



SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

Our Venerable Father George the Chosebite (610-41); Our Venerable Mother Dominica (474-91); and Emilian the Confessor

Address:

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

Office Hours:

Mon—Thurs: 8:30am - 4:00pm
Friday: Closed
Saturday: 8:30 am—4:00pm
Sunday: Open btwn Liturgies
Closed Statutory Holidays

Telephone:

403-249-4818, press 0

Facsimile:

403 685-9001

For Pastoral Emergencies:

403-249-4818, press 9

Email:

Office@Protomartyr.ca

Parish Website:

www.saintstephencalgary.ca

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 & incense free]

Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat

9:00am – English

Fridays:

Antiphon 1

When Israel came forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from an alien people.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.*

Judah became His sanctuary, Israel His dominion.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.*

The sea beheld this and fled,* the Jordan turned back on its course.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.*

Why was it, O sea, that you fled,* that you, O Jordan, turned back on your course?

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.*

Glory... Now... Only-Begotten Son...

Antiphon 3

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Saviour.

Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.

Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Entrance

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.

Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

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: When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,* worship of the Trinity was revealed;* the voice of the Father bore witness to You,* naming You the beloved Son,* and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the word's certainty.* Glory to You, O Christ God,* who appeared and enlightened the world.

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

Kontakion: Today, You have appeared to the world* and Your light, O Lord, has been signed on us,* who with knowledge sing Your praises.* You have come, You have appeared, O unapproachable Light.

Prokeimenon

Marriage: Arrangements with Fr. Bo.

Baptism-Chrismation-Eucharist:

Arrangements with Fr. Bo.

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

Funeral: Arrangements with Fr. Bo.

CLERGY and RELIGIOUS

Priest and Administrator:

Fr. Bo (Bohdan) Nahachewsky

403-249-4818, ext. 202

<FatherBo@Protomartyr.ca>

Deacon and Intern:

Dcn. Andrij Nykyforuk

403-249-4818, ext 203

<DeaconAndrij@Protomartyr.ca>

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/>

Pastor (on sabbatical):

Fr. Mark A. Bayrock

1-403-973-4120

<mabayrock.iphone@gmail.com>

PARISH OFFICE

Office Administrator: Linda Buck

Sacramental Coordinator: Violet Bird

403-249-4818, ext. 0

<office@Protomartyr.ca>

MAINTENANCE

John Kowal

403-249-4818, ext. 207

<maintenance@Protomartyr.ca>

HALL RENTAL INQUIRIES

Brett Bernakevitch

...gave gifts to his people." (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

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: Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing for ever; from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my mouth.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

verse: For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 4:12-17

At that time when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been

death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Hymn to the Mother of God

O my soul, magnify Christ the King, baptized in the Jordan.

and the Irmos: Every tongue is at a loss to praise you as is your due, O Mother of God. Even a spirit from above is filled with dizziness when seeking to sing your praises. But since you are good accept our faith, for you know well our love inspired by God. For it is you who protect all Christians; therefore, we magnify you.

Communion Hymn

The grace of God has appeared* bringing salvation to all. (Titus 2:11)* Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.*

Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

Instead of "Blessed is He who comes..." we sing:

All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is baptized in the Jordan.

Instead of "We have seen the true light..." we sing:

All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is baptized in the Jordan.

Instead of "May our mouths..." and "Blessed be the Name..." we sing:

All creation is filled with rejoicing today, for Christ is baptized in the Jordan. (3)



Making Our Parish Bloom

Knowing our Mission / Defining our Vision / Developing our
Action Plan / Becoming a More Vibrant Parish

Jan 16th, 2017 6:30pm
Supper and Program

For PPC Members, 50th Anniversary Committee, Invited guests, and
any parishioners who are wanting to help move our parish forward

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS... CHRISTMAS CAROLLING 2017



WHY CAROL? On Sunday January 1st 13 choir members started the afternoon ringing in the New Year by carolling for parishioners and friends. We began our journey with a “pep talk” from Linda who made us feel very good about using our voices to bring Christ into the hearts of the people we would touch. Carolling has been an unbroken tradition at St. Stephen’s for 35 years. “Peter 3”, our affectionate name for our bus driver, was not able to celebrate Christmas with his family, and this would become his Christmas celebration.

First stop Cedar’s Senior Facility where we were welcomed by the Sachkiw family. Orest is a resident and it warmed our hearts to see him. Orest and Pauline have been members of St. Stephen’s for a very long time and are FAMILY. We were reeted by Pauline, her children and grandchildren. One of the grandchildren, Katie, sang Silent Night for her Gido in her angelic voice. It was so rewarding to see the tears it brought to her father’s eyes and to hear Orest tell Ron (his son) how very good Katie sings. Linda had the choir sing “Canon of Praise” and it was amazing that the 2 boys that were with us were able to carry their parts so beautifully.



