



Protection of the

# Blessed Virgin Mary

Ukrainian Catholic Parish

Українська Греко-Католицька Парафія Покрови

## Пресвятої Діви Марії

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YouTube: [LIVE.BVMP.ca](https://www.youtube.com/LIVE.BVMP.ca)

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

fax: 204-582-4647

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

Parish Bulletin for the week of

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers **December 12th, 2021** Неділя св. Праотців

Dear Parishioners:

Glory to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!



**Jimmy Sawchuk** (at the ladder) and **Myron Fedoruk** help **John Natyna** hoist up one of the Christmas trees that will decorate our parish this year.

It really IS starting to look a lot like Christmas. Some decorations have gone up, and this week we will see the decorations and the (partially complete) Nativity scene set up in our church. Let us let the spirit of Christmas take hold of us! - especially the Christian aspects of... hopeful anticipation, goodwill to everyone around us, helping those who prepare the Christmas season baking and prepare the amazing meatless Christmas eve supper and probably a Christmas day dinner. I know we want to support our economy (especially since it has taken such a beating from the pandemic regulations), but let us not get too caught up in the consumerism. Wishing someone a sincere "Merry Christmas" may go a lot further than an expensive trinket or game or ... whatever. It is only two weeks until Christmas (!) that's one quarantine ;-). Hey, let's maybe make a "spiritual quarantine", spending more time indoors and at our common home (i.e. our church) and spending time reading, praying, practicing our carols (and meditating on the theology-filled lyrics). Let's clean our homes and our lives of clutter and debris and toxic materials and prepare to come out in 14 days with a renewed trust in our Lord and love for God and our neighbour.

*Father Michael*

1. Our **Christmas mailings** will be coming to your house shortly: the Christmas schedule, calendar, etc. Please read these carefully, look at them often and come to pray and sing to Our Lord together!
2. Sincere thanks to those who have begun putting up our **Christmas trees and decorations:** John Natyna, Myron Fedoruk.
3. The **"Keep Christ in Christmas" NATIVITY FLOAT** will arrive at our parish this coming Saturday! The Knights of Columbus ask you (and especially children) to come for about twenty minutes to see this great float, chat with and maybe get your photo taken with a "very important Person", catch a few candies and DO A GOOD DEED -- namely, you are asked to bring a donation for the poor: cans of food, or mitts, or socks, or packets of soup. You get the picture! Come and join the fun, and feel good about helping

someone. Remember: Saturday Dec. 18th, right in front of our church, around 3:30 PM. (There is a poster at the back of the church if you need still more information.)

4. The new **2022 Weekly Offering Envelopes** are ready for pick up at the back of our church. Every married couple or single person 18 years or over is to be registered and receive envelopes. The neglect of regular church attendance and regular use of church envelopes can lead to difficulties at the time of baptisms, weddings, funerals, etc. If you did not receive Church envelopes, and would like to, please call the Church office at 204-582-7535 during regular office hours.

5. We have been doing **Pylypiwka readings immediately after each Divine Liturgy**. Please stay, after having attended or tuned into the liturgy. Let's meditate and pray as a parish family in preparation for Christmas. THE BOOKS ARE READY -- please pick up your **free** copy at the back of the church!

6. We want to put together **another special video this year** of carols, poems, instrumental pieces (maybe even a vertep!?), to post on Youtube and Facebook. Blessed Virgin Mary parish has an amazing amount of talent. Call the office this week and say what you would do as a 1-2 min. performance! and if you are asked to do or help out with something, please do the opposite of what you should do when offered drugs (or anything sinful for that matter), and "JUST SAY YES!"

7. For our Church services, we do want to maintain some record of participants in the event that - God forbid - there is a need to contact everyone. So we ask that IF there is no one with a prepared list that each participant record their name and contact number on the sheets at the back of the church. We will have to do a preregistration for our Christmas and Theophany services to be sure that our distribution of participants is appropriate for the Liturgies available. Just incase our church nears its capacity on Sundays or Feastdays), you **may register in advance** byemail. Just send a brief note to [BVMWelcome@shaw.ca](mailto:BVMWelcome@shaw.ca). or by leaving a message at **204-582-4466**.

8. **Catechism** -- Classes continue on Sunday and Tuesday nights, under the direction of Theresa Stojanowicz Hryndzio (204-334-4298. Please call to enroll your child AND to volunteer to offer Catechism instruction....



9. Just a reminder that during the pandemic, our parish is willing to host events - *at least for our parishioners* - but there are particular requirements. The church and the auditorium need to be cleaned after events where *large* numbers of people gather. So... **cleaners** come in Monday (*i.e. following Sunday services*) and after larger events (e.g. funerals). This means that, for a **funeral**, for example, besides the regular fees [\$350 clergy; \$100 cantor(s); as well as \$100 for church cleaning. And, if applicable, \$125 for auditorium "rental", as well as \$50 for auditorium cleaning].

10. We have received a beautiful letter from **Fr. Brian Kolodiejchuk**: "The most beautiful thing in the world is to love one another as God loves each one of us. And it is for this purpose that we are in this world." St Teresa of Calcutta.

Dear Fr. Michael: I wish to thank you for the generous gift. It was a joy to **return to my home parish** and share about St. Teresa! I hope and pray that her words and example continue to be an inspiration for those who heard her message. Again, **many thanks** to you and **the parishioners of BVM! God bless you all!** Yours in Jesus, Fr. Brian (Kolodiejchuk), MC



#### Vigil Lamps -

**Sanctuary Lamp** - In memory of **John Gorbay** - Husband, father, grandfather to commemorate one year of his passing. Вічна Йому Пам'ять і Любов. by Nadia Gorbay

**Christ Icon** - For health & God's blessings for **Maria Gorbay** on the occasion of her birthday from your Prayer Partner (apologies for delay by parish office)

**Mother of God Icon** - For health & God's blessings for **Ben Yassenko** on the occasion of his birthday (from Mom Agnes & family)

*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!*

**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."



**Holy Family Home:** Stephania Demkiw, Lorraine Putasnick,, Adam Romanchuk

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



Collection - Week of Sunday December 5: \$ **3,578.75**  
(Envelopes 58) (candles - \$78.75)

**Expenses: \$ 1,292.75**

(e.g. janitorial and cleaning services)

We are grateful for all donations to our parish, and thank God daily for your generosity of spirit. Whether by weekly envelope in the basket, or by e-transfer (sent to [bvmchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bvmchurch@gmail.com)) or by EFT (electronic fund transfer -- call us for the form), we respect the words of St. Paul, who was so on fire with love for Christ and His Church: "Let each one give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver!"

### **Special Donations:**

#### **In memory of +Gerald Ostry:**

Millie Haligowski \$20

#### **In memory of +Helen Moroz:**

Randell & Janice Gray \$20

Agnes Yassenko \$30

Mary Shabbits \$50

#### **In memory of +Irene Prokop**

Glen & May Anne Wasylniuk \$ 100

John & Adeline Natytina (Pilipivka Book) \$100

Kenneth & Jean Golko (Gimli) \$50

Diana Kochanski Kornik \$20

Kenneth & Bohdanka Stoyko \$25

Adam & Sylvia Romanchuk \$20

Maria Gorbay \$20

Millie Haligowski \$20

**Christmas Flowers \$ 150**

**Christmas Offering \$ 200**

**Christmas Carols \$250**

**Church Needs \$880**

### **THINGS HAPPENING IN THE COMMUNITY**

1. We have a message from Ivas' Zulyniak: "Koliada! A group of carolers from three parishes in the Winnipeg Archeparchy will be going out starting the afternoon of December 27 to share the joy of Christmas and to carry on a wonderful tradition. Due to covid we will remain outdoors and carol at the front entrance. Donations are accepted but not required and will be given to the parish of your choosing. **To have carolers visit your place** or any questions please call 204 805-1151. **3 Різдвом Христовим!**"

2. Christmas Bazaar at the Cathedral - Pick up your Christmas FOODS on December 18 & 19  
[www.stsvladimirandolgacathedral.ca](http://www.stsvladimirandolgacathedral.ca)

### **The Marriage Box**



Every week, we will pull two new tips out of our box. (We have about 20 or so.) Try to follow each tip throughout the week and see what comes of it. If you and your spouse have any extra tips, let us know and we'll add them!

1. **PRAY together!** (Yes, you were expecting that one.) Pray together every night before you go to bed. Seriously.

2. **Realize that opposites attract.** So you and your husband/wife are different: different tastes, different abilities, different senses of humour. Remember... isn't that what drew you together in the first place? So. Maybe less exasperation and eye-rolling today, and let's try being proud of the other one's differences!

**A MEDITATION ON PRAYER, FASTING AND CONFESSION** based on.... (are you sitting down?) the Canon Law of the Church. Rather than "dry" or complicated, the texts of law can offer clarity and inspiration!

