



# Exaltation of the Holy Cross

## Ukrainian Catholic Parish

Українська Католицька Парафія Воздвиження Чесного Хреста

### Sundays:

- 9:30 am Rosary
- 10 am Divine Liturgy

### Wednesdays:

- 9 am Divine Liturgy

### Most Major Feasts\*:

- 10 am Divine Liturgy

(\* It's always best to check the calendar in this bulletin for upcoming special events & feasts.)

**Pastor:** Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

Cell: 780-340-3726  
(call or text)  
fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com

**Deacon:** Dcn. François Provençal  
fprovence23@outlook.com

**Church Website:**

**EHCUCP.CA**

**Facebook:** facebook.com/ehcucp

**Church Email:** office@ehcucp.ca

**Pastoral**

Emergencies: 780-340-3726

Church: 780-478-5260

Hall: 780-478-4275

Fax: 780-476-6485

Eparchy: 780-424-5496

**Church Address:**

9003 - 153 Avenue NW  
Edmonton, AB

**Church Mailing Address:**

Londonderry P.O. Box 70029  
Edmonton, AB T5C 3R6

More info on the next page.

## Sunday, December 17, 2023

Sunday of the Holy Ancestors. Octoechos Tone 4;  
The Holy Prophet Daniel, the Three Holy Youths Ananiah (Ananias),  
Azariah (Azarias) and Mishael (Misael) (6<sup>th</sup> C BCE) Nativity Fast

### Our Christmas Schedule:

<b>Sunday, Dec 24</b>	<b>Sunday Before the Nativity &amp; the Eve of the Nativity</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Sunday Liturgy (Bilingual)</b>
		<b>2 pm</b>	St. Michael's Extended Care Liturgy (Bilingual)
		<b>8 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Complines &amp; Liturgy (English)</b>
		<b>10 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Liturgy (Bilingual)</b>
<b>Monday, Dec 25</b>	<b>Nativity of our Lord</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Christmas Day Liturgy (English)</b>
Tuesday, Dec 26	Synaxis of the Mother of God	-	No service at Holy Cross
Wednesday, Dec 27	St. Stephen the Protomartyr	9 am	Regular Wednesday Liturgy (Bilingual)
<b>Sunday, Dec 31</b>	<b>Sunday After the Nativity: St. Joseph, King David and St. James</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Sunday Liturgy (English)</b>
Monday, Jan 1	St. Basil's & Circumcision of our Lord (New Year's Day)	10 am	Liturgy of St. Basil (English)
Tuesday, Jan 2		10:30 am	Venta Care Centre Liturgy (English)
Wednesday, Jan 3		9 am	Regular Wednesday Liturgy (Bilingual)
<b>Friday, Jan 5</b>	<b>Theophany Eve</b>	<b>7 pm</b>	<b>Complines, Divine Liturgy and the Great Blessing of Waters</b>
<b>Saturday, Jan 6</b>	<b>Theophany</b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy</b>

### What are Complines? And...

**Should we really go to church twice next Sunday,  
once for the Sunday and once for Christmas?**

See next pages for answers



## Our First Solemn Communion program has begun with 3 awesome Kids.

Keep us in your prayers.

Our next class will take place on Saturday, January the 13<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm as usual.

### Hall Rentals:

call Lisa at: 780-222-9155  
or email: hallrental@ehcucp

**Perohy Off Sales:** 780-478-4275

### Membership:

email: membership@ehcucp

*Reminder: To receive member rates for funerals/memorials the deceased person must have been a fully paid up member of Holy Cross Parish for the past 22 consecutive months. Deceased children of fully paid up members are also entitled to member rates however child must be under the age of 18.*

### Funeral Dinners:

Call Cheryl: 780-456-2828

### Parish Pastoral Council:

Parish Priest – Fr. Bo Nahachewsky  
Deacon - Dcn. François Provençal  
President – Mark Helmak  
Past President – Peter Fedorak  
1st Vice-President – Mark Ramsankar  
2nd Vice-President – John Lukey  
Secretary – Gwen Uchach  
Treasurer – Peter Fedorak  
Archivist – Diana Horyn  
Cultural – Maryka Bodnar  
Fundraising – Edd Horyn  
Hall Rental – Lisa Borosuik & Gladys Woitas  
Ladies’ Club – Heather Gauthier  
Knights of Columbus – Darrell Uchach  
Men’s Club President – Marc Chiasson  
Youth Coordinator – *Emmette Lysak*  
Maintenance – Larry Waye  
Membership – J’lyn Ramsankar  
Social – *Vacant*  
Spiritual – Elizabeth Podloski

### Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist:

- Contact Fr. Bo, at least a month in advance if possible

### Weddings:

- Contact Fr. Bo, at least a year in advance if possible

### Funerals:

- Contact Fr. Bo, as soon as you are able.

