



# Protection of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**

Ukrainian Catholic Parish

Українська Греко-Католицька Парафія Покрови  
**Пресвятої Діви Марії**



[BVMChurch@gmail.com](mailto:BVMChurch@gmail.com)

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



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



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

Location & mail: 965 Boyd Avenue / Winnipeg, MB / R2X 0Z9

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

Parish Administrator: Rev. Fr. Vasyl Hoi

Secretary - Sr. Michaila, SSJ

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

*Welcome to our Parish!*

*Вітаємо Вас у нашій парафії*

**ВЕЛИКОДНА НЕДІЛЯ**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**March 31, 2024**

**Христос Воскрес! CHRIST is RISEN!**



## EASTER PASTORAL LETTER

OF HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV



Most Reverend Archbishops and Bishops,  
Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers,  
Venerable Brothers and Sisters in Monastic and Religious Life,  
Dearly Beloved Laity in Christ of the  
Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

*O my Saviour, living and unconsumed sacrifice!  
As God, you offered yourself willingly to the Father,  
you raised with you the forefather of all, Adam.  
Having risen from the tomb. Ode 6, Paschal Canon*

*Christ is Risen!*

**Beloved in Christ!**

As we celebrate Christ's Pascha again amid the horrors of a full-scale war, now in its third year, we enter ever deeper into the great mystery of sacrifice offered by the Lord Jesus for our salvation. The Son of God, becoming man, gives back to the Father that which is the most precious—his life! The essence of Pascha's power, the only thing capable of overcoming violence, abuse, and death, is revealed to us in the voluntary self-sacrifice of Christ. This is beautifully stated in the anaphora of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great: "And when He had descended through the Cross into Hades, so that He might fill all things with Himself, He loosed the pangs of death, and rose on the third day, and paved the way for all flesh by the resurrection from the dead, for it was not possible for the Prince of life to be mastered by corruption."

O my Saviour, living and unconsumed sacrifice!

Today, our hearts are filled with the joy of the resurrection of Christ, who emerges in radiance from the grave. The empty tomb reveals to us the fullness of life in the Lord to which we are called in the joy of God's children. This joy is given to all who see in the wood of the cross the door to renewed life in the resurrection. Because Christ, being the living God, out of great love for us, chose to voluntarily accept suffering, crucifixion, and death, in order to resurrect fallen human nature with himself, and to give us eternal life in his resurrection. By uniting with Christ crucified on the cross, we receive the fruit of his sacrifice in the resurrection from the dead.

In proclaiming this Paschal Mystery, the Church today also directs us to our forefather Adam, whom Christ, in his resurrection, frees from the shackles of hell, and reveals to us the truth—that for humankind life after death really exists! In the person of Adam all humanity is depicted—past, present, and future. The risen Christ is the one who gives meaning to the fullness of human history, which leads from sin and the fall, slavery and bondage, to repentance, conversion, liberation, and salvation. In celebrating Christ's Pascha, today we reach beyond the limits of our time and space, and enter into the eternity of God. In the Risen Christ, we can boldly say: "Behold, now is a favourable time, behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2).

As God, you offered yourself willingly to the Father!

The resurrection of the Son of God demonstrates that his voluntary self-sacrifice is not the end but a new beginning of life for each of us. Christ's voluntary death on the cross is terrible, real, but life-giving, because it is a "living and unconsumed sacrifice." Indeed, we are not called to death and nothingness but to

life and joy in God. Whoever sacrifices oneself not for the purpose of fulfilling one's own ambitions, personal goals, or human intentions but gives oneself voluntarily to the Father—is already risen! In this is found the essence of every true sacrifice—to give the Creator one's everything, that is, to return to God that which is God's because we are the creation of his hands! That is the meaning of human life itself: we received it as a gift from God and we are called to return it to him alone! By sacrificing ourselves to the Father, we complete ourselves fully in God's eternal love. By giving ourselves we do not lose anything, but on the contrary, we rise together with Christ! That is why we often repeat in our liturgical services: "let us commend ourselves, and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God." In the Risen Christ, the value and purpose of every human self-sacrifice is revealed.

