



ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

>>WE WELCOME ALL WHO JOIN US TODAY IN WORSHIP!<<

JANUARY 3 - 2016

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY

Holy Prophet Malachi; the Holy Martyr Gordius

Troparia and Kontakia

Troparion: By Your cross You destroyed death; You opened Paradise to the thief; You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy, and charged the apostles to proclaim that You are risen, O Christ our God, offering great mercy to the world.

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

Kontakion: No longer shall the dominion of death be able to hold humanity, for Christ went down shattering and destroying its powers. Hades is bound. The prophets exult with one voice. The Saviour has come for those with faith, saying: "Come forth, O faithful, to the resurrection!"

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Theotokion: O all-praised treasury of our resurrection, we hope in you, bring us up from the pit and depth of sin, for you have saved those subject to sin by giving birth to our Salvation, O Virgin before childbirth, and Virgin in childbirth, and still a Virgin after childbirth.

Prokeimenon

Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

verse: Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence.

Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

Epistle

2 Timothy 4:5-8

Timothy, my son, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on

there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for His appearing.

At the end of the Epistle parents may send their children to the back of the church to get candles for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

verse: God, be merciful to us and bless us.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

verse: Make the light of Your face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, "Behold, I send My messenger before you, who shall prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the desert, 'Make ready the way of the Lord, make straight His paths'", there came John in the desert, baptizing and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea went out to him, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and all were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "One mightier than I is coming after me, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Address

4903 – 45th Street S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T3E 3W5

Office Hours & Telephone:

M-F: 10:30am - 1:00pm
2:00pm - 6:00pm
Closed Statutory Holidays
403-249-4818, press 0

Facsimile:

403 685-9001

For Pastoral Emergencies:

403-249-4818, press 9

Email:

<stephens_office@shaw.ca>

Parish Website:

<protomartyr.eeparchy.com>

Eparchy Website:

<www.edmontoneparchy.com>

DIVINE LITURGIES

Sundays:

8:30am – Ukrainian [chanted]
10:30am – English [choir]
1:00pm – Arabic / English [Melkite]
5:00pm – English [recited]

Weekdays:

8:00am – English
[9:00am – on Statutory Holidays]

Saturdays:

9:00am – English

Feast Days: (subject to change)

9:00am – English
7:00pm – English

HOLY MYSTERIES

Confession:

Sundays and Feast days one-half hour before Divine Liturgies, and by appointment.

Marriage: Arrangements with Fr. Mark.

Baptism-Chrismation-Eucharist: Arrangements with Fr. Bo.

Anointing of the Sick: For emergencies call 403-249-4818, press 9.

Funeral: Arrangements with either Pastor: Fr. Mark or Fr. Bo.

CLERGY and RELIGIOUS

Pastor:

Fr. Mark A. Bayrock
403-249-4818, ext. 201
<frmarkbayrock@mac.com>
<www.sviaschenik.com>

Assistant Pastor:

Fr. Bo (Bohdan) Nahachewsky
403-249-4818, ext. 202
<fr.bo.nahachewsky@gmail.com>

Pastor, St. Basil's Melkite Catholic Church
Fr. Ephrem Kardouh

1-514-223-1664
403-249-4818, ext. 302
<emkardouh@gmail.com>
<www.facebook.com/St-Basils-Melkite-Greek-Catholic-Church-Calgary-1567658193459037/>

Deacons:

Deacon John Doll (retired)
Deacon Richard Nibogie (retired)

Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate:

Sr. Laura Prokop, SSMI
403-230-8171
<ssmicalgary@telus.net>

PARISH OFFICE

Parish Office Administrator
Teri deJonge
403-249-4818, ext. 0
<stephens_office@shaw.ca>

MAINTENANCE

John Kowal
403-249-4818, ext. 207
<stephens_maint@shaw.ca>

HALL RENTAL INQUIRIES

Brett Bernakevitch
Director, Parish Centre Management
403-615-9561
<blebernak@gmail.com>

HALL KITCHEN

403-249-4818, ext. 204



“T

HE HOLY DAY OF THE LIGHTS has for its origin the Baptism of Christ, the True Light that lightens everyone who comes into the world, and effects my purification...” These words, which begin St Gregory the Theologian’s homily “on the Lights,” reflect what was already a well-known custom when he spoke them (AD 381). They also point to the reason why this is an especially appropriate term for this feast of the Theophany.

It has been suggested that the feast was introduced in third century Alexandria, where January 6 was observed by the pagans as the birthday of Aeon, the patron god of the city. By the fourth century it was observed in Jerusalem and it was not long before this feast was kept throughout the East. At first the feast observed the theophanies of God at Christ’s birth, at His baptism and at His first miracle at Cana. Eventually the Western date of December 25 was adopted in the East for the remembrance of the Nativity and January 6 for the theophany at His baptism. To this day, however, the Armenian Church celebrates both manifestations on January 6.

WHY LIGHTS?

One explanation, mentioned in some synaxaria, is offered by Seberian, Bishop of Gavalon. He remarks that in the Church there was great abundance of light on this feast day because the Christians carried lighted candles. The same is mentioned by Ephraim the Syrian in his hymn on the Epiphany (9th verse). The ceremony in Jerusalem, as described by the 4th century pilgrim Egeria began with a procession during the night from Bethlehem to the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem. They enter the church before daybreak “where an exceedingly great number of lights are already burning.”

The theme of light resounds on this feast because light frequently represents the divine in the Scriptures. The most evocative for Christians is found in the Gospel of John where the Lord says “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life” (John 8:12).

St Gregory in his homily links a number of the Scriptural verses on light. “Therefore listen to the Voice of God, which sounds so exceeding clearly to me, who am both disciple and master of these mysteries, as would to God it may sound to you: “I am the Light of the world” [John 8:12] Therefore “approach Him and be enlightened, and let not your faces be ashamed,” [Psalm 33:5, LXX] being signed with the true Light. “This is a season of new birth, let us be born again. It is a time of reformation, let us receive again the first Adam. Let us not remain what we are, but let us become what we once were. “The Light shined in darkness,” [John 1:5] in this life and in the flesh, and is chased by the darkness, but is not overtaken by it: — I mean the adverse power leaping up in its shamelessness against the visible Adam, but encountering God and being

and may then become perfect Light, the children of perfect Light.”

Christ is said to enlighten mankind by what He has revealed to us. First of all, He has shown us God in His own person (“Then Jesus cried out and said, ‘He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness” – John 12:44-46). In Christ we see God as compassionate, long-suffering of our weaknesses and willing to take on our sufferings Himself to restore our likeness to Him.

Christ also enlightens us by showing us – again in His own person – what a human being is. What He taught in words, He also taught by His way of life: “Love one another as I have loved you... the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many... I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life... If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.” He shows us that the way to glory is to empty oneself and take up the cross of the sufferings of others just as He did.

THEOPHANY

The event commemorated on this day, Christ’s baptism in the Jordan, is considered a theophany or manifestation of God for two reasons. First of all, it marked the beginning of the Lord’s public life. He would go from the Jordan to the wilderness and be tempted, then return to begin His public ministry.

Hardly noticed by those present, Christ’s baptism has been the occasion for reflection by Christians throughout the ages. In the thought of the Greek Fathers this event was the occasion of an even more momentous theophany: the New Testament’s first revelation of the Holy Trinity. All three Persons were made manifest together: the Father testified from on high to the divine Sonship of Jesus; the Son received His Father’s testimony; and the Spirit was seen in the form of a dove, descending from the Father and resting upon the Son. This is the theophany recalled in the troparion of the feast: “At Your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was revealed; ...”

<<http://www.royaldoors.net/2013/01/the-lord-manifested-in-the-jordan/>>

It

is interesting to note the Western Church associates Theophany with the visit of the Three Magi or Three “Kings.” As noted in last Sunday’s bulletin, the readings are also different: we take the Prologue of John at Easter, they take it at Christmas. And we’ll be in the time of house blessings after the upcoming feast of Theophany in any case. Perhaps there can be made a good analogy of the Magi visiting Jesus’s birthplace, and Jesus visiting your home (through the presence and blessing imparted by the priest). As in previous years, the blessing of homes is by appointment. You may call or email the PAdres directly. We’d be happy to comply! There is no “expiry date” on house blessings, either, but it does offer an opportunity for a Pastoral Visit and for all parties to get to know each other. It can be a time of prayer and support for issues happening in your life. It can be a simple visit with a sprinkle of water, or a longer visit with a fuller dose of everything. I always pack a clergy case in my trunk ready for any eventuality: cassock, blessed water, Book of Prayers (Euchologion), cross, candles, red epitachelion, anointing oils, icons, holy cards, aspergillis, and lighter for the candles! –Fr MARK

Liturgy Intentions for this week:

Sunday, January 3 – Sunday Before Theophany:

8:30am – in memory for the repose of the soul of +Olga Matkowski

10:30am – 40-day memorial w/ Panakhyda for the repose of the soul of +Noella Ostash

5:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Monday, January 4:

8:00am – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Tuesday, January 5 - Theophany Eve:

6:00pm – Theophany Vespers w/ Water Blessing (in Ukrainian Tradition w/Melkite co-celebration)

Wednesday, January 6 – Feast of Theophany of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ:

9:00am – Festal Divine Liturgy

7:00pm – Festal Divine Liturgy (in Melkite Tradition w/Ukrainian co-celebration)

Thursday, January 7:

8:00am – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Friday, January 8:

8:00am – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Saturday, January 9:

9:00am – for blessings and the needs of Fr. Bo and his family

Sunday, January 10 – Sunday After Theophany / Zacchaeus Sunday:

8:30am – in memory for the repose of the soul of +Walter Gardzilewich

10:30am – for the repose of the soul of +Peter Franko

5:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

**ST. STEPHEN CHARITABLE
COMMITTEES, ACTIVITIES &
ORGANIZATIONS**

Charity Subcommittee: Coordinate and market the efforts of all parish charitable activity.

Contact: Eugene Woychyshyn
587-891-9898;

<eugene.woychyshyn@gmail.com>

Inn From The Cold: Monthly provides food & shelter for Calgary's homeless.

Contact: Ambrose Comchi

403-220-9624; <awc@shaw.ca>

Pass It On: Donates clothing to needy families in Calgary.

Contact: Theresa Lewchuk

403-208-0850; <lewchukt@hotmail.com>

Men's Dinner: Annual major church fundraiser for capital expenses plus Inn From the Cold endeavours.

Contact: Greg Bobyn

403-271-0011; <greg.bobyn@mnpc.ca>

The Helping Others Network:

Distributes used furnishings and clothing to the needy.

Contact: Des Peplinski

403-238-0804; <dlp238@shaw.ca>

Art Committee: discusses religious artwork for parish.

Contact: Jim Ochitwa

<jim.ochitwa@maryngroup.com>

UCWLC: Responds to parish and community needs through volunteerism, pastoral works, Ukrainian culture & aid.

Contact: Stacey Bobyn

403-860-2185

<sbobyn1@telusplanet.net>

Knights of Columbus: Provide financial aid & support for members and their families, and help the sick, needy and disabled in our parish, city and abroad.

Contact: David McMillan


<s.david.mcmillan@gmail.com>





Plus 50 Club: Provides social interaction for parish seniors, promotes Ukrainian cultural events, and raises funds for the parish.

Contact: Ed Tysowski

403-547-3226; <tysow@shaw.ca>

JANUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunday Before Theophany; Holy Prophet Malachi; the Holy Martyr Gordius	The Synaxis of the Seventy Holy apostles; Our Venerable Father Theoctistus, Hegumen of the Cucomo Monastery in Sicily	Theophany Eve; the Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas (284-305); the Venerable Syncletica	The Holy Trinity; Our Saviour
03 SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr. 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng.	04 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Refugee Assistance Committee Meeting	05  6:00 pm Theophany Vespers w/Water Blessing (in Ukrainian Tradition with Melkite co-celebration)	06 FRIDAY 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class
10 SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY / ZACCHAEUS SUNDAY 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr. 9:00 am First Solemn Communion Class 10:00 am Elementary School Catechesis 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. 10:30 am Sunday School 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng.	11 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Bible Study	12 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class	13 SATURDAY 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 6:30 pm Adult Beginner Language Class
17 SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr. 9:00 am First Solemn Communion Class 10:00 am Elementary School Catechesis 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. 10:30 am Sunday School 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng.	18 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am M.A.F.I.A. Play-date 7:00 pm Bible Study	19 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class INN FROM THE COLD	20 INDEPENDENCE DAY 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 6:30 pm Adult Beginner Language Class 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class
24 SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr. 9:00 am First Solemn Communion Class 10:00 am Elementary School Catechesis 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. 10:30 am Sunday School 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng.	25 No Divine Liturgy	26 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 11:00 am Plus 50 Group Luncheon and Meeting 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class	27 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 6:30 pm Adult Beginner Language Class

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Holy Theophany Our Lord, God and our Jesus Christ	Post-feast of Theophany; the Synaxis of the Holy and Glorious Prophet, Forerun- ner and Baptist John	Post-feast of Theophany; Our Venerable Father George the Chosebite (610-41); Our Venerable Mother Dominica (474- 91); and Emilian	Post-feast of Theophany; the Holy Martyr Polyeuctus (249-51)
EAST OF THEOPHANY am Festal Divine Liturgy am Festal Divine Liturgy (in Melkite Tradition with Ukrainian co-celebration)	07 8:00 am Divine Liturgy	08 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 4:00 pm Prospora Preparation 6:30 pm Children of Mary & Altar Servers	09 8:00 am Prospora Baking Group 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am M.A.F.I.A. Executive Meeting & Playdate 5:00 pm Vespers
am Divine Liturgy am Adult Language Class	14 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:30 am Calgary Deanery Meeting 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Meeting 8:00 pm Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree Meeting	15  8:00 am Divine Liturgy 	16 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am M.A.F.I.A. Meeting & Playdate 5:00 pm Vespers
IN FROM THE COLD am Divine Liturgy am Adult Language Class am Property Man- agement Committee Meeting	21 8:00 am Divine Liturgy	22  8:00 am Divine Liturgy 6:30 pm Children of Mary & Altar Servers	23 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Vespers
am Divine Liturgy am Adult Language Class	28 8:00 am Divine Liturgy	29  8:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Youth Event	30 9:00 am Divine Liturgy w/ Sorokousty 5:00 pm Vespers

Prayer & Support Group: Accepts prayer requests for the confidential needs and intentions of parishioners. Contact: Marilyn Comchi 403-220-9624; <marilyncomchi@shaw.ca>

Support Network: Provides support, encouragement & help for parishioners facing various difficulties/situations with referrals to services or help they need. Contact: Marilyn Comchi 403-220-9624 <marilyncomchi@shaw.ca>

International Trust Fund: Solicits & invests donations and disburses earned income to international charities in 2nd and 3rd world countries. Contact: Steve Groch 403-239-4699; <swgctc@aol.com>

Family Support Trust Fund: Solicits & invests donations and disburses earned income to parishioners in need. Contact: Eugene Woychyshyn 587-891-9898; <eugene.woychyshyn@gmail.com>

Calgary Pro-Life Association: Raises funds for educational awareness programs. Contact: John Siroishka 403-271-2128; <johnsiroishka@shaw.ca>

Snowflakes for Zambia: Raises funds to build schools for orphaned/at risk children in developing countries. Contact: Jeanette O'Reilly 403-826-5481 <jhendrickson689@gmail.com>

Parish Library: A great place to borrow great books about our faith. Contact: Olga Kizlyk-Scarpari <ststephens.library@gmail.com>

ARK Store: Looking for the perfect religious item? Check it out at the entrance to our hall. Open most Sunday mornings after Liturgy. Contact: Donna Chelack 403-764-0811 <dchelack@shaw.ca>

Mothers and Fathers in Action

(M.A.F.I.A.): A group for parents and little ones from 'in utero' to Preschool.

Contact: Zenon Berg

<zenonberg@gmail.com>

Sunday School: A program run on most Sundays during the 10:30am Divine Liturgy for preschoolers age 4 through grade 2 children.

Contact: Lynsey Lowey

<lklowey@hotmail.com>

First Solemn Communion (FSC):

Sacramental Classes for children around GRADE 2 who are ready to approach for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist on their own.

Contact: Kathrine Strashok

<kathrine@strashok.com>

Children of Mary & Altar Servers:

Elementary school children who have completed their FSC, are encouraged to get involved by serving at the Altar, learning, playing and growing together.

Contact: Dan Oryschak

<Daniel.Oryschak@gmail.com>

Junior Youth & Senior Youth: This is an active group of Jr. & Sr. High School students who work, play and grow together in Christ.

Contact: Dan Oryschak

<Daniel.Oryschak@gmail.com>

Young Adults: Those aged 18 - 35 are encouraged to gather as a community and learn, embrace and celebrate their faith.

Contact: Dan Oryschak

<Daniel.Oryschak@gmail.com>

Adult Catechism (RCIA): This program is open to Adults and Teens who want to receive the sacraments or just understand the faith.

Contact: Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

<fr.bo.nahachewsky@gmail.com>

Bible Study: On many Mondays we study our faith through Sacred Scripture. Join us.

Contact: Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

<fr.bo.nahachewsky@gmail.com>

LITURGICAL HELP

EPISTLE READERS

8:30am - Vince Letwin

10:30am - Donna Korchinski

5:00pm - Karen Swidzinski

HOSTS/USHERS

8:30am - Vince Letwin & Family

10:30am - Donna Korchinski

ROSARY (10:00am): Craig Pichach

ARK STORE - OPEN: Popel Family

PRAYER & CATECHESIS

Please check the 2016 Theophany Liturgical Schedule on the next page.

GREAT VESPERS: will resume on Saturday, Jan. 9 at 5:00pm. We invite all to join in these beautiful evening prayers.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CATECHESIS CLASS:

Class will resume on Sunday, Jan. 10, 2016.

Sundays from 10:00am - 10:25am in the classroom, for all children grades 2 -6 who have completed their First Solemn Communion.

FIRST SOLEMN COMMUNION: classes will begin on Jan. 10, 2016, at 9:00am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: classes will resume on Sunday, Jan. 10 at 10:30am.

BIBLE STUDY: will resume on Monday, Jan. 11 at 7:00pm.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION COURSE: for all parents who are wanting to have their child (ren) baptised in the coming months, the next course will be on Saturday, Feb. 27, 2016 from 10:00am - 4:00pm. Please register through the parish office <stephens_office@shaw.ca>.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE: for all couples who are planning to be married in 2016 or early 2017 (and hopefully have already spoken with Fr. Mark), the course will take place Friday evening, Feb. 19, Saturday, Feb. 20 and culminating on Sunday, Feb. 21. Please register by emailing the parish office at <stephens_office@shaw.ca>.

PARISH MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

PROSPHORA PREPARATION: on Friday, Jan. 8 and Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016.

M.A.F.I.A. EXECUTIVE MEETING AND PLAY-DATE: on Saturday, Jan. 9 at 10:00am.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING: will be on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 7:00pm.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4th DEGREE MEETING: will be on Thursday, Jan. 14 at 7:00pm.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 3rd DEGREE MEETING: will be on Thursday, Jan. 14 at 8:00pm.

