

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

July 15, 2018 ~ 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18; **Gospel:** Matthew 14: 14-22
Troparia and special texts are on the handout included

Epistle Readers: (Saturday) Joseph Myslicki
(Sunday) Michael Watral

Eucharistic Ministers: (Saturday) Zenya Puchalski
(Sunday) Mary Ann Lysak

July 22, 2018 ~ 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Romans 15: 1-7; **Gospel:** Matthew 9: 27-35
Troparia and special texts are on the handout included

Epistle Readers: (Saturday) Evelyn Poleschuk
(Sunday) Andrika Warywoda

Eucharistic Ministers: (Saturday) Christopher Tennant
(Sunday) Mary Ann Lysak

SCHEDULE OF LITURGICAL SERVICES

FRIDAY, JULY 20

10:00 a.m. ~ **Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah (Elias)**

SATURDAY, JULY 21

5:00 p.m. ~ **9th Sunday after Pentecost**
and First Six Ecumenical Councils

SUNDAY, JULY 22

10:00 a.m. ~ **9th Sunday after Pentecost**
and First Six Ecumenical Councils

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

10:00 a.m. ~ **The Dormition of St. Anna**

SATURDAY, JULY 28

5:00 p.m. ~ **10th Sunday after Pentecost**
Epistle Reader: Linda Douglas

SUNDAY, JULY 29

10:00 a.m. ~ **10th Sunday after Pentecost**
Epistle Reader: Tanner Mills



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.

JUNE 30/JULY 1

Envelopes: \$1,740.⁰⁰
Special Projects: \$145.⁰⁰
Mission Collection: \$50.⁷⁵



JULY 7/8

Envelopes: \$1,170.⁰⁰
Vigil Lights: \$80.⁰⁵
Special Projects: \$60.⁰⁰
Mission Collection: \$33.²⁵
Legacy Project: \$45.⁰⁰

Thank you for your generosity!
Щиро Вам дякуємо!

July's Mission Collection is designated for **Roots to Harvest**, providing transformative educational and employment opportunities for youth to engage with local agriculture in order to cultivate healthy communities. For more information, visit the website at www.rootstoharvest.org.

HOLY CROSS PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Many thanks to **Mrs. Josie Moskwa** for kindly donating a shelving unit that will house more paperbacks (and eventually jigsaw puzzles) downstairs in our main hall (next to the other white one) that are currently available for the taking at your convenience and discretion. Thanks to all who help this 'book exchange' to grow and grow!

Please remember those of our parish who are ill, in hospital, shut-in, on home rest, and who no longer can be physically active at Holy Cross in your daily prayers. Believe in the power of prayer — if not for yourself, but for others — for with **GOD**, all things are possible. And if you wish a personal visit from Father Stepan, please call the rectory (577-7721). Don't leave it to the last minute!



On **Sunday, July 22**, following the 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy, we invite everyone to come down to the parish hall for the return of the coffee hour/luncheon. Saturday worshippers are also encouraged to join us, for there will be plenty of food including cabbage rolls and studenets'. You are welcome to bring an item for the buffet or desert tables. Also, during this time, a 30-minute 'cultural' video will be shown that many may find interesting.



St. George's Society presents its annual '**Corn Roast**' on **Saturday, August 25** beginning at 6:00 p.m. in our parish hall. Please note that this event is being held one week earlier than usual due to a number of key individuals who will be away during the Labour Day weekend. Tickets (\$10/person) will be available for purchase the weekend of July 28/29. And if you have any door prizes to donate, please speak with Michael Watral to arrange for pick-up or you may bring them to him at the church any Saturday or Sunday. We hope to see many parishioners and friends there!

Please remember that even though you may not be here every Saturday/Sunday during the summer months, our expenses don't change. We still have hydro, water, maintenance and salaries to be met, and it can get very difficult if our members don't make a commitment to support Holy Cross full time. As you enjoy your summer, give some thought to our parish so it doesn't have to scramble over the summer months to make ends meet. Thank you for your continuous financial and spiritual sustenance.

~ Holy Cross Parish Council



On the 8th Sunday after Pentecost, St. Matthew relates to us the feeding of the five thousand and the miraculous multiplication of five loaves and two fishes.

Why five loaves? The number five, as we read in the Psalms and in the prayers of thanksgiving after communion, represent our five senses, being, which is fed by Christ, the Bread of Life. Why two fishes? They represent the two parts of the New Testament, the Gospels and the Epistles, which were written by fishermen who became fishers of men, for we are spiritually fed by their writings. Why twelve baskets of fragments? They represent the twelve Apostles who preach to the ends of the universe, the "fragments" who feed our souls with the words of Christ through the Holy Spirit.

Let us this day open our minds and souls to Christ our True God that we too may be fed and satiated with the Bread of Life.

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The Gospel passage for the 9th Sunday after Pentecost tells the story of Jesus walking on the water. Christ can walk on the waters because He made the waters, He is the Creating Hand of God the Father; By Him "all things were made." And as soon as He enters the boat, the wind calms. The flimsy craft of human undertakings, "tossed with waves", becomes with Christ the unsinkable Ark of Salvation, the Church of which Christ is the Head. And with Christ we all, like Peter, are saved and confess Him: "Truly, You are the Son of God." On this Sunday, Christ speaks to the heart of each one of us: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"



ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY

Attention members (and parishioners)! We still could use a few more bodies for bingo. Training and retraining of volunteers in the summer is now combined, and the next date is



Sunday, July 15 from 4-5 p.m. at Superior Shores Gaming Centre, 435 Memorial Avenue (right beside the Super 8 Hotel). Our next scheduled

bingo is an evening one on **Friday, July 27**. Please speak with Gerry Bullock for more information.

Fishermen: have you taken out your rods and reels and headed out on the lake yet? Well, it's time to start filling up the slots on the Tournament Board. Please submit your weigh-in slips on a regular basis to the following Committee members: Maurice Zakrewski, Morris Tarnawsky, Myron Warywoda and Eugene Zdebiak. Good luck to all anglers, and remember to be safe on the lakes.

Tight lines to all and keep your tip up!

HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS

We are now on our summer break from regular Thursday afternoon activities, which are cancelled until September 6 (that's the week of Labour Day). Until that time, we wish all members a safe, healthy & enjoyable summer!

There will be buses to Grand Portage in July and August. This month, that date is **Wednesday, July 18**, leaving our



church parking lot @ 3:45 p.m. and returning @ 10 p.m. To book your spot, please call Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805) soon. Next month, it will be on

Wednesday, August 15. Remember: this is a **free** service for everyone including non-members 18 years and up with valid passports. Come join us for some exciting gaming fun!

Our trip to Winnipeg this **September 10 to 13** is a reality. However, the bus is now filled to capacity, but if you wish to be placed on the 'waiting list', please contact George Rusnick (577-3361) soon. He will take your name and call you if a spot (or spots) open up between now and September, as well as answer any questions you may have.

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

Readings for the 9th & 10th Sundays after Pentecost (to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)

9th Sunday (July 22)

Epistle: Hebrews 13: 7-16
Gospel: John 17: 1-17

10th Sunday (July 29)

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4: 9-16
Gospel: Matthew 17: 14-23

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 evoke a richer understanding.

Smile
Sunday
fequins

Several children, while playing outside, found a dead robin. Feeling that a proper burial should be performed, they secured a small box and some cotton batting, dug a hole in the back yard, and made ready to dispose of the deceased. The minister's 5-year-old son was chosen to say the prayer. And so with great dignity, he intoned, "Glory be to the Father...and unto the Son...and into the hole he goes."

A Sunday School teacher said to her children, "We have been learning about how powerful the kings and queens were in Biblical times. But there is a higher power. Who can tell me what it is?" Suddenly, Tommy blurted out, "I know — Aces."

What's Happening In Our Community...

Volunteer Coordinator Needed - The Dew Drop Inn (St. Andrew's Soup Kitchen) is currently seeking applications for the position of Volunteer Coordinator. For more information, visit the website at www.dewdropinnthunderbay.ca. The application deadline is **Friday, July 27, 2018**.

Chaban Ukrainian Dance Group Registration for the 2018/2019 Dance Season - Are you and/or your little one interested in joining our Chaban family for the 2018-2019 dance season? You can now register ONLINE! No previous dance experience is necessary and you need not be Ukrainian - just have a passion for dance and having a lot of fun! Link for registration is: <http://registration.chabandance.com/register>. One in-person registration date will be held on **Thursday, August 30** from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian National Hall, 211 Robertson Street (near Ogden School). Questions? Contact us at info@chabandance.com. *Затанцюймо всі разом!*





The Children's Corner will return in September. Enjoy the summer, and always remember:
Keep our Lord as the centre of your activities in July and August.

Man's Wonders / God's Wonder

*Man has done wonders by the might of his hand,
We can build bridges and palaces grand,
The lofty skyscraper and the great Taj Mahal,
We come to gaze at the wonder of it all.*

*But man can't speak planets or stars into being,
He cannot bring life to a meadow of green,
He can't form the blossoms or grapes on a vine
Or imitate nature's most perfect design.*

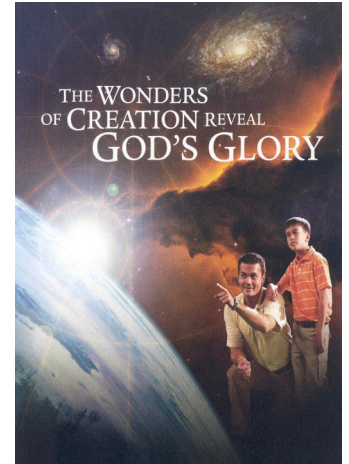
*Man can create, but with wood, sod and stone,
God will create by His Word alone,
Man can impress and draw loud exclamation,
God will draw worship as we view His creation.*

*Man's hand by God's hand is lovingly taught,
And only what God allows, ever is wrought,
But the greatest work my God ever has done
Is visible to His loving gaze alone.*

*Yes, He formed the magnolia and the redwood tree,
The tiniest ant and the emerald sea,
But His greatest miracle is invisible art,
He made a treasure out of my sinful heart.*

~ Janet Martin © 2009

For more poetry by Janet Martin,
visit [www.christart.com/poet/Janet Martin](http://www.christart.com/poet/Janet_Martin).



Question: "Why do so many people seek after signs and wonders?"

Answer: Our God is a God of wonders (Psalm 136:3-4). As the Creator and Sustainer of all that is, God has the power to suspend natural laws in order to fulfill His purposes. Miracles were a part of the ministries of Moses, Elijah and Elisha, and of course Jesus and the Apostles, and their miracles primarily served the purpose of confirming their message as being from God (Hebrews 2:3-4). Today, many people still seek to experience the miraculous, and some will go to great lengths to have that experience. There may be many reasons for such a desire, and Scripture gives us at least five:

1. Some people seek after signs and wonders because they want confirmation of the truth of God. There is nothing inherently wrong with this desire. In fact, God willingly gave signs to Moses (Exodus 4:1-9) and Gideon (Judges 6:11-22) to confirm His word. Miracles can aid a person's coming to faith, as in John 2:23, "Many people saw the miraculous signs he was doing and believed in his name." However, there comes a time when enough miracles have been performed—the truth has been proved—and it is time to exercise faith. When Moses hesitated to obey after a series of miracles at the burning bush, "the LORD's anger burned" (Exodus 4:14).

Also, it is nobler in God's sight to believe without needing a miracle. Jesus visited the Samaritans, and "because of His words many more became believers" (John 4:41, emphasis added). Just a few verses later, Jesus rebukes the Galileans: "Unless you people see miraculous signs and wonders . . . you will never believe" (John 4:48). Unlike the Samaritans, the people of Galilee required signs and wonders.

2. Some people seek after signs and wonders because they do not believe the signs and wonders which have already been performed. The Pharisees of Matthew 12 were just such a lot. Jesus had been performing miracles for quite some time when a group of scribes and Pharisees came to Him with an insolent demand to see another sign. In response, Jesus condemned them as "wicked and adulterous" (Matthew 12:38-39).

They were "wicked" in that they refused to believe the signs and wonders Christ had already performed. "In spite of His wonders, they did not believe" (Psalm 78:32). Their hearts were hardened towards the truth, even after numerous public miracles. Nothing would make them believe; their hearts were as pharaoh's, hardened after witnessing so many of Moses' miracles in Egypt (Exodus 9:34-35). They were "adulterous" in the spiritual sense, having left the true worship of God to follow a man-made set of rules and traditions. Not satisfied with the miracles Jesus was doing, they demanded something even greater. As commentator Matthew Barnes puts it, "They looked for signs of their own devising." So entrenched was their rejection of Christ that, when later presented with the "sign of the prophet Jonah" (Christ's resurrection, Matthew 12:39-40), they still would not believe.

3. Some people seek after signs and wonders because they seek an occasion to excuse their unbelief. There were people in Jesus' day who "tested" Him by seeking a sign (Matthew 16:1; Luke 11:16). Since they specified that the sign be "from heaven," they most likely wanted something spectacular, similar to Elijah's calling down fire from the sky (1 Kings 18:38) or Isaiah's causing the sun to reverse course (Isaiah 38:8). Probably, their "test" was designed to be something "too big" for Jesus to accomplish—they simply hoped He would attempt it and fail in the attempt.

4. Some people seek after signs and wonders because they are curious thrill-seekers. Like the crowds in John 6:2 and King Herod in Luke 23:8, they want to see something sensational, but they have no real desire to know the truth of Christ.

5. Some people seek after signs and wonders because they hope to get something for themselves. After Jesus fed the multitudes, a large crowd followed Him to the other side of Galilee. Jesus saw their true motivation, however, and rebuked it: "I tell you the truth, you are looking for Me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill" (John 6:26). The crowd's desire was not to know Christ or even to see more miracles; it was simply to fill their stomachs again.

Better than seeking after a new miracle is taking God at His Word. Simple faith is more pleasing to the Lord than a reliance on a dazzling sensory experience. Jesus told Thomas, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:29).

Source: www.gotquestions.org