



**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.”*

12 січня, 2025

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January 12, 2025

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)

7:30 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

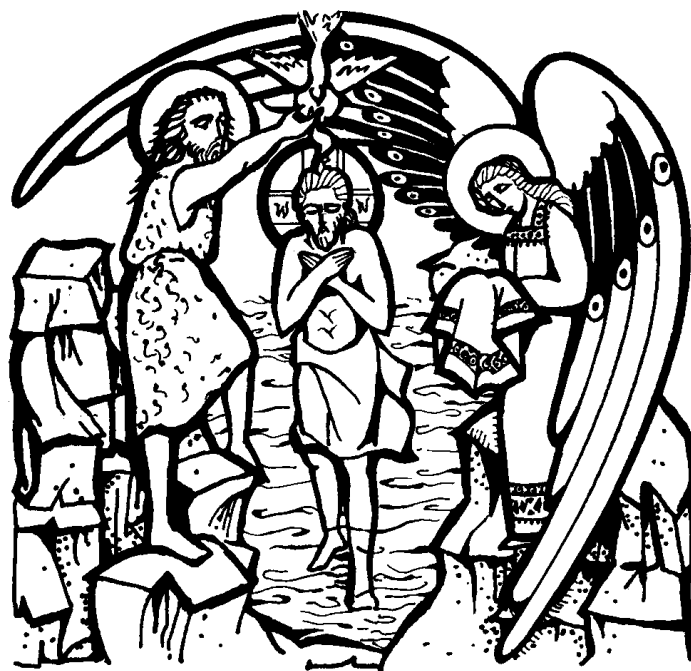
Marriages - the arrangements with the priest must be made at least 6 months before the marriage

Funerals - by arrangement

Basilian Fathers serving the Parish

Fr. Joseph Pidskalny, OSBM - Administrator

Неділя після Богоявлення



Sunday after Theophany

Ephesians 4:7-13

Matthew 4:12-17

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

The Parish Christmas Dinner will be held in our auditorium following the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy for those who have purchased tickets. No walk-ins at the door.

Christmas Carols at the 10:30 Divine Liturgy

Opening: page 126: На Йорданській річці; Na Yordans'kiy richtsi

Communion: page 114: Чудесна зірка; Chudesna zirka

Closing: page 33: Весело співайте; Veselo spivaite

Eternal Memory! Our sincerest condolences to Fr. Joe Ostopowich and Family on the passing of his mother Rose Ostopowich on Sunday, January 5, 2025 at the age of 83. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was celebrated on Friday, January 10th at the Dormition of the Mother of God Parish in Kelowna. Please keep the late Rose Ostopowich and her family in your prayers. Вічна Пам'ять!

Многая Літа! Congratulations and Best Wishes to our former parishioner, Mr. Steve Popyk of Kelowna who celebrated his 100th birthday on January 3, 2025. May Our Lord grant him many more years of good health and happiness.

Home Blessings: If you wish to have your home blessed please contact the parish office.

UCWLC AGM Meeting

Saturday, January 18: 9:30 am: UCWLC AGM Meeting followed by a general meeting. All Executive must have written report ready. Committee heads to have reports-verbal or written.

Ladies, please try to attend as there are a few items to discuss and to elect a new executive. See you then. President: Marlayne Andrijaszyn

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January 2025

For the right to an education. Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Frozen Pyrohy (Perogies)

Frozen pyrohy (perogies) will be available for purchase after both Sunday Divine Liturgies in the Fellowship Room kitchen. \$10/dozen.

Ukrainian Embroidery Club

Next class: January 20th. A Ukrainian Embroidery Club meets on Monday evenings at St. Mary's 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.

GO DRY January

Canadian Cancer Society Fundraiser St Mary's Church Team

"Go Dry January" is a cancer fundraiser that challenges you to go alcohol-free for 31 days. It is a good start to the year which helps you get healthy while also raising funds to make a difference for Canadians affected by cancer.

You can donate on-line at www.godry.ca or by making out a cheque to **CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY** and putting it in the Sunday collection plate, along with your name and address. Cash can be given in the same way. Tax receipts are issued for any donation \$20 or more. St Mary's team hopes to raise \$10,000. We need your continued support.



Relics of Blessed Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky, C.Ss.R

Our parish has been gifted a number of Third Class Relics of Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky, a Ukrainian Catholic Redemptorist Bishop and Martyr. (A Third Class Relic of Blessed Vasyl is a piece of cloth, which was touched to his holy body, wrapped in paper. Please see Fr. Joseph to obtain a relic of Blessed Martyr Vasyl.)

Overcome by the tortures and death-causing drugs he had received while in Soviet prisons, Bishop Vasyl died a martyr's death on June 30, 1973 in Winnipeg MB.

On September 22, 2002, the holy relics of Blessed Martyr Vasyl were enshrined in a chapel in St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Winnipeg, MB. Pilgrims come and pray before Blessed Vasyl, seeking his powerful intercession.

On July 20, 2014 during the All-Ukraine Pilgrimage to Zarvanytsia, Ukraine, Patriarch Sviatoslav solemnly proclaimed Blessed Vasyl to be the Patron of Prison Ministry for the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.

For more information on Blessed Martyr Vasyl's life and of the Shrine dedicated to him in Winnipeg, please visit: <https://bvmartyrshrine.com/about/his-life/>

Intercessory Prayer to Blessed Martyr Vasyl

O Lord God, You are praised by the whole world for the marvelous works in your saints. I thank you for the grace you gave to Blessed Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky to be a faithful witness to You unto the point of death. Through his intercession I ask for the following favour _____, for your Name is glorified forever. Amen.



Hope: What is it and why should I bother?

When you see “be hopeful” stamped in cursive on a coffee mug, do you ever find yourself asking: *why should I be?* Sometimes, the stressors in our lives are big enough that a cheery mug message can’t perk us up.

This year is a Jubilee Year in the Catholic Church, and Pope Francis has selected the theme “Pilgrims of Hope.” Is this Jubilee theme no better than some cheesy dishware? How can we force ourselves into a state of bright positivity for an entire year?

In order to embrace our Christian call to hope, we need to understand the difference between hope as a passion and as a virtue. The virtue of hope is not optimism, and it is more than the feeling of desiring some upcoming good. Rather, it is a gift from God which anchors us in peaceful confidence and propels us towards our ultimate desire and happiness: Eternal Life.

The Jubilee theme can help us better understand the virtue of hope, because we are all pilgrims in this life. Human beings are on a journey: to the next good job, the next big milestone, the next dream house. People are driven by stacking desires - little hope upon little hope that whatever “next” thing we hope for will bring us the happiness we crave.

During the Jubilee Year of Hope, all members of the Church are invited to go on a pilgrimage to designated Holy Doors and receive a plenary indulgence. But we are also making pilgrimage to the Holiest Doors, the Gates of Heaven. God instilled a desire for happiness in our hearts, and He gives us the gift of Hope so that we can learn to recognize that eternal life with Him is the only happiness that will fulfill our infinite desires. The theological virtue of Hope takes up and purifies the emotion of wanting “more” or “next” and teaches us to desire our destiny, Heaven.

Hope protects us against two sinful extremes: presumption and despair. This virtue reminds us that our final goal is difficult to attain and gives us the humility to beg God for His help. But, it also bolsters us and reminds us of how loved we are and always will be, and that we have a heavenly Father who wants to help us reach our Heavenly homeland. Hope therefore must be rooted in Faith, since Faith offers the certainty of a loving God and the possibility of eternal happiness with Him.

In his encyclical *Spe Salvi*, Pope Benedict XVI pointed to St. Josephine Bakhita as a model of hope. This heroic woman was enslaved and abused for years. Yet, she said: “I am definitively loved and whatever happens to me - I am awaited by this Love. And so my life is good.” This Saint recognized how loved she was, presently and surely, even in the hardest moments of her life. She then trusted that this love would continue, and that the fullness of Love awaited her in Heaven. As Benedict XVI put it: “Man’s great, true hope which holds firm in spite of all disappointments can only be God - God who has loved us and who continues to love us ‘to the end,’ until all ‘is accomplished.’”

While our lives are full of lesser hopes which move us forward day by day, they are insufficient. Hoping for a better job is not enough to make the coffee mug meaningful. The only true, unconquerable hope is hope from God and in God - bringing us to God. We are all Pilgrims of Hope, not only in 2025, but until the journey of our lives is complete.

<https://www.ad-today.com/faith-reason/hope-what-is-it-and-why-should-i-bother>