



# “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**

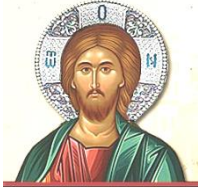
**St. Onuphrius - FOAM LAKE (SK)**

**Whitsuntide (Holy Trinity) - THORSBY**

**Dormition of Theotokos -MACNUTT (SK)**

**St. John the Baptist - VEGREVILLE**

**Sts. Peter & Paul - INSINGER (SK)**



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**November 2021**

## November 29<sup>th</sup> – Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew



St. Matthew was the first to write the Gospel account of our Lord Jesus Christ. How could it be so, that he had such a great Grace of God?

He was originally called Levi, and was the son of Alphaeus and was by profession a publican, or tax-collector, at Capernaum. On one occasion Jesus, coming up from the side of the lake, passed the customhouse where Matthew was seated and said to him, "Follow me." Matthew arose and followed Christ, becoming his disciple (Matthew 9:9). He changed his name to reflect his new calling. "Matthew" means "Gift of the Lord."

The same day on which Jesus called him he made a "great feast" (Luke 5:29), a farewell feast, to which he invited Jesus and his disciples and probably also many of his old associates.

So, that was not an easy decision for person of a well-off and dignified class, who in addition was very literate and burdened by the worldly wisdom and scepticism, to follow Jesus of Nazareth. He had to really

humble himself and sacrifice much, and we can only guess his spiritual struggles and efforts. This was how the world was given the first written history of the Sacred and Salvific Events. And, as it is considered by Christian fathers, his Gospel became a sample for the rest of the Gospels, especially the Gospels of Luke and Mark.

After the resurrection of our Lord, Matthew went and preached amongst the Jews. Eventually he went to Ethiopia to spread the gospel. There he was martyred by Fulvian, the ruler of the region, by being set on fire. After Matthew willingly gave up his soul to the Lord, his body was put in a coffin and cast into the sea. But Fulvian, Matthew's persecutor, by the mighty grace of God, immediately repented of his deed, renounced his position of worldly power, and was made a presbyter and later a bishop.

May we also through the reading of the Divine Gospel by Matthew and his prayers, be able to reject all false happiness and wisdom of this world to follow our Lord as St. Matthew did once. Amen.

# Venerable Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves

**Commemorated on November 9**

Saint Nestor the Chronicler, of the Kiev Caves, was born at Kiev in 1050. He came to Saint Theodosius (May 3) as a young man, and became a novice in the monastery. Saint Nestor took monastic tonsure under the successor to Saint Theodosius, the igumen Stephen, and under him was ordained a hierodeacon.



Concerning his spiritual life, it says that, with a number of other monastic Fathers he participated in the casting out of a devil from Nikéttas the Hermit (January 31), who had become fascinated by the Hebrew wisdom of the Old Testament. Saint Nestor deeply appreciated true knowledge, along with humility and penitence. “Great is the benefit of book learning,” he said, “for books point out and teach us the way to repentance, since from the words of books we discover wisdom and temperance. This is the stream, watering the universe, from which springs wisdom. In books is a boundless depth, by them we are comforted in sorrows, and they are a bridle for moderation. If you enter diligently into the books of wisdom, then you shall discover great benefit for your soul. Therefore, the one who reads books converses with God or the saints.”

In the monastery Saint Nestor had the obedience of being the chronicler. In the 1080s he wrote the “Account about the Life and Martyrdom of the Blessed Passion Bearers Boris and Gleb” in connection with the transfer of the relics of the saints to Vyshgorod in the year 1072 (May 2). In the 1080s Saint Nestor also compiled the Life of the Monk Theodosius of the Kiev Caves. And in 1091, on the eve of the patronal Feast of the Kiev Caves Monastery, he was entrusted by Igumen John to dig up the holy relics of Saint Theodosius (August 14) for transfer to the church.

The chief work in the life of Saint Nestor was compiling in the years 1112-1113 The Russian Primary Chronicle. “Here is the account of years past, how the Russian land came to be, who was the first prince at Kiev and how the Russian land is arrayed.” The very first line written by Saint Nestor set forth his purpose. Saint Nestor used an extraordinarily wide circle of sources: prior Russian chronicles and sayings, monastery records, the Byzantine Chronicles of John Malalos and George Amartolos, various historical collections, the accounts of the boyar-Elder Ivan Vyshatich and of tradesmen and soldiers, of journeymen and of those who knew. He drew them together with a unified and strict ecclesiastical point of view. This permitted him to write his history of Russia as an inclusive part of world history, the history of the salvation of the human race.

The monk-patriot describes the history of the Russian Church in its significant moments. He speaks about the first mention of the Russian nation in historical sources in the year 866, in the time of Saint Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople. He tells of the creation of the Slavonic alphabet and writing by Saints Cyril and Methodius, and of the Baptism of Saint Olga at Constantinople. The Chronicle of Saint Nestor has preserved for us an account of the first Orthodox church in Kiev (under the year 945), and of the holy Varangian Martyrs (under the year 983), of the “testing of the faiths” by Saint Vladimir (in 986) and the Baptism of Rus (in 988).

We are indebted to the first Russian Church historian for details about the first Metropolitans of the Russian Church, about the emergence of the Kiev Caves monastery, and about its founders and ascetics. The times in which Saint Nestor lived were not easy for the Russian land and the Russian Church. Rus lay torn asunder by princely feuds; the Polovetsian nomads of the steppes lay waste to both city and village with plundering raids. They led many Russian

people into slavery, and burned churches and monasteries. Saint Nestor was an eyewitness to the devastation of the Kiev Caves monastery in the year 1096. In the Chronicle a theologically thought-out patriotic history is presented. The spiritual depth, historical fidelity and patriotism of the Russian Primary Chronicle establish it in the ranks of the significant creations of world literature.

Saint Nestor died around the year 1114, having left to the other monastic chroniclers of the Kiev Caves the continuation of his great work. His successors in the writing of the Chronicles were: Igumen Sylvester, who added contemporary accounts to the The Russian Primary Chronicle; Igumen Moses Vydubitsky brought it up to the year 1200; and finally, Igumen Laurence, who in the year 1377 wrote the most ancient of the surviving manuscripts that preserve the Chronicle of Saint Nestor (this copy is known as the “Lavrentian Chronicle”). The hagiographic tradition of the Kiev Caves ascetics was continued by Saint Simon, Bishop of Vladimir (May 10), the compiler of the Kiev Caves Paterikon. Narrating the events connected with the lives of the holy saints of God, Saint Simon often quotes, among other sources, from the Chronicle of Saint Nestor.

Saint Nestor was buried in the Near Caves of Saint Anthony. The Church also honors his memory in the Synaxis of the holy Fathers of the Near Caves commemorated September 28 and on the second Sunday of Great Lent when is celebrated the Synaxis of all the Fathers of the Kiev Caves. His works have been published many times, including in English as “The Russian Primary Chronicle”.

### **Troparion — Tone 8**

*By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile, / and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance. / By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe! / O our holy father Nestor, pray to Christ our God to save our souls!*

### *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 her, where the light of His countenance shall visit!***



**Fedor, Dianne Marie  
August 14, 1947 - October 19, 2021**

Dianne Fedor passed away on October 19, 2021 at the St. Joseph's Hospital, Edmonton, after a short illness.

Dianne was born in Edmonton to Simon and Elizabeth Fedor (nee Borys) on August 14, 1947.

Dianne was the oldest child and only daughter of Simon and Elizabeth Fedor. Being the oldest and a girl, she had her hands full looking after her three younger brothers, Vernon, Glenn and Larry, giving them all her affection and time.

Dianne is survived by her brothers Vernon (Sherri) Fedor, Glenn (Katrina) Fedor and Larry Fedor. She is survived by her nieces Amanda Fedor, Dana Fedor, Jennilynne (JJ) Sullivan, Ashley Lewko and Megan Martin. She is also survived by her nephews Devon Fedor, Derek Fedor and Andrew Fedor. She loved her nieces and nephews and enjoyed talking and seeing them when she could. Dianne is also survived by numerous cousins, an aunt Irene Chrunik and a couple of high school friends, Karen and Marian.

Dianne was predeceased by her parents, her dog Buddy and her cat Angel and all of her aunts and uncles except Aunt Irene, Aunt Margaret Borys and Great-Aunt Francis Chimera.



# Archpastoral visit of His Grace Bishop Matthew of Sourozh to the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada, October 2021



On October 21, 2021, after terminating the necessary quarantine prescribed by the Government of Canada, as part of measures to combat coronavirus infection, His Grace Bishop Matthew of Sourozh, temporary Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the United States and Canada, arrived in Edmonton, Alberta.

The archpastoral visit to the Patriarchal parishes in Canada began with a visit to the Cathedral of the Holy Great Martyr Barbara. In the church, His Grace was met by priest Igor Kisil, Dean of the Patriarchal parishes in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, Rector of the Cathedral, and the Secretary of the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada and the churchwarden Roman Lopushinsky.

Vladyka Matthew offered thanksgiving prayers in front of the icon of the Holy Great Martyr Barbara and part of her holy relics, venerated the shrines of the Cathedral and examined the church.

After that Vladyka had a conversation with Father Igor and R. Lopushinsky, where they discussed current issues of the church parish life in the face of restrictions related to the coronavirus pandemic.

During the trip and all the services, the Right Reverend Archpastor was accompanied by his personal secretary N.V. Trubnikov.



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On October 21, 2021, His Grace Bishop Matthew of Sourozh, temporary Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA and Canada, visited the house church in honor of the Pochaev Icon of the Most Holy Mother of God, located in the bishop's residence in Edmonton, Alberta province.

The Archpastor offered up prayers in the church and venerated the relics kept in the altar.

After that, under the chairmanship of Vladyka Matthew, a meeting of the clergy of St. Barbara Cathedral in Edmonton was held, at which current issues of parish life were discussed.

After the meeting, His Grace Vladyka continued to work with documents and considered a number of administrative and economic matters.

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On October 22, 2021, the day of remembrance of the Apostle James Alfeev, His Grace Bishop Matthew of Sourozh, temporary Administrator of the Patriarchal parishes in the USA and Canada, celebrated the Divine Liturgy in the church of the Holy Prophet John, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, in Chipman.



His Grace was assisted by the Rector of the Orthodox V Parishes priest Alexios Surayev, Dean of the Patriarchal parishes in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, archpriest Igor Kisil, Rector of the church of St. George the Victorious in Red Deer (Alberta), priest Victor Kramarenko (ROCOR), and cleric of St. Barbara Cathedral deacon Andrey Boldyreff.

At the entrance to the church, His Grace Vladyka was greeted with flowers by the head of the parish sisterhood, Lydia Pevarchuk.

Worshippers from various cities and towns of the province of Alberta prayed at the church, located northeast of Edmonton.

After the dismissal of the Liturgy, the Archpastor addressed clergy and parishioners of the church with words of a sermon and spiritual edification. In turn, Rector of the church, Father Alexios Surayev, warmly thanked Vladyka Matthew for the long-awaited archpastoral visit, which could take place after the weakening of quarantine measures related to the spread of coronavirus infection in Canada.

[In the churches in Canada, the rules for wearing masks for the laity are preserved and social distance must be observed. According, to the government requirements, no more than 30% of the usual number of parishioners can attend services at the moment.]



As a sign of gratitude for the diligent church labors, His Eminence Vladyka awarded hierarchical subdeacon Nestor Kostyuk with a blessed hierarchical letter.

Vladyka's communication with the clergy and parish activists continued at a tea party in the refectory of the church.

After the Liturgy at the church of St. John the Baptist in Chipman, Alberta, His Grace Bishop Matthew of Sourozh, temporary Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA and Canada, visited a number of churches in the "Orthodox V" Parish District.

Vladyka made tour visiting the churches of Orthodox V, prayed in front of churches' relics and got acquainted with the details of parish life. During his visit, His Grace was met by representatives of parish councils.

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On October 23, 2021, the Remembrance Day of St. Ambrose of Optina (1891), the temporary Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA and Canada, His Grace Bishop Matthew of Sourozh, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Nativity of the Most Holy Mother of God in Nisku.

At the entrance to the church, the Right Reverend Vladyka was greeted by our traditional representative Elena Wasiluk, who presented Bishop with a bouquet of flowers, and the President of the parish and churchwarden David Borys, who met Vladyka with bread and salt.





Then the rector of the church, f. Yevheniy greeted His Grace in the “temple consecrated to the memory of the first of our Holy History Events – to the Nativity of the Holy Birthgiver of God, the dawn before sunrise of Our Lord Jesus Christ, or as we call it – St. Mary’s Church”, and asked the bishop to lead and

head the service of the Divine Liturgy with his apostolic grace and his prayers, and to give his archpastoral fatherly blessing.

In response, Vladyka Matthew said that he was happy to celebrate with the parishioners of the church the special day of the memory of St. Abrose of Optina and the holy martyrs commemorated that day, and to venerate the



Most Holy Mother of God in Her temple, calling Her intercession and the grace of God on all the parishioners, present there and absent due to the restrictions, and wished that from that day on the period of trouble would be overcome for all of us.



During the service of the Divine Liturgy His Grace was assisted by Rector of the Parish District "Orthodox IX", Secretary of the Office of Patriarchal Parishes, archpriest Yevgeny Protsenko; Dean of the Patriarchal Parishes in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan archpriest Igor Kisil, the cleric of St. Barbara's Cathedral deacon Andrei Boldyreff, who as always – arranged the special order of the hierarchical service, and his personal secretary and sub-deacon (sl. Ipodiakon) Nickolai Trubnikov.



Divine Liturgy, giving us their beautiful and spiritual singing – the family of Mark, Alexandra and Elizabeth Holden.

Our President David Borys together with the young helpers Nikita Kushnir, Alexander Belobrov and Alexander Kisil were assisting in the altar and in the church.



We had a lot of guests from different parishes, from St. Barbara Cathedral – with its President Roman Lopushinsky and some parishioners, as well as from rather far both to the south and to the north. So, due to restrictions, some



of our parishioners decided to save some space for the rest, and thus we have just the right and allowed number of attendants.

At the end of the Liturgy, the Archpastor addressed the clergy and parishioners of the church with words of a sermon and spiritual edification. He put an accent on what a special and demanding time and period we had been going through for the last years of a world-wide pandemic, during which we often couldn't communicate with friends and family and couldn't see each other. And that he hoped that the Liturgy of that day is a first sign for the things to become a bit better. And as of course there is still much danger and uncertainty around he managed to leave London for the first time, and come to Canada and pray with the people.



His Grace greeted us with the day of St. Ambrose of Optina, who lived not so long ago (he reposed 130 years ago) and is a modern saint, who encouraged his contemporaries during the spiritually challenging times to follow the steps of the ancient saints and fathers, and the Christian principles in organizing society; and he also left us a fountain of great wisdom – his writings – that we can attend to when we have a spiritual thirst, no matter which country we live; and we also can rely on the prayers of St. Ambrose. In his times there were also dangers, turbulences and pestilences; they know how to overcome and survive them. So, they teach us, their spiritual



children and descendants not to be afraid or lose our faith during this days, but rather use it as a weapon.

Vladyka said he was very happy to see all the parishioners after a so long period of time healthy and safe, and under the protecting veil of the Mother of God, in Whose home we were praying that day, through Whose prayers we would be protected from all the enmities of both physical and spiritual life. So, His Grace entrusted all to the Glorious and most trustworthy Omophorion of the Virgin Mary.



In reply, Rector of the church, Father Yevgeny, warmly thanked Vladyka Matthew for his archpastoral visit and the



opportunity to pray together, highlighting that such occasions reveal to us that it is not the disastrous pestilence, occurred recently, that ultimately rules over our life, but these are our faith and service, that, due to the Lord's grace, are still of the most significance for us!

The parish President David Borys on behalf of all parishioners warmly thanked the Bishop for his visit and leading the Divine Liturgy, and giving us his words of edification and encouragement.

After the service, Vladyka Matthew had a talk with the parishioners and was invited with the priests to have a festive meal, which was kindly given by our parishioner Sharon Rahmoun at "Kosmos" restaurant.

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On October 23, 2021, on the eve of the 18th Sunday after Pentecost, His Grace Bishop Matthew of Sourzh celebrated an all-night vigil at St. Barbara Cathedral in Edmonton.

At the all-night Vigil, His Grace was assisted by Rector of the Cathedral, Dean of the Patriarchal parishes in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, archpriest Igor Kisil, Rector of the "Orthodox IX" parish district, Secretary of the

Office of Patriarchal parishes, archpriest Yevgeny Protsenko, and cleric of the Cathedral deacon Andrey Boldyreff.

At the matins of the all-night vigil, after the reading of the Holy Gospel, the Archpastor anointed the clergy and parishioners with consecrated oil.

At the end of the service, Fr. Igor, on behalf of the clergy and parishioners of the Cathedral, addressed His Grace Vladyka with a welcoming speech.

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On October 24, 2021, on the 18th Sunday after Pentecost, the day of commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the VII Ecumenical Council (787), His Grace Bishop Matthew of Sourzh celebrated the Divine Liturgy at St. Barbara Cathedral in Edmonton.

In the hall of the church, His Grace was greeted with flowers and bread and salt by the churchwarden of the Cathedral, Roman Lopushinsky, and his spouse Diana.

At the Liturgy, His Grace was assisted by Rector

of the Cathedral, Dean of the Patriarchal Parishes in the Provinces of Albert and Saskatchewan, archpriest Igor Kisil, Rector of the Parish District "Orthodox IX", Secretary of the Office of Patriarchal Parishes, archpriest Yevgeny Protsenko, clerics of the Cathedral deacon Andrey Boldyreff and deacon Stephan Nagi.



At the small entrance, in consideration of the diligent pastoral work, clerics of the Patriarchal parishes in Canada were awarded the liturgical hierarchical awards of the Russian Orthodox Church: archpriest Igor Kisil - the right to wear the mitra, and archpriest Yevgeny Protsenko - the right to wear a cross with decorations.

Two young servants of the Cathedral of the Great Martyr Barvara - subdeacons

Alexander Belobrov and Alexander Kisil were awarded by His Grace Bishop Matthew the right to wear an orarion.

After the divine service, the Archpastor addressed the clergy and parishioners of the Cathedral with words of a sermon and spiritual edification.

The Rector of the Cathedral, archpriest Igor Kisil, on behalf of the clergy and parishioners, warmly greeted Vladyka, thanking him for the opportunity to share the joy of communion with their Bishop and for the high church awards that were presented to the clergy of the Patriarchal parishes.





The main treasure of the Cathedral is a part of relics (left foot) of the Holy Great Martyr Barbara, taken from Kiev and transferred to the Cathedral by Archbishop Panteleimon (Rudyk) of Edmonton and Canada, which, according to the Athonite tradition, is kept on the Holy Table in the altar.



The Right Reverend Archpastor presented the Cathedral with an embroidered vestment for the covering of the Great Martyr's Holy Relics.

After the service, Vladyka Matthew communicated with clergy and parishioners of the Cathedral.

In the evening of the same day, His Grace departed for Eastern Canada to complete his mission and perform divine services and hold meetings with the clergy and faithful of the Russian Orthodox Church.

## Meaning of some of the words and terms of Orthodox Church

**SUBDEACON** - (Sl. *Ipodiakon*) An assistant or a server at the services of a bishop; vesting the bishop and handing him the dikerion and trikerion.

**ADMINISTRATOR** - He who is in charge of a diocese in the absence of a bishop when the diocese is vacant by the resignation or death of the bishop.

**ARCHPRIEST** - (Sl. *Protoierei*) A title of dignity given to a priest as an award for his long and fruitful service to the Church.

**BISHOP** - (Gr. *episkopos*) *Overseer*. A bishop is the leader of a local community of Christians. In the New Testament there is no clear distinction between the offices of bishop and elder (presbyter), both of which function as leaders of the community. However, by the mid- to late first century, the Church began to reserve the title bishop for the men of spiritual qualification who were consecrated to follow the Apostles in their office of oversight (1 Tim.; Acts 1:15 26; 14:23; 1 Tim. 3:1-7).

**DEACON** - Literally, "servant." Originally seven deacons were ordained to assist the apostles with the temporal affairs of the Church (Acts 6:1-7). This established office has continued in the Church. A deacon assists the bishop and priest, but cannot preside over the Eucharist, give blessings or pronounce absolution. In the New Testament (Rom.16:1) and the early Church, women also served as deacons or deaconesses (1 Tim. 3:8 13).

(<https://churchmotherofgod.org/orthodox-terminology.html>)



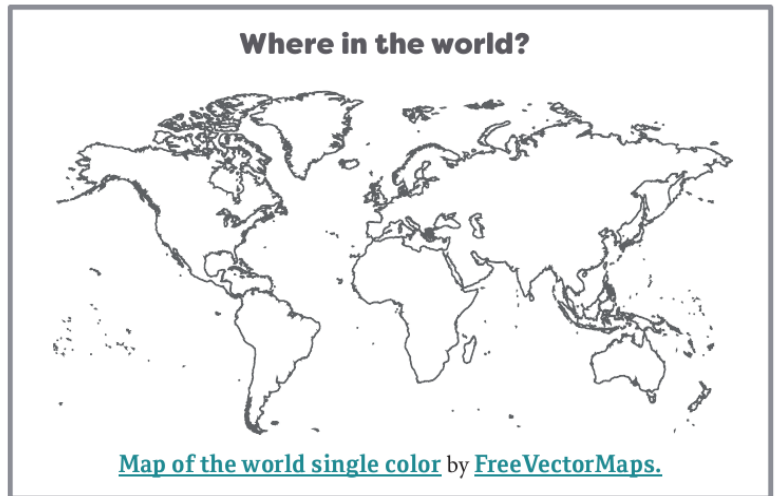
November 29<sup>th</sup> is a commemoration day of one of the writers of the Holy Gospel – Saint Evangelist Matthew. Here is a short account of his life, and a few tasks. Read about his life and: 1) find with the help of your parents or grandparents the places on the map, where St. Matthew was telling people about Lord Jesus Christ; 2) think, how you can be like St. Matthew; 3) and how you can pray to him.

## APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST MATTHEW



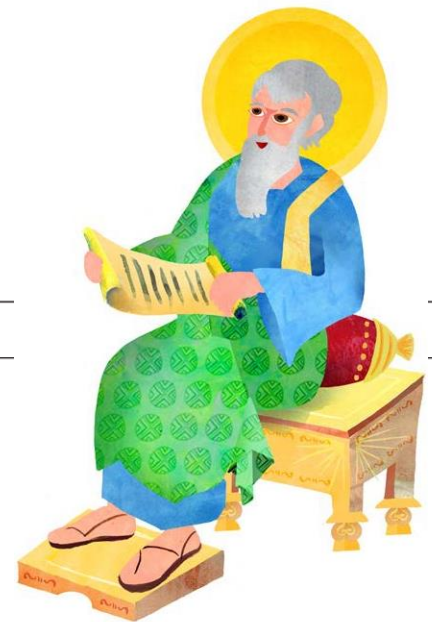
### FEAST DAY: .....

Matthew is one of the Twelve Apostles. He was initially a publican, a tax-collector. At the time, tax-collectors were very much hated because they often took advantage of people. Upon meeting our Lord, he greatly repented and immediately followed Him. He preached the Gospel in Palestine, Syria, Media, Persia, and Ethiopia. In Ethiopia he worked many miracles by the Grace of God, and baptized thousands. At the end, he was tortured and put to death for his Christian faith, thus becoming a martyr.



### How can I be like the Apostle and Evangelist Matthew?

### My prayer to the Apostle and Evangelist Matthew:



# November 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><u>31<sup>st</sup></u> of October</p> <p><b>10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy VEGREVILLE (Thanksgiving Service, from Oct. 24)</b></p>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<p><u>3</u></p> <p>St. Hilarion the Great, of Gaza (372)</p> 	<u>4</u>	<p><u>5</u></p> <p>St. Ignatius, patriarch of Constantinople (877-878)</p> 	<p><u>6</u></p> <p><b>Demetrius’ Saturday.</b> Traditional Commemora- tion of the passed away Christians</p>
<p><u>7</u></p> <p><b>10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy</b> Daylight saving time 2021 in Canada ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 7</p>	<u>8</u>	<p><u>9</u></p> <p>Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica (306)</p> 	<u>10</u>	<p><u>11</u></p> 	<p><u>12</u></p> <p>Apostle Cleopas of the Seventy (1st c.)</p> 	<u>13</u>
<p><u>14</u></p> <p><b>10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – NISKU</b></p>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<p><u>17</u></p> <p>Hieromartyr Nicander, of Myra</p> 	<u>18</u>	<p><u>19</u></p> <p>St. Barlaam, of Khutyn Novgorod (1192)</p> 	<u>20</u>
<p><u>21</u></p> <p><b>10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – NISKU – Archangel Michael Feast Day</b></p> 	<u>22</u>	<p><u>23</u></p> <p>Martyr Orestes the Physician, of Cappadocia (304)</p> 	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<p><u>26</u></p> <p>St. John Chrysostom</p> 	<u>27</u>
<p><u>28</u></p> <p><b>10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy</b></p>  <p>Beginning of the Nativity Fast</p>	<u>29</u>	<p><u>30</u></p> <p>St. Gregory the Wonderworker (266)</p> 				