### Confessions:

- Sundays from 9 till 9:30 with Fr. Bo
- Sundays with Fr. Myron: See Calendar
- or anytime, just call Fr. Bo to arrange it.

## What are Complines?

Complines are one of the 8 services that make up the Church’s communal daily cycle of prayers called the “The Liturgy of the Hours”.

Although these services are commonly served by clergy, monastics and many lay people, they are seldom all publicly done in parish Churches. The reason for this is that most people cant come to church 8 or 9 different services per day. Some parishes however do celebrate some of these services publicly on important days such as Sundays and bigger feasts.

Here are the services, their normal times of celebration daily, and their themes:

Service	Normal time of day to celebrate it	Theme of the prayers
Vespers	Sunset	Thanksgiving for Creation, Forgiveness for the sins of the previous days, Christ the Light of our World
Complines	Late evening	Protection during the night
Midnight Office	During the night	Meditation on the unexpected coming of Christ
Matins	Sunrise	Supplication and praise of Almighty God
First Hour	7 am (or after Matins)	Prayer at the beginning of the day’s work
Third Hour	9 am	Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost
Sixth Hour	12 noon	Crucifixion of Christ
Ninth Hour	3 pm	Death of Christ

The Church recognizes the start of the day at sundown because the bible describes the days of creation as “it was night, then it was day; the first day”.

On feasts such as Christmas and Theophany where we often celebrate the main services “on the eve” of the feast, we mark the passing of the eve and the beginning of the feast itself with one of the evening or night prayers then as we have already marked the passing into the next day we celebrate the main service: The Divine Liturgy, which is done most days, but is considered to be “beyond time”.

So this Christmas and Theophany our first festal Liturgies will be preceded by a shortened version of the Complines service. This way we can truthfully say that we have celebrated the Liturgy of the great feasts.

# Should we really go to church twice next Sunday, once for the Sunday and once for Christmas?

Every member of the Church is “obligated” to go to church on all Sundays, the 12 major feasts, Good Friday, and the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul.

What does “obligated” mean? It means that we are supposed to make every effort to go to a Liturgy (or other service) on those days. If we choose not to we are neglecting our duties as baptized people (which is a sin according to the teachings of the Church).

I find this term very useful but somewhat negative. I rather see the opportunity to attend a Divine Liturgy on these important days a great blessing. Its too awesome to miss! I don't go to Church because I have to, but because I want to.

As described on the previous page the Church's day starts when the sun sets. This means that once we celebrate Vespers, or a later service such as Complines we know the next day has begun. This is not the same as the civil understanding of the day which begins at 12 midnight.

Following this logic, we indeed need to go to a Liturgy to celebrate the Sunday as always (and our usual parish service is at 10 am), then we do not need to go to church again till the next day which starts after Complines. The 8 pm and 10 pm services then do not belong to the Eve of the feast, but of the feast itself: Monday - IE: Christmas Day, which is another day of obligation.

**So, by this logic, we do not go to Liturgy twice in one day, but we go to Church on two different days which both happen on the same calendar date... the 24<sup>th</sup> of December.**

Alternately you can choose to not go on the evening of the 24<sup>th</sup>, and come on the morning of December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, which is still the same Church day but on the next calendar date.

By this same logic, those who go to church on Saturday evenings (where the Church has a Saturday night service, which we do not have at this time) for the purpose of going on a Sunday still do fulfill their Sunday obligation.

## Saints of the day, from OCA.org: Sunday of the Forefathers

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, “In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

## Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths

Commemorated on [December 17](#)

The Holy Prophet Daniel is the fourth of the major prophets.

In the years following 600 B.C. Jerusalem was conquered by the Babylonians, the Temple built by Solomon was destroyed, and many of the Israelite



people were led away into the Babylonian Captivity. Among the captives were also the illustrious youths Daniel, Ananias, Azarias and Misael.