Today, Ukraine is a victim-sacrifice of Russia's criminal war against our people. We often ask ourselves: is our fight really worth such a high price? Over these past years for what do we sacrifice that which for us is the most precious: our sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers; our cities and villages, our land and everything we possess? For what purpose do we live and die today? In response to this cry of anguish and tears of Ukraine, today the Risen Saviour comes forth from the empty tomb as a "living and unconsumed Sacrifice." It is He, the Victor, who speaks to us today in the voice of fallen heroes: "We fell so that you may live! We sacrificed our lives as an offering to God and to you! In our sacrifice the Lord's Pascha is proclaimed!" Our victory over the enemy is as certain and inevitable as the day that always follows the night, as the dawn of that morning when Christ was risen, changing the weeping and tears of the myrrh-bearers into the peace and joy of every person who today proclaims to the whole universe: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life!"

You raised with you the forefather of all, Adam, having risen from the tomb!

In his resurrection, Christ destroyed death and fear before those who carry it. The Apostle to the Nations states that it was through the fear of death that the devil held the human race in his slavery: "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery" (Heb. 2:14-15). The Lord destroyed this fear once and for all, destroyed the power of the devil, the bearer of death, and that is why we call out to him today: My Saviour!

Today Ukrainians sense that in the third full-scale year of a ten-year war, which, in fact, has been going on for centuries, the time has come to destroy once and for all, in Europe and the world, the realm of deathly fear, carried by the insatiable Russian slavemaster and colonizer, to destroy the rule of those who for centuries kept in this slavery to fear our people and other enslaved nations. Today in Ukraine, the one who rains death onto the field of life is losing power. The power of Christ's Pascha put an end to the power of the devil, the author of slavery, insolence, falsehood, and violence. Indeed, in Christ we voluntarily give ourselves to the Father as a living and life-giving sacrifice. Today in the Paschal Victory the pascha of Ukraine is fulfilled. Today, Christ rises in our struggle against evil, in our efforts, in the flesh and blood of our people, in order to raise up humanity of the third millennium and give hope to the world – for in Ukraine, Christ is Risen!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ! On this radiant day, one of victory of life over death, good over evil, truth over falsehood, I urge you to abide in the faith, hope, and love that the Risen Lord brings us. In the joy of the Resurrection, I greet our military heroes, sons and daughters of Ukraine, who defend us at the frontlines, are ready to sacrifice everything out of love for their land and their people. We believe in your God-given strength, we revere your resistance to evil, over which we shall inevitably prevail.

I greet all those who have suffered from the war—physically, materially, morally. Let today's feast above all feasts, and festival of festivals, be for you a balm in your suffering. In a special way, I embrace with my paternal love the families of the fallen, expressing my personal gratitude and the gratitude of all God's people to you, as you bear in the depths of your heart the indescribable pain of losing your son or daughter, brother or sister, husband or wife, father or mother. I embrace the wounded. You carry the seeds of resurrection together with Christ, for He too carried the wounds of the crucifixion on His hands and feet. May the joy of Pascha pave the way to your physical and moral healing. To the families of our prisoners and those missing in action, who are celebrating Easter today in tears, I express my compassion, support and prayerful closeness. To all those who have been deprived of their homes by the war and expelled from their hometowns or villages, to all internally displaced persons, and to all those who found temporary sanctuary outside their homeland, I wish you spiritual comfort and confidence, that where the Risen Lord is, there we are always at home.

I embrace all children, adults and the elderly, men and women—and my wish for you is that in sharing the Easter basket, you may experience profound joy, God's mercy and blessings. I embrace with a fatherly love all the volunteers and workers involved in works of charity, our clergy, religious, and faithful in Ukraine and throughout the world, and I sincerely wish you all a blessed Easter feast, a tasty sharing of our traditional blessed egg, and a Paschal joy that is full of light.

