchy of Edmonton



Do you want Bishop David to read this message to you (or your children)? You can, at [EEparchy.com](http://EEparchy.com) ! Available in both Ukrainian & English.

## RE: COVID PRECAUTIONS DURING THIS SEASON

CIX!

Following a meeting of the Presbyteral Council on December 16, I am pleased to provide you with some liturgical guidance concerning the upcoming Feasts of the Nativity and Baptism of Our Lord.

The festive season is an opportunity for rejoicing in the gift of salvation bestowed upon us in the Incarnation of the Word. At the same time, pastors and the members of the parish pastoral council are asked to take reasonable steps in ensuring the safety and well-being of our faithful, especially in light of the ever-increasing presence of the Omicron variant.

**Cantors.** Given the festal season, for the Feasts of the Nativity and Baptism of Our Lord only, the responses to the liturgical services can be led by up to three cantors (up to six people in total where some cantors live in the same household-cohort), while the other faithful remain silent.

**Mandatory masks/face coverings.** The Government of Alberta continues to require mandatory mask/face coverings in all places of worship for the duration of the liturgical services, with the exception of those who have a medical exemption. Pastors are to remind the faithful of the requirement, providing a time outside of the Divine Liturgy and other liturgical services where those who refuse to wear a mask can be welcomed to receive Holy Communion and/or pray privately in the church.

**Anointing/Myrovannja** – Anointing/myrovannja on the Feasts of the Nativity and Baptism of our Lord are possible at the present time. The anointing is to be performed using single use disposable Q-tips. The ushers are to guide the faithful row by row, who then exit the parish upon anointing in order to minimize excessive socializing and opportunities in spreading the virus.

**Rite of Great-water Blessing** – The water-blessing can proceed as usual with a few adaptations, the same as last year. Given that the blessing takes place outside the sanctuary/solea sacred space, the wearing of masks by the clergy and attendants is mandatory for the entire rite. The priest should sanitize his hands immediately prior to the blessing. He should also step back from the water font when signing the water with his breath. The faithful are not to bring their own jars/containers for the blessed water; rather, the parish can provide the same, whereby one or two attendances can fill the jars and place them at the back of the church for the faithful to take upon exiting the church. On subsequent Sundays, blessed water can be left at the back of the church for an extended period of time for the convenience of the faithful.

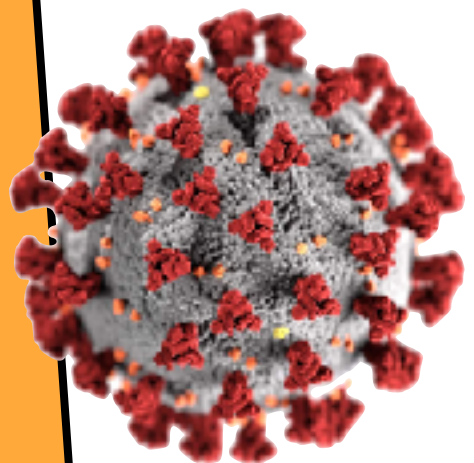
**House-blessings** – House-blessings are possible at the present time; however, solely upon request by the parishioners and mandatory mask wearing on the part of the clergy throughout the house blessing.

Again, I express my gratitude to our pastors and volunteers in journeying with our faithful, during the pandemic, towards salvation.

God bless! Bishop David

### Our Ongoing Covid Precautions:

- Please wear masks when in the church building.
- Use the hand sanitizer that is near all entrances.
- All families/cohorts should remain 2 meters apart.
- The number of people in church to one third of its normal capacity. Therefore we can only allow 44 people (plus the priest)
- We have been and shall continue reciting the services, with only a few carols being sung by one person (...but you can hum along!)
- We will not be having fellowship after liturgy until further notice.
- We need all people to help sanitize the pews they were sitting in after each service.
- At the end of each service commonly touched surfaces such as door knobs and switches are to be cleaned.





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 late winter or early spring? God willing.

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](mailto:fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com)

More info can be found at: [dormition.eeparchy.com/scouts/](http://dormition.eeparchy.com/scouts/)



### BEAVER SCOUTS AGES 5-7

Discover adventures like camping, hiking, playing games, and enjoying campfires. Make great new friends along the way, along with testing yourself!



### CUB SCOUTS AGES 8-10

Partake in outdoor adventures like hiking, swimming, camps, and scouting. As a Pack, Cubs are encouraged to try new and exciting activities including STEM projects and cultural expeditions.



### SCOUTS AGES 11-14

Take your own trial. Drive into more leadership opportunities and develop self-confidence by planning adventures with your troops and giving back to the community in a meaningful way.



