



# ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

>>WE WELCOME ALL WHO JOIN US TODAY IN WORSHIP!<<

DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> 2017

## SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST; THE HOLY VENERABLE-MARTYR EUGENIA

DAY OF STRICT FAST

### *Troparion and Kontakia*

*Troparion:* When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel\* the glorious news of the resurrection\* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,\* they proudly told the apostles:\* "Death has been plundered!\* Christ our God is risen,\* granting to the world great mercy.

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

*Kontakion:* Armed by the Being that defies description\* You defied the man-made idol, O thrice blessed youth.\* In the midst of the unbearable flames you stood and cried out to God:\* "In Your mercy, O gracious One, hasten and come to our aid,"\* for You can do whatever You will.

### *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.

### *Epistle*

Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40

A reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews:

**B**rothers and Sisters, by faith Abraham he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, of whom he had been told, "It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you." He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked blessings for the future on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, "bowing in worship over the top of his staff." By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions about his burial. By faith

Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect !

**Please gather your children to hold candles for the Gospel.**

### *Alleluia*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

verse: O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have told us the work You did in their days.

verse: You saved us from our oppressors and put to shame those who hate us. .

### *Gospel*

Matthew 1:1-25

**A**n account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of

**Address:**  
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**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

**Facebook:**  
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:**

Monday - Thursday & Saturday  
English @ 9:00 am  
Friday at Westview - English  
@ 10:00 am

## HOLY MYSTERIES

### Confession:

*Weekdays: Before or after  
Liturgies or by appointment.  
Sundays: Before and during  
liturgy*

### Marriage, Baptism-Chrismation- Eucharist, Funerals :

*Arrangements with the office*

### Anointing of the Sick:

*For emergencies call  
403-249-4818, press 9*

### Divine Liturgy Intentions :

*Arrangements with the office*

## CLERGY and RELIGIOUS

### Pastor :

*Fr. Greg Faryna  
403-249-4818, ext. 201  
FatherGreg@Protomartyr.ca*

### Associate Pastor:

*Fr. Bo (Bohdan) Nahachewsky  
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FatherBo@Protomartyr.ca*

### Pastor, St. Basil's Melkite Greek Catholic Church

*Fr. Ephrem Kardouh  
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*Facebook: St Basils Melkite Greek  
Catholic Church Calgary*

### PARISH OFFICE

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

*Sacramental Coordinator:  
coordinator@Protomartyr.ca*

### MAINTENANCE

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

### HALL RENTAL INQUIRIES

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

### HALL / KITCHEN

*403-249-4818, ext. 204*

Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon,

fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

### Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia.

## PASTORAL LETTER OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF CANADA ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD 2017

**To the Very Reverend Clergy, Monastics and Religious Sisters,  
Seminarians and Laity of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada**

**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,  
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)**

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

For Canadians it has been an extraordinary year of celebrations as we commemorated the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation. Throughout this great nation communities large and small found their own special way to celebrate. On Canada Day throughout the land there were parades, picnics, family and neighbourhood barbecues, and, of course, fireworks, bringing the day to a glorious close. In each of our families, no doubt, we also celebrated other events: a birthday, an anniversary, a wedding, or a graduation. Celebrations have great meaning as long as we understand what is being celebrated and why we celebrate it. And even if we don't completely understand a particular celebration, as is frequently the case in a multicultural and diverse country such as ours, we can at least tell a joyful celebration from a sorrowful one.

What does Christmas mean to us? Why do we celebrate it? How do we mark the feast? Our consumer society certainly gives us enough notice of the "holiday season" through endless commercials and advertising! We are urged to go to Christmas parties, to make our holiday plans well in advance, to purchase gifts, and to decorate our homes. On various radio and television talk shows we are told to not wait till the last moment to purchase Christmas presents, to make holiday plans early in order to avoid stress. We may even know people who begin their Christmas gift shopping for the next year almost as soon as Christmas is over, already thinking of the people to whom they will want to give a gift, and thus purchasing presents throughout the entire year. We probably also know people who wait till the very last minute to make plans and purchase gifts, only to find that their lives have become topsy-turvy. Then the Christmas celebrations come and go so quickly that all that seemingly remains is an inner emptiness, the so called post-Christmas doldrums, or the after-Christmas party blues. Is that the meaning of Christmas, a season of frenetic commercial activity? Shouldn't we at least question the motives of those who kick off each "holiday season" with a "Black Friday?"



