



“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

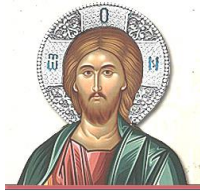
St. Onuphrius - FOAM LAKE (SK)

Whitsuntide (Holy Trinity) - THORSBY

Dormition of Theotokos -MACNUTT (SK)

St. John the Baptist - VEGREVILLE

Sts. Peter & Paul - INSINGER (SK)



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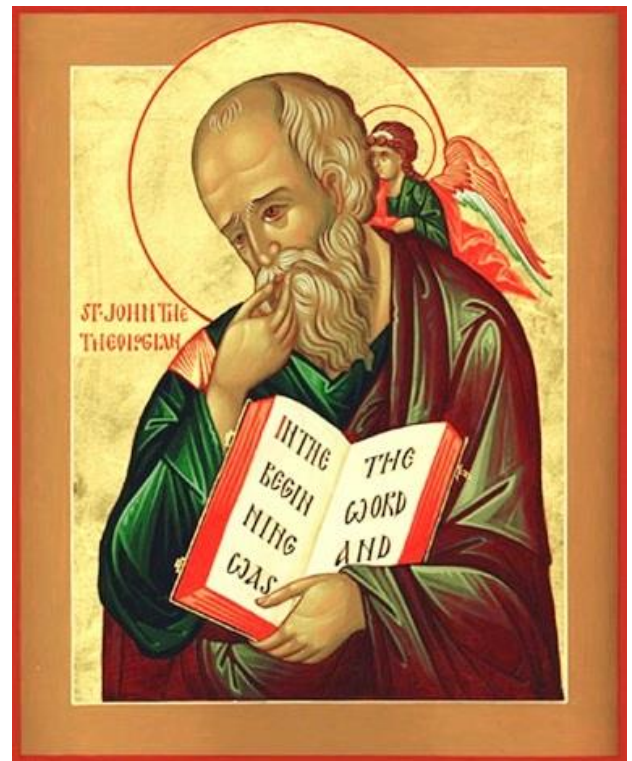
October 2021

October 9th – Repose of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian

The Holy, Glorious All-laudable Apostle and Evangelist, Virgin, and Beloved Friend of Christ, John the Theologian was the son of Zebedee and Salome, a daughter of Saint Joseph the Betrothed. He was called by our Lord Jesus Christ to be one of His Apostles at the same time as his elder brother James. This took place at Lake Gennesareth (the Sea of Galilee). Leaving behind their father and their inheritance, both brothers followed the Lord.

He was one of the three apostles who were particularly close to Him. Saint John the Theologian was present when the Lord restored the daughter of Jairus to life, and he was a witness to the Transfiguration of the Lord on Mount Tabor.

Apostle John was given from the Cross the commandment to concern himself over the Most Holy Virgin Mary, and he served Her until Her Dormition.



This is the beginning of his Gospel, that we read during the Feast of the Feasts – the Holy Pascha.

We celebrate the repose of Apostle John, but only because the Lord willed to preserve the life of his disciple through many life-threatening events.

Under the age of a hundred he wrote Gospel, several epistles and Revelation.

The Apostle of Love, as the Church call him, he especially highlighted that “God is Love”, and called for all Christians to love the Lord and one another, fulfilling the commandments of Christ, to come near to God and be saved.

He put the foundations to the core logics of Orthodox theology, but by his repose, by the last days of his life, he left us a crucial reminder that all human and even the highest logics should always yield to Love to be truly Divine. Amen.

In church Patronal Feast in Nisku, 2021

The Nativity of the Most Holy Mother of God of 2021 was our first in person and in church Patronal Feast during the last years.

Although the precautions against pandemic became stricter, we were still able to have our church Holy Table (Prestol) – Patronal – feast, since our fathers built quite a spacious temple, and with an additional space for the choir.



The evening service was with two priests and a deacon, with father Igor, who, together with several people from St. Barbara Cathedral, helped us at the church choir during a rather complex evening service, and a father deacon Andrew Boldireff, who gave much assistance in co-servicing and arranging the order in the altar.

The next day during the Divine Liturgy in addition to our parishioners there were guests from St. Barbara Cathedral – Mr. and Mrs. Lopushinsky, a family from



Calgary, Mark and Alexandra Holden with their daughter Elizabeth – the descendants of our departed parishioners, who shared with us their singing talents, and even the family of new immigrants that recently came to Edmonton from the north, and that was their first service at Edmonton.





The priest, father Yevheniy Protsenko, congratulated the congregation with the Patronal Feast and the first Greatest Feast – the Nativity of the Mother of God – in the row of all the Greatest Feasts, admitting that thus we put a good beginning for our spiritual church year and received the necessary and timely help and blessing from the Holy Theotokos.

