

Protection of the

## **Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Ukrainian Catholic Parish** 

Українська Греко-Католицька Парафія Покрови

# Пресвятої Діви Марії



**ALL SAINTS** 

SUNDAY

BVMChurch@gmail.com

website: **BlessedVirginMary.ca** 



**BVMChurch** 

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

Office Manager - Sr. Michaila, SSJ

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

### Слава Ісусу Христу!

Welcome to our Parish Вітаємо Вас у нашій парафії

June 4, 2023

НЕДІЛЯ ВСІХ СВЯТИХ

**Today we conclude our Catechism Program for this Year** 

# GOD BLESS THE **FAMILIES** THAT PARTICIPATED IN OUR **CATECHISM** PROGRAM, GOD BLESS OUR COORDINATOR MRS. **TERESA HRYNDZIO**, GOD BLESS THE **UCWLC** AND ALL WHO SUPPORTED OVER THE YEAR!

Our Catechism program was successful over the last couple of years - including this year - especially because it was **consistent** (practically every Sunday evening) and because **everyone collaborated** to "find a way" **to make it work** in spite of lingering health concerns and in spite of trying to accommodate the best time for all. Well, We come to the end of a year of exploring our faith as best we could. We now pray that the seeds planted will take root and grow into strong, unshakeable trees of wisdom to keep our young people anchored throughout their lives. As with any such milestone, it is a time celebrate the accomplishments and give due thanks to those who brought us to this point.

We also commit to stay the course of the path: there is still a need for great growth and tending to our increasing knowledge and using that knowledge to the greatest possible extent! Not a few

scholars finish their studies and hang the diploma on the wall/leave it on the shelf, but never strive to apply --in as many creative ways as possible -- the knowledge they gained.

There is no end to what we can and must learn about our Faith, but we have learned something already... so let's **use it! Share it** with friends and family! and ever **grow and expand it!** 

Those completing this year of catechism are true Disciples of Christ. They need their families and parish and Catholic schools to continue to help and encourage them to move forward as followers of Christ. Not only to **urge** them forward, but **join** them 100% on the adventure... ever forward!



**LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE** It is **not too soon** to look to our Parish year beginning in September.... We will need a renewal of purpose and commitment as we plan to be the best possible parish that we can be. With good will and little bit of commitment from EVERYONE we can accomplish more than we can probably even imagine at this moment. If we believe in our Church and the role of our Parish in the mission of the Church, we will be able to do wonders.

We need a renewed volunteer spirit that will not strive to do as little as possible, but to do as much as possible! Yes, in fairness we hope and expect that everyone else will pitch in and help. But still, if we see a 'good' and we want it to be realized or maintained then we look to ourselves as the first responders. Then we can expect others to join in! As an example: two volunteers worked hard and pulled off a successful DoorsOpen this year. Others did contribute. But imagine if a lot came forward, what an even greater event it could be! We need to be more on the ready step up to do things that may not even seem that important, but they are. Take the flagbearer on the battlefields of yesteryear. If he should fall, the troops could wonder if they are still advancing or are we losing?! Where's our flag leading in the direction!? No, if he falls, then someone else picks it up, knowing the risks and the possible sacrifice, but it is something that is needed and there should always be someone who is willing to do it. If not you, then who should?

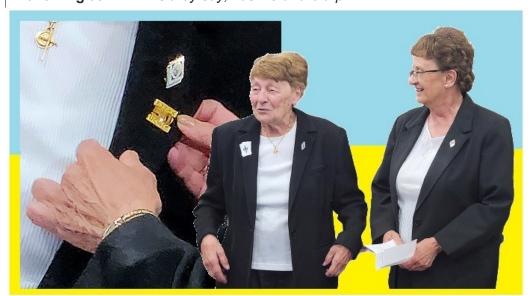
Fr. Michael

#### **Parish News & Events:**

- 1. Cemetery services: TODAY, June 4 @ 2 p.m. -- All Saints Cemetery.
- 2. Thanks to all parishioners who donate food! Last week, Jimmy Sawchuk and Myron Fedoruk took 98 lbs! of this much-needed food to Winnipeg Harvest.
- **3. Feast of the Most Holy Eucharist** -- this Thursday, transferred to next Sunday. **Come on Sunday, for the procession** around our church, with the 4 Gospels read, and the singing of our beloved eucharistic songs. Our Lord is delighted when we make this public proclamation of our faith.
- 4. Perogy making June 14th & 15th. Please come and help!