In the Gospel of Luke, the Angel of the Lord announces:

“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” (2: 10-12)

Then the narrative continues:

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” (2:13-14)

So, we are celebrating an event infinitely more important than Canadian Confederation, a family member’s birthday or wedding anniversary. We are celebrating the kind of Good News that comes only once in human history: the birth of a Saviour, a Messiah. Christmas commemorates an event that continues to impact the lives of all men and women of faith: the co-Eternal Son of God became one of us, so that we might share in his Divinity.

Are we ready to celebrate the event, not materially, but spiritually? Did we take advantage of the Philip’s Fast (Pylypivka-Advent) to spend extra time in prayer? Did we limit our food intake and make personal sacrifices? Did we especially think of the needy, both near and far, and engage in works of charity? Did we take advantage of the Holy Mystery (Sacrament) of Reconciliation so that we might be able to sing “God is with us—Emmanuel!” with a pure and open heart? If we have, we truly understand and can appreciate the real reason for the season. If we have not, it is never too late to receive the new-born Saviour in the stillness of a joyful heart, for his message of good news is offered to all men and women of good will. Let us ask for the grace needed to understand the incredible significance of the event. Let us pray, that we might have the courage to proclaim the truth about Christmas, boldly and with faith.

Our rich liturgical poetry for the Feast proclaims:

Today heaven and earth unite, for Christ is born. Today God came to earth in the flesh, and the human race was lifted up to the heavens. Today, for the sake of all, He is seen in the flesh, the One Who by nature is invisible. Let us glorify Him, singing: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace which Your coming has bestowed on us. O Saviour, glory to You!

May each and every one of you be blessed with a Christmas full of joyful and profound celebration.

## CHRISTMAS — NEW YEAR — THEOPHANY



### DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### **Sunday, December 24 – Eve of the Nativity Of Our Lord:**

- ◆ 8:30am – Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)
- ◆ 10:30am – Divine Liturgy (English – with choir)
- ◆ 4:30pm – Christmas Eve Festal Divine Liturgy (children’s service – no choir)
- ◆ 10:00pm – Christmas Vigil – Great Complines
- ◆ 10:30pm – Christmas Eve Festal Divine Liturgy (with choir)

**Monday, December 25 – Nativity of Our Lord:** 10:00am – Divine Liturgy of the Nativity of Our Lord

**Tuesday, December 26 & 27 :**

**Thursday, December 28:** 9:00am - Divine Liturgy

**Friday, December 29:** 10:00am – Divine Liturgy (Westview)

**Saturday, December 30:** 9:00am – Divine Liturgy

#### **Sunday, December 31 – New Year’s Eve:**

- ◆ 8:30am – Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)
- ◆ 10:30am – Divine Liturgy (English – with choir)
- ◆ 5:00pm – Divine Liturgy (English)

#### **Monday, January 1, 2017 – Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord – New Years Day:**

- ◆ 9:00am – Festal Divine Liturgy

**Tuesday, January 2,3 & 4:** 9:00am – Divine Liturgy

**Friday, January 5 – Eve of Theophany:** 10:00am – Divine Liturgy (Westview)

- ◆ 6:00pm – Theophany Liturgy with Water Blessing \*Time changed

#### **Saturday, January 6 – Feast of Theophany:**

- ◆ 9:00am – Theophany Liturgy

### LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Sunday, December 24:**

#### **EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

*8:30am – for Christmas blessings and the intentions and needs of all parishioners*

*10:30am - for Christmas blessings and the intentions and needs of all parishioners*

*5:00pm – for Christmas blessings and the intentions and needs of all parishioners*

**Monday, December 25:**

#### **NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

*10:00am – Festal Divine Liturgy*

**Tuesday, December 26:**

*9:00am – NO Divine Liturgy*

**Wednesday, December 27:**

*9:00am – NO Divine Liturgy*

**Thursday, December 28:**

*9:00am – for blessings for a speedy recovery to good health for Natalie Tysowski*

**Friday, December 29:**

*10:00am – WestView – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners*

**Saturday, December 30:**

*9:00am – for blessings for a speedy recovery to good health for Ed Tysowski*



#### **Sunday, December 31: SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY**

*8:30am – in memory of the repose of the souls of +John & +Elsie Wawruch, +Mary & +Walter Malowany and +Terry Wright*