During blessing of water, the temple, the people praying in it and the country around were blessed with the holy water.

The Parish President of St. Mary's church expressed gratitude to all who labour in the church every time, mentioning the recent input of Daniel Borys to the restoration of the old cemetery (the one at the site of the first orthodox temple); and also thanked very much to Mark and Alexandra, together with Kathy Kravchuch, for a wonderful singing. Then he invited the new family to introduce themselves.

The President of Patriarchal Parishes Roman Lopushinsky greeted the parish on behalf of the Patriarchal Parishes.

The festal Many Years (Mnohaya Leta) were sung to the Patriarch, the Bishop, the Queen and the country and to all parishioners and guests of St. Mary's Church; and we also sung Memory Eternal to all orthodox Christians there, at St. Mary's church, and elsewhere lying asleep in the Lord.

Thank you to everyone who came out and celebrated our Patronal Feast - St. Mary's Day and Blessing of the water. It was a beautiful day to come together.



We do plan to continue with in person services following the government recommendations for places of worship. Including masking, sanitizing, socially distancing and keeping to 1/3 our fire code capacity.

Stay Safe and God Bless you!

Gratitude for the renovation of the old cemetery



The parishioners of St. Mary's Church would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Daniel Borys for tidying our old graveyard.

This grave site is at the place of the old wooden "Fuhr's" church (1898-1910), and we visit the cemetery every year while serving paschal commemoration, but being a quite remote from the church place, it was sometimes overlooked for the rest of the time.

Just recently Daniel Borys took the initiative to put some things in order there, and having spent there busy days, he freshened up the cross at the old cemetery, used his quad sprayer and dealt with the weeds and thistle, and cleaned up the fence line.

So, the main Cross is again the color of the white summer clouds that flow over the site, and its front side is freshly and neatly painted!

Reference about the old cemetery

The cemetery is located at the land description site SW 19-50-25-W4 in Leduc County, to the west of Saint Mary's Church and Cemetery, and near the original site of Holy Ascension Orthodox Church on Theodore Fuhr's farm.

At the site of the Holy Ascension Cemetery (SW 19-50-25-W4), there is a commemorative stone marker, with the text:

This Cemetery Was Attached To The Holy Ascension Russian Orthodox Church.

Which Was Organised In May 1897 By The Missionaries Rev. Dimitry Kamnev

And Deacon Vladimir Alexandrov On The Farm Of Theodore Fuhr Directly To

The West. The Cemetery Was Consecrated In August 1901 By Bishop Tikhon

(Belavin). Subsequently Patriarch Of Moscow And All Russia And Later

Glorified As A Saint Of The Church (1989).



Interred in this cemetery are:

Two infant children of Wasyl and Katherine Borys; John Doblanko and Doblanko children; Mrs. Anna Fuhr; Mrs. Anna Krupa; Baby Krupa; Billy Kuhn; Mrs. Anastasia Kuzio; Timko Kuzio; Infant Wasieczko; Michael Wasieczko; Tatiana Wasieczko; and Teckla Wasieczko.

orthodoxcanada.ca/Nisku_AB_%E2%80%A0Holy_Ascension_Russo-Greek_Orthodox_Church_and_Cemetery_1898-1910

A sermon on Thanksgiving



Today we are reading two Gospels, one – of the Sunday (Matthew 22:1-14), and the second – for the Thanksgiving (Luke 17:11-19).

And this idea of giving thanks is so much crucial, that, you know that even Liturgy has another name, which is Thanksgiving. So, this idea is so important, that we can observe it, or discern it from even every Gospel.

The one that we haven't read yet but are going to read during our Thanksgiving moleben/service, is about 10 lepers that were healed by the Lord, but only one came back to the Lord, giving Him thanks.

And just recently we were reading Gospel about a rich young man, who expressed his desire to be perfect; and the Lord told him to go and sell/get rid of everything that he had and come back and follow the Lord.

And when Apostles saw it, they, being absolutely realistic as for their nature, their

strengths and weaknesses, they asked Jesus, who then can be saved, as the Lord put an unreachable goal for them. The answer was: with men – this is impossible, with God all is possible.

That is a mystery how it is possible to be saved, but what we learned by these words – people should be, should live with God, in order to be saved.

This mystery reveals for us the Holy Mystery, Holy Sacrament of Communion, that some Christians would rationalize, saying that this is only some outward sign or a confirmation.

But the essence is that men should be with God. And nothing should be in the way of this unity. And the Lord, by doing any good for us, actually attracts us to Himself, as we are likely to come back giving thanks to the Benefactor. And, in giving thanks, we always say that, though what we have received from our benefactor is very pleasant, important or vital for us, we ultimately choose not the gift but the Giver, and we want to communicate with the one, giving thanks, following his commandments, being eager to give back as much as we can...

