



Вітаємо до Парафії Воздвиження Чесного Хреста! Welcome to Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish!

A place of prayer, family, and community since 1967 which follows the Eastern (Byzantine) Christian traditions of the Catholic Faith that first emerged in the lands of Rus-Ukraine through the preaching of Saint Andrew, the First-Called, and echoed onwards through the mission of the holy apostles to the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius. At Holy Cross, we are called to enter into communion with God within the community of the faithful, the Church — the Body of Christ. Here, we offer services in Ukrainian and English languages where we are united to God and one another, and, “with one heart and one voice”, form the family of God. The Divine Liturgy is the centre of our life, and it is here where we come to know Christ in each other, in the Sacred Scriptures and through participation in the Holy Sacraments. May your participation in today's Divine Liturgy be thoroughly enriching and truly meaningful as well.

34th Sunday after Pentecost (Sunday of the Prodigal Son)

Today's Readings: **Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20 **Gospel:** Luke 15: 11-32

Troparia are located on **pages 6 and 10** of the grey booklets

Epistle Readers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Gloria Sherban
Sunday (10 a.m.): Andrika Warywoda



Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Christopher Tennant
Sunday (10 a.m.): Mary Ann Lysak



The point Jesus is trying to make today in the Parable of the Prodigal Son is that we have a good Father — God. He is a good Father that never gives up, a good Father that sent his Son to rescue us, to bring us home, a good Father Who is watching out for us, Who,

the moment we turn around to head back to Him, runs to us out of desperation for us to know Him and be in relationship with Him. A good Father Who hugs, kisses, loves on us, Who dresses us as princes and princesses, Who lavishes us with the riches of heaven.

We have a good Father Who says to all of us who are home with Him already that there is so much more, that everything He has is ours already and since God lacks nothing, we lack nothing. And this is all true, because God is good.

As we prepare to enter into the season of Great Lent, let us ask ourselves this question: “Do we love each other like this, or do we hold back? That's the love that Jesus was talking about when we hear His words in St. John's Gospel: “This is how everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another. (John 13: 35)

~ condensed and edited from a sermon by Gavin Rushton

Parish News and Activities

The annual General Parish Meeting is scheduled for next **Sunday, February 24** following the 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy.

There are a number of significant items on the agenda, and we encourage all parishioners to attend. And don't forget, the meeting will be followed by a full lunch featuring soup, sandwiches, salads, and sweets. If you wish to bring an item for the buffet table, you are most welcome to do so! Hope to see many in attendance!



Several parishioners have been asking if and when we are going to have another cabbage roll making session and sale before Easter. A date has been chosen: **Tuesday, March 19**. A sign-up sheet is now in the narthex for you to place orders (for frozen only). The cut-off date will be **Friday, March 15**. The price will remain the same at \$10/dozen and cabbage rolls will be packaged in 1 and 2 dozen foiled trays. Help will be needed to prepare the rice, roll, and clean-up. Further information will appear in future bulletins.



A friendly reminder as well that if you wish to order pyrohy for the **April 8** making, that you call Walter Warywoda at 475-3757 or send him an email at warywodaw@gmail.com at your earliest convenience to avoid any disappointment, as last year the maximum amount was reached by early March. At the present time, we are close to 80% capacity, so the cut-off date is quickly approaching. The price per dozen remains the same at \$6, cooked and frozen. *Thank you for your cooperation support!* ☺

Words of Comfort & Inspiration

“If the Prodigal Son had not believed that the father's love was already waiting for him, he would not have been able to make the journey home.”



~ Hans Urs von Balthazar ~



Liturgical Services Schedule

for the week of February 18 - 24, 2019

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

10:00 a.m. ~ For the repose of the soul of †Iryna Tsar (1 year)
Offered by Oleg, Marijka and Vasylyna Tsar

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

5:00 p.m. ~ **Meatfare Sunday** (Of the Fearful Judgement)
Epistle Reader: Michael Watral
Eucharistic Minister: Zenya Puchalski

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

10:00 a.m. ~ **Meatfare Sunday** (Of the Fearful Judgement)
Epistle Reader: Christopher Tennant
Eucharistic Minister: Stanley Myslicki

Note to all parishioners: During Great Lent, the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts followed by Panakhyda (Sorokousty) for the deceased will be celebrated on Friday mornings (except March 15). You are encouraged to update (or begin) your memorial booklets (in the box on the narthex table) before that time.

Your Return Gift to God

Let us strive to live as Christian stewards, receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them generously & lovingly with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.



FEBRUARY 9/10

Envelopes and Loose: \$1,275.⁰⁰
Initial Offering: \$10.⁰⁰
Mission Collection: \$100.⁰⁰
Andrew's Pence: \$30.⁰⁰
Special Projects: \$100.⁰⁰

Thank you for your generosity ~ Щиро Вам дякуємо!

February's Mission Collection is designated for **Urban Abbey Youth Shelter** (308 Red River Road).

Are You the Older Brother in Today's Parable?

In today's Gospel, we hear how the older brother stayed with his father, enjoyed the benefits of home, but obviously did not share the heart of his father. Work on the farm to him was a drudgery not a delight. He didn't view the father as generous, but as stingy, and a harsh taskmaster. You see his animosity surface when he describes his obedience to the father as "slaving for you all these years!"



Unfortunately, there are many among us like this older brother. They may do all the right things outwardly, but inwardly their hearts are elsewhere. When this older brother casts his disparaging remarks at his younger brother coming home, we get a glimpse of how he might have spent his half of the inheritance were he not so concerned with keeping up appearances! But keeping up the appearances could not disguise the anger and animosity he now displays to the father. "You never gave me anything!" is the cry of a selfish, self-seeking son whose jealousy over the father's acceptance of this prodigal brother is painfully revealed.