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon ordered that they be instructed in the Chaldean language and wisdom, and dressed them in finery. Handsome children of princely lineage were often chosen to serve as pages in the palace. For three years, they would be fed from food from the king's table. After this they would be allowed to stand before his throne. Daniel was renamed Baltasar, Ananias was called Shadrach, Misael was called Mishach, and Azarias was known as Abednego. But they, cleaving to their faith, disdained the extravagance of court, refusing to defile themselves by eating from the king's table and drinking his wine. Instead, they lived on vegetables and water.

The Lord granted them wisdom, and to Saint Daniel the gift of insight and the interpretation of dreams. The holy Prophet Daniel preserved his faith in the one God and trusted in His almighty help. He surpassed all the Chaldean astrologers and sorcerers in his wisdom, and was made a confidant to King Nebuchadnezzar.

Once, Nebuchadnezzar had a strange dream which terrified him (Daniel 2:1-6). He summoned magicians, sorcerers, and Chaldeans before him to interpret the dream. When they asked him what he had dreamt, the king refused to tell them. He said, “If you...

## Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths continued from the previous page

... do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you shall be torn limb from limb, and your houses shall be laid in ruins." The Babylonian wise men protested that no magician or sorcerer could be expected to do this. Only the gods could reveal the dream and its meaning, they told him.

The king ordered all the wise men of Babylon to be executed. When they sought Daniel and his companions to put them to death, Daniel asked that the king's sentence not be carried out. He said that he could tell the king what he dreamt, for it had been revealed to him in a vision. Daniel was brought before the king and was able to reveal not only the content of the dream, but also its prophetic significance. After this, the king elevated Daniel to be ruler of the whole province of Babylon, and the chief of all the wise men.

During these times King Nebuchadnezzar ordered a huge statue to be made in his likeness. It was decreed that when people heard the sound of trumpets and other instruments, they should fall down and worship the golden idol. Because they refused to do this, the three holy youths Ananias, Azarias and Misael were cast into a fiery furnace. The flames shot out over the furnace forty-nine cubits, felling the Chaldeans standing about, but the holy youths walked in the midst of the flames, offering prayer and psalmody to the Lord (Daniel 3:26-90).

The Angel of the Lord appeared in the furnace and cooled the flames, and the young men remained unharmed. This "Angel of Great Counsel," as he is called in iconography, is identified with the Son of God (Daniel 3:25, Isaiah 9:6). In the first Canon for the Nativity of the Lord (Ode 5), the Church sings: "Thou hast sent us Thine Angel of Great Counsel." The emperor, upon seeing this, commanded them to come out, and was converted to the true God.

Under King Baltasar, Saint Daniel interpreted a mysterious inscription ("Mane, Thekel, Phares"), which had appeared on the wall of the palace during

a banquet (Daniel 5:1-31), foretelling the downfall of the Babylonian kingdom. Under the Persian emperor Darius, Saint Daniel was slandered by his enemies, and was thrown into a den with hungry lions, but they did not touch him, and he was not harmed. The emperor Darius then rejoiced over Daniel and ordered people throughout his realm to worship the God of Daniel, "since He is the living and eternal God, and His Kingdom shall not be destroyed, and His dominion is forever" (Daniel 6:26).

The holy Prophet Daniel grieved deeply for his people, who then were undergoing righteous chastisement for a multitude of sins and offences, for transgressing the laws of God, resulting in the grievous Babylonian Captivity and the destruction of Jerusalem: "My God, incline Thine ear and hearken; open Thine eyes and look upon our desolation and that of Thy city, in which Thy Name is spoken; for we do not make our supplication before Thee because of our own righteousness, but because of Thy great mercy" (Dan 9:18). Because of Daniel's righteous life and his prayers for the people's iniquity, the destiny of the nation of Israel and the fate of all the world was revealed to the holy prophet.

While interpreting the dream of King Nebuchadnezzar, the holy, glorious Prophet Daniel spoke of a great and final kingdom, the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ (Dan 2:44). The prophetic vision about the seventy weeks (Dan 9:24-27) speaks about the signs of the First and the Second Comings of the Lord Jesus Christ, and is connected with those events

(Daniel 12:1-12).

Saint Daniel interceded for his people before King Cyrus, who esteemed him highly, and who decreed freedom for the Israelite people. Daniel himself and his fellows Ananias, Azarias and Misael, all survived into old age, but died in captivity. According to the testimony of Saint Cyril of Alexandria (June 9), Saints Ananias, Azarias and Misael were beheaded on orders of the Persian emperor Chambyses.