PARISH EVENTS & NOTICES

2016 LITURGICAL CALENDARS: are available in the parish atrium. Free to each family, this year they are sponsored by Leyden's Funeral Home, Calgary.

2016 PARISHIONER DONATION ENVELOPES: are available for pick-up in the atrium, for both registered weekly and PAD donors (in alphabetical order). If you do not have an assigned number, please pick up a set of unassigned envelopes, complete a parishioner registration form for either a full set or the PAD special envelopes only (#500s) and place it in the envelope provided.

Please do not take individual envelopes out of the numbered sets if you are not registering that set number to yourself or family. There are general (unnumbered) envelopes available for non-registered donors.

We ask that the parishioner who is using envelope #564 please contact the parish office and provide their name and contact information details. Thank you.

UCWLC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2016:

The fee is \$25.00 for both new members and renewals. The fee can be paid in the atrium after any Sunday Divine Liturgy in January. If you have plans to be away please pay your dues before leaving. This would be greatly appreciated. Thank you ladies for the renewals and welcome to the new members.

BLESSING OF HOMES

This will commence after the Theophany Water blessing service on Jan 5th. Every priest has their own style and ritual for a blessing of a home; but the essence is the same - to dedicate the family and dwelling into a living temple for the Lord.

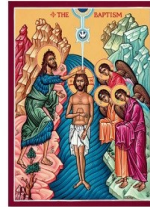




THEOPHANY DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE 2016



Sunday, Jan. 3: Sunday Before Theophany	8:30am	Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)
	10:30am	Divine Liturgy (with Choir)
	5:00pm	Divine Liturgy (Spoken English)
Monday, Jan. 4	8:00am	Divine Liturgy
Tuesday, Jan. 5	6:00pm	Theophany Vespers w/Water Blessing (in Ukrainian Tradition with Melkite co-celebration)
Wednesday, Jan. 6: Feast of Theophany	9:00am	Festal Divine Liturgy
	7:00pm	Festal Divine Liturgy (in Melkite Tradition with Ukrainian co-celebration)



*To the parents of our young children
may we suggest...*

*Relax! God put the wiggle in children;
don't feel you have to suppress it in
God's house. But do prevent them from
kicking people in the pews.*

*Sit towards the front where it is easier to
see and hear.*

*Quietly explain the parts of the Liturgy
to your children.*

*Sing the hymns, pray and voice the re-
sponses. Children learn liturgical
behaviours by copying you.*

*If you need to leave Liturgy with your
child, please feel free to do so, but
please come back. You can also take
advantage of the "cry room".*

*Remember that the way we welcome
children in church directly affects the
way they respond to Church, to God and
to Christ. Let them know that they are
at home in this sacred space.*

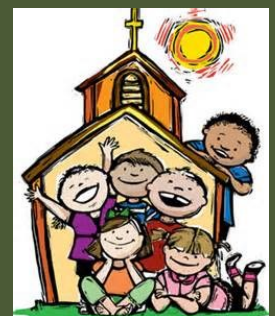
*We love pew art! Please use the blank
papers and colouring sheets provided in
the "cry room" (not pew envelopes) for
your child to draw us some
beautiful art. We can hang them on our
parish bulletin boards for all to enjoy.*

Do your best to attend Liturgy on time.

*In fact we'd love it if you would come up
to the priests before service and give
them a "high five". When kids know the
priest they feel more
comfortable.*

To the members of our parish...

*A smile of encouragement is always
welcome to parents with small, active
children.*



PARISH SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN REFUGEE FAMILY

On the night of Tuesday, Dec. 22nd, our Parish welcomed the Oubed family - Samer, Katrin, and their sons George (10) and John (8) - to Calgary. They arrived via Jordan and Toronto along with several other families, tired but full of joy. We are blessed and grateful that Bill and Marilyn Kennedy and Ron and Olga Ruff volunteered to host the Oubeds in their homes over the holiday season.

We have rented an apartment for the family near the Parish and plan to move the Oubeds approximately January 9, 2016, if possible.

We need volunteers to help organise household goods, furniture, clothing, personal items, food, moving, technology. We are also looking for donations in these areas. Please sign up on the sheets in the atrium to volunteer or donate goods.

For more information, please contact:

David Franko <d_franko@telus.net>
Don Zarsky <don.zarsky@telus.net>



Friday, January 15, 2016

**Cocktails: 6:00pm
Dinner: 7:00pm**

**Tickets: \$65.00/Person or
Reservations only for tables
of 8 or 10: \$520/\$650
Music by ABSOLUT**

**Time is running out to get your
Malanka tickets and ensure
your seat at the table and spot
on the dance floor.**

**To reserve your tickets for
a delicious meal and
a fun evening call:**

Ed T. 403-547-3226 or
Harry K. 403-238-1774 or
Ed D. 403-239-0871

Sponsored by St. Stephen's
Plus 50 Group.

At St. Stephen Protomartyr we know that we are not perfect, but we strive to grow closer to God in all that we do.

Our faith is Christ-Centered, saturated with sacred scripture, holy Tradition, authentic, profound, and ancient - yet completely relevant.

As a community we understand that we must know, love and serve God and all people in order to become balanced and complete. This call to profound personal intimacy is beautiful and real; both solemn and joyful at the same time.

What's a Byzantine - Ukrainian Catholic Church?

Byzantine Christians are those whose traditions, theology and spirituality flow from the early Church in the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Most Eastern Christians are commonly called Orthodox.

Byzantine Catholics are those who proudly maintain their rich Eastern (Orthodox) liturgical, spiritual and theological ways, and yet are in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church. We recognize the leadership of the Pope of Rome, but are not ourselves Roman Catholic.

Our liturgical life is rich with meaning and actions, that speak to our whole beings. Much of our worship remains unchanged from that of our Fathers and Mothers of the early centuries of Christianity.

At St. Stephen Protomartyr, ALL PEOPLE ARE WELCOME who wish to live a Christian and Catholic way of life, regardless of their ethnic, economic, history or any other backgrounds. We are part of God's Holy Church, here to joyfully lead the life taught by the Risen Christ, reaching out with love and proclaiming His word to all people for the glory of God.

If you are spiritually hungry, and if you are looking for a vibrant community to grow with, we welcome you to check us out at <protomartyr.ca> or visit us in person. We look forward to getting to know you.

Congratulations are in order to the servant of God, Michael Bombak, who was ordained to the Holy Priesthood or Presbyterate, for the Eparchy of Edmonton, with the laying on of hands by Bishop David Motiuk!

This sacramental event took place two days ago, January 1st 2016 at the Cathedral Church of St Josaphat's in Edmonton, Alberta.

Fr Michael completed his theological training at Holy Spirit Seminary in Ottawa, and finished his internship year at St Josaphat's Cathedral under the guidance of Fr Peter Babej.

It is interesting to note he was Baptized, Chrismated, Ordained a Deacon, Married, and Ordained a Priest at the same Cathedral Church!

At the Ordination service, three of our most experienced altar servers who travelled with me were given special jobs. Connor Chelack (red bow tie) and Matthew Franko (grey shirt) held the Processional Repedia (circular icons mounted on a pole). Jack Maleski (far right) was the kadylo-man. He made sure it was always lit and ready with fresh charcoal! I am very proud of the way our boys caught on real fast and served with great enthusiasm, given it was their first time in a new church and new liturgical ritual. I know Fr Peter, Rector of the Cathedral, was very happy to see them (commenting on their respective heights!). Thank you to Darrell Maleski for driving.

And yes—Fr Rendy now wears glasses!

Mnohaya Lita to Michael and Family!!!!

-Fr Mark

