Слава Ісусу Христу! Слава на віки! Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory forever! Вітаємо до Парафії Воздвиження Чесного Хреста! Welcome to Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish!

~ May your participation in today's Divine Liturgy be thoroughly enriching and truly meaningful ~

Sunday, February 16, 2020 ~ Meatfare Sunday (of the Fearful Judgment)

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8: 8 - 9: 2 Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

Troparia are located in the grey booklet on pages 3 and 11

Epistle Readers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Christopher Tennant Sunday (10 a.m.): Susan Soldan



Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Christopher Tennant Sunday (10 a.m.): Mary Ann Lysak

Words of Mercy and Compassion

"We were created to do good works, and the 'good works' Jesus speaks of in Matthew 25 include taking care of the poor."

We might think Christ will judge us based on our correct doctrine, faithful church attendance, or moral behaviour. But in St. Matthew's Gospel, Jesus offers a different standard: our response to the needy people of this world - the least of these. Today we are encouraged to continue to love the least of our brothers and sisters, and to grow in our awareness and intention to love them more. When we serve them, we serve Jesus.

This Week's Liturgical Services

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

6:00 p.m. ~ For the repose of the soul of †**Iryna Tsar** (2 yrs) Offered by Oleg, Marijka and Vasylyna Tsar

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

5:00 p.m. ~ Cheesefare (Forgiveness) Sunday
Epistle Reader: Brett Glena
Eucharistic Minister: Francis Puchalski

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

10:00 a.m. ~ Cheesefare (Forgiveness) Sunday
Epistle Reader: Walter Warywoda
Eucharistic Minister: Stanley Myslicki

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.

FEBRUARY 8/9

Envelopes: \$1,905.00
Mission Collection: \$67.20
Initial Offering: \$25.00
Special Projects: \$215.00
Andrew's Pence: \$77.00



Parish News & Activities



The annual General Parish Meeting will take place next **Sunday, February 23** following the 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, in our parish hall. A number of important items will be on the agen-

da, so we encourage all parishioners to attend. Also, parish financial statements are included with this bulletin. Please do

Дякуємо за вашу щедрість! Thank you for your generosity!

The Mission Collection from **January to June 2020** is for the TBRHSC "**Our Hearts at Home**" cardiovascular campaign. We will, therefore, publish the amount collected at the end of every second month. If so desired, parishioners can make a larger donation for this cause and get a receipt from the parish.

Income Tax Receipts for 2019 are available in the narthex. Any questions or concerns should be politely directed to our bookkeeper Michele at the Parish Office (call and leave her a message). Also, any corrections/changes to your personal contact information should be communicated to her ASAP.

<u>not</u> share them with others outside of our parish community. Furthermore, the meeting will be followed by a full lunch featuring homemade soup, sandwiches, salads, and sweets. If you wish to bring an item for the buffet or dessert table, you are most welcome to do so. We hope to see many in attendance!

If you have not already done so, please pick up the survey (two questions in both languages) in the narthex and bring it back completed (anonymously) at your earliest convenience. Your input is encouraged and appreciated. These surveys will be reviewed at the **Deanery Meeting** (Mini-Sobor) with our new bishop, His Excellency Bryan Bayda, and at subsequent sobors. **Please note**: this meeting/sobor will **not** be open to the public, but will be reported on in future parish bulletins.



During Great Lent, which will begin on **Monday, February 24**, the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts followed by Panakhyda (Sorokousty) for the deceased will be celebrated on Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. You are encouraged to update (or begin) your memorial booklets (in the box on the narthex table) before that time. If you have any questions, you are requested to speak with Father Stepan personally.

A gentle reminder that the deadline for submitting items and announcements for the bulletin is **Thursday** of each week. *Thank you!*



Our next bingo at Superior Shores Gaming Centre is an evening session on Friday, February 21. Please let Gerry Bullock know if can volunteer on that occasion. Next month's training session will take SUPERIOR SHORES place on **Sunday**, **March 8** at 4:00 p.m.

The date and time for our next monthly meeting is **Sunday**, March 1 at 7:00 p.m. in our parish hall. New members are welcome to join our ranks at that time.

Fisherman: It's time to put on your long underwear, slip on some wool socks and a sweater, climb into your snow pants, pull down your stocking cap, and grab your fishing rod and bait bucket. It's the season to enjoy a true northern Ontario experience — ice fishing. So, prepare a Thermos of hot coffee and get ready for an adventure. Remember to plan ahead and take the necessary equipment and precautions for a successful outing. And don't forget your cell phone in case of an emergency. Tight lines and a safe outing to all!

Celebrating 60 years of Love and Service to God *1960 ~ 2020*

Readings for Cheesefare (Forgiveness) Sunday

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

Epistle: Romans 13: 11 - 14: 4 Gospel: Matthew 6: 14-21

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.

😱 <u>Holy Cross Golden Agers</u>

Regular Thursday afternoon activities take place at 1:00 p.m. (doors open at 12 noon) and new members are always welcome. Our first monthly meeting of the new year will take place on Thursday, February 27. More information will be in next weekend's bulletin.

This month's bus to Grand Portage leaves the church parking lot on Wednesday, February 19 @ 3:45 p.m. and returns @ 10:00 p.m. To book your free seat, sign your name on the sheet on Thursday afternoon or you can place a call to Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann (G) Opaski (577-2805) before then. All those 18 years & older with valid passports are welcome to join us ~ the more the merrier!

Sunday Smile



he Sunday School teacher one morning was describing that when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom she turned into a pillar of salt, when Bobby interrupted. "My mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

ot again... A father was reading Bible stories to his young ■son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt." His son, perplexed, then asked, "What happened to the flea?"

SHEEP, GOATS AND DOUBLE MEANINGS

ather John Paul Heil of the Kenrick-Glennon Seminary (St. Louis, MO) has written that Matthew 25:31-46 has a "double meaning in which the audience is urged to identify first with the righteous sheep rather than the goats and then encouraged to identify also with Jesus' least brothers."

If we have been paying attention to what St Matthew has been telling us in his Gospel, we should first identify with the sheep. Jesus says, "I was hungry, and you gave me to eat." This means that the sheep have done what Jesus told (and empowered) His disciples to do for the hungry crowds when He commanded them, "You give them to eat." Jesus says, "I was a stranger and you welcomed Me." This means that the sheep have followed the Christ who welcomed strangers, shared His table with tax collectors and sinners, and healed Romans and Canaanites. Jesus says, "I was sick and you took care of Me." This means that the sheep have done what Jesus told (and empowered) them to do when He charged them to heal the sick, and have found themselves following in the footsteps of the Christ who "took on our sicknesses and bore our diseases."

Then, as Fr. Heil writes (and here is the double meaning): The righteous sheep are surprised that it was Jesus Himself whom they had served. ... Jesus as the king adds to the surprise, not only by identifying Himself with the needy whom the righteous have helped, but by designating the needy as members of His new family: "Amen I say to you, inasmuch as you did it for one of these least brothers of Mine, you did it for Me" (v. 40). Not only are the disciples who do the will of the Father in heaven the mother and sisters and brothers of Jesus, but now even the lowliest among the needy belong to the family of Jesus' brothers and sisters. Not only is each disciple, "one of these little ones." who humbles himself like a child and believes in Jesus a member of Jesus' family, but now each "one of these least brothers of Mine," each needy one, is likewise a member of Jesus' family. There has thus been a narrative progression from "little" to "least": Jesus has expanded His family to embrace not only the "little ones" but even the "least ones."

LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

4 Season's Shop - Come on in and browse the gift shop at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 1222 Reaume Street (behind the Police Station), open Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



(closed 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. for lunch) & 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturdays. There's a wide assortment of interesting and unique articles. New items arriving daily.

Holy Family Chili Cook-Off 2020 - Saturday February 22 (following 5:00 p.m. Mass) in the church hall, 2055 Rosslyn Road. Tickets are \$5.00 each; children under 6 are free. Come sample all the different competitors' chili recipes and decide for yourself for which one you want to vote. If a team would like to enter its favourite chili recipe, you are more than welcome to do so. Just call the office at (807) 473-9722 and register; then bring your slow cooker with your favourite chili & let the competition begin. Olé!

Palliative Care Volunteers Needed - Hospice Northwest is seeking volunteers who will support individuals living with dementia and to be compassionate listeners for persons grieving the loss of a loved one. Deadline for applications is Friday, March 6, 2020. For information, call 626-5570, or visit the website at www.hospicenorthwest.ca or via email at mailthomas@hospicenorthwest.ca.



God's Love for Us and Our Love for Him

Talentine's Day was this past Friday -- a day when we tell people how much we love them. How do we tell people we love them? Some people say 'I love you' with a Card. Some with a box of chocolates. And some with candy that has messages on it.

Do you think Jesus wants valentines from us? Of course, He does — but not a paper valentine that you might get from your friend(s) in class. He wants us to show our love for Hm by giving our hearts and life to Him. After all, He gave His life for us.

Jesus said, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. And Jesus told Peter, "If you love me, feed my sheep."

I think what Jesus was saying was that we have to do more than say we love each other. We show love when we take care of each other.

When we provide food to people who do not have any, we show love. When we pray with someone we show love. When we visit someone who is sick we show love.

That is what Jesus meant when He said, "Take care of My sheep."

Let us pray: Dear God, thank you for giving us the best Valentine ever, your Son, Jesus Christ. We pray that we will follow Your instructions to love You with all our heart and with all our mind, and



we pray that we will love others just as You love us, so that Your love will be made complete in us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Source: www.sermons4kids.com



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