



## **Вітаємо Всі до Нашої Парафії! Welcome All to Our Parish!** **A Place of Prayer, Family and Community for More than 50 Years**

*Epistle ~ Acts 11: 19-26; 29-30*

*Gospel ~ John 4: 5-42*

Troparia & special texts are found on **page 12** of the **Easter Season** booklets

### **Epistle Readers**

Saturday (5 p.m.): Evelyn Poleschuk  
 Sunday (10 a.m.): Susan Soldan

### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Saturday (5 p.m.): Christopher Tennant  
 Sunday (10 a.m.): Stanley Myslicki

Jesus is the continual source of life and sustenance. When we're getting thirsty, when we're running low, we draw from the well so we can be replenished. The wellspring of life is a continual flow of blessing. It's like when Elijah blessed the widow with the continuous supply of oil to meet her needs. With Jesus, we have a continual source of living water available to us. The well will never dry up; the spring will never cease to flow. But we have to bring our jars and fill them up. If you're not getting filled it's because you're not going to the well. And trying to run on empty just doesn't work. We can prevent this by not allowing ourselves to get too low before we fill up again. Just like the warning light that indicates you're low on gas, we need to heed the warnings that we're getting low on our spiritual food and water.

~ from a sermon by Derrick Tuper



## Your Return Gift to God

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

### Collection for April 21/22



Envelopes: \$1,726.<sup>00</sup>  
 Mission Collection: \$112.<sup>00</sup>  
 Special Projects: \$10.<sup>00</sup>

**Thank you for your generosity! Щупо Вам дякуємо!**

April's Mission Collection is for the **Salvation Army**, a Christian organization that gives hope and support to vulnerable people in 400 communities across Canada and in 128 countries.

**Note:** In May, parishioners can donate their "Special Project" donation to the building of the **Holodomor Monument & Garden at Exhibition Place in Toronto** if so desired. Please indicate by writing 'Holodomor Project' on your envelope. For more information, visit [tufoundation.ca/holodomor](http://tufoundation.ca/holodomor).

## Parish News and Activities



We send our sincerest condolences and heartfelt prayers to the Luby family on the passing of their beloved †**Joseph (Joe) Luby** on Tuesday, April 24, and to Marika Warywoda and family on the passing of her beloved mother †**Aniela Trusz** on Wednesday, April 25. May the Risen Lord accept His servants †**Joseph** and †**Aniela** into His heavenly kingdom, number them among the just, give them rest in the bosom of Abraham, and may their memory be eternal ~ Вічна їм пам'ять.

On **Sunday, May 13** following the 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy, we invite all mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and godmothers of our parish to come to the hall for the annual **Mother's Day Brunch** sponsored by the members of St. George's Society. We ask those who are planning to attend to please sign the list in the narthex in order that the appropriate arrangements can be made. *Thank you for your cooperation.* ☺



The Holy Cross Golden Agers have reached their order limit for pyrohy for the making on **Tuesday, May 29**. However, a 'waiting list' has been created, but there is no guarantee there will be enough extra product for those who did not pre-order. Please speak with Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805) soon. *Thank you very much for your continued support!*

**A reminder from the Bulletin Editor:** The various inserts and monthly calendars, *carefully prepared for you*, are not to be left in the pews or on the narthex table at the end of the Divine Liturgy. They are yours to keep, to re-read, or to meditate upon! **MW**

## Liturgical Services for This Week

### TUESDAY, MAY 1

10:00 a.m. - Funeral services for †**Joseph Luby**

### FRIDAY, MAY 4

10:00 a.m. ~ For the departed servant †**Harriet Kucher**  
*Offered by her niece Marion Zastawny*

### SATURDAY, MAY 5

5:00 p.m. ~ **Sunday of the Man Born Blind**  
 Epistle Reader: Michael Watral

### SUNDAY, MAY 6

10:00 a.m. ~ **Sunday of the Man Born Blind**  
 Epistle Reader: Walter Warywoda



**Readings for the Sunday of the Man Born Blind**  
 (to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)

**Epistle: Acts 16: 16-34**

**Gospel: John 9: 1-38**



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.



