

ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

MARCH 13 - 2016

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

**Our Venerable Mother, Mary of Egypt; The Transfer of the Relics of Our Holy Father Nicephorus,
Patriarch of Constantinople (847)**

Troparia and Kontakia

Troparion: Though the stone was sealed by the Judeans, and soldiers guarded Your most pure body, You arose, O Saviour, on the third day, and gave life to the world. And so the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of Life: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your kingdom! Glory to Your saving plan, O only Lover of mankind.

Troparion: The divine image was faithfully preserved in you, O mother, for taking up the Cross, you followed Christ. By your deeds you have taught us to see beyond the flesh, which passes, and care for the soul, a thing immortal. And so, O venerable Mary, your spirit rejoices with the angels.

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

Kontakion: Once you were filled with every impurity, now through repentance you have been revealed as a bride of Christ, following the angelic life, you crushed demons with the weapon of the Cross. Therefore, O glorious Mary, you have been shown to be a bride of the kingdom.

Prokeimenon

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You. God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise befits the righteous.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You. God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Epistle

Hebrews 9:11-14

Brothers and Sisters, when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have

come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

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 gives me vindication, and has subdued people under me.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

verse: Making great the salvation of the king, and showing mercy to His anointed, to David, and to His posterity forever.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 10:32-45

At that time Jesus took the Twelve, and began to tell them what would happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the Scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, and will deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge him and spit upon him, and put Him to death; and on the third day he will rise again." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Master, we want you to do for us whatever we ask." But He said to them, "What do you want me to do



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

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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

for you?" They said, "Grant to us that we may sit, one at your right hand and the other at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink of the cup of which I drink, or be baptized with the baptism with which I am to be baptized?" And they said to Him, "We can." And Jesus said to them, "Of the cup that I drink, you shall drink; and with the baptism with which I am to be baptized, you shall be baptized; but as for sitting at my right hand or at my left, that is not mine to give, but it belongs to those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard this, they were at first indignant at James and John. But Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers among the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it is not so among you. On the contrary, whoever wishes to become great shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first

among you shall be the slave of all; for the Son of Man also has not come to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Hymn to the Mother of God

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

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. The just man shall be in everlasting remembrance; of evil hearsay he shall have no fear. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Two Sundays ago, Third Sunday of Lent church bulletin, I included a news story about our Patriarch Sviatoslav titled "Head of Ukrainian Catholic Church Skeptical of Papal-Orthodox Declaration. That story was dated exactly one month ago. I am including today the response from Pope Francis, dated one week ago, and an amazing response from Orthodox Church leaders dated three days ago. Things are moving very fast in the religious-political world. We are witnessing in real-time an amazing testimony of faith and fellowship amongst these church that has not existed for centuries. I feel very strongly about getting the positive message out to our parishioners.

POPE FRANCIS RECEIVES MEMBERS OF THE GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH OF UKRAINE IN THE VATICAN - 06/03/2016 16:24 (VATICAN RADIO)

Pope Francis has written a letter of thanks and gratitude to His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, Major Archbishop of Kiev and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. The Archbishop, together with other members of the Permanent Synod of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church have been meeting in Rome and released a statement in which they affirmed communion with the Catholic Church. They were received in audience by the Pope on Saturday. In his letter to Archbishop Shevchuk, Pope Francis recalls that some seventy years ago, a particular ideological and political context, as well as the existence of "ideas that were contrary to the very existence of your Church, led to the organization of a pseudo-synod in Lviv, and caused decades of suffering for the pastors and the faithful". "In sad memory of these events, he writes, we bow our heads in deep gratitude before those, who at the cost of suffering and even martyrdom, continued to witness the faith in the course of time and to show dedication to the Church in union with the Successor of Peter".



