



**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.”*

3 грудня, 2023

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December 3, 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

27-а Неділя по Зісланні Св. Духа



27th Sunday after Pentecost

Ephesians 6:10-17

Luke 13:10-17

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

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make our Christmas Fair a resounding success. Your hard work and diligence are so very much appreciated. May Our Lord bless you!

Today: Sunday, December 3: Parish Annual General Meeting will be held in the parish auditorium following the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy. It is open to registered parishioners only. All committee heads are required to attend.

Saturday, December 9: Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Non-obligatory holy day. Divine Liturgy: 7:00 am in the Residence chapel.

Memorial Divine Liturgies: The late Bill Kochan passed away on November 30, 2022. His family has requested two Divine Liturgies for the repose of his soul, 7:00 am on Thursday, November 30 and 10:30 am on Sunday, December 3. Eternal Memory!

Hymns at 10:30 Divine Liturgy

Opening: page 234: В страсі і покорі; V strasi i pokori

Communion: page 374: Пренебесна, пречудесна; Prenebesna, prechudesna

Closing: page 24: О хто, хто Миколая; O khto, khto Mykolaya

UCWLC December Meeting

Saturday, December 9: 10:00 am in the Fellowship Room. There will be a few topics for discussion followed by a Christmas luncheon. Please try to attend our last meeting of 2023. God Bless! Marlayne

Christmas Cards

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

Ukrainian Embroidery Club

A Ukrainian Embroidery Club will meet on Monday evenings at St. Mary's. Classes are from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in the downstairs classroom. New students, family and friends are welcome. For more information, please call Emily at 778.888.3057.

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 in the parish office and your cheques dated no later than December 31, 2023.**

A Prayer to St Nicholas - December 6

Blessed Saint Nicholas, we honour you for your acts of kindness, goodwill and charity to those on the margins of life.

Inspire us with your desire for justice and joy for all people; help us learn from you what faith and action means, and make us aware of those around us.

Give us the same sense of joy you had in your ministry. And when we remember you may we also remember the Lord you loved and followed, both in times of tribulation, famine, persecution and humiliation, as well as in times of joy and peace.

Taken from: stnicholascentre.org

Feast of St. Nicholas - December 6

Taken from the Vespers Service

“What crowns of praise shall we confer upon the saintly Nicholas? Once present in the flesh in Myra, he is present in spirit to all who love him purely. He is the leader and defender of everyone, a comforter in distress and a haven of all in danger, a pillar of piety and conqueror for believers. For his sake, Christ overcame enemies and shows us great mercy.”

“We have gathered to celebrate and to praise with song the model of bishops and a glory to the fathers; a fountain of miracles and a great helper of believers. Let us sing to the saintly Nicholas: Rejoice, O protector of Myra who was revered as its leader and strongest pillar. Rejoice, O radiant star whose light of miracles shines throughout the world. Rejoice, O divine joy to those in sorrow. Rejoice, O defender of those who are oppressed; for even now, all-holy Nicholas, you still pray to God for us who celebrate your feast with faith and who honour you with zeal and joy.”

Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

This Feast of Our Lady is celebrated on December 8 in the Roman Rite and December 9 in the Byzantine Rite. On this feast day the Church celebrates Mary's conception without sin. Even though this feast day occurs in the liturgical season of Philip's Fast (Pylypiwka)/Advent, which prepares for the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Immaculate Conception refers to the conception of Mary in the womb of her mother, St. Anne.

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception asserts that, “from the first moment of her conception, the Blessed Virgin Mary was, by the singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of Mankind, kept free from all stain of original sin.”

The observance of this feast began with a Papal encyclical by Pope Pius IX, when he formally defined the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, *INEFFABILIS DEUS*, on December 8, 1854. Several years later, in 1858, the Blessed Mother gave her name to St. Bernadette at Lourdes stating, “I am the Immaculate Conception.”

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

Advent Meditation

Fr. Gerald O'Collins, S.J.

Time Is At Hand

Toward the end of November we can be more conscious of time running out on us than at any other time of the year. In less than no time Christmas and the New Year will be upon us; the year is closing down. Perhaps we are counting the days until that happens, maybe even crossing off one day after another until the last day of the year actually arrives. December and the end of the current year can make us think a great deal about time.

What is time? How do we experience it? Perhaps as an enemy. "I am terribly pressed for time. I have no time to spend with my family and friends. My business keeps me too busy to pray, read the Bible and spend time with God. There is so much that I would love to do with others and for others, but my job never leaves me with a free moment." Time can seem like a cruel enemy, or at least a demanding master who stops us from doing the things we would love to do.

The season of Advent offers us an alternate view of time. Instead of being an enemy on the scene of my careful planning and efficient activity, time involves the coming to us of our loving God. In December God comes to us - through the wilderness and desert of our lives and our world. The kingdom of God is at hand; a new day is dawning; and our infinitely caring God draws near to us.

Prayer: *O Lord of all time, we thank you for the gift of our days. Teach us to seek you in all that we do this Advent.*