



“ORTHODOX 9” PARISHES BULLETIN

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN CANADA

Monthly Newsletter for the family of *Orthodox IX* Churches including:



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

Sts. Peter & Paul - BONNYVILLE

St. John the Baptist - HOREN

Holy Ascension - CALMAR

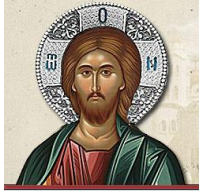
St. Onuphrius - FOAM LAKE (SK)

Whitsuntide (Holy Trinity) - THORSBY

Dormition of Theotokos -MACNUTT (SK)

St. John the Baptist - VEGREVILLE

Sts. Peter & Paul - INSINGER (SK)



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Volume 38, Issue 5

CHRIST IS RISEN!

April-May 2022

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST - April 24 - HOLY EASTER



*“The Day of Resurrection!
Let us be illumined, O People!”*

(Irmos the Easter Canon)

By the Grace of God, here again is the Feast of Feasts - the Radiant Resurrection of Christ - the Pascha of our Lord!

The Christian Church celebrates with spiritual ecstasy and joyfully glorifies the Son of God - Jesus Christ Risen from the Dead.

What can be more joyful to man than the knowledge of salvation, the gift of life, and the renewal of nature?

Christ is Risen - He shattered the powers of hell, and life continues!

God's mercy has blessed the world, renewing and transforming all that live therein — raising mankind from anger and hatred to the realm of God's sons and daughters. This is the power of the Resurrection!

"For as in Adam all die," so proclaims Apostle Paul, "even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his order: Christ the first fruit; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming." (1 Cor. 15, 22-23). This event embraces boundless joy, hope and life. This is the spiritual joy that renews every believing person. This holy event is the victory that has overcome the world: "He who believes in Me, even if he dies, shall live!"

CHRIST IS RISEN!

May this most joyous greeting give us new strength to love our neighbor, and “to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace unity” (Eph. 4, 3)! May the Feast of the Resurrection of Christ become a real fountain for our renewal, the beginning of a new life in the Resurrected Christ, and life itself dedicated to service for God and the Church, which will promote goodwill and reveal the truth of the Gospel. "He who builds and teaches," proclaimed Christ, "will become great in the Kingdom of God."

Dear brothers and sisters, may, due to the greatness of the Even of His mercy, God grant us an abundance of spiritual joys and blessed successes in our lives and labours, bless us bountifully, that we may live in peace and and enjoy good health and happiness! Amen.

CHRIST IS RISEN! – INDEED HE IS RISEN!

PASCHAL MESSAGE OF HIS GRACE MATTHEW, BISHOP OF SOUROZH



Beloved in the Lord, all-honourable fathers, brothers, and sisters!
On the bright Feast of the Resurrection of Christ I warmly greet you
with the words of the apostolic proclamation:

CHRIST IS RISEN!

In these days of the worldwide celebration of the triumph of all-conquering love, when we celebrate 'the death of death, the destruction of hell, and the beginning of a new and eternal life' (Paschal Canon, Ode 7), may the radiant and saving light of the Resurrection of Christ fill souls with unending joy in the Risen Saviour, and may His inexpressible divine love shine forth in our hearts and may the fire of divine illumination, peace, joy and hope burn brightly in our hearts!

With all my heart I congratulate everyone on the bright Feast of the Pascha of Christ –

