Вітаємо до Нашої 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.

Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Today's Readings: *Epistle: Titus 2: 11-15; 3: 4-7 Gospel: Matthew 3: 13-17* Antiphons, troparia and special texts are included in the insert provided with this bulletin.

Epistle Readers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Gloria Sherban Sunday (10 a.m.): Mary Ann Lysak



Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Zenya Puchalski Sunday (10 a.m.): Murray Salomon

Parish News and Activities



If you did not receive the January Calendar of Events and Hall Activities included in last weekend's bulletin, extra copies are available on the table in the narthex. And again, please feel free to take another 2019 Parish Calendar home

with you or bring it to a shut-in or ill parishioner on one of your visits ~ there are plenty to go around, many thanks to the courtesy of Blake Funeral Chapel (Greg & Mike Sargent).

We are again very pleased to announce that the Cabbage Roll Making that took place this past December 6 netted a profit of approx. \$1,300. Many thanks again to those who helped in any way. Another making is planned for the near future and will be announced in upcoming bulletins. Also, we encourage those who wish to order pyrohy for the April 8 making (a bit later this year) to put in your orders well in advance so as to avoid disappointment. Call 475-3757 and speak with Walter Warywoda or send an email to him at warywodaw@gmail.com to get your name on the 'standing order' list before the limit of 425 dozen is reached. And if you have any fundraising ideas, please feel free to bring them to the attention of any current member of the Parish Council who will pass them on to the Fundraising Subcommittee leads. Thank you for your cooperation and support!



Each January, many homes of Eastern Rite Christians are blessed with "Jordan Water." following the "Great Blessing of Water" at the Feast of Theophany. By sanctifying our homes, we invite Christ to be a part of every area of our lives. It is a pious custom among some to give the priest a small donation; however, it is not a requirement. Your priest comes to your home be-

cause he wants God's blessing to be upon it, and to get to know those in his flock better and to be available to them. If you would like your home blessed by Father Stepan this year, please call him at the rectory at 577-7721.

Income tax receipts for 2018 will be available sometime in late January/early February. As this is a **major** task for our bookkeeper Michele, please allow her time to prepare them and refrain from calling the office. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Titurgical Services

for the week of January 7 to January 13, 2019

Monday, January 7 (at the Church of the Transfiguration) 10:00 a.m. ~ Julian Christmas Day services

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

10:00 a.m. ~ for the repose of the soul of the servant of God †Stephanie Kravetz and other deceased members of the family ~ Offered by Garry and Elsie Caron from Kenora

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

5:00 p.m. ~ Sunday after the Theophany of Our Lord Epistle Reader: Dr. Larry Watral Eucharistic Minister: Mary Ann Lysak

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

10:00 a.m. ~ Sunday after the Theophany of Our Lord Epistle Reader: Tanner Mills Eucharistic Minister: Stanley Myslicki

esus goes into the River Jordan and submits to John pouring water over His head to symbolically promise His undying obedience to the Father. The Father replies, anointing Jesus with the Holy Spirit: "This is My Son, My beloved, in Whom I am well



pleased." The Son of God promised obedience, and received divine anointing. And as He did, He forever changed the meaning of baptism, so that when a priest baptizes a child (or adult), any sin really is taken away, and the parents or adult recipient promise obedience to God's law. The root meaning of baptism is a promise of obedience. And for all of us (who are sinners), it means that at baptism, and every time we confess our sins, and even every time we receive Holy Eucharist, we come to God repenting of our sins and promising to obey His commandments. This is how we express our solidarity with Jesus, Who came to obey the Father, as both Son and Servant of God, and thus we together fulfill all righteousness.

~ condensed and edited from a sermon by W. Pat Cunningham

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.



DECEMBER 29/30

Envelopes: \$1,599.25 Mission: \$48.⁵⁰ Vigil Lights: \$192.90

Thank you for your generosity ~ Щиро Вам дякуємо!

December's Mission Collection totalled \$303.10 and will be forwarded to St. Andrew's **Dew Drop Inn** (Soup Kitchen).

January's Mission Collection is designated for Community **Clothing Assistance.** Its mission is to assist in the relief of poverty among poor families and people in crisis with an emphasis on community supported clothing assistance programs.

HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS



We are now on our holiday/winter break. Regular Thursday afternoon activities will resume on February 7, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. when new members are welcome to join. Until then, stay warm and healthy!

Want to get away for a bit, but not in the mood to drive during the winter? Then here's your chance. The next bus to Grand Portage is scheduled for Wednesday, January 16, 2019, leaving the church parking lot @ 3:45 p.m. and returning @ 10:00 p.m. To book your seat, please call Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann (G) Opaski (577-2805) soon. This is a free service for those 18 years and older who have a valid passport. Come join us for a fun evening out!

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

Прошу молитися за хворих парафіян, бо сила молитви є незмірна!



Якщо ви (або ваші знайомі) є в шпиталі, прошу дати знати о. Степану як найскоріше щоб він міг вас відвідати.

Якщо Ви або ваші знайомі не можете прийти до церкви, повідомте о. Степану, особливо тоді коли хтось є в небезпеці смерті.

Readings for the Sunday after the Theophany

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

Epistle: Ephesians, 4: 7-13 (The Unity of One Body)



Gospel: Matthew, 4: 12-17 (Jesus Begins His Work in Galilee)

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 first bingo for us in 2019 is an evening session on Thursday, January 17. The next training session for new volunteers is sched-



uled for Sunday, January 13 (4 p.m. - 5 p.m.) held at Superior Shores Gaming Centre, 435 Memorial Avenue. Please consider coming out to be trained. We would like to increase our pool of volunteers (parishioners are welcome, too).

Happy New Year to all members! Our first gathering in 2019 will be the annual 'Super Bowl' Meeting on Sunday, February 3 beginning at 4:30 p.m. followed by a dinner and social. Hope to see members — and some new faces as well — in attendance.

The **2019 Usher Schedule** is now posted on the narthex bulletin board, and there are still opportunities for members to volunteer their services as many of the blanks have not been filled in. We ask all able members to make it one of your New Year's resolutions and to sign up for one (or two) months. Remember: there is no substitute for the ministry of an usher, so let's continue serving God in this capacity.

Love and service to God since 1960!

Please remember in your prayers 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.



And if you wish to arrange a personal visit from Father Stepan, please do not hesitate to call him at the rectory. And if your loved one or another parishioner is nearing death, please call Father Stepan as soon as possible.

What's Happening In and Around Our Community Thunder Bay





Malanka ~ New Year's Eve Ukrainian Style - Presented by Zorya Ukrainian Dance Association, Saturday, January 12, 2019 at the RC Slovak Legion, 801 Atlantic Ave. Symposium: 6:00 p.m.; Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Entertainment by the Zorya Dancers. Music by Danny Johnson and 21 Gun Fun. Featuring Kolomeyka, 50/50 Draw, and Late-night Snacks. Advanced tickets only. \$65 per person; \$500 for a table of 8; \$625 for a table of 10. Tickets available at the Slovak Legion (call 632-3354) or contact Alice Chony at 577-2100.

Pickerel Fish Dinner - Saturday, January 26, 2019 at the Columbus Centre, 301 S. May St. (in support of KC community projects) featuring delicious pickerel, home fries, coleslaw, bread/butter, coffee/tea and desserts. Refreshments available for purchase. Two seatings: 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$21 per person and can be reserved by phone (credit card/debit) by calling the office at 622-3252. Limited tickets available.



"This is My Beloved Son, In Whom I Am Well Pleased."

ost of you will know what a photo album is. Many parents have several photo albums which are full of pictures taken of their children as they were growing up. There are pictures of them in school, at church, pictures of them playing, at Christmas time, on their birthdays, and many other occasions.

Do you think God was proud of His son, Jesus? Well, the Bible tells us that He was. When Jesus was baptized, the Bible tells us that there was a voice from heaven that said, "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased."

But, why do you think God was pleased with His son? One reason is that the Bible tells us that "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men." It makes a father proud to watch his children grow in maturity and become wiser. And, of course, a father wants his child to be well-liked and respected by other people.

But the main reason that God was proud of Jesus is that Jesus always did what His Father sent Him to do. Do you always do what your father or mother tells you to do? It is

doubtful if any of us could answer "yes" to that question -but Jesus could. Jesus said 'I have come down from heaven not to do My will but to do the will of Him who sent me." (John 6:38) That would make a Father proud, wouldn't it?

When we trust in Jesus as our Saviour, we become the children of God. Our baptism is like an official adoption ceremony. God is proud of us from the very beginning when we become His children because that is what He wants us to be. And like a good Father - or a good Mother - God is there to help us do all the other things He asks us to do - things like loving our brothers and sisters - and forgiving and helping one another - and sharing the good things that He gives us with those who are in need.

Wouldn't you like to be the kind of child that would cause God to look down from heaven, as He did with Jesus, and say, "My child, I am proud of you?" Hopefully, your answer is "yes!" because God loves you and is there to help you be the kind of child He wants you to be.

Source: www.sermons4kids.com



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Oksana Harapyuk Branch Manager

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