

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.

33rd Sunday after Pentecost (The Publican and the Pharisee)

Today's Readings: Epistle: 2 Timothy 3: 10-15 Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14 Troparia are located on page 5 and 9 of the grey booklets

Epistle Readers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Brett Glena Sunday (10 a.m.): Walter Warywoda



Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Linda Douglas Sunday (10 a.m.): Christopher Tennant

Holy Cross Parish News and Events



We extend our congratulations and best wishes to parishioners **Michael (Jr.) and Violet Kohanski** on the occasion of their 50th anniversary as husband and wife on **February 8**. Joined together in holy matrimony at Holy Cross in 1969, they have always looked to the Lord God for guidance and strength during their daily rou-

tines as He marked them as living signs of His own saving love. May God grant them many more happy years ~ Сотвори, Господи, многая і благая літа!

The annual General Parish Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, February 24** following the 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. There are a number of significant items that will be on the agenda, and we encourage all parishioners to attend. And if you are interested in serving on the Parish Council for this coming year, please contact chair Cheryl Bain or Father Stepan. All parishioners 18 years and older are eligible. 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!



Several parishioners have been asking if and when we are going to have another cabbage roll making session and sale before Easter. At this point in time, it is very likely that this will take place sometime in mid-late March, but an actual date and time of day has yet to be confirmed. When this happens, a sign-up sheet will be left in

the narthex, and you will have a chance to place your order (for frozen only) well before the actual date. 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. Stay tuned for further information. ©

The parable in today's Gospel is about the honest prayer of a sinner verses the self-justifying prayer of the self-righteous. The main



focus is humility in prayer out of a realization that righteousness cannot be reached by means of our own efforts. Prayers are heard and answered because of God's mercy not because of our self-justifying merits (v. 14). Jesus, therefore, rebukes the self-righteous and demonstrates the kind of attitude necessary for God's acceptance.

The Pharisee sought to establish right relationships with God by human achievement and self-trust. The outcast publican aware of his shortcomings, sought and received forgiveness. The publican realized he had nothing of which to boast before God. His only plea was, "God, be merciful to me a sinner." Jesus placed His approval on this kind of repentant humility. The tax collector thus [improved his spiritual health having] found acceptance before God through humble repentance and mercy.

~ from a sermon by Dennis Davidson

The Lenten Triodion



Today, Eastern Christians (Catholic and Orthodox) that follow the Gregorian calendar observe the beginning of the **Pre-Lenten season** of the Church year and start to make use of a liturgical book known as the *Triodion*.

The Pre-Lenten Sundays prepare us for our "lenten journey." They arm us with that which we need to "enter the Fast with joy," to make the most of the "time for action," for as we sing on the first day of Great Lent, "salvation is at the door."

LITURGICAL SERVICES SCHEDULE

for the week of February 11 - 17, 2019

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

5:00 p.m. ~ Sunday of the Prodigal Son Epistle Reader: Gloria Sherban

Eucharistic Minister: Christopher Tennant

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Epistle Reader: Andrika Warywoda Eucharistic Minister: Mary Ann Lysak

Readings for the 34th Sunday after Pentecost

(Of the Prodigal Son)

(to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)



Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20 (Use Your Bodies for God's Glory)

Gospel: Luke 15: 11-34 (The Parable of the Prodigal Son)

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

The next bingo training session takes place on Saturday, **February 16** at 10:00 a.m. at Superior Shores Gaming Centre.



All members and parishioners are welcome SUPERIOR SHORES to take the training and become volunteers. Our next bingo is an afternoon session on

Wednesday, February 27. Those who have agreed to volunteer on that date should be at the hall no later than 12 noon.

Attention all ice fishermen ~ take heed of the following safety tips: 1) Bring a friend — don't fish alone; 2) Spread out — do not drill too many holes in one area; 3) Don't fish near plants or marshy areas as they produce heat; 4) Wear a life jacket for flotation just in case you fall into the water; 5) Wear appropriate footwear; 6) Refrain from alcohol usage as it slows down your reflexes and makes you prone to hypothermia; 7) Pack a rope and a pair of icepicks or screwdrivers to help in any ice-related mishaps; 8) Pack a first-aid kit and matches and make sure they are kept dry; 9) Avoid snow-covered ice as snow has insulating properties which prevents the cold air from keeping the ice at freezing temperatures; 10) Park your vehicle on dry land — the added weight could cause the ice around you to break.

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 come and join us. Membership is only \$10/year and well worth it!

On behalf of our membership, we would like to congratulate our new president, Olga Kusznier, and vice-president Marilyn Hicklin, as well as the rest of our Executive members, and wish them well during their term in office. Your willingness to accept these various positions is sincerely appreciated. Please be aware that you have our full support.

Want to get away for a bit but don't want to drive? Then you're in luck. 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 seat — free-of-charge — call Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann (G) Opaski (577-2805). There's always plenty of room. Come for the ride, relaxation, and recreation!

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

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.

JANUARY 26/27

Envelopes and Loose: \$965.00 Vigil Lights: \$131.75 Initial Offering: 10⁰⁰ Mission Collection: \$76.25 Special Projects: \$65.00

January's Mission Collection was \$264.60 which has been sent to Community Clothing Assistance.

February 2/3

Envelopes and Loose: \$1,860.00 Initial Offering: \$14.50 Mission Collection: \$53.60 Andrew's Pence: \$125.00 Special Projects: \$110.00



Thank you for your generosity! Щиро Вам дякуємо!

February's Mission Collection is designated for Urban Abbev Youth Shelter (308 Red River Road). Its mission is to nurture a contemplative life where people can be transformed in the "face presence" of Jesus and pursue an active life where that can be reflected to the outside community. For more information, visit the website at www.urbanabbey.ca

Events of Interest in our City

Rosie's Lunch Buffet - All-you-can-eat every Friday at the Columbus Centre, 301 S. May St. from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Walk in or make a reservation for a group. Celebrate your event with us.

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, canteen by Java Hut, and more! There will also be 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!

Words of Truth and Wisdom

Our modern culture encourages us to have the perspective of the Pharisee. God tells us to have the perspective of the Publican.





It's Not About Being Perfect

o some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men — robbers, evildoers, adulterers — or even this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner." I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:9-14)

We need to first understand who the Pharisees and tax collectors were in Jesus' day. The Pharisees were a religious group who tried their hardest to obey the law given in the first testament of the Bible. They had all kinds of rules to govern the way they lived. They believed because they were following these laws, they were obeying what God was calling them to do. The tax collectors, on the other hand, were considered some of the worst members of society. All too often they took more than the taxes they were required to collect so they could live extravagantly. The Pharisees were generally looked upon with favour in society. The tax collectors were generally despised.

Some people believe that to come to church or invite Jesus into their hearts means they have to be good already. Sometimes we can be convinced that God only wants us if we are perfect. But we see in this part of Bible that the person who thought he was perfect, the Pharisee, was confused. God doesn't want us to come to Him and proclaim how good we are, because in reality we aren't good. He wants us to admit that there are things in our lives we don't really like, habits that aren't good, and actions hurtful to ourselves and others. Why? So He can help us. God doesn't expect us to fix ourselves, He expects us to come to Him so we can be changed by His great love.

Lord Jesus, Thank You that we don't have to be all cleaned up and perfect to come to You. Thank You for Your love and forgiveness. We thank You for accepting us no matter what we have done. Help us to be willing, like the tax collector, to ask for and receive the mercy You so freely give. Amen.

Source: www.usacanadaregion.org



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Funeral Director **Rachel Isleifson**

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