



Protection of the

# Blessed Virgin Mary

Ukrainian Catholic Parish

Українська Греко-Католицька Парафія Покрови

## Пресвятої Діви Марії

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tel.: 204-582-7535 (hall: 582-4466)

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website: [BlessedVirginMary.ca](https://BlessedVirginMary.ca)

Facebook: [BVMChurch](https://www.facebook.com/BVMChurch)

fax: 204-582-4647

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

Office secretary: Sister Michaila, SSJ

**Confessions:** before every Divine Liturgy *and* by appointment

**Welcome to our Parish! Вітаємо Вас у нашій парафії**

**32nd Sunday after Pentecost**

**January 22, 2023**

**32-а неділя по  
Зісланні св. Духа**

### **ХРИСТОС РОЖДАЄТЬСЯ! CHRIST IS BORN!**



Yes, there's a challenge before us...

(freeBibleimages.org)

Every week that we journey deeper into our Second Century makes us all the more excited, because of the possibilities that unfold before us every turn that we make!

The first thing we need to do is reduce the frequency by which we engage in unhelpful reminiscing about the past "glory days". Yes, our Parish when it started off, and when society was very different, was a hub of social and cultural as well as spiritual activity! There were hundreds of more registered members. To paraphrase an oldie that we still like to sing when making long drives or sitting around a campfire: "The old grey [BVM] ain't what she used to be... many long years ago!". Well, maybe that's true, but... our parish truly has a lot of potential if we are ready to **smell the coffee** (i.e. wake up) and **be honest with**

**ourselves** (about where we are and where we should be), and **make a commitment** to putting a little more elbow grease into ministries and projects that COULD be worthwhile in our neighbourhood, and that ARE necessary if we are to survive our times and **to make a useful contribution** to the Church and the society around us.

**NEXT WEEK is our parish "annual general meeting" (AGM).** It is an essential gathering that we should have every year to accomplish certain 'formalities' that we need to accomplish as a juridic person every year - both canonically (as part of the Church) and civilly (as part of Manitoba society). This includes: reviewing and accepting the minutes from last year's AGM, reviewing and accepting our financial statement, hearing and accepting a few reports like that of the Chair of the parish council, and electing a few essential administrative officers (chair, treasurer and secretary). Many parishes add even more to the agenda: reports from parish organizations, a bit of discussion about major projects and repairs that may be visible on the near horizon, some sharing of ideas about pastoral/spiritual goals, etc.

So, what might be on our mind (and many of these ideas have been expressed by parishioners over the last year!): a concerted effort to invite back all our **former parishioners** (especially those who aren't really involved with an church at this time)...**inviting all our neighbours** for several blocks around our church to come check us out and join us (with a plan and commitment to assure them that they are welcome); build a small, essential **seniors' complex** on the site of the old hall or present parking lot; build a **palliative care centre** on the site of the old hall or present parking lot; establish a **sadochok/daycare** on our parish premises; open a small **café/drop-in centre** on our parish premises or at a near-by location; These are essential - because a growth in the number of people/members is essential for programs to be implemented for: **Seniors; Youth; Young-Adults; Knights of Columbus; soup kitchen; Adult-Catechism; sports team; parish pilgrimage** to local shrine or to Europe or Holy Land; helping **refugees; prayer group; liturgical movement; sick/hospital visits; visits to care homes** and shut-ins; **choir**; and this is only scratching the surface. See you next Sunday at our AGM! Surely we'll leave inspired!

- Father Michael

## Parish News:

1. Please pick up your Christmas calendars and new envelopes for 2023 at the back of the church. One calendar per household, please. If your address (or phone number) has changed, please let us know!
2. Catechism classes are every Sunday night at 7:30 p.m.
3. Myron Fedoruk is happy to report that he transported your generous donations of food -- **all 112 lb. of it!** -- to **Winnipeg Harvest**. Thank you to each one of you who dropped a little something into the bins at the back.
4. Next Fred Douglas Divine Liturgy: Feb. 15th at 10:30 AM. Come and join us!
5. Annual General Meeting (our AGM) will be held next Sunday, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>. There is a fair number of positions open: please look at the flowchart at the back of the church. Your help is more than requested. Call the office now to put your name in.... and *anyway*, see you there at the voting! (If you want to volunteer your name or someone else's, let the Nominating Committee know.)
6. Would you like your home blessed with the Jordan Holy Water? Please contact Father Michael!

