



Protection of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ!

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 *and* by appointment

Welcome to our Parish! Вітаємо Вас у нашій парафії

34th Sunday after Pentecost
(Publican & Pharisee)

5 February 2023

34-а неділя по
Зісланні св. Духа



The Lord's powerful parable of the Prodigal is one that has moved generations of souls over the centuries, because of the richness of its themes and images. On one side: the desire to be independent, arrogance, thoughtlessness, being used, lying to oneself, sin, making huge mistakes, hopelessness and despair (among many more). But then this is juxtaposed with humility, sensibleness, sincere confession, going back, admitting stupidity, asking forgiveness, deserving and expecting nothing, but a bit of unmerited mercy. The parable also shows us what the Lord expects of those who have been unjustly insulted, hurt and cheated. The father could have been "tough, but fair" to his son. He could have allowed the hurt of squandered wealth and the pain of lost years control his decisions and actions (like it seems the older brother would have done). But what happens? The unfathomable. The joy of seeing his half-dead son return *and in all humility on top of that*, washes away any regret with which fallen human nature may have prodded the father and he tearfully hugs and welcomes his son back home. He tells his child, let's not waste anymore time on selfishness, and sin, and anger and regret... let's get on with

what we have in life and do great things for God and His people! We take these lessons to heart today as we prepare for the Great Fast which begins Sunday evening on the 19th of this month. Where have we wandered? How and what 'wealth' of faith and God-given mission and opportunity have we squandered on our version of "dissolute living" (Lk 15:13)? Do we really have to hurt a lot of people and put ourselves in danger of death or worse, "eternal fire" (Mt 25:41), before we wake up and muster the humility to make the journey back home to the Lord and start an honest life with Him? And then there are those who consider themselves being on the other side of the equation.... What is their role? The father in today's parable certainly imaged God, but even so, we are called to emulate him as well. He waited for his son every day... going to the front gate to look down the road. He was waiting and willing to welcome back his son. We also want to have that state mind and heart. We too want to be sure that even those who have gashed open our souls so mercilessly by their rejection or arrogance or *whatever*, will be welcomed back in a flash.... especially if they come broken and repentant. Yes, in the mean time we may be left having to wait in prayer and preparation, but always in readiness, like the parable father and like our Heavenly Father. The thing is - life is short. Let us not wait too long, until more years or months or even days are wasted or... until it is too late! - *Fr Michael*



How about a humble

ПУЩЕННЯ PUSHCHENNYA

as a parish **family** before the **Great**

Fast? Maybe Saturday evening

February 18th? Maybe even Sunday

afternoon/evening February 19th?

No, there's not much time, but something can be put together...!

Let's talk. **Today.**

Parish News & Events:

1. **Today at the 10 AM Divine Liturgy** we ask all parish particular **volunteers** and **officers** to come forward to receive a BLESSING and to allow the parish to assure them of their SUPPORT!
2. **Parish Pastoral Council Meeting** - Monday February 6th (*tomorrow*) at the Parish Centre Boardroom at **5:00 PM**
3. **Ukrainian Catholic Women's League Divine Liturgy & Meeting:** Tuesday February 7th at the church at **9:00 AM**.
4. **Next Fred Douglas Divine Liturgy:** Wednesday February 15th at **10:30 AM**. Come and join us! (bring a mask & joy)(1275 Burrows Ave)
5. **One the eve of Lent**, Sunday February 19th *late afternoon* We will have a forgiveness & reconciliation Service. Please plan to attend.

God bless all who made the time to participate in our 2023 Annual Parish Meeting!

It got underway only after a rather long morning of Divine Liturgy, a Panakhyda for fallen victims in Russia's immoral war on Ukraine and then a delightful "Snowman" *coffee house* and fellowship (and then the clean-up). However, a good determined group stayed on for the AGM! Outgoing Parish Pastoral Council Chair, **Glen Henkewich** agreed to chair the AGM and **Frances Bodnar** accepted the role of Recording Secretary.

