



Operation St. Nicholas 2021

Sponsoring children in Ukraine at Christmas

Our annual Charity Event, to support the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate in Ukraine and their work with families in need, will combine the efforts of St Stephen's Parish, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Ukrainian Youth Assn Plast and joining us this year will be St Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church in Red Deer Alberta.

St. Stephen received a list of 51 children's names from Zhovkva, L'viv Oblast, and 6 names from Zalischyky, Ternopil. Among the names we have 3 large families with limited means that will be supported and packaged separately. You can join in this event by requesting a child's name and purchasing a \$20-\$30 gift. Your gift will be added to a beautiful bag, received through a corporate donation, and shipped out in time for Святий Миколай.

St Nicholas Day has been one of the main holidays in Western Ukraine for many centuries. The tradition of giving gifts to children, relatives and those in need is specifically celebrated on December 19.

Starting on August 8th (with Covid restrictions lifted) we will be in the Atrium after Sunday mass services handing out packages containing the name of a child, their age, some history of the family and their interests for anyone who wishes to sponsor a child.. Alternatively you can contact Mary Chudyk at 403-993-3734 mlchudyk@shaw.ca or Jo-Anne Heuser at 403-978-9724 to request a child's name.

Gifts should be returned unwrapped to St Stephen Parish before **Sunday September 12th**. If you require assistance to get your package to the church please reach out to Mary or Joanne.

Alternatively if you would like to support this charity event with a **cash donation**, your donation will be used to purchase meals for the families and help offset the cost of shipping by sea container to Ukraine. Cheques are to be made payable to St. Stephen's Parish and tax receipts will be issued.

**“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”
Maya Angelou**



Operation St Nicholas 2020 recipients

