



Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Ukrainian Catholic Parish

Українська Католицька Парафія Воздвиження Чесного Хреста



Sundays, December 15, 2024

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. Octoechos Tone 5.

**Holy Priest-Martyr Eleutherius. Our Venerable Father Paul of Latra (956).
Our Holy Father Stephen the Confessor, Archbishop of Surozh (8th century).
Nativity Fast.**

This week in our parish Fr. Janko was able to Baptize, Chrismate and give Eucharist to our newest parishioner: **Alice Hazel Charlotte Maximchuk**. Alice is the child of Christopher and Katrina. May God grant you little one, an abundance of His blessings. Mnohaya Lita.



Lots of Photos

See pictures of our **Youth Toboggan & Hot Chocolate Night** on page 5,

and pictures from the **Annual St. Joseph's Seminary Icon Workshop and Retreat** that Fr. Bo did this past week on page 6,

and **St. Nicholas** Page 7 & 8

and **Bishop's Gala** on Page 9 & 10

2 messages from our Treasurer:

- **Donations for the 2024 Year must be in by December 29th** to be included in the 2024 Tax Year.
- **We now can take donations via E-Transfer!** You can set this up on your online banking using our parish email which is office@ehcucp.ca. A detailed example can be picked up at the parish office.

The Servant of God + **Nancy Krochak** at the age of 97 has passed into her eternal rest. Her funeral will take place here in our parish tomorrow (Monday) at 10 am. May God grant her rest among the saints. Eternal Memory. Vichnaya Pamyat.



Today is the last day we are collecting **Toys for Kids Cottage**. Thank you to all who brought toys for those less fortunate little ones. God Bless you all.

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24 8 pm Complines and Divine Liturgy in English

10 pm Complines and Divine Liturgy Bilingual

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25 10 am Divine Liturgy mostly in English

Our Full Christmas Schedule is on the following page.

Sundays:

- 9:30 am Rosary
- 10 am Divine Liturgy

Wednesdays:

- 9 am Divine Liturgy

Most Major Feasts*:

- 10 am or 7 pm Divine Liturgy

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

Pastor: Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

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

Deacon John Lukey

johndebbielukey@yahoo.ca

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

Our New Toll Free Number:

1-866-886-3946

We no longer have a fax number.

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.

Hall Rentals:

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

Perohy Off Sales: 780-478-4275

Membership:

email: membership@ehcucp

Funeral Dinners:

Call Cheryl: 780-456-2828

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 a dependant or under the age of 18.

Parish Pastoral Council:

Parish Priest – Fr. Bo Nahachewsky
 Deacon - Dcn. John Lukey
 President – Mark Helmak
 Past President – Peter Fedorak
 1st Vice-President – Mark Ramsankar
 2nd Vice-President – Deacon John Lukey
 Secretary – Gwen Uchach
 Treasurer – Dale Kluk
 Archivist – Diana Horyn
 Cultural – Mariyka Bodnar
 Fundraising – Terry Yackimec
 Hall Rental – Lisa Borosuik & Gladys Woitas
 Ladies' Club – Dianne Kluk
 Knights of Columbus – Darrell Uchach
 Men's Club President – Marc Chiasson
 Youth Coordinator – Emmette Lysak
 Maintenance – Larry Waye
 Membership – J'lyn Ramsankar
 Social – Edd Horyn
 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
- First Sundays of the month with Fr. Myron before and during the Liturgy
- or anytime, just call Fr. Bo to arrange it.

Membership 2025 Renewal is here!

Be sure to renew your membership and pick up your envelopes THIS SUNDAY! Membership will be available to renew every Sunday in November and December. As per our last AGM - 2025 membership has been raised to \$40 for the year if you renew before March 2025. Members renewing after March 1st will be charged \$45. Membership can be paid via cash or cheque (Cheque can be made out to Holy Cross Parish). This year we are going to do something new...it is also picture day! As Father Bo has mentioned in the past, we are going to create a parish directory "book" with all our member's pictures. Bring your family, friends and best smiles! New members are always welcome! Let's continue to grow our parish community! If you have any questions contact our membership chair J'lyn Ramsankar for more details.