#### **News & Events Elsewhere:**

- **5. Thank you for supporting our Ukrainian Park...** through the Spring 50/50 lottery. The draw was held on Thursday June 1, 2023. the amount was \$3,360.00 and the winner of 50% of that was Samantha Ternovetsky! Congratulations!
- **6.** Today: BBQ and Walk for Life, in Steinbach. **BBQ starts at 1PM, with the walk following at 2 PM.** As they say, "it's worth the trip!"



On the annual national 'Tag Day' of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada, the members of our UCWLC Parish Branch gathered for a dinner and ceremonial meeting at which two members were acknowledged for their years of membership, for which they received special lapel pins: Jean Zalitach [50] (left) and Frances Bodnar [25]. (as you can see from the expressions, Jean brought the house down with her wit and humour) (28 May 2023)





Finding it hard to forgive?

"Forgiveness is above all a personal choice, a decision of the heart to go against the natural instinct to pay back evil with evil."

- St. Pope John Paul II



President **Janet Kuchma** leads the members of the BVM Parish Branch of the **UCWLC** as they process into Church before the **Pentecost Sunday** Divine Liturgy 28 May 2023



UCWLC National 'Tag Day' 28 May 2023, Lorna Nelson affixes League logo to Anne Romaniuk

7. <u>Come Celebrate!</u> The Knights of Columbus Canon Luhovy Assembly 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Friday June 30, 2023, at the Viscount Gort Hotel. Contact S.K. Alex Kozubal at 204-667-0789 for tickets.

The **Blessed Virgin Mary Branch** of the **UCWLC** celebrated our 77th League Day last Sunday.



Thank you to all the parishioners who supported the Tag Day with your generous donations.

After celebrating Divine Liturgy, the ladies went to Salisbury

House for a luncheon. There we recognized the long service of two of our members.

Frances Bodnar presented Jean Zalitach with a 50-year pin and Bertha Stoyko presented Frances Bodnar with a 25-year pin. Mnohaya lita!

May the Blessed Mother, our Protectress, continue to bless all of us.

Janet Kuchma, President



#### **Ukrainian Handyman Available**

Roman, newly from Ukraine with his family, is ready to give you a hand with almost any **short-term project** you have: furniture repair, window installation, door replaced, flooring redone, etc. (His wife declares that

when it comes to these kinds of projects, he has "hands of gold"!) His expertise is electrical engineering, so he can certainly advise in this area as well. Please help him support his family, especially since a family member is currently experiencing a serious medical problem. Any short-term job is appreciated! Call **Roman** at **431-275-3753**.

Do your best and after that, go on simply. God gives the growth when it pleases Him.

St. Julie Billiart





They were holding sessions when Vyshyvanka Day arrived (May 18) and they decided to show their spirit by donning embroidered shirts and oosing for a picture! [Not all are bishops, some are priests who were giving reports and seminarians who were serving on staff, but - most are our Bishops in Ukraine's 18 eparchies/exarchates]

POPE FRANCIS' JUNE PRAYER INTENTION

"We pray that the international community may
commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition
of torture and guarantee support to victims and
their families."



Pope Benedict XVI @P\_BenedictXVI

In spite of all, good exists in the world and this good is bound to win thanks be to God, the God of Jesus Christ, who was born, died and rose again.

— Benedict XVI

← After the beautiful traditional "crowning" ceremony on the last day of May and at the last "Mayivka" Marian Devotion. God bless everyone who took time to pray to Mary daily as there is so much to pray for in our day! Ukraine... our Children... our Seniors

#### "Ukrainians Working on the Railroad... They Helped Build Canada"

(... and so do Ukrainian Newcomers Today!)

A lady named **Christine Nykoluk** is a Canadian author who has recently placed the following in her blog. We have shortened it a bit, but it bears reading for at least two reasons: It brings back memories -- **and great gratitude to God** -- for what Ukrainian newcomers did for Canada more than a century ago. It also reminds us of the great adaptability of our Ukrainian people, and that the many newcomers to Canada today are continuing to build our great nation, though in very different ways: in technology, in small business, in construction, in education. God bless us all as we work together.

"I owe my own existence, in no small part, to the railways. My Ukrainian grandfather worked for both the CNR and the CPR as a means to save for bringing his family over from the old country, and to buy their farm near Riding Mountain, Manitoba. Yet many other Ukrainians and immigrants spent their whole lives working for the railways. Most of the Ukrainians listed on my grandfather's 1914 Arriving Passenger List cite the CPR yards in Winnipeg as their destination in Canada. In all likelihood, they were sponsored by the CPR too. Their occupations were listed as "farm labourers."

The following is an excerpt from Mikhailo Shymkiw's account of his first years working for a railway company near Sioux Lookout, Ontario: "After work, during my free time, or on Sundays, I often went for walks into the forest. Once, when I had walked some fifty feet from the track, I saw two crosses overgrown with weeds, standing between two poplars. I went cold at this unexpected sight. Walking up, I saw that one of the crosses bore a knife-carved name, Herhory, the rest was unreadable, for both crosses were in a state of decay. I told my foreman about them. 'There are many such crosses along this railroad,' he said. 'There are also many graves that no one knows about and will never know about!'

It was true, I found six such graves myself among some tall birches six miles from Souix [sic] Lookout. Looking at them I felt a deep sadness. They seemed to be saying: 'Tell our families that death found us here, let them not expect us back' . . . The workers did not remain long on the job under these circumstances, for injuries and death looked them in the eye every day. Having worked a week or two they left, secretly. Their places were taken by new workers — and the story was repeated again. The contractor found this to his benefit."

Farm labor during seeding and harvest was also needed. The CPR had been granted huge tracts of land on both sides of the track by the Canadian government. Many of these same immigrants would become buyers of farmland, even shipping their own grain on these railways. Thus, there were many reasons to promote immigration to Ukrainians. Immigration was so frequent that often Ukrainians would meet people they knew from their home villages when they arrived in work camps! One of the reasons for this was that most of the immigrants at that time were from the provinces of Galicia or Bukovinia. Lands further east would have been under the Russian empire at that time.



Martynowych (1991) wrote that living conditions for railway gangs were abhorrent, especially before WWI. Today, we'd consider rail gang work for 10–12 hours a day *very hard physical labour* — moving rocks, lifting heavy rail ties, and steel spikes. Workers would need to move everything by hand unless there was a mule or horse team to move it. In his book "The Great Railway," (1972) Berton wrote "Dust choked throats, ears ringing, arms aching from swinging sledges all day or toting rails...."

Water shortages and poor sanitation caused disease (including typhoid) in the camps. Lack of water meant that it would have been difficult to bathe! Add to this the challenge of inadequate heavy winter clothing and a means of laundering it.

It was difficult to save money working for the railway. Clothing was typically purchased from company stores (Berton, 1972) with meagre earnings. Anyone who has done hard physical labour knows that clothes wear out fast.

Working outside in the bush in summer meant that workers were tormented by flies, blackflies and other hungry insects. Men would build smoke smudges in an effort to reduce the resulting stress on horses, mules and themselves, bringing temporary relief...

Heavy snowfall on railway tracks meant that abundant labor was needed to clear lines and resume rail traffic. Every available horse team might be contracted after heavy snowfall, but yet, much of the track would need to be cleared by hand.

