

Protection of the **Blessed Virgin Mary** CJABA CYCY XPUCTY!

Ukrainian Catholic Parish

Українська Греко-Католицька Парафія Покрови

Пресвятої Діви Марії

email: BVMChurch@gmail.com website: BlessedVirginMary.ca YouTube: LIVE.BVMP.ca Facebook: **BVMCHurch** tel.: 204-582-7535 (hall: 582-4466) fax: 204-582-4647 location & mail: 965 Boyd Avenue / Winnipeg, MB / R2X 0Z9

• Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Confessions: before every Divine Liturgy and by appointment

Welcome to our Parish! Вітаємо Вас у нашій парафії

36th Sunday after Pentecost 19 February 2023 36-а нед. по Зіс. св. Духа (Сиропусна) (Cheesefare)

Pray... Fast seriously this Lent..."and Your Father, who sees all you do in secret, will reward you..."

Tomorrow (actually, liturgically this evening) we begin the great journey of the Great Fast! This isn't our first rodeo as some might say. We know the basic concept and the basic rules. Give up sweets and come to the Lenten services on weekday evenings such as Presanctified and Way of the Cross, and ride it out until early morning Divine Liturgy and on Easter Sunday and then it's a few days of bliss eating all the eggs, kovbasa, babka bread and beets and horseradish you can! Yes... but no. It can be and needs to be so much more. At least we owe it to ourselves to fully immerse ourselves into the best of the Lenten experience that has been tried and tested for centuries in so many nations and cultures. (The most perfected experience being our Ukrainian "Великий Піст" of course!). But seriously folks. I propose that we really do a "Great Fast" like no other



«Отець твій, що бачить таємне, віддасть тобь.

МАТЕЯ 6, 1-13.

ever in our lives. Why? Because we need it and our Church and our World need it. The fast, done properly is a life-changing experience. I know I need this and, I am not judging, but I know that each of us personally would benefit from a Lent taken very seriously. Prayer, Fasting and Acts of Charity. We can use this on a personal level. If not us personally, then many persons around us, in our lives that could really use the grace gained through our prayer and sacrifices. What about marriages? Families? What about Ukraine!!?? What about so many scary things that are spreading through society... abortion, and the killing of our seniors, sill and now those mentally stressed by euthanasia/MAiD? What about our children that are being bombarded with so much social confusion and immorality. What about the loss of faith and love of God and love of neighbour that is evident all around us? I am not intending to be a downer, but my only point is—if we are looking for

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

a reason to pray more and fast for a cause this Lent... there are many! God bless us! (and He will!)

Fr Michael



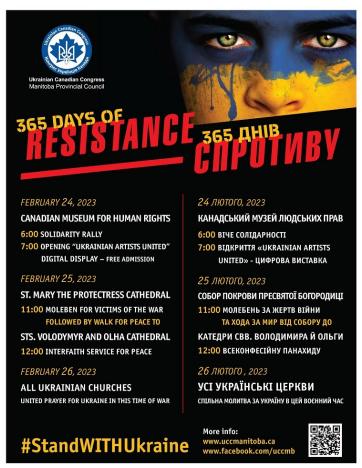
Parish News & Events:

1. TONIGHT: On the eve of the Great Fast, February 19th we will have a bit of "Pushchennya" fellowship beginning at 6:00 PM followed by a forgiveness & reconciliation Service at about 7 PM. You are welcome to attend both, but please come at least to one.

- 2. THIS WEEK Invasion Anniversary. February 24, 2023 will mark a full year since Russia shocked the world by beginning its full-scale war on Ukraine and the first missiles started landing on Ukrainian cities. Here in Winnipeg, we will commemorate this tragedy with prayer, protest and rallies of support for our and sisters in Ukraine. brothers In-person participation will be important to show that we really do care even though we are thousands of kilometers away and even after a whole year (really 9 years since the first invasions in 2014) has passed, A rally at the Museum of Human Rights is planned for Friday evening February 24th and a Prayer Event is planned for Noon on Saturday February 25th at Sts. Volodymyr & Olha Cathedral. Then, on the following Sunday, 26th February, we will also pray at our morning Divine Liturgy.
- 3. This coming Friday, February 24 -- the Bishop Velychkovsky National Martyr's Shrine will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. To mark one year since the beginning of the full-scale Russian war against Ukraine, the entire Church is asked to spend this day in fasting, prayer, and



works of mercy. Come and spend time in prayer before the Holy Relics of Blessed Vasyl at the Shrine at 250 Jefferson Ave., Winnipeg. "O



