



Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

We extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors.
We pray that your participation in the Divine Liturgy will be enriching for you as well.

June 25, 2017 ~ 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Romans 5: 1-10

Gospel: Matthew 6: 22-33

Troparia are in **Tone 2**, found on **page 91** of the navy blue missals

Focus on Today's Gospel

Today, Jesus is trying to help us distinguish from what is good, better and best about living our lives in this fallen world. He tells us that no one can serve two masters. Have you ever tried doing that? That will stretch you in ways that are not very comfortable. Jesus says that we will either hate the one or hold to the other. Or we will hold to the one and despise the other. When it comes to money you cannot serve God and money. You cannot find fulfilment in God if what you really want are the things money offers.

We have no reason to worry about chasing after the things of this world when we have a Father who provides everything we really need. God causes the trees to produce fruit and the ground to produce food. He has given us rivers and streams to drink from. He has covered us with the arms of those who love us. Everything we really need has already been provided for by Him. But many of us are not content with having our needs satisfied we have wants as well. And the world multiplies those wants again and again to pull us away from what God has provided so that we are no longer content having our needs met.

So, dear ones, Jesus tells us to stop worrying about such things and stop worrying about tomorrow's problems today. Each day has enough for us to contend with. Walk by faith, trusting God. Our hearts should desire the things of God instead of the things of this world.

- condensed from a sermon by Mark Aarssen

Parish News & Events



We extend our best wishes and congratulations to **Walter and Mary Karachok** on the occasion of their **50th** wedding anniversary on July 1. May the Lord our God send His Holy Spirit upon them, and strengthen the commitment implanted in their hearts on the day of their joining, and may He grant them many more happy and blessed years together ~ Многая і благая літа!

Don't forget to get your tickets for our parish's **50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and Dance** available after each Saturday/Sunday Divine Liturgy. Adults are \$25 each; children (10 & under) are \$15 each. These prices will be in effect until **July 31** after which they will increase to \$30 and \$20 respectively, so get your tickets before that date at the lower rate. Last day to purchase them is **Sunday, September 3**. For those who have already purchased their tickets, you may reserve places in advance, but only if you have a complete table of eight (8) people. Please call Sherry Opaski at 767-0253 or email her at saopaski@gmail.com. Reservations for less than tables of 8 will be at a later date. If you have any questions, please call Sherry at any time. ☺



We again remind everyone when exiting the church proper from the side fire doors to make sure they are closed tightly. Due to their weight, they tend to bounce back open and are still found ajar many times after services and during the week. This is an important security issue. Thank you for your cooperation.

Two reminders: Please remember in your prayers those of our parish who are in the hospitals, care homes and those who are not able to join us actively. If you personally would like a hospital or home visit, please call Father Stepan (577-7721) and let him know. Don't leave it to the last minute. Remember also your donation to our Food Hamper of non-perishable foodstuffs for those less fortunate. Please note that no items past their 'best before' dates are to be included. Thanks to Denny Verdenik for taking care of the delivery.

Please note: During July & August, the parish bulletin will be printed every **2nd** weekend (July 2nd, 16th & 30th, August 13th & 27th) due to a decrease in activities and to help ease printing costs. You can still send any announcements or items of interest to Michael Watral at mawatral@tbaytel.net, see him in church, or call him at 475-4914. Together, let's keep the lines of communication wide open!

Wishing everyone a wonderful week!

Happy Canada "150th" Day to all!

Your Return Gift to God

JUNE 17/18

Envelopes: \$1,115.⁰⁰
Vigil Lights: \$147.⁵⁰
Special Projects: \$20.⁰⁰
Mission Collection: \$91.⁸⁵
Donations in memory of
† Joseph Soldan: \$125.⁰⁰

The Mission Collection for June is designated for **Thunder Bay Shelter House's 'SOS' Program**. The SOS Team is a highly trained and skilled team of compassionate people who are out on the road from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily offering their services to homeless, inebriated, and high risk people in our community.

Thank you for your generosity ~Щиро Вам дякуємо!

This Week's Liturgical Services

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

6:30 p.m. ~ Feast of Ss. Peter and Paul



FRIDAY, JUNE 30

10:00 a.m. ~ Moleben for Canada's 150th Anniversary

SATURDAY, JULY 1

5:00 p.m. ~ 4th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Saints of Ukraine
Epistle Reader: Joseph Myslicki

SUNDAY, JULY 2

10:00 a.m. ~ 4th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Saints of Ukraine
Epistle Reader: Andrea Warywoda



St. George's Society

The next bingo training session will take place at Superior Shores Gaming Centre from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on **Sunday, June 25**. The next bingo session is on **Wednesday, July 26** in the evening. Please speak with Gerry Bullock if you are able to serve on the date.

Congratulations to **Dr. Larry Watral** who is this year's recipient of St. George's Annual Merit Award, a well-deserving member and parishioner.

Thanks to all members for your service this past society year. Our first regular monthly meeting in the fall will take place on **Sunday, September 24**. Until then, have a great summer!

Love and Service to God since 1960!

Thunder Bay Street Gospel is a weekly co-production by Corpus Christi Church and St. Agnes Church from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Thunder Bay and can be viewed on youtube.com or Facebook. There is a new reflection each week, so check them out to add a few minutes of inspiration to your day.

Inspirational Words of Wisdom

"I believe God is managing affairs and that He doesn't need any advice from me. With God in charge, I believe everything will work out for the best in the end. So what is there to worry about?"

~ Henry Ford

Upcoming Community Events

Canada Day 150 - July 1 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at West Thunder Community Centre, 915 S. Edward Street. Music, food, and fun featuring bouncy castle, pony rides, build a rocket and blast, and giant zorball races for the kids. Main Stage Entertainment Schedule: 12:30 p.m. Taiko Drummers; 1:30 p.m. Dr. Buck and the Bluebangers; 2:30 p.m. CCR Band; 3:30 p.m. Scott Van Teeffelen Band; 4:30 p.m. Daylin James. There'll be a vendors' market, radio controlled airplanes and cars, and Classic Car Show. Bring your own lawn chair and umbrella.



Knights of Columbus Spaghetti & Meatballs

Takeout: During the summer, there will be four events: July 6 & 20, and August 10 & 24 (all Thursdays) from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at \$11 per order. Please bring your own containers. Salad and buns also available for purchase. Call Rosie at 623-3252 to confirm all takeout dates.

Canadians should seek to be witnesses to Christ in Canada and the world, and to continue working to influence those in government to act from Christian principles and attitudes. Christians, realizing they do not have a lasting home here, should pray and work for justice and peace in Canada and throughout the world, so that all God's people may share in the goods of this earth. God's kingdom will come only when all people are ready to let Christ's teachings guide and rule their lives and actions.

Holy Cross Golden Agers

Regular Thursday activities are **SUSPENDED** for the summer and will resume on **Thursday, September 7th**. New members (ages 55+) may join at that time. It's just \$10 per year — and well worth the membership fee.

Two mini-excursions to Grand Portage will take place during the summer: **July 19th** and **August 16th** (both Wednesdays once more). The bus will depart from the church parking lot at 3:45 p.m. and return @ 10 p.m. Please contact Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805) to book your seat today. This is a **free** service. Non-members are always welcome aboard.

LIVES OF THE SAINTS: JOHN THE BAPTIST

JOHN THE BAPTIST was a contemporary of Christ who was known for evangelization and his baptizing of Jesus Christ.

He was born through the intercession of God to Zachariah and Elizabeth, who was otherwise too old to bear children. According to Scriptures, the Angel Gabriel visited Elizabeth and Zachariah to tell them they would have a son and that they should name him John. Zachariah was skeptical and for this he was rendered mute until the time his son was born and named John, in fulfillment of God's will.

When Elizabeth was pregnant with John, she was visited by Mary, and John leapt in her womb. This revealed to Elizabeth that the child Mary carried was to be the Son of God.

John began public ministry around 30 AD, and was known for attracting large crowds across the province of Judaea and around the Jordan River. When Jesus came to him to be baptized, John recognized Him and said, "It is I who need baptism from You." Jesus told John to baptize Him anyway, which he did, whereupon the heavens opened, and the Spirit of God was seen like a dove. The voice of God spoke, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

John instructed his followers to turn to Christ, calling Him the "Lamb of God" and these people were among the first Christians.

Following his baptism of Christ, John's popularity grew so much that he alarmed King Herod. Herod ordered him arrested and imprisoned. John spoke with Herod on several occasions and condemned his marriage to his half-brother's wife. This condemnation would be his downfall as King Herod promised to grant a wish to his daughter. In revenge for John the Baptist's condemnation of her mother's scandalous marriage to Herod, she asked for John's head. King Herod reluctantly obliged. He died sometime between 33 and 36 AD. John the Baptist's feast day is June 24, and the anniversary of his death is August 29 and is sometimes celebrated with a second feast.

Readings for the 4th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Epistle: Romans 6: 18-23

Gospel: Matthew 8: 5-13



As you read, ask yourself, "What thoughts, ideas, words or images come to mind?" and "What are the connections between them?" This will make them easier to follow and evoke a richer understanding.



Give All Your Worries to Jesus

The Gospel lesson today talks a lot about worry. In life, we have things that we worry about. We worry about being liked by our friends, who will sit by us at lunch, if we'll be good on a sport's team, if something's wrong when we hear family members argue. Some worries seem bigger than others. Some people worry about being sick or being safe. There is a lot of sin in this world and things that the devil tries to get at us with.



But Jesus tells us not to worry. He's taking care of us. He used examples in creation. God gives food to the birds. They don't have to plant it themselves and harvest it. God gives them their food. We don't need to worry about clothes. Look at how beautiful flowers are. Jesus tells us the King Solomon didn't even have clothes as beautiful as the flowers. If God cares for things like the birds and flowers, isn't He going to take care of you?

Worries can weigh us down and keep us from being the person God wants us to be. When we worry, we're not letting God take care of things. It's like we're saying, "I can take care of this, Jesus. Thank you for offering but I got it." Jesus tells us we can always trust Him. We know we can because He always keeps His promises. Now, let's give those worries to Jesus.

Dear Jesus, we give our worries to You. You promise to take care of us and we trust You. We have a lot to worry about but we know You can handle it. You died to take care of our sins. You took care of our big problem of sin and we know that You'll take care of our other problems too. Help us to give our worries over to You and not try and take them back. You can handle anything. We're so glad that we have a God that takes such good care of us. No one is like You. We have nothing to worry about when our life is in Your hands. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Source: www.sermons4kids.com

DARK LIGHT

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



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But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

— MATTHEW 6:23 KJV