### **Some excerpts from Church Law.....**

Every once in a while, it is good to revisit some of the basic regulations of membership in the Church. All organizations and clubs and movements have basic rules – written or understood - that members in good standing follow in order to be in good standing and to support the overall goals of the organization. Almost invariably, the rules serve a double purpose: to promote the goals of the organization and to build and maintain the resolve and dedication of the members. The "rules" of the Church are much the same. They help us "keep it real" and keep ourselves on track. The rules are somewhat redundant and should not have to be there, since normally you shouldn't have to make rules in a loving relationship or about things that are good for you (or against things that are bad for you). Yet, our country and province have volumes of rules and regs. regarding citizenship obligations and rights. There are books and books written on "basic rules for a happy marriage" (that's for a man and woman who love each other so much that they decide to commit themselves to each other for life, and come before God and man to make a vow about this). Yet, sometimes life wears at us and other influences chip away at our love and

dedication and try to convince us that staying the course isn't important. The culture around us -- "fun" and "fulfilling" -- then tells us that going to church isn't "fun" and that we should only choose when and if we want or need to go. Eventually society convinces us that "holiness" isn't that important and it's just a struggle getting us nowhere. Well, we who have been baptized into Christ and have received the Seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit, must know and do know that the only true peace and joy in life will be accomplished with a life in Christ; an ACTIVE life in Christ. We are active followers of Christ when we live a life fully in tune with the Gospel teaching of Christ and the teaching He imparts to us through His living Church. As Ukrainian Catholics, we are full members of Christ's Church. Here are a few "rules" that may be unnecessary for those of us who already seek an ever deeper loving relationship with our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. But it's good to remind ourselves once in a while, when everyday things and the world (and the evil one) blur our vision toward the goal:

**1. Attending Church...** This first "canon" is from the particular law of the Ukrainian Catholic Church (yes, as members of the UCC we want to be careful about comparing our rules and regulations with those of other Churches that may have different rules and regulations....)

**Can. 114.** § 1. The faithful (*that's all of us*) are obliged to celebrate **all Sundays**, the **patronal feast** of their own parish (*for us that's October 1<sup>st</sup>*), and **the following twelve feasts** which are:

1. The Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos (Sep 8);
2. The Universal Exaltation of the Honourable and Life-giving Cross (Sep 14);
3. The Entrance into the Temple of the Most Holy Theotokos (Nov 21);
4. The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Dec 25);
5. The Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Jan 6);
6. The Encounter of Our Lord (Feb 2);
7. The Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos (Mar 25);
8. The Entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday);
9. The Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ;
10. The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost);
11. The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Aug 6);
12. The Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos (Aug 15);

§ 2. On these days, the faithful are obliged to **participate in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy** and abstain from **heavy physical work** (*i.e. unnecessary work*)(*we want to honour our Lord or Mary or the Saint(s) by celebrating them. Have a listen to today's Gospel reading again...*).

**2. What's the story on Fasting?...** These is also canons from our Ukrainian Catholic code that fine-tunes the universal canon law of the Catholic Church...

**Can. 115.** (CCEO, c. 882) § 1. Penitential **fasting** practices, repentance and abstinence that aim to **expiate the sins committed** and to achieve a **greater level of perfection** for **personal sanctity** are the oldest tradition in the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.

§ 2. All faithful are **obliged to fast** during the following periods of the liturgical year; [..., and] the **Christmas Fast**, or St Philip's fast ("Pylipivka"), which begins the day after the feast of St. Philip, concluding on the vigil of the Nativity of Christ (*i.e. Christmas eve 24 December*).

[...]  
4) For other fast days during the liturgical year, the faithful are obliged to abstain from all meats and meat products on Wednesdays and Fridays. All other foods are permitted on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

§ 3. All the faithful are obliged to fast on the following days; **the vigil of the Nativity of Christ** (*December 24<sup>th</sup>*), the vigil of the Theophany of Our Lord (*January 5<sup>th</sup>*), [...]

§ 4. Abstention from **meat and meat products** is to be observed on **all Fridays** of the year except during dispensed weeks, patronal feasts and the twelve major feasts.

§ 5. On all fast days and dispensed weeks the faithful are obliged to refrain from organizing and participating in loud parties, celebratory [*e.g. wedding*] receptions, dances, entertainment and other similar events.

**3. Confession...** these canons quoted below are from the Universal law of the Catholic Church, but are reiterated in our Ukrainian Catholic Law....

CCEO Canon 718 - In the sacrament of penance, the Christian faithful who committed sins after baptism, internally led by the Holy Spirit, **turn back to God**, moved by the **pain of sin**, intent on entering a **new life** through the ministry of the priest, having themselves made a confession and accepted an appropriate penance, obtain **forgiveness from God** and at the same time are reconciled with the

Church which they injured by sinning; by this sacrament they are brought to a greater fostering of the Christian life and are thus disposed for receiving the Divine Eucharist.

Canon 719 - Anyone who is aware of serious sin is to receive the sacrament of penance **as soon as possible**; it is strongly recommended to all the Christian faithful that they receive this sacrament **frequently** especially during the times of fasts and penance observed in their own Church sui iuris. (*The absolute minimum has always been "at least once a year, and especially at Easter time". However, our people have always made an effort to make a good soul-cleansing and heart-lifting Confession before major feast days and when on pilgrimage or at a 'mission'. However, I do remember when all three Sunday Liturgies had a lineup of people at the Confessional, because they understood the sacramental value of Confession as a source of grace and wanted to draw closer to our Lord.*)

Canon 720 - §1. **Individual** and integral confession and **absolution** constitute the ordinary way by which the Christian faithful who is aware of a serious sin is reconciled with God and the Church; [...]



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Thank you to the Kmet and Natyna families for their recent donations to our sanctuary area...

Plashchanytsya Shroud Cabinet 2021

Crafted by John Natyna and donated to the Parish  
by John & Adeline Natyna and Family

Order the Casket from "Maidynnyy Zivnytsky"

Жертводавці 2021 Donated by:  
Ronald Kmet and Anne (Анна) Kmet Rusnak  
In memory of their parents Semko and Anna Kmet





## UCWL NEWS

A donation for \$200.00 was sent to Agape Table, a Winnipeg charity that feeds the poor and hungry. For every \$1.00 that Agape Table receives they are able to turn it into \$15.00 worth of food. The monies for this donation was raised from the Pennies for the Poor that is collected at UCWLC meetings and from donations deposited in the poor box at the back of the church. May God bless you for your generosity to the less fortunate in Winnipeg.

- Janet Kuchma

## Schedule of Services December 12 to 19, 2021

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

**Sun. December 12, 2021. Sunday of the Holy Forefathers; post-feast of the Immaculate Conception**

9:20 a.m. 3rd Hour & Rosary

10:00 am Divine Liturgy - Служба Божа - For all parishioners

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**Mon., Dec. 13** 7:20 a.m. 1st Hour & Rosary, [Pylypivka Reflection](#)

**Martyr Eustratius** 8:00 a.m. **NO DIVINE LITURGY TODAY**

Eph. 6:10-17 Luke 21:12-28

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**Tues., Dec. 14** 7:20 a.m. 1st Hour & Rosary, [Pylypivka Reflection](#)

**Martyr Thyrcas and others; post-feast**

8:00 a.m. **NO DIVINE LITURGY TODAY**

Hebrews 9:8-10,15-23 Mark 8:22-26

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**Wed., Dec. 15** 7:20 a.m. 1st Hour & Rosary, [Pylypivka Reflection](#)

**Priest Martyr Eleutherius – post-feast** 8:00 a.m. **NO DIVINE LITURGY TODAY**

Heb. 5:11-6:8 Mark 8:30-34

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**Thurs., Dec. 16** 7:20 a.m. 1st Hour & Rosary

**Prophet Aggeus –post-feast**

8:00 a.m. **Divine Liturgy.....For +souls in Purgatory (Dmytro Sikora)**

Hebrews 10:35-11:7 8:40 a.m. [Pylypivka Reflection](#)

Mark 9:10-16

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**Fri., Dec. 17** 7:20 a.m. 1st Hour & Rosary

**Prophet Daniel;** 8:00 a.m. **Divine Liturgy.....For +Helen Moroz**

Heb. 11:8-16 8:40 a.m. [Pylypivka Reflection](#)

by Diana Kochanski Kornik

Mark 9:33-41

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**Sat., Dec. 18** 7:20 a.m. 1st Hour & Rosary

**Sat. before Nativity** 8:00 a.m. **Divine Liturgy..... For Fr. +Edward Kwiatkowski**

Gal. 3:8-12 8:40 a.m. [Pylypivka Reflection](#)

by BVM UCWLC Branch members

Luke 13:19-29 5:30 p.m. [Vespers](#)

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**Sun., Dec. 19** **Sunday of the Holy Fathers – Sunday before the Nativity**

10:00 am Divine Liturgy - Служба Божа - For all Parishioners



Особлива подяка **Орисі Петришин** та родині за пожертвування нашій Парафії гарної Гуцульської вишивки.

### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE for CHRISTMAS 2021:

Wednesday, Christmas Confessions December 22, 2021

**6:30 - 7:30 PM**

Friday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021

5:00 PM Christmas Divine Liturgy (English)

9:30 PM Confessions

10:30 PM Christmas Complines ("povecheriye")

11:00 PM Christmas Divine Liturgy (bilingual)

Saturday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2021

10:00 AM – Christmas Divine Liturgy (bilingual)

Sunday, December 26, 2021 (Synaxis of Blessed Virgin Mary & St.

Joseph the Spouse of the BVM

10:00 AM regular Sunday Divine Liturgy