



Слава Ісусу Христу! Glory be to Jesus Christ!

We extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners and guests, and pray that your participation in the Divine Liturgy will be enriching and meaningful.

March 12, 2017 ~ 2nd Sunday of Lent

Epistle: Hebrews 1: 10 - 2:3 Gospel: Mark 2: 1-12
Troparia are found in the **grey booklet**, pages 5 and 15

This Week's Liturgical Services

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY (MARCH 14-16)

6:30 p.m. ~ **Lenten Mission** led by Father Andrija Petresin

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

10:00 a.m. ~ **Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** followed by Panakhyda (Sorokousty) for the deceased

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

5:00 p.m. ~ **Third Sunday of Lent** ~ Veneration of the Holy Cross
Epistle Reader: Michael Watral

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

10:00 a.m. ~ **Third Sunday of Lent** ~ Veneration of the Holy Cross
Epistle Reader: Susan Soldan

Your Return Gift to God

MARCH 4/5

Envelopes: \$1,440.⁰⁰

Mission Collection: \$59.⁰⁵

Special Projects: \$145.⁰⁰



Thank you for your generosity!

Щиро Вам дякуємо!

The Mission Collection for March is designated for **Community Clothing Assistance**.

A reminder to all parishioners that memorial donations are always appreciated. Those in memory of †**Frances Brescacin** totalled \$175.⁰⁰ ~ many thanks to all who contributed.



Holy Cross Parish News & Events

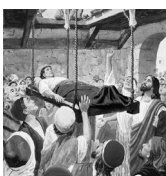
Father Andrija Petresin, our former pastor, will be arriving this week to lead us in a Lenten Mission on the evenings of **March 14, 15, and 16** (T-W-Th) beginning at **6:30 p.m.** in the church proper. His theme for the mission will be: **Spiritual Journey: Preparation ~ Expectation ~ Invitation**. We will also have a Panakhyda service on Tuesday, Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, and a Moleben for the sick on Thursday to conclude the session. Please come out to welcome him and spend some time in prayer and reflection as he guides us in a renewal of our relationship with God and with each other during this Lenten season.



It's March Break! So, following the mission on **Tuesday evening**, around 7:30 p.m., we invite the children of the parish (and their families) to come down to the hall for a family-oriented movie and snacks — free of charge, of course!

Our Spring Pyrohy Making Session will take place on **March 25-27** (Sat-Sun-Mon). To place an order, please call **Walter Warywoda** at 475-3757 or send an e-mail to him at warywodaw@gmail.com. Price per dozen is **\$5.00**, cooked or raw frozen. Don't wait until the last minute as this will be the *only* pyrohy making before Easter. As usual, we are counting on all men and women of the parish to help with the various tasks. Let's all work together!

There is still plenty of time to bring in pictures for the planned video collage at our parish's **50th Anniversary Banquet** in September. Please place them in the box located on the side table in the narthex, and don't forget, if you want them back, please make sure you put your name on them. And if you have any on your camera or mobile phone, they can also be downloaded and included. Please speak with any member of the Anniversary Committee for more information. *Thank you!*



In today's Gospel account, a paralytic man is lowered down dramatically by a group of friends to position him in front of Jesus. These friends in the story are amazing. They are determined to get the paralytic help no matter what the cost. And it is *their* faith that becomes the occasion of the healing of the paralytic, not any faith that the paralytic expresses on his own. Once he is lowered into the house, the paralytic says and does nothing. In fact, he doesn't even ask to be healed. Not a word passes his lips. Instead, St. Mark tells us that when Jesus saw *their* faith, *meaning the faith of the friends*, He healed the paralytic.

We are meant to be friends like that in the church. Friends who are ready when the time is right to do everything we can to bring others to the place where help is available and even our faith can be used by God to bring healing. The friends in the story are, after all, the heroes of the piece. It is *their* faith that Jesus notices and that effects the healing of the paralytic. Fortunate are those who have friends who can point in the direction of help, or even bear us up on their shoulders in difficult times; friends so ready to help us when we are ready to ask for help that they will even break through the roof and lower us to the place and to the One who can bring us healing.