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

Bishop of Sourozh *+ Matthew*

temporary Administrator of the Patriarchal parishes in the USA and Canada

Easter Sunday: The Holy Pascha

by Fr. Thomas Hopko,

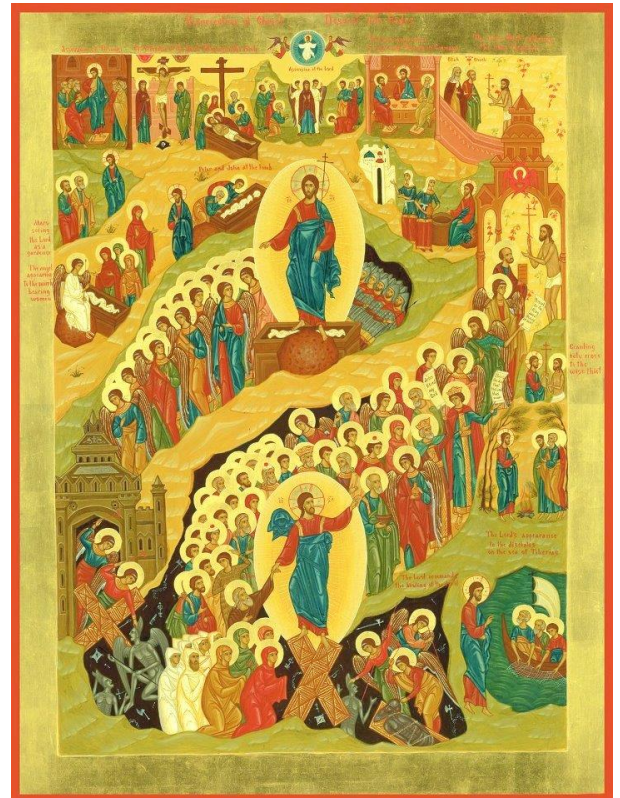
from "The Orthodox Faith, Volume II, Worship"



A little before midnight on the Blessed Sabbath the Nocturne service is chanted. The celebrant [priest] goes to the tomb and removes the winding-sheet [holy shroud]. He carries it through the royal doors and places it on the altar table where it remains for forty days until the day of Ascension.

At midnight the Easter procession begins. The people leave the church building singing: *Thy resurrection, O Christ our Savior,/ the angels in heaven sing./ Enable us on earth/ to glorify Thee in purity of heart.*

The procession circles the church building and returns to the closed doors of the front of the church. This procession of the Christians on Easter night recalls the original baptismal procession from the darkness and death of this world to the light and the life of the Kingdom of God. It is the procession of the holy passover, from death unto life, from earth unto heaven, from this age to the age to come which will never end. Before the closed doors of the church building, the resurrection of Christ is announced. Sometimes the Gospel is read which tells of the empty tomb. The celebrant intones the blessing to the "holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity."



The Easter troparion is sung for the first time, together with the verses of Psalm 68 which will begin all of the Church services during the Easter season.

Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee from before his face!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (Troparion)

This is the day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!

The people re-enter the church building and continue the service of Easter Matins which is entirely sung.

The canon hymns of Christ's resurrection, ascribed to St John of Damascus, are chanted with the troparion of the feast as the constantly recurring refrain. The building is decorated with flowers and lights. The vestments are the bright robes of the resurrection. The Easter icon stands in the center of the church showing Christ destroying the gates of hell and freeing Adam and Eve from the captivity of death. It is the image of the Victor "trampling down death by his own death." There is a continual singing and censing of the icons and the people, with the constant proclamation: Christ is risen! The faithful continually respond: Indeed he is risen!

It is the day of resurrection! Let us be illumined for the feast! Pascha! The Pascha of the Lord! From death unto life, and from earth unto heaven has Christ our God led us! Singing the song of victory: Christ is risen from the dead! (First Ode of the Easter Canon)

Following the canon, the paschal verses are sung, and at the conclusion of the Easter Matins, the Easter Hours are also sung. In general, nothing is simply read in the Church services of Easter: everything is fully sung with the joyful melodies of the feast.

At the end of the Hours, before the Divine Liturgy, the celebrant solemnly proclaims the famous Paschal Sermon of St. John Chrysostom. This sermon is an invitation to all of the faithful to forget their sins and to join fully in the feast of the resurrection of Christ. Taken literally, the sermon is the formal invitation offered to all members of the Church to come and to receive Holy Communion, partaking of Christ, the Passover Lamb, whose table is now being set in the midst of the Church. In some parishes the sermon is literally obeyed, and all of the faithful receive the eucharistic gifts of the Passover Supper of Easter night.

The Easter Divine Liturgy begins immediately with the singing once more of the festal troparion with the verses of Psalm 68. Special psalm verses also comprise the antiphons of the liturgy, through which the faithful praise and glorify the salvation of God:

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Sing of his name, give glory to his praise.

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee! Let it praise Thy name, O most High!

That we may know Thy way upon the earth and Thy salvation among all nations.

Let the people thank Thee, O God! Let all the people give thanks to Thee.

The troparion is repeated over and over again. The baptismal line from Galatians replaces the Thrice-Holy Hymn. The epistle reading is the first nine verses of the Book of Acts. The gospel reading is the first seventeen verses of the Gospel of St. John. The proclamation of the Word of God takes the faithful back again to the beginning, and announces God's creation and re-creation of the world through the living Word of God, his Son Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God ... all things were made through him ... In him was life and the life was the light of men. ...

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth... we have beheld his glory, glory of the only-begotten Son of the Father, and from his fulness have we all received grace upon grace. ... (Jn 1:1-17).

The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom continues, crowned in holy communion with the Passover Lamb at his banquet table in God's Kingdom...

<http://ww1.antiochian.org/easter-sunday-holy-pascha>

In 2022 St. John the Baptist Russian Orthodox Church of Horen (near Tomahawk) is celebrating its 70th Anniversary (1952-2022)

The account of the life Roman Hadzariga – the Starosta of the Temple of Saint John the Baptist at Horen of 1987-2008 and the people who laboured in the holy temmple

Every church is, first of all, people, there lives, there labour, spiritual and physical, there history that has been interwoven into the Holy History, and became a part of the Body of Christ.



Today we continue, to the extent we can, bringing to the pious memory of the contemporary reader the accounts of life of those who built the church life and took care of it.

For that reason, we departed to visit the family of belated (in the year of 2008) and ever-remembered outstanding church Starosta (Parish President) of many years Roman Hadzariga. His spouse Annie Hadzariga and his son Bill (Vasiliy) told us about the church history and some facts of Roman's life and service.

Roman Hadzariga was born on the 16th of October 1922 (probably in Poland – as he had a Polish birth certificate), when his father, Michal Hadzariga, was 41 and his mother, Agata Martynuik, was 35.

He came to Canada with his parents and two younger sisters in 1939.



[L to R:] John Machuk, secretary; Fr. Feodor Kobyliatski, parish priest; and Roman Hadzariga, starosta; July 6, 1987

The family of Annie (maiden name Levonuk) moved to the farm at Tomahawk in 1950 (they bought their first homestead about 5-6 miles away from the current farm in 1949) – by now it is 72 years since then!

To Canada they came in 1929 with one child, Annie's brother Peter (1927-1989), of 1,5 years old. They came here from Ukraine, from Ludwisch* area (either Poland or Ukraine at that time). For a while they lived in Mundare area, and then – moved to the farm west of Edmonton. At that time farming was done only by the horses, with only rare ploughs to sit on.

*probably: Ludvyshche (known since 1545), now a village in the Shumsk city community of the Kremenets district of the Ternopil region, Ukraine

Annie was born in 1930 on the farm, at Seba Beach.

Here in Canada, on a farm in 1934 sister Lidia was born, who is 88 today, and a younger brother Andie (1950) who is 72 now.

In 1950, the construction of St. John's Church began. Here is an account of the church's early history from the book "Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in Canada", that was graciously granted by Anne and Bill Hadzariga:

The Russian Orthodox Church St. John the Baptist is located fifty miles west of Edmonton and seven miles south of Seba Beach, Alberta.

The small community of Horen [named after a river in Ukraine] held its first church service in September, 1949 at the Dnepro School. Rev. Wasiliy Hochachka officiated and the choir was made up of amateur singers and others who tried to follow. Because of the successful attendance, these services were continued to be held in this school for another two or three years.

On September 23, 1951 the people of the vicinity of Horen, Tomahawk, Seba Beach, Moonlake, Berrymoor and Highvale held an organizational meeting with the help of Rev. Wasiliy Hochachka. Mr. Bill Yurchak was approached by the Church Committee if he would sell an acre of his land for the new church site. Bill Yurchak, very generously, donated an acre of SW Half of 6-52-55. The people were very happy. Mr. Phillip Ryznik also offered to donate lumber for the construction of a new church at its present location...

(to be continued in June bulletin)

25th Anniversary in the Priesthood and Service in Canada

The 7th of January 2022 (Christmas Day) marked the 25th year of Right Reverend Igor Kisil's, Rector of St. Barbara's Cathedral, Dean of the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada, ordination as a deacon.

Following this date, on the 9th of March it is 25 years since he was ordained as a priest. The deaconate and priesthood ordination were performed by His Eminence Metropolitan Kirill of Smolensk and Kaliningrad, the Head of the Department of External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate (at the present time the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia) at the Holy Dormition Cathedral in Smolensk, Russia.

Father Igor and Matushka Natalia arrived in Canada on December 5th, 1997. Two days later, on December 7th, they served their first Divine Liturgy at St. Mary's Church in Nisku.

On this occasion, the clergy, the Parishioners of St. Barbara's Cathedral and the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada extend their congratulations to Father Igor Kisil and prayerfully wish him physical and spiritual strength, patience, and success in his further pastoral labours for the good and prosperity of the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada.

Many glorious and blessed years!



In Memoriam

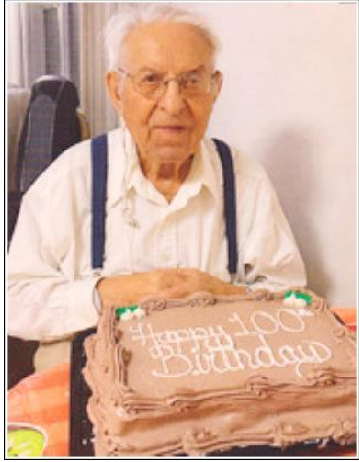
The parishioners of Orthodox IX extend our deepest and sincere condolences to the relatives of the newly departed servant of God William. May God comfort you with His compassion, and settle your father, where the light of His countenance shall visit! Вічна Пам'ять - Memory Eternal!



William (Wasył) Shewchuk
December 22, 1921 – March 26, 2022



On March 26, 2022, with wife of 76 years, Anne, and other family members, at his side, William (Wasył) Shewchuk peacefully entered into the rest eternal.



William was born on December 22, 1921 to Eli and Katrina Shewchuk and was raised on a family farm at MacNutt/Calder, Saskatchewan. He was baptized, went to school and farmed all his life in this area.

In 1945, William married Anne Polan of Swan River, Manitoba. Anne was born in Ternopil, Western Ukraine in 1924. She came to Canada with her mother in 1930 when she was five, and still remembers her Motherland with great love.

William and Anne have been members of St. Mary's Church – the Holy Dormition of the Mother of God – all their lives.

The two of them, through hard work and dedication, successfully farmed north of MacNutt, where they raised a family of five children, baptized them in the church and brought up in a Christian faith and home.

Living so close to the church, they devoted many years of volunteer work in it. Anything needed to be done, they were there always willing, whether it was work on the grounds, cemetery, church and hall. Always giving advice to people that needed it. They have been very faithful to their church and passed this gift to their children and grandchildren.

Since the second church was built in 1961, the ministers that served, were hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Eli Shewchuk and other families in the area. Since Eli's passing, William and Anne have hosted the priests and their wives. As well the bishops when they come to serve. Then their deep devotion and caring have been carried on by their children and grandchildren, so that every pastor felt always welcome.

They always made sure, the services in our little church do continue, even after the membership had dropped dramatically. They had been caretakers, cantors and led in the responses to the divine liturgy for many, many years.

William is survived by his wife, Anne; children Marianne (Ed) Cherniak, Cathy Michie, Russell (Gladys) Shewchuk, Audrey (George) Shepherd and Willie (Phyllis) Shewchuk; 12 grand children; 18 great grand children; and sisters Elsie Perpeluk, Victoria Sorochuk and Doris Adams.

William was predeceased by his parents Eli and Katrina Shewchuk; infant son Andrew; grandson Darrell Cherniak; brothers and spouses Alex(Marie), Mike(Nonie), Peter(Victoria) and infant brother John; sisters and spouses Mary(John) Propochuk, Sophie(Mike) Popuik, Margaret(Joe) Yakubowski and numerous other brother and sister-in- laws, nieces and nephews.

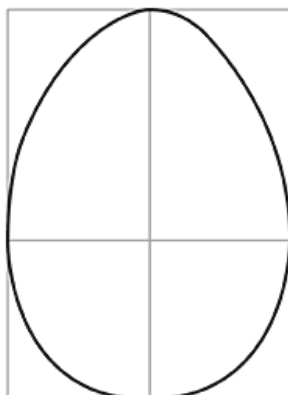
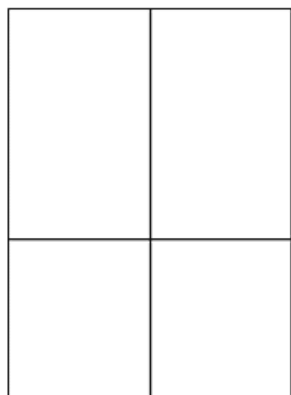
In 2008 Anne and William moved from the farm to a senior residence at Queen Elizabeth Court in Yorkton. Many of the joyful traditional generous family gatherings from the farm, and every time, when a priest would visit the church, were continued in the lounge at their new residence.

William had strong Christian beliefs having dedicated considerable time to the upkeep and operation of the St Mary's Orthodox church; many times he was awarded The Certificate of Merit (Gramota) by bishops, and he has eventually became the elder and patriarch of the parish, with so many descendants keeping the Faith and having reached the unique fullness of the age of a 100 years, but as everyone could see and feel, never aged morally and spiritually!

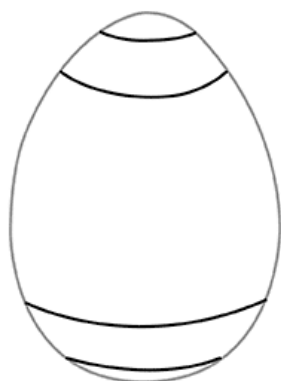
We are sure that his passing away was another Christian birthday – to the Life Eternal! Amen.

How to draw an Easter egg, in 3 steps

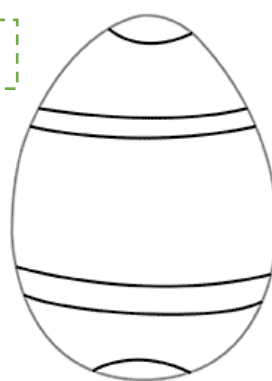
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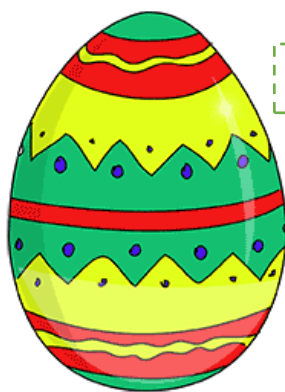
2.



or



3.



or



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><u>April 24 - Holy Easter!</u> <i>11:30 pm - Paschal Matins and Liturgy with blessing of Easter baskets at St. Mary Church, at Nisku</i></p>	<p><u>25</u> <u>Bright Monday</u> No Fast all week</p>	<p><u>26</u> <u>Bright Tuesday</u></p>	<p><u>27</u> <u>Bright Wednesday</u></p>	<p><u>28</u> <u>Bright Thursday</u></p>	<p><u>29</u> <u>Bright Friday</u></p>	<p><u>30</u> <u>Bright Saturday</u></p>
<p><u>1 of May</u> 2nd Sunday of Pascha. Thomas Sunday, Anti-Pascha. 10:00 a.m. - Grave Yard Service – HOREN</p>	<p><u>2</u></p>	<p><u>3</u> Commemoration of the deceased (Radonitsa). All the commemoration booklets will be read at St. Mary's cemetery (10 am).</p>	<p><u>4</u></p>	<p><u>5</u></p>	<p><u>6</u></p>	<p><u>7</u></p>
<p><u>8</u> 3rd Sunday of Pascha. Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women. 10:00 a.m. - Grave Yard Services – Calmar – 10 am; Thorsby – 3 pm</p>	<p><u>9</u></p>	<p><u>10</u></p>	<p><u>11</u></p>	<p><u>12</u></p>	<p><u>13</u></p>	<p><u>14</u></p>
<p><u>15</u> 4th Sunday after Pascha. 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy. NISKU Grave Yard Service with tent and bake sale; – 3:00 pm - Grave Yard Service - Old Cemetery</p>	<p><u>16</u></p>	<p><u>17</u></p>	<p><u>18</u></p>	<p><u>19</u></p>	<p><u>20</u></p>	<p><u>21</u></p>
<p><u>22</u> 5th Sunday after Pascha. 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy. NISKU Grave Yard Services (on demand, please call or come after Liturgy)</p>	<p><u>23</u> Victoria Day - 10:00 am - Liturgy - UKRAINIAN VILLAGE (TBC)</p>	<p><u>24</u></p>	<p><u>25</u></p>	<p><u>26</u></p>	<p><u>27</u></p>	<p><u>28</u></p>