Blessed Vasyl, you lived through the danger of war, protect your people from all enemies. Blessed Bishop and Martyr Vasyl, pray to God for us"

- 4. Next Sunday -- our monthly Coffee Sunday! Come prepared to stay and enjoy.
- 5. Mark your Calendars! Plan to take advantage of this extraordinary Lenten Opportunity -LENTEN RENEWAL on the Annunciation Weekend - 24, 25 & 26 March, 2023 with Winnipeg's New Auxiliary Bishop - BISHOP ANDRIY RABIY! Words of Inspiration, Confessions, Fellowship, Spiritual Renewal!
- **6. A Weekly Seniors get-together?** What would be the interest of a weekly/biweekly get-together of post-retirement parishioners for a snack and coffee and cards, singing, etc. and just some good спілкування/fellowship? if the desire is there, the details will be worked out. Let's talk.
- **7. ART AUCTION to help Ukraine: Watch the website of Oseredok**. An Online Auction will take place on March 12-20, 2023. The art pieces are to be exhibited at Oseredok only on March 11th. See www.oseredok.ca.
- 8. ARE YOU SITTING DOWN!? Okay... now Myron has informed us that the Perogy offer has been increased! Not only NEW Volunteers in the two-day perogy-making operation will receive a FREE BAG of a dozen super BVM Perogies, but ALL VOLUNTEERS will receive a FREE DOZEN as a token of appreciation just for coming out to help out on one or the other or both days! You will be helping your parish! You will have a great time of fellowship and get to know the



Some Guidelines for LENT

First of all, Lent (a.k.a. The Great Fast) – is a time that we gladly engage in the three hallmarks of repentance and of enhancing our spiritual lives – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving/ Charitable works. This is throughout Lent (February 20-April 1) and Holy Week (April 3-8). It is a time when we refrain from parties, frivolous social activities, etc. and strive to spend time reflecting, reading, searching our own heart and soul – all the while getting to know ourselves better and our Lord and those around us!

Strict Fast (no meat, dairy or poultry) first day of Lent (February 20) and Good Friday (April 7) are days of strict fast.

All Fridays are normally days of abstinence from meat during the year and this, naturally continues during Great Lent.

There are exceptions to the days of fasting and abstinence. Saturdays and Sundays can be excluded (as a kind of break or oasis) (c. 115, § 6) and any major Feast day that falls on a fasting day during Lent – in this case of the Annunciation, which falls on Saturday, March 25^{th} this year.

A good guide is our Parish calendar, where you will find our days of fasting and abstinence marked with a large fish symbol. You will notice a "small fish" symbol on Wednesdays of Great Lent. You could also abstain from meat on "small fish days".

However, the New Particular for our Ukrainian Catholic Church, asks that we abstain from meat on **all Mondays**, Wednesdays as well as Fridays during Lent. And that the whole of the first week of Lent and the whole of Passion (Holy) Week be periods of abstention from meat products as well. Under what circumstances does one not need to fast (even shouldn't in some cases)? Well, the regulations state those up to 14 years of age or beyond 60 years of age are NOT obliged to fast. Other than that, there is a short list of situations when one may be excused from participating in the fasting practices of our Church - when health could be compromised or when the performance of one's essential duties may be compromised or pt at risk, etc. The point is - fasting and prayer and almsgiving may be a challenge (or may prove to be somewhat irksome at times) as times, but these things have proven to be immeasurably beneficial to all believers over the last two millennia in the life of the Church. Let's not sell ourselves short, but let's rather tap into these proven spiritual practices and support others who want to do so.

So, prayer (we have a lot scheduled in our parish, so come as often as possible), fasting (let's do this countercultural thing and increase our health – in both body & soul) and yes, almsgiving/charitable works [by doing (showing kindness and contacting the marginalized) and by NOT doing (gossiping, griping, being snooty, etc.)]



Some Practical Pointers for Receiving Holy Communion

There are several spiritual/pastoral considerations when planning to receive our Lord God Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in Holy Communion. We should be prepared spiritually as best as possible.... making a good Confession if need be (if we are aware of grave sin, if we have been missing church on Sundays, etc.),... preparing ourselves psychologically and by prayer,... fasting at least an hour before the Divine Liturgy,... not coming forward if we are not ready, or are not members of the Catholic Church or otherwise believe what the Catholic Church does about Holy Communion (see above), etc. However, here are a few practical matters that would help the receiving and administering of Holy Communion at our Liturgies...