Saint Daniel and the three holy youths are also commemorated on the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers, and on the Sunday of the Holy Fathers (Sunday before the Nativity).





## St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Seminary Propaedeutic (First Years) Student's Icon Writing Retreat with Fr. Bo

Thank you for your prayers this past week as I taught 12 propaedeutic Seminarians about Prayer, Iconography, the Eastern Churches and other things. Each year as the "regular" seminarians finish their final exams and essays I get to show a group of young men from all over Western Canada who hope to become priests how to write/paint a traditional Byzantine Icon. This year we painted the image of the Theotokos Holubnaya. Everything went quite well and I'm proud of what they were able to prayerfully create.



One seminarians' work ➔

All 12 of them can be seen in the picture above.

## We're Seeking Courageous Positive Women Leaders

Do you want to help shape our parish community in a meaningful way? Our Ladies' Club is seeking some new fresh go-getters to join in the leadership team of this awesome group.

The Ladies' Club is a very active group of hardworking people who have been taking care of the parish in many ways (and they still do). They support and make a huge impact on various church initiatives including our youth, faith development, liturgy, finances and well... everywhere!

So consider grabbing a few of your friends and make an impact in this awesome parish, so it can be even more awesome. Your energy is needed.

Call the parish office (780-478-5260) or Fr. Bo (780-340-3726) who can get you in touch with some of the current team.



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**Hey Men,** you are also wanted in our Men's Club and Knights of Columbus. Give us a call (same numbers as above). We would love to work with you too.

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Holy Cross Council is looking to fill the **Treasurer** position on council by next general election in March 2024. Our current Treasurer Peter Fedorak will be retiring as Treasurer and won't be available to do the position anymore. Council would like to hear from a member that would like to be the treasurer for the parish. Peter is able to provide training for this position in order to do knowledge transfer and tap his many years of experience. The Treasurer position is a key position in our organization and there are supports in place to help the function of the treasurer. If you have any questions about the position, please contact Peter Fedorak or Mark Helmak (780) 473-2972 to talk further.



Peter our Parish Treasurer says: "Many of our parishioners like to contribute additional funds before year end for tax purposes." To ensure that **your donation is counted in the 2023 Tax Year**, please make sure the donation is given **on or before DECEMBER 24, 2023**, Any donations after the 24th, no guarantee that it will make the 2023 tax year.



A few of you have been inquiring... and I still don't know what would be best for everyone. But I do need to decide soon

### When is my next public icon workshop?

Normally I put one on just before or at the beginning of Lent. A typical icon workshop is about 30 hours of instruction, prayer, and painting. This can be done over a week during the days, or over a long weekend. This is a fairly intense process, but anyone who wants to can do it.

Please give me your input. Which days would you prefer?



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## Holy Cross Ladies' Club is looking to hire a paid casual cook for our parish.

The position requires flexibility as functions/events occur on an as needed ongoing basis. People who are qualified in catering and food handling and safety will be considered. If you love working in a fast paced environment and working with dynamic team members, please get in touch with either Heather Gauthier at (780) 982-4189 or Dianne Kluk at (780) 242-1534 for further information.





# MALANKA

**It's Coming Soon: Saturday, January 13, 2024**  
**5 pm Cocktails and 6 pm Supper. Music after by the Sparkling Tones.**

That's less than a month away.

**Tickets for our parish's Malanka are going fast!**

**Over 183 tickets have been sold already.**

Malanka is a New Year's celebration, with great food, great music and great people. It takes place this year on Saturday, January the 13<sup>th</sup>. Get tickets for yourself and your friends and family before they are gone!

Tickets are \$75 for Adults and \$35 for those 16 and younger. For tickets call Rose Marie at (780) 217-8217

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## **To All Holy Cross Parishioners:**

We are looking for donations for our annual Malanka fundraiser which will be held on January 13, 2024. We are looking for any type of donation for door prizes. In return, you will get recognition for yourself or business at the Malanka Celebration as a supporter to our parish. Your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Because this is a fundraiser we are looking at new items rather than used for our door prizes such as gift cards or certificates, gift baskets, or items that may advertise your business.

If you have anything to donate or know someone who would love to support our parish, please get in contact with Dianne Kluk at (780) 242-1534 or at drdmkluk@gmail.com.

Thank you again for your generosity!

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## **Please Help!**

We are looking for volunteers for our Jan 13<sup>th</sup> Malanka Fundraiser, to help with the prepping of the food in the kitchen. Sign up sheets with Dates and Times are on the table next to the General Office. Please call Rose Marie Sumka at (780) 475-8825 or Elizabeth Letwin at (780) 476-1839 for more details.



## Our Parish News:

- **Food Bank Collection:** Let us not forget those who are hungry! We are always called to think about those who are less fortunate. A box for nonperishable food donations is always in the entrance of the Church.
- Our Eparchy is continuing to raise **funds for people in Ukraine** through CNEWA. If you wish to help you can donate through our parish, which will pass the donation to the Eparchy.
- Please give generously to our **“Kid’s Cottage Toy Drive”**. Kid’s Cottage is Edmonton’s only crisis prevention and intervention shelter for infants and children. See the display in the hall for more details. Let’s fill another table!
- **Coffee Hour** after Sunday Liturgy every Sunday... unless we are having a special meal... or we say otherwise... like on Christmas Eve, and the week after. But today and normally please come join us. The Schedule for the coffee groups is on the Bulletin Board as usual.
- Join us as we pray the **Rosary** before Divine Liturgy on Sundays. The Schedule is on the Bulletin Board as usual.
- **Any 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries?** Let us know so that we can congratulate you and give you a plaque. (and put you in the bulletin). Call Diana Horyn at 780-455-9926 if it’s your anniversary or if you know if a parishioner here is having one.
- Our **Sunday School** is awesome! All kids up to First Solemn Communion are welcome. You will get the blessing to go from Fr. Bo at the start of the Liturgy. Don’t be shy, join us!
- Boys and Girls who have already done their First Solemn Communion are invited to become an **Altar Server!** Just say hi to Fr. Bo before Liturgy and we will train you on the job.

- We are **recording our Liturgies** for those who are not able to come in person to church. Please note that the **recorded Liturgies** are not intended to be an option for those who simply want to stay at home.
- **BINGO !! BINGO !!** Here is some important information that should be of interest to ALL parishioners. Through the funds generated by our monthly bingos, our parish was able to pay our church insurance for the current year. That insurance bill was approximately \$29,000 dollars!! No, this not a misprint. How fortunate we were that the funds needed for this expenditure came from the bingo account. Now, that was the good news.

The team of volunteers needed to host our monthly bingos is in dire need of new volunteers willing to step up and support this reliable fundraiser. We need a team of at least fifteen reliable volunteers to meet our twice- a- month schedule. Currently, we have eleven committed volunteers on a steady basis. For the past several months, we have had to bring in non-members of the parish to fulfill our positions. These positions have to be filled in order avoid a bingo club penalty. This requires our volunteer chairperson to make extra phone calls to meet the required number of workers needed. One is never sure of the results and this can become very stressful.

So, what is required? The bingo shift is only about five hours long and the bonus is a free lunch and you can win a door prize !! We are encouraging parishioners who can join the bingo team to please call our volunteer chairperson, Darlene @ 780-478-8797.

The purpose of this bulletin article is to make all parishioners aware of how important it is to support a successful fundraiser that contributes to the overall financial health of our parish. God Bless our volunteers.

Edd ( Fundraising Chair)

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Fr. Bo is **not** the most organized person. If I am missing or have something wrong in this list of events... or the calendar... or anywhere in this bulletin... please do drop me a line. And if you did send something and I didn’t get it in, please don’t be mad, just send it to me again.

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## Upcoming (Not Regularly Scheduled) Events

- **Christmas Schedule** - See first Page
- **Wednesday & Thursday Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>:** Funeral
- **Friday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>** - Bingo
- **Wednesday, Jan 10<sup>th</sup>** - Deacon Cyril visits for Liturgy and more
- **Thursday, Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>** - Bingo
- **Saturday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup>** - First Solemn Communion Classes resume
- **Saturday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup>** - Parish Malanka
- **Saturday, Jan 19<sup>th</sup>** - Bishop Michael Smolinski’s Nomination, Consecration, and Installation with Patriarch Sviatoslav in Saskatoon

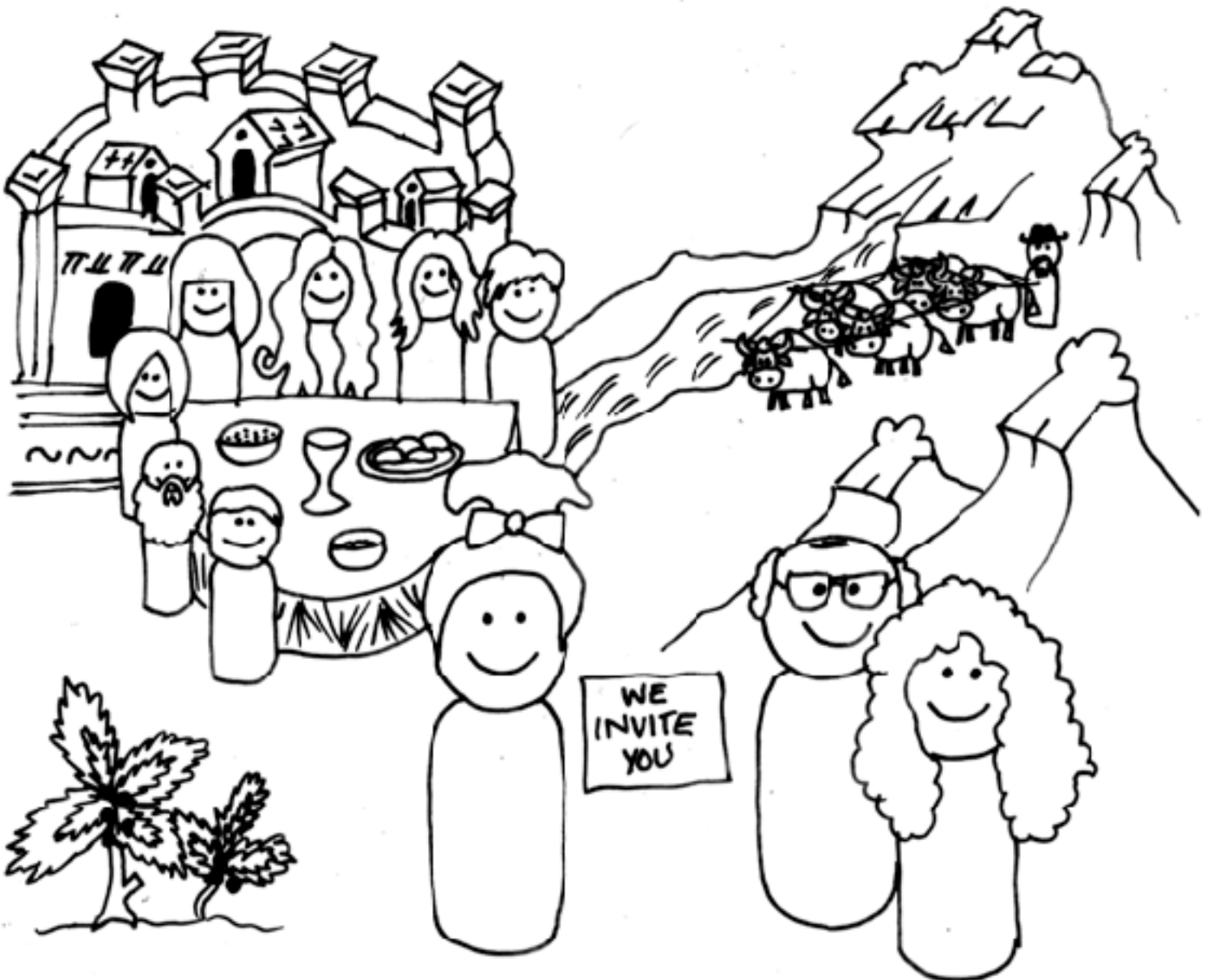
- **Sunday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup>** - Ukrainian Carol Concert at St. Josaphat Cathedral, 2:00 pm. Donations to Bridge of Hope orphanages in Ukraine.
- **Tuesday, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Bingo
- **Saturday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup>** - Ordination of John Lukey to the Diaconate, followed by a lunch.
- **Saturday, Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Prayers for the deceased of 2023
- **Saturday, Feb 10<sup>th</sup>** - Ukrainian Bilingual Program’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
- **Monday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** - Bingo
- **Tuesday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>** - Bingo

# Kid's Bulletin Page









Kids: you are important and we love you. This page is for you.

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells of a man who put together a great banquet and sent invitations to many. Sadly some people decided that they did not want to go, instead they would check on their oxen and farms. So the man who was putting on the party told his servants to invite other people. They did invite others but there were more spots available. The man insisted that the servants go out again and invite everyone they could find. The man wanted his banquet table to be full of people.

