



**St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church
Parish Annual General Meeting
March 21, 2021**

2020 Stewardship Report

INTRODUCTION

The St. Stephen's Annual Stewardship Report updates our parishioners regarding the key highlights from 2020. Each Directorship contains reporting /tracking on an annual basis to illustrate the trends the parish is experiencing. It also celebrates the work of the many parishioners who tirelessly volunteer to meet the different needs of our parish community. This has been a very challenging year and the St Stephen's Parish family guided by our previous Pastor Fr. Greg and our newest appointed Pastor Fr. Mike have done an amazing job in supporting each other during this challenging time. The information contained in the report will help our Parish make decisions moving forward.

The St. Stephen's Parish Pastoral Council wishes to "Thank" everyone in our Parish who participated in any way possible. Your gift of time and service to others is valuable, and we are grateful for your efforts. The remaining Council members "Thank" all outgoing council members for all their participation on Council this past year, and would like to "Welcome" all the incoming new Council members for the next term.

2020 Highlights (as reported to Eparchy)	2020	2019	2018	2017
Families making Sunday Donations	351	398	400	401
Households in regular attendance*	100	158	160	157
Baptisms/Chrismations	12	16	17	20
Solemn Holy Communion	14	15	20	15
Marriages	2	8	2	3
Funerals	13	6	7	11

* at least once/month

Clergy Report	2020	2019	2018
Sunday Divine Liturgies	156	155	154
Weekday Divine Liturgies	102*	140	153
Senior's Home Divine Liturgies	10	47	9
Lenten Presanctified Liturgies	3	6	6
Lenten Typica	6	13	27
Sorokousty – All-Souls memorial	3	4	5
Moleben (May/Oct + Emmanuel)	1	15	13
Akathist	0	2	3

DIRECTORATE REPORTS

1. Religious Education (Wendy Joevenazzo)

The Religious Education Directorate coordinates the spiritual education of the Parish, including Sunday School, First Solemn Communion classes and Summer Bible Camp.

Activities	2020	2019	2018	2017
Sunday School	0	6-12	10-15	10
First Solemn Communion	14	15	20	15
Summer Bible Camp	0	40	50	60
Bible Study	38	27	23	18
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	0	1	1	0

Key Highlights:

- Due to COVID 19 Sunday school classes have been suspended. Materials have been made available online in lieu.
- The 2020 sacramental classes for children were suspended last year and were completed online in fall of 2020. The 2021 classes for this year have been taking place on-line.

2. Pastoral Care (Bernadette Lukey)

The Pastoral Care Directorate responds to the pastoral needs of the Parish. There are four branches:

- The Pastoral Care Team (Holy Communion, visits, calls, cards)
- Prayer Group
- Prayer Shawls
- St. Stephen's Support Network.

Activities	2020	2019	2018	2017
Eucharistic Ministers	6	6	6	6
Pastoral Care Team members	36	36	36	36
Prayer Group members	81	77	72	72
Prayer Shawl members	9	9	9	9
Support Network members	109	106	106	106

Pastoral Care Continued (Bernadette Lukey)

Key Highlights:

- Provided countless phone calls, emails, cards to those in need of support.
- Due to the pandemic there have not been hospital, home, long term care, assisted care visits.
- Also, the Eucharistic Ministers have not taken Holy Communion to parishioners unable to attend church.
- Due to the pandemic, the Friday Divine Liturgies at Westview Manor were cancelled.
- Prayer Shawls & Prayer Squares have been blessed and distributed on 64 occasions.
- The Prayer Group receives an average of 50 prayer intentions each month.
- If anyone is in need of assistance such as grocery shopping, delivering prescriptions or other needs do not hesitate to call the office.

Please contact the Pastoral Care Director if there is an area of Pastoral Care that needs attention.

3. Charity (Mary Chudyk)

This Directorate oversees the selection of charities and disbursement of funds available from various parish trusts and other funds listed below. It also gets involved in Parish Charitable activities supporting local or international causes. With assistance from the Funds Investment Committee, distribution amounts are determined for each fund type. Refer to Section 13, Funds Investment Committee report for details on fund balances.

Fund Distribution Summary	2020	2019	2018	2017
Contributions to parish families in need [FSTF]	\$500	\$1,000	\$5,374	\$1,250
Additional family support [paid by Parish]	-	-	\$4,071	-
Donations to Local Charities [LCF]	\$8,164	\$7,820	\$7,573	\$7631
Local Charity recipients [LCF]	7	7	8	7
Donations to International Charities [ICTF]	\$59,974	\$59,063	\$56,827	\$57,148
International Charity recipients [ICTF]	15	11	15	15

Charity Continued (Mary Chudyk)

Family Support Trust Fund [FSTF]

Any remaining amount left from prior annual distribution designated from the FSTF will be carried over into 2021. When family support requests exceed the annual distribution, additional funds are provided by the parish.

Local Charity Fund (LCF)

Established in 2015, this fund provides financial support to the needy in Canada, with an emphasis on Parish based charitable work. A key goal was to enable parishioners to participate with their time and talent in the chosen charities.

International Charity Trust Fund (ICTF)

This fund was started in 1994 with a mandate to help the underprivileged in Third World countries. We evaluate charities based on their proof of good governance and consistency with Catholic values. Any uncashed cheques from prior years were added to 2020 and distributed to International charities. The focus for the 2020 distribution was on Ukraine, 47% of the total, and children, 49% of the total.

The following charities received support:

1. Chalice Ukraine – Funds used for a Water Purification and Bathroom Renovation project for Borschiv Area Schools in Ternopil, Ukraine.
2. CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association) – Partners with Caritas Ukraine to provide assistance to children, youth and families; provides health care, helps with social problems of internal migration and provides assistance in crisis situations.
3. Mother's Village Medjugorje – Supports children in need with food, shelter and education. This group provides medical treatments and surgeries to the poor and sick.
4. Nashi – Diverts at risk youth from human trafficking in Ukraine by spreading awareness and operating a live-in center for young girls.
5. Missionaries of Charity – St. Mother Teresa's charity for work in India.
6. St Joseph the Worker, Ltd – Supply of food packages to the elderly and families in Bosnia. Received news that Sr. Muriel passed away in 2020 and this charity completed her work in 2020 and then will be dissolved.
7. United Sisters of St. Joseph – Ukrainian catholic organization that supports orphanages and children's group homes in Ukraine.

8. Seeds of the Word Community – Founded on July 16, 2004, in the city of Palmas, Tocantins, Brazil by, by Deacon Georges Bonneval and his wife Marie Josette. Work centers around helping young people get off the street and, for those that chose, entering a monastic life.
9. Medical Mercy Canada – Humanitarian aid primarily to rural areas of Ukraine. In 2020 sent protective personal equipment to impoverished communities in Ukraine in the form of surgical masks, exam/sterile gloves, and isolation gowns along with medical supplies and equipment.
10. Servants Anonymous Foundation SA - funds for needs in Nepal.
11. Canadian Jesuits International – funds for needs -Darjeeling Province, West Bengal
12. Unbound – Supports educational needs in underdeveloped countries.
13. Canadian Food for Children – Ships food and supplies where needed; in 2020 support was sent to Jamaica and Honduras to help with food during Covid-19 lock down.
14. Canadian Ukraine Foundation – Supported work in Ukraine for families whose children returned home from State run institutions.
15. Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate Ukraine – due to covid-19 sent funds for food and medicines to support poor and at risk families throughout western Ukraine.

Parish Charitable Activities:

Due to Covid-19 and the restrictions on gatherings there was a limited amount of parish activities. Operation St Nicholas 2020 took place with approximately 86 families directly or indirectly involved over 3 months.

4. Hospitality (Maria Dwulit) 2020

The Hospitality Directorate responsibilities are to bring new as well as regular parishioners together and to make a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Providing Sunday coffee after 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM Liturgies and overseeing special events for Parish to build a bigger and stronger community.

Sunday coffee is for getting to know each other within the Parish. It is also a time to meet new guests visiting or attending a Liturgy for the first time. With the restrictions of the pandemic, we look forward to the day that we are able to enjoy the fellowship and spend time building our church community.

When the time comes, there will always be room for more hands. If you would like to get involved, please contact the Hospitality Director. This act of volunteerism is a rewarding experience and allows us to serve God.

5. Membership (Deanne David) 2019

The Membership Director maintains the database of parish members, welcomes new members and co-ordinates the Parish photo directory.

Database Count	2020	2019	2018	2017
Individuals	1034	1118	1034	1034
Families making Sunday donations	351	393	400	401
Families using Pre-Authorized Deposit	75	65	62	59
Quorum (for parish General Meetings)*	34	39	40	40
Physical Count of parishioners	2020	2019	2018	2017
Average Attendance	199	283	299	354
Time of Count	Mar & Nov	May & Nov	May & Nov	Nov-Dec
Percent Change	-61.5%	-5.4%	-15.5%	-2.2%

**Quorum = 5% of Families making Sunday donations x 2*

Key Highlights:

- Process exists for acknowledging new members or those showing interest, where the parish office notifies the Membership Director, who then phones or emails to personally welcome these people on behalf of Parish Council.
- Attendance counts occurred in November 2020 with the gracious assistance of Ambrose Comchi.
- Overall, St. Stephen's average attendance is down due to pandemic restrictions.
- New parish registrations can be completed through the parish website.

6. Public Relations & Communications (Nataliya Varenky)

The Public Relations and Communications Directorate promotes St. Stephen's Parish and all of its activities. Information is shared with the parish members and the community at large. This position has oversight for the parish website and is also responsible for publishing VIEWS FROM THE PEWS, which highlights, through articles submitted by our parishioners, the activities of St. Stephen's Parish.

Public Relations & Communications Continued (Nataliya Varenyk)

Activities	2020	2019	2018	2017
Weekly avg # of website hits	1068	2760	2,707	2,690
# receiving weekly bulletin by email	365	300	317	320
# of Views from the Pews articles	14	12	27	27
Active followers on Face Book	476	460	308	n/a

Key Highlights:

- The parish website, www.saintstephencalgary.ca and Facebook page St. Stephen Proto-martyr Ukrainian Catholic Church are actively administered by Mirna Farahat. Remember to “Like” us on Facebook to help spread the word about our Parish!
- 2020 Views from the Pews articles have varied in their nature and scope. Articles included relevant COVID-19 information and personal COVID-19 stories. Furthermore, celebratory content such as welcoming Father Michael into our parish and Happy Birthday wishes were published. Moreover, a touching personal spiritual experience was shared by one of our parishioners.
- In addition, Views from the Pews was pleased to feature heartfelt stories submitted by our Charity Director – Mary Chudyk. Articles varied from providing updates on Operation St. Nicholas to keeping parishioners posted on International Charity Fund designated to Sister Servants of Immaculate Mary.
- In 2021 Views from Pews articles are expected to maintain its diversified nature.

7. Youth (vacant) 2020

The mandate of the Youth Directorate is to create opportunities for the youth to participate in the life of the Church.

Activities	2020	2019	2018	2017
Youth events	0	0	0	3
Young Adults	0	1	1	1

Key Highlights:

- Parish Council continues to discuss ideas/strategies for this portfolio seeing this as a vital portfolio for our church.

The Parish urges those interested in leading the youth to consider volunteering for this important area.

8. Liturgical (Darrell Maleski)

The Liturgical Directorate is responsible for the coordination of the Liturgical Committee and all volunteers involved with the Divine Liturgy services throughout the liturgical year. The objective is to promote more active parishioner involvement in serving the Lord and His people with great desire and dedication through service, prayer and in supporting the clergy in leading the people of God.

Activities	2020	2019	2018	2017
Families at 8:30am Liturgy	11	6	6	10
Families at 10:30am Liturgy	14	16	16	12
Families at 5:00pm Liturgy	3	5	6	6
Rosary Leaders	3	7	9	8
Altar Servers	0	7	7	5
Altar Guild	6	5	6	-
Flower Subcommittee	3	3	3	3
Sub Deacons	3	3	3	0
Lectors	5	5	5	8

Key Highlights:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on our liturgies and volunteer roles.
- From June to September, Sunday services were limited to one service at 10:00am.
- Starting in October, three Sunday services (8:30, 10:30, 5:00) were reestablished.
- Most of the liturgical volunteers who participated prior to the pandemic, were not comfortable volunteering due to the pandemic. However, many new volunteers stepped forward. In total we had 36 individuals volunteer throughout 2020.
- To reach out to those shut-in at home:
 - Weekly liturgies were recorded and published for viewing on YouTube.
 - We began live streaming the 10:30 service starting on February 28, 2021.
- Due to COVID-19 risks:
 - Rosary leaders have been limited to the Sub Deacons.
 - Altar servers were not required.
- Surfaces in the Church are being sanitized after each service to reduce the risk of virus spread.
- Thank you to the Flower, Altar Guild, Prosphora, and Christmas decoration sub-committees.

9. Parish Hall Management (John Kowal)

This directorate handles the booking of external events for the hall, with an objective of generating funds for the Parish. External events are events not associated with a specific parish group or ministry. The most common events are weddings, fundraisers, Christmas / year-end parties and meetings.

	2020	2019	2018	2017
Hall & Kitchen rentals	6	5	5	5
Hall only rentals	0	11	3	4
Net income	\$1,930	\$14,072	\$9,670	\$6,259

10. Without Portfolio Directorate Report (Len Beblow)

The Without Portfolio Directorate is responsible to assist Parish Council in areas that do not fall within the mandate of other portfolios. Current responsibilities include implementing the eparchial “Working Together for Safer Environments” protocol within the Parish, St. Stephen’s ARK store and special projects.

Key Highlights:

- Assisted with development of safety and cleaning protocols for ushers.
- Assisted Liturgical Director to be an in-person volunteer coordinator at liturgies.
- Inventory for the Ark Store was placed online in November. A number of orders were placed in November and December. Most orders were local, and picked up in the office; however, one order shipped to Saskatchewan. Additional inventory will be placed online through 2021.
- In-person training for Working Together for Safer Environments was postponed then cancelled due to COVID-19, and the Eparchy is working on moving to an online training format. Training will be delivered to volunteers once it is available.
- Started helping with candle orders.
- Currently supporting Live Streaming initiative.

11. Property Management (Mark Ewanchyna)

This directorate is accountable for the safe and reliable operations of parish facilities including the planning and management of all capital improvement projects. Activities are managed by the Property Management Committee. The committee uses hourly-paid individuals (parishioners) to address much of the regular maintenance work, and engages the services of outside contractors to complete specialized work.

Key Highlights:

- Implemented safety and cleaning protocols to meet COVID-19 public health measures. Thanks to all that participated in keeping our facilities clean and healthy!
- Installed a new control for the air-conditioning and furnace in the church, which allows for simpler and more energy-efficient operation. Ductwork was cleaned.
- Sewers were inspected and significant sewage buildup, primarily from Lysol wipes, was removed. Parishioners should place such cleaning material in the garbage.
- Renovated the rectory basement, including new rooms/layout, flooring, furnaces, hot water heater, washer and dryer, and new bathroom. Added fencing to rectory backyard.
- Parish center kitchen/hall: replaced two furnaces, installed new washer and dryer, installed freezer alarms in the hall freezers and installed a second video projector.
- Repaired push bar on north entrance door and repaired elevator.
- Hired three parishioners as summer students. There were no government subsidies available in 2020.

New members are welcome to join the Property Management committee.

12. UCWLC (Nettie Kost)

Membership	2020	2019	2018	2017
Paid Members	111	108	116	112

Key Highlights:

- Easter Babka making and virtual selling March 2020.
- Two phone outs to memberships and one in progress.
- Virtual Monthly meeting.
- Educational Scholarship to Lexi Wyman.
- Sewed over 500 masks for Westview Seniors Residence, Sarcee Carewest and St. Stephen's Church
- Donation to Northern and Southern Ukrainian communities in need at beginning of Covid.

UCWLC Continued (Nettie Kost)

- Participated financially for purchasing back packs with two other organizations for St. Nicholas Back-Pack Project in Ukraine for orphans, children and families in need and the many sisters who are running homes and caring for families in need. Many members donated the gifts for the back packs and also many volunteered to pack them.
- Collection to Pass It On (Postponed for this year) for Jacket Racket: winter coats and boots for Calgary School children in need.
- First Communion Liturgy books given to the communicants.
- Christmas Virtual Sale of Borsch, Poppy Seed and Wheat.
- Charity Donations to local organizations.
- Christmas Food Hamper Donations: for hampers, Gift Bags for parishioners and families in need AND to bring joy to parishioners during these difficult Covid restrictions.
- Street Sisters Collection: Lenten project. Weekly delivery to girls and women who are homeless or have health issues and need support.

Committees:

- Cultural Committee: Provided Holy Cards for Christmas and Easter cards sent to parishioners. Small gifts for First Communicants.
- Funeral Committee: No lunches served due to Covid restrictions.
- Love and Care Committee: Made and distributed soup; prayer shawls and prayer squares knitted and distributed; get well, sympathy and Christmas and Easter cards distributed. Divine Liturgies have been offered for the repose of the souls of deceased UCWLC members and families. Made phone calls to membership and parishioners.
- Spiritual Committee:
 - Organized session on “Rejoice and Be Glad, Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis”.
 - Organized Prayer Partners for Lent.
- Financial support to:
 - St. Stephen’s Parish
 - Charity distribution to: Made by Mama, Drop In Center, Seeds of the Word.
 - Northern and Southern Alberta Ukrainian Community support during downturn and Covid.

13. Funds Investment Committee Report (Steve Groch)

Key Highlights:

- Parish charity restricted funds and investments total \$3.27 million
- Two restricted charity funds and one non restricted parish charity fund total \$1.64 million
- Payout allocations to charities from the International, Local, and Family Support charity funds for 2020 is \$72,168.
- About 91% of all investments are managed by Russell Investments Canada and monitored by the FIC. The balance is invested with National Bank Discount Brokerage, (NBDB) and managed by the FIC.
- During 2020 Covid-19 year, the total returns averaged 5.5%, higher than anticipated.

Summary of Investments:

Investments	2020	2019	2018	2017
International Charity Trust Fund	1,324,710	1,296,177	1,191,628	1,292,238
CROSS Fund	1,353,610	1,137,449	1,006,714	1,054,431
Local Charity Fund	196,684	168,326	156,240	171,008
Parish investments – NBDB	281,841	324,873	166,688	148,892
Family Support Trust Fund	114,214	88,624	74,040	80,341
TOTAL of all Parish Investments	3,271,059	3,015,449	2,595,310	2,746,910
Average Portfolio Annual Return	5.5%	13%	-4.3%	7.8%

Note: The donated capital into the International Trust and Family Support funds are restricted, (cannot be used by parish for operating expenses or capital expenditures). These funds can only be used to earn income to make annual charity distributions. The annual charity distributions are based on 4.5% of the average of the last 4-year end charity fund values. There is also a condition that no donated capital to the restricted funds can be used to make annual charity payouts.

14. Choir (Linda Dudar)

The choir director coordinates the liturgical music for the church choir and cantor assistants for all liturgies and services. The choir director works directly with the parish priest in ensuring that information concerning the liturgies and music for services is current and consistent.

Additional duties include:

- Reporting to parish council
- Conducting choir and cantor rehearsals and meetings
- Communicating with families regarding music for funerals, weddings and special events.
- Supporting special feast days such as Praznyk and parish events.

Membership	2020	2019	2018
Choir	50-60	60	60

Key Highlights:

- Choir practices are held twice a month and increase in number as required in preparation for Easter, Christmas and special events such as St. Stephen's 50th Anniversary.
- All interested choir members are welcome and no formal music or vocal training is required.
- Please contact Linda in the choir loft for additional information.



In Memoriam - 2020

Victoria Klym

Ivan Wytrychowski

Roze Magega

Harry Chupik

Ernest Chillack

Nicholas Lanier

Kenneth Wawruch

Mary Josephs

Adrian Sakundiak

Marilyn Kennedy

David Tkachuk

Nestor Shular

Arnold Wawruch

Вічна Память * Vichnaya Pamyat * Everlasting Memory