So is the gospel reading of today. The one that we have just read, about "many are called, and few chosen." When it was obviously decent and meet for those people to honor his master by coming to his house, and by participating in the festive meal he prepared for all of them.

And this looks imprudent for us, and even more imprudent that imprudent!

Thus, the goal of the parable has been achieved, as we feel it like that...

But the people called did not achieve their goal. They cannot be saved, as, again, with men it is not possible, and it is only possible when being with God.

So, they haven't been attracted to God by his beneficence.

They have been distracted by the things though very good, that He had given to them...

And the one who was invited instead of ungrateful servants, he also could reveal, or express his gratitude.

That man represents all Christians, that are actually (in a sense) invited instead of Israelites.

What was wrong with his clothes? Why is the king so anxious about his clothes?

Because this is a parable. Unlike kings, the Lord our God accepts us in every outward condition, especially when it does not depend on us, or we are caught by surprise.

But Christian virtues should have been put on us, who have been called.

Everyone should use, as the other parable goes, one's talents, and gifts, time, wisdom, health and wealth – to put on the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness to others, strong faith, gentleness, and self-control... Or as the hymn of love says: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

So, this is what I would propose to us, that seems prudent and meet, as we should be with God, this is a part of our nature, this is our life, and our salvation.

So, let us do so: when we receive anything good from God, directly or through other people, let us in gratitude for it, choose just one virtue of those mentioned before and try to put in on/into our heart and soul. Amen

September 2021; Foam Lake, MacNutt

In Memoriam

The parishioners of Orthodox IX extend our deepest condolences to the relatives of the departed.

May God comfort you with His compassion, and may God settle them, where the light of His countenance shall visit.



Memory Eternal! The mercy of God, the Kingdom of Heaven!



Darvyn (Darv) Chimera passed away peacefully with his family, and the love of all those who could not be present by his side, on November 16, 2020.

He is survived by his sons, Tony Chimera (Jamie Whittaker), and Mario Chimera (Desiree Chimera), his two grandsons Silvio and Gino Chimera. He is also survived by his brother, Cecil Chimera and sister, Lavinia Tennant (Bryon O'Reilly) and an abundance of nieces, nephews and cousins. He is predeceased by his mother and father, Caroline and John Chimera, his sister, Wasylia Sarnecki (Marion Sarnecki), his sister-in-law Angeline Chimera, his brother-in-law, Wayne Tennant, his niece, Shelley Tennant-Way, and nephew, Greg Tennant.

August 11th 2021 Darvyn was interred at the Holy Ascension Calmar cemetery with an orthodox Christian burial service conducted.



We extend our kindest and compassionate condolences to our good and faithful friend, and elder, and a parishioner of Orthodox IX parishes Harry Nazarenko on sudden passing away his beloved daughter Tena Borys, and also to Tammy, Ray and all the family on passing from this life their loving mother and grandmother on August 24th. And we are calling on you a special and mighty consolation and mercy from Above!

Tena will always be remembered for her kindness, beautiful smile and positive nature. She will be missed but always in the hearts of all who knew her and in our prayers!

May our Good God grant His servant Tena rest where there is no sickness, sorrow, and sighing, but in the place of brightness and repose, and life everlasting!

THANKSGIVING SCENARIO FOR FAMILIES

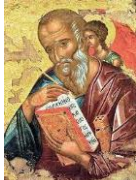


Thanksgiving Day is a great opportunity to use your child's **Placemat of Thanks**. During the family meal, say, "Ten men were sick, and Jesus told them to go see the priest. On the way to the priest, Jesus healed the men, but only one came back to say thanks. God wants us to give thanks, just like the one man in the Bible story. God has given us so much to give thanks for." Go around the table with this picture and have each family member say what they are thankful for.

Encourage your children to say "thank you God." Point to an object on the placemat and say, "We can give thanks for (name object). Let's say 'thank you God!'"

And certainly, you can try to give this picture colors afterwards!

October 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<u>3</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy (Online from the chapel)	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> Prophet Jonah (8th c. b.c.) 	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> Protomartyr Thecla of Iconium (1st c.) 	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> Holy Apostle and Evangelist John 
<u>10</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – St Barbara Cathedral	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> St. John, archbishop of Shanghai 	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> Protecting Veil of the Mother of God 	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – NISKU (Thanksgiving Service)	<u>18</u> Hieromartyr Dionysius, bishop of Alexandria 	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> St. Pelagia the Penitent, of the Mount of Olives (457) 	<u>22</u> St. Athanasia, of Egypt (5th c.) 	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy VEGREVILLE (Thanksgiving Service)	<u>25</u> St. Cosmas, bishop of Maiuma (787) 	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u> St. Parasceva (Petka) 	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u> Martyr Longinus the Centurion 	<u>30</u>
<u>31</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy						