



Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

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 5, 2017 ~ 1st Sunday of Lent

Epistle: Hebrews 11: 24-26; 32-40; 12:1-2 Gospel: John 1: 43-51
Troparia on found in the **grey booklet, pages 4 and 13**

As Christians, we know that peace and blessing can only derive from our relationship with Jesus. The more we allow Jesus to be the centre of our lives, the more we know peace in our hearts. And so, today's Gospel is a seemingly very simple passage, a lovely story about the calling of Philip and Nathanael - but it is full to the brim with deep teaching on the nature of discipleship.

We did not choose God - He chose us from all eternity. We are called by Him primarily to tell others about the Good News of Jesus. We are not to be discouraged by the response we may get from others, but trust that an encounter with God will be life-changing for them too. We are called into a life of peace and blessing with God: Jesus sees us, He knows everything about us and perceives our deepest needs. And if we follow Him, as He says to Nathanael, "[we] will see heaven opened..."

Jesus Christ is, indeed, a Saviour to be followed - and it is a lifetime's work for us to live out these two simple instructions: "Follow me!" and "Come and see!" Today, we follow. Today, we come - and we will see.

Your Return Gift to God

FEBRUARY 25/26



Envelopes: \$1,148.⁰⁰
Candle Offering: \$26.⁵⁰
Initial Offering: \$20.⁰⁰
Clergy Benevolent Fund: \$50.⁰⁰
Mission Collection: \$87.³⁰
Special Projects: \$60.⁰⁰

Thank you for your generosity!
Щиро Вам дякуємо!

February's Mission Collection totalled \$236.⁹⁵ and will be donated to the **Alzheimer's Society of Thunder Bay**. The Mission Collection for March is designated for **Community Clothing Assistance**. Thank you for your support.

Liturgical Services for This Week

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

5:00 p.m. ~ Second Sunday of Lent
Epistle Reader: Linda Douglas

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

10:00 a.m. ~ Second Sunday of Lent
Epistle Reader: Mary Ann Lysak



Parish News & Events

Thank you

Sincerest thanks to all who came out to help at last Wednesday's Cabbage Roll Making Session. Over 135 dozen holubtsi were made in less than 3 hours! See Michael Watral if you haven't yet picked up your order.

We are pleased to announce that **Fr. Andrija Petresin** has agreed 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. at Holy Cross. 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.

Wisdom from the Holy Bible

*"Come and see the works of God;
His awesome deeds for humankind."*

~ Psalm 66:5

Orders are now being taken for the next Pyrohy Making Session taking place on **March 27**. Please note that the contact person has changed. 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 this important fundraiser as 'many hands make light work.' Your support and cooperation are sincerely appreciated. ☺



Please continue to keep bringing in those pictures for the planned video collage at our parish's 50th anniversary banquet in September. The more we have the better, so the presentation can keep scrolling, and we can keep reminiscing about all of the accomplishments of Holy Cross. Please place the pictures 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.

Tickets for the 50th Anniversary Testimonial Dinner and Dance at the Slovak Legion will be available for purchase in the narthex in **April**. Keep checking this weekly publication for future information.

Holy Cross Golden Agers



Regular activities take place on Thursday afternoons 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 in for a visit at the parish hall or speak with Peter Swerdlyk, President of the Golden Agers, for more information.

Feeling lucky? The next bus to Grand Portage will leave the church parking lot on **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 for the ride as well.

St. George's Society

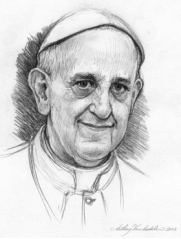
Thanks to those members who helped at last Wednesday's cabbage roll making session. Everything went very well.

Our next monthly meeting is on **Sunday, March 5** at 7 p.m. in our parish hall. All members are requested to attend. New members are welcome at this time also.

The next bingo training session will take place in our parish hall at 7 p.m. on **Monday, March 6**. Our next scheduled bingo is a matinee on **Thursday, March 23** at Superior Shores Gaming Centre. Please speak with Gerry Bullock if you are available to help on that date. *Thank you!*

Love and Service to God since 1960!

Don't forget to put your clocks *forward* next **Sunday, March 12** at 2:00 a.m. as we make the change to Daylight Saving Time.



The holy season of Great Lent is an opportunity for each of us to take stock of our relationship with the Lord and with each other. Pope Francis, in his Lenten message, this year asks us to see the word of God and each person as a gift to us. He uses the Gospel story of Lazarus and the rich man to help us identify the need to reach out to our brothers and sisters in need, and to stay attentive to the temptations that can lure us away from God and one another, especially the desire for wealth, power, and riches.

He continues: "Lent is a favourable season for deepening our spiritual life through the means of sanctification offered us by the Church: fasting, prayer and almsgiving (tithing). At the basis of everything is the word of God, which during this season we are invited to hear and ponder more deeply." Through the Lazarus story, we learn that "other persons are a gift, and a right relationship with people consists in gratefully recognizing their value." Through the opening of our hearts to others, especially to the poor and the stranger, we can recognize the face of Christ in them. "In meeting people everyday, each life," says the Pope, "is a gift deserving of acceptance, respect and love. May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God's word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need."

This is the best advice for all of us, as we journey through this holy season to our destination of Easter joy.

~ Bishop Fred J. Colli, Roman Catholic Diocese of Thunder Bay

What, Where and When: Community Events CITY OF Thunder Bay Superior by Nature

Stay Active: Living Well with Osteoarthritis - A free workshop on **Wednesday, March 8** from 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Norwest Clinic, 525 Simpson Street. This three-hour session will be led by an occupational therapist and/or a physiotherapist. You will be interacting with others who share your condition and can truly understand what you're going through. For more information or to register contact Kim at 1-800-321-1433 ext. 3533.

Try Alpha - Hosted by St. Agnes Parish, beginning **Thursday, March 9** at 7:30 p.m. in St. Agnes Parish Hall, Alpha is a series of programmes of interactive sessions, exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Each session looks at a different question and is designed to create conversation. There's no pressure, no follow-up and no charge; it's just an open, informal, and honest space to explore and discuss life's big questions together. Attending Alpha can also deepen one's faith experience in preparation for Easter. To register, please contact Kim Coursolle at 628-2724 or koconnor@tbcschools.ca.

TBCDSB Senior 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 the Catholic Education Centre at 625-1655.



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.

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!*



Sharing Jesus With Our Friends

Do you like cookies? Most of us do. And just like a lot of people, when we come across some really delicious ones, we can't wait to tell our family and friends about them. In fact, that's another way of sharing, which is a basic component of human interaction and that helps us to strengthen our social connections and ensure our overall well-being.

Besides cookies, have you ever found something so good that you couldn't wait to share it with a friend and your family members? Well, in today's Gospel story, we hear about a man named Philip who couldn't wait to tell a friend about something good that he had found. What Philip found was much more important than cookies. Philip had met Jesus. When Phillip met Jesus, he knew that Jesus was the Saviour that God had promised, and he became one of Jesus' disciples.

After Philip met Jesus, he couldn't wait to tell his friend Nathanael. He found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote -- Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." But Nathanael was skeptical - he didn't believe.

"Nazareth? Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," answered Philip. Then he took Nathanael to see Jesus and Nathanael also became a follower of Jesus. That is how the good news of Jesus is spread. Friends telling friends!



When we find a really good cookie, we can't wait to tell a friend about it. Shouldn't we be even more anxious to tell our friends about Jesus? Why, of course!

Dear Father, nothing can compare to the Good News of Jesus. Help us to share the Good News with others. Amen.



*Come and seek, come and find,
Come and find the Living God,
Allelu, Allelu, Alleluia, Jesus Christ!*

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Fast



Give



Prepare



Pray