## Today's Colouring Page:



## Next Couple of Weeks at Holy Cross Parish

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Sunday of the Holy Ancestors. Octoechos Tone 4; The Holy Prophet Daniel, the Three Holy Youths Ananiah (Ananias), Azariah (Azarias) and Mishael (Misael) (6th century BC) Nativity Fast. Colossians 3:4-11; Luke 14:16-24.</p> <p><b>9:30 am Rosary</b></p> <p><b>10 am Divine Liturgy</b> (English)</p> <p>(Deacon François preaches)</p> <p><b>Sunday School &amp; Coffee Hour</b></p> <p><b>2 pm Divine Liturgy at St. Michael's Extended Care</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> </p> <p>The Holy Martyr Sebastian and His Companions Nativity Fast. Hebrews 8:7-13; Mark 8:11-21.</p> <p><b>10 am Bible Study</b></p> <p>Iconography Tutoring</p>	<p><b>19</b> </p> <p>The Holy Martyr Boniface (230) Nativity Fast. Hebrews 9:8-10,15-23; Mark 8:22-26.</p> <p><b>12:30 pm Ann F. School Visitation</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> </p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Priest-Martyr Ignatius the Godbearer (110) Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. Hebrews 10:1-18; Mark 8:30-34.</p> <p><b>9 am Divine Liturgy</b></p> <p>10:30 am Regular Clergy Meeting</p> <p><b>1 pm Divine Liturgy at St. Matthew's School</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> </p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia (284-305) Nativity Fast. Hebrews 10:35-11:7; Mark 9:10-16.</p> <p><b>8:30 -3:30 St. Matt's School Confessions</b></p> <p>Thursday afternoon till Friday morning is typically Fr. Bo's day off</p> <p>5:30 Appointment</p>	<p><b>22</b> </p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Great-Martyr Anastasia (305) Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. Hebrews 11:8,11-16; Mark 9:33-41.</p> <p><b>Early Dismissal for ECSD</b></p> <p><b>Last day of Classes</b></p> <p>Bulletin Writing</p>	<p><b>23</b> </p> <p>Saturday before the Nativity of Christ; The Ten Holy Martyrs of Crete (249-51) Nativity Fast. Galatians 3:8-12; Luke 13:18-29.</p> <p>10:30 Appointment</p> <p><b>Fr. Michael Kowalchuk celebrates his 50th Anniversary of Priesthood!</b></p> <p>Bulletin Writing</p>
<p><b>24</b> </p> <p>Sunday before the Nativity of Christ - Sunday of the Holy Fathers, Octoechos Tone 5; <b>Eve of the Nativity of Christ;</b></p> <p>The Holy Venerable-Martyr Eugenia Hebrews 11:9-10,17-23,32-40; Matthew 1:1-25.</p> <p><b>9:30 am Rosary</b></p> <p><b>10 am Divine Liturgy for the Sunday</b> (Bilingual)</p> <p>No Sunday School or Coffee Hour</p> <p><b>2 pm Divine Liturgy at St. Michael's Extended Care</b></p> <p><b>8 pm Complines and Divine Liturgy for Christmas Eve</b> (English)</p> <p><b>10 pm Divine Liturgy for Christmas Eve</b> (Bilingual)</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>The Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ - Christmas Feast of our Lord.</b> Holy Day of obligation. Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:1-12.</p> <p><b>10 am Divine Liturgy for the Nativity</b> (Bilingual)</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ; <b>Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God;</b> The Holy Priest-Martyr Euthymius, Bishop of Sardis (824) Hebrews 2:11-18; Matthew 2:13-23.</p> <p>no liturgy</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ; <b>the Holy Apostle, First Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen;</b> Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore the ?Branded One? (844) A day when the faithful are highly encouraged to participate in the Divine Liturgy. Acts 6:8-7:5,47-60; Matthew 21:33-42.</p> <p><b>9 am Divine Liturgy</b></p> <p><b>10:30 am Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral followed by the Clergy St. Nicholas Gathering</b></p> <p><b>6 pm Funeral Prayers</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ; the Two Thousand Martyrs Who Were Burned in Nicomedia (303); Passing into eternal life (1945) of Blessed Hryhorii (Gregory) Khomyshyn, Bishop of Stanyslaviv (Ivano-Frankivsk) and martyr James 1:19-27; Mark 10:17-27.</p> <p><b>10 am Funeral Liturgy</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>The Holy Children who were murdered by Herod in Bethlehem; Our Venerable Father Marcellus, Hegumen of the Monastery of the Sleepless Ones (c. 470) James 2:1-13; Mark 10:23-32.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Saturday after the Nativity of Christ; the Holy Martyr Anyisia (286-305); Holy Martyr and Presbyter, Zoticus, Protector of Orphans (4th c.) 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Matthew 12:15-21.</p>
<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>Sunday after the Nativity of Christ</b> Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James, Brother of the Lord. Octoechos Tone 6; Our Venerable Mother Melania the Roman (439) Galatians 1:11-19; Matthew 2:13-23.</p> <p><b>9:30 am Rosary</b></p> <p><b>10 am Divine Liturgy</b> (Bilingual)</p> <p>No Sunday School or Coffee Hour</p> <p><b>2 pm Divine Liturgy at St. Michael's Extended Care</b></p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Circumcision of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Our Father Among the Saints Basil the Great,</b> Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia (379). Feast of our Lord. All-Night Vigil Feast. The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is celebrated today. A day when the faithful are highly encouraged to participate in the Divine Liturgy. Colossians 2:8-12. Hebrews 7:26-8:2. Luke 2:20-21, 40-52. Luke 6:17-23.</p> <p><b>10 am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Pre-feast of Theophany. Our Holy Father Sylvester, Pope of Rome (335). Hebrews 12:25-26. 13:22-25. Mark 10:2-12.</p> <p><b>10:30 am Divine Liturgy at Venta Care Centre</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Pre-feast of Theophany. Holy Prophet Malachi (5th c. BC). Holy Martyr Gordius (313-24). James 1:1-18. Mark 10:11-16.</p> <p><b>9 am Divine Liturgy</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Pre-feast of Theophany. Synaxis of the Seventy Holy Apostles. Our Venerable Father Theoctistus, Hegumen of the Cucomo Monastery in Sicily. James 1:19-27. Mark 10:17-27.</p>	<p><b>5</b> </p> <p><b>Theophany Eve.</b> Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas (284-305). Venerable Synclitica. It is a day of fast and abstinence from meat and foods that contain these meat. 1 Corinthians 10:1-4. Luke 3:1-18.</p> <p><b>7 pm Complines, Divine Liturgy and the Great Blessing of Waters</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>Holy Theophany of Our Lord,</b> God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Feast of our Lord. Holy Day of Obligation. Titus 2:11-15. 3:4-7. Matthew 3:13-17.</p> <p><b>10 am Divine Liturgy</b></p>

