

# ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2022

**Address:**  
4903 – 45<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T3E 3W5 Canada

**Office Hours**  
Mon-Thurs 9:00am -2:00pm

**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](http://www.saintstephencalgary.ca)

**Parish Calendar:**  
[www.saintstephencalgary.ca/  
calendar1.html](http://www.saintstephencalgary.ca/calendar1.html)

**Facebook:**  
[https://www.facebook.com  
protomartyr.ca](https://www.facebook.com/protomartyr.ca)

**Eparchy Website:**  
[www.edmontoneparchy.com](http://www.edmontoneparchy.com)

## **DIVINE LITURGIES:**

**Sunday Services:**  
8:30 am—Ukr/Eng  
10:05—Rosary  
10:30 am—English  
(live-streamed on Facebook &  
[www.saintstephencalgary.ca/](http://www.saintstephencalgary.ca/))  
5:00 pm—English

## **Weekday Services:**

**Wednesdays & Thursdays** at 9:00am  
**Saturdays**  
5:00 pm Confessions  
6:00 pm Vespers



## **Sunday before the Theophany**

*Our Holy Father Pope Sylvester of Rome (335)*

### ***Troparia and Kontakia***

***Troparion, Tone 6:*** Angelic powers were upon Your tomb\* and the guards became like dead men;\* Mary stood before Your tomb\* seeking Your most pure body.\* You captured Hades without being overcome by it.\* You met the Virgin and granted life.\* O Lord, risen from the dead,\* glory be to You! Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

***Kontakion, Tone 6:*** With His life-giving hand\* Christ our God, the Giver of life,\* raised all the dead from the murky abyss\* and bestowed resurrection upon humanity.\* He is for all the Saviour,\* the resurrection and the life, and the God of all. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

***Theotokion, Tone 6:*** Undaunted patroness of Christians,\* O steadfast intermediary with the Creator,\* turn not away from the suppliant voices of sinners,\* but in your kindness come to help us who cry out to you in faith.\* Be quick to intercede, make haste to plead,\* for you are ever the patroness of those who honour you, O Mother of God.

### ***Prokeimenon, Tone 6***

Save Your people, O Lord,\* and bless Your inheritance.

***verse:*** Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence. (*Psalms 27:9,1*)

***Epistle (2 Tim 4:5-8):*** Brothers and sisters, but you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the

good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

### ***Epistle***

#### ***2 Timothy 4:5-8***

Timothy, my son, be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

### ***Alleluia, Tone 8***

***verse:*** God, be merciful to us and bless us.

***verse:*** Make the light of Your face shine upon us and have mercy on us. (*Psalms 66:2*)

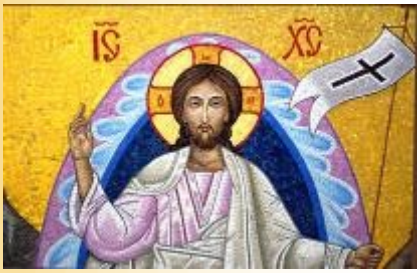
### ***Gospel—Mark 1:1-8***

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets:

“Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.”

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the LORD;  
Make His paths straight.’”



## HOLY MYSTERIES

### CONFESSION:

Saturdays 5:00 to 5:45 pm  
or by Appointment  
403-249-4818, ext. 2

### MARRIAGE, BAPTISM-CHRISMATION- EUCCHARIST, FUNERALS :

Arrangements with the Pastor  
403-249-4818, ext. 2

### ANointing OF THE SICK:

For emergencies call  
403-249-4818, ext. 9

### DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS :

Arrangements with the office

## CLERGY & RELIGIOUS

### Pastor :

Fr. Michael Bombak  
FatherMichael@Protomartyr.ca  
Office:403-249-4818, ext. 2

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

Pastor: Fr. Samer Naaman  
403-249-4818, ext. 3  
stbasilmelkitecalgary@gmail.com  
Facebook: St Basils Melkite Greek  
Catholic Church Calgary

## PARISH OFFICE

### Office Administrator:

Linda Buck 403-249-4818, ext. 0  
office@Protomartyr.ca

### Sacramental Coordinator:

Kim Bombak  
Sacraments@Protomartyr.ca

### Communications Coordinator:

Mirna Farahat  
coordinator@Protomartyr.ca

## HALL RENTAL INQUIRIES

Maria Dwulit, cell: 403-816-5610,  
email: Hall@Protomartyr.ca

## HALL & KITCHEN

403-249-4818, ext. 6

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "There

comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

### Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (Psalm 148:1)



## The Feast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Wednesday Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Theophany Vigil and Water Blessing: <https://youtu.be/ucDtUGQw9p0>

Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022: 9:00 am : FEAST OF THEOPHANY

4:00pm – Blessing of the Bow. postponed until Jan 19<sup>th</sup> 4 PM".

