



550 West 14 Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 1P6

Українська Католицька Парафія  
Покров Пресвятої Богородиці

Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Ukrainian Catholic Parish

E-Mail: [office@stmarysbc.com](mailto:office@stmarysbc.com)

Phone: 604.879.5830

Fax: 604.874.2727

Website: [www.stmarysbc.com](http://www.stmarysbc.com)

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*The No. 1 priority for ... the church is evangelization:  
"Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ in today's world."*

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8 січня, 2017

Volume 62 No. 2

January 8, 2017

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**Служби Божі/Divine Liturgies**

*Неділя/Sunday: 8:30 am in English*

*10:30 am (sung) in Ukrainian*

**У Свята/Holy Day of Obligation**

*10:30 am and 7:00 pm*

**Щодня/Daily Scheduled**

*7:30 am and 8:30 am Liturgy in Chapel*

**Сповідь/Confessions:** - 15 minutes before  
and 15 minutes in the beginning of the Divine  
Liturgy - Or by appointment during the week

**Baptism** by appointment

**Anointing of the Sick/Hospital Visits/**

*Eucharist for the sick - any time*

**Marriages** - the arrangements with the priest  
have to be made months before the marriage

**Funerals** - by arrangement

**оо. Василіяни/Basilian Fathers serving the**

**Parish:** - Father Serafym Grygoruk, OSBM

Administrator. Email: [serh70@outlook.com](mailto:serh70@outlook.com)

Father Marcos Zubyk, OSBM

Father Joseph Pidskalny, OSBM - local Superior

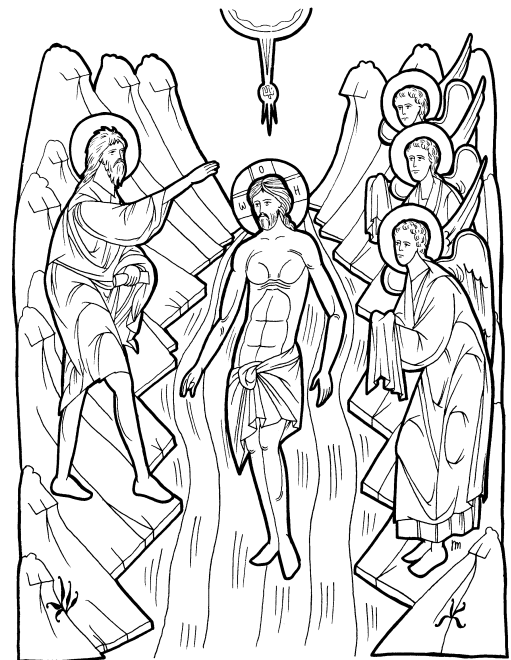
Most Rev. Severian Yakymyshyn, OSBM

Bishop-Emeritus

**Парафія Покрови Пресвятої  
Богородиці** вітає всіх гостей,  
приятелів та парафіян, які беруть  
участь у цій Службі Божі.

**Неділя після Богоявлення  
Преподобний Юрій Хозевіт і  
Преподобна Домініка**

**Матей 4: 12-17**



**Sunday after Theophany  
Venerable George the Chosebite and  
Venerable Dominica**

**Mathew 4:12-17**

**The Protection of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary Parish** welcomes all  
guests, friends, and Parishioners  
participating in this Divine Liturgy.

**НИНІ: Неділя, 8 січня: – Парафіяльний Різдвяний обід – СКАСОВАНИЙ!**

**– Середа, 11 січня: –9:30 рано – Третій Час і презентація “Walking in the Footsteps of Christ” у класі, під церквою.**

**– Понеділок, 16 січня, о 7:00 вечора – Збори Парафіяльної ради.**

**>> ЙОРДАНСЬКЕ БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯ ДОМІВ** - Якщо Ви бажаєте, щоби отець прийшов поблагословити Вашу хату йорданською водою, будь-ласка, заповніть бланк паперу, який Ви можете найти при вході до церкви.

**>> Конвертки з недільними пожертвами на 2017 рік** знаходяться в притворі церкви. Просимо взяти їх додому. Ці особи, які не мають недільних конверток, але хотіли б їх мати, то просимо ласкаво залишити у Парафіяльній Канцелярії своє ім'я, адресу й телефонічне число.

**>> Календарі.** Ви можете найти календарі при вході до церкви. Просимо взяти один календар на родину.

**>> SAINT MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA. COME AND SHARE A TIME OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL AND INSPIRATION FOR 2017!**

The Eparchy of New Westminster invites you to join Fr. Brian Kolodiejchuk, MC for an event to learn about the life and legacy of St. Teresa of Calcutta. Fr. Brian was born in Winnipeg and is a Ukrainian Catholic priest. He knew St. Theresa very well and was the postulator for the Cause for Canonization of St. Teresa. Fr. Brian will be sharing interesting insights into the process to have this amazing Catholic nun declared a Saint by Pope Francis. He will share Mother Teresa's message of “love in living action” – especially to the poor – beginning in one's own family, parish community, work, that is, where we are. Fr. Brian will also share some of his experiences as a member of the Missionaries of Charity Fathers. **VICTORIA: SATURDAY JANUARY 14, 1–3:30 PM** St. Nicholas the Wonderworker Ukrainian Catholic Parish, 1112 Caledonia Avenue, Victoria (call Fr. Yuriy, 250–384–2292 for tickets & info)

**VANCOUVER: SUNDAY JANUARY 15 AT 1–3:30 PM** St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Parish 550 West–14th Avenue, Vancouver (call Deacon Mykhailo, 604–524–8824 for tickets & info) You can also purchase the tickets at our St. Mary's Parish Office.

**KELOWNA MONDAY JANUARY 16 AT 6:30 – 9:00 PM** Dormition of the Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Parish, 1091 Coronation Avenue, Kelowna (call Fr. Andrzej, 250–860–7295 for tickets & info)

**Vibrant Parish Prayer:** O God, Creator of Heaven and Earth! Because of your indescribable love for us, you sent your Only–Begotten Son, Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ – The Way, The Truth, and The Life – and our Salvation. In His name, we turn to You. Strengthen our hearts and minds in Christian love and in unity of purpose as we strive to build a Vibrant Parish. Give us the grace to model our lives according to the Word of God. Instill in us the desire to pray and to celebrate the Holy Mysteries as one Christian Family in our Parish Community. Inspire us to follow Your great command to be a servant to the less fortunate among us! Grant this, O Lord, through the mercies and love for mankind of Your Only–Begotten Son with whom You are blessed, together with Your All–Holy, Good and Life–Giving Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen!

**TODAY – January 8:– Parish Christmas Dinner – CANCELLED!**

–Bible Study –12:30 PM PM – Bible Study – Video Presentation. Please, come.

–**Wednesday, Jan. 11**, at 9:30 AM – Third Hour. A Presentation “Walking in the Footsteps of Christ” downstairs in the church. Please come!

–**Monday, Jan. 16**, at 7:00 PM – The Parish Council Meeting.

>> **JORDAN HOME BLESSING** – If you would like one of the Fathers to visit your family & bless your home with Jordan water please fill out the Jordan Home Blessing **sign-up sheet** that you can find at the entrance to the church. *Or contact us by email to the Parish Office: [office@stmarysbc.com](mailto:office@stmarysbc.com) or phone: 604-879-5830*

>>**Sunday donation envelopes for 2017** – Please pick them up in the church vestibule. If you wish to have donation envelopes, please leave your name, mailing address and phone number at the Parish Office.

>> **Calendars.** You can find calendars in the back of the church. Please, one calendar per family.

### **Monthly Intentions of the Holy Father for January**

**Evangelization: Christians at the service of the challenges of humanity.**

That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord’s teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

### **THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD** (<http://www.sspp.ca/Theophany.htm>)

In the earliest days of the Church, Christians celebrated the manifestations of Christ in the world, the birth, the visit of the three Magi, and the baptism on January 6. This replaced the winter solstice. Instead of worshiping the sun, we worship Christ the Sun of Righteousness. At the beginning of the 4th century, the solstice was brought forward to December 25th and the Church brought forward the birth of Jesus to that date by 354 A.D. in Rome.

In the Western Church, Epiphany means the manifestation of Christ to the world. Jesus was visited by the Magi who followed a star to find Him. They represent the Gentiles. Theophany is the word used in the Eastern Church because the baptism is the manifestation of God, of the Holy Trinity. God the Father spoke, “This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17). The Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed these words as true, as Jesus came up from the waters of the Jordan River.

One of the verses of the Feast of Theophany is “Light of Light, Christ our God, God made manifest, has shone upon the world. O people, let us worship Him.” In the Gospel of John, Jesus proclaimed Himself to be the Light of the world.

This great feast, like the Nativity of the Lord, has a fore-feast. All creation, especially the river Jordan in the deep cleft of the earth, is summoned to be ready to receive its Creator who comes in humility to be baptized by the Forerunner, so that all of humanity may be saved.

Our life on earth is especially dependent upon water and light. Water covers most of the earth and interacts with the entire cycle of nature to help things grow. In a comparable way, light is essential to photosynthesis, the miracle behind everything that is green. It causes creative changes in the atmosphere and on the surface of the earth. Light allows us to appreciate nature's rich colours. And these two elements—water and light—are the chief symbols for the Feast of Theophany.

### **THE BLESSING OF WATER**

The final day of the Christmas season and one of the greatest feasts of the Eastern Church is Theophany or Epiphany. In the Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic Church, we celebrate this feast on the eve of Theophany (January 5) and on January 6. A whole series of traditions practiced by Ukrainians for many centuries are linked with this major feast day. First and foremost among the traditions is the Solemn Blessing of Holy Water. Wherever circumstances permit, this solemn blessing of water takes place by a river, lake, or pond. However, if none of these are near, the liturgical rites of the blessing are held in church. This blessing commemorates our Lord's baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan River when the Blessed Trinity was revealed to the people for the first time. As Jesus was standing in the water, the Holy Spirit in the appearance of a dove was seen above Him, while the voice of God the Father was heard to say, "This is my beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased!"

During the ceremony the incensing of the water signifies the descent of the Holy Spirit. The three candles that are immersed and snuffed out in the water, remind us that through Christ's baptism our sins are destroyed and forgiven.

The many benefits we derive from holy water are suitably expressed in the inspiring prayers of the blessing itself. In these prayers, the priest asks God to endow the water with the power to sanctify us, to forgive sins, to cure the sick, to purify the souls and bodies of those who draw and drink this water, to alleviate their suffering, to sanctify their homes and to protect them from the incursions of the devil and from other afflictions.

It is for this reason that the faithful take this holy water home. It is fitting and right to have the home blessed by a priest or deacon. However, the head of the household can sprinkle all the rooms in the home as well as the surrounding yard. The remaining water is kept for future use.

Among its many uses, holy water may be used to bless oneself or others before undertaking a long journey, or we may bless our children with it before putting them to bed to protect them from possible harm. Sick people may drink some of the holy water or be sprinkled with it, humbly asking God for the grace of recovery. In times of grave temptation or family difficulties and afflictions, the use of holy water often brings strength and consolation.

It is evident, therefore, that in many events in our lives, holy water, as a sign of and petition for God's grace, can be very beneficial if taken and used with God's assistance.