



## 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.

## Third Sunday of Lent (Veneration of the Holy Cross)

**Today's Readings:** *Epistle:* Hebrews 4: 14 - 5: 6 *Gospel:* Mark 8: 34 - 9: 1  
Troparia are located on **pages 3 and 17** of the grey booklets in the pews

### Epistle Readers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Christopher Tennant  
Sunday (10 a.m.): Michael Watral



### Eucharistic Ministers

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



In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus is proclaiming what He expects of His followers — they must be prepared to lose their lives while following Him. He goes on to make it even clearer, “For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me and for the gospel will save it.” However, Jesus is not necessarily referring to physical life here, although that may be included, but mainly He is referring to the inner life — to the soul. Jesus is saying that we cannot choose to follow Him and continue to pursue our own life with all its wants and desires. The phrases ‘I want ...’, ‘I’m going to ...’, ‘I will ...’ and perhaps even ‘I need ...’ are simply no longer part of our vocabulary, or even the thought process. It is now and always ‘Jesus wants ...’, ‘Jesus is going to ...’ and ‘Jesus will ...’.

Jesus’ teaching would have been very hard for those who initially heard it, but we know that the Holy Spirit was given to make that close connection to God, so that we can always hear His voice.  
~ from a sermon by Peter Fisher

## Holy Cross Parish News and Events

Our congratulations and best wishes go out to **Walter (Wally) Zaremsky** on the occasion of his **90<sup>th</sup>** birthday on **March 21**. May the Lord continue to bless you and grant you many more happy years ~ Многая літа! **90**

Many thanks to **Murray Salomon** and crew for putting on a delightful Pancake Breakfast last Sunday. Our appreciation is also extended to all those who donated prizes for what turned out to be more than just a mini-Penny Auction. May God continue to bless you with generosity and true charity. Finally, sincere thanks to all parishioners and guests who attended to make it a success!

A big **THANK YOU** to those who came out to steam and clean the cabbage, prepare the rice, make the cabbage rolls, and help clean up this past Monday and Tuesday. Extra frozen product is available for purchase. Please speak with Michael Watral.

Our Lenten Mission will take place this week, **March 26, 27 & 28 at 6:30 p.m.**, led by Monsignor Pat Stilla of St. Patrick's Cathedral. A light snack with coffee/tea and snacks will be offered each evening in the parish hall afterwards. The church proper will be opened from 5:45 p.m. for those wishing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).

Orders for pyrohy for **Monday, April 8** are now closed — we have reached our limit. *Thank you for your support.*

## 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.*

**MARCH 16/17**

Envelopes: \$1,320.<sup>00</sup> Vigil Lights: \$81.<sup>05</sup>  
Mission Collection: \$70.<sup>35</sup> Special Projects: \$60.<sup>00</sup>  
Flowers for the Tomb/Easter: \$50.<sup>00</sup>

*Thank you for your generosity ~ Щиро Вам дякуємо!*

The Mission Collection for March is designated for the **Hospice and Palliative Care Unit at St. Joseph's Hospital**. Palliative care is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening illnesses using various strategies.

## LITURGICAL SERVICES SCHEDULE

### MONDAY, MARCH 25

10:00 a.m. ~ **Feast of the Annunciation of the Mother of God**

### FRIDAY, MARCH 29

10:00 a.m. ~ Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts followed by Panakhyda for the deceased

### SATURDAY, MARCH 30

1:00 p.m. ~ Private Baptism  
5:00 p.m. ~ **Fourth Sunday of Lent** ~ St. John Climacus  
Epistle Reader: Mary Ann Lysak  
Eucharistic Minister: Mary Ann Lysak

### SUNDAY, MARCH 31

10:00 a.m. ~ **Fourth Sunday of Lent** ~ St. John Climacus  
Epistle Reader: Susan Soldan  
Eucharistic Minister: Christopher Tennant

## Words of Wisdom and Truth

"Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our own poverty. Let us not forget that real poverty hurts: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance.

~ Pope Francis ~

## HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS

**Attention all members!** Our regular monthly meeting takes place on **Thursday, March 28 at 1:00 p.m.** preceded by a 'mini' beanbag tournament starting at 12 noon. Following the meeting, bingo will take place as usual. See you there!

Our next bus to Grand Portage in April will occur one week earlier than usual, leaving the church parking lot on **Wednesday, April 10 @ 3:45 p.m.** and returning @ 10 p.m. To book your free seat, sign the list at the meeting or call Ann Kozlowski (622-3006). Join us for an evening out!

## How to Find Time in the Day for Lent

Our busy lives may seem to leave little time and energy for the traditional Lenten practices. But we can weave moments of spiritual awareness and service into the busiest of schedules.

**Praying Daily** ~ If you make a habit of saying a little prayer whenever someone irritates you, cuts you off in traffic, or makes life difficult; when someone does you a favour, you experience great and friendly service, or when something joyful happens to you—you will soon find yourself praying your way through the day.

**A Different Type of Fasting** ~ Why not fast from criticism, gossip, judging others, or passing on rumors? Why not abstain from unwarranted fear and anxiety? These are beautiful ways to observe the Lenten call to fasting and abstinence.

**Give of Yourself** ~ Give encouragement to the doubting, give a word of praise to the insecure, show kindness to someone who could use a friend, and offer a word of thanks to those whose service of others often goes unappreciated. Give the gift of your attention to someone who simply wants to be noticed. Don't be stingy with your smiles—give them freely to everyone you meet. And most important, give your love to those close to you. Hug them, hold them, and tell them what they mean to you. In this way you open your heart to God and others.

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

## Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

Commemoration of St. John Climacus  
(to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)



**Epistle: Hebrews 6: 13-20**  
(God's Sure Promise)

**Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31**  
(Jesus Heals A Boy with an Evil Spirit)

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 monthly meeting will take place **Sunday, March 31 at 7 p.m.** Members are requested to be in attendance. The Executive members will meet on **Monday, March 25 at 3 p.m.** in our parish hall.

Our next bingo is an evening session on **Tuesday, April 9.** Those who have agreed to volunteer on that date should be at the hall no later than 5:45 p.m. in proper attire.

The next two training dates and times are as follows:

**Saturday, April 27 @ 10:00 a.m.**

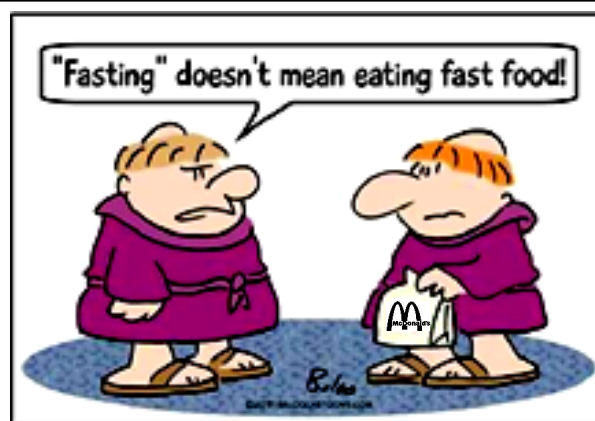
**Sunday, May 26 @ 4:00 p.m.**



All members (and parishioners 18 years and over) are invited to take the training (it's only an hour long) and assist at future bingos. Please inform Gerry Bullock so that he can confirm your attendance with the staff at Superior Shores.

*Love and Service to God since 1960!*

Smile  
Sunday



## WHAT'S GOING ON IN THUNDER BAY...

**Two-Bit Auction** - **Sunday, April 7** at the Slovak Legion Branch 129 Hall, 801 Atlantic Avenue, sponsored by the RCL Ladies Auxiliary. Doors open @ **12 noon**; activities start at **1:00 p.m.** Great baskets, food and refreshments, and a lot of fun! Tickets: \$5.<sup>00</sup> each. Call 623-3354 ext. 2 to arrange for yours. *Everyone is invited!*

**Sprinkle of Spring Tea** - sponsored by St. Dominic CWL, **Sunday, April 7 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** in St. Dominic Parish Hall, 130 W. Redwood Avenue. Draws, Bake Table, Penny Auction, Sewing Table, sandwiches & dainties. Ticket prices: Adults: \$6.<sup>00</sup>/person; children (5-12): \$4.<sup>00</sup>; (4 and under): free. *Tutti sono benvenuti!*

**Conductor's Playlist** - Join the Lakehead Choral Group members on **Wednesday, April 24** for their annual concert as they celebrate their conductor's 25<sup>th</sup> year at the podium. It all begins at **7:30 p.m.** at **St. Agnes Church** (corner of Brown and Mary Sts.). Adults: \$20; Students: \$10. Speak with LCG member Susan Soldan to get your tickets for this special show!

**Support Ukrainian Culture** - Chaban Ukrainian Dancers present "**Vasyl and the Varenyky Factory**" ~ their annual concert at 7:00 p.m. on **Saturday, April 27, 2019** at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. An evening of colour, energy and traditional music! To get your tickets, visit the Box Office, call (807) 684-4444, or order online at [www.tbca.com](http://www.tbca.com). *This fun, family-friendly evening will have something for everyone! Don't miss it!*



# Jesus Calls for Total Commitment in Following Him

**E**nvision this. You are about to take a long-awaited vacation to a sunny island resort and must fly to get there. As you walk down the airline's boarding ramp and enter the airplane, you search to find your seat and sit down. While settling into your seat and looking for your seatbelt, you hear a friendly voice come over the plane's intercom. "Good morning, passengers. We'd like to thank you for choosing Apathetic Airlines. Please note that today's flight from Thunder Bay to Orlando is being flown by a pilot who is not fully committed to flying... it's just a paycheck for him. In fact, he hasn't yet arrived at the airport, but we're expecting him to at any moment now. In the meantime, please relax and enjoy your wait."

Or, how about this scenario? You have an aching lower molar, and suspect that you might need a "root canal" performed. You make an appointment with an unfamiliar dentist to whom you were referred by a co-worker. Hours later, you anxiously find yourself reclined in the dentist's chair wearing a paper bib and chain, and staring up into a bright lamp. Your heart rate quickens as you hear the dentist enter the exam room, and you hope that she is as good as your co-worker has said she is. "Will this hurt?" you ask. "How should

I know?" the dentist replies. "Yours will be my first single-handed root canal since my clinical practices back in dental school. Besides, I didn't really choose this profession anyway! My deceased grandfather was a dentist and my mother thought my becoming one would be a noble way to honour his memory... Now, just relax, and let's hope that you won't feel anything after I stick you a couple of times with this long needle."

While these two situations are laughable in general, we know that it is very possible to find ourselves at the mercy of someone who-for whatever reason-is not totally dedicated to his/her profession. When Jesus calls us, however, He sets the pace and then calls us to walk into the unknown (unknown to us, anyway) with Him in total commitment. True discipleship means that we first acknowledge Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. Then we follow in His footsteps, remaining faithful to Him all the days of our lives. Jesus said that He wishes or desires that no one should spend eternity away from Him (2 Peter 3:9). The question for all of us then is: Where will we spend eternity... with or without God?

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

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