



“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

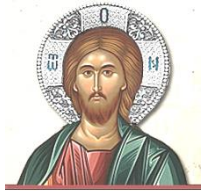
St. Onuphrius - FOAM LAKE (SK)

Whitsuntide (Holy Trinity) - THORSBY

Dormition of Theotokos -MACNUTT (SK)

St. John the Baptist - VEGREVILLE

Sts. Peter & Paul - INSINGER (SK)



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June 2022

Holy Equals-to-the-Apostles Emperors Constantine and Helen



June 2nd is the Holy Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ Day, and in ten days – June 12 – we celebrate another Holy Event – the day of Holy Trinity, or Pentecost: with both of them - making the Fruit of the Holy Pascha approachable and obtainable for the people.

Very close to these events – June the 3rd – is the day of commemoration of the Equals-to-the-Apostles Constantine (337) and Helen, his mother (327).

Which does not at all seem accidentally if we know their lives.

The defenders of the Holy Trinity, this is how we can call the Saints.

Although there was his historically first virtue – he put an end to the cruel persecution of the Christian Church in the empire, with the Edict of Milan in 313 which guaranteed religious tolerance for Christians.

Constantine prayed to the Lord when his rivals - the pagan Maximian Galerius in the East and the fierce tyrant Maxentius in the West hated him and plotted to overthrow and kill him. And he was given a sign which inspired his army to fight valiantly. The Lord showed him a radiant Sign of the Cross in the heavens with the inscription “In this Sign, conquer.”

Thus, being truly thankful, Constantine gave freedom to Christians.

The emperor deeply revered the victory-bearing Sign of the Cross of the Lord, and also wanted to find the actual Cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified. For this purpose he sent his own mother, the holy Empress Helen, to Jerusalem, granting her both power and funds. Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem and Saint Helen began the search, and through the will of God, the Life-Creating Cross was miraculously discovered in 326.

(to be continued on the next page)

Then came this difficult time and period of dangerous misconceptions, heresies, that could deprive Christians of Orthodoxy, that is of its life-giving power.

Particularly ruinous for the Church was the rise of the Arian heresy in the East, which denied the Divine Nature of the Son of God, and taught that Jesus Christ was a mere creature. By order of the emperor, the First Ecumenical Council was convened in the city of Nicea in 325.

318 bishops attended this Council. Among its participants were confessor-bishops from the period of the persecutions and many other luminaries of the Church, among whom was also Saint Nicholas of Myra in Lycia. The emperor made the council possible and even was present at the sessions of the Council. The heresy of Arius was condemned, and a Symbol of Faith (Creed) composed, in which was included the term “consubstantial with the Father,” due to the boldness of the Emperor, confirming the truth of the divinity of Jesus Christ, Who assumed human nature for the redemption of all the human race – and establishing the Truth of the Holy Trinity salvific doctrine.

After the Council of Nicea, Saint Constantine continued with his active role in the welfare of the Church. He accepted holy Baptism on his deathbed, having prepared for it all his whole life. Saint Constantine died on the day of Pentecost in the year 337 and was buried in the church of the Holy Apostles, in a crypt he had prepared for himself.

Oh, Holy Equals-to-the-Apostles Emperor Constantine and Helen, who were preachers of the Love of God - the Holy Cross of Christ, and His Divinity – pray God for us!

Special congratulations to the Churches of Calmar and Thorsby – with the Patronal Feasts! May God keep and bless you! Amen.

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 temple



Annie and Bill Hadzariga

(Continuation. The beginning – in April-May Paschal Bulletin)
The following executive officers were elected in the fall of 1951: Eli Chimich, first Starosta; Kostentin Porowski, Vice-President; Phillip Ryznik, Secretary; and Fred Walaschuk, Recording Secretary. Twenty-nine members formed the first congregation, and the Committee organized a membership drive for new members. A sum of four hundred dollars was donated towards the construction of a new church building.



Sisterhood of the Parish at Horen, L to R: Mary Machuk, Rose Yekimchuk, Wandy Androschuk, Annie Hadzariga, Sylvia Winichuk and Audrey Panchuk.

Sisterhood of 80s

By the spring of 1952, the congregation increased to 45 members and more donations were received. They now had enough funds to start building. Mr. Nick Berznuik was hired to do all the carpentry with volunteer help from the church members. By fall, the exterior of the new church building was completed and on November 13, 1952 it was incorporated as 'Russian Orthodox Church of St. John The Baptist.

In 1953 new members with trade skills, assisted in the completion of the church interior.

Mr. Paul Kozel and Metrofan Bobryk and his sons donated their labor for the completion of the iconostasis and the 'finishing' carpentry. This took about three years.

On July 19, 1953 the first wedding ceremony took place. The young couple were Nancy Ryznik and Paul Shewchuk.

Next the congregation discussed the need for a cemetery. In 1954 a site was chosen—on the hill—one mile north of the church. Si Refus, who owned the property, was approached regarding the sale of an acre of his land — a corner of S.E. Quarter-12-52-65. This good-hearted man donated the land which today is named the Horen Cemetery.

In 1955 the Ryznik family was saddened by the death of their eldest daughter Helen Melany. She was the first burial in this Horen Cemetery. From 1955-1987, there are 44 graves in the cemetery.

In 1954, the Dnepro School was up for sale by the Stony Plain School Division. The members decided to purchase this building and its two-acre parcel of land for a parish hall.

Following is a list of the priests who have served in this Church:

1949-1955Rev. W. Hochachka;

1956-1960Monks from Granada [priest-monks (of ROCOR) lived and had a church west of Wildwood, AB];

1960-1962Rev. John Margitich, Bishop Panteleimon, Rev. Kuzmich

1962-1966Rev. Constantine Stakhowski; 1966-1968Rev. Dimitri Sagan

1968-1972Rev. Harmonhan Krasowski; 1973-1976 Rev. Vladimir Zayats

1977-1978Rev. Anatoli Harkusha; 1978-1984Rev. Peter Vlodek

1985-1987Rev. Nikanor Shymko; 1987- [1988].....Rev. Feodor Kobiliatski

[1989-1997 Alexander Shmediuk (added by YP)]

As the Church was being finished, members donated many needed articles. Donations were voluntary or in memory of loved ones that passed on. This was very much appreciated...

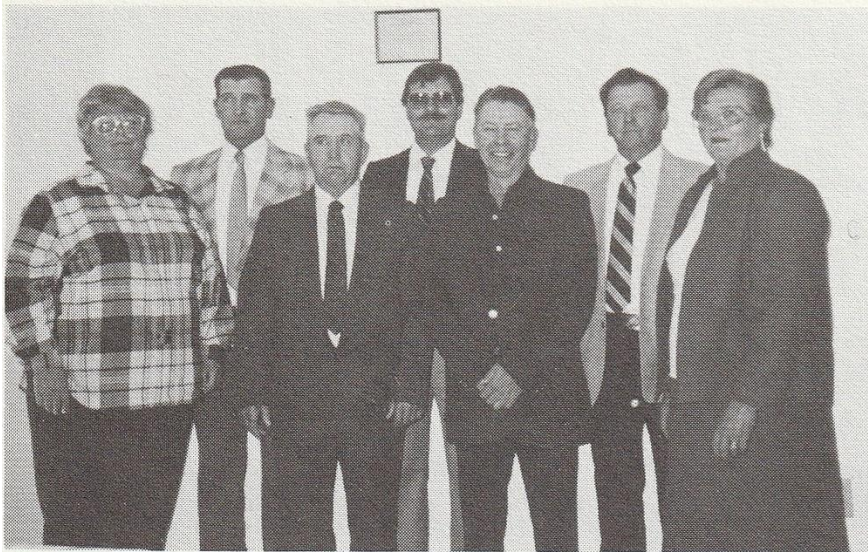
On July 3, 1983 the St. John The Baptist Church had the honor of hosting a historic event—the 86th Anniversary of Orthodoxy in Canada. The morning program began with the celebration of Divine Liturgy by Rt. Rev. Peter Vlodek, pastor of the Church, Rt. Rev. John Margitich from St. Barbara's Cathedral in Edmonton, Archmandrite Dimitri Schur and Very Rev. Arseny Melnyk. The Cathedral Choir of St. Barbara's sang the liturgical responses. The Liturgy was

concluded with the festive blessing of water and a procession around the Church. The Sisterhood of the parish catered a very festive dinner in their new church hall.

Executive Board in 1987: Starosta, Roman Hadzariga; Secretary-Treasurer, John Machuk; Recording Secretary, Sylvia Winnichuk; Trustees, John Krasowski, Steve Winnichuk and Bill Androschuk; Bookkeeper, Mary Machuk.