# Changeable Parts for December 17

Sunday of the Holy Ancestors. Octoechos Tone 4; The Holy Prophet Daniel, the Three Holy Youths Ananiah (Ananias), Azariah (Azarias) and Mishael (Misael) (6<sup>th</sup> C BCE) Nativity Fast

**After “Blessed is the Kingdom”** Sunday School children are blessed to go to the Sunday School room with their teachers.

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**Troparion, Tone 4:** When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel\* the glorious news of the resurrection\* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,\* they proudly told the apostles:\* “Death has been plundered!\* Christ our God is risen,\* granting to the world great mercy.”

**Troparion, Tone 2:** By faith You justified Your ancestors\* and through them in advance You betrothed the Church taken from the nations.\* The saints exult in glory;\* from their seed comes the blessed fruit, the one who bore You without seed.\* By their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

**Kontakion, Tone 6:** Armed by the Being that defies description,\* you defied the man-made idol, O thrice blessed youth.\* In the midst of the unbearable flames you stood and cried out to God:\* “In Your mercy, O gracious One, hasten and come to our aid,”\* for You can do whatever You will.

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## Prokeimenon, Tone 4

Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers,\* and praised and glorified is Your Name forever.

**verse:** For You are righteous in everything that You have done to us. (*Daniel 3:26,27*)

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## Epistle: Colossians 3:4-II (NRSV)

Bothers and Sisters, when Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one

another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

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## Alleluia Verses, Tone 4

Moses and Aaron are among His priests and Samuel among those who call upon His name.

They called on the Lord and He heard them.

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## Gospel: Luke 14:16-24 (NRSV)

The Lord spoke this parable: “Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for everything is ready now.’ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.’ Another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.’ Another said, ‘I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ And the slave said, ‘Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.’ Then the master said to the slave, ‘Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.’”

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## Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;\* praise befits the righteous.

Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia.