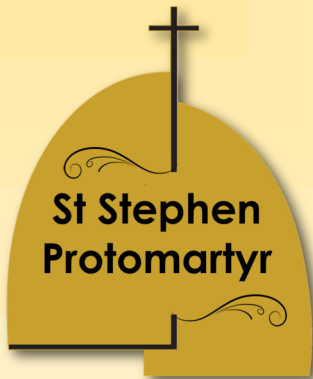


ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY 4, 2026



Address:
4903 – 45th Street S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T3E 3W5 Canada

Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 9:00am –3:00pm

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

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

DIVINE LITURGIES:

Sunday Divine Liturgies:

8:30 am—Bilingual
** 10:05—Rosary **
10:30 am – English

Saturday Services:

3:00 pm—Confessions
4:00 pm — Great Vespers
5:00 pm - Divine Liturgy

Weekday Divine Liturgies:

9:00am - Tues / Wed / Thurs / Fri

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY

Octoechos Tone 5;

Synaxis of the Seventy Holy Apostles;

Our Venerable Father Theoctistus, Hegumen of the Cuomo Monastery in Sicily.

Troparia and Kontakia

Troparion, Tone 5: Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word,* co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,* and born of the Virgin for our salvation.* For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death* and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Troparion, Tone 4: Make ready, O Zebulon,* and prepare yourself, O Nephtali;* O river Jordan, stop and receive with joy* the Master coming to be baptized.* O Adam, rejoice with the first mother, Eve,* and do not hide yourselves as before in paradise.* For having seen you unclothed* Christ has appeared to clothe you with the first robe:* He has appeared to renew all creation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 4: Today the Lord stood in Jordan's current telling John:* Do not be afraid to baptize Me,* for I have come to save Adam, the first man.

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 Timothy 4:5-8

Timothy, my son, as for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for 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 good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:



HOLY MYSTERIES

CONFESION:

Saturdays 3:00 pm
Sundays 10:00 am
OR by appointment
403-249-4818, ext. 1

MARRIAGE, BAPTISM-CHRISMATION-

EUCHARIST, FUNERALS :

Contact the office at
Office@Protomartyr.ca

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

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

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS :

Arrangements with the office

CLERGY & RELIGIOUS

Pastor :

Father Janko Herbut

FatherJanko@protomartyr.ca
Office:403-249-4818, ext. 1

PARISH OFFICE

Office Administrator:

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

Communications Coordinator:

Mirna Farahat
coordinator@Protomartyr.ca

HALL RENTAL INQUIRIES

Contact the office : 403-249-4818

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The

one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have 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*)

Неділя перед Богоявленням. Передсвяття Різдва Христового. Св. мц. Юліанії. 4 січня.

Тропарі і Кондаки

Тропаріон (Тоне 5): Собезначальне Слово Отцю і Духові,* від Діви роджене на спасіння наше,* оспіваймо, вірні, і поклонімся,* бо благоволив плоттю зійти на хрест* і смерть перетерпіти, і воскресити умерлих* славним воскресінням Своїм.

Тропар (глас 4): Готуйся, Завулоне, зодягнись у прикраси, Нефталіме,* Йордане ріко, зупинися* і радісно прийми Владика, що йде хреститись.* Веселися, Адаме, з праматір'ю,* і не скривайтесь, як колись у раю,* бачивши вас нагими, він появився,* щоб зодягнути в первісну одежу.* Христос з'явився, бажаючи оновити все творіння.

+Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові.

Кондак (глас 5): До аду, Спасе мій, зійшов Ти* і врата сокрушив Ти як всесильний,* умерлих як Творець воскресив з Собою* і смерті жало сокрушив Ти,* і Адам від клятви ізбавився, Чоловіколюбче.* Тому і всі зовемо: Спаси нас, Господи.

І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.

Кондак (глас 4): У струях днесь Йординових був Господь,* каже Йоанові:* Не бійся мене хрестити,* я бо прийшов спасти Адама первозданного.

Прокімен (глас 6):

Спаси, Господи, людей твоїх і благослови насліддя твоє (*Пс. 27,9*).

Стих: До Тебе, Господи, взиватиму, Боже мій, щоб не відвертався Ти мовчки від мене (*Пс. 27,1*).

Апостол: 2 Тим; 4, 5-8.