Christmas Season Schedule 2024

Sunday, December 22 (Sunday before Nativity)	10 am Divine Liturgy in English Confessions available
Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24	8 pm Complines and Divine Liturgy in English 10 pm Complines and Divine Liturgy Bilingual
Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25	10 am Divine Liturgy mostly in English
Sunday, December 29 (Sunday after Nativity)	10 am Divine Liturgy Bilingual
Wednesday, January 1 (St. Basil & Circumcision)	9 am Divine Liturgy Bilingual
Theophany Eve Sunday, January 5	10 am Divine Liturgy in English 7 pm Divine Liturgy with the Great Blessing of Water in English
Theophany Day Monday, January 6	10 am Divine Liturgy Bilingual

Who won the neck decorating contest?

It was a tie.

Donations received at Holy Cross Parish

For Sunday Dec. 8

Sunday Donation:	\$1665.00
Candles:	\$33.2
Building Fund for November	\$400.00

Total Utilities (Year to Date) includes Epcore, Enmax and Telus -
\$40,026.62

Total Church and Hall Insurance for 2024 - \$29,048.83

At Holy Cross we ❤️ Ukrainian Foods!

And we ❤️ our Ukrainian Frozen Food Coordinator: Lasha!

And we need of YOUR help!

Frozen foods is an important fundraiser that provides our parish with almost 25% of its fundraising revenue. For the past long time Lasha M has been doing a great job, and she continues to do so. However due to the health of her husband, she is in need of some co-ordinating leaders.

We are thinking that we could use at least three such “understudy leaders”, each to take on one type of Ukrainian Food that we regularly make. The three are 1> Perogies, 2> Cabbage Rolls, and 3> Perishke, Nalysnyke and other such. While Lasha can she will show you the ropes and help do everything, but she could use some support.

Please talk to Dianne Kluk, Fr. Bo or Lasha if you would like to help.

Ukrainian Christmas Eve Traditions: A Feast of Tradition and Joy

For those unfamiliar with the Ukrainian Catholic Church traditions, the Holy Supper on Christmas Eve holds a unique and significant place in Ukrainian households. In response to a query about this cherished tradition, we embark on a journey to unravel the intricacies of the Holy Supper, its symbolic dishes, and the rich customs that accompany this festive occasion.

The Twelve Lenten Dishes

Diverging from typical evening meals, the Holy Supper features twelve Lenten dishes, symbolizing the twelve Apostles who gathered at the Last Supper. These dishes are meticulously prepared with vegetable shortening or cooking oil, excluding all animal fat, milk, and milk products. This dietary restriction aligns with the period of fasting leading up to Christmas Day, culminating after the midnight/ evening or morning church service on Christmas Eve.



Variations of Svyatij Vechir (Holy Supper)

While the basic structure of the Holy Supper is preserved, each household incorporates its unique touch. One common practice is placing straw under the tablecloth and the table itself, accompanied by a

sheaf of wheat called “didukh.” Tied with a vibrant rushnik (embroidered towel), the didukh is placed on the table by the father or senior male present at the beginning of the dinner, symbolizing the gathering of the clan.

Symbolism of the Pylypivka Wreath

To add depth to the fasting experience, many households embrace the practice of praying with a Pylypivka wreath. This circular arrangement symbolizes the eternal nature of God, with evergreen branches representing the eternal life brought by Jesus. Candles on the wreath symbolize Christ as the light of the world, each with a specific meaning such as love, faith, and hope.

The Holy Supper Ritual

The order of dishes varies, but common elements include the proshpora (blessed at the Vigil), kutya, and twelve other meatless and dairy-free dishes such as fish, varenyky, and kapusta. A significant tradition involves leaving one place empty at the table, both in remembrance of those departed before us and in the belief that an angel might appear in the guise of a beggar.

Three loaves of bread, known as kolach, are baked and stacked with a candle in the middle, symbolizing Christ. The candle is lit during the meal blessing and remains so until the end of dinner.

Christmas Eve Timeline and Traditions

The timeline of St. Philip’s Fast, leading up to Christmas Eve, includes various feasts such as the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple, and the Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker.

Beyond the Holy Supper, additional traditions include flinging kutya on the ceiling for good luck,...

Ukrainian Christmas Eve Traditions: Continued...

... walking around the house three times with kutya while singing the Christmas troparion, and providing extra feed, straw, and kutya to livestock.

The Spirit of Hospitality

One enduring tradition emphasizes hospitality to those in need. Families ensure that no one spends Christmas Eve alone, inviting neighbors, friends, and anyone without family to join in the celebration. This practice is rooted in the belief that on this holy night, Mary and Joseph were given hospitality in a cave, setting an example for extending kindness to others.

