



“ORTHODOX 9” PARISHES BULLETIN

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN CANADA

Monthly Newsletter for the family of Orthodox Churches including:



St. Mary’s (the Nativity of the Holy Virgin) - NISKU

Sts. Peter & Paul - BONNYVILLE

St. John the Baptist - HOREN

Holy Ascension - CALMAR

St. Onuphrius - FOAM LAKE (SK)

Whitsuntide (Holy Trinity) - THORSBY

Dormition of Theotokos -MACNUTT (SK)

St. John the Baptist - VEGREVILLE

Sts. Peter & Paul - INSINGER (SK)



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*Once in royal David’s city,
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby,
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little Child.*

My dear parishioners and friends of Orthodox 9 Parishes!

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Христос рождается! Славимо Його!

Once again, the “good tidings of great joy” is heard in the Church and all over the world: “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2, 11).

The magi – the representatives of the world’s wisdom, and the shepherds – representing industrious and selfless people, having put aside their human merits and cares, joyfully ran to the Newborn Son of Mary – Son of God.

“To Christ God, the Son Who was begotten of the Father without corruption before time began, and in latter times without seed became incarnate of the Virgin, let us cry aloud: O Lord Who liftest up our horn, holy art Thou!” – the Church sings together with the angels on the day of the Nativity celebration.

Lying in the manger, the Almighty Creator of the world has taken upon Himself all the sorrows of the world, all our suffering and tears. Let us take away every impediment to apply this sacrifice of mercy to our lives, and moreover, to the extent of talents given to us, let us try to be co-workers of God’s love.

On the glorious days of the Feast of the Nativity of Christ, the New Year and the coming Baptism of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we wish to extend our sincere greetings to His Grace Matthew, Bishop of Sourzh, the Reverend fathers and their families, the Church executives of “Orthodox 9” Parishes, brotherhoods and sisterhoods, Church choirs, our helpers, to all those who has laboured spiritually on this Canadian land, and to all our faithful parishioners.

Have a Blessed Nativity of Christ and a peaceful New 2019 Year!

*With love in the Newly Born Christ,
f. Yevheniy Protsenko and the family*



The second Archpastoral visit of Bishop Matthew of Sourozh to Canada and the Liturgy at St. Mary's church in Nisku



The second Archpastoral visit of temporary Administrator of Patriarchal Parishes in Canada Right Reverend Matthew of Sourozh took place from the 14th to 17th of December. His Grace made his way from his cathedral city of London to lead the services at the patronal feast of the main cathedral in Canada – St. Barbara Russian Orthodox Cathedral in Edmonton, and to support the other churches and their priests and faithful.

December, the 14th the Right Reverend Vladyka arrived at the city of Edmonton, Canadian province of Alberta.

At the airport the Most Reverend Archpriest was met by the dean of Patriarchal Parishes in Canada, the rector of St. Barbara Cathedral archpriest Igor Kisil and the President of St. Barbara Cathedral Mr. Roman Lopushinsky.

Right from the airport Vladyka Matthew made his way to the Cathedral, where he performed the moleben service in front of the icon and the holy relics of St. great martyr Barbara.

December, the 15th 2018 the Most Reverend Matthew, Bishop of Sourozh performed the Divine Liturgy in the church of Nativity of the Mother of God in Nisku, Edmonton region, Canada.

At the church vestibule the Vladyka was met with bread and salt by the parish President David Borys and the parish Council and with the flowers by Elena Wasiluk, with warm and welcoming greetings.



Then Bishop Matthew was welcomed by the rector of the church archpriest Evheniy Protsenko, who on behalf of the parishioners asked Vladyka to head the divine liturgy and support the congregation with his prayers while handing the archpastor the traditional cross.

His Grace was co-served with the dean of the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada and the rector of St. Barbara Cathedral archpriest Igor Kisil, the rector of "Orthodox IX" parishes archpriest Evheniy Protsenko, archpriest Vitaliy Manoli, protodeacon Andrei Boldireff and deacon of the St. Mary's church John Grigaritis and was helped by his secretary and subdeacon Nikolai Trubnikov. Their good job in the altar did young altar helpers Mikhail and Kirill.