## Other Events/News:

7. 2023 Week of Prayer - City-wide Ecumenical Worship Service to be held at 7:30 pm TONIGHT at Saint John XXIII Church, Winnipeg.

8. The persecution and murder of Christians continues in Nigeria. Are you praying? This past Sunday, we at Blessed Virgin Mary were praying and singing peacefully in church, but the Catholics in the Paikoro area in Niger state were horrified to come and find their church rectory burned, and to be told that their priest Rev. Isaac Achi was dead: he had been burned as well, in his rectory. His assistant, Fr. Collins Omeh, who is now recovering in the hospital, suffered multiple gunshot wounds while he narrowly escaped the terrorists in the rectory compound. He tells us: 'The bandits, who were about 15 in number, came fully armed and shooting sporadically in the air shouting 'Allahu Akbar' [God is great].'

The priest said that in the middle of the night, he was confronted at gunpoint in his living quarters inside the rectory compound, and ordered to climb through a hole created in the ceiling, and then to take the terrorists to Fr. Achi.

But the men initially had difficulty gaining access to Achi's quarters, and began shooting their weapons in all directions. Achi was shot in the leg, Omeh said, and the parochial vicar was shot in the hand.

The two priests were then held at gunpoint by the terrorists,. They began praying together, and offered one another the sacrament of confession, Omeh said."

Initial reports said that Fr. Achi was burned to death, when terrorists set fire to his rectory. Fr. Omeh told *The Pillar* that Achi was first shot in the chest, and his body was then burned when the rectory was set ablaze. In either case, the priest is

the latest victim of the Nigerian persecution of Christians that you've been reading about...". *The Pillar*. **The terrorists took five hostages away with them, after all this. Pray for their safe release.**



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...."

### Holy Family Home:

Lorraine Putasnick, Adam Romanchuk, Fr. Yakowchuk, Mary Henkewich, Helena Dubik, Mary Kozelko

### Maples Care Home:

Anna Paslawsky, Eleanor Harik

### Beacon Hill:

Helen Naherny  
River East Care Home:  
Edward Holowich

### Donations the week of January 15, 2023:

1. Sunday collections: **\$1495** (55 env.)
2. Candles: **\$94.25**
3. Seminary \$-
4. Vichna Lyampa. **\$20**
5. Ukraine: **\$20**
6. Christmas flowers **\$20**
7. Christmas carolling **\$65**
8. Christmas offering **\$100**
8. Special church donation in memory of Msgr. Buyachok & Jean Michasiw (Marion Garrity) **\$50**
9. New Envelopes **\$120**

Thank you for your generosity!

Дякуємо за вашу щедрість!

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



↑ WHAT A TEAM! Volunteers went to assist Fr. Michael at the Divine Liturgy at Fred Douglas Lodge last week. Bob was already waiting!

**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

**VIGIL LAMPS**

**Sanctuary Lamp/Вічна Лямпа:**

In memory of brother-in-law and uncle **Fred Rody** from sister-in-law Agnes Yassenko, nieces and nephew



**Christ Icon** – awaiting your intention

**Mother of God Icon** – Wishing you God's presence to heal and strengthen you, and faith to hold on, to recover back to good health for **Mary Rody** from sister-in-law Agnes Yassenko, nieces and nephew

*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.*



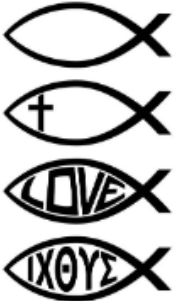
In lieu of a UCWL announcement, we as a parish take this opportunity to **THANK the UCWL** -- and the special people they recruited from their families to help -- for the absolutely delicious **PARISH PROSPHORA DINNER** last week! It brought back many happy memories for all! **GOD BLESS YOU!** ➔



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## Schedule of Services Jan. 22 to Jan. 29, 2023