*10:30am - for blessings for Stan and Marge Owerko and family*

*5:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners*

# DECEMBER 2017/JANUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>24 EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD</b> ♦ 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukrainian ♦ 10:30 am Divine Liturgy ♦ 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Festal Divine Liturgy & Nativity Play ♦ 10:00 pm Christmas Vigil and Great Complines ♦ 10:30 pm Christmas Eve Festal Divine Liturgy	<b>25 NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST</b> ♦ 10:00 am Divine Liturgy ♦ No Open Iconography	<b>26 SYNAXIS OF THE THEOTOKOS</b> ♦ NO Divine Liturgy	<b>27</b> ♦ NO Divine Liturgy	<b>28</b> ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy	<b>29</b>  ♦ 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at Westview	<b>30</b> ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
<b>31</b> ♦ 8:30 am Divine Liturgy: Ukrainian ♦ 10:30 am Divine Liturgy ♦ 1:00 pm Melkite Divine Liturgy - Arabic ♦ 5:00 pm Divine Liturgy	<b>1 FEAST OF CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS</b> ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy ♦ No Open Iconography ♦ No Bible study	<b>2</b> ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy	<b>3</b> ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy ♦ 7:00 pm Property Management Mtg	<b>4</b> ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy ♦ 9:30 am Light Weigh	<b>5</b>  ♦ 10:00 am Divine Liturgy at Westview ♦ 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy with water blessing ♦ 7:00 pm Theophany Potluck dinner	<b>6 FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY</b> ♦ 9:00 am Divine Liturgy

**WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A BLESSED CHRISTMAS SEASON. MAY OUR LORD JESUS BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY !**

**LITURGICAL HELP** (Epistle readers, Hosts/Ushers/Rosary : KofC. Arc store is closed on Christmas

Special thanks to **Andrea Berg** for coordinating the Christmas nativity play this year

The **Office will be closed** Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> – Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> for the holidays. If you require urgent assistance please call Fr. Greg at 403-700-0882.

The UCWLC would like to invite our parish community to participate in a **POT-LUCK SUPPER ON THE EVE OF THEOPHANY, Friday, January 5, 2018 beginning at approximately 7:30 pm following Vespers and Blessing of the Water which will begin at 6:00 pm.**

Parishioners who wish to attend are asked to bring a meatless supper dish such as ones that might be served on a traditional Christmas Eve Supper, or bring a favorite vegetarian dish. Salads and desserts are also welcome. The UCWLC will provide the Kutya and Borscht.

If you are planning to join us please sign up (sheets in the Atrium) so that we have enough Kutya, Borscht and tables set up. Please come a little early & drop off your Potluck contribution in the kitchen before the Liturgy at 6:00 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact Theresa Lewchuk at 403-815-6055 or lewchuk@hotmail.com

St. Stephen's choir will be **CHRISTMAS CAROLING** on SUNDAY, January 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm - 7:00pm.

Please call Choir Director, Linda Dudar at 587-998-8566 for more information and/or to schedule them to come to your home

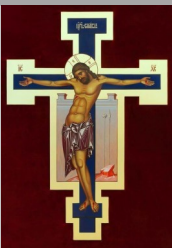
St. Stephen's **MALANKA** is right around the corner on January 12th. Get your tickets today in the atrium as they are selling fast.

Please check the **UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF EDMONTON WINTER SCHEDULE** <http://eeparchy.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Winter-Programs-2018.pdf>

St. Stephen's is proud to present its **50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE CALENDAR**, available now for pick up from the atrium. We hope you enjoy it! Please note that although there is a limited supply today you can expect more to be available throughout the Christmas season.

**KINGDOM QUEST REGISTRATION** has just started. Places are limited.

Please register your children by going to <https://www.saintstephencalgary.ca/kq.html>



**ICONOGRAPHY RETREAT/WORKSHOP JOIN** Fr. Bo Nahachewsky in the beauty of God's creation at this retreat style Icon workshop at camp Oselia. Participants will complete a Byzantine icon of the crucifixion, under Fr. Bo's instruction and will have the opportunity to explore prayer and silent reflection on their own and with the group. There will be a choice of two icons ;one for the beginner and one for those more advanced. DATES: Feb 16-19, 2018 TIMES: Friday 10:00 am - Monday 3:00 pm. COST: Early Bird: \$500.00 before Jan.19, After Jan.19 \$525.00 - covers all supplies, meals and snacks. CONTACT: 780-424-5496, education@edmontoneparchy.com ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Maximum 18 registrants. There are a limited **number of private rooms** so register early to book one. **Deadline for registrations is Feb. 2, 2018. No late registrations accepted.**