

Sunday of the Prodigal Son



Our Venerable Father Ephrem the Syrian (373) – Ephrem was born in the beginning of the 4th century in Nisibe of Mesopotamia. Ordained a deacon, he was appointed as a teacher in his home town school, where he excelled as a Bible teacher. Ephrem spent the rest of his life teaching in Edessa in the so called “School of Persians.” He died in the year 373. He is the author of some of the most beautiful and spiritually moving hymns ever written.

***** Sunday, January 28th, 2018 *****

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Liturgical Services this Week

Sunday, Jan. 28 *** 9:30 a.m. **Rosary** (Eng.)

*** 10:00 a.m. **Div. Lit.**: God's blessings for all parishioners. (Eng./Ukr.)

Tuesday, Jan. 30 **Feast of the Three Hierarchs *** 9:00 a.m.

Div. Lit.: Special Intention

Wednesday, Jan. 31 ** 9:00 a.m. **Div. Lit.**: +Russell – Stella Black

Thursday, Feb. 1* 9:00 a.m. **Div. Lit.**: Intentions of George Frieen (99 BD)

Friday, February 2 ***Feast of the Encounter of Our Lord ***

10:00 a.m. **Div. Lit.**: God's blessings for all parishioners

Saturday, Feb. 3 *** 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit.: 1st All Souls Saturday
– prayers for our beloved deceased ones

Sunday, Feb. 4 *** 9:30 a.m. **Rosary** (Eng.) *** 10:00 a.m.
Div. Lit.: God's blessings for all parishioners. (Eng./Ukr.)



Troparion, Tone 1: Though the stone was sealed by the Judeans,* and soldiers guarded Your most pure body,* You arose, O Saviour, on the third day,* and gave life to the world.* And so the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of Life:/* Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ!/* Glory to Your kingdom!/* Glory to Your saving plan,* O only Lover of mankind.

**+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

Kontakion, Tone 3: Foolishly have I fled from Your glory, O Father,* wasting the wealth You gave me on vices.* Therefore, I offer You the words of the Prodigal:/* Loving Father, I have sinned before You.* Take me, for I repent, and make me as one of Your hired hands.

Prokeimenon, Tone 1 - Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You.

verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise befits the righteous.

Epistle: *1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

Brothers and Sisters, “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you

not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Alleluia, Tone 1 - God gives me vindication, and has subdued people under me.

verse: Making great the salvation of the king, and showing mercy to His anointed, to David, and to His posterity forever.

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

The Lord told this parable, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven



and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Communion Hymn - Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia. (Psalm 148:1)



** ANNOUNCEMENTS **

"C. The Social Dimensions of the Church

1. The Social Dimension of Christian Freedom

927

Given his or her dignity, the human person stands at the centre of social life. Therefore, the foundation of social morality is respect for every person and the priority of the person over society. This emphasis on the

person does not imply an individualistic view of human life, for a human being is called to freedom within community.

928

The mystery that is the person discloses the meaning of Christian freedom. This freedom is freedom from sin and from everything that enslaves a person. It frees him or her from everything that makes one dependent on external and internal compulsions, including the social structures of sin (defined below). At the same time, such freedom is a freedom to serve God and neighbour in love: “For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love be servants of one another” (Gal 5:13).

929

As a “new person” in Christ (see Eph 2:15), the Christian manifests this freedom in concrete areas of life, especially in social aspects. One is called to cooperation with Christ in all facets of human life. The behaviour of this “new person” in society flows from the gift of new life in Christ, and therefore the perfection and maturity of the person in the moral life is not only a result of his or her effort, but is also a fruit of unity and joint action with Christ in the Holy Spirit.

930

Freedom is always associated with a person’s responsibility before other people. Owing to the reality of freedom in community, a human being is capable of manifesting social virtues (defined below) and building

areas of cultural life that require the efforts of the entire community (art, scholarship, the economy, etc.).

931

The Church community brings dynamism to the life of society. It does this by proposing a direction for social development and perfection that surpasses the temporal horizons of human life. The most perfect model of a community of persons is the Most Holy Trinity. However, Christians understand that sin deforms interpersonal relations, gives rise to misunderstandings within society, and interferes with society's formation and growth in perfection. Every personal sin always has social implications. This leads to the emergence of structures of sin—social constructs in which a person is induced to commit sinful deeds. In order to overcome the structures of sin and build up society, Christians reject sinful actions and courageously witness to the good and to justice.” *Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church – “Christ Our Pascha” #927-931*

A warm welcome - to all parishioners, your families, visitors and guests. Thank you for joining us in this Divine Liturgy. Have a blessed week!



Please Pray for health of ... John H., Maria & Ihor Z., Joe S., Clay B., Theresa L., Ann W., Lawrence S., Fr. Jeffery S., Lawrence & Ping B., all the sick brothers and sisters in our families and our parish community.

Please let Fr. Andrzej know if you would like to add names to the prayer list and also notify him about any sick and/or hospitalized parishioners and family members.

Thank you to all our Volunteers –

Дякуємо – Many thanks to Mr. Orest Hrycewicz for repairing our parking lot surface. Also our gratitude to everyone for your support



of our parish community and all other work done at the church property this past week. God bless you all!

Congratulations! Mnohaya Lita! – very special God's blessings to anyone among our parishioners and their families who celebrated their birthday, name-day, wedding anniversary and any other special anniversary during **the month of January** (3rd - Anastasia Wasylko; Jan 6th - Zonia St. Pierre; 7th - Steve Usipuk; 24th - Jared Flodstrom).

"Christ Our Pascha" - Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church – a short presentation on this great spiritual resource of our Church will take place next Sunday during our coffee time after the Divine Liturgy. (<http://www.royaldoors.net> & <http://catechism.royaldoors.net>)

"Social Ministry Days" - 28 January - 4 February, 2018 - The Synod of Bishops of the UGCC at their annual gathering in one of its decrees promulgate:

"#3 In order to encourage the faithful of the UGCC to engage in social ministry and to foster in them a spirit of generosity and mercy, proclaimed throughout the UGCC:

- a) Sunday of the Prodigal Son – a day of special care for the imprisoned;
- b) Meat-fare Sunday – a Day of Social Ministry and charitable action;
- c) Proclaim the days between these two Sundays to be "Social Ministry Days" and to conduct relevant educational and charitable initiatives in parishes during this period, thus re-establishing a tradition of "social ministry days," initiated by the venerable metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky."

Next Major Feast Day - Encounter of Our Lord – will take place this coming Friday, February 2nd. This is a day of obligation. Please plan to attend the Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Next Monthly Catholic Youth Meeting – will take place this coming Friday, Feb. 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Family RC parish.

House Blessings & Pastoral Visits – have started this past week. Please assist Fr. Andrzej in planning these visits by letting him know your most convenient time. A sign-up sheet is provided at the church entrance. Thank you.

1st All Souls Saturday (Задушна Субота) – our 1st prayers for our beloved deceased ones will take place **this coming Saturday, Feb. 3rd.**

Annual Parish General Meeting – will take place next **Sunday, Feb. 4th, 2018** before lunch after the Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

UCWLC Annual General Meeting – will take place on Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Great Fast (Lent) 2018 – will begin on Monday February 12th, 2018.



Special Petitions for Divine Liturgy:

* We also pray for the people of Ukraine, that with the help of the Holy Spirit, they may obtain social peace, political harmony and economic stability: Lord, hear us and have mercy.

The Most Holy Trinity Parish Stewardship: Sunday, Jan. 21 - \$1,343.00 **** *May God bless and reward you for your generosity & support.*

Pastoral Ministry and Sacraments:

Reconciliation: on Sundays and Holy Days: before Divine Liturgies and other days, by appointment.

Holy Communion: for the sick, by appointment, any time.

Baptisms: by appointment.

Marriages: six months' notice should be given to the parish priest, and he should be contacted before any other arrangements are made.

Funerals and Memorials: by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick (Holy Unction): Those anticipating surgery, hospitalization or treatments and who would like to receive anointing or to meet with parish priest, please call or email Fr. Andrzej in advance to arrange a time and a day.

Basic Guidelines for Reception of Holy Communion:

1. You are a member of the Catholic Church (Orthodox faithful are welcome to receive Holy Communion); 2) You have participated in the Sacrament of Confession at least during the Easter or Christmas seