



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*:

- 9 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: Dcn. John Lukey

johndebbielukey@yahoo.ca

Pastoral Care (visiting shut-ins):

Debbie Lukey

780-478-4337

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

Toll Free: 1-866-886-3946

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 7, 2025

**Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost; Tone I;
Our Holy Father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan.**

And today we also continue to celebrate Our Holy Father Nicholas of Myra ...who will come visit the parish today after the liturgy



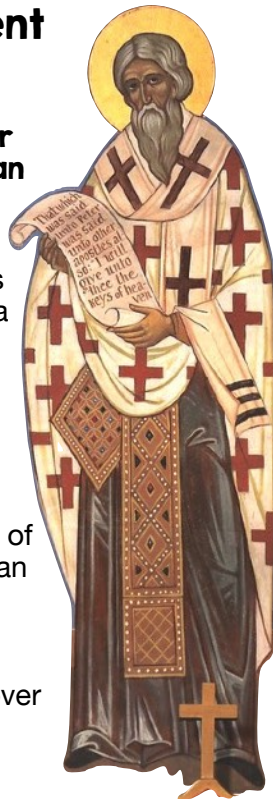
We celebrate two magnificent and extraordinary saints:

Our Holy Father Nicholas of Myra

In the Eastern Christian tradition, Saint Nicholas of Myra, known as the "Wonder-worker", is one of the most beloved and universally venerated saints, celebrated primarily for his piety, defence of the faith, and countless acts of charity and miracles both during his life and after his repose. His life serves as a...

Our Holy Father Ambrose of Milan

The Eastern Church venerates Saint Ambrose of Milan as a holy hierarch and a great Father and Teacher of the Church, celebrating his feast day on December 7. He is revered for his unwavering defence of the orthodox Christian faith, his ascetic life, and his courageous assertion of the Church's authority over imperial power.



These lives of these saints are continued on page 3 of this bulletin.



Question from the Question Box:

What is Confession / Penance?

The sacrament of penance is our formal act of reconciliation with God in the Church when sin has severed us from the Church's life. Because penance is the way to communion with God when that communion has been broken by sin, it is often referred to in Church Tradition as the renewal of baptism, or as the reestablishment of that condition of life with God which was given to men in the basic sacraments of inauguration into the Christian life.

Not every sin requires the necessity of formal penance through sacramental ritual. This is obvious because Christians are never completely without sin. Certain grave sins or the prolonged separation from Holy Communion, however, do call for the act of sacramental penance...

Hall Rentals:

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

Perochy 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.

For reasons of food safety and liability our policy regarding food in the hall is A> No outside food is permitted, B> All food is to be consumed in the hall, C> No leftovers are given out, D> No take-out food.

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 – Mariya Mahalyas
Treasurer – Dale Kluk
Archivist – Diana Horyn
Cultural – Ken Kozak
Fundraising – Terry Yackimec
Hall Rental – Lisa Borosuk & Gladys Woitas
Ladies' Club – Dianne Kluk
Knights of Columbus – Darrell Uchach
Men's Club President – Marc Chiasson
Youth Coordinator – Emmette Lysak
Maintenance – Larry Wayne
Membership – Lorna Chiasson
Social – Edd Horyn
Spiritual – Debbie Lukey

Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist:

- Contact Fr. Bo a month or more in advance

Weddings:

- Contact Fr. Bo 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.

Our parish is looking for a Volunteer to be our

Kitchen Coordinator

This person would be the primary person who would oversee:

- A small group of volunteers who will assist them with
- Purchasing of kitchen supplies & regular groceries (not special event);
- Maintaining and occasionally organizing and cleaning the kitchen; and
- Ensuring kitchen appliances are in working order (with help from our maintenance team if needed).

If you have some energy and can help this parish, please volunteer by contacting Dianne Kluk, either after liturgy, at the parish office on Wednesdays, or by email at office@ehcucp.ca

Important: The year-end is approaching quickly. If you are interested in contributing to the legacy fund for your tax return, please ensure that donations are made during or before the Liturgy on Sunday, December 28, 2025. For further information, please contact Dale Kluk.

What a great “Christmas Delivery”

Last Sunday afternoon the “Forte Plus Choir” preformed a fantastic concert for nearly 100 people right here in our parish. This concert managed to raise \$1,300 for the Jessica Martel Foundation which is a safe place for people to turn to when faced with domestic abuse. A huge thank you to both Ken and Joyce Kozak for organizing this lovely event, and for singing so well. May God bless you, the whole choir, and all those who need the Jessica Martel foundation. Mnohaya Lita.

**On Wednesday we had a presentation about Abuse of Seniors.**

Thanks to all who came out for it.



St. Nicholas continued from first page

...model of pastoral care, asceticism, and ardent faith.

Early Life and Consecration

Born in Patara, Lycia, in Asia Minor in the late 3rd century to wealthy and devout Christian parents, Theophanes and Nonna, Nicholas showed profound spirituality from infancy, reportedly fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays. After his parents died of an epidemic, he inherited their fortune but chose to use it to help the poor, sick, and suffering, always acting in secret to give all glory to God alone.

His most famous early act of charity involved secretly providing three bags of gold as dowries for three impoverished maidens, saving them from a life of prostitution.

Recognizing his calling, his uncle, the Bishop of Patara, ordained him a priest. Nicholas later traveled to the Holy Land, intending to live a solitary, monastic life, but a divine voice instructed him to return to the world and "struggle for the good of the world". He moved to Myra, where he was unexpectedly and divinely chosen as the new archbishop.

A Champion of the Faith

As a bishop, Nicholas was a fierce defender of Orthodox Christianity. During the Great Persecution under Emperor Diocletian, he was imprisoned, tortured, and bore scars for his faith. He was released under Constantine the Great.

Nicholas is particularly remembered in the Orthodox Church for his role at the First Ecumenical Council of

Nicaea in 325 AD. Out of zeal for the truth of the Holy Trinity, he confronted and even struck the heretic Arius, who taught that Christ was not fully divine. For this act, he was temporarily deprived of his episcopal vestments and confined, but Christ and the Theotokos (Mother of God) reportedly appeared to other bishops, confirming His approval of Nicholas's zeal for

orthodoxy, and he was restored to his office. He also actively destroyed pagan temples and idols in Myra, fighting against evil spirits.

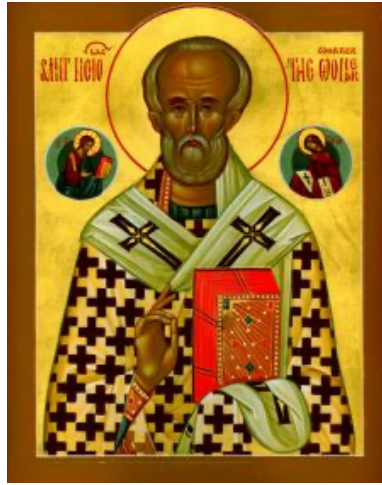
The Wonderworker

His title "Wonderworker" stems from numerous miracles and intercessions:

- He saved three innocent men from an unjust execution, confronting the corrupt governor.
- His prayers calmed violent storms at sea, making him the patron of sailors and travelers.
- He miraculously appeared in dreams to Emperor Constantine to free three wrongly accused military commanders.
- During a severe famine, he persuaded a merchant ship to unload its imperial wheat in Myra, which, by his prayers, lost none of its original weight when delivered to the emperor.

Repose and Legacy

Saint Nicholas reposed peacefully in the Lord on December 6, around 343 AD, and was buried in Myra. His relics were later found to exude a miraculous, sweet-smelling myrrh (oil) with healing properties, an ongoing miracle to this day. In 1087, his major relics were transferred to Bari, Italy, where they are enshrined and venerated by pilgrims from both the East and West. His life of humility, compassion, and unwavering faith in Christ continues to inspire the faithful.



St. Ambrose continued from first page

Life and Calling

Born into a prominent Roman Christian family around 339 AD in Gaul, Ambrose was highly educated in law and rhetoric and was pursuing a successful career as a Roman official. In 374, as the governor of Aemilia-Liguria, he went to the cathedral in Milan to prevent civil unrest during the election of a new bishop. Unexpectedly, the people acclaimed him as the new bishop, with a child in the crowd reportedly crying out, "Ambrose, bishop!".

Though unbaptized and a catechumen at the time, Ambrose accepted this calling as God's will. Within a

week, he received all the necessary sacraments and was consecrated as Bishop of Milan. He immediately gave away his wealth to the poor and the Church, adopting a strict, ascetic monastic lifestyle of continuous prayer and fasting.

Defender of Orthodoxy and Moral Authority

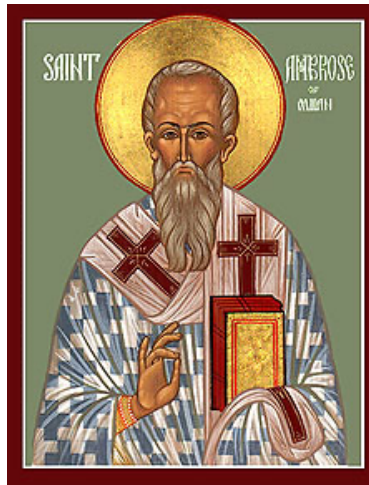
Saint Ambrose's episcopate was defined by his staunch opposition to heresy, particularly Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ. He used his profound knowledge of Greek theology (from figures like Athanasius the Great and Basil the Great) and eloquent preaching to strengthen Nicene Christianity, presiding over councils such as the Synod of Aquileia in 381 that deposed Arian bishops.

He is most remembered for his fearlessness before...

St. Ambrose continued from previous page

...temporal powers:

- He directly challenged Empress Justina for her Arian beliefs.
- Most famously, he excommunicated Emperor Theodosius I for the brutal massacre of 7,000 citizens in Thessalonica, refusing the Emperor entry into the church until he performed public penance. This established a powerful precedent that "The emperor is in the church, not above the church".



Legacy

Ambrose was an influential writer on Christian morality, the Sacraments, and the Holy Spirit, and is credited with introducing Eastern-style antiphonal chanting and composing several hymns, many of which are still used in Orthodox services, including the famous "Te Deum". He was also the spiritual guide who converted and baptized Saint Augustine of Hippo. He reposed peacefully on Holy Saturday in 397 AD, leaving a legacy as a diligent pastor, a wonderworker, and a model of a true Christian shepherd.

Question from the Question Box:

What is Confession / Penance? continued

...Also, Christians living in communion with Christ are expected to make use of this sacrament periodically in order to humble themselves consciously before God and to receive guidance in the Christian life from their pastor in the Church. It is the teaching of the Church that sacramental penance is necessary for those receiving Holy Communion when they have committed grave sins or when they have been separated from the eucharistic meal for a long time.

The sacrament of penance exists in the Church to allow for the repentance and reconversion of Christians who have fallen away from the life of faith. There are three main elements to the act of formal penance. The first is a sincere sorrow for sins and for the breaking of communion with God. The second is an open and heartfelt confession of sins. At one time this confession was done publicly before all in the midst of the Church, but in recent times it is usually done only in the presence of a priest who stands in behalf of all. The third element of penance is the prayer of absolution through which the forgiveness of God through Christ is sacramentally bestowed upon the repentant sinner.

The fulfillment of penance consists in the reception of Holy Communion and the genuine reconciliation of the repentant sinner with God and all people according to the commandments of Christ. From this there obviously follows the necessity of a sincere attempt by the penitent to refrain from sin and to remain in faithful obedience to God and in uprightness of life before Him and all people.

The sacrament of penance, like all sacraments, is an element of the life of the Church which presupposes a firm belief and conviction that Christ himself is present in the Church through his Holy Spirit. A person without

the experience of Christ in the Church will not understand the meaning of sacramental penance and the need for the open and public confession of sins. When the Church is experienced as the new life in Christ and as the genuine communion with God in his kingdom already present with men in sacrament and mystery, then not only will sacramental penance and the confession of sins be understood, but it will be cherished as the great mystery of God which it is: the unique possibility for reunion with God through the forgiveness of Christ who has come to save sinners who confess their sins and who sincerely desire to change their lives according to the ways which he himself has given.

In a word, the Church strictly adheres to the teaching of the Bible that only God can forgive sins, that he does so through Christ in the Church, that his conditions are genuine repentance and the promise of change which are witnessed by confession; and that confession, by definition, is the open and public acknowledgment of sin before God and all mankind.

Why does Fr. Bo ask Fr. Myron to hear confessions instead of hearing them himself?

Fr. Bo is happy to hear confessions anytime he is able... but most people ask for the opportunity as he is rushing to get everything ready for Sunday's Divine Liturgy. It is understandable and most convenient for people to do so... but unfortunately if Fr. Bo is to start the Divine Liturgy on time people would need to come extra early, and not "last minute". So... since Fr. Myron is available to help, and since he is a good confessor, he has been asked to hear people's confessions when possible. The first Sunday of each month is when we normally expect him.

I do encourage everyone to take advantage of this profound and life changing sacrament regularly.

LET'S WATCH & DISCUSS
IT TOGETHER.

O Come let us adore Him.

"The Chosen" is a historical drama television series about the life of Jesus Christ, told from the perspective of those who knew him. Created by Dallas Jenkins, the series is the first multi-season show about Jesus and is known for being highly crowd-funded. It stars Jonathan Roumie as Jesus and depicts his ministry against the backdrop of Roman oppression in first-century Israel.

Some people really love it. Others don't like it. But it is a well done show that illustrates what the life of Jesus and His disciples could have been like.

Is it exactly like it was?... no, of course not... this is Dallas Jenkin's creation showing what he imagines it could have been like.

We will watch it, pause it at times to make sure all understand what is going on, then when we are finished we will turn to each other and discuss what we liked and did not like. What we learnt and what we still could learn from reading the actual Gospel accounts.

Even if you have not come to any of the previous "Chosen" evenings you are most welcome to join us for this week's CHRISTMAS SPECIAL.

We hope to see you there.

THE CHOSEN

"HOLY NIGHT"

7 PM THIS FRIDAY
HERE AT HOLY CROSS



Thank you to all who supported the 16th Annual Bishop's Gala this past Thursday.

It was another lovely night where we enjoyed good company, good food, a great auction, and Bishop David explaining to us how the funds we will raise will help us with the "Always our Parishioners" project. You can read more about this on the following page.



Sign of
Hope!

From War-Torn Ukraine to Working in Canada:

This year, the T.R. (Terry) Mahon Foundation is offering an extraordinary opportunity to amplify your impact.

The foundation will match dollar for dollar:

- All new monthly donations
- Any increases from current monthly donors

This is your chance to double the difference you make! Every dollar you give will become two dollars working to support programs that don't just help people find jobs—they help them reclaim their dignity, rebuild futures, and strengthen our communities.

With a cumulative matching maximum of \$40,000, early supporters have the greatest opportunity to maximize their impact.

The Edmonton Eparchy is proud to partner with and support the work of Catholic Social Services Alberta and the Sign of Hope Campaign.

Your donations would be much appreciated.



What a fun event!

The Ladies' Club sure know how to have fun and do good works at the same time.

A delicious meal, supreme entertainment, and a necessarily normal meeting was had this past Monday.

All women in the parish are most welcome to join this hardworking and beautiful group.

Thank you again to all those who helped with the food, the fun, and everything. You all rock.



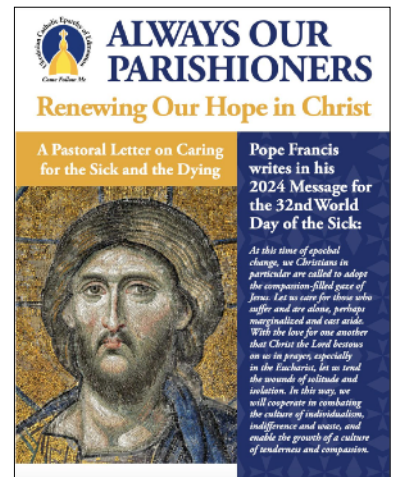
Always Our Parishioners

You may have noticed in the entrance of the Church there is a trifold handout entitled "Always our Parishioners". Now in addition to the handout there are small sheets which you can fill out letting us as a parish know about people who are no longer able to physically come to the church. Perhaps they are in a nursing home, hospital, or shut-in their own homes, it is important for us to go and be with them. But we can't be with them if we don't know who and where they are.

So if you know of someone who would like pastoral visits, please fill out one of the forms for them, and then give it to a greeter or drop it into the collection plate.

Everyone is important in our parish. Let's not leave anyone out.

P.S. You should read the trifold handout too. Go and take one. They are free.



Incase you haven't seen it in the announcements above here is the Christmas Schedule for 2025-26

Wednesday, December 24	Christmas Eve	9 pm Bilingual Complines and Liturgy
Thursday, December 25	Christmas Day	10 am English Festal Divine Liturgy
December 31 & January 1	New Years	no services - Fr. Bo will be away.
Monday, January 5	Theophany Eve	6 pm Bilingual Complines, Liturgy and the Great Blessing of Water

“The Jubilee Year declared by the late Pope Francis, *Pilgrims of Hope – Hope Does Not Disappoint*, ends on January 6, 2026 with the closing of the Holy Door at Saint Peter’s Basilica, Rome. The date is the Feast of the Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Doors at the other major basilicas in Rome will close a few days earlier, on Sunday, December 28, 2025.

“The Jubilee Year has been a year of grace, led by the Holy Spirit, focusing on conversion, forgiveness, abundance, walk, and mercy. In the words of Pope Francis, ‘Hope is the light that brightens the future... The light is 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 Eparchy of Edmonton’s celebration of the Jubilee Year was marked by several events: Sunday Divine Liturgy intentions for hope and conversion; Travelling Miraculous Icon of the Mother of God from parish to parish; Pilgrimage of Hope to Blessed Vasyl Velychkowsky Shrine, Winnipeg; Annual Saints Peter and Paul Mundare Vidpust; and Worldwide Ukrainian Catholic Jubilee in Rome with Pope Francis.

“The Jubilee Year Closing Celebrations in the Eparchy of Edmonton will be led by Bishop David with the celebration of the 9:30 am Divine Liturgy, Sunday, December 28, at Saint Josaphat Cathedral. The clergy, religious, seminarians, and lay faithful from all parishes are welcomed to attend.”

At today’s St. Nicholas Dinner you could win big!

There will not be just one “Christmas Hamper Draw”, but there will be 2 humungous “Christmas Hamper Draws” for 2 humungous Christmas Hampers!

See this poster for all the details ➔

Monday at 6 the PPC is having their Christmas Meal followed by a meeting.

All members of the Parish Pastoral Council are strongly encouraged to attend. You might even see Deacon John Lukey juggle four flaming torches blindfolded! Maybe. It could happen.



Perogy Supper: February 14

See Posters for more details.

Bishop Neil Savaryn Council

“Knights of Columbus - Christmas Hamper Draw”

Draw: Dec. 7th, 2025, Holy Cross St. Nicholas Party

Hamper #1:

- 1 Turkey (10 kg / 20lb– Butter Ball Turkey)
- 4 doz. H.C. Perogies (Donated by Frozen Food Committee)
- 4 doz. H.C. Cabbage Rolls (Donated by Frozen Food Committee)
- 4 doz. H.C. Pedishke (Donated by Frozen Food Committee)
- 1 Bottle Vodka
- 1 Bottle Rye liqueur
- 1 Bottle of Red Wine (Donated by Holy Cross Men’s Club)
- 1 Bottle of White Wine (Donated by Holy Cross Men’s Club)
- \$50 Gift Certificate (Donated by Widynowski’s Sausage House)
- 5 lb. bag of Potatoes
- Assortment of Christmas Chocolates, Candies & Nuts

Hamper #2:

- 1 Olympia Craft Ham (6 kg)
- 4 doz H.C. Perogies (Donated by Frozen Food Committee)
- 4 doz. H.C. Cabbage Rolls (Donated by Frozen Sale Committee)
- 4 doz. H.C. Pedishke (Donated by Frozen Food Committee)
- 1 Bottle Vodka
- 1 Bottle Rum
- 1 Bottle of Red Wine (Donated by Holy Cross Men’s Club)
- 1 Bottle of White Wine (Donated by Holy Cross Men’s Club)
- \$50 Gift Certificate (Donated by Widynowski’s Sausage House)
- 5 lb. bag of Potatoes
- Assorted Christmas Chocolates, Candies & Nuts

Tickets: 1 for \$5.00, 3 for \$10.00, 10 for \$20.00

Draw: December 1st @ Holy Cross St. Nicholas Dinner
Proceeds go to Community Programs “Coats for Kids Campaign”



Attention Men of Holy Cross

Did Someone say "Christmas Party!"



DECEMBER 15TH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Brought to you by the K.C.'s & the Holy Cross Men's Club

The Bishop Neil Savaryn Knights of Columbus Council and the Holy Cross Men's Club invite all men of Holy Cross Parish to join us in "Fun, Fellowship and Celebration" at our KC/HC Christmas Celebration. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer by the office or

Contact:

Terry Yackimec: Email: ty_yackimec@me.com
Phone: 780-456-2828

Darrell Uchach: Email: dwuchach@gmail.com
Phone: 780-485-7494

December 15th

@

Holy Cross Parish

Cocktails – 6:00 pm
Dinner – 6:30 pm
Tickets – \$20.00
\$6.00 – Bar Beverage

Menu

Roast Beef
Mashed Potatoes
Studenetz
Sour-leaf cabbage rolls
Mixed vegetables
Corn meal
Cesar Salad
Cucumber/onion/tomato salad
Buns/Butter

Dessert

Blueberry Cheesecake
Tiramisu/coffee/ cherry brandy
Hot peach crumble w/ ice cream

Play

Shuffle Board
Cards
and Fellowship

50/50 Draw



Annual Membership Renewal/Drive

Every Sunday after the Liturgy

November 2, 2025, through January 11, 2026

Membership Fee: **\$40.00**

On April 1, renewal fee will be increased to \$45.00.

Methods of payment accepted:

- Cash
- Cheque payable to: "Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish"
- E-transfer- office@ehcucp.ca

For more information on becoming a member or any other membership inquiries please contact Lorna Chiasson at membership@ehcucp.ca.



**WE ARE
HIRING**

Family Advisor at Rosehill Cemetery

Family Advisors are responsible for meeting with families and offering information on burial/cremation options, monuments, burial vaults, urns and other forms of memorialization. Family Advisors are also responsible for computer data entry related to cemetery record keeping.

To apply, please send your cover letter and resume, or any inquiries, to:

Eparchy of Edmonton
Attn: Marc Turgeon – Director of Cemeteries
mturgeon@edmontoneparchy.com



*Holy Cross Parish
Invites You to*

Malanka



Saturday, January 10, 2026

Location 9003 – 153 Avenue, Edmonton

Cocktails at 5:00 PM

Dinner at 6:00 PM

Music by The Sparkling Tones

For Tickets Call Rose Marie (780-217-8217)

Adults \$80.00

Youth \$45.00 (13 and under)

Entertainment and Door Prizes



Regular 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 after the Gospel Reading:** Sunday School, for children up to grades 2.
- **Every Sunday* at 11:15 (+/-) am:** Coffee Hour (* unless otherwise stated in this bulletin, and during the summer months)
- **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.
- **First Monday of Every Month at 6 pm:** Choir with Youth Meeting and Practice
- **Third Monday of Most Months at 6 pm:** Youth Altar Serving. See bulletin announcements
- **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)
- **Many Mondays & Tuesdays & Wednesdays:** Fr. Bo comes to the Church and tries to paint icons or do office work in the morning or afternoon... however you should always phone or text if you would like to come and see him, incase he has other plans.
- **Every Other Tuesday at both 2 and 6 pm:** "The Chosen": Watch and Discuss. Come during the day, or come in the evening.
- **Every Other-Other Tuesday at 6 pm:** The Alpha Program
- **Every Wednesday at 9 am:** Divine Liturgy, (unless otherwise stated in this bulletin, and not during the Great Fast)
- **Most Wednesdays:** Fr. Bo tries to start the bulletin, so if you wish to put something into that week's bulletin, please try to have it in by this day. (Yes, most of the time he is still working on it on Saturday... but he wants to get it done mid week.)
- **Every Second Wednesday* at 6 pm:** Bible Study, Everyone Welcome (* unless otherwise stated in this bulletin, and September through June)

- **Every Thursday:** is Fr. Bo's Day off... at least in theory. Please call him if you really need to, but don't if you don't.
- **Winter - First Solemn Communion Program Begins.** More details to come.

Special Upcoming Events:

- **Sunday, December 7 after Liturgy:** St. Nicholas St. Nicholas Dinner: Ticket prices for those aged 13+ are \$25.00 and for those under 12 are free. Tickets will be sold in annex after Sunday liturgies.
- **Sunday, December 7 after Liturgy:** The "Knights of Columbus - Christmas Hamper Draw". Tickets sold in parish at the St. Nicholas Event. Proceeds going to Community Programs and the "Coats for Kids" campaign.
- **Monday - Friday, December 8-12 all day:** Fr. Bo leads a **Icon Painting/Writing Retreat** for the first year students at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Seminary in Edmonton.
- **Monday, December 8 at 6 pm:** Parish Pastoral Council Christmas Meal & Meeting: (Chinese food). This is the next PPC meeting.
- **Tuesday, December 9 at 6 pm:** ALPHA Program. This is the last one of 2025. AND... Fr. Bo will be coming late due to the icon retreat... so he will need help setting up.
- **Wednesday, December 10 at 6-ish... maybe:** Bible Study. Last one of 2025 but Fr. Bo will be late due to the icon retreat... so when should we actually start??? Let's talk this Wednesday at this week's Bible Study.
- **Friday, December 12 at 7 pm:** "The Chosen - Christmas Special" Watch and Talk special event. Everyone is most welcome to this special Nativity Event. It's Free! Free Special Popcorn too. And it's all special including you!
- **Monday, December 15 at 6 pm:** Men's Christmas Celebration. Open to all men in the parish. Put together by both the Knights of Columbus and the Men's Club. Tickets are \$20 and can be gotten through Darrell U or Terry Y. See poster for more details and even the menu.
- **Wednesday, December 17 after the 9 am Liturgy:** Panachyda for the servant of God + Leslie Sumka on the anniversary of his passing.
- **Thursday, December 18 at 10:30 am:** Parish Bingo Fundraiser. Thank you to all volunteers for helping with this. God bless you all.
- **Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 at 9 pm:** The Eve of the Nativity of Christ Bilingual Complines and Divine Liturgy. No 9 AM service, due to the evening service.
- **Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25 at 10 am:** Festal Liturgy for the Nativity of Christ.

- **Sunday, December 28 during the 10 am Liturgy:** This is the last chance to make a donation to the parish and get a 2025 tax receipt.
- **Tuesday, December 30 at 10:30 am - St. Nicholas' Clergy Liturgy and Gathering.** The clergy (deacons, priests and bishop) will meet to pray and have fellowship during the Christmas season.
- **Wednesday - Thursday, December 31 & January 1:** Will we have a service?... probably not. Last year very few people attended, and Fr. Bo is thinking of seeing family.
- **Theophany Eve, Monday, January 5 at 6 pm:** Festal Divine Liturgy with the Great Blessing of Water.
- **Theophany Day, Tuesday, January 6: No service as the main service is the evening before.** Please also note that no Ukrainian Churches are celebrating Christmas on the "Old" Julian Calendar anymore.
- **Tuesday, January 6 at 6 pm-ish:** Fr. Bo begins to teach the "Way of Beauty: Sacred Fine Arts 2" at Newman Theological College. This continues every Tuesday evening during the Winter semester.
- **Thursday, January 8 at 10:30 am: Another Parish Bingo.**
- **Thursday & Friday, January 8 & 9... and many other previous days: Malanka Prep.**
- **Saturday, January 10:** Our Parish Malanka! See poster for more details.
- **Tuesday, January 13 at 6 pm: ALPHA Program resumes.**
- **Tuesday, January 20 at 2 and 6 pm: Chosen Program resumes.**
- **January 23:** The Roman Catholic Archbishop-Designate's (Bishop Stephen A Hero) **installation** in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Basilica. (yes, I know I wrote "RC" three times. It's because I don't want any confusion... Bishop David remains our Ukrainian Catholic Bishop.)
- **Tuesday, January 27:** Deacon John's anniversary of Ordination
- **Saturday, January 31: ALPHA Saturday Retreat.**
- **Saturday, February 14: Parish Perogy Supper.** Talk to Terry Y if you would like to be involved.
- **Sunday, February 15: Eparchial "Tables for Two" retreat dinner for married couples.** This annual evening meal is served with reflections on holy marriages. It is a romantic and life-giving evening. Tickets will go on sale on Dec. 1st.
- **Saturday, February 21: Eparchial Marriage Prep Part 1**
- **Saturday, March 21: Eparchial Marriage Prep Part 2**




























GET YOUR TICKETS!

- **Men's Christmas Event**
- **Malanka**
- **Perogy Supper**
- **and soon... Tables for Two**

Other Announcements

- There will be a **50/50 draw at the St. Nicholas Dinner** put together by the Knights, so bring a whole pile of cash to support this and other fabulous initiatives in our parish.
- At the last Perogy Supper, both sittings were sold out, so get them early. **Perogy Supper tickets may suit someone as a perfect Christmas gift.**
- Holy Cross Parish recently paid \$29,771.89 for the insurance coverage for the Church and Hall. **We extend our heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers who help with the bingo events at Kensington over the past years.** The insurance was paid from the revenue generated by these bingo events.
- **Our Question Box:** In our Church's entry there is a "Question Box". If you have a question about our Faith, Church or Traditions, simply write it down and drop it into the box. Fr. Bo will try to answer your question in one of the next bulletins.
- **Are you having a 50th Wedding Anniversary?** If so put your anniversary on the sheet on the table next to the parish office or talk to Diana Horyn 780-255-9926. Holy Cross Parish will honour you with a plaque at the end of a Divine Liturgy.
- Bishop David has asked Fr. Bo to start an Iconography School... so I am (I did make a vow of obedience after all). **Theosis School of Iconography** teaches beginners and intermediates how to write (paint) icons with traditional mediums such as egg tempura and real gold, with abundant prayer, and with loads of theological explanations. For more information about this please see the website: theosis.ca
- **Safer Environments: Please keep working on your "Safer Environments" paperwork.** All volunteers in the parish, regardless of how small or big a volunteer you are, are required to give us some information. Those who are "General Risk" volunteers, such as greeters, kitchen helpers, table and chair setter uppers, only need to fill out 2 simple forms. "Higher Risk" volunteers are those who work with children, seniors, the disabled, new immigrants and/or other vulnerable people, as well as those who have keys to the building or handle the parish's funds. These wonderful volunteers need to fill out a few forms and then also do a 45 minute online training, and a police information check. If you are a volunteer and you have not been asked to fill out forms yet, please see Fr. Bo.

The Next Couple Weeks at Holy Cross

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost; Tone 1; Our Holy Father Ambrose, Bishop of Milan. Nativity Fast. Resurrection Gospel 4. Ephesians 5:9-19; Luke 12:16-21. Fr. Myron will be present to hear confessions 9:30 am Rosary 10 am Divine Liturgy (English) Deacon John Preaches Yes Sunday School, Yes Coffee. St Nicholas Dinner to follow Liturgy  2 pm Fr. Bo will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at St. Michael's Extended Care Centre.	8  Our Venerable Father Patapius. Nativity Fast. 1 Timothy 5:1-10; Luke 17:20-25. 8:30 - 5:30 Fr. Bo leads Icon Retreat/ Workshop for St. Joseph's RC Seminary  6 pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting and Christmas Event	9  ✙ The Conception of Saint Anna when she conceived the Most Holy Mother of God. Nativity Fast. Galatians 4:22-31; Luke 8:16-21. 8:30 - 5:30 Icon Workshop for SJS continues  6 pm ALPHA (Fr. Bo will need help for setup as he will be late) 	10  The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and Euphrasius. Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. 1 Timothy 5:22-6:11; Luke 18:15-17, 26-30. No 9 am Divine Liturgy 8:30 - 5:30 Icon Workshop for SJS continues  No more Bible Study Classes till 2026	11  Our Venerable Father Daniel the Stylite. Nativity Fast. 1 Timothy 6:17-21; Luke 18:31-34. 8:30 - 8:45 Icon Workshop for SJS continues with late session  Cancelled: 5:30 pm Appointment Please try to have any bulletin announcements in by this day via email or text.	12  ✙ Our Venerable Father Spiridon the Wonderworker, Bishop of Tremithus. Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. 2 Timothy 1:1-2, 8-18; Luke 19:12-28. 8:30 - 2 Icon Workshop for SJS continues  7 pm Christmas Chosen Special  Cancelled: 5:30 pm Appointment	13  ✙ The Holy Martyrs Eustratios, Auxentius, Eugenius, Mardarius, and Orestes. The Holy Martyr Lucia, Virgin. Polyeleos Feast. Nativity Fast. Ephesians 6:10-17; Luke 21:12-19.
14 Sunday of the Holy Forefathers; Tone 2; The Holy Martyrs Thyrsus, Leucius, Philemon, Apollonius, and Callinicus. Nativity Fast. Resurrection Gospel 5. Colossians 3:4-11; Luke 14:16-24. 9:30 am Rosary 10 am Divine Liturgy (Bilingual) Yes Sunday School, Yes Coffee.	15  ✙ Our Holy Father Stephen the Confessor, Archbishop of Suozh; The Holy Hieromartyr Eleutherius. Our Venerable Father Paul of Latra. Nativity Fast. Saint with Six Stichera. 2 Timothy 2:20-26; Luke 19:37-44. 12 pm Last Theosis Studios of 2025 5 pm Knights of Columbus and Men's Club Christmas Party 	16  The Holy Prophet Haggai. Nativity Fast. 2 Timothy 3:16-4:4; Luke 19:45-48. 11:15 am Appointment	17  ✙ The Holy Prophet Daniel. The Three Holy Youths Ananiah, Azariah, and Mishael. Nativity Fast. Saint with Six Stichera. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. 2 Timothy 4:9-22; Luke 20:1-8. 9 am Divine Liturgy Panachyda after Liturgy for + Leslie Sumka (anniversary of passing)	18  The Holy Martyr Sebastian and those with him. Nativity Fast. Titus 1:5-2:1; Luke 20:9-18. 5:30 pm Appointment Please try to have any bulletin announcements in by this day via email or text.	19  The Holy Martyr Boniface. Nativity Fast. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. Titus 1:15-2:10; Luke 20:19-26. 2 pm Funeral at Evergreen Funeral Home for + Roman Wiznura 5:30 pm Appointment	20  Saturday before the Nativity of Christ; ✙ Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Hieromartyr Ignatius the Godbearer. Nativity Fast. Saint with Six Stichera. Galatians 3:8-12; Luke 13:18-29.
21 Sunday before the Nativity of Christ: Sunday of the Holy Fathers; Tone 3; Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia. Nativity Fast. Resurrection Gospel 6. Hebrews 11:9-10,17-23,32-40; Matthew 1:1-25. 9:30 am Rosary 10 am Divine Liturgy (English) Yes Sunday School, Yes Coffee.	22  Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Great-Martyr Anastasia. Nativity Fast. Hebrews 3:5-11, 17-19; Luke 20:27-44.	23  Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ; The Ten Holy Martyrs of Crete. Nativity Fast. Hebrews 4:1-13; Luke 21:12-19.	24   Eve of the Nativity of Christ; The Holy Venerable-Martyr Eugenia. Nativity Fast. Strict Fast. Abstinence from meat and eggs (and, traditionally, dairy) and foods that contain these ingredients. No 9 am Divine Liturgy 9 pm Complines and Liturgy	25 ✙ The Nativity in the Flesh of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. The Holy Hieromartyr Euthymius, Bishop of Sardis. Great Doxology. Hebrews 2:11-18; Matthew 2:13-23. 10 am Festal Divine Liturgy	26 ✙ Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God; The Holy Hieromartyr Euthymius, Bishop of Sardis. Great Doxology. Hebrews 2:11-18; Matthew 2:13-23.	27 Saturday after the Nativity of Christ; ✙ The Holy Apostle, First Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen; Our Venerable Father and Confessor Theodore the Branded One, Composer of Canons. Post-feast of the Nativity of Christ. Saint with Six Stichera. 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Acts 6:8-7:5,47-60; Matthew 12:15-21; Matthew 21:33-42.
28 Sunday after the Nativity of Christ: Commemoration of the Holy and Righteous	29 The Holy Children who were killed for Christ in Bethlehem;	30 The Holy Martyr Anysia;. The Venerable Zoticus, Presbyter abd Protector of	31  Our Venerable Mother Melania the Roman. Leave-taking of the	January 1 ✙ The Circumcision of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus	2  Our Holy Father Sylvester, Pope of Rome.; Pre-feast of Theophany. Mark	3 Saturday before Theophany; The Holy Prophet Malachi; The Holy