### VENTURER SCOUTS AGES 15-17

Push your personal Beaver life skills to their limit. Meet your goals and reach your personal potential, embracing your prior experiences and acquiring real-world experience.



### ROVER SCOUTS AGES 18-26

The world awaits. Experience fun and challenging expeditions with peers and drive your personal ambitions with support from a mentor, better preparing you for success.

**Next Interested Person / Volunteer Meeting:  
Tuesday, January 11 at 7 pm**

via Zoom. Email Fr. Bo for a link: [fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com](mailto:fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com)



## Dormition Parish Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Sunday after the Nativity; Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James, Brother of the Lord; Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God; Galatians 1:11-19; Matthew 2:13-23</p> <p><b>10 am Divine Liturgy bilingual Ukr / Eng</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Apostle, First Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen; Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore the "Branded One" (844); Acts 6:8-7:5,47-60; Matthew 21:33-42</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ; the Two Thousand Martyrs Who Were Burned in Nicomedia (303); Passing into eternal life (1945) of Blessed Hryhorii (Gregory) Khomyshyn, Bishop of Stanyslaviv (Ivano-Frankivs'k) and martyr; James 3:1-10; Mark 11:11-23</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>The Holy Children who were murdered by Herod in Bethlehem; Our Venerable Father Marcellus, Hegumen of the Monastery of the Sleepless Ones (c. 470); James 3:11-4:6; Mark 11:23-26</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Martyr Anysia (286-305); Holy Martyr and Presbyter, Zoticus, Protector of Orphans (4th c.); James 4:7-5:9; Mark 11:27-33</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>The Leave-taking of the Feast of the Nativity of Christ, Christmas; Our Venerable Mother Melania the Roman (439); 1 Peter 1:1-2, 10-12; 2:6-10; Mark 12:1-12</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>The Circumcision of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ;</b> Our Father Among the Saints Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia (379); Gregory of Nazianzus, father of Gregory the Theologian (374); Holy Martyr Basil of Ankyra (322); Saturday before Theophany. Colossians 2:8-12; 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 2:20-21, 40-52; Matthew 3:1-11</p> <p>Ann Skwarchuk's and Irene Pryma's Birthdays</p>
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Sunday before Theophany; Octoechos Tone 7; Our Holy Father Sylvester, Pope of Rome (335). Matins Resurrectional Gospel 10. 2 Timothy 4:5-8; Mark 1:1-8</p> <p><b>10 am Divine Liturgy bilingual Ukr / Eng</b></p> <p>Joanna Vizza's Birthday</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Pre-feast of Theophany; the Holy Prophet Malachi (5th c. BC); the Holy Martyr Gordius (313-24). Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19; Luke 20:27-44</p> <p>Brad and Greg Ostopowich's Birthdays</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Pre-feast of Theophany; Synaxis of the Seventy Holy Apostles; Our Venerable Father Theoctistus, Hegumen of the Cucomo Monastery in Sicily. Hebrews 4:1-13; Luke 21:12-19</p> <p><b>10:30 am Liturgy at Venta Care Centre</b></p> <p><b>2 pm Vocations Meeting at Seminary</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> 🐟</p> <p><b>Theophany Eve;</b> The Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas (284-305); the Venerable Syncletica; It is a day of fast and abstinence from meat and foods that contain these meat. ;</p> <p><b>7 pm Complines, Divine Liturgy and the Great Blessing of Water will be celebrated in English</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>The Holy Theophany of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ</b> Feast of our Lord. Holy Day of Obligation. Titus 2:11-15; 3:4-7; Matthew 3:13-17</p> <p><b>10 am Baptism of Nicholas Setlack</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Post-feast of Theophany; the Synaxis of the Holy and Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. Acts 19:1-8; John 1:29-34</p> <p>Samuel Bryson's Birthday</p> <p><b>Home blessings for those who request them can begin.</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Saturday after Theophany; Our Venerable Father George the Chosebite (610-41); Our Venerable Mother Dominica (474-91); and Emilian the Confessor Ephesians 6:10-17; Matthew 4:1-11</p> <p>George Laschuk's Birthday</p>

- **Please pray for** several of our parishioners and family members including (but not limited to): Mickey, Sister Andrea, Kristopher, Greg, Peter, Ross, Ron, Peter, Jean, Verna, Miranda, Sarah, Marge, Ann, Louis & Rosa Maria.
- **Happy Birthday** to: **Sonia Dashkewytch, Steven Shakeshaft & John Vizza** who all celebrate their birthdays this week. May God grant you many happy years. Mnohaya Lita.
- **Next PPC meeting:** January 18. **AGM:** Feb 6.
- **Thank you** to all volunteers who baked bread, cleaned and decorated the church, ushered, shoveled snow and helped in any way to make our celebrations this weekend so festive. Mnohaya Lita!
- **Our parish casino** has been tentatively rebooked for the 2nd quarter of 2022 at Gateway Casino located in West Edmonton Mall - Thursday June 2nd & Friday, June 3rd. 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](mailto:aschabel14@gmail.com))
- **Best wishes** to you and all of yours from Fr. Bo, his family and all the parishioners.  
**Христос народився! - Славімо Його!**  
**Christ is Born! - Let Us Glorify Him!**



