



Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ukrainian Catholic Parish

Українська Греко-Католицька Парафія Покрови

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☛ **Office Hours:** Mon, Wed, Fri from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Confessions: before every Divine Liturgy

First Sunday of the Great Fast **March 6, 2022**

Перша Неділя Посту

Welcome to our church! No need to preregister at this stage, but all standard Covid precautions and measures still apply. As always, we will remain safe and vigilant, but let us consider returning to in-person participation, perhaps finding a new spot (other than the usual) in our large church to feel comfortable in the presence of our Lord....

“Guest Reflection”



Dear Parishioners

Glory to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!

“I saw you when you were under the fig tree!”

I want to share some information taken directly from the internet - <https://www.standrewshespeler.ca> - that is very fascinating!

So... what was Nathaniel doing under that tree? We have one possibility that comes to us from the traditions of rabbinic Judaism which developed strong traditions around the study of the Torah, that is to say of the law in what we would call the Old Testament. In rabbinic Judaism, there is a strong tradition of people (traditionally men) gathering to discuss the Torah. They will read the scriptures and then get into these extended discussions and arguments about the meaning and the application of various passages.

These sorts of discussions are famously contentious, so much so that it became a popular expression that when you have two Jews you will have three opinions. But this is not seen as a negative thing, it is seen as a way of people engaging with the text and wrestling with that variety of opinions. And it is believed that deeper truth is always found by engaging in that kind of passionate discussion. What's more, it is seen as a great blessing to be able to engage in such an activity, as Tevye sings in the famous stage production, *Fiddler on the Roof*: **“If I were rich, I'd have the time that I lack To sit in the synagogue and pray. And maybe have a seat by the Eastern wall. And I'd discuss the holy books with the learned men, several hours every day. That would be the sweetest thing of all.”**

So this way of studying the Torah is a longstanding beloved Jewish tradition and apparently, back in the Middle Ages, this activity was sometimes referred to using an odd phrase. It was called **“sitting underneath the fig tree”**. And so it has been suggested by some that this is what Nathaniel was doing, studying the Torah, when Jesus saw him. And there is something to be said for such an interpretation. That would be the kind of activity that might just indicate something about Nathaniel's character....

But I still think there might be a connection to that. Where, after all, did that figure of speech – speaking of studying the Torah as *sitting under a fig tree* – come from? It must come from the Scriptures themselves, specifically from a promise that is repeated a few times in the Old Testament. The promise goes like this: **“They shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid.”** (Micah 4:4) In many ways, that is one of the key promises of the Old Testament. It envisions the confidence and peace that envelops us when we are strong in our faith.

This Great Fast, if we don't think we have the time, then let us make time (by less TV, even 'news' and less web-surfing) to “sit under the fig tree” and contemplate our faith and get answers to questions that have long nagged us. And especially to find answers to matters that are essential to our life and essential for our salvation! **Sr. Michaila, SSJ**

Ukrainian Canadian Congress
Manitoba Provincial Council

Підтримай Україну

STAND WITH UKRAINE RALLY

TODAY Sunday March 6, 2022
2pm
Manitoba Legislative Building

Manitoba, we need your help!
Join us in another rally to advocate for a
“No Fly Zone” in Ukraine
& VISA-free entry for Ukrainians

Do your part to bring peace to Ukraine. Stand in solidarity with Ukraine!
More information about Humanitarian aid
Opportunity to sign letters to MPs
Bring signs and flags. Dress in the colours of Ukraine!

Слава Україні! Героям Слава!
Together, We Stand With Ukraine

1. Our **AGM** (Annual General Meeting) last week went very well, with a good number of participants coming in person, joined by others from home via Zoom. **Officers for our Parish for the coming year:**

Chairman: Glen Henkewich **Vice Chairman:** Pat Korch **Secretary:** Kathy Kosowan

Treasurer: Terry Krowchuk **Financial Secretary:** Sharon Johnson

Financial Officers: Jimmy Sawchuk, Gerald Stolar

Members at Large (*usually 3*): Ruslan Bobelyak, Anne Rusnak.

Welcome to the new members! (Happily, there are no out-going members... all have agreed to bless us with their hard work on the committee for yet another year. God bless you!)

2. **TOMORROW: Monday: Parish Council meeting in the rectory at 5:30 PM.**

3. **NEXT SUNDAY we hold the first major meeting to get our CENTENARY MEETING!**

We have already had some good brain-storming sessions, but this is THE meeting to verify our committee(s), to **vote** upon the first plans, and put them into **action**. **Come downstairs right after the 10 AM Divine Liturgy.** (We'll try to have the coffee on for you!)

4. **This Week's —“I BELIEVE! – BIPYU!” — Zoom discussion - Wednesday evening at 7 PM.**

The session begins with a starting lesson, then we discuss the theme or other topics of your interest. It is an excellent way to revisit the Faith, and to fill in the gaps we may have in our understanding of our relationship with our Lord and His Church. These are open to all parishioners (yes YOU too!) so, watch for the email from our Parish Office with the Zoom link. This Wednesday's theme: **“I believe in ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC and APOSTOLIC Church.”**

5. This week's Lenten devotions:

Wednesday: 5:30 PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts **Friday: 7:00 PM** Way of the Cross

6. Thanks for your ongoing food donations to our bins at the back of the church. Please bring what you can, when you can. **Winnipeg Harvest** has just sent us a beautiful handwritten thank-you card:

“Dear Blessed Virgin Mary Parish team:

Thank you again for hosting your food drive and raising 85 lb. of food, which will provide approximately 66 meals for Manitobans in need! We thank you on behalf of all the families that will receive your generous donation. We hope you are all staying healthy and happy, and look forward to working with you again in the future.

With thanks, Mika & Michelle (Harvest Food Drive Crew).”



7. Icons are meant to be gazed upon... prayed before... and meditated upon yet again. A weekly (10 meetings) online course from the States titled **Iconography as Visual Theology** is offered : **March 7, 10, 14, 16, 18, 31** and **April 4, 6, 8, 11** (4 PM – 6 PM EST) Cost: \$90 USD, with a certificate at the end (or 3 course credits for more \$). Info and registration: tinyurl.com/IconCourse or <https://sites.google.com/view/iconographyasvisualtheology-co/home>

PLEASE DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE **ICON COURSES** offered by our **Ukrainian Catholic University!!**
<http://radruzh.org/news/iconography-as-visual-theology/>

8. **SAVE THE DATES.** Being Winnipeg's 'Marian Parish', we are planning a **Lenten Mini Mission** around the feast of the **Annunciation** in the 4th week of the Great Fast - 23-25 of March. Watch for details about this special event and other retreats and missions in the city this Lent.

9. Palliative Care and M.A.I.D. Lectures — Three online Zoom lectures (free) can bring you up-to-date on palliative care and euthanasia issues. One was last week (March 1), but you can still register online for 7 PM our time on Thurs., March 10, and Wed. March 16. Go to www.deveber.org.



10. Did you know **World Youth Day will be in Lisbon, Portugal next year (2023)?** What a wonderful country to visit — Lisbon is the place where St. Anthony of Padua was born (yes, *that* St. Anthony!) but even more importantly, less than 2 hrs. drive to FATIMA! Start planning now to visit and pray there! (And yes, sample wonderful Portuguese food.)

11. **Please come to as many services in church as you can. One cannot pray too much for the situation in Ukraine, that spills out onto the whole world. Pray! Pray! Pray!**

Seeking Caregiver
to Assist with Household

Help with 2 children (eg. lifting 3 mo. old),
Meal prep 3x/day, Light housework
10:30 am - 6:30 pm ⇄ Mon - Fri ⇄ \$15.50/hr
for 8 weeks, starting early March
Please contact [redacted] at

HIRE , SWAP, BARTER, and BUY CORNER

No, the ad at the left is not actual, but we would like our parishioners to reach out and ASK, if they could use a bit of temporary help. We know each other, and there is much more talent in our parish than anyone realizes. Consider calling the office to insert a short request into the bulletin for a week or two, along with your phone number. No charge, but keep it simple, please.

Looking for a room/apt./house for a short stay? Have one to offer? Need someone to look after Mom or Dad while you're away for a few days next month? (Or... “until the nursing home is ready”?) Need a babysitter? Dog walker? How about someone to change your tires for half the price the shop does? etc. etc. **It never hurts to ask.** And wouldn't it make sense to have a parishioner help you out, instead of a stranger? Some are asking for a ride to church on Sunday or weekdays (this is actual!) would you be willing to see if the route my work for you? Call the office...

BTW, does anyone have a mini-fridge **with a bigger freezer** that's no longer needed? (We're still looking for one for the sacristy.)

DONATIONS & Other Income -

Week of Sunday Feb. 27:

\$2070 (Sunday offerings) (Envelopes 58)

\$1203.55 -- other church donations

\$2500 – insurance claim reimbursement

Expenses: \$ 7,415.74 (This includes water damage deductible, salaries, snow removal)

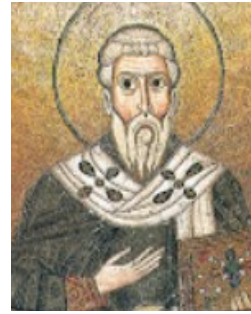
Our Parish is always grateful for all donations – be they regular Sunday donations or in memoriam donations or special donations of any kind... this is what keeps our parish going and even able to plan for the future. God bless you for your generosity and thoughtfulness about the good of your parish!

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS: May be picked up at the back of the church. PLEASE take yours home... and perhaps deliver another to a parishioner who lives near you. Many thanks!

WAR in UKRAINE — There is so much information flying about via the media, but one thing is certain: Ukrainians need much assistance, and our parish is ready to help. How? That is being looked into, especially at the archeparchial level. In the meantime, perhaps your family can prepare itself for a future... dona-



Quote about fasting this LENT:



(paraphrasing St. John Chrysostom here...)

Let us **fast** not only with our mouths but **by our feet** (not running to casinos, bars and parties during Lent)... **by our eyes** (refusing to watch TV shows and movies that are full of corrupting *double entendres*)... **by our ears** (refusing to listen to those who bad-mouth others, or tell lies, etc.)...

There is so much we can do this Lent that will “cost” us right now, but will bring us such riches in our future life!

Question of the day:

“The bishop of my area says we should start coming back to church every Sunday. In fact, he has “lifted the dispensation”, which means we “have to” again attend in-person. Do I have to go?”

Ah! Good question. Father Michael covers it in today's homily, so do listen closely. The short answer is:

Yes.

UNLESS there is a serious reason to miss the Liturgy. e.g.: - you are ill... you are the only one available to care for someone else who is ill... there would be great difficulty in getting to the church (blizzard, distance, etc.)

The idea is that we restore typical parish life... (only now BETTER THAN EVER!)

The new parish priest received a call from a family to come to the hospital. One of their family was the victim of an accident. After administering the Sacraments as best he could, Father spent some time talking with the family and comforting them. He was preparing to leave and asked, “By the way, could you tell me the parish that you belong to so that I can contact your pastor?” The family mentioned the name of a downtown, non-Catholic church. The startled priest then gently asked why they called him. “Because in the movies, people always call a priest.”

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Schedule of Services March 6 to March 13, 2022

Come! or at least join us online: [Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church - YouTube](#)

Sun., March 6 **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT — Перша Неділя Посту** (*Liturgy of St Basil the Great!)

8:00 am - Служба Божа – +Fr. Edward Kwiatkowski (by Bogusia Rydygowski)
9:20 am - 3rd Hour & Rosary
10:00 am - Divine Liturgy..... For all parishioners / в намірені всіх парафіян
7:00 pm - Catechism (children and youth)

Mon., March 7 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Priest Martyr Basil 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy..... **+Helen Moroz**
Romans 15:1-7 Matthew 18:10-20 by Marion Garrity

Tues., March 8 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Confessor Theophylactus 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy..... **+Fr. Edward Kwiatkowski**
Galatians 6:2-10 ~ Matthew 4:23-5:13 by Mary Bernatsky

Wed., March 9 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
*40 Martyrs of Sebastia 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy..... **+Helen, +Sophia, +Volodymyr**
Hebrews 12:1-10 by Dmytro Sikora
Matthew 20:1-16 **5:30 pm - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**
7:00 p.m. - "I Believe" Zoom gathering

Thurs., March 10 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Martyr Codratus of Corinth 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy **+Michael, +Bill, +Vera Matwichyna**
1 Corinthians 10:5-12 ~ Matthew 5:27-32 by Srs. of St. Joseph

Fri., March 11 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Patriarch Sophronius 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy **+Robert Lacombe**
Romans 12:6-14 ~ Matthew 5:33-41 by Wanda Lacombe
7:00 PM WAY OF THE CROSS

Sat., March 12 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
All Souls Saturday 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy **SOROKOUSTY for our deceased**
Hebrews 3:12-16 ~ Mark 1:35-45 **5:30 p.m. - Vespers**

Sun., March 13 **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT — Друга Неділя Посту** (*Liturgy of St Basil the Great!)

8:00 am - Служба Божа – +Annie Zemliak by daughter Phyllis & Zemliak Family
9:20 am - 3rd Hour & Rosary
10:00 am - Divine Liturgy... For all parishioners / в намірені всіх парафіян
7:00 pm - Catechism.....

SOME HELPFUL PARISH CONTACTS...

Pastor, Parish Priest: Rev. Michael Kwiatkowski, JCOD 204-582-7535
Parish Council Chair - Glen Henkewich 204-633-1502
UCWLC President - Janet Kuchma 204-582-5932
Men's Club President - John Natyna 204-339-9366
Perogy Committee President - Myron Fedoruk 204-338-7243
Catechism Coordinator - Teresa Hryndzio 204-334-4298
Church Auditorium Rental - 204-582-7535

Please pray for the sick and shut-in members of our Blessed Virgin Mary parish family, and be in touch with them when you can.

"O God Our Father, We ask You to restore to physical health those of our parishioners who are weakened with illness, give peace of mind to those troubled with worry and comfort to those discouraged with problems. Help them find in them the days of their strength, a faith and trust in You and a love for one another to guide them through any health challenges or troubles they may face. Amen."

Heritage Home: Edward Holowich
Holy Family Home: Stephania Demkiw, Lorraine Putasnick, Adam Romanchuk
Maples Care Home: Anna Paslawsky, Eleanor Harik



VIGIL LAMPS

Sanctuary Lamp - For +Elsie and +James Romaniuk (Phyllis, Danny and son Brad)

Christ Icon – For **Peace** in Ukraine Господи, дай мир **Україні**

Mother of God Icon – For my precious daughter +Alyson Lynn Korch (15 years), her son Evan and Keith and Ainsley – from mother Pat Korch

Please let us know your Vigil Lamp intention at least a week ahead of time. What a beautiful way of prayer, knowing that the candle burns for a week for your intention.