Pauline joined the choir as we headed to the Providence Senior Facility. We were met by Vicky Burgess who used to be a

biggest surprise came when Linda played “In the Mood” and one very dapper gentleman danced with Dianna Rygiel. It was wonderful to see the joy and spirit in this man. Dianna (a long time member of the pastoral care team), follows her own personal mantra “we cannot forget the seniors” by faithfully, daily keeping in touch with former St. Stephen’s parishioners who can no longer attend services. Vicky was overjoyed to have us and shared that she prayed all year for the carollers to visit her seniors. Her Christmas prayer came true.

Randy (Dudar) joined us here and our numbers grew to 15 as we headed to Father Lacombe Senior’s home. We sang in Ukrainian, English and Spanish. More surprises came when we were asked to sing in German. This was a big ask ... but the Holy Spirit was working as one of our carollers sang “O Tannenbaum” for the resident. Singing carols in the language the residents spoke in their childhood brought back beautiful memories. Who knew our repertoire could be expanded JUST LIKE THAT! We ended our time here in the chapel where we held hands and sang the Our Father for the residents and others. Powerful indeed!

Back on the bus we headed for the Lewchuk home – a yearly tradition. Among the many family, friends and parishioners there were four Babas whose ages totalled 360 plus years. It was wonderful to watch the daughters caring for their mothers. Here we reconnected with people we don’t often get a chance to visit. Peter 3, our bus driver felt welcomed as he joined in the traditional festivities and appreciated it immensely. Our last stop was the Sarcee Seniors facility at the arrangement and request of Helen Martin. Many residents joined in the singing and waved goodbye as we headed back to the church.

The evening was not over yet as it has become tradition to gather at one of the choir member’s home. Special thanks to Flo Volco for her incredible hospitality. Thanks also to the women’s league who helped to feed us. After this warm meal, a glass of wine and desert the carollers shared memories and we agreed that this experience was the best gift we could give to others at Christmas. It was also the best gift we could give ourselves ... peace, love and happiness ... and each other.

Please consider joining us next year, we’d love to have you!
Hrestos Rodevysa!



and market the efforts of all parish charitable activity.

Contact: Eugene Woychyshyn
587-891-9898;

<eugene.woychyshyn@gmail.com>

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: Earle Kowalewich at
403-831-5503, <earlekoko@shaw.ca>

Plus 50 Club: Provides social interaction for parish seniors, promotes

JANUARY 8

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

- ♦ 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr.
- ♦ 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- ♦ 10:30 am BAPTISM
- ♦ 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng.

9

- ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 10:00 am Open Iconography Studio
- ♦ 6:00 pm Newman College Course
- ♦ 7:00 pm Bible Study

10

- ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 1:00 pm Newman College Course
- ♦ 6:30 pm Ukrainian Language Class
- ♦ 7:00 pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
- ♦ 7:45 pm Ukrainian Language Class

11

- ♦ 1
- ♦ 7
- l

15

- ♦ 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr.
- ♦ 9:30 am First Solemn Communion Class
- ♦ 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. With Sunday School
- ♦ 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng.

SANDWICHES FOR THE DROP IN CENTRE

16

- ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 10:00 am Open Iconography Studio
- ♦ 6:30 pm Parish Visioning



17

- ♦ 7:00 am Perogy Workbee
- ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 1:00 pm Newman College Course
- ♦ 6:00 pm Possible Art Committee Meeting
- ♦ 6:30 pm Ukrainian Language Class
- ♦ 7:45 pm Ukrainian Language Class

18

- ♦ 1
- ♦ 5
- ♦ 1
- ♦ 7
- ♦ 7
- l

22

- ♦ 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr.
- ♦ 9:30 am First Solemn Communion Class
- ♦ 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. With Sunday School
- ♦ 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 4:00 pm CHRISMATION
- ♦ 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng.

23

- ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 10:00 am Open Iconography Studio
- ♦ 6:00 pm Newman College Course
- ♦ 7:00 pm Bible Study

24

- ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 1:00 pm Newman College Course
- ♦ 6:30 pm Ukrainian Language Class
- ♦ 7:45 pm Ukrainian Language Class

25

- ♦ 1
- ♦ 7
- ♦ 1
- ♦ 7
- l

29

- ♦ 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukr.
- ♦ **NO FIRST SOLEMN COMMUNION CLASS**
- ♦ 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- ♦ **BOOK OF LIFE CEREMONY**
- ♦ 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: Eng.

