



Українська Католицька Парафія
Покров Пресвятої Богородиці

Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Parish

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*“Today the Virgin stands before us in the temple,
And together with the choirs of saints prays to God for us.”*

27 грудня, 2020

Volume 65 No. 40

December 27, 2020

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

Щодня/Daily Scheduled

7:30 AM in Chapel

Сповідь/Confessions: 30 minutes before
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
must be made at least 6 months before the
marriage

Funerals - by arrangement

Basilian Fathers serving the Parish:

Fr. Joseph Pidskalny, OSBM - Administrator

Fr. Iryney Valyavka, OSBM - Assistant Pastor

*Most Rev. Severian Yakymyshyn, OSBM
Bishop-Emeritus*

**Неділя по Різдві
Св. Стефана**



**Sunday after Christmas
Feast of St. Stephen**

Galatians 1:11-19
Matthew 2:13-23

TODAY: Sunday, December 27: Welcome! The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish welcomes all guests, friends, and Parishioners participating in this Divine Liturgy.

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

New Assistant Pastor

We welcome Fr. Iryney Valyavka, OSBM as our new Assistant Pastor. He arrived on December 22, 2020. Fr. Iryney was serving as Pastor of the Lamont, Skaro and surrounding parishes in Alberta. Welcome Father!

Public Health Orders - Province of British Columbia

On December 7, 2020 our Provincial Health Officer extended the restrictions to help stem the tide of the pandemic that our world currently faces. Places of worship will continue to remain closed till at least January 8, 2021.

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church will remain closed until further notice.

Note: During this time when the church remains closed, the Sunday Divine Liturgy will be pre-recorded on Saturday evening and posted on our parish website on Sunday morning.

Thank You

Thank you to those individuals who helped set up the Christmas tree and Nativity Scene in church before Christmas.

Thank you to those who help to pre-record our Divine Liturgies on Saturday evenings. Thank you for your gifts and talents to bring Christ to others.

Thank you for your generosity and kindness during this Christmas Season. It is very much appreciated.

Thank you to all parishioners and friends for your most generous donations and continued support. Please do not forget our parish and all its financial obligations during this time. May Our Lord bless and reward you!

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December 2020

For a life of prayer: We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Year End Contributions

Thank you to all parishioners for your generous donations throughout the year. For any donations that you want included on your 2020 tax receipt **ALL contributions must be in the parish office and your cheques dated no later than December 31, 2020.**

Christmas Candle/Різдвяна Свічка

Since 2012 the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster has been collecting funds to help underprivileged and orphaned children in Ukraine through our Christmas Candle appeal. Our fundraising program, “**Christmas Candle/Різдвяна Свічка**” is part of a larger global appeal sponsored by Caritas Ukraine. The appeal is once again taking place for the month of December and we encourage everyone to remember these children during our Christmas season with a donation.

Donations can be made at any Ukrainian Catholic Parish in BC or mailed and payable to the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster and clearly marked with “Christmas Candle Project” on the envelope and cheque. For more information, please contact Dana Koren Lupynis, Natalia Lupynis or Emelia Lupynis at nweparchy.christmascandle@gmail.com and follow us on Facebook at [Caritas “Christmas Candle/Різдвяна свічка” Campaign](#), sponsored by NWEparchy.

“When the Lord Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, the magi, coming from the East, adored God made man, and unfolding their treasures, they brought precious gifts: the purest gold as to the eternal King; and incense as to the God of all; and myrrh as to the immortal dead of three days. Come all nations, let us adore Him Who is born to save our souls.” (Vespers for the Nativity of Our Lord)

When you look at the stained glass window of the Nativity of Our Lord that is above the main entrance to our church (choir loft) you will notice the three Magi in the top left hand corner. Whatever happened to these wise men? They leave the biblical story as quickly as they enter it. They came from afar to worship the “Lord of Lords” and “King of Kings” and then we hear nothing more of them.

However, what the wise men saw in the stars prompted them to make an extremely difficult journey to seek out the Lord Jesus. Their journey led them to meet the Lord and their lives were never the same again. The light of Christ made its way into their hearts and they became new people.

You and I don’t need to cross deserts or mountains to find Jesus. We have traversed the most difficult of times in this pandemic. However, our hearts and minds must be opened to Him. And when we encounter the truth of Jesus, we will be transformed. Life will take on a new direction.

Christ being born into the world is a monumental event. “*God with us*” changes us. When we let Him into our lives and trust that He will guide us as we journey through life, then we will definitely become new people; a grateful and thankful people.

Though Christmas 2020 will be unique and unusual, we will still celebrate the central message of Christmas: that “*Christ is Born*” and that “*God is with us.*” May His light shine in us, and through us, to others. May we surrender the fears and doubts of what tomorrow might bring and trust that God will guide us.

On behalf of our Basilian community and our Parish Council I wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas, and a happy and healthy New Year. “*Emmanuel - God is with us.*” May His name be on our lips and His spirit live in our hearts - in the new year and always. Христос Родився! Славимо Його! Christ is Born! Let us Praise Him!

Fr. Joseph

Tropars and Readings
Sunday after Christmas / Feast of St. Stephen

Antiphon 1:

With all my heart I will profess You, O Lord,* I will speak of your wonderful deeds. - Through the prayers of the Mother, of God, O Saviour, save us.

I will profess You, O Lord, in the company and assembly of the righteous,* great are the works of the Lord. - Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.

Majestic is his work and worthy of praise,* and his righteousness endures for ever and ever. - Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, save us.

Antiphon 3:

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Saviour. - Son of God, born of a virgin, save us who sing to you. Alleluia.

Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms. - Son of God, born of a virgin, save us who sing to you. Alleluia.

For God is the great Lord and the great King over all the earth. - Son of God, born of a virgin, save us who sing to you. Alleluia.

Entrance:

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. - Son of God, born of a virgin, save us who sing to you. Alleluia.

Resurrection Tropar, 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.

Tropar of the Nativity, tone 4:

Your birth, O Christ our God, illuminates the world with the light of understanding. For those who adored the stars were taught by a star to worship you, the sun of righteousness, and to know you, the one who rises from on high. O Lord, glory to You.

Tropar of St. Stephen, tone 4:

You fought the good fight, apostle and first martyr of Christ. You exposed the shame of your persecutors, for when you were slain by the stoning of the wicked, you received a crown from the right hand of God. Calling upon him you cried out: Lord, do not hold this sin against them.

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

Kondak of St. Stephen, tone 3:

Yesterday, the Master came to us in the flesh and already today his servant takes leave of his flesh. Yesterday, the sovereign Ruler was born in the flesh. Today his servant dies by stoning. And so Stephen, the first to be martyred for Christ, is brought to perfection and deified.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kondak of the Nativity, tone 3:

Today the virgin gives birth to the One who is beyond all created essences, and the earth offers a cave to the God who is beyond our reach. Angels join the shepherds in songs of praise. Learned men make their way to him by following a star. For to us is born a Child, God in all eternity.

Prokimen, tone 5: You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and forever.

verse: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man.

A Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians (1:11-19)

Brethren. The Good News that I preached is not a human message that I was given by men, it is something I learned only through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You must have heard of my career as a practicing Jew, how merciless I was in persecuting the Church of God, how much damage I did to it, how I stood out among other Jews of my generation, and how enthusiastic I was for the traditions of my ancestors.

Then God, who had specially chosen me while I was still in my mother's womb, called me through his grace and chose to reveal his Son in me, so that I might preach the Good News about him to the pagans. I did not stop to discuss this with any human being, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to see those who were already apostles before me. I went to Arabia and later went straight back to Damascus. After three years I went to Jerusalem to visit Peter and stayed with him for fifteen days. I did not see any other of the apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Alleluia (3)

verse: Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing for ever; from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my mouth.

verse: For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared.

A Reading of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (2:13-23)

When the magi had departed, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there till the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi.

Then was fulfilled what had been said through Jeremiah the prophet: "A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children, and she would not be consoled, since they were no more."

When Herod had died, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said: "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead."

He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned. in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and settled in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Instead of "It is truly right":

O my soul, extol the Virgin, most pure Mother of God, more honourable and more glorious than all the heavenly hosts.

Most wondrous is this strange mystery that I see. A cave has become heaven, a virgin - the throne of the cherubim, a manger, a most noble place, for in it there rests Christ, the unconfined God. In hymns and songs of praise and joy on this day we extol him.

Communion Verse:

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the highest.

The Lord has sent deliverance to his people. Alleluia. (3)

Instead of "Blessed is He" and "We have seen the true light":

Let all creation be filled with joy, Christ is born of a Virgin. (1)

Instead of "May our mouths be filled":

Let all creation be filled with joy, Christ is born of a Virgin. (3)

Instead of "Blessed be the name of the Lord":

Let all creation be filled with joy, Christ is born of a Virgin. (3)

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in these Holy Gifts!

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot receive You now, I place before You my whole life and hope, O loving Master; and I ask, pray, and entreat You: Make me worthy to partake in a mystical way and with a pure conscience of Your awesome and heavenly Mysteries: for forgiveness of sins, for the pardon of offenses, for communion of the Holy Spirit, for the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven, for confidence before You, and not for judgment or condemnation.

I embrace You as You enter and abide in me, and I unite myself completely to You.

Permeate my soul and body, and never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.