



**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.”*

10 грудня, 2023

Volume 67 No. 42

December 10, 2023

Служби Божі/Divine Liturgies

Неділя/Sunday: 8:30 am English

10:30 am Ukrainian

У Свята/Holy Day of Obligation

10:00 am

Щодня/Daily (Mon-Sat)

7:00 am in Chapel

Сповідь/Confessions

Before both Sunday Divine Liturgies

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. Josafat Oliinyk, OSBM - Assistant

28-а Неділя по Зісланні Св. Духа

Попразденство Непорочного Зачаття



28th Sunday after Pentecost

Post-Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Colossians 1:12-18

Luke 14:16-24

Welcome! The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish welcomes everyone to our Divine Liturgy. Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Coffee and sweets following the 8:30 and 10:30 am Divine Liturgies. Please join us.

Hymns at 10:30 Divine Liturgy

Opening: page 332: Богородице Діво; Bohorodytse Divo
Communion: page 378: Просимо тя, Діво; Prosymo tia, Divo
Closing: page 24: О хто, хто Миколая; O khto, khto Mykolaya

Monday, December 11: 7:00 pm: Post Christmas Fair Wind-up meeting to be held in the Fellowship Room.

Christmas Cards

Our Bookstore has an assortment of Ukrainian, English and Bilingual (Ukrainian and English) Christmas cards for purchase.

The 2024 Donation envelopes and Parish wall calendars will be available next Sunday, December 17.

Tickets for the Parish Christmas Dinner to be held on January 14, 2024 will be available for purchase next Sunday, December 17.

Year End Contributions

Thank you to all parishioners for your generous donations throughout the year. For any donations that you want included on your 2023 tax receipt: **ALL contributions must be received in the parish office, and your cheques dated no later than December 31, 2023 - this includes any donations for "Aid to Ukraine".**

Parish Christmas Dinner

Sunday, January 14, 2024

Divine Liturgies: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

12:00 Noon: Parish Dinner in the Auditorium

Catered Dinner - 125 person limit

Tickets: Advance purchase only

Weekday - Parish Office: 604.879.5830

Sunday - following the Divine Liturgies on December 17, 24, 31, January 7

Cut-off date for ticket purchase: January 11, 2024

Adults: \$15

Seniors (60+): \$10

Children 7-12: \$10

Children 6 & under: no charge

No walk-ins at the door

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December 2023

For persons with disabilities. We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation

Please donate to **"Aid for Ukraine"**. All donations collected in our parish will be forwarded to *Catholic Near East Welfare Association Canada* (CNEWA Canada) that collaborates closely with local churches and *Caritas Ukraine*.

Please make cheques payable to St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church, with memo 'Aid for Ukraine.' Tax receipts will be issued.

Online donations to *CNEWA Canada*: <https://cnewa.org/ca/campaigns/ukraine/>

Or, one may send a cheque directly to: CNEWA Canada

233 Main Street, Box 80

Ottawa, ON K1S 1C4

Preparing for Christmas

No one can celebrate a genuine Christmas without being truly poor. The self-sufficient, the proud, those who, because they have everything, look down on others, those who have no need for God - for them there will be no Christmas. Only the poor, the hungry, those who need someone to come on their behalf, will have that someone. That someone is God, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Without poverty of spirit there can be no abundance of God.

Oscar Romero

Surprising Joy

Author unknown

If preparing for Christmas means anything, it means that we should get ready for, and wait patiently for, surprises. Nothing is more surprising than the birth of the Son of God to a pious Jewish girl and her carpenter spouse. And ever since, there's no telling what surprises the King of the Universe has in store for his people. Whether we like it or not.

We don't care much for surprises. We're great at planning, for trying to work it all out in advance. We will marry on this date, have this many children, make this much money per year, live in this kind of house, - and no surprises, please. Just in case there are surprises, we have insurance policies to run interference for us.

Fat chance. Remember: surprises are holy. The way we tend to live, a surprise is about the only place God can find some elbow room, some place to shake up our lives so we'll realize how deep is God's love for us.

Dear Lord, help me respect the surprises in my life and be sensitive to your presence in them.

God's Handiwork (Taken from "Magnificat" Magazine)

After the fall of Adam and Eve, the darkness of disobedience - the lonely night of exile - settled upon the earth. But there were intimations of dawn: the smoke of sacrifice rising during the sluggish centuries; hopeful hearts lifted in prayer; holy men, divinely inspired, telling of a better day, Isaiah speaking more like a witness than a prophet when he describes the coming of the Savior. In his vision was Bethlehem, that obscure village where the gloom of a stable was illumined by the Light of the world. And the Mother, full of grace, she too was within the circle of what he saw: *Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel.*

So long as we remember that Mary is God's handiwork, we can never extol her enough, and the encomiums of even the clearest-visioned poets will always be like indistinct echoes of praise that heaven's choirs are singing in honor of the Immaculate Virgin.

Search your own memories and you may find abundant proof that devotion to the Blessed Virgin leads devoutly disposed souls into the light of the sun of justice. Little incidents may help us see how bountiful is the response of our Mother to those who offer her some gift within their keeping. Once upon a time there lived a man who was deeply impressed by the world around him. Gifted with the power of song, he used to write rhymes about the beautiful things he had seen or upon which his mind had dwelt. He was not a Catholic, but someone had told him about the exquisite beauty of the Mother of Christ and her spotless soul; of the dignity of her divine maternity; and of her exalted position in God's eternal home. He longed to give expression to what he knew was really inexpressible. His heart had to have its way, so he let it overflow into a poem. These are the opening lines: *Salve Regina! Immaculate Virgin,/ Hear me implore, and thy pity bestow;/ Wild waves of trouble around me are surging./ Light with thy smile the deep night of my woe./ Queen of the saints! hear my earnest petition,/ Mother of Jesus, conceived without sin,/ Turn me aside from the road to perdition,/ Let me the fold of thy love enter in.*

Through his admiration of Mary love did enter in, and light too, for he was later received into the Church of the divine Son of the Immaculate Virgin in whose honor he offered his song.

Monsignor Edward Betowski

Monsignor Betowski was a professor of homiletics and a priest of the Archdiocese of New York. The poem quoted above is by the American poet William H.C. Hosmer.



**Парафія Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці
Порядок Різдв'яних Богослужень - 2023-2024**

Неділя, 24 грудня: Навечір'я Різдва (піст-не дозволено їсти м'ясних страв)
9:15 вечора - Велике Повечір'я і зараз потім **Торжественна Служба Божа**,
мирування

Понеділок, 25 грудня: Різдво Христове (обов'язкове свято)
10:30 ранку - Служба Божа (у двох мовах), мирування

Вівторок, 26 грудня: Собор Пресвятої Богородиці і Св. Йосифа
10:00 ранку - Служба Божа

Середа, 27 грудня: Первомученика й Архидиякона Стефана
10:00 ранку - Служба Божа

Неділя, 31 грудня: Навечір'я Нового Року
8:30 ранку - Служба Божа і Набоженство
10:30 ранку - Служба Божа і Набоженство

2024

**Понеділок, 1 січня: Обрізання Господа і Спаса Нашого Ісуса Христа
Святого Отця Василя Великого й Новий Рік**
10:00 ранку - Служба Божа

П'ятниця, 5 січня: Навечір'я Богоявління (піст)
10:00 ранку - Служба Божа й Водосвяття

Субота, 6 січня: Богоявління - Йордан (обов'язкове свято)
10:00 ранку - Служба Божа й Водосвяття

Неділя, 14 січня:
8:30 ранку - Служба Божа
10:30 ранку - Служба Божа
12:00 обіду - **Парафіяльний Різдв'яний обід**



**Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish
Schedule of Christmas Services - 2023-2024**

Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve (Day of abstinence from meat products)

9:15 pm - Great Complines followed immediately by **Solemn Divine Liturgy**,
Blessing with Holy Oil

Monday, December 25: Feast of Our Lord's Birth (Holy Day of Obligation)

10:30 am - Divine Liturgy (Bilingual); Blessing with Holy Oil

Tuesday, December 26: Synaxis of the Mother of God and St. Joseph

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, December 27: Feast of Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Sunday, December 31: New Year's Eve

8:30 am - Divine Liturgy; Thanksgiving Hymn and Blessing

10:30 am - Divine Liturgy; Thanksgiving Hymn and Blessing

2024

Monday, January 1: Feast of Circumcision of our Lord;

Feast of St. Basil the Great; New Year's Day

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

Friday, January 5: Eve of Theophany (Day of abstinence from meat products)

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy and Blessing of water

Saturday, January 6: Feast of Theophany - Jordan (Holy Day of Obligation)

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy and Blessing of water

Sunday, January 14:

8:30 am - Divine Liturgy

10:30 am - Divine Liturgy

12:00 noon- **Parish Christmas Dinner**