**Sun., Jan. 22 32nd Sunday after Pentecost 32-а Неділя по Зісланні св. Духа**  
(Tone 8) 9:20 am - 3rd Hour & Rosary 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy... For all parishioners

**Mon., Jan. 23** 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary  
**Martyrs of Pratulyn** 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... for +Helen, +Sophia & +Volodymyr  
Ephesians 6:10-17 by Dmytro Sikora  
Luke 21:12-19

**Tues., Jan. 24** 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary  
**Venerable Ksenia** 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... For For health of Eddie Turczyn  
Peter 3:10-22 by mother Liz Turchyn  
Mark 12:18-27

**Wed., Jan. 25** 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary  
**Gregory the Theologian** 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... За здоров'я, Боже благословення,  
1 Corinthians 12:7-11 мир і згоду в сім'ї  
John 10:9-16 Софійка, Адріян, Ольга, Володимир, Дмитро, Софія, Юліян, Ольга і всієї родини

**Thurs., Jan. 26** 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary  
**Venerable Xenophon** 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... For +Peter Kuchma  
1 Peter 4:12-5:5 by Pat, Janet & Ken  
Mark 12:38-44

**Fri., Jan. 27** 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary  
**Transfer of St. John Chrysostom's relics** 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... +Jean Michasiw  
Hebrews 7:26-8:2 by SSJ  
John 10:9-16

**Sat., Jan. 28** 7:20 a.m. - 1st Hour & Rosary  
**Venerable Ephrem** 8:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy... For For blessings upon all Benefactors of our Parish,  
2 Timothy 2:11-19 especially our Bulletin Advertisers  
Luke 18:2-8

**Sun., Jan. 29 33rd Sunday after Pentecost 33-я Неділя по Зісланні св. Духа**  
Publican & Pharisee 9:20 am - 3rd Hour & Rosary 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy... For all parishioners

Pray earnestly for the Canonization of **BLESSED JOSAPHATA HORDASHEVSKA** Ask her to intercede for you...your needs in your marriage, your family. She will help!

### PRAYER for the intercession of Blessed Josaphata

Lord God, we praise and thank you for having called your servant, Blessed **Josaphata** Hordashevskia, to uplift the hearts of the people in Ukraine, through evangelization, education and care of those in need. As Co-Foundress, she was the first to live the charism of a Sister Servant of Mary Immaculate. Her virtuous life and evangelical witness encouraged her Sisters to go beyond the borders, bringing the Gospel message to all people. May our prayers for her canonization be for your greater glory and the spiritual good of souls. Grant us the graces for which we humbly pray, through her intercession. Amen.

**Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...**

**Молитва до Блаженної Йосафати** О, Блаженна Йосафато! Що жертвенно жила своєю посвятою Як Служебниця Непорочної Діви Марії навчи нас, щоб за твоїм прикладом ми уповали тільки на Бога. Вислухай нашу молитву і благай Пресвяту Тройцю про ласку, яку ми так гаряче просимо на про славу Божу. Амінь. **Отче наш, Богородице Діво, Слава, і нині.**



**Tomorrow is the feast day of ANOTHER Sister to whom we are encouraged to pray.**

**Blessed Sister Olympia Bida** (a Sister of St. Joseph) in 1950 was leading, along with another Sister, a simple life in a Ukrainian village not far from Lviv. Though they did their best to support parish life, World War II had done much damage, and now the NKVD were harassing all opponents to Communism. The parish priest was eventually arrested and "disappeared", and, when an Orthodox "priest" was installed, the Sisters refused to attend the local church anymore. Instead, the local Catholics were delighted that the Sisters would lead little prayer services, especially Moleben, in the nearby cemetery. Eventually the two Sisters were arrested and deported to Tomsk, Siberia. They were assigned to labour in the surrounding forests, and also cared for a local man with tuberculosis when no one else wanted to come near. Thus they lived for two years... Sr. Olympia died in Jan. 1952 while Sr. **Laurentia Harasymiw** (who by this time had a festering leg wound) died later that fall. **Srs. Olympia & Laurentia, intercede for us!**