Sisterhood Members: Mary Machuk, Annie Hadzariga, Audrey Panchuk, Sylvia Winnichuk, Rose Yekimchuk and Wandy Androschuk.

Pastor of the Church - Rev. Feodor Kobiliatski.



Executive board of the parish. Back row, L to R: Steve Winnichuk, trustee; Bill Androschuk, trustee; John Machuk, secretary-treasurer. Front row, L to R: Sylvia Winnichuk, recording secretary; Roman Hadzariga, starosta; John Krasowski, trustee; Mary Machuck, bookkeeper.

This above has been also a good way to commemorate so many good people of St. John's church.

Let us continue from the narrative of the Hadzariga family.

Roman and Anne had their Wedding service (Holy Matrimony) at St. Barbara Cathedral in Edmonton in 1949.

Ever since the first service took place they went to the church every time, wholeheartedly participating in the divine Liturgy.

Whereas Bill was baptized in the Ukrainian church (of Jackpine – St. Peter and Paul church), his younger brother Mike was one of the first to be baptized in St. John's.

The paved road instead of narrow two-way gravel road, moved from Edmonton to the western directions in some certain stages and reached this area in the 70s. So, it was not easy for priests to come to the service at that time. The Starostas had to give a priest a drive, first from Edmonton, and then, later, when there was a commuter bus to Seba Beach, from this lakeside hamlet.

The phones came not earlier than 1960s, with electricity – in 1959. So, another task was to inform everyone of the coming events and services.

Though Roman was not a church starosta at that time, he, like many other people, took part in any of this needs, especially when in the 50s he bought the first pickup truck.

In 1987 Roman was already the official starosta at the church, taking this responsibility of organizing people, though Annie and Bill say, people were always well organized by themselves, and the participation was very eager and natural. You can see those people on the photos, also taken from the book.

Annie began catering almost from the very beginning of the church. It was not, at least from the beginning, a formal Ladies' Aid or Sisterhood, but later some certain women took over this service.

Since they also lived very close, Roman's responsibility was to start everything, including the oven early before the service, that was wooden at that time, then he would also light the candles.

All care about the church had to be done before or after the hard work at the farm.

For his labours in the church Roman was awarded The Certificate of Merit (Gramota) by bishops.

Roman Hadzariga passed away in 2008 leaving behind a good Christian life example, a temple of God in a good shape, and a family who is nowadays one of the main helpers of the current starosta Bill Androschuk and the Parish Council.

This month of April (9th) Annie Hadzariga celebrated her 92nd birthday, may God keep, bless and help her!

Together with his wife they have 18 descendants, 10 in Canada and 8 in the United States.

Let us wish to them all good health, peace from Above in this life, and through keeping the Faith of their father, salvation in life to come.

May the Lord remember his servant Roman with all the people who laboured in St. John's church in His Heavenly Kingdom!

PS (with gratitude)



New Graveyard Cross
made in 2022 by Stan
Koscielny

Nowadays the Church and the Church Hall (the former school "Dnipro"), and the cemetery, despite the lessening of the parishioners' number, is cared by the next generation of people, being saved there by the Lord:

President Peter Yekimchuk; Vice-President Bill Androschuk, and his wife Wandy; Lilian Yekimchuk, Sergei Yekimchuk; Stanley and Proney Koscielny; certainly, Annie Hadzariga, the wife of the late Roman, and their son Bill Hadzariga, and his son - Alex Hadzariga; Lori Johnstone, Adam and Eva Kanarski and their family; Sylvia Winnichuk and her family; the big family of Prokopuk, John, Sylvia and others; Father Vladimir Lysak, the hieromonk and icon painter from Saskatchewan, and many others:

All those people who take part at the parish celebrations and the graveyard services, and who respond to the Church Board's addresses for help; forgive me if I did not mention anyone personally – may the Lord God always remember all of you in His Kingdom!

Congratulations to everyone on the 70th Anniversary of your Holy Temple! May the Lord keep you!

Compiled by Ver. Rev. Yevheniy Protsenko



Congratulations to His Eminence Archbishop Job, former, of 13 years Administrator of Patriarchal Parishes in Canada with the 25th anniversary of the consecration to the Episcopacy!

The thankful people of the Patriarchal Parishes cordially congratulate His Eminence on the significant date — the 25th anniversary of the episcopal consecration.

On 22 June, 1997, Archimandrite Job (Smakouz) was chosen and elected by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church to become a bishop.

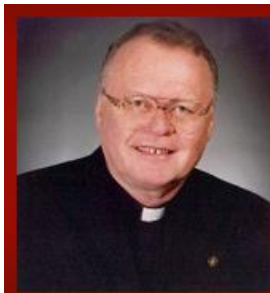
On 19 August, 1997, Archimandrite Job (Smakouz) was ordained to the Holy Episcopate in the Refectory Church of the Venerable Fathers Antony and Theodosius of the Kyiv-Pechersk (Caves) Lavra.

For thirteen years Vladika was faithfully guiding the flock of Christ in the country of Canada.

Remembering patience, endurance, love, long-suffering, and the sacrificial desire to seek in everything the glory of God for the sake of us, spiritual children, we prayerfully wish Archbishop Job strength and God's unflinching help to overcome all the tribulations of this world and reach the unceasing joy of the New Life. But before that – many good years of enjoying the Holy and Heavenly Liturgy in good health and peace, in the loving community of people of God.

Mnohaya lita! Many years!

The Pentecost of Father Peter Gillquist



MEMORY
ETERNAL

FR. PETER GILLQUIST
1938-2012

In this year of 2022, July 1, it is 10 years of the blessed repose of one of the most outstanding Orthodox pastors of our time in the North America – V. Rev. Fr. Peter Gillquist.

I remember how, some twenty years ago, I was impressed by his book *“Becoming Orthodox. A Journey to the Ancient Christian Faith”*. With a

simple language, with least of the theory, he just depicted his and his coworkers honest unbiased search for the true Church and Faith, and in the form of rather an adventure story.

Pious, respected, and diligent protestant pastors created the Evangelical Orthodox Church (EOC) in 1979 and then joined the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America in 1987.

The scale of the event, when a numerous protestant community consciously and joyously entered the Church reminded the holy event of the Pentecost!

“And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this [I]perverse generation.” Then those who [m]gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ [n]doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.” (Pentecost – Acts of the Apostles 2, 40-42)

After much prayer, search and deliberation, in 1987 Father Gillquist with his coworkers, like-minded pastors and people led 17 parishes with 2000 members into the Antiochian Orthodox Church. During his outstanding ministry of 22 years, Father Gillquist has brought 120 churches to Christ. (f. Peter’s biographical)

Let us remember the highlight of the movement – the time of joining the Orthodox Church, that is described in this excerpt from the book, revealing the spirit of the moment, father’s devotion, and love for people. About that moment – the reception of the Evangelical Orthodox Church into the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, Metropolitan Philip (Primate of Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America) said: “I don't remember in my lifetime and perhaps you don't remember in your lifetime that you have witnessed such mass conversion and to holy orthodoxy” (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_2gl17e7A8).

* * *

The service at Saint Michael’s, Van Nuys, two weeks earlier had lasted nearly four hours, as over two hundred people were chrismated and numerous men ordained to the diaconate. In fact, the crowd was so large, they removed all the glass panels on the west side of the sanctuary and set up a huge rented tent to handle the overflow. “This looks like a Pentecostal revival,” I said to Fr. John Bartke before the service. In the classical sense of the term, it was.

The first person I met as we walked into the church that February morning was Juliana Schmemann, wife of the late Fr. Alexander Schmemann. She had come all the way from New York to Los Angeles to witness the event. Her presence was a highlight for everyone, and I could scarcely express my appreciation to her for coming.

All of us, EOC clergy and laity, were chrismated at the beginning of the service. Then, during the Liturgy itself, the deacons were ordained—each one personally receiving the laying on of hands by the metropolitan. The new California parishes represented were Saint Barnabas, Huntington Beach, Fr. Wayne Wilson; Saint Athanasius, Santa Barbara, Fr. Richard Ballew; Saint Timothy, Lompoc, Fr. David Ogan; Saint Athanasius, Sacramento, Fr. Thomas Renfree; and from Nevada, Saint James, Reno, Fr. Timothy McCoy.

Though in the New Testament and for much of church history there were multiple ordinations, the more recent custom in Orthodoxy has been to ordain only one deacon or presbyter at a service.

(Continuation – on page 7)



Reception to Orthodoxy by Metropolitan Philip

But there were so many of us, custom gave way to tradition and, as with the Apostle Paul, Metropolitan Philip “laid hands on them” (Acts 19:6) for the grace of the Holy Spirit.

The prayer the bishop prays for each new deacon includes these words:

Grant that he may love the beauty of Your house, stand before the doors of Your holy Temple, and kindle the lamps in the tabernacle of Your glory. And plant him in Your holy Church like a fruitful olive tree, which brings forth the fruits of righteousness. And make him Your perfect servant at the time of Your Coming, that he may receive the recompense of those who are well-pleasing in Your sight.

We were entering together into the holy order of deacons begun with seven men, including Saint Stephen, the first martyr for Jesus Christ in the newborn Church.

There was one person missing at Saint Michael’s that morning. Peggy Thomas was home in Santa Barbara fighting a battle with terminal cancer and was too ill to come. Her family was chrismated, and her husband, Steve, ordained that morning without her. “She’s got to make it next week,” he said as we left the sanctuary. “Pray for her.”

After the service, the people at Saint Michael’s served us an absolute feast. It’s one of several times I admitted part of the reason I turned Orthodox was for the food!

The next Sunday brought more chrismations and the ordination of the deacons to the priesthood at Saint Nicholas Cathedral in Los Angeles, where Fr. Paul Romley is pastor. Dear Bishop Maximos of Pittsburgh was with us, as was Bishop Seraphim of Japan, who years earlier as an evangelical Protestant had graduated from Nyack Bible College. In addition, some twenty Orthodox priests had come in from across North America. Besides the faithful of the cathedral, scores of friends and parents, including my own, were on hand to witness the glorious event.

It was another Pentecost. The joy of the Lord filled His temple. As the priests were ordained one by one, Metropolitan Philip prayed:

The Divine Grace, which always heals that which is infirm, and completes that which is lacking, elevates through the laying on of hands this most devout deacon to be priest.

I knew the moment the words were said I would be called to rely upon the grace which completes what is lacking, for the rest of my life and ministry. The Lord surely does take the baser things of the world to confound the wise.

At the banquet which followed, Bishop Maximos stood to speak. He praised God for His faithfulness to us as pilgrims, and the metropolitan for his courage and decisiveness in opening to us the door of the Church. It was my joy that afternoon to introduce my parents to these two men of God who had received us all so graciously.

As I stepped outside the back door of the cathedral to go to my car, I noticed a van had backed up to the curb area nearby. The sliding door on the side was still open, and I looked in as I passed. There, resting and smiling ear to ear, was Peggy Thomas. “I made it!” she said. “This was my goal, to be Orthodox.”

Just over a month later, Metropolitan Philip wrote Fr. Steve Thomas this letter:

We have just learned with much sorrow of the falling asleep in Christ of your beloved wife, Peggy. May the Almighty God receive her in His holy mansions, where the faces of the saints shine like the stars of heaven. Beyond this world of suffering and tears, Christ has promised us another world where there is no sickness, sorrow, or pain. Our consolation is that sooner or later, we will join those whom we love beyond the veils of this temporal existence.

Compiled by Ver. Rev. Yevheniy Potsenko

Traditional Celebration at St. Nicholas Church at Ukrainian Village in 2022

One of the good and old traditions of Patriarchal Parishes of Russian Orthodox Church in Canada is a combination of Canadian statutory holiday – Viktoria Day, and our very revered church feast of the Translation of the Relics of Saint Nicholas from the city of Myrr, Licia, of Asia Minor to Barri, Italy, the event that took place in 1087.

In this year of 2022, by God’s grace, we again celebrated the Divine Liturgy in the temple dedicated to the great God-pleaser, that now is situated at Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village.

The liturgy was arranged and lead by the dean of Patriarchal Parishes and the rector of St. Barbara Cathedral Right Reverend Igor Kisil in co-celebration of the rector of Orthodox IX Parishes Reverend Yevheniy Protsenko, with the support of the Parish Council of St. Barbara Cathedral, the altar helpers from the cathedral – Alexander, Nikita, Alexander and Lazar, and a lot of people – the parishioners from the cathedral and the churches of Parishes, with the choir director – Sergey Kuflevskiy, and the reader – Alexander Ryabov.



Traditionally we were granted free admission to the Village, and also given a ride by the local “commuter” – the spacious horse carriage by the Cultural Heritage authority.

During the liturgy we read both the Gospel of the day and the Gospel for St. Nicholas, the Wonderworker, and right after the Gospel, f. Yevheniy gave a short account of the great saint’s life, why he is so significant for the Orthodox world, and what kind of event we celebrate when we commemorate St. Nicholas in summer.



The celebration was not fruitless as there were people willing to partake of the Holy Gifts of the Lord Jesus Christ.

At the end of the liturgy father Igor addressed the parishioners with speech of welcome and gratitude, and gave a sermon related to the history of St. Nicholas church. He reminded the participants, that the holy temple was built one hundred and fourteen years ago – in 1908, was a home of prayer and Holy Communion for a number of years at the village (community) of Warwick, and in 1970, in order to preserve the church, it was transferred to the territory of Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village, which is about an half an hour drive from Edmonton.

Since then, the temple, being the only dedicated to St. Nicholas among our churches, was never disregarded.

Every year, except the two past years of pandemic, there were Archpastoral celebrations, with the last one in 2019 with His Grace Matthew, bishop of Sourouzh. Before that Bishops Jove and Mark would always gladly pay a visit to lead the celebration for this event at St. Nicholas church at the Ukrainian Village.

Father Igor also congratulated the parishioners with an upcoming anniversary of the First Liturgy in Canada, that took place and is now annually celebrated at Old Wostok. This year it is 125 years since that historic event.

The President of the St. Barbara's Russian Orthodox Cathedral Roman Lopushinsky also addressed the people, and congratulated everyone with both statutory and church feasts, and invited the congregation to the festive picnic dinner. For that Roman and Deanna traditionally brought a recreation vehicle with a lot of treats onboard.

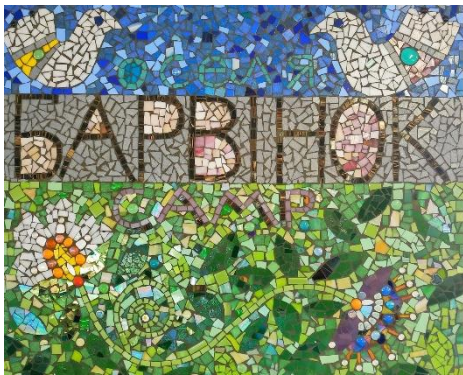
People contributed their own dishes and treats for the dinner, and were having a good time of joy and communication.

The weather was favourable, and we also enjoyed the Celebration of Dance (that is held at every beginning of the new season at the Ukrainian Village) that was not far from our usual site "at the red barn".

Through the prayers of the great God-pleaser and wonder-worker St. Nicholas may the Lord God remember all the participants and all the parishioners of the Patriarchal Parishes!

Announcements

Children Bible Camp 2022



Dear brothers and sisters, our parishioners, and friends!

We are glad to announce the reopening – after two years – of our Children Bible Camp on banks of the beautiful Pigeon Lake, the event so long awaited, very much profitable for the kids, that they are likely to remember with pleasure for many years.

The camp will be conducted from August 14th to August 21st, 2019. Spiritual activity, sports and arts will be again the core activities for the retreat. The organizers ask the families to take active part in volunteering during the camp.

Please, see it on the official website of the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada - <http://www.orthodox-canada.com/bible-camp/>

There you can find the detailed information and the registration form.

The date of the Organizational Meeting will be announced later on the website.

70 years Anniversary and Great Renovation of St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Bonnyville



One of our Orthodox IX parishes - a small church that sits between 51st Street and 52nd Street in Bonnyville is celebrating its 70th birthday, and, actually, just recently it has been born again, we could say it like this.

A renovation project did seem out of reach to the small church community, but the secretary-treasurer of the church Stefania Zuk, after the blessing and help from the former rector of the church (now rector of St. Barbara's) Father Igor, took courage to undertake this God-pleasing project.

All her family – her son Nester and daughter Paulette, with their spouses and children, took this burden on them to work hard even in the hottest days, inside and outside!

The first Liturgy after the renovation is going to be on June 18 (Saturday, 10 am), and we shall give a more complete account of who was participating, and what has been done in our next bulletin.

You can have, though, some information even now, if go to the following link with an article: <https://www.lakelandtoday.ca/bonnyville-news/historical-bonnyville-church-gets-a-second-chance-2893585>

May God keep and save His faithful servants!

The Descent of the Holy Spirit at the Pentecost (for children)



The tenth day after the Ascension of Jesus Christ was the fiftieth day after the Resurrection of Christ. It was the Jews' great feast of Pentecost, which commemorated the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai.

All the apostles, the Mother of God, the other disciples of Christ, and other of the faithful were all together in one room in Jerusalem. It was the third hour of the day by the Hebrew reckoning of hours, according to our system – nine o'clock in the morning. Suddenly a sound came from Heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. There descended on them tongues that looked like fire, which rested on each one of them.

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak languages previously unknown to them. Thus the Holy Spirit, according to the promise of the Saviour, descended on the apostles in the form of *tongues of fire* as a sign that He gave the apostles the ability and zeal to preach the teachings of Christ to all peoples. He descended in the form of fire as a sign of the power to cleanse sins and to sanctify and warm souls.

On the occasion of the feast of Pentecost, there were in Jerusalem many Jews who had come from various nations. Hearing the noise, a great multitude of people came together around the house where the disciples of Christ were. They were all bewildered and asked each other, «Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? How is that each of us hears his own native language? How are they able to tell in our languages the mighty works of God?»

Then, the Apostle Peter standing with the eleven said that the Holy Spirit had descended upon them, and that had been prophesied by the Prophet Joel, and that Jesus Christ, Whom the Jews had crucified, had risen from the dead, ascended into Heaven, and poured out on them the Holy Spirit.

The sermon of Peter moved those who heard it so much that many more started to believe in Jesus Christ. They asked Peter and the rest of the apostles, «Brethren, what shall we do?»

Peter said to them, «Repent and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; then, you shall also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.»

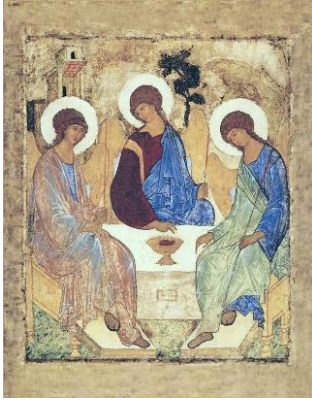
So those who believed in Christ readily accepted baptism, and there were added by that day about three thousand souls. Thus, the building of the Kingdom of God on earth, the holy Church of Christ, began.

This grace of the Holy Spirit, which was clearly conferred on the apostles in the form of tongues of fire, is now conferred in our Holy Orthodox Church in its sacraments, through the successors to the apostles, the pastors of the Church, its *bishops* and *priests* [*presbyters*].

The Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles is celebrated by the Holy Orthodox Church as one of the greatest feast-days on the fiftieth day after Pascha because the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles on the fiftieth day after the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

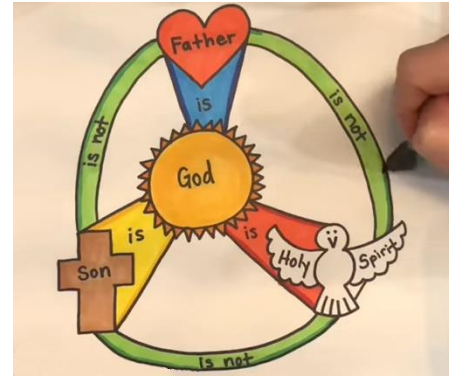
It is therefore called *Pentecost* or *Holy Trinity Day*; for on this day, the action of all the Persons of the Holy Trinity - *the Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit* - was revealed to the world, and people learned to venerate and glorify the three Persons of the one God. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit . . ." (Matthew 28:19)

