



“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

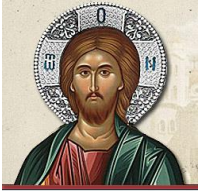
St. Onuphrius - FOAM LAKE (SK)

Whitsuntide (Holy Trinity) - THORSBY

Dormition of Theotokos -MACNUTT (SK)

St. John the Baptist - VEGREVILLE

Sts. Peter & Paul - INSINGER (SK)



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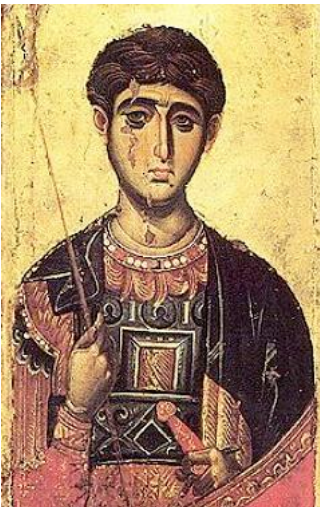


Volume 20, Issue 11

November 2019

Great Martyr Demetrios of Thessaloniki

Commemorated November 8



This glorious and wonderworking saint was born in Thessalonica of noble and devout parents. Implored of God by childless parents, Demetrius was their only son, and so was raised and educated with great care. Demetrius's father was a commander in Thessalonica.

When his father died, Emperor Maximian appointed Demetrius as commander in his place, and particularly recommended that he persecute and exterminate the Christians in Thessalonica. Demetrius not only disobeyed the emperor but openly confessed and preached the Lord Jesus Christ in the city of Thessalonica. When the emperor heard of this, he became furious. Then, when he was returning from battle against the Sarmatians, Maximian stopped at Thessalonica to investigate the matter.

The emperor summoned Demetrius and questioned him about his faith. Demetrius openly acknowledged his Christian Faith to the emperor and denounced the emperor's idolatry. Maximian cast Demetrius into prison. Knowing what was awaiting him, Demetrius gave all his goods to his faithful servant Lupus to distribute to the poor, and joyfully awaited his imminent suffering for Christ the Lord.

An angel of God appeared to him in prison, saying: "Peace be to you, O sufferer of Christ; be brave and be strong!" After several days, the emperor sent soldiers to the prison to kill Demetrius. The soldiers found the saint of God at prayer and ran him through with lances. Christians secretly took his body and honorably buried it. Healing myrrh flowed from the body of the martyr of Christ, curing many of the sick. Soon, a small church was built over his relics.

An Illyrian nobleman, Leontius, was afflicted with an incurable illness. He hastened, with prayer to the relics of St. Demetrius and was completely healed. In thanksgiving, Leontius erected a much larger church on the site of the old church. The saint appeared to him on two occasions.

When Emperor Justinian wanted to translate the relics of the saint from Thessalonica to Constantinople, flaming sparks sprang from the tomb and a voice was heard: "Stop, and do not touch!" And thus, the relics of St. Demetrius have remained for all time in Thessalonica.

As the protector of Thessalonica, St. Demetrius has appeared many times, and on many occasions has saved Thessalonica from great calamity. His miracles are without number.

Creating a Christian Environment at Home

Creating a Christian home begins with the icon corner. The “bright corner” becomes the center for every domestic church, and where the family devotions take place. This is also the family’s way of declaring to visitors that this is a Christian home, where Christ is head. Because the husband is a sort of domestic priest, it is important that he be the one who leads the entire family in prayer.

Each member of the family should have their own patron saint’s icon. A wonderful practice from ancient times is to have a family icon with all their patron saints represented in the same icon.

The family should try as best they can to have dinner together every night of the week. Watching TV while eating dinner is a very bad idea, for the meal should be the time when the parents can talk to their children about school, or other activities. In these modern times there are almost always school or work-related activities that don’t always allow everyone to be together, but every effort should be made to make this important family meal happen as often as possible.

The blessing of the food, with the father or mother making the sign of the cross over the meal with their fingers together as they do when blessing oneself, should never be avoided. If we always say a blessing over our food at home and give thanks to God for all He has given us, we are more likely to do so when at school or in a restaurant.

Television and the overuse of the Internet are wreaking havoc on family life. Don’t allow these invaders into your home to replace Christ as head of your household. Bad habits are hard to overcome, so replacing these with communal time in the living room may be hard at first but is necessary for the foundation of any Christian home.

Guard your home from other invaders as well. Magazines and other reading material should be appropriate for the Christian home. The music played in the home should also be uplifting and devoid of profanity and vulgarity.

Regular family meetings where everyone has an opportunity to talk about things and where the atmosphere is loving, open and safe, help create trust and a sense of security for everyone. It is natural for parents to argue on occasion, but this should never take place in front of children. They need to feel secure.

Boys need to see their fathers as icons of Christ in the home, demonstrating the biblical image of a husband and father. You may need, for the sake of your children, to give witness to the importance of prayer and church attendance. Statistically, children whose father is a church-goer are far more likely to stay in church as adults. You will be held accountable before the Throne of God for your children.

Men should not let their wives do all the house cleaning and cooking. She should not have to come home from work and be expected to do all the housework and cooking by herself. Men need to teach their children by example to help around the house.

These are basic suggestions for creating an Orthodox home. If you begin to implement these suggestions, the Lord will reward you with a family that stands strong and your children will grow up as spiritually healthy Christians, grounded in biblical teachings and moral fortitude. Your grandchildren will, in return, be raised with the same biblical principles and you will be the most blessed grandparents on your block!



With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon,
pravmir.com

Upcoming Events in November

St. Mary's Parish Fall Social/Pushenia will be held on Sunday November 24, 2019 at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Nisku after the service.

Let us have a good and profitable time before the Christmas Lent, with the joy of communication, a good meal and our generous and friendly lottery. Remember how joyous it was for adults and kids last year!

For the lottery, let's collect enough prizes to please us and our guests! Every trifle that is not needed in our house could be a very special item for someone! Please bring the things for the lottery prizes.

After the lottery a potluck will be held at the same place of our hospitable St. Mary's Parish Church Hall; let's also contribute in it. God bless you!

The Nativity Fast/Christmas Lent

Begins November 28th and ends January 7th with the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at the Nativity of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ. This 40-day fast is given to us to prepare for the Great Celebration of the Lord's birth in the flesh.

During this period, in addition to abstaining from certain types of food, we should also seek to free ourselves from sins by taking part in the Confession/the Sacrament of Repentance and try to frequently receive the Holy Communion.

Parishioners That Are Home Bound

We are going to visit all our parishioners during the period of Nativity fasting.

If anyone of you or the ones who you know cannot make it to Church, especially during the Lent, fr. Evgeniy will be happy to visit you, wherever you are, at home, at a nursing home, or any other place.

God grant you good health and a profitable Christmas fasting!

Haven't Seen Someone in a While?

Please, give them a call, or pay a visit. See how they are doing. Let them know that you miss them and want to see if everything is all right. A kind word can go a long way!

Thank you from father Evgeniy and the family

First of all, I would like to thank you for the thanksgiving baskets of the new harvest that symbolize our gratitude for all the heavenly and earthly blessings of the Lord. For all the installations with fruit and vegetables: the decoration of Peter Yekimchuk in St. John the Baptist Church in Horen; the presentation, prepared by the Parish Council and the parishioners of St. Mary's church in Nisku; for any effort that was made in all our holy churches!



It's been a year since we pray together, and my family and I would like to heartfully thank all of you – the Parish Councils and the parishioners – for being so kind to me; for all your assistance and care, prayers and songs, arranging and decorating the services, supplying the Liturgy with everything we need; for caring about the house and the vehicle, and carrying all my burdens; for kind and reassuring words and deeds; smiles, compassions and wishes! May God bless you all and vouchsafe you peace and good health!

In Memoriam

The parishioners of Orthodox 9 extend our deepest and sincere condolences to the relatives and friends of the newly departed servant of God Michael Doblanko. Our thoughts and prayers are with you! May your Father's and Grand-Father's memory be eternal!

On September 28, 2019, Mike Doblanko passed away peacefully at the age of 99 years, with family at his side.



Michael is survived by his children Allan (Isabelle), Ken, Eugene (Darlene) and Carol Logan; grandchildren Michelle (Mark), Erin (Mike), Charles, Adam, Janet (Shaun), Daniel and Karen; great grandchildren Lauren, Jack and William; and brother Harold.

Mike was predeceased by his wife of 65 years Steffie (2014), son Stanley, son-in-law Michael, parents Andrew and Tina, brother Tofen and sisters Stella Woitas and Helen Batt.

The descendant of Olexa Doblanka and Katherine Koziak, Mike lived in the Calmar area for over 90 years, where he actively farmed until the age 90. He was an active community member, serving on his Church Board and numerous community and utility boards. He loved to visit and spend dinners with his family and enjoyed reading and watching all sports and discussing history and earlier times.

As people have shared, "Michael will always hold a special place in our hearts and memories. He was a dedicated family man. We cannot think of a time on the farm when he was not there. We thoroughly enjoyed moments with Mike and will cherish the memories. He always had a story to share, that we will also miss. His family in heaven welcomed him with open arms. He is now telling them stories of what happened since they last were together. May tears heal the heart and let the memories bring warmth and smiles back to you all."

We would like to thank Michael on behalf of the Church – for many years of faithful service as a parish board member – for taking the responsibility for the Lord's small flock, and – for caring for the churches of this certain district, sharing with them strength, thought and consideration and his precious time; on behalf of the Canadian residents – for incalculable effort in elaborating the earth of this Country, making it livable and fruitful for the later generations.

To the relatives, parishioners and friends – we express our deepest sympathy and condolences, and a firm hope for the mercy of God and Kingdom of Heaven. Amen!

Prayers of Remembrance



Almighty God, Our Heavenly Father, we remember with thanksgiving those who made the supreme sacrifice for us during the times of war. We pray that the offering of their lives may not have been in vain. May grace enable us this day to dedicate to the cause of justice, freedom and peace and give wisdom and strength to build a better world, for the honour and glory of your name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Oh, loving and compassionate God, we pray for all who have laboured for liberty, freedom and justice; for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice; for those who in life and death have preserved our living. Grant that they may rest in your peace, and that we, through our actions, may be found worthy to inherit the eternal treasure of your kingdom. Amen

November 21st – Synaxis of the Archangels Michael and the Other Bodiless Powers.

8 Facts About Angels



1. **Angels have two roles:** the first is in Heaven to glorify God, and the second on earth to carry out God's orders and to help men.
2. **The word "angel" itself means** herald or messenger.
3. **There are nine ranks/types of angels.** Thrones, dominions, principalities, seraphim's (have six wings), cherubim's, powers, sovereignties, archangels, and angels.
4. **The names of Archangels?** Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salathiel, Barachiel, Jeremiel, Jegudiel.
5. **Angels are different than us** because they are bodiless and invisible. They don't need to eat or drink, nor do they need clothes or shelter.
6. **Angels are like us** because they have names and personalities. They are individuals with intelligence, emotions, free will and the capacity to act.
7. Our Orthodox **Church has dedicated Monday to the holy angels.** Therefore, every Monday in the church services we are reminded of the holy angels with praise and prayer: We say, "*Holy Archangels and Angels, pray to God for us.*"
8. **Every Christian receives a guardian angel** at the time of Baptism and asks for its intercession before God in the morning prayers.

Angel Word Quiz & Scramble

1. What does the word "Angel" mean? _____
s e g m e r n s e
2. How many ranks of angels are there? _____
i n e n
3. Which day of the week is for angels? _____
n y o m d a
4. Which angel has six wings? _____
R S E H A P M I
4. When do Christian receive a guardian angel? _____
t s p a b m i
6. Can you say their names? Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel,
Salathiel, Barachiel, Jeremiel, Jegudiel
7. When do we celebrate the Feast of Synaxis of the Archangels and Angels? _____
M O V 21 E N B R E



November 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>3</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – Calmar – Thanksgiving Service Daylight saving time 2019 ends at 2:00 a.m.	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u> Great- martyr Demetrius the Myrrh- gusher 	<u>9</u>
<u>10</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – Nisku	<u>11</u>  REMEMBRANCE DAY <i>Left We Forget</i>	<u>12</u> 7:00 p.m.- St. Mary's Church Board Meeting, Nisku Parish Hall	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> Wonder- workers and Unmercenar- ies Cosmas and Damian 	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – Nisku	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> <i>Synaxis of the Archangel Michael</i> 	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – Nisku – Fall Social/Puschenia after the service in Parish hall	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> Nativity Fast Begins 	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>