All the subtleties of the archpastoral apostolic service were observed and respected with the help of the experienced hereditary church servant deacon Andrei Boldireff. The church choir was led by a devout servant of the church Sergei Kufliievsky.

At the end of the Liturgy the word of gratitude was said by the rector of St. Mary's church Ver. Rev. Evheniy Protsenko, who remembered the words of the day's Gospel reading and thanked His Grace for service as the moment of revealing the treasure of our Christian hearts.

The Right Reverend Archpastor addressed the clergy and parishioners with the words of a sermon and spiritual edification and taught the bishop's blessing.

The Parish Council invited everyone to a festive lunch at St. Mary's Hall which was provided by the Women' Aid, where people have a good opportunity to have a rest and wish Vladika and each other good health and many years.

Also, the Most Reverend Bishop was acquainted by the dean of the Patriarchal Parishes Ver. Rev. Igor Kisil with an outstanding work of Alex Dublenko ('starosta' of St. Mary's in the early 1950's) – the collection of Photographs of St. Mary's, and its extension by Andrew Belozher.

December, the 15th and the 16th 2018, on the week 29th after the Pentecostal the Most Reverend bishop



Matthew of Sourozh headed the All-Night Vigil and the Liturgy at the Cathedral of the Holy Great Martyr Barbara in Edmonton, Canada.

His Grace was co-served with the dean of the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada and the rector of St. Barbara Cathedral



archpriest Igor Kisil, the rector of "Orthodox IX" parishes archpriest Evheniy Protsenko, archpriest Vitaliy Manoli, the rector of "Orthodox V" parishes priest Alexios Surayev, deacon Andrei Boldireff, deacon Stephan Nagi, with the President of St. Barbara Cathedral Mr. Roman Lopushinski present.



After the dismissal of the Divine Liturgy, the Most Reverend Archpastor congratulated everyone with the day of Sunday and the coming feast day, and then addressed the believers with the word of edification. Vladyka wished the parishioners to spend the remaining days of the Advent in abstinence and sincere prayer in order to bring worthy gifts to the Savior born in Bethlehem – the sincere repentance and pure heart.

On December 16-17, 2018, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, celebrations were held on the occasion of the feast day of the holy Great Martyr Barbara and the cathedral patronal feast.

The priesthood of ROCOR and OCA Churches joined the mutual solemn service. The festive divine service was performed in Church Slavonic and English.

After the behind the ambon prayer, the archpastor, the clergy and the parishioners performed a prayer service before the main shrine of the cathedral, the venerated foot of the Great Martyr Barbara.

At the end of the service, Vladyka Matthew addressed the co-serving clergy and the parishioners gathered for the solemn ceremony with the words of preaching and spiritual edification, wishing everyone to draw moral lessons from the life of the holy Great Martyr Barbara, and her example to sincerely, earnestly and firmly keep faith to the Lord and Savior Jesus.



There was a festive meal at the cathedral hall in the basement of the cathedral after the service.

At the end of the festive lunch the Right Reverend Vladyka wished everyone to have a spiritually joyful coming soon Greatest Feast of the Lords Nativity and also a blessed and peaceful New Year.

Nikolai Trubnikov, f. Evheniy Protsenko for Russian Orthodox Church and Patriarchal Parishes in Canada
Photo: Nilolai Trubnikov, Natasha Borys, Olga Protsenko

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A warm thank you from Orthodox 9 Christian Community!

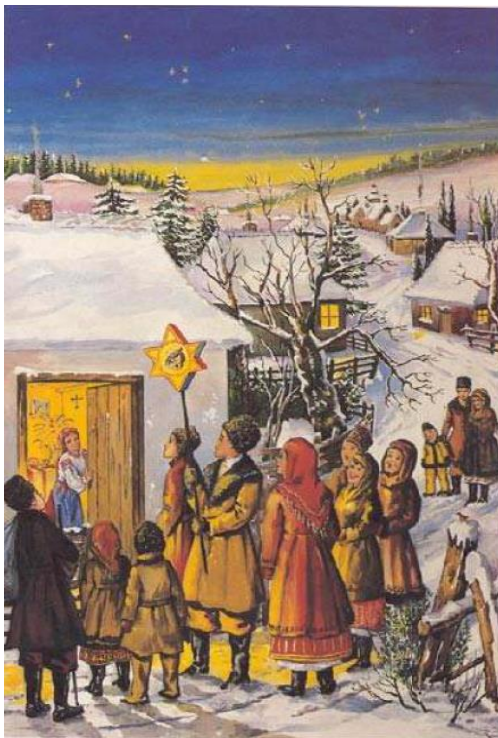
- ❖ A heartfelt gratitude to father Igor and the family for a devout service for all the great years including the most of 2018, for the inheritance he left and for the constant care, that he still has about the Orthodox 9 Parishes!
- ❖ A heartfelt gratitude to all those, who generously and timely donated money, items and supplies, contributed your voluntary work, time and effort to support our Parishes last year. May God grant you His Treasure Incorruptible – the Grace of the Holy Spirit!
- ❖ A heartfelt gratitude to constant and devout helpers in cabbage rolls and pirohis! It's been a great time with you discussing all the events in the world, while humbly building a small yet bright lantern of prayer of St. Mary's Church!
- ❖ A heartfelt gratitude to those, who's helped recently in temple vestment changing and Christmas tree and church decorating: father Igor, Donald and Sylvia Dublenko, Lawrence and Connie Dublenko!



2019- Dates to remember

- **March 2.** Saturday – 1:00 pm – The Annual St. Mary's Parish meeting will be held at Parish Hall, Nisku.
- **March 9.** Saturday – 10:00 am – Divine Liturgy; 11:30am – The Annual Diocese meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Nisku.
- **March 11.** Monday – GREAT LENT BEGINS.
- **March 16.** Saturday – 10:00 am – The Annual "Orthodox IX" Parishes meeting will be held at St. Mary Parish Hall, Nisku.
- **March 17.** – Sunday of Orthodoxy, that will be celebrated at Serbian Orthodox Church St. Sava (12904 112 St NW, Edmonton, AB T5E 6J1) at 6.00 pm.
- **April 28.** – Easter Sunday – HOLY PASCHA – THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

Christmas Carol of the Bells



Hark how the bells,
sweet silver bells,
all seem to say,
throw cares away



Christmas is here,
bringing good cheer,
to young and old,
meek and the bold.

Ding dong ding dong
that is their song
with joyful ring
all caroling.



One seems to hear
words of good cheer
from everywhere
filling the air.

Oh how they pound,
raising the sound,
o'er hill and dale,
telling their tale.

Gaily they ring
while people sing
songs of good cheer,
Christmas is here.

Merry, Merry, Merry,
Merry Christmas,
Merry, Merry, Merry,
Merry Christmas.
On on they send,
on without end,
their joyful tone
to every home.
Ding dong ding... dong!



January 2019



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<u>1</u> Civic New Year 	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u> Great-martyr Anastasia of Rome 	<u>5</u>
<u>6</u> Christmas Eve 2:00 p.m. – Christmas Vespers & Matins - Nisku	<u>7</u>  Nativity of Christ 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy at Nisku	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> 1 st Christian Martyr deacon Steven 	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u> The 14,000 Infants (Holy Innocents) slain by Herod at Bethlehem 	<u>12</u>
<u>13</u> 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy at St. Barbara's Cathedral	<u>14</u> Circumcision of the Lord, St. Basil the Great, Julian New Year	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u> Epiphany Eve (strict fast) 	<u>19</u> The Baptism of our Lord 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy at Nisku, Blessing of water & houses
<u>20</u> 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy at St. Barbara's Cathedral	<u>20</u> ← Afternoon, the 20 th – Blessing of houses – at Thorsby and Calmar	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> St. Theophan the Recluse 	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> St. Martyr Tatiana 	<u>26</u>
<u>27</u> 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy, Vegreville.	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>  St. Anthony, the Great	<u>31</u>		