Please sign up- <https://abvmcalgary.flocknote.com/signup/78093>

## EXPLANATION OF THE ICON OF THE THEOPHANY :

The word Theophany originates from two Greek words, *Theos* – God, and *Phainein* – showing. Therefore, it literally means a "revelation of God" in Greek (Θεοφάνεια). This event is the first revelation of the Trinity in the life of Christ. Jesus Christ; God become a man; the Messiah is central to the icon. The semi-circle at the top of the Icon symbolizes heaven from which comes the voice of God the Father. The Father expresses His pleasure in His Son: *This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.* Mt 3:17. From the Father comes forth the Spirit of God which *descends like a dove and alights upon Him.* Mt 3:16.

Jesus, the Messiah is easily identifiable by the nimbus (halo) surrounding the His head bearing a cruciform containing the Greek letters *omikron, omega, nu* – "I am He who is" the name of God in Ex 3:14. Outside the nimbus (halo) are the Greek letters IC XC – the Christogram. In icons of the Theophany, Christ is depicted either completely naked or minimally clothed. He is the second Adam (1 Cor 15). In shame, the first Adam hid from God in his nakedness. Christ, who is both God and man, is unashamed. In Him we see the beauty of undefiled humanity. As He submits to John's baptism, it is the Messiah that in actuality sanctifying the world. Note that His hand is in a sign of blessing. Unlike our baptism where the waters cleanse us of our sins, here, it is Christ Who cleanses and sanctifies the waters. All of creation is baptized at this moment.

In this event is a meeting of heaven and earth as evidenced by the opening of heaven and the presence of the angels. Christ in the middle is that bridge between the two. We are reminded that icons reveal not simply the physical but the spiritual reality. The angels are not mentioned in the accounts of this event, but we know that they are there, ready to attend to Him. Their hands are veiled, depicting their reverence for Him whom they serve. They are in awe that He has condescended to submit to this Baptism. We read about this in the hymnography of the feast: *The angels, beholding Him, were afraid: heaven was filled with wonder and the earth shook.* (Sessional Hymn, Kathisma 3 & Small Litany). There are small creatures which appear to be fleeing from Christ. They represent the Jordan river and the Red sea as we read in Scripture: *The sea saw and fled, the Jordan turned back* Ps114:3.

Christ God, the creator of all that is, stands in His creation and creation recognizes Him as reflected in the Psalms: *You divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the dragons in the waters.* Ps 74:13. *When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; the very deep trembled.* Ps 77:16

It is significant that John stands at the right hand of Christ where the prophet Elijah stands in the icon of the transfiguration on Mount Tabor. This links the first great theophany in the life of Christ to that which occurs in the transfiguration. As do all the prophets, the lives of both Elijah and John ultimately point us to Christ. John bows to Jesus, the one who he is baptizing but who, in reality, baptizes the whole world. In many icons of the Theophany John's gaze is directed in awe toward the revelation of the Triune God. He recognizes who stands before him. Jesus the Christ, one in the Holy Trinity.

We recall that it was the Jordan river that, enabled by God, the People of God crossed, moving from East to West. Thus, they entered into the promised land and God's covenant with His people was fulfilled. In the icon, John stands on the west side of the river (earth) and the angels on the east (heaven). In this event, Christ initiates a movement from the west to the east; from the old covenant to the new; from the old, promised land to the new, promised land.

There is a tree below John which bears an ax. This reflects what John has been teaching. *Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.* Mt. 3:10. All the baptized are continually called to repentance and to bear fruit for the Kingdom of God. As part of the new covenant, the faithful are not made sons and daughters of God by their ancestral heritage but by their response to God's calling and the fulfillment of their baptismal promises. Therefore, this feast reminds us of our own baptismal promises and urges us not to become spiritually lazy but to work to fulfill them.

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# Liturg y H e l p e r s



St. Stephen's Parish Council is interested in encouraging Parishioners to consider getting involved in various aspects of our Liturgy for all ages. Plans are in the works to re-introduce Parishioners to participate in the following:

- Rosary prior to 10:30am liturgy
- Epistle reading at all liturgies
- All children are invited to hold candles during the gospel reading at all liturgies
- New choir members are welcome
- Myrrhbearing Girls and Altar Boys – embracing our children's roles within the church

Parishioners are currently involved with Hosting, Ushering, Candle Holding, Collection and Cleaning. We encourage all Parishioners to help in a way they are comfortable. Over the next number of weeks, we will focus on re-introducing the Ministry Scheduler Pro application for organizing our liturgical scheduling. We would love to see you utilize your talents to assist with all aspects of our liturgy which are available. If interested, please contact any of the following Parishioners for more information and having your name added to the list of liturgical help in our Parish.