- 1. if there are ushers, follow their prompts and leads, otherwise
- we know when "Communion time" is going to be. Let's start moving out of our pews, and up the aisle into place, so that there is not a long wait after the Priest proclaims "Approach..."
- 3. like traffic rules, people know what to do and when to do it. Don't be excessively polite... you make your way out of the pew and up the aisle and others will take care of themselves at a pace that works for them. Besides, perhaps they have decided that they will not (or should not) receive Holy Communion today and you might be putting them on the spot. Keep the line flowing.
- 4. come close to the priest and use the handrail as needed. There should be no moving around or crouching or standing on toes, etc. STAND STILL, tilt you head back as best you can and open you mouth and calmly receive our Lord. The priest will position himself to easily give you Communion. Your movement and trying to accommodate what you perceive to be the position of the one distributing Holy Communion can often contribute an unneccessary awkwardness or even an accident.
- 5. Cross yourself BEFORE arriving at the spot where you will receive Communion and STEP AWAY before crossing yourself or bowing.
- 6. Holy Communion is the highlight of our day, our week. Take time to rejoice and contemplate what just happened. No need to rush out of church after the service. You came to church and you received the living Body and Blood of Christ from your Lord who wants you to receive this Holy Sacrament weekly and even daily so that Jesus may dwell in you and that you will attain to eternal life! Take time to pray at least one of the "prayers after Holy Communion" at the back of your prayerbook before leaving.

"I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, *you have no life in you*; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood *has eternal life* (John 6:53–58).

Schedule of Services Feb. 19 to 25, 2023 Sun., Feb. 19 Sunday of Cheesefare Неділя Сиропусна 9:20 am - 3rd Hour & Rosary 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy... For all parishioners а в год. 18:00 поверніться! Mon., Feb. 20 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosarv LENT BEGINS! 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy.... +Pope Benedict XVI 1 Cor. 3:18-23 СТРОГИЙ ПІСТ Luke 21:8-36 Tues., Feb. 21 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary Ven. Timothy 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy.... For +Tony Reznowski by Theodore Parzyjagla Romans 8:14-21 Matthew 6:1-13 Wed., Feb. 22 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary Finding relics of martyrs at Eugenios 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy.... За здоров'я Євгенії Булки 7:00 p.m. - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts 2 Cor 4.13-18 Mark 11:22-25 Thurs., Feb. 23 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy.... For ++Helen, Sophia & Volodymyr Priest martyr Polycarp Romans 15:30-33 by Dmytro Sikora Matthew 7:7-11 Fri., Feb. 24 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary 1st & 2nd finding of head of St. John the Baptist 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy.... For +parents & all Souls in Purgatory 7:00 p.m. - Way of the Cross/Хресна Дорога by Bogusia Rydzygowski 2 Cor. 4:6-15 Matthew 11:2-25 Sat., Feb. 25 8:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary 9:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy Great martyr Theodore of Tyre followed by Panakhyda (Sorokousty).... as requested by parishioners Hebrews 1:1-12 11:00 a.m. - Moleben' for Peace in Ukraine and Walk for Peace (beginning Mark 2:23-3:5 at St. Mary the Protectress Sobor—820 Burrows Ave) ending at 12:00 Noon - Panakhyda for the victims of War and Walk for Peace (at Sts. Volodymyr & Olha Cathedral 115 McGregor St) LET'S COME OUT TO THIS!

Sun., Feb. 26 1st Sunday of Lent 1-а неділя Посту

9:20 am - 3rd Hour & Rosary 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy... all parishioners



Please pray for the sick and shut-in members of our Blessed Virgin Mary parish, and be in touch with them when you can (cards, short telephone conversations, visits). "Lord God, please be present to all the ill, infirm and elderly of our parish. You love each and everyone...."

River East Care Home: Edward Holowich <u>Maples Care Home</u>: Anna Paslawsky, Eleanor Harik <u>Beacon Hill</u>: Helen Naherny <u>Holy Family Home</u>: Lorraine Putasnick, Adam Romanchuk, Fr. Yakowchuk, Mary Henkewich, Helena Dubik, Mary Kozelko