Many prodigals cannot bring themselves to return to the Father because they cannot face the elder brothers who are quick to judge, quick to criticize, and quick to shoot those who are wounded. To those 'elder brothers', please realize that you are a member of God's family because of grace, not because you are a 'goody-two sandals'! Recognize that it takes the same embrace from the Father to accept you as it does to accept the wayward. Stop standing in the way, and join the party!

And to all the 'prodigals' out there, hurry to the Father, and don't let the criticism of your elder brothers stop you!

~ Rev. John Pearrell

EVENTS OF INTEREST IN OUR CITY

FamJam 2019 - Monday, February 18 at the CLE Coliseum from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. featuring bouncy castles, face painting, balloon animals, crafts, colouring tables, Zumba, music, cartoon by Java Hut, and door prize draws, donated by local businesses. Admission will be \$10 per child (3 to 12 years old), \$5 per teen (ages 13 to 17), or free for babies (under 3 years old) and adults with the donation of a non-perishable food item. Come have fun and support some great causes!



Pysanka Workshop - Hosted by the League of Ukrainian Canadians, **Saturday, March 9**, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the 'Ukrainian Home', 211 Robertson Street. \$25/person. To pre-register, call Hanyia at 344-3136 soon. Limited seating, so book early!

HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS

Regular Thursday afternoon activities have now resumed starting at 1:00 p.m. (doors open at 12 noon), and new members are still welcome to join. Membership is only \$10/year and well worth it. Invite a friend or two!

Want to get away for a bit but not in the mood to drive? Then this is your chance. The next bus to Grand Portage is set for **Wednesday, February 20**, leaving the church parking lot @ 3:45 p.m. and returning @ 10:00 p.m. Those who are 18 years and older with valid passports are welcome to join us. To book your free seat, call Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann (G) Opaski (577-2805) ~ there's always plenty of room. ☺

*"Do not regret growing older.
It's a privilege denied to many."*

Readings for Meatfare Sunday (Of the Fearful Judgement)
(to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8 - 9: 2
(The Question about Food Offered to Idols)

Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46
(The Final Judgement)



As you read each passage, ask yourself these questions:
"What thoughts, ideas, words or images come to mind?"
and "What are the connections between them?"
This will help make them easier to follow and understand.



ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY



Our next bingo is an afternoon session on **Wednesday, February 27**. Members who have agreed to volunteer on that date should be at the hall no later than 12 noon in proper attire.

A decision was made at our 'Super Bowl' meeting to cancel the upcoming monthly meeting originally scheduled for March 3rd following the 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Our next gathering, therefore, will be on **Sunday, March 31** at 7 p.m.

To all ice fishermen ~ Here are some more good safety tips:

- **Know the ice.** Before you go out, make sure it is safe. Clear blue ice is generally the strongest.
- **Dress for success.** You never know what the weather will bring, so be sure to dress warmly.
- **Food for thought.** A couple of snacks and a bottle of water or a thermos of coffee can help replace lost energy, and can even help you survive if you are out longer than expected.
- **Phone home.** Always carry a cell or satellite phone so you can call for help if the need arises.
- **Stay tuned.** Make sure your machine (snowmobile, ATV, etc.) is in tip-top running order before you head out.
- **Pack light, pack right.** Don't load up with unnecessary tackle especially if you're fishing for perch or bass.
- **Cutting edge tools.** Keep your ice augers and spud bars well-honed (sharpened) and covered when not in use.
- **Shacking up.** Use a portable ice hut which can give you the flexibility to go where the fish are and keep you warm and comfortable. (Permanent huts are okay, too.)
- **Sweet heat.** When the mercury plummets, you'll want to be inside some type of shelter with a more powerful heat source. Whichever type and model you choose, make sure it is working properly and you have plenty of fuel.



Tony and the White Ribbons

Today we are going to hear the story of "Tony and the White Ribbons". It is the story of a father's love. The story begins with a young man named Tony. Tony lived in a small, quiet town. One day he decided that he was not going to be trapped in that little boring town all his life, he was going to run away from home and go to the big city miles away. There he could experience all of the excitement that life could offer. That afternoon he told his father he was going to the store and he took off for the big city instead.

When Tony got to the big city he began to live a wild life. He made it a special point to do all of the things that his father always tried to teach him were wrong and would lead to problems and destruction in his life. He did some pretty bad things and eventually had to spend time in jail. While Tony was in there, he had a lot of time to think about what he had done with his life. All of a sudden home sounded so good. He had made a complete mess of his life because he disobeyed. As he sat there in jail, he broke down sobbing. He decided to write his father a letter asking if he could come home when he was released. He asked his father to tie a white ribbon on the tree in front of their house if he was

forgiven and welcome to return home. As the train approached his hometown neighborhood, he would check for the ribbon on the tree and know if he were welcome.

Tony was nervous as he rode the train toward his home. He was even afraid to look for the ribbon on the tree, so he asked the man next to him to look for him. Was there any chance his father would allow him to return home, or even ever forgive him for bringing shame to the family? As the train passed through the town, Tony asked the man if he could see the ribbon on the tree. The man told Tony he didn't see one ribbon on the tree. Tony's heart sank. Then the man said, "I do not see one but many. In fact, the whole tree is covered with white ribbons." Tony looked up and saw the tree completely white with ribbons and his father beneath it waving his arms and running toward the train to greet him.

If the story sounds familiar, it is. It is the story about a prodigal son and his father's love. It is a story that gives us a beautiful picture of God's heart of love towards each one of us. He loves all the lost sons and daughters of the world. He is the great Father full of love and forgiveness.

Source: www.CaVaryFellowshipsV.org

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We wish everyone a wonderful week! Бажаємо Вам всім чудового тижня!