30

- ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 10:00 am Open Iconography Studio
- ♦ 6:00 pm Newman College Course
- ♦ 7:00 pm Bible Study

31

- ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
- ♦ 11:00 am Plus 50 Meeting
- ♦ 1:00 pm Newman College Course
- ♦ 1:00 Regnum Christi
- ♦ 6:30 pm Ukrainian Language Class
- ♦ 7:45 Ukrainian Language Class

FEI

- ♦ 1
- ♦ 7
- ♦ 1
- ♦ 7
- ♦ 7
- l

No Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Ukrainian Language Class	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy Set up for Malanka 11:00 am FUNERAL 12:00 pm FUNERAL RECEPTION 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus 4th degree Meeting 7:30 pm Men's Dinner Meeting 	13  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at West View Lodge 6:00 pm Malanka  <p><i>Sponsored by St. Stephen's Plus 50</i></p>	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 11:00 am HALL RENTAL 3:00 pm WEDDING 4:00 pm Confessions 5:00 pm Vespers
No Divine Liturgy 8:00 am Perogy Norkbee 7:00 pm Property Management Meeting 7:00 pm Ukrainian Language Class	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree meeting (at Assumption) 	20  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at West View Lodge 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am BAPTISMAL PREP COURSE 4:00 pm Confessions 5:00 pm Vespers
No Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Men's Dinner Meeting 7:00 pm Ukrainian Language Class	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 	27  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at West View Lodge 6:00... <p>FAITH FRIDAY (WITH POTLUCK DINNER)</p>	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am FISRT SOLEMN COMMUNION RETREAT 4:00 pm Confessions 5:00 pm Vespers
FEBRUARY 1 No Divine Liturgy 7:00 am Cabbage Roll Norkbee 7:00 pm Men's Dinner Meeting 7:00 pm Ukrainian Language Class	2 FEAST OF THE ENCOUNTER OF OUR LORD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am Festal Divine Liturgy 9:00 Prep for Men's Dinner 7:00 pm K of C 3rd Degree Meeting 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at West View Lodge 9:00 am Prep for Men's Dinner <p>MEN'S DINNER FUNDRAISER</p>	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 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: provides temporary financial support to parishioners in need. Donations to this fund are always welcome.
 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>

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>

Marriage: Arrangements with Fr. Bo.

Baptism-Chrismation-Eucharist:

Arrangements with Fr. Bo.

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

Funeral: Arrangements with Fr. Bo.

CLERGY and RELIGIOUS

Priest and Administrator:

Fr. Bo (Bohdan) Nahachewsky

403-249-4818, ext. 202

<FatherBo@Protomartyr.ca>

Deacon and Intern:

Dcn. Andrij Nykyforuk

403-249-4818, ext 203

<DeaconAndrij@Protomartyr.ca>

**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/>

Pastor (on sabbatical):

Fr. Mark A. Bayrock

1-403-973-4120

<mabayrock.iphone@gmail.com>

PARISH OFFICE

Office Administrator: Linda Buck

Sacramental Coordinator: Violet Bird

403-249-4818, ext. 0

<office@Protomartyr.ca>

MAINTENANCE

John Kowal

403-249-4818, ext. 207

<maintenance@Protomartyr.ca>

HALL RENTAL INQUIRIES

Brett Bernakevitch

8:30 am—Myron & Larysa Gellela

10:30am - Mark Ewanchyna

5:00pm - Walter Machny

HOSTS/USHERS

8:30am - Myron & Larysa Gellela

10:30—Mark Ewanchyna

ROSARY (10:00am): Bill Lewchuk

ARK STORE - Popel family

8:30 am—Sam Bulych

10:30am - Linda & Clayton Waitas

5:00pm - Jay Lalach

HOSTS/USHERS

8:30am - Sam Bulych

10:30—Linda & Clayton Waitas

ROSARY (10:00am): Donna Korchinski

ARK STORE - Lewchuk family

PRAYER & CATECHESIS

**** NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY **** Classes
will resume next Sunday, Jan. 15.

BIBLE STUDY: resumes tomorrow,
January 9. See you there!

CONFESSIONS at 4:00pm every Saturday.
Please see schedule for any changes.

GREAT VESPERS at 5:00pm every Saturday.
Please join us in this lovely hour of prayer.

FIRST SOLEMN COMMUNION CLASSES:
Begin next Sunday, January 15 at 9:30am.
Please contact teacher Barb Carpay at
bcarpay@shaw.ca or Karen McMillan at
403-257-6910 or
s.david.mcmillan@gmail.com for more
details or to register. Registration forms
are also available in the Atrium or on our
website at www.saintstephencalgary.ca.

BAPTISMAL PREP COURSE: Next session is
on Saturday, January 21 from 10:00am—
4:00pm. Please call the office to sign up.

CARDS AND DIVINE LITURGIES: If you
know of someone in our Parish Family who
the Love & Care Committee should be
attending to, please contact Anne Lozinski
at 403-241-8905.

PARISH MEETINGS & EVENTS

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: on Tuesday,
Jan. 10 at 7:00pm in the Knights room.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4th degree
MEETING:** on Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7:00pm.

MEN'S DINNER MEETING: on Thursday,
Jan 12 at 7:00pm in the boardroom.

PEROGY WORKBEE FOR MEN'S DINNER:
**Tuesday & Wednesday, Jan. 17 & 18 at
7:00am and 9:00am** respectively. Many
hands make light work!

MEN'S DINNER SILENT AUCTION

Are you able to donate to our parish's major
fundraiser? We are looking for donations of
new items such as electronics, sporting
equipment, themed gift baskets, framed
artwork and gift cards. Do you have extra
loyalty points that you can use to donate an
item? Can you offer your own time/expertise
as an auction item? All donations are
appreciated and items greater than \$300 in
bid value will receive a tax receipt. Please
contact Mike Siroishka (403-990-8299) or
Dave Ewanchyna (403-560-4003).



**ST. STEPHEN'S
MALANKA**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2017

COCKTAILS	6:00 PM
DINNER	7:00 PM

TICKETS \$65.00/person

Reservations only for tables of 8 or 10 - \$520.00/\$650.00

St. Stephen Cultural Centre
4903 - 45 Street, S. W. Music by **ABSOLUTE**

Entertainment - featuring
ABSOLUTE UNPLUGGED

the flesh, and had lived in the wilderness since his childhood, received a command from God and came into the parts of the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance unto the remission of sins. Then our Saviour also came from Galilee to the Jordan, and sought and received baptism though He was the Master and John was but a servant. Whereupon, there came to pass those marvellous deeds, great and beyond nature: the Heavens were opened, the Spirit descended in the form of a dove upon Him that was being baptized and the voice was heard from the Heavens hearing witness that this was the beloved Son of God, now baptized as a man (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:1-22). From these events the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great mystery of the Trinity were demonstrated. It is also from this that the present feast is called "Theophany," that is, the divine manifestation, God's appearance among men. On this venerable day the sacred

Baptism, which it prefigured (Col. 2:11-12). Accounts of the Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord continue in the Eastern Church right up through the fourth century. The Canon of the Feast was written by Saint Stephen of the Saint Sava Monastery .

In addition to circumcision, which the Lord accepted as a sign of God's Covenant with mankind, He also received the Name Jesus (Savior) on the eighth day after His Nativity as an indication of His service, the work of the salvation of the world (Mt.1:21; Mark 9:38-39, 16:17; Luke 10:17; Acts 3:6, 16; Phil 2:9-10). These two events, the Lord's Circumcision and Naming, remind Christians that they have entered into a New Covenant with God and "are circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ" (Col. 2:11). The very name "Christian" is a sign of mankind's entrance into a New Covenant with God.

8:30am – in memory of the repose of the soul of +Stephen Ruff

10:30am- in memory of the repose of the souls of +Mike and +Helen Sluchinski

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

Monday, January 9:

9:00am – in memory of the repose of the souls of +Clara and +Allan Shermanchuk

Tuesday, January 10:

9:00am – for blessings for health and healing for Will Boyko

Wednesday, January 11:

No Divine Liturgy

Thursday, January 12:

9:00am – for blessings for full recovery from surgery and good health for Rae Bernakevitch

Friday, January 13:

10:00am (Westview) - for the Intentions and needs of all parishioners

Saturday, January 14:

9:00am – for wishes for special Christmas and New Years blessings for Very Rev. Fr. Jack Pereira V.G.

Sunday, January 15:

8:30am – in memory of the repose of the souls of +Denis and +Walter Gardzilewich



З Новим Роком! Happy New Year to All! Дякую!

Ukrainian Opera with Lida

Concert of Ukrainian opera arias by Lysenko, Stetsenko, and Hulak-Artemovsky, Followed by a Wine & Cheese Reception

Lida Szkwarek, soprano Christopher Mokrzewski, piano

Thursday, January 12, 2017, 7pm.

Mamdani Opera Centre, 1315 – 7 Street SW

Tickets \$25/person Online: www.calgaryopera.com, Box office: 403-262-7286



Bishop Carroll High School

Discover Personalized Self-Directed Learning! Share the word!

Information Night and Open House for current Grade 9 students and parents.



spiritual lives. It is the first major opportunity for a child to learn about their faith, and **fully participate in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist on their own.**

In one sense this is a spiritual graduation from being a child who passively receives the faith from their parents, to a young person who actively participates in their own spiritual development.

Usually children are presented as infants to the Church to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation (aka Confirmation) and Eucharist¹. These children are then brought forward at each Divine Liturgy by their parents, God-parents, or grand-parents to continue receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. When they become old enough to understand the basic truths of the faith, and to recognize the meaning of their own actions, they are prepared to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and then approach the Holy Eucharist, no longer being brought forth, but on their own.

This is what “First Solemn Communion” is all about. It is a program designed to recognize a child’s growth in maturity, to teach him or her what Life with Christ is about, and to encourage the child to take more responsibility for his or her own spiritual well-being.

What is the difference between “First Communion” and “First Solemn Communion”?

“First Communion” refers to the first time a person receives the Eucharist. In our Byzantine Catholic Rite this is normally done at the time of Baptism and Chrismation. In the Latin (Roman) Catholic Rite this is often withheld until a person reaches the “age of reason (often at grade 2).

“First Solemn Communion” is what we refer to as the first time a person receives the Eucharist after having prepared themselves, physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally, including by participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This often also happens at the time of about grade 2, because at this age most children can understand the basic differences between good and bad actions, and they can take some responsibility for their own actions. It is not normally the first time they receive the Eucharist, but it is the first time that they understand and prepare for participating on their own.

Isn’t giving Communion to little children before they reach an age where they can understand it... kind of weird?

Let me answer a question with a question. Do we deny babies from eating because they do not know where food comes from or how their digestive systems process it? Of course not.

The Eucharist is spiritual food that nourishes us. Children who are fully

deny the Eucharist to the elderly or mentally challenged who can not “understand” what It is, yet who have a desire to be in communion with God. When Christ says “let the little children come to Me”, He means it.

I remember when our Ukrainian Catholic Church did not give Communion to children. Did this change? When I visit my family in some other Ukrainian Catholic Parishes they don’t distribute Communion to children. Why do we?

For many years much of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Western Canada stopped giving the Eucharist to children to try to be more in union with the Roman Catholic Church. This practice of denying the Eucharist to children did not sit well with the spirituality and theology of our Church. During Vatican II, a meeting of the entire Catholic Church which happened in the 1960’s, the Eastern Churches were instructed to go back to our own liturgical roots, which fit better with our way of understanding God, removing any such “Latinizations”. In recent years most bishops have re-instituted giving the Eucharist to children, and most parishes have put it into practice.-

How does First Solemn Communion Program work in our parish?

Children are brought together to pray, play and learn as a community of friends. We will have 10 lessons taught on Sunday Mornings starting at 9:30am.

During these classes the children deepen their understanding of:

Who they are, Who God is, Who God wants them to be, Who the Church is, How we understand the Bible, How to live a virtuous life, What Sacraments are, What the Eucharist is, How to receive the Eucharist, How to forgive and ask for forgiveness, How to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and MUCH, MUCH more....

These are profound moments in the life of the child, and his or her family, so we try to celebrate them with appropriate festivities and decorum.

These classes are not the only part of receiving the Eucharist. Receiving the Eucharist (aka Communion) is something that continues for the rest of one’s life. We need regular spiritual nourishment if we are to mature spiritually. The children are encouraged to attend Liturgies with their families every week to continue what they have begun, and to continue learning at home with their parents. The family is encouraged to pray together daily, practice doing good deeds for each other and those around them, to work on select pages from their program workbooks, to read stories from the Bible, and other great family bonding activities.

As a parish, we provide each family with resources and ideas that will help not only the child participating in the program to grow closer to God, but indeed the entire family.

1 It is the Tradition of the Ukrainian Catholic Church to receive all three Sacraments of Initiation at the same time. This Tradition is not only the historical one but also is the method recommended by the Canadian Bishops, as well as the entire Synod of Bishops. In the past, due to influences from the Roman Catholic Rite, some priests and parishes only Baptized infants and withheld Chrismation and/or Eucharist to a later date.

If you or your child have only received one, or two of the