- |                             |              |                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Choir Director;             | Linda Dudar  | <a href="mailto:lindadudar@shaw.ca">lindadudar@shaw.ca</a> or (587) 998-8566               |
| • Liturgical Director;      | Len Beblow   | <a href="mailto:Liturgical@protomartyr.ca">Liturgical@protomartyr.ca</a> or (403) 589-2086 |
| • Leading the Rosary;       | Bill Lewchuk | <a href="mailto:kc4life@telus.net">kc4life@telus.net</a> or (403) 850-5859                 |
| • Epistle Reading;          | Glen Kulak   | <a href="mailto:glen.kulak@icloud.com">glen.kulak@icloud.com</a> or (403) 831-3376         |
| • Myrrh Bearers/Altar Boys; | Kim Bombak   | <a href="mailto:Sacraments@Protomartyr.ca">Sacraments@Protomartyr.ca</a>                   |



## DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Saturday, January 1:**  
**CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD**

- ❖ 5:00pm – Confessions
- ❖ 6:00pm - Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 2:**  
**SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY**

- ❖ 8:30am – for the repose of the souls of +Julian Sanchez Amador and +Eustacio Sanchez Munoz
- ❖ 10:30am – for the repose of the soul of +Josephine Procyk
- ❖ 10:30am – for the health & wellbeing of the Philip, Rana and Buchinski families
- ❖ 5:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

**Wednesday, January 5:**

- ❖ 9:00am – in memory of the repose of the soul of +Maria Elder
- ❖ 7:00 pm: Theophany Vigil and Water Blessing

**Thursday, January 6:**  
**FEAST OF THEOPHANY**

- ❖ 9:00am – in memory of the repose of the souls of +Ed Sakundiak and daughter +Carolyn Taillon
- ❖ 4:00pm – Blessing of the Bow – postponed until Jan 19th 4 PM. postponed until Jan 19th 4 PM". Please sign up – <https://bit.ly/3zeLudQ>

**Friday, January 7: (Westview)**  
10:00am – for the intentions and needs of all the Westview residents

**Saturday, January 8:**  
**NO CONFESSIONS**

- ❖ 6:00pm - Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 9:**  
**SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY**

- ❖ 8:30am – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners
- ❖ 10:30am – for the repose of the soul of +Terry Popel
- ❖ 5:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

The Church will be limited to 110 people, with overflow seating in the hall (pre-registration/registration are not required). We will keep counts of attendees.

## Liturgies Live-Streaming

**Sunday Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday before Theophany:** <https://youtu.be/Z-qPRx2xqrg>

**Wednesday Jan 5<sup>th</sup> Theophany Vigil and Water Blessing:** <https://youtu.be/ucDtUGQw9p0>

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022



St. Stephen's offers a First Communion program to teach children and their families about God, His Church and the Sacraments. It prepares children to celebrate their first Confession and their First Solemn Communion, teaching them what Life with Christ is about, and to encourage them to take more responsibility for their own spiritual wellbeing. Classes are set to begin on Sunday, January 23, 2022. Lessons will take place on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. There are a total of 10 Lessons ending with First Reconciliation and First Solemn Communion. In the light of the pandemic, we realize that our FSC classes may need to be re-structured in an online format rather than in person. We are flexible and will accommodate both Covid restrictions and family preferences for either instructional format.

For more information please contact Kathy Livesey at [kalivesey@shaw.ca](mailto:kalivesey@shaw.ca). For registration, please visit our website at : [www.saintstephencalgary.ca/first-solemn-communion.html](http://www.saintstephencalgary.ca/first-solemn-communion.html)



Fr. Cristino Bouvette, a local Catholic Priest and man of Indigenous heritage will be offering a talk focused on authentic Truth and Reconciliation following our Saturday Vespers 6 PM, Saturday January 15<sup>th</sup>.



## PICK UP TODAY...

2022 donation envelopes and calendars are available for pick up in the atrium. Please note that some envelope numbers have been changed for more efficient processing.

Thank you for your continued generosity – May God bless you always!



# Highlights from the children Christmas Divine Liturgy



Photo credits : Stan K.



## WE NEED YOUR HELP! Sandwich / Snack Sunday

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month

UCWLC request parish members and families to participate in supporting the "Street Sisters" who are in need of 65 lunches.

WHAT is NEEDED? A loaf of sandwiches, ONLY peanut butter and jam/jelly, Cheeze Whiz or Nutella. Pack each sandwich in individual sandwich bags. ALSO: granola bars, juice boxes, bottled water, bags of apples or oranges and fruit cups.

For further information contact Katherine Letwin 403-922-9768 Cell/Text

## This Winter Program guide includes everything from:

- Family programming
- Prayer and reflection
- Children and youth – sunday programs
- Sadochok
- Ridna Shkola
- Sacramental preparation
- Altar servers, children of mary, etc.
- Youth groups and activities
- Scripture studies
- Adult faith formation
- Ministry training
- Choir
- Online Ukrainian language classes
- Newman Theological College

<https://bit.ly/300Bz1X>

*click here*  
→

WINTER PROGRAM GUIDE  
JANUARY - APRIL  
2022

From January to April 2022 in the Edmonton Eparchy.