Alternate Versions and Regional Practices

Variations of the Holy Supper exist, reflecting the diverse cultural tapestry of Ukraine. Some families scatter straw under the table to remember the poverty of the Holy Family, while others emphasize the symbolic act of everyone wearing shoes or slippers, signifying wealth in celebrating the birth of the Savior.



In some homes, a chain wrapped around the table legs is believed to keep the abundance found on the table within the family throughout the coming New Year.

Carolling and Vertep Puppet Theatre

The celebration extends beyond the dinner table, with joyful carolling playing a significant role. Ukrainian Christmas songs or carols, known as koliadky and shchedrivky, are sung throughout the Christmas season, bringing festive melodies to communities.

Another lively tradition is the Vertep, a Ukrainian puppet theatre that enacts the Nativity and includes merry interludes depicting secular life. Originating in the late 16th century, Vertep performances declined in the mid-19th century but have seen a revival in the 20th century as a zhyvyi 'live' Vertep, re-creating the traditional village performances.

In conclusion, the Holy Supper on Christmas Eve is a culmination of rich traditions, symbolic dishes, and heartfelt customs that embody the spirit of Ukrainian Christmas. It is a time of joy, reflection, and hospitality, inviting both family and strangers to share in the festive celebration of the birth of Christ. As we delve into the depths of these cherished practices, we witness the enduring cultural and spiritual significance that makes Ukrainian Christmas a truly special and meaningful occasion.

Taken from the Eparchy of Edmonton's website.



OUR MALANKA

Saturday, January 11th



Here at Holy Cross,
Cocktails at 5 pm, Dinner at 6 pm
Music by the Sparkling Tones

Door Prizes and Entertainment
Tickets \$80 for Adults,
and \$45 for Youth 13 and under.

Call Rose Marie at 780-217-8217 or get your tickets after a Liturgy in the Church Annex or Hall Entrance.

What is "Malanka"?

"Malanka" is the festival celebrated by many Ukrainians at the Winter Solstice. Often it is held on New Year's Day. Although most of our parish follows the Gregorian Calendar which celebrates New Year's Day on January 1, we often hold this event on the Saturday nearest the Julian Calendar's

New Year's Day. Why? Because this way we can party twice!

This is a big, well planned Dinner and Dance, which helps raise funds for our parish. We hope you will join us.

Young with those Young at Heart

True our youth group is not big at the moment... BUT... we are having fun anyway!

This past Wednesday evening we had a lovely "Toboggan & Hot Chocolate Night". The hill next to the church was gorgeous, and not too scary for those over 20. No injuries were had! Michael was able to go the furthest, and it is possible that he won 99% of the races too.

Our Hot Chocolate was super fresh and hot and, although lacking in marshmallows, delicious.

Joyce wowed us with her fashionable and traditional attire, that also worked marvelously on the hill.

All 6 of us had a lot of fun. Next time, come out and join us.

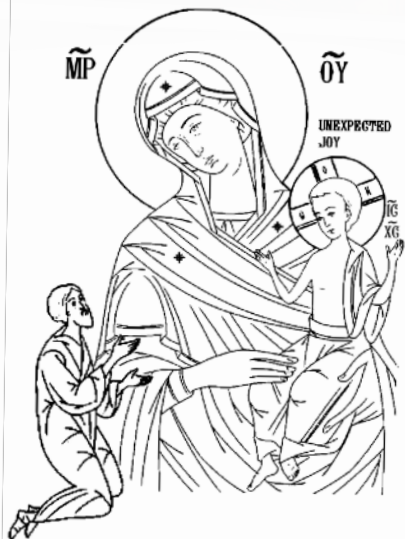
Following the Tobogganing, the Young Adults had a lovely discussion with Fr. Bo.





For the past 8 years, during the month of December, Fr. Bo has lead an **Icon Writing Retreat and Workshop** with the first year seminarians at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Seminary. This year with 12 lovely gentlemen they were able to create and learn about the icon of "Our Lady - Unexpected Joy".

Teaching the students about the language of Iconography, the traditions of the Eastern Catholic Churches and many other topics about our Catholic Faith is something that Fr. Bo is quite passionate about.



In February and March Fr. Bo will have 2 more of these kind of workshops right here at Holy Cross, plus the one he will teach for Newman Theological College.

If you are interested in participating in one of these, send Fr. Bo an email.



A HUGE Thank You to St. Nicholas and all of the **MANY MANY** people who made our St. Nicholas Celebration such a lovely event. **Cooks, Servers, Gift Packers, Children's Program People, Ticket Takers, Singers, Musicians and Everyone!**

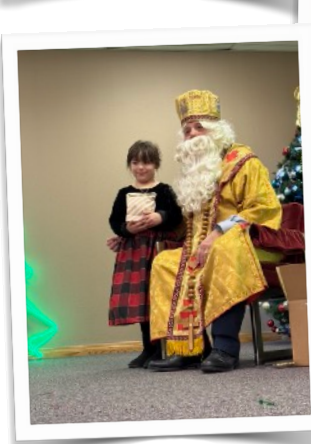
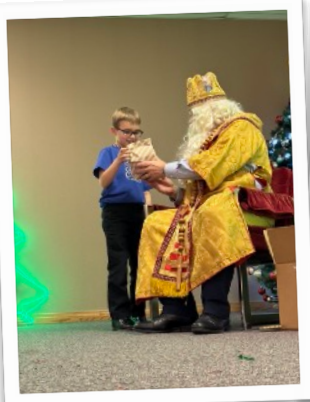
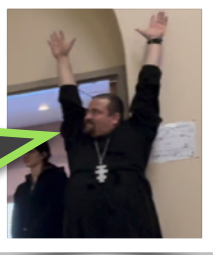


More photos on next page.

Who loves coming to Church?



Me! I do! I love Church!
See, I'm using both hands to answer!



Bishop's Gala

On Thursday, December 5, 2024, the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton hosted its 15th Annual Bishop's Gala at the Chateau Louis Conference Centre. This special event brought together supporters, clergy, and friends for a memorable evening that celebrated faith, fostered hope and raised funds to sustain the Eparchy's ministries and programs.

A Warm Welcome and an Inspiring Theme

Guests were greeted with warm smiles as they entered the beautifully decorated venue, reflecting the evening's theme: the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope. The atmosphere was filled with anticipation as attendees gathered to celebrate and support the Eparchy's mission.

In his opening remarks, Bishop David Motiuk emphasized the importance of hope as we prepare for the Jubilee Year. Drawing from St. Paul's words in his letter to the Romans, Bishop David reminded everyone that "Hope does not disappoint." This powerful message set the tone for the evening, inspiring attendees to reflect on their faith and role in building a stronger, more united Catholic community.

Unforgettable Experiences and Heartfelt Generosity

The night offered a variety of activities and opportunities for guests to contribute to the Eparchy's vital work including:

continued on next page...

Below is a picture of "Holy Cross' Table" including Dale and Dianne Kluk, Deacon John & Debbie Lukey, Fr. Bo and Jess Nahachewsky, and guests Allan and Millie Schietzsch.



Bishop's Gala Continued...

Silent and Live Auctions

The silent and live auctions featured over 70 diverse items, ensuring there was something for everyone to bid on. Highlights included:

- A 7-night stay in Kimberley, BC, a tranquil retreat perfect for a family vacation.
- A golf package for six at the prestigious Petroleum Club, ideal for golf enthusiasts.
- A hand-painted Mother of God icon, a cherished piece of sacred art.
- An exclusive dinner with Bishop David at his residence, offering a rare and intimate experience.

The live auction added a layer of excitement, with spirited bidding showcasing the community's generosity and enthusiasm.

Raffles and Door Prizes

Guests eagerly participated in raffles and door prizes, adding to the evening's fun and ensuring everyone had a chance to win something special.

Supporting the Mission of the Eparchy

The Bishop's Gala is more than an evening of entertainment; it is a critical fundraiser that enables the Eparchy to continue its mission of serving the faithful. Over the years, this event has raised more than \$700,000, directly supporting programs such as:

- Religious education to deepen faith and understanding.
- Youth programming to engage the next generation in their spiritual journey.

- Pastoral care for those in need of comfort and guidance.
- Spiritual growth initiatives to nurture personal and communal faith.
- Parish support to strengthen local communities across Alberta.

This year's Gala continued that legacy, bringing generous contributions from individuals, families, parishes, and corporate sponsors.

Moments of Connection and Celebration

Beyond the auctions and fundraising, the Gala was a celebration of community. Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal, shared meaningful conversations, and connected with like-minded individuals committed to supporting the Church's mission. The room buzzed with joy and gratitude, reminding everyone of the power of faith and the importance of coming together to make a difference.

Looking Ahead to 2025

As the evening concluded, Bishop David invited everyone to continue their journey as Pilgrims of Hope during the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope. The Jubilee will be an opportunity to walk together in faith, celebrating the shared hope that unites Catholics worldwide.

Stay tuned for the Eparchy of Edmonton's plans for the Jubilee Year. Learn more about the Jubilee Year here:

<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

<https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/the-ordinary-jubilee-of-the-year-2025/>

Guests were encouraged to mark their calendars for the 16th Annual Bishop's Gala on Thursday, December 4, 2025, promising another inspiring evening of faith, fellowship, and philanthropy.

Support the Ukrainian Church and Community: Consider becoming a donor and help the Eparchy continue its mission of nurturing faith and serving the community. Together, we can make a lasting impact!

Will I ever grow up?

(Fr. Bo taking his usual "Spoon Selfie", that he takes at all banquets, at Bishop's Gala next to his beautiful and ever patient wife.)



Please be aware of various SCAMS!

Bad people will always try to take advantage of others, and once again they are trying to steal from people in our parish. In the beginning of November someone has sent out texts pretending to be Fr. Bo. This was not Fr. Bo. (You can tell by the phone number they used.)

Please be extra weary of all correspondence, by email, text, or any other form. Never give out untraceable gift cards, or money to anyone without investigating it thoroughly: not even those who identify themselves as people you know, including family.

Fr. Bo will never seek out any assistance directly from you, and certainly not by correspondence. All donations and such that our community collects should be given through the church where everything is well documented and tracked. I pray nobody was fooled.

Pope Francis declared 2025 as a Jubilee Year designating its theme as “Pilgrims of Hope.”

In the words of the Holy Father, “Pilgrims of Hope” evokes “the movement of a Church that walks in pilgrimage to the light of hope that makes the future possible.... The Jubilee, with its focus on conversion, forgiveness, abundance, walk, and mercy, becomes a possibility for the future itself.

“Hope is the light that brightens the future, but not in a naively optimistic sense. We know it: hope is Jesus Christ dead and risen.... ‘The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; on the inhabitants of a country in shadow dark as death light has blazed forth.’ (Isaiah 9:1). The light is that of the Son made Man, Jesus, who with the very Word, gathers every people and every nation.

“We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth

that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, Pilgrims of Hope.”

Follow the Vatican’s official Jubilee 2025 website (jubilaeum2025.va) for the latest details on plans, news, initiatives and resources related to the Jubilee.



In preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops produced several videos and a reflection guide for the recently concluded webinar series titled [A Great Symphony of Prayer: The Our Father as a Programme of Life](#) delivered by Dr. Josephine Lombardi (St. Augustine’s Seminary).

1. [“Why did Jesus address God as Father?”](#)

1. [“Seeking God’s Kingdom and Knowing God’s Will”](#)
1. [“Daily Bread and the Gift of Forgiveness”](#)
1. [“Managing Trials and Resisting Evil”](#)

This webinar series for the Year of Prayer 2024, in anticipation of the Jubilee Year 2025, will be followed by another series in fall 2024.

2024-2025 Keys Dates for Family and Life National and International Initiatives

24 November 2024: Local Celebrations of World Youth Day

3 December 2024: International Day of Persons with Disabilities

24 December 2024: Jubilee 2025 - Opening of the Holy Doors of St. Peter’s Basilica

29 December 2024: Feast of the Holy Family

2-8 February 2025: National Catholic Health Care Week

11 February 2025: World Day of the Sick

5 - 6 April 2025: Jubilee of the Sick and Healthcare Workers

25 - 27 April 2025: [Jubilee of Teenagers](#)

28-30 April 2025: Jubilee of People with Disabilities

11-18 May 2025: CCCB National Family & Life Week 2025

30 May-1 June 2025: Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and the Elderly

7-8 June 2025: Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and New Communities

14-15 June 2025: [Jubilee of Sport](#)

27 July 2025: World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

28 July-3 August 2025: [Jubilee of Youth](#)

Regular Meetings and Events:

- **Every Sunday at 9:30 am:** the Rosary
- **Every Sunday at 10 am:** Divine Liturgy, alternating English one week, and Bilingual English and Ukrainian the next week.
- **Every Sunday at 10 am:** Sunday School, for children up to grades 2. They begin and end their sessions during the Liturgy.
- **Last Sunday of each month at 10 am:** Children's Liturgy, on this last Sunday of the month we try to make the Divine Liturgy more welcoming for our children and youth. They get a special homily with Marilyn the Catechetical Puppet and children also are encouraged to participate in the service by singing, serving at the altar, reading the epistle, helping with the collection and/or other ways.
- **Every Sunday* at 11:15 (+/-) am:** Coffee Hour (* unless otherwise stated in this bulletin, and during the summer months)
- **Every Monday at 10 am:** Monday Morning's Bible Study Group in the Board Room.
- **Almost Every Monday Evening:** Some sort of Parish Meeting, including but not limited to: Ladies' Club (typically the 1st Monday at 7), Knights of Columbus (typically the 2nd Monday at 7:30), Men's Club (typically the 3rd Monday at 7), and Parish Pastoral Council (typically the last Monday at 7). Check this Bulletin below to confirm the date of the next meeting for your group(s)
- **Most Tuesdays:** Fr. Bo comes to the Church and tries to paint icons in the afternoon. Always phone or text if you would like to come and see me, incase I have other appointments to go to.
- **Every Wednesday* at 9 am:** Divine Liturgy, (* unless otherwise stated in this bulletin)
- **Most Wednesdays:** Fr. Bo stays at the Church and tries to do office work including the bulletin and various meetings with individuals. Always phone or text if you would like to come and see me, incase I have other appointments to go to.
- **Every Second Wednesday* at 6 pm:** Bible Study, Everyone Welcome (* unless otherwise stated in this bulletin, and September through June)
- **Every Second Wednesday* at 6 pm:** Youth Ministry, 2 groups grades 3-6, and grades 7-12 (* unless otherwise stated in this bulletin, and during the summer months)
- **Every Second Wednesday* at 7:30 pm:** Young Adult Ministry (YAM), Those who are 18 to 49-ish are welcome to join us (* unless otherwise stated in this bulletin, and during the summer months)
- **Every Saturday at 2 pm:** We anticipate having First Solemn Communion Classes in the

Boardroom. To register go to the parish website: EHCUCP.ca

Upcoming Not As Regular Meetings & Events:

- **Monday, December 16 at 7 pm:** Last Parish Pastoral Council meeting in 2024.
- **Wednesday, December 18 at 6 pm:** Bible Study in the Hall. All are welcome.
- **Tuesday, December 24 at 8 pm:** Christmas Eve Complines and Divine Liturgy in English
- **Tuesday, December 24 at 10 pm:** Christmas Eve Complines and Divine Liturgy Bilingual
- **Wednesday, December 25 at 10 am:** Christmas Day - Divine Liturgy mostly in English.
- **Friday, December 27 at 10:30 am:** Clergy gather at St. Basil's Parish with Bishop for Liturgy and Post-Christmas Celebration.
- **Wednesday, January 1 at 9 am:** Feast of St. Basil & the Circumcision of our Lord - Divine Liturgy Bilingual
- **Sunday, January 5 at 10 am:** Theophany Eve & Sunday Divine Liturgy in English
- **Sunday, January 5 at 7 pm:** Theophany Eve Divine Liturgy Divine Liturgy with the Great Blessing of Water in English
- **Monday, January 6 at 10 am:** Theophany Day - Divine Liturgy Bilingual
- **Saturday, January 11:** On this day we will have our Annual Parish "Malanka". Music will be provided by the "Sparkling Tones". If you would like to be involved with this festive project please speak to Ed Horyn, our parish's Social Director. Tickets are available from Rose Marie at 780-217-8217, or after Sunday Divine Liturgies. Tickets are \$80 per adult and Youth 13 and under are only \$45 each. There will be Door prizes and other Entertainment.
- **Tuesday, February 11 at 10 am:** Clergy Conference at St. Josaphat's.
- **February 14 - 17:** Probable Icon Workshop in the Games Room. Talk to Fr. Bo for more details.
- **Saturday, February 22:** Eparchial Marriage Prep Course Part 1
- **Saturday, March 1:** Anticipated date for next possible Perogy Supper? perhaps? Still in planing stages.
- **March 2 - 8:** Probable Icon Workshop in the Games Room. Talk to Fr. Bo for more details.
- **Saturday, February 22:** Eparchial Marriage Prep Course Part 2
- **December 4, 2025:** 16th Annual Bishop's Gala

Parish, Eparchial & Community News / Announcements:

- We are looking for parishioners who would like to see more social events in our parish. If you have ideas that you would like to share with a group of other interested people, we would appreciate your input. It is well known that a healthy community needs to get folks involved in social activities. Do you have suggestions? Please see Edd or contact him (780-908-2410).
- **2025 Eparchial Marriage Preparation Course** Eparchial Marriage Preparation Course is being hosted at St. Josaphat Cathedral in Edmonton, Saturday, February 22 & Saturday, March 8, 2025. Couples planning to marry within the Ukrainian Catholic Church in 2025 are encouraged to register for the course by contacting the Cathedral Office at (780) 422-3181 or by emailing Fr. Jim Nakonechny at fr.nakonechny@eeparchy.com for more details.
- Boys and Girls who have already done their First Solemn Communion are invited to become a **Altar Servers!** Just say hi to Fr. Bo or Deacon John before Liturgy and we will train you on the job.
- 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.
 - The *Okhmatdyt* Children's Hospital was damaged in July by a Russian missile attack, which caused deaths, injuries and damage on the various regions of the city in Kyiv. Help rebuild the hospital. [Donate.](#)
 - Pray the Rosary for Peace in Ukraine. [Donate.](#)
- 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!
- **Coffee Hour Volunteers** are awesome and loved. If you would like to help with this important ministry please see Diana Horyn. (If you don't know who this is ask Fr. Bo or anyone... most of us can point her out to you.)
Also, for existing **Coffee Hour Volunteers**, we want to bring to your attention the new schedule which is posted on the bulletin board near the office.
- Do you have an upcoming **50, 60, 70 or even 75 year wedding anniversary** coming up? If so, wow congratulations! Let us know so that we can celebrate this big event with you by singing "Mnohaya Lita" and by presenting you with a commemorative plaque. There is a sheet near the office door where you can let us know about it.

- **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.
- 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.
- The Ukrainian Catholic **Eparchy of Edmonton has created a comprehensive guide** to help you and your family celebrate the Christmas season with faith, tradition, and community. This guide highlights the joy of Saint Nicholas Day celebrations, special services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the festive cheer of Kolyadky (Christmas carols), and the heartwarming Vertep performances that beautifully re-enact the Nativity. It also includes lively Malanka celebrations to ring in the New Year and offers events for both adults and children to strengthen faith and bring everyone closer together. Everything you need to know about celebrating Christmas in the Ukrainian Catholic parishes across Alberta is included, making it easier for you to participate in these special events and traditions. Scan the QR code to access the guide, or visit the homepage of the Eparchial website in the News section!

Additionally:

Links that can be posted by parishes on their social media. It can be sent in email as additional information for them: <https://eeparchy.com/2024/12/02/christmas-joy-in-our-eparchy-find-services-and-celebrations-near-you/>



<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/18H9i55Tus/>



The Next Couple Weeks at Holy Cross

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>15</p> <p>Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. Octoechos Tone 5. Holy Priest-Martyr Eleutherius. Our Venerable Father Paul of Latra (956). Our Holy Father Stephen the Confessor, Archbishop of Surozh (8th century). 30 SAP Sun Ancestors Colossians 3:4-11. Luke 14:16-24.</p> <p>9:30 am Rosary</p> <p>9:55 am Nativity Fast “Jesse Tree” reflection</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy (Bilingual)</p> <p>YES Sunday School, Yes Coffee</p>	<p>16 </p> <p>Holy Prophet Haggai (6th c. BC). Hebrews 11:17-23, 27-31. Mark 9:42-10:1.</p> <p>10 am Monday Bible Study Group</p> <p>5 pm Appointment</p> <p>7 pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting</p>	<p>17 </p> <p>Holy Prophet Daniel, the Three Holy Youths Ananiah (Ananias), Azariah (Azarias) and Mishael (Misael) (6th century BC). Nativity Fast. Hebrews 12:25-26. 13:22-25. Mark 10:2-12.</p> <p>8:30 am - 12 pm Fr. Bo gives retreat for Archdiocese’s Cemetary Staff</p> <p>7 pm Appointment</p>	<p>18 </p> <p>Holy Martyr Sebastian and His Companions. Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. James 1:1-18. Mark 10:11-16.</p> <p>9 am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>Confessions at St. Matthew’s School</p> <p>Fr. Bo office day (always call or text to see if he is in the Church before going to see him)</p> <p>6 pm Bible Study</p> <p>Please have bulletin announcements in</p>	<p>19 </p> <p>Holy Martyr Boniface (230). Nativity Fast. James 1:19-27. Mark 10:17-27.</p> <p>5:30 Appointment</p>	<p>20 </p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ. Holy Priest-Martyr Ignatius the Godbearer (110). Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. James 2:1-13. Mark 10:23-32.</p> <p>5:30 Appointment</p>	<p>21 </p> <p>Saturday before the Nativity of Christ. Holy Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia (284-305). Nativity Fast. Galatians 3:8-12. Luke 13:18-29.</p> <p>6 pm Knights of Columbus Event</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Sunday before the Nativity of Christ. Sunday of the Holy Fathers. Octoechos Tone 6. Holy Great-Martyr Anastasia (305). 31 SAP Sun < Xpmas Hebrews 11:9-10,17-23,32-40. Matthew 1:1-25.</p> <p>9:30 am Rosary</p> <p>Fr. Myron will be in to hear Confessions</p> <p>9:55 am Final Nativity Fast “Jesse Tree” reflection</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy (Eng)</p> <p>YES Sunday School, Yes Coffee</p>	<p>23 </p> <p>Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ. Ten Holy Martyrs of Crete (249-51). James 2:14-26. Mark 10:46-52.</p> <p>No School for ECSD - Christmas Break - till January 3</p> <p>10 am Monday Bible Study Group?</p>	<p>24 </p> <p>Eve of the Nativity of Christ. Holy Venerable-Martyr Eugenia. Nativity Fast. Strict Fast. Abstinence from meat and dairy and foods that contain these ingredients. Hebrews 1:1-12. Luke 2:1-20.</p> <p>8 pm Christmas Service in English</p> <p>10 pm Christmas Service Bilingual</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ Christmas. Galatians 4:4-7. Matthew 2:1-12.</p> <p>10 am Christmas Liturgy</p> <p>All day Hall Rental</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ. Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God. Holy Priest-Martyr Euthymius, Bishop of Sardis (824). Hebrews 2:11-18. Matthew 2:13-23.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ. Holy Apostle, First Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen. Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore the Branded One (844). Acts 6:8-7:5,47-60. Matthew 21:33-42.</p> <p>Eparchial Clergy “St. Nicholas” Event</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Saturday after the Nativity of Christ. Two Thousand Martyrs Who Were Burned in Nicomedia (303). Passing into eternal life (1945) of Blessed Hryhoriy (Gregory) Khomyshyn, Bishop of Stanyslaviv (Ivano-Frankivsk) and martyr. 1 Timothy 6:11-16. Matthew 12:15-21.</p> <p>4 pm Appointment</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Sunday after the Nativity of Christ. Octoechos Tone 7. Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James, Brother of the Lord. Holy Children who were murdered by Herod in Bethlehem. Our Venerable Father Marcellus, Hegumen of the Monastery of the Sleepless Ones (c. 470). Galatians 1:11-19. Matthew 2:13-23.</p> <p>9:30 am Rosary</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy (Bilingual)</p> <p>? Sunday School, and ? Coffee</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ. Holy Martyr Anysia (286-305). Holy Martyr and Presbyter, Zoticus, Protector of Orphans (4th c.). 33 WAP 1 Peter 2:21-3:9. Mark 12:13-17.</p> <p>10 am Monday Bible Study Group?</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Leave-taking of the Feast of the Nativity of Christ, Christmas. Our Venerable Mother Melania the Roman (439). 1 Peter 3:10-22. Mark 12:18-27.</p>	<p>January 1, 2025</p> <p>Circumcision of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ; Our Father Among the Saints Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia. Colossians 2:8-12; Hebrews 7:26-8:2; Luke 2:20-21, 40-52; Luke 6:17-23.</p> <p>Happy New Year!</p> <p>10 am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>No Youth nor Bible Study during the Christmas Break</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Our Holy Father Sylvester, Pope of Rome. Pre-feast of Theophany. Titus 1:5-2:1; Luke 20:9-18.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>The Holy Prophet Malachi; The Holy Martyr Gordius. Pre-feast of Theophany. The Royal Hours for Theophany are sung in the morning.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Saturday before Theophany; Synaxis of the Seventy Holy Apostles; Our Venerable Father Theoctistus, Hegumen of the Cucomo Monastery in Sicily. 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Matthew 3:1-11.</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Sunday before and Eve</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Theophany</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Synaxis of the Holy</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Our Venerable Father</p>	<p>9</p> <p>The Holy Martyr Polyeuctus</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Our Holy Father Gregory</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Saturday after Theophany:</p>