

ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR **UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

A PLACE TO ENCOUNTER THE LIVING CHRIST

MAY 28, 2017

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF NICAEA, VENERABLE FATHER NICETAS, BISHOP OF CHALCEDON



Address:

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

Office Hours:

Mon—Friday: 8:30am - 4:00pm Saturday and Sunday - Closed Closed Statutory Holidays

Telephone:

403-249-4818, press 0

Pastoral Emergencies: 403-249-4818, press 9

Email:

Office@Protomartyr.ca

Coordinator@Protomartyr.ca

Parish Website: www.saintstephencalgary.ca

St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church

Eparchy Website:

www.edmontoneparchy.com

DIVINE LITURGIES

Sunday Services:

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

Weekday Services:

Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat—English @ 9:00 am

Friday at Westview—English @ 10:00 am

First Antiphon

Clap your hands, all you nations;* shout to God with the voice of joy.

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

For the Lord most high is awesome,* a great king of all the earth.

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

He has subdued peoples to us,* and nations under our feet.

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

God ascended amid shouts of joy;* the Lord at the sound of the trumpet.

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

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

Third Antiphon

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

Son of God, who ascended in glory,* save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

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

Son of God, who ascended in glory, * save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

For God is the great Lord,* the great king over all the earth.

Son of God, who ascended in glory, * save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Entrance

Come, let us worship* and fall down before

Son of God, who ascended in glory, * save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Troparia and Kontakia

Troparion: Angelic powers were upon Your tomb* and the guards became like dead men;* Mary stood before Your tomb* seeking Your most pure body.* You captured Hades without being overcome by it.* You met the Virgin and granted life.* O Lord, risen from the dead,* glory be to You!

Troparion: You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,* giving joy to Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit,* and assuring them through your blessing* that You are the Son of God,* the Redeemer of the world.

Troparion: Christ our God, You are glorified above all,* You established our fathers as beacons on earth* and through them guided all of us to the true faith.* Glory to You, most compassionate Lord.

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

Kontakion: The apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrine* confirmed the Church's one faith,* and wearing the garment of truth* woven from theology that descends from on high,* she rightly imparts* the mystery of godliness* and sings its glory.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion: When you had fulfilled Your plan for us* and united things on earth with those in heaven,* You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,* in no way distant, but remaining in separable,* You cried to those who love You:* I am with You and there is none against you.

HOLY MYSTERIES

Confession:

Sunday 10:00 am —12:00 pm Saturday @ 4:00 pm—5:00 pm or by appointment

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

Pastor, St. Basil's Melkite Greek Catholic Church

Fr. Ephrem Kardouh
1-514-224-1664
403-249-4818, ext. 302
emkardouh@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/St-BasilsMelkite-Greek-Catholic-ChurchCalgary-1567658193459037/>

Pastor (on sabbatical):

Fr. Mark A. Bayrock 1-403-973-4120 mabayrock.iphone@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE

Office Administrator: Linda Buck 403-249-4818, ext. 0 office@Protomartyr.ca

Sacramental Coordinator:

Mirna Farahat

MAINTENANCE

John Kowal 403-249-4818, ext. 207 <maintenance@Protomartyr.ca

HALL RENTAL INQUIRIES

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

HALL / KITCHEN

403-249-4818, ext. 204

Prokeimenon

Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name forever. *verse:* For You are righteous in everything that You have done to us. (Daniel 3:26,27)

Epistle

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36

In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; he was eager to be in Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. From Miletus he sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him. When they came to him, he said to them: "Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive." When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed.

Please gather your children to hold candles for the Gospel.

Alleluia

verse: The God of gods, the Lord, spoke and summoned the earth from the rising of sun to its setting.

verse: Gather to Him His devout ones, who with sacrifice make covenant with Him. (Psalm 49:1,5)

Gospel

John 17:1-13

At that time Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you

gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. "And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.

Hymn to the Mother of God

O my soul, magnify the Lord who in glory ascended bodily into the heavens. *Irmos:* O Mother of God,* you transcended both mind and word,* and in time, ineffably bore the Timeless One:* it is you who, with one accord,* we, the faithful, magnify.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest. (Psalm 148:1)* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous. (Psalm 32:1) Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

Instead of We have seen the true light and Let our mouths be filled we sing:

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, above all the earth be Your glory.



views from pews

OUR LADY OF POCHAIV



This last Sunday of May I thought it was fitting to share a bit of history about our Icon, Our Lady of Pochaiv. This information comes from our St. Stephen's History book, although I have paraphrased it to fit this article.

Pochaiv is a holy site located in the Carpathian Mountains where many miracles have occurred through the intercession of the Mother of God. It is the "Lourdes" of Ukraine.

The first miracle at this site took place in 1193. A monk was praying when a pillar of fire appeared to him. When the flame died down, the Blessed Mother of God appeared. She left an imprint of her foot upon the rock and a miraculous spring of water began to flow from the place of the apparition. That water flows to this day. The miracle was taken as a sign that Mount Pochaiv was to be dedicated as a place for monastic life and a monastery was built.

The next miracles to take place were associated with an icon of the Virgin Mary, portrayed as the" Mother of Tender Mercy". Near the end of the 16th century, a wealthy woman, Lady Hoyska, received the icon from a Greek bishop for her hospitality and generosity. Every so often when she prayed before the icon she noticed an unexplainable glow. Feeling that it might be miraculous she told her nephew, blind from birth, to pray before the icon asking for his sight. His prayers were answered and realizing its significance, Lady Hoyska donated the icon and much of the land surrounding Mount Pochaiv to the monastery. The icon became known as Our Lady of Pochaiv. It is interesting to note that the original icon had a border which included the images of several saints. One of the saints was St. Stephen the Protomartyr.

In 1979, The Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada (UCWLC) officially chose Our Lady of Pochaiv to be the patroness of their organization. St. Stephen's religious art committee was also inspired by the story of Our Lady of Pochaiv. committee felt that her icon would be most suitable for creating an intimate devotional space for private prayer and the lighting of vigil candles. In 2008, a creative interpretation of the original Pochaiv icon was commissioned. It was blessed and installed in 2009.

(Donated by Clayton and Linda Woitas Family, "In honour of our parents and grandparents - Bill & Jean Sheremata and Edward & Marie Woitas".

Laurie Kindrachuk, editor

contact me: laurie.kindrachuk@shaw.ca

Cell 403-614-5581



Baptised May 14th—James Gregory Yuzwa-Mnohaya Lita!



Baptised May 20th—William Kachuk Mnohaya Lita!

Liturgy Intentions for this week:

Sunday, May 28: SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS

- 8:30 am for the repose of the soul of +Julia LaVerne
- 10:30 am for blessings and intentions for Vanessa Miller
- 5:00 pm for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Monday, May 29:

• 9:00am – for the repose of the soul of +Joe Luzney

Tuesday, May 30:

• 9:00 am - for blessings and intentions for Vanessa Miller

Wednesday, May 31:

• NO Divine Liturgy

Thursday, June 1:

• 9:00 am - for blessings and intentions for Vanessa Miller

Friday, June 2:

• 10:00 am - WestView - for the repose of the soul of +Kirk Rankine

Saturday, June 3:

• 9:00 am - for the repose of the soul of +Janice Govia

Sunday, June 4: PENTECOST SUNDAY

- 8:30 am in memory of the repose of the soul of +Helen Irene Keller
- 10:30 am for health and wellbeing for Tom Shindruk & family
- 5:00 pm 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

Pass It On:

Donates clothing to needy families Contact: Theresa Lewchuk 403-208-0850; lewchukt@hotmail.com

Men's Dinner:

Annual major church fundraiser for capital expenses plus Inn From the Cold endeavors. Contact: Greg Bobyn 403-271-0011; greg.bobyn@mnp.ca

The Helping Others Network:

Distributes used furnishings and clothing to the needy.

Contact: Des Peplinski at 403-238-0804 or connect@helpingothersnetwork.com

Art Committee:

studies and plans new 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 Ukrainian cultural events, and raises funds for the parish.

Contact: Ed Tysowski

403-547-3226; tysow@shaw.ca

May / Ju

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
28 SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS • 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukrainian • 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. with Sunday School • 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy—Arabic • 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: English **SANDWICHES FOR DROP-IN CENTRE**	 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Open Iconography Studio 4:00 pm Newman College Course 6:30pm WTFSE training with Andrea from Eparchy 	30 • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
 4 PENTECOST SUNDAY 8:30 am Divine Liturgy with Fr. Andrij: Ukrainian 10:30 am Divine Liturgy with Fr. Andrij: Eng. with Sunday School 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy—Arabic 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy with Fr. Andrij: English 	5 TRINITY MONDAY • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy • 10:00 am Open Iconography Studio • 4:00 pm Newman College Course	6 • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy • 1:00 pm Regnum Christi
11 SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS • 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukrainian • 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. with Sunday School • 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy—Arabic • 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: English	12 • No Divine Liturgy • 7:00 pm Finance Committee meeting	13 ◆ No Divine Liturgy
18 3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukrainian • 10:30 am Divine Liturgy: Eng. with Sunday School • 12:00 pm Fathers' Day Annual Strawberry Social • 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy—Arabic • 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy: English	19 • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy • 7:00 pm 50 Anniversary Planning meeting	20 • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy • 7:00 pm PPC meetir

Checkout our web page: http://www.saintstephencalgary.ca/

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WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 ◆ No Divine Liturgy	1 June • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy • 7:00 pm KofC—3rd Degree Meeting at the Assumption parish WELCOME BACK FR. MARK!	2 • 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at Westview - office closed-	3 • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy • 9:30 am Knights of Columbus Meeting ALTAR BOY LASER TAG
7 ◆ No Divine Liturgy ◆ 7:00 pm Choir Practice	 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 5:00pm UCWLC General meeting 7:00pm KofC 4th Degree meeting 	• 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at Westview WALK FOR THE ROCK "An Evening with the Bishop" Fundraiser	10 • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
14 ◆ No Divine Liturgy	15 ◆ No Divine Liturgy	16 • 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at Westview	17 • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy • 11:15: Choir Practice
Clergy Retreat			
21 ◆ 7:00 Property Management Meeting	22 ◆9:00 am Divine Liturgy	23 ◆ 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at Westview	24 • 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 2017 UKIE STAMPEDE STOMP

St. Stephen's Choir: Provides music ministry to the parish for liturgical services and other events. Contact: Linda Dudar 403-238-0461; linda.dudar@stmu.ca

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



Mothers and Fathers in Action

(M.A.F.I.A.): A group for parents and little ones from 'in utero' to Grade 6. 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 Iklowey@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

Contact: Karen McMillan s.david.mcmillan@gmail.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: Fr. Bo Nahachewsky fr.bo.nahachewsky@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. We are currently looking for a youth group leader, so if interested, please contact Fr. Bo.

Young Adults: Those aged 18 - 35 are encouraged to gather as a community and learn, embrace and celebrate their faith. We are currently looking for a young adults leader, so if interested, please contact Fr. Bo.

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

GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST!

PRAYER & CATECHESIS

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

Mission Days guidebook : from the Ascension of our Lord tο the Descent of the Holy Spirit. -> Download from Facebook or St Stephen's website

Newly ordained Fr. Andrij will be celebrating the Divine Liturgies next Sunday, June 4th

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Sandwiches for the drop-in centre: TODAY! Thank you for your continued generosity.

Mandatory Safer Environments Training Workshop for St Stephen volunteers on Monday, May 29 from 6:30-9:00 pm

UCWLC General meeting: June 8th at 5:00pm

An Evening with the Bishop: June 9th at 6:00 pm

LITURGICAL HELP

Today

EPISTLE READERS 8:30 am: UCWL

10:30 am : UCWL 5:00 pm : UCWL

HOSTS/USHERS 8:30 am— UCWL 10:30— UCWL

ROSARY 10:00 am : UCWL

ARK STORE Chubaty

Next week (June4)

EPISTLE READERS 8:30 am: Gerald Strashok 10:30 am : Darrell Maleski 5:00 pm : Walter Machny

HOSTS/USHERS

8:30 am— Gerald Strashok 10:30— Darrell Maleski

ROSARY 10:00 : Donna Korchinski

ARK STORE : Longfield

Start saving to PASS IT ON!



This clothing giveaway is a IT ON partnership between St.

Stephen's and the Calgary Catholic School District and is a great way to help Calgary families in need receive free winter clothing!

The Giveaway will be held on Saturday October 14, 2017 at Father Lacombe High School. We will be looking for clean and gently used clothing donations, with a focus on winter items and boots. We will also need volunteers to help with St. Stephen's clothing collection on Sunday Oct.1, the clothing sort day on Monday Oct. 2, event set up on Friday Oct. 13 and the Giveaway day on Saturday Oct. 14.

Please consider volunteering for this event as last vear we helped make winter bearable for over 800 people in 4 hours! More information will be coming in the next few months. For more details please contact Theresa Lewchuk at 403-815-6055 or lewchukt@hotmail.com

EPARCHIAL EVENTS

World Communications Day this year will be celebrated on May 28 to mark Pope Francis' theme, "Fear not, for I am with you" (Is 43:5).

The Catholic Bishops of Canada, upon a proposal by the Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories, will consecrate Canada to the Mother of God on Saturday, July 1, or on the day following, marking the 150th anniversary of Confederation. Other pastors are invited to do the same with their respective parish community on Sunday, July 2.

Unity 2017 Retreat: Ukrainian Catholic Young Adult Gathering (18-35) - August 17 - August 20

More details: http://skeparchy.org/ucya/ event/unity-2017/

For Eparchy Event updates visit:

http://www.saintstephencalgary.ca ->Parish Life -> Eparchial events

Or http://www.eeparchy.com/events/

EPARCHIAL CAMPS

- Camp Oselia Children's Camp (July 9 Aug 4
- Camp Oselia Teen Camp July 9-14
- Camp St. Basil Ukrainian Catholic Summer **Camp** (Pigeon Lake): (July 2 – July 15, 2017)
- Acolyte Camp: (August 1-6th, 2016)

More information on www.eeparchy.com/ youth/eparchial-camps/



Saturday, June 24th 2017,

St Stephen's Cultural Centre — 4903—45th Street SW

Doors open at 6:00 pm

BBQ Steak and Perogie Supper @ 7:00 pm Entertainment & Dance @ 9:00 pm

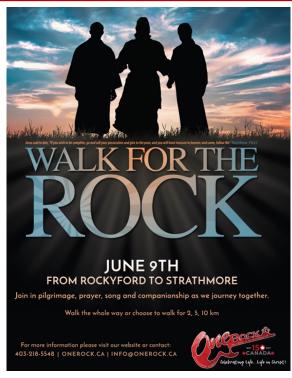
> For tickets contact: Terry: 403-540-0411, Ron: 403-239-5555, Ambrose: 403-862-3269

Mandatory Safer Environments Training Workshop for St Stephen volunteers

Monday, May 29 from 6:30-9:00 pm at St. Stephen's Parish.

Those who have been volunteering to church activities are kindly required to attend the workshop.

Please call the office to confirm attendance.



Join Fr. Bo and Fr. Ephrem in Walking for the Rock. Details and Pledge forms are at the atrium



HOLY LAND

WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF **JESUS**

12-23 OCTOER 2017

An unforgettable experience with Fr. Joe Ostapowich & Sister Angelica SSMI. Please call Myrna Arychuk: 604 617 7200 or email: marychuk@thetravelagentnextdoor.com

program details in the atrium

Please join Most Reverend Bishop David Motiuk at a fundraiser in support of our Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy in Alberta.

Friday June 9, 2017

St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church 4903-45 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta

Tickets: \$75.00 per person

6:00 PM Bishop David's Welcome 7:00 PM Chef's Delights, Cash Bar Art Displays & Silent Auction 8:30 PM Presentation by Bishop David

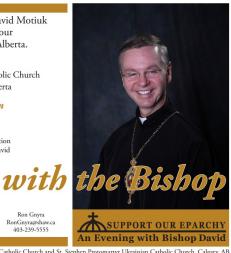
For Tickets or Information Contact:

ilnycky@telus.net 403-510-5290

Andrew Ilnycky

Laurie Kindrachuk laurie.kindrachuk@shaw.ca 403-614-5581

RonGnyra@shaw.ca 403-239-5555



Co-hosted by Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church and St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church, Calgary, AB

An Evening with Bishop David:

On Friday June 9, join Bishop David and your fellow parishioners for an evening of conversation and fun! Event timing is 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm. In true Ukrainian style we will feed you with Chef's delights (come hungry) and there will be a cash bar. Check out the Silent Auction tables and try outbidding your friends!

For tickets (\$75 per person) and more information:

Laurie Kindrachuk: laurie.kindrachuk@shaw.ca or 403-614-5581 (St. Stephen's)

Andrew Ilnycky: ilnycky@telus.net. or 403-510-5290; Ron Gnyra: rongnrya@shaw.ca 403-239-5555 (Assumption).

We are looking for donations for our Silent Auction (to be valued at no less then \$50). Some suggestions: artwork, paintings, pottery, home décor items; Holy Icons, paintings, decorative crosses; gift baskets, gift certificates, gift cards; Ukrainian folk art items, embroidery, Easter eggs.

We also welcome financial support. Please be as creative and generous as you can! Please contact Eugene or Marilyn Nahirney em.nahirney@telus.net or 403-276-5722 for further information or to provide your support.



St. Stephen's Parish would like to invite all the altar boys to Laser Quest for a fun filled afternoon on Saturday, June 3rd, 2017 at 3:30PM. After a couple of laser tag games, pizza will be served in the party room shortly 5PM. after All boys who have received their first solemn communion who are interested in playing laser tag and meeting the altar boys are welcome. Please RSVP to Glen Kulak, ph# 403-247-1591 gckulak@shaw.ca by Monday May 29th. See you there!

Ascended And Enthroned



Has Spoken Blasphemy! ... What Do You Think?" The High Priest Asked Assembled Sanhedrin. And They Answered, "He Is Deserving Of Death." Thus The Lord Jesus Was Condemned (Cf. Matthew 26:59-67). But In What Had Supposedly He Blasphemed?

The Gospel records it this way, "The high priest answered and said to [Jesus], 'I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!' Jesus said

to him, 'It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven'" (Matthew 26:62-64). That Christ is exalted "at the right hand" of the Father was part of the earliest preaching of the apostles. When Peter was summoned to the same Sanhedrin that has condemned Jesus, he proclaimed, "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins" (Acts 5:30-31). This was the same witness which condemned the Protomartyr Stephen to death for saying, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" (Acts 7:55) Little wonder, then, that this image found its way into the fundamental creeds of the Church, repeated by Christians the world over each day.

The apostles and others who spoke of God's "right hand" knew they were using a metaphor, an anthropomorphism (giving a human feature, in this case a "right hand," to God). To sit at the right hand of an earthly king was the place of authority and honor. The one who held that place acted in the name of the king and was entitled to the same respect as the king. To say that Jesus sits at the "right hand" of the Father clearly places Him as equal in glory to the Father Himself.

Ascension and Enthronement

The Great Feast of Christ's Holy Ascension on the fortieth day after Pascha is actually a two-fold observance. First of all it commemorates His ascension proper as observed by the apostles and recorded in the Scriptures: "And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and 24:50-51). carried into heaven" (Luke up The feast also observes what was unseen: Christ enthroned at the Father's right hand. The two aspects of the mystery are invariably paired in the hymns of the feast: "You were taken up in glory from the Mount of Olives, Christ our God, in the presence of Your disciples, and took Your seat at the Father's right hand, filling the universe with Your Godhead..." (apostikhon at vespers). Our celebration further distinguishes another aspect of the mystery. On the one hand the eternal Word of God has always been at the Father's right hand with the Holy Spirit in the Godhead. And so we

fittingly pray: "Jesus the Giver of life, taking those He loved, ascended the Mount of Olives and blessed them and, riding on a cloud, He came to the Father's bosom, which He had never left" (from the canon at orthros).

The Word of God, incarnate in the Virgin's womb, was at the same time with the Father in His divinity. This is also expressed in this familiar troparion from the Divine Liturgy: "Being God You were present in the tomb by Your body and yet in Hades by Your soul, in Paradise with the thief, and on the throne, O Christ, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, filling all things but encompassed by none." With the incarnation Christ is now the God-become-man who brings His deified human nature to the glory of the Father. He does not return as the pre-incarnate Word but with the human nature which He had assumed, now risen and transformed: "When You came down from heaven to things on earth and as God raised up with You Adam's nature which lay below in Hades' prison, You brought it to heaven at Your ascension, O Christ, and made it sit with You on Your Father's throne, as You are merciful and love mankind" (kathisma at orthros).

"Christ, the Giver of life, who rose in His two natures with glory to heaven and is now seated with the Father, you priests praise, you people highly exalt to all the ages" (from the canon at orthros). "Our nature, which of old had fallen, has been raised above the Angels and beyond understanding established on God's throne. Come, let us keep festival and let us cry out, 'You His works, praise the Lord, and highly exalt Him to all the ages' (from the canon at orthros).

"The majesty of Him who became poor in the flesh has been raised above the heavens and our fallen nature honored by sitting with the Father. Let us keep festival and all cry aloud with one accord, and gladly clap our hands" (from the canon at orthros). The Word of God, truly incarnate in Jesus the Son of Mary, is inseparably joined to our humanity. As such He has enthroned our human nature at the Father's right hand.

This new and unique reality is expressed in the icon of the feast. The throne of the eternal Trinity is often depicted as three concentric circles. In the midst of them, upborne by angels, is Christ in His humanity. It is this detail from the ascension icon which we find in the dome of our churches as the Pantokrator, the Almighty One, the Head of His Body which is the Church. The feast of Christ's Ascension, then, is also the glorification of our human nature and the seal of Christ's ministry on earth. As the Fathers expressed it, the Son of God became human that humans might become divine.

Ambo Prayer, Feast of the Ascension

Master, lift up our minds towards heaven as we worship Your might, and draw up our understanding from earthly cares to Yourself. For You have lifted our lowly nature in Yourself and enthroned it in the highest with the Father. Make us worthy here in this world, as in heaven, to be citizens who seek that which is on high, where You are seated on the right hand of God. We await Your glorious and fearful coming, which You revealed through the angels to the blessed Apostles, the spectators of Your Ascension into heaven. Number us with those who will be taken up into the clouds to meet You when You come to judge the world in righteousness, that with them we may be full of joy forever.

By the good will and love of mankind of Your eternal Father, with Whom You are blessed and glorified together with Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Source: Eparchy of Newton