~ Rev. Dr. Jon M. Walton

Wisdom from the Holy Bible

*"No longer do I call you servants,
for the servant does not know what
his master is doing. Instead, I call you
friends, since I have made known to you
all that I heard from My Father."*

~ John 15: 15

Community Calendar

TBCDSB Sr. Elementary Information Night - Wednesday, March 22, 2017 starting at 7:00 p.m. at Pope John Paul II School, 205 S. Franklin Street, Bishop E. Q. Jennings School, 775 John Street, and Bishop Gallagher School, 159 Clayte Street. For more information, call 625-1655.

Shrimp Fest - Saturday, March 25 at the Columbus Centre. Two sittings: 5:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25.00 each and include 1 lb. of golden shrimp, fries, hot vegetable, bread, dessert, and coffee/tea. Refreshment bar is available. Call Rosie at 623-3252 to order your tickets by phone.

Learn to Make Ukrainian Easter Eggs - The League of Ukrainian Canadians is hosting a **Pysanka Workshop** on **Saturday, April 1** from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 211 Robertson Street. Registration fee is \$20.00/person. To pre-register call Hanya at 344-3136 ~ limited seating. Everyone is welcome!

An Evening of Colour and Energy! - Tickets are now on sale for the Chaban Ukrainian Dance Group concert "*Kalyna*" **Saturday, April 29** at 7:00 p.m. at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. Tickets are available in person, on line at www.tbca.com, or by calling the TBCA Box Office at 684-4444. Come out to support and see these amazing dancers promoting Ukrainian culture and tradition through dance.

More than a century and a half after his death, **Taras Shevchenko (1814-1861)** is still recognized as one of the world's greatest poets. Although the first translations of his works into other languages were published when he was still alive, it is only in the last sixty years that his words are appearing in most of the languages of the earth. And yet, despite the fact that his name was known to British Slavists long before the end of the 19th century and some of his poems were translated in English some 120 years ago, Shevchenko remains relatively unknown to the English-reading public.



That is not strange when we remember that Taras Shevchenko was the poet of the Ukrainians, and that he lived and created in a police state – tsarist Russia. His first small collection of verse titled "*Kobzar*", was published in 1840, and few of his other works were printed in magazines and periodicals. However, he received permission to republish "*Kobzar*" not long before his death – but all that was done so was heavily censored while most of his works, the most challenging of them, were circulated only in copies made by hand or passed orally from person to person. After the tsarist Russian empire was overthrown and Ukraine emerged from her centuries-long suppression, only then were the complete works of Taras Shevchenko, untouched by the censor's blue pencil, published and made available to his own people and to the world. His "*Testament*" has been translated into more than 60 languages and enjoys a status second only to Ukraine's national anthem.

Thus, it can be said of Taras Shevchenko, that he gave his talents and his life to the task of lifting up the Ukrainian people, and was himself lifted up to world recognition by them when they rose to their feet. The world significance of a writer, artist, thinker and statesman derives from the fact that the things he advocated for his own people in his own time are in harmony with and form part of the common striving of all people throughout the ages. "*Не забудьте, пом'янути незлим тихим словом ~ Forget not to remember me with a warm, gentle word.*" - from "*Testament*" (Zapovit, December 25, 1845)

Holy Cross Golden Agers

Regular activities take place Thursday at 1:30 p.m. [doors open at 12:30 p.m.]. New members (55+) are always welcome with open arms. It's just \$10 per year and well worth the membership fee. Drop by for a visit in the parish hall or speak with Peter Swerdlyk, President of the Golden Agers, for more information.

The next bus to Grand Portage will leave the church parking lot this **Wednesday, March 15** at 3:45 p.m. and return @ 10 p.m. To book your seat, please contact either Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805). This is a **free** service for everyone. Non-members are cordially invited to join us for the ride as well.



St. George's Society

Our next bingo at Superior Shores Gaming Centre is a matinee on **Thursday, March 23**. Please speak with Gerry Bullock if you are available to help on that date.

Members are needed for help at the upcoming **Pyrohy Making Session** on **March 25-27**. The usual schedule for the three days will be followed. Please mark your calendars and come out on those days to assist for 'many hands make light work.'

Our next monthly meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 2** at 7 p.m. in our parish hall. Your attendance is encouraged!

Love and Service to God since 1960!

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS ONLINE - Donations can now be accepted online through the Holy Cross website (www.holycrosstbay.com/donate). Parishioners, family and friends can now donate by setting up automatic weekly donations or by one-time donation. One-time donations can be made by any major credit card, while automatic donations require the use of a Paypal account. Donations are eligible for tax receipts. If you have any questions about online donations contact Andrea Warywoda at 629-6818. *Thank you for your generous contributions to our parish community!*



Bringing Our Friends to Jesus: We Walk by Faith, Not by Sight

Do you have any friends? Of course, you do! What do you like most or appreciate most in those friends? Probably a lot of things. We see a man in today's Gospel story who came to appreciate his friends very deeply. He was in a tough spot, but they were determined to help him out.

Picture this: a long time ago, during the time when Jesus was preaching inside, four friends came carrying a stretcher, one man at each corner. They could not even get in the front door, let alone anywhere near Jesus. They had one goal in mind...get their friend, who was paralyzed, to Jesus. If they could just get him to Jesus, they knew that everything would be OK. They knew that Jesus was the only one who could help him. Not doctors or books or medicine or exercise or wishes or trying hard or anything else could heal him; only Jesus could help their friend. They were desperate for Jesus' help, and they were determined to get it, so they cut a hole in the roof and lowered the paralyzed man down to Jesus.

This man's friends must have had great faith in Jesus. They believed in His love and willingness to help. They had heard

about Him and His message. Everything may have looked impossible and impassable, but they did not pay attention to how things looked; they knew that they must walk by faith. They did not get discouraged, and they did not give up. They had absolute confidence, complete faith in Jesus. How can we be good friends to others? By bringing them to Jesus. When we know someone who is going through a hard time, we can tell them about Jesus' love and His power to help them. We can pray with them and point them to Jesus.

As we obey and trust Jesus, we will see Him working in our lives. Just like the paralyzed man was in desperate need of help, we are all sinners, in desperate need of Jesus to forgive our sins and give us strength to live for Him. He is the answer to all of our questions and the solution to all of our problems. He is the God of the universe and worthy of all our trust. Let us trust Him with all our hearts as we walk by faith, not by sight.

Source: www.sermons4kids.com

Follow-Through →→→

"Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance." Luke 3:8

Repentance isn't fashionable these days. Many people want the blessing of having their sins forgiven without turning from their sins. But faith in Christ involves a change of mind about our sins and a renunciation of them. To repent means not only to renounce but to repair the damage done by sin. It is a change of mind that results in a change in one's life.

Much so-called repentance is telling God we will change if He will get us out of a tight spot. But its shallowness comes to light when the pressure is off. Two shipwrecked sailors had been drifting on a raft for days. In desperation, one began to pray, "God, I know I haven't lived a good life. I've lied and cheated and done many things I'm ashamed of. But if You save me, I promise I'll..." "Hold it!" interrupted his ship-mate. "Don't say another word! I just spotted land!"

When John the Baptist preached repentance, he called for right action. Soldiers, for example, were not to intimidate anyone, nor to accuse people falsely, and to be content with their wages (Luke 3:14). These actions would prove the sincerity of their response to John's message.

On the first Pentecost festival following the Lord's resurrection, sinners were told to "Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, in order to obtain the remission of sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). Sequel to that, the inspired apostle Peter charged the audience by saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation" (Acts 2:40).

If one truly believes Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, repentance will surely follow faith and make it valid before God. So, repent and follow through for the remission of your sins.

Source: www.vscoc.org