## Words of Mercy and Compassion

*"The Samaritan woman grasped what the Lord said with fervour that came from an awareness of her real need. The transaction was amazing. She came with a bucket; He sent her back with a spring of living water. She came as a reject; He sent her back being accepted by God Himself. She came wounded; He sent her back whole. She came living a life of quiet desperation, and ran back overflowing with hope."*

~ Ravi Zacharias

## HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS

Regular activities happen every Thursday afternoon at the usual time (doors open at 12:30 p.m.) — and new members are still welcome to join. Membership is just \$10 per year and well worth it. A trip to Winnipeg in the fall is in the planning stages for the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September. More to come!

The next bus to Grand Portage will leave the church parking lot on **Wednesday, May 16** at 3:45 p.m. and return @ 10:00 p.m. Please contact Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805) to book your seat. This is a **free** service. Non-members (18 years and up) with **valid passports** are invited also. Come for the ride and recreation!

Pyrohy orders for May 29 are now **closed** — the limit has been reached. To get on the 'waiting list', please speak with Ann Kozlowski (her number is above) at your earliest convenience. **Please note:** there is no guarantee that there will be any extra product on that morning.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



**The Holodomor National Awareness Tour Bus** is coming back! If you missed it last June, or would like to see it again, here's your chance to do so. **Tuesday, May 1**, the bus will be parked at Sir Winston Churchill Collegiate field, 130 W. Churchill Dr., for free public viewing from **3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** This state-of-the-art interactive mobile learning space seeks to engage and educate students and the public across Canada about the Holodomor. For more information, visit [www.holodomortour.ca](http://www.holodomortour.ca).

**Choirs for Hope: An Evening of Music & Song - Saturday, May 5** at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's United Church, 349 Waverley Street, featuring various choirs within our city, bringing hope and inspiration to all those impacted by cancer. Donations at the door with proceeds in support of the Northern Cancer Fund. Everyone is invited!



**Travel the World in 48 hours** - TBMA's 45<sup>th</sup> annual "Folklore Festival" on **Saturday, May 5** (12 noon - 11 p.m.) & **Sunday, May 6** (12 noon - 7 p.m.) at the FW Gardens & Curling Club featuring tantalizing international foods, imported wines & beers, incredible entertainment, 'shop-the-world' booths, an activity-packed children's area with all free activities, beautiful exhibits & displays and local artists on site. Adults: \$5; Seniors/Students: \$3; Children (4-12): \$1, and 4 & under: free. Visit the website at [www.folklorefestival.ca](http://www.folklorefestival.ca) for more info.



## ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY

The 2018 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards ceremony happens on **Sunday, April 29** at 2:00 p.m. at the Valhalla Inn Ballroom. Nominees and guests are reminded to arrive there no later than 1:40 p.m. so we can all gather together.

Our regular monthly meeting is also on **Sunday, April 29** starting at 7:00 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend. Hope to see many in attendance as important information will be disclosed and discussed.

Here are the dates for new volunteer training at Superior Shores Gaming Centre (from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.):

**Sunday, May 6 and Sunday, June 3.**

Dates for retraining of volunteers originally trained prior to February 2018 are as follows (from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.):

**Sunday, May 20 and Sunday, June 10.**

Our next two bingo sessions are both matinées: **Wednesday, May 23** and **Wednesday, June 13**. Please speak with Gerry Bullock if you are able to volunteer on that date. Parishioners are most welcome to take the training and volunteer!

*Love and Service to God since 1960!*

### Why does the Eastern Church commemorate the Samaritan Woman today?

Because this is the first Sunday after Mid-Pentecost, the feast that stands half-way between Easter and Pentecost. At Easter, the great truths of the Church are revealed: Christ is both God and man, and He was crucified and risen from the dead. However, these truths, may remain rather abstract until at Pentecost we understand their inner meaning, their implications for our daily life. By the Coming of the Holy Spirit, these truths become living, and we worship Christ in spirit and in truth. Thus, the Church reads to us the words that, 'the hour is coming when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth'.

Let us this day pray that we too, like the Samaritan Woman, may bring others to the Church, testifying like Her to the Divinity of Christ, becoming reapers of that which we have not sown. *Христос воскрес! Воистину воскрес! Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!*

Sunday Smiles

**WHILE VISITING** his grandparents, a small boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out. He picked it up and found that it was an old leaf that had been pressed flat between the pages.

"Mama, look what I found," he called out.

"What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked.

With astonishment in his voice, the boy answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear!"

**Zorya at 20: Baba's Stories** - Zorya Ukrainian Dance Assn. presents its 20<sup>th</sup> annual concert on **Saturday, May 12** at 7 p.m. at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium with special guest: Thunder Bay Community Band. Tickets available in person at the TBCA Box Office or you can call 684-4444 or order yours online at [www.tbca.com](http://www.tbca.com). Fantastic entertainment for all ages and a great opportunity for a family evening on Mother's Day weekend.



# Jesus Is The Living Water



When visiting a friend, your friend asks if you would like something to drink. "Yes, I would," you answer. "What would you like?" your friend replies. "What do you have?" you ask, and your friends answers, "I have pop, fruit juice, and water."

Which drink would you choose? Your answer probably depends on whether you are actually thirsty or just want something to drink. The number one choice that children make is pop. Now, pop taste pretty good, but if you want something that will satisfy your thirst and provide what your body needs, a pop wouldn't be the right choice. Pops are high in sugar and have a lot of calories that we don't need. You might think that fruit juice would be a good choice, but surprisingly, they often contain as much sugar and calories as pop. If you want a healthy choice, it is clearly water!

In our Gospel story today, Jesus teaches us the most important lesson about drinking water that we will ever learn. One day Jesus was walking through a town in Samaria. He was hot and tired so He sat down beside a well to rest. A woman came to the well to get some water and Jesus asked her if she would give Him a drink. The woman was surprised that Jesus

spoke to her because Jews would not usually speak to Samaritans. She said to Him, "Why do you ask me for a drink since You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan?" Jesus answered and said, "If you knew who was asking you for a drink, you would ask Him for a drink and He would give you living water."

"You don't even have anything to get water in, how can You give me living water?" the woman asked. Then Jesus explained, "Whoever drinks from the water from this well will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst again."

Jesus wasn't talking about the thirst for water from a well, he was talking about a thirst for God. The Bible teaches us that we have a thirst in our heart for the living God and that is a thirst that only Jesus can satisfy. So, when we have Jesus in our heart, he totally satisfies our thirst for God and we will never thirst again!

Dear Father, we thank You for sending Jesus, the Living Water. We pray that everyone will drink of that Living Water so that they will never thirst again. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Source: [www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com)

## *What should we learn from the woman at the well?*

**THE STORY OF THE WOMAN AT THE WELL** teaches us that God loves us in spite of our bankrupt lives. God values us enough to actively seek us, to welcome us to intimacy, and to rejoice in our worship. As a result of Jesus' conversation, only a person like the Samaritan woman, an outcast from her own people, could understand what this means. To be wanted, to be cared for when no one, not even herself, could see anything of value in her —this is grace indeed.

But there are many other valuable truths we glean from this story. We learn that:

- 1) Only through Jesus can we obtain and receive eternal life: "Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life'" (John 4:13–14; cf. John 14:6).
- 2) Jesus' ministering to those outcasts of the Jewish society (the Samaritans) reveals that all people are valuable to God and that Jesus desires that we demonstrate love to everyone . . . including even our enemies (John 4:7–9; Matthew 5:44).
- 3) Jesus is the Messiah (John 4:25–26; 1:41; Matthew 27:22; Luke 2:11).
- 4) Those who worship God, worship Him in spirit and truth (John 4:23–24; Psalm 145:18).
- 5) Our testimony about Jesus is a powerful tool in leading others to believe in Him: "Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in Him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I ever did.' So, when the Samaritans came to Him, they urged Him to stay with them, and He stayed two days. And because of His words many more became believers. They said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this Man really is the Saviour of the world'" (John 4:39–42).

Additionally, we learn from Jesus' dialogue with the woman at the well three absolute truths about salvation:

- 1) Salvation comes only to those who recognize their desperate need for the spiritual life they do not have. Living water can be obtained only by those who recognize that they are spiritually thirsty.
- 2) Salvation comes only to those who confess and repent of their sin and desire forgiveness. Before this immoral woman could embrace the Saviour, she had to concede the full burden of her sins.
- 3) Salvation comes only to those who take hold of Jesus as their Messiah. For the absolute truth is that salvation is found in no one else (John 14:6; Acts 4:12).