



St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church

views from the pews

How it all began ...

June 3, 2018

FAREWELL TO FATHER BO ...

Five years ago, in August of 2013 Father Bo started his new job at St. Stephen's. I think back to the day I met him, I did not realize that with him came special talents that have enriched our parish immeasurably over the last five years. We tend to look at a priest as simply our spiritual director and we forget they are human and possess many talents. Here are a few of the wonderful gifts Father Bo has shared with us over the years. A picture says a thousand words ...

Father Bo was instrumental in expanding the work of Pastoral Care at St Stephen's. He set up a registry so that St Stephen's and Assumption of the Virgin Mary parish could work together to make sure that Ukrainian Catholic parishioners in Care Centres throughout the city were not forgotten and he trained a group to take Holy Communion to shut-ins. *Marilyn Comchi*

Fr.Bo was dedicated to encouraging the youth to become active in our parish. He was instrumental in implementing children's programs and sharing his theological knowledge in a manner that the children would relate to. Our family thanks Fr.Bo for all of his time spent at St. Stephen's and with our children. May God continue to bless him and his family with many graces. *Glen and Charlene Kulak*



Father Bo encouraged me to go to church because he made it fun. I am so sad that he is leaving, he understood me really well, and he understands kids really well. *Tatyana Berg*

Father Bo did a wonderful job of encouraging family involvement at St. Stephen's. Due to his efforts, those of us with small children found a home and a community that we did not feel was judgmental of our children's inability to sit still. *Zenon and Andrea Berg*



Fr. Bo is not only a talented iconographer, as shown by the pieces he did for us (eg. cross behind the tabernacle), but a patient, gentle teacher. He is able to teach his students to be true to the principles of iconography while still allowing them to express their own spiritual connection with the subject of their icon.



My first lesson from Fr. Bo was in respect to questions regarding our UCWLC. As our spiritual director Fr. Bo said to me “If what you are doing is for the glory of God then it cannot be wrong.” Father Bo helped me see that the intent is more important than the action. *Phyllis Kozak*

Fr. Bo loves to work with children. They are his favorite people. In working with children, he was allowed to express his own strong inner child.... a large part of his spirit.



The children loved Marilyn, a puppet Fr. Bo brought with him to help the children understand the many mysteries of our faith.



Dear Fr. Bo,
I am deeply and sincerely grateful that you are my brother priest, my friend and mentor. I have experienced you as man of God who has a deep faith with profound humility and charity. The Melkite Catholic Community and I are ever grateful to God and to you for the gift of your priesthood. We are going to miss you Fr. Bo! May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ bless your ministry abundantly. In Christ, *Fr. Ephrem*



Fr.Bo, thank you for your fraternal presence and spiritual light. May God continue to bless your ministry and grant you and your family many blessed and happy years! Многая і благая літа! Fr. Greg