A way to explain the Trinity to our children



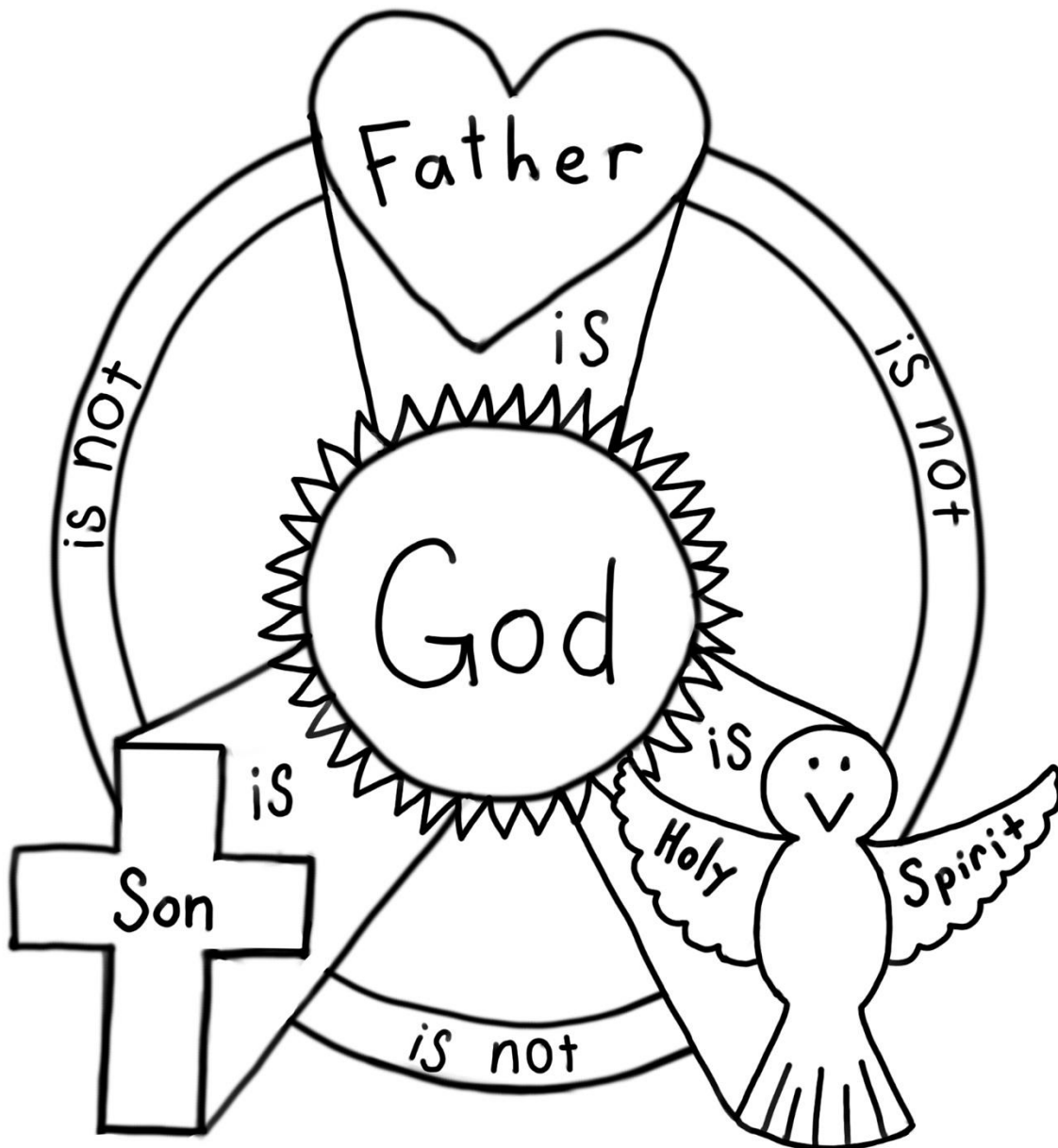
One of the most fundamental beliefs of the Christian Church is the belief in the Holy Trinity, the confession that God is One in substance and Three in person. This is a belief that God has revealed to us, most explicitly through the incarnation of Jesus and the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, that is described on the previous page.

Thankfully, there are many different ways to present the Trinity to children that may even shed light on the belief for adults, like this icon of the three angels.



There is also an ancient Trinitarian diagram, often called the "Shield of the Trinity," that helps explain who God is and the relation of the three divine persons. The diagram helps show visually how each of the three persons is God, but remain distinct from the others. This image can be helpful all the people who are beginning to grasp the reality and mystery of the Trinity.

Today we suggest looking carefully at the Trinity Shield below and then give it colors like in the picture above



June 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> Holy Ascension of the Lord 	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>5</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – Patronal Feast – CALMAR – Blessing of water (online service)	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> Third Finding of the Precious Head of St. John the Baptist (ca. 850) 	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>12</u> 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – Patronal Feast – THORSBY – Blessing of water Holy Trinity Day 	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u> Martyr Lucillian and those who suffered with him at Byzantium 	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u> 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy - Grave Yard Service – BONNYVILLE
<u>19</u> 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy 12:00 Grave Yard Service – VEGREVILLE 3:30 pm - Grave Yard Service - WARWICK	<u>20</u> APOSTLES FAST BEGINS	<u>21</u> Great-martyr Theodore Stratelates 	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas (1st c.) 	<u>25</u> 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy - Grave Yard Service - MACNUTT 5:00 pm - Grave Yard Service - INSINGER
<u>26</u> 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy - Patronal Feast (Blessing of water) and Grave Yard Service – FOAM LAKE	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>		