## From the Eparchial E- Bulletin:

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place from January 18-25, 2022. The theme for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity focuses on the Feast of Theophany and the star that led the Magi to the Christ Child. It is based on Matthew 2:1-12, with special emphasis on verse 2: "We saw his star in the East, and we came to worship him."

The Edmonton and District Council of Churches has organized an Ecumenical Prayer Service to be held 7 p.m. on Sunday, January 23 at Our Lady of Good Help Maronite Catholic Church, located at 9805-76 Avenue. It is our hope that any COVID-19 restrictions will allow us to meet safely in person to celebrate our unity in Jesus Christ. If not, the event will be held by Zoom, as it was in 2021.

This year's prayer resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity were prepared by the Middle East Council of Churches. International resources produced by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches are accessible at: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/documents/worship-and-background-material-for-theweek-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022>. Local resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Canada can be accessed at: <https://www.weekofprayer.ca/2022-wpcu-resources>.

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Pope Francis has convoked an International Conference on Vocations, [Symposium Priesthood - Toward a Fundamental Theology of the Priesthood](#), organized in collaboration with the *Centre for Research and Anthropology of Vocations*.

The Holy Father will open the event which will take place in Rome from February 17-19, 2022, as part of the synodal process, which is currently underway. For further information, including the programme for the Symposium, visit the dedicated website for the Symposium: <https://communio-vocation.com/>. Let us pray for the success of the Symposium, but also for vocations to consecrated (religious) life, monasticism, the diaconate and priesthood, family life, and lay leadership.

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The **Winter Program Guide** (Eparchy of Edmonton) is now available. The Guide includes resources on Prayer and Reflection; Family Programming; Children and Youth – Sunday Programs; Sadochok; Ridna Shkola; Sacramental Preparation; Altar Servers, Children of Mary; Youth Groups and Activities; Adult Faith Formation; Ministry Training; Choir and Cantoring; Newman Theological College; and Calendar Events.

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Bishop David and the entire Pastoral Centre staff extend to the clergy, religious, monastics, and faithful of the Eparchy of Edmonton a joyous celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and prayerful best wishes for the New Year.

## Interested in learning more about God, your faith, and the Church?

Sign up for an online course (or two or three) or even work towards a Certificate in Eastern Christian Traditions at Newman Theological College (Edmonton).

The course offerings include Scripture, Eastern Christian Theology I and II, Eastern Catholic Worship and Spirituality, the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments), and Praying with Icons.

Each course consists of 10 online sessions, spanning 5 weeks, requiring some 4 hours of work per week (2 hours per lesson). No exams. Cost of registration per course \$85.00 plus the cost of books.

To register and for more information, visit [Newman.edu/CCS](http://Newman.edu/CCS), or contact Bernie Mandrusiak [education@eeparchy.com](mailto:education@eeparchy.com) or Andrea Leader [admin@eeparchy.com](mailto:admin@eeparchy.com) or call the Pastoral Centre (780) 424-5496.

Year I: Certificate in Eastern Christian Traditions I (EASI)

CCS-047 The Theology of Eastern Christianity Part II (mid-January to mid-February) (The Orthodox Way, K. Ware)

CCS-048 Worship and Spirituality of Eastern Catholic Churches (mid-February to mid-March,) (The Face of God, Joseph Raya) – Andrea Leader

CCS-050 The Holy Mysteries: An Introduction (April) (Inexhaustible Delights: God With Us Series) – Rev. Danylo Kuc

CCS-049 Praying with Icons (mid-May to mid-June) (Icons in the Church) – Rev. Bohdan Nahachewsky



**Christ is Born!**

**Kid's Colouring Page**



# December 24th, 2021

## The Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ-Christmas

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### Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-12 (NRSV)

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."

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### Luke 2: 1-10 (NRSV)

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

# December 26th, 2021

## Sunday after the Nativity; Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James, Brother of the Lord; Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God;

*All changeable parts will be on the projected screen. I am only including the Epistle and Gospel here for the sake of those who are reading them.*

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### Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 (NRSV)

*Brothers and Sisters,* for I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus.

Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days; but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother.

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### Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23 (NRSV)

*When the wise men had left,* an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."