At the same time, Pope Francis continues, “with eyes lit by the same faith, we look to the Lord Jesus Christ, to place in him, and not in human justice, all of our hope”. “He is the true source of our trust in the present and in the future, as we are called to announce the Gospel also in the midst of suffering or difficulties” he says. And the Pope goes on to express deep gratitude for the loyalty of Ukrainian Greek-Catholics and encourages them to be “tireless witnesses of that hope which makes our existence and the existence of all of our brothers and sisters more luminous”. Pope Francis also renewed his feelings of solidarity with the pastors and faithful for all they do in these difficult times “marked by the hardships of war, to alleviate the suffering of the population and to seek the ways of peace for the beloved Ukrainian land”. “In the Lord, he concludes, is our courage and our joy. It is to Him that I speak, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the martyrs of your Church, so that the divine consolation may illuminate your communities in Ukraine and other parts of the world”.

A LEAP OF FAITH: UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS AND ORTHODOX IN UNITY

<SPEROFORUM.COM>

The history of relations between the Vatican, wherein is the Holy See of St Peter, and the various Orthodox churches has long been fraught with misunderstandings, disputes, and even violence. There were several brief periods of reunion of the Catholic Church with the Orthodox churches, following the schism of one thousand years ago. But complete communion has proved to be apparently impossible.

The Russian Revolution of one hundred years ago was followed by the murder of thousands of Orthodox and Catholic priests and religious in the Soviet Union. Some clergy were coopted by the Communists to secular, political purposes during the inter-war period. Religion was suppressed and believers persecuted, Catholic and Orthodox. In the Soviet Union, and those countries such as Ukraine that fell under the Soviet system in the aftermath of the Second World War, relations between the Catholic Church and Orthodox churches, especially those in Russia and Ukraine, were especially strained. Monasteries, seminaries, and churches of the Catholic Church were seized by Communist authorities. Some were simply closed, and others were given over to secular purposes. Some were turned over to the Orthodox churches.

But in Ukraine, where the Ukrainians' pride in their nationhood remained strong, a spirit of cooperation and charity grew during those years between the Catholic Church and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church, and the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in communion with the Holy See, grew in a spirit of shared struggle against atheistic Communism, and its subversion of the Russian Orthodox Church present in Ukraine.

The events of the last few years, in which Russia invaded the Crimean region of Ukraine and has continued to provide aid to Russian and Ukrainian partisans fighting against Ukrainian authorities in the eastern part of the country, has sparked even more change. When Ukrainians assembled in Maidan Square in Kiev, the capital city, to protest against their president's pro-Russian anti-Democratic policies, it was especially these two churches that came together to show solidarity with all Ukrainians. Church buildings were given over to be used as emergency clinics. Surgeries were performed and lives saved before the altars and iconostases in the beautiful churches of Kiev. Ukrainians, irrespective of Catholic or Orthodox or secular identity, were given aid by priests and religious. Priests of the Catholic and Orthodox churches risked their lives by coming out to into the streets and calling for peace and solidarity. The images of priests bearing holy icons and crucifixes, sometimes under fire, are indelible in the collective memory of the Ukrainian people. *[continued on page seven]*

Liturgy Intentions for this week:

Sunday, March 13 – Fifth Sunday of Lent:

8:30am – for congratulations and blessings for Fr. Bo for his ordination anniversary

10:30am – in memory for the repose of the soul of +Jeffery Sakundiak

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

Monday, March 14:

6:00pm – for the health and recovery of Ken Wawruch

Tuesday, March 15:

6:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Wednesday, March 16:

6:00pm – for the return to full health for Earle Kowalewich

Thursday, March 17:

6:00pm – for the well-being and personal needs of William and Nancy Gnyra

Friday, March 18:

6:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Saturday, March 19:

9:00am – for the repose of the souls of +Brent and +Andrew (Plishka)

Sunday, March 20 – Willow/Palm Sunday:

8:30am – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

10:30am – for blessings, guidance and joy for the First Solemn communicants and their families

5:00pm – for peace, comfort and healing for Larry and Gladys Plishka

**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>

MARCH / APRIL 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast; Our Venerable Mother, Mary of Egypt; The Transfer of the Relics of Our Holy Father Nicephorus, Patriarch of Constantinople (847)	Our Venerable Father Benedict of Nursia (547)	The Holy Martyr Agapius and the Six Martyrs with Him (284-305)	The Holy Martyr Agapius and the Six Martyrs with Him (284-305)
13 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 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. ADULT LENTEN ICON WORKSHOP Noon - 9pm	14 9:00 am Icon Open Studio 10:00 am M.A.F.I.A. Play-date 6:00 pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00 pm Bible Study	15 6:00 pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class	16 BABY 1:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:15 pm 7:15 pm
20 WILLOW/PALM SUNDAY 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr. 10:00 am Elementary School Catechesis 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. with First Solemn Communion 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng. EASTER BAKE SALE	21  6:00 pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	22  6:00 pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class	23 H 6:00 pm 7:30 pm
27 HOLY PASCHA /EASTER SUNDAY 8:00 am Resurrectional Matins & Divine Liturgy: Eng./Ukr. 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng.	28 BRIGHT MONDAY 9:00 am Divine Liturgy	29 BRIGHT TUESDAY 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 11:00 am Plus 50 Lunch & Meeting 1:00 pm Pass it On Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class	30 B 9:00 am 1:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm
03 THOMAS SUNDAY 8:00 am Resurrectional Matins & Divine Liturgy: Eng./Ukr. 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng.	04 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 9:00 am Icon Open Studio 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting	05 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Adult Beginner Language Class	06 8:00 am 1:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Holy Martyrs Sabinus and Justus (284-305)	Our Venerable Father Alexius, Man of God	Our Holy Father Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem (386)	Lazarus Saturday; The Holy Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria (253-60)
 KA WORKBEE 7-3 am LightWeigh Program am Pre-Sanct. Lit. am Adult Language Class am Religious Ed. Director's Meeting am Choir Practice am Property Management Committee Meeting	17 10:30 am Calgary Deanery Meeting 6:00 pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	18  10:00 am Divine Liturgy at Westview 6:00 pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 7:15 pm Youth Director's "Town Hall" Meeting	19 LAZARUS SATURDAY 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 9:00 am First Solemn Confessions 10:00 am UCWLC Easter Bag Preparation 11:30 am FSC Luncheon 5:00 pm Vespers SET-UP FOR EASTER BAKE SALE
 HOLY WEDNESDAY am Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and Anointing of the Sick am Choir Practice	 24 HOLY THURSDAY 9:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 6:00 pm Confessions 7:00 pm Twelve Gospels of the Passion of Christ 8:30 pm Confessions	 25 GOOD FRIDAY & FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION 9:00 am Festal Divine Liturgy: Annunciation 1:00 pm Veneration of the Holy Shroud 7:00 pm Jerusalem Matins 8:00 pm Vigil at the Tomb	 26 HOLY SATURDAY 2:00 pm Paska Blessing in Hall 3:00 pm Vespers w/Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 5:30 pm Paska Blessing in Hall 6:00 pm Nadhrobne Service by the Tomb
BRIGHT WEDNESDAY am Divine Liturgy am LightWeigh Program am Adult Language Class am Choir Practice	31 BRIGHT THURSDAY 9:00 am Divine Liturgy	01 BRIGHT FRIDAY 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Parish Games Night	02 BRIGHT SATURDAY 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Vespers
am Divine Liturgy am LightWeigh Program am Adult Language Class am Choir Practice	07 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree Meeting 7:00 pm UCWLC General Meeting	08 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Youth Meeting	09 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 5:00 pm Vespers CHOIR RECORDING OF DIVINE LITURGY (PT. 1) 

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 - K of C 4th Degree

10:30am - K of C 4th Degree

5:00pm - K of C 4th Degree

HOSTS/USHERS

8:30am - K of C 4th Degree

10:30am - K of C 4th Degree

ROSARY (10:00am): K of C 4th Degree

ARK STORE - OPEN: Lewchuk Family

PRAYER & CATECHESIS

FIRST SOLEMN COMMUNION: classes today, at 9:00am in the Knights room. Please keep all of the children and instructors in your prayers as they prepare for First Solemn Confession and Communion next weekend.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: at 10:30am in the classrooms.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CATECHESIS CLASS: from 10:00am - 10:25am in the boardroom.

