



St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church

views from the pews

How it all began . . .



September 30, 2018

PARISH HALL ICONS Annette Kozicki remembers ...

Have you ever wondered about the icons that are in our parish hall? Let me share some history regarding those folding Icons with you.



Many years ago in the mid-seventies, when we had only the old parish hall, Fr. Andy Muzyka decided to add icons on either side of the stage which served as our altar. He was helping an artist by the name of Denysenko and commissioned him to do the icons for us. When it came time to pay for the works, our parish did not have the funds.

Joe Sakundiak was Parish President at the time and I was Cultural and Education Director. Cultural Classes were getting grants from Federal and Provincial governments, and as funds needed to be fully used up before we could apply again, I approached Joe with an idea that that Cultural Classes pay \$700.00 in lieu of rent to assist. It was considered a legitimate expenditure and so it was done.

Then there remained the problem of spending money on the final gold leaf which was needed to glorify the icons. Fortunately, a generous and dedicated parishioner paid for this completion.

Years later when we were in the new hall, it came to mind that the icons were not remembered or being used. I approached council with the idea of using them in some manner as they had been blessed. All but one director on council were new and were not aware of them. Thankfully, Mike Siroishka remembered them from his youth, and was able to confirm their existence. The icons were located, repaired by Joe Sakundiak and Joe Sudeyko, and installed in their place of honour in our new parish hall and it made for a happy ending.



- ❖ Please continue to share your memories as they are important to our parish family.
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