Сину Тимотею, будь тверезим у всьому, знось напасті, виконуй працю євангелиста. Виконуй твою службу. Бо я вже готовий пролити мою кровну жертву, і час мого відходу настав. Я змагався добрим змагом, скінчив біг, віру зберіг. Тепер же приготований мені вінець справедливості, що дасть мені того дня Господь, справедливий Суддя; та не лише мені, але всім тим, що з любов'ю чекали його появи.

Алилуя (глас 5)

Стих: Боже, ущедри нас і благослови нас (*Пс. 66,2*).

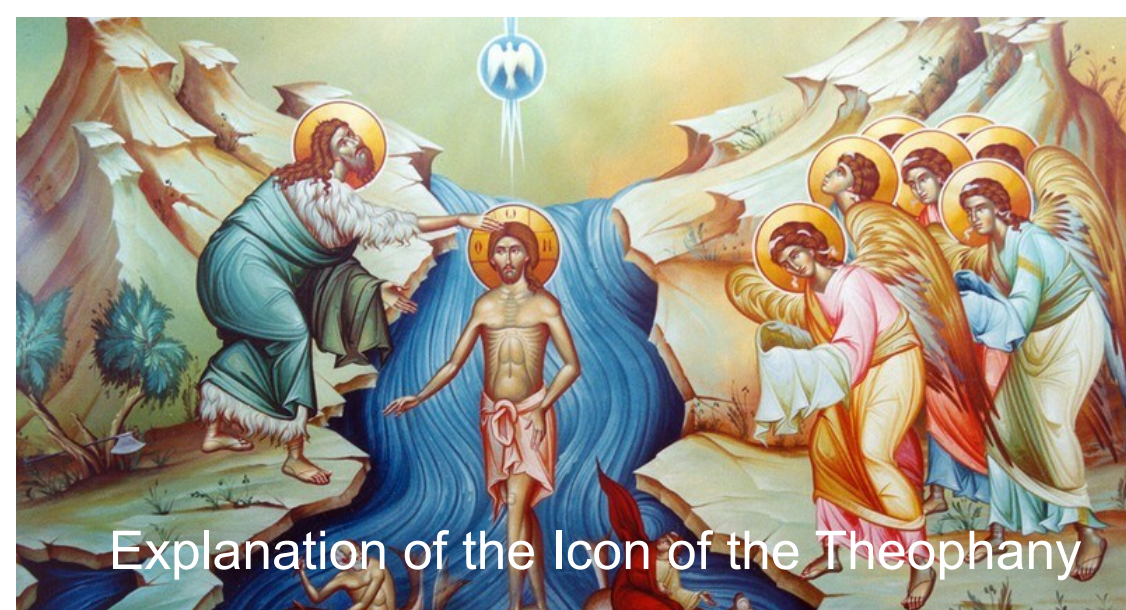
Стих: Просвіти лице твоє на нас і помилуй нас (*Пс. 66,2*).

Євангеліє: Марка 1, 1-8.

Початок євангелія Ісуса Христа, Сина Божого. Як написано в пророка Ісаї: Ось я посилаю мого посланця перед тобою, який приготує тобі дорогу. Голос вопіючого в пустині: готуйте дорогу Господеві, вирівняйте стежки його. Так виступив Іван, християчи у пустині та проповідуючи хрищення покаяння на прощення гріхів. І виходили до нього вся країна юдейська та всі мешканці Єрусалиму, христились від нього в ріці Йордані і визнавали гріхи свої. Іван був одягнений в. одягу з верблюжого волосу, носив ремінний пояс на бедрах і їв сарану й дикий мед. Він проповідував, кажучи: Слідом за мною йде сильніший від мене, якому я недостойний, нахилившись, розв'язати ремінця його сандалів. Я вас христив водою, а він христитиме Духом Святим.

Причасний

Хваліте Господа з небес,* хваліте Його на висотах (*Пс 148,1*). * Алилуя (х3).



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.

There is a significance to the mountains in the background. We know from the Old Testament that mountains are a place of encounter with God (Abraham, Moses etc.). Here the mountains witness to a divine encounter at this moment. It is as if they are reaching toward the centre of the icon where the Trinity is revealed. Through this, we understand that all of the creation bows down to God.

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)

Although this particular icon does not show them, at the bottom of many Theophany Icons, 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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DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 3:

- ❖ 3:00pm – Confessions
- ❖ 4:00pm – Great Vespers
- ❖ 5:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Sunday, January 4:

SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY

- ❖ 8:30am – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners
- ❖ 10:30am – for the repose of the soul of +Stephen Lazuta. Vichnaya Pamyat!

Tuesday, January 6:

FEAST OF THEOPHANY

- ❖ 9:00am – Divine Liturgy with blessing of Jordan water
- ❖ 7:00pm – Divine Liturgy with blessing of Jordan water

Wednesday, January 7:

- ❖ 9:00am - for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Thursday, January 8:

- ❖ 9:00am – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Friday, January 9:

- ❖ 9:00am - for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Saturday, January 10:

- ❖ 3:00pm – Confessions
- ❖ 4:00pm – Great Vespers
- ❖ 5:00pm – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners

Sunday, January 11:

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

- ❖ 8:30am – for the intentions and needs of all parishioners
- ❖ 10:30am – for the repose of the soul of +Marcy Bobyn. Vichnaya Pamyat!
- ❖ 10:30am – for the repose of the souls of +Metro and +Rose Lukie. Vichnaya Pamyat!

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **FEAST OF THEOPHANY: TUESDAY, JAN 6th.** Please bring your own container:
9:00am – Festal Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Jordan Water
7:00pm – Festal Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Jordan Water
- **BLESSING OF THE BOW: SATURDAY, JAN 10th @ 2:00PM** – Please join us, along with the parishioners of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as we bless the Bow River. Meeting place is at Sandy Beach Park, same place as last year. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided by the Knights of Columbus.
- **ALWAYS OUR PARISHIONERS:** We are introducing an Eparchial initiative called **Always Our Parishioners** which is intended to help bolster our current pastoral outreach to the sick, isolated and lonely of our parish. If you know of someone in need of pastoral care, please pick up an information card from the Narthex, fill it out at your convenience and then return it to the box provided. This card would then provide contact information of persons potentially in need of a phone call and/or visit from Fr Janko or his volunteer team. This contact information would be logged by the parish office for future visits.
- **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** First Solemn Holy Communion classes will begin in January of the New Year. Start date to be determined and more information to come. If you would like to register your son or daughter in our program, please contact Fr. Janko at 780-951-6126.
- **ПЕРШЕ СВЯТЕ ПРИЧАСТЯ:** Перші заняття Святого Причастя розпочнуться в січні Нового року. Дата початку буде визначена, а також буде більше інформації. Якщо ви хочете зареєструвати свого сина або доньку в нашій програмі, будь ласка, зв'яжіться з отцем Янко за номером 780-951-6126.
- **ADULT CATECHESIS: FRIDAY EVENINGS @ 7:00 PM. Sessions will resume January 9th.**
- **PRAY FOR PEACE: MONDAY EVENINGS @ 7:00 P.M.** All are invited to come and pray the rosary for peace and an end to the war in Ukraine. Fr. Janko will also be available following the rosary for an open chat session or to answer any questions you might have.
- **МОЛІТЬСЯ ЗА МИР: ВЕЧІР ПОНЕДІЛКА @ 19:00** Усіх запрошують прийти та помолитися на вервиці за мир та припинення війни в Україні. О. Янко також буде доступний після вервиці для відкритого чату або для відповідей на будь-які ваші запитання.
- **ST STEPHEN'S MALANKA: FRIDAY, JAN 9th, 2026.** Let's ring in the New Year together! Please join us for our annual Malanka event featuring music by the amazing Absolute Band and entertainment by the renowned Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Society.
6pm: Cocktails and Appetizers
7pm: Buffet
8:30pm: Dance
Tickets are \$70/person or \$15 for Dance only and late lunch
Please contact Ambrose: 403-862-3269 or Linda: 403-249-4818 ext 0 for tickets or more information.
- **UCWLC STREET SISTERS: SUNDAY, JAN 11 (2nd Sunday of the Month).** THANK YOU for your continued and generous support for the "Street Sister" lunches. May your Servant Hearts be Blessed! Since March we have been able to increase our lunch bags to 100. Thank you for continuing to watch for our need of items on a monthly basis.
We require protein shakes like Ensure, Tuna and Chicken snack packages, Granola Bars, Individual Juice Boxes, Fresh Fruit, apples and oranges and Water ONLY.
Any comments or questions, Please contact Theresa Lewchuk 403-815-6055 Cell/Text
- **2025 PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORIES: The photo directories are IN!** If you had your picture taken in the spring/summer months with our photographer, you are entitled to receive a free copy of the photo directory. They are available for pick up from the narthex. If you were unable to participate or would like more copies, they are available for purchase for \$20. Please contact the office.
- **2026 DONATION ENVELOPES: Next year's donation envelopes are available to pick up from the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support to St Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church!**