During the typical reports - we learned some fascinating and good news about our parish - including the amount of volunteering that goes on and our present financial state!

Several new Parish Council officers were chosen and the outgoing members were thanked for their dedicated service over the last few years (including through the challenges of the pandemic).

Among the members who were completing their terms of service and who were thanked for their service were: Chair **Glen Henkewich**; Secretary **Katherine Kosowan**; Counter/Auditor **Jimmy Sawchuk**; Maintenance Committee Members **Bill Prokop** and **Glen Rusnak**; Council Member **Anne Rusnak** and Financial Secretary **Sharon Johnston**. God bless you all for your willingness to serve your parish! **Многая літа!**

Among the new members that arose from the meeting are: Secretary **Irena Hanuta**; Financial Secretary **Gerald Stolar**; Council Members **Petro Kutcher** and **Bohdan Buyachok**. Some positions will be filled in the coming weeks/months in the progress of time and practice. An interesting phenomenon was that many offered to gladly "*do anything, anytime*" if called upon and asked. However, before committing to an office they required more time to consider the ramifications in their family and personal lives. Fair enough.

Others that will continue on in their positions for a bit more are Catechism Director **Teresa Hryndzio**; Perogy Group President **Myron Fedoruk**; The UCWLC and the Men's Club provide their own representatives which presently are, respectively: **Janet Kuchma** and **E. John Natyna**. **Myron Fedoruk** also agreed to stay on as Auditorium Manager and Senior Church Elder, but he explained that he needs fellow volunteers in both areas. **Maria Gorbay** and **Lorna Nelson** agreed to stay on as directors of the Altar Guild....

Today we bestow a blessing upon the new volunteers/officers and show our support!



Blessed Virgin Mary Parish 2023 Annual General Meetin (AGM)

An AGM session deliberation... contemplating our Parish's needs and goals...

After all is said and done.... some good old, good-spirited fellowship



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Besides generously supporting our Parish for several years now, these ↑ businesses and services ↑ offer quality assistance, work & care! Do contact them when you need their help and be sure to tell them you're from BVM!

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for the month of February 2023

"We pray that **parishes**, placing *communion* at the centre, may increasingly become communities of **faith, fraternity** and **welcome** towards those **most in need**." «Ми молимося, щоб парафії, ставлячи в центрі сопричастя, дедали більше ставали спільнотами **віри, братерства та гостинності** до тих, хто найбільше потребує.»



Other Events/News:

Oseredok: "We will be hosting an **Art Auction in March 2023** of donated pieces of **art** with proceeds from the sale going towards our **Stand with Ukraine Fund**. We are currently fundraising to support English Language classes for newcomers. Our most popular offering now is the beginner English language classes we are running for displaced Ukrainians in Manitoba. There is no fee to participate in these classes and the demand for the course far outweighs what we are currently capable of providing. We need help in collecting pieces for this sale. If you have some art (preferably framed) that you can donate, please reach out to us for drop-off information and more donation details at info@oseredok.ca. basis. «Слава Україні! Героям Слава!»

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 brothers and sisters in Ukraine. **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 Legislative Building 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.



Thank you to everyone who came out and supported **Coffee & Fellowship** last Sunday. Congratulations to the raffle winners: Stephanie Kuzmeniuk, Orysia Zaporozan, Peter Kutcher, Sharon Johnston, and Myroslawa Pidhirny. A big thank you to everyone who helped with the clean up. The **next** Coffee & Fellowship will be on **February 26**. We hope to see you there. Thanks! -Janet

Schedule of Services Feb. 5 to Feb. 12, 2023



Sun., Feb. 5 **Sunday of the Prodigal Son** Неділя Блудного Сина
9:20 am - 3rd Hour & Rosary 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy... For all parishioners