The grace of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

**Christ is risen! Truly, He is risen!**

**† SVIATOSLAV**

**Given in Kyiv  
at the Patriarchal Cathedral  
of the Resurrection of Christ,  
on the Feastday of the  
Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos**

**March 25, 2024 A.D.**



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**HELPFUL PARISH CONTACTS**

**Office: 204-582-7535**  
**Parish Administrator:**  
Rev. Vasyl Hoi **204-951-3031**  
**Auditorium: ext. 3**  
**Catechism area: ext. 4**  
**Facility Rentals: 204-582-7535**


**Parish Council:**  
Glen Henkewich  
**204-782-3714**

**Catechism:**  
Good-hearted volunteer needed!  
**204-582-7535** ...call Father!

**Men's Club:**  
E. John Natyna, president  
**204-339-9366**

**UCWLC:**  
Janet Kuchma, president  
**204-582-5932**

**Perogy Making:**  
Myron Fedoruk, president  
**204-338-7243**

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*Serving the Community for over 55 years!*

**We are Strong in Christ!**

“There was a terrorist attack in Boston during the running of the Boston Marathon quite a few years ago. Many people in Boston responded by not letting the terror act cause fear or a change of lifestyle. A phrase was used to describe their attitude, and the phrase was “Boston Strong.” “Boston Strong” simply means that they will not give up or give in to such terrorist attacks. The Boston Marathon took place again after that, and I believe that over the million people came out to watch it.

We face attacks as Christians, physical attacks, mental attacks, emotional attacks, and spiritual attacks. But, we can be strong in the Lord, and strong in the victory that is ours in Christ. Be encouraged today. And this is an encouragement that needs to be shared among the Lord’s people. That’s one of the reasons we meet together for worship, prayer, fellowship, and service. We need to encourage one another in the Lord.” *Dr. David Olford*

**Parish News & Events:**

**1. The Men’s Club has passed on this message:** “We would like to thank Myron Fedoruk, Glen Rusnak, Gerald Stolar and Glen Ambrose who helped give out pussywillows. We would also like to thank our members Jack Groot, Jerry Pilipowicz, Terry Krowchuk and Greg Yakimischak. Thank you to Volodymyr and Bohdan for serving orange juice, Rick Henkewich and Russell Kossack for selling 50/50 tickets, and all the people who helped to clean and move the tables and chairs; also to the ladies for their help.”



**Чоловічий клуб передав таке повідомлення:** «Ми хочемо подякувати Мирону Федоруку, Глену Руснаку, Джеральду Столару та Глену Амброзу, які допомогли роздати pussywillows. Ми також хотіли б подякувати нашим членам Джеку Гроту, Джеррі Піліповичу, Террі Кроучуку та Грегу Якімішаку. Дякуємо Володимиру та Богдану за подачу апельсинового соку, Ріку Генкевичу та Расселу Косаку за продаж квитків 50/50, а також усім людям, які допомогли прибрати та перенести столи та стільці; також жінкам за їхню допомогу».

**2. Father Hoi will be away for a week, beginning this coming Friday.** There will therefore be no services scheduled for most of next week **on the weekdays -- Sunday service and our parish dinner will proceed as usual.** If there is urgent need of a priest, please call Father Buduykevych (the one who gave us mission talks recently) via 204-430-4066.

Отець Хой буде відсутній на тиждень, починаючи з наступної п’ятниці, на короткий час. Якщо терміново потрібен священик, телефонуйте отцю Будуйкевичу (той, який нещодавно проводив нам місійні промови) за телефоном 204-430-4066.

**BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH**

**EASTER DINNER**

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

*following the 10 am. Divine Liturgy*

**ADVANCE TICKET SALES ONLY**

Adults--\$20  
Children (6 to 12 years): \$ 10.00  
Children (5 & under): Free

Tickets can be purchased before and after the Sunday Divine Liturgies or by contacting Janet @ 204-582-5932 or [jkuchma@mymts.net](mailto:jkuchma@mymts.net)

**DEADLINE**  
**for purchasing tickets:**  
**Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

# Schedule of Services March 31<sup>st</sup> - April 7, 2024

Розпорядок Богослужінь

Sun., March 31

**EASTER SUNDAY!!!**

**ВЕЛИКДЕНЬ!!!**

6:30 a.m. -- Воскресна Утрєня і Служба Божа (по-укр.) Resurrectional Divine Liturgy in Ukr. (starting with Matins) -- For all parishioners

10:00 a.m. -- Divine Liturgy bilingual (Ukr./Eng.) -- For all parishioners



Mon., April 1

9:30 a.m. - Holy Rosary / Свята Вервиця

**Bright Monday**

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Служба Божа...

Acts 1:12-17; 21-26

John 1:18-28

For all parishioners

Tues., April 2

9:30 a.m. - Holy Rosary / Свята Вервиця

**Bright Tuesday**

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Служба Божа... For all parishioners

Ephesians 1:1-9

Luke 24:12-35

Wed., April 3

9:30 a.m. - Holy Rosary / Свята Вервиця

**Venerable Father Nykytas**

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Служба Божа -- For health + God's blessings for Peter (birthday tomorrow) and Andrew, Alexander, Lucas, Josua Kutcher & Alexandra, Joseph Rydzyszowski by Barbara Kutcher

Acts 2:22-36

John 1:35-51

Thurs., April 4

9:30 a.m. - Holy Rosary / Свята Вервиця

**Venerable Father Joseph**

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Служба Божа -- За здоров'я і Боже благословення за сина Зєновія, Євгенію, Павлуся, Зєвена, Євгенію та Зєновія від Євгенії Булки

Acts 2:38-43

John 3:1-15

Fri., April 5



NO DIVINE LITURGY here

Sat., April 6



NO DIVINE LITURGY here



Sun., April 7

**ST. THOMAS SUNDAY** **ТОМИНА НЕДІЛЯ**

10:00 a.m. -- ONE Divine Liturgy bilingual (Ukr./Eng.) -- For all parishioners with Parish Dinner following (for those with tickets)

CHURCH INCOME	March 24
Sunday collection:	1625 (67 env)
Candles	138
Vichna Liampa	10
<b>Church needs</b>	
Christine Krucko	50
John & Olga Haligowski	250
For Ukraine	
Roman Sulyma	20
New envelopes	120
Lenten offering	25
Easter flowers	75
Christmas offering	60
Christmas carolling	10



**We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence.**

*Pope Frances*



## EASTER EGG MAZE

CAN YOU FIND YOUR WAY THROUGH THE MAZE?



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 every one...."

**River East Care Home:** Edward Holowich **Maples Care Home:** Anna Paslawsky, Eleanor Harik

**Seven Oaks Hospital:** Ø **St. Boniface Hospital:** Ø **Holy Family Home:** Lorraine Putasnick,

Adam Romanchuk, Helena Dubik, Mary Kozelko, Mary Shabbits **At home:** Antonina Witrowych, Dmytro Sikora, Roman Naherny

Please let us know when there are changes... many people pray over this info box!



## VIGIL LAMPS for the week of March 31:

**Sanctuary Lamp/Вічна Лампа** – in loving memory of our father **John Kmet** (23 years), from Cathy and Andrew

**Christ Icon** – In loving memory of brother **John Kmet**, from Ron & Sandra; Glenn, Anne and Simeon

**Mother of God Icon** – In memory of my brother, **Roman**. Gone too soon. From Irene Hanuta

Request your Vigil Lamp at least a week ahead. This is such a beautiful way of praying, knowing the candle burns for a week for your intention. \$10 each; your preference of lamp will be accommodated whenever possible. This is a way that supports our parish, in addition to obtaining graces for those whom you pray!