BIBLE STUDY: next session on Monday, Mar. 14 at 7:00pm in the hall. Everyone is welcome!

GREAT VESPERS: next on Saturday, Mar. 19 at 5:00pm. We invite all to join in these beautiful evening prayers.

HOLY WEEK AND HOLY PASCHA LITURGICAL SCHEDULE: Please check the calendar for this year's services as some have changed from previous years.

PARISH MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

M.A.F.I.A. PLAYDATE: on Monday, Mar. 14 at 10:00am in the Hall.

ADULT BEGINNER LANGUAGE CLASS: on Tuesday, Mar. 15 at 7:00pm in the boardroom.

BABKA WORKBEE : on Wednesday, Mar. 16 beginning at 7am - 3:00pm. All hands needed for this second "boot camp" in preparation for the Easter demand. Contact Carolyn Sclanders at for more information.

LIGHTWEIGH PROGRAM: on Wednesday, Mar. 16 at 1:00pm in the boardroom.

CHOIR PRACTICE: on Wednesday, Mar. 16 at 7:15pm (following Pre-Sanctified Liturgy).

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTORATE MEETING: on Wednesday, Mar. 16 at 7:15pm

in the Hall (following Pre-Sanctified Liturgy).

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING: on Wednesday, Mar. 16 at 7:15pm in the Knights room (following Pre-Sanctified Liturgy).

UCWLC EASTER BAG PREPARATION

COMMITTEE: on Saturday, Mar. 19 at 10:00am in the boardroom.

LITURGICAL DIRECTORATE MEETING: on Monday, Mar. 21 at 9:00am in the boardroom.

PARISH NOTICES

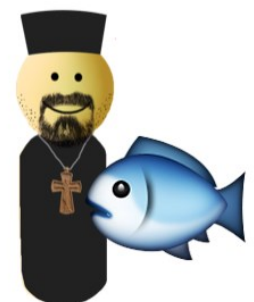
NEW SECURITY SYSTEM: has being installed for our church facilities. All former active access cards will no longer work. A review of current holders is underway and those previously authorised are asked to submit a request to receive a new card indicating the rationale for why they require one. For further information, please contact: Facilities Director Pierre Loczy, Fr. Mark or Fr. Bo.

REMINDER: all bulletin announcement requests should be emailed to the parish office by Wednesday noon latest for review for the next Sunday publication.

PARISH EVENTS

UCWLC EASTER BAKE SALE: will take place on Sunday, Mar. 20. There are limited vendor tables available to rent. Call Margaret Mandryk at 403-242-5780 to book.

Fasting is an important Lenten practice, but it is also commonly misunderstood. I invite you to check out healthy and positive attitudes towards fasting by checking out the bulletin board in the entrance of the church, and also by taking a "Lenten Fasting 101" booklet for yourself.



The people have rediscovered their identity as Christians and renewed their Christian faith through solidarity in the face of hatred. In the spirit of unity and solidarity, a signal development has occurred that should give hope to all Christians that unity among all those who confess the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Saviour of the world, is possible. In asking pardon, Orthodox Christians show the richness of a faith that teaches and embraces mercy. When anyone grants pardon, he himself is pardoned. All is possible through Jesus Christ. Glory to Him forever! Amen.

Below is a statement signed by a group of Orthodox Christians in which they ask pardon of Ukrainian Catholics:

It is urgent for Orthodox Christians to recognize the terrible truth of March 10, 1946

On March 10, 1946, at Lviv, the Orthodox Church of Russia, under pressure from the Soviet government, forcefully integrated the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and claimed jurisdiction over it. When the participants in the synod on March 8 and 9, voted for the "reunification" of their Church with the Patriarchate of Moscow, all the Ukrainian Greek Catholic bishops were behind bars in prisons. The 216 priests and 19 laymen, assembled in the Cathedral of Saint George in Lviv by the NKVD, the ancestor of the KGB, were at the mercy of a "group of initiative" led by two Orthodox bishops, Antony Pelvetsky and Myhailo Melnyk, and an orthodox priest Gavril Kostelnyk. The archives reveal that it was Stalin himself who decided to eliminate the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in February 1945, twelve days after the Conference of Yalta with Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

All serious historians and theologians have no doubts that the 8-10 March 1946 synod of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church at Lviv was only a sham. Bohdan Bociurkiw, who was a professor of history at Carleton University in Ottawa, wrote a comprehensive survey on this matter and it has never been contradicted[1]. Pope Benedict XVI spoke of it in 2006, referring to it as a "pseudo-synod" which "seriously harmed Church unity[2]". Nicolas Lossky, a French Orthodox theologian who is a member of the Patriarchate of Moscow, also recognized that this was a false synod.[3] Because of its suppression in 1946 and until 1989, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, which counted more than 5 million adherents, became, in fact, both the principle victim and the principle force of opposition, within the borders of the USSR, to the Soviet regime.[4] Thus we make an appeal to the present day Orthodox authorities in Russia and Ukraine and elsewhere, to recognize the invalidity of the tragic decisions of the council of Lviv.

The Orthodox Church of Russia as a whole cannot be held responsible for decisions taken by ecclesiastical authorities who were manipulated or terrorized by the NKVD-KGB. However we, as Orthodox Christians, living 70 years after the events, feel responsible for the culpable silence surrounding the destruction of this Church by the Soviet regime with the participation of the Patriarchate of Moscow. We know that millions of Orthodox Christians in the world firmly condemn the anti-religious persecutions of the Soviet government and of Joseph Djougachvili in particular.

Thus, on this commemorative day of March 10 1946 and on the eve of Sunday, March 13 2016, Sunday of the Great Pardon in the Orthodox liturgical calendar, we assure the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church of our solidarity, of our prayers for all the innocent victims of this Church who were imprisoned, tortured, deported and assassinated by the Soviet government with the complicity of the Patriarchate of Moscow. We humbly ask their pardon for all the injustices they have suffered under the cover of the Orthodox Church and we bow down before the martyrs of this Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. ***[names of Orthodox clergy signing available on website].***

*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.*



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.



2016 EASTER PASCHAL SCHEDULE

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; O Lord, cleanse us of our sins; O Master, forgive our transgressions; O Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

**PALM/WILLOW SUNDAY,
MARCH 20**

Regular Sunday Divine Liturgy Schedule with
Blessing of Pussy Willows at all Liturgies
10:30am – with First Solemn Communion celebrants

MONDAY, MARCH 21

6:00pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

6:00pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

HOLY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

6:00pm Anointing of the Sick

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 24

9:00am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
6:00pm Confessions
7:00pm Twelve Gospels of the Passion of our Lord
8:30pm Confessions

**GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25
FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION**

9:00am Festal Divine Liturgy of the Annunciation
1:00pm Vespers with Veneration of the Holy Shroud (Plaschanitsia)
7:00pm Jerusalem Matins
8:00pm Vigil at the Tomb

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 26

2:00pm Blessing of Paska (in the Hall)
3:00pm Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil / Adult Baptism
5:30pm Blessing of Paska (in the Hall)
6:00pm Nadhrobne Service by the Tomb

**HOLY PASCHA, MARCH 27
EASTER SUNDAY**

8:00am Resurrection Matins with Divine Liturgy
10:30am Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
No 5:00pm Divine Liturgy

BRIGHT MONDAY, MARCH 28

9:00am Divine Liturgy

BRIGHT TUESDAY, MARCH 29

9:00am Divine Liturgy

BRIGHT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

9:00am Divine Liturgy

BRIGHT THURSDAY, MARCH 31

9:00am Divine Liturgy

BRIGHT FRIDAY, APRIL 1

9:00am Divine Liturgy

BRIGHT SATURDAY, APRIL 2

9:00am Divine Liturgy
5:00pm Great Vespers

SATURDAY, MAY 28 (tentative)

Blessing of Graves

*Fr. Mark and Fr. Bo prayerfully extend to all Parishioners and their Families
the Joys and Blessings that flow from
the Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ!*