Mon., Feb. 6 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Ven. Boucolus 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... +Shirley Halayda (5 yrs.)
1 John 2:18-3:10 by Bob Halayda
Mark 11:1-11 *post-feast Encounter*

Tues., Feb. 7 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Martyr Petro Verhun 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... For health of Dympna Cortens, by Issigonis Family
1 John 3:11-20 9:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... For +Jean Michasiw, by BVM UCWLC
Mark 14:10-14 *post-feast Encounter*

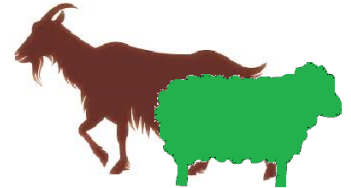
Wed., Feb. 8 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Great-Martyr Theodore 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... Thanksgiving for all graces for Maria Kowcz & family
1 John 3:21-4:6 Prophet Zachary Anonymus
Mark 14:43-15:1 *post-feast Encounter*

Thurs., Feb. 9 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Martyr Nicephorus 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... For a successful surgery & Recovery for Bogusia
1 John 4:20-5:21 and health & blessings for the whole family
Mark 15:1-15 *post-feast Encounter*

Fri., Feb. 10 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Martyr Charalampus; 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... In Thanksgiving for all Graces
2 John 1:1-13 Cathy Rakchaev
Mark 15:22-25; 33-41

Sat., Feb. 11 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary
Priest-Martyr Blaise, 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... For +Roxanna Nakonechny (1 year)
1 Corinthians 10:23-26 by Family
Luke 21:8-9; 25-27; 33-36

Sun., Feb. 12 **Sunday of Meat-fare** Неділя М'ясопсуна
9:20 am - 3rd Hour & Rosary 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy... all parishioners



Donations the week of January 22, 2023:

1. Sunday collection: **\$1000.00**
(32 env.)
- 1b. Sunday Loose: **\$92.00**
2. Candles: **\$78.00**
6. Lenten Offering **\$20**
8. Bulletin Mailing **\$250.00**
9. New Envelopes **\$50**

Thank you for your generosity!

Дякуємо за вашу щедрість!

Support your parish ... we have a beautiful church and wonderful auditorium facilities. Please do your part to help us cover the expenses.

Сиропусна Неділя - останній день *Масляної* - називали Пущенням. Готуючись до Великого посту, потрібно було пройти духовне очищення, попросити вибачення в родичів, сусідів за всі провини та завдані образи. На Пущення й малі, і дорослі просили один в одного пробачення, молили про все забути. Водночас приказували три рази: «Простіть мене, люди», а йому відповідали: «Бог простить»

У неділю 19 лютого матимемо парафіяльну службу примирення

VIGIL LAMPS

Sanctuary Lamp/Вічна Лямпа: Lord, this lit lamp reminds us that You are truly present! Move our souls to be aware of this always!

Christ Icon – Lord we enter a new century with a new Parish Council. Please guide us as we move forward as a parish!

Mother of God Icon – Mother Mary, interceded for those who are neglected, abused and rejected in Ukraine, here in Canada and throughout the world

Request your Vigil Lamp intention at least a week ahead of time. What a beautiful way of praying, knowing the candle burns for a week for your intention.



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 **Maples Care Home:** Anna Paslawsky, Eleanor Harik

Beacon Hill: Helen Naherny **Holy Family Home:** Lorraine Putasnick, Adam Romanchuk,
Fr. Yakowchuk, Mary Henkewich, Helena Dubik, Mary Kozelko

February 11th - The World Day of the Sick - a time reflect on those that are experiencing illness - short term and chronic illness. Our medicine and healthcare has come so far. Reason to rejoice. Sometimes it breaks our heart with the promotion of MAiD and abortion and so many other things. Well, the Holy Father, Pope Francis has challenged us to see how we can positively respond. Please visit our Archeparchial website for information http://archeparchy.ca/events_details.php?event_id=1287