When the CPR changed from steam locomotives to diesel, the demand for coal went down, meaning that railways shipped less coal too. Workers were subsequently rewarded with reduced wages. Can you imagine being told that your wage would be reduced by 30?

The 1921 census states that my grandfather worked for the CPR in Wishart, Saskatchewan. In 1923, he was reunited with my grandmother at a CNR siding near Sioux Lookout (ie at Superior Lot, as per her passenger record).

Men rode the rails to wherever there was work. Ukrainians were viewed as a ready, dispensable source of labor. WWI caused a lot of upheaval for workers as periods of high employment alternated with periods of low employment: while immigrants were increasingly hired during the war, veterans were prioritized for jobs after the war, Lack of stable employment made it difficult to save money. Large number of single unemployed men led to increased scrutiny of immigrants by government, eventually leading to creation of Canada's first internment experience during WWI. As Shymkiw mentioned in his account, worker mortality on rail crews was high. Building the railway through the Canadian Shield used up three tons of dynamite a day, and at considerable cost of men's lives (Berton, 1972).

Did the CPR and other railways make an effort to notify these unfortunate Ukrainian workers' families' back in the old country, I wondered? Did the families back home ever find out? How were these losses in human life communicated after WWI started, a time when Canada was effectively cut off from the Austrian Empire? Communication would have become impossible... "Winters were dark and cold . . . the isolated conditions of camps . . . in gloomy, airless bunkhouses . . . with 60–80 men crammed in . . . beds of vermin-infested hay . . . nights fetid from steam of wet clothes and smoky stoves." (Berton, 1972)

It is with these thoughts that I contemplate my grandfather's difficult life when I either cross railway tracks or wait for a long train to pass by!"

What a reminder of the endless cycle of mankind on this earth: a life of toil and suffering, with occasional days of great joy in the mix. But we Christians keep in mind that there is always HOPE. HOPE that we are making the world better for those who follow, and HOPE that we will be with God for eternity if we lead a decent, God-loving life. *This* is what makes life bearable.



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#### I don't know WHY you haven't been coming to church.... but I will FIND



уои... and I will BRING you....!!! Я не знаю, де ти зараз,

але я маю унікальний набір навичок, завдяки яким я знайду тебе і... Я якщо вам знадобиться... підвезу вас.



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#### **HELPFUL PARISH CONTACTS**

Office: 204-582-7535

Parish Priest:

Rev. Dr. Michael Kwiatkowski ext. 2

Auditorium: ext. 3
Catechism area: ext. 4
Facility Rentals: 204-582-7535

Parish Council:

Irene Hanuta (co-chair)

204-297-7814

Catechism:

Teresa Hryndzio, coordinator

204-334-4298

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** 



In a hospital in Germany, a whole wing was filled with soldiers who had come back from fighting in the Great War and now had terribly damaged eyesight: some were totally blind, some were partially blind.

A cardinal from the nearby Catholic cathedral came to visit the hospital and to talk to the soldiers to comfort them and assure them of his prayers. As

he neared the bed of one soldier, he heard the soldier praying out loud:

"Lord, I beg you not to take away the light of my eyes. But if is Your will that I be deprived of it, then leave me, at least, the light of my mind. But if it is Your will that I be deprived of that, then leave me, at least, the light of my Faith."

The cardinal was amazed. He leaned over a touched the soldier's shoulder to let him know he was there, and asked, "Son, where did you learn that beautiful prayer?"

"Oh, are you the Cardinal who was to visit us this afternoon?" "Yes", the cardinal replied.

"Your Eminence", said the young man, "when I was a young boy, I used to live in Mainz, in Austria, and there was an old Cardinal who, after Mass, liked to go into his garden and pray some more as he walked about. I would walk beside him so that he could steady himself if he should stumble, for he was then 90 years of age. I used to hear him say that prayer all the time, and I have never forgotten it!"



## DoorsOpen 2023 - Irene

Hanuta Welcomes our visitors with cheerful hospitality points out excellen things to read and offers great refreshments! (27 May 2023)

<u>Application</u>: The soldier knew that losing his eyesight, or even losing his mind, would not be so terrible as losing his faith. Faith is your greatest gift from God! because faith leads you to God, and to eternal life. Avoiding sin is necessary, yes, but avoid everything that makes your faith weaker: laziness in prayer, indifference, skipping services, carelessness in practicing your religion.

(from Fr. L. Lovasik)

# 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 Beacon Hill: Helen Naherny Riverview: Helen Dolski

Holy Family Home: Lorraine Putasnick, Adam Romanchuk, Fr. Yakowchuk, Helena Dubik, Mary Kozelko

## Schedule of Services June 4 to June 11, 2023

Sun.. June 4 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

#### НЕДІЛЯ ВСІХ СВЯТИХ

8:00 а.m. -- Divine Liturgy (Ukr.) - за упокій Архімандрита о. Дмитра Панкова (2007) 10:00 a.m. -- Divine Liturgy (bilingual) -- For all parishioners

Mon., June 5

6:30 a.m. - Holy Rosary

**Priest Martyr Dorotheus** Romans 2:28-3:18 Matthew 6:31-34, 7:9-11 7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy... For all those willing to fight for the dignity & freedom of all people (the eve of D-Day, 1944)

Tues., June 6 Venerable Bessarion 7:20 a.m. - 1st/3rd Hour & Rosary 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy... For

Matthew 7:15-21

+Eugene Kruk (5 yrs.) by the family 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy... For +Mary Henkewich by UCWLC

Wed., June 7

Romans 4:4-12

7:20 a.m. - 1st/3rd Hour & Rosary

Priest Martyr Theodotus 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy... For ++ poor souls in Purgatory

Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 7:21-23 by Dmytro Sikora

Thurs., June 8 (take postfeast) FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST 7:20 a.m. - 1st/3rd Hour & Rosary Romans 5:10-16

Matthew 8:23-27 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy... For all parishioners

Fri., June 9

8:20 a.m. - 1st/3rd Hour & Rosary

St. Cyril of Alexandria & postfeast 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy... For +Mary Henkewich (40th day) by family

7:00 p.m. - Молебень/ Moleben to Our Lord Romans 5:17-6:2

Matthew 9:14-17

7:20 a.m. - 1st/3rd Hour & Rosary Priest Martyr Timonthy & postfeast 8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy... For +Mary Henkewich by Jean Zalitach

Romans 3:19-26 Matthew 7:1-8

Sun., June 11

FEAST of the MOST HOLY EUCHARIST НЕД. ПРЕСВЯТОЇ ЄВХАРИСТІЇ

8:00 a.m. -- Divine Liturgy (Ukr.) - Health and Blessings for Eugene Szun 10:00 a.m. -- Divine Liturgy (bilingual) -- For all parishioners

#### **VIGIL LAMPS** for the week of June 4th:

Sanctuary Lamp/Вічна Лямпа – In loving memory of our Mother +Anna Kmet from Ron and Sandra; Anne and Glenn

Christ Icon – In loving memory of our Babtsia +Anna Kmet from Cathy, Andrew and Jasmine, and Simeon and Andriana

The Royal Winnipeg Rifles heading towards Juno aboard LCAs

Mother of God Icon – For health of Victoria Kruk from the family

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.

**Donations** Photo from May 28, 2023:

directory: \$-Flowers, chur ch yard: **\$30** (J.& O. Sunday Haligowski) collection:

Total

income:

\$1200 (41 env.) Church Needs \$ 50

\$2279.75 Total expenses: Candles: \$ 2650.59 109.75 Seminary \$-**Дякуємо** Vichna

Lyampa. \$ --Ukraine: **\$20** (Sulyma family)

за вашу щедрість...



DoorsOpen 2023 - Bohdan Buyachok (right) "pulls back the curtain" points out the treasures beyond the Iconostas of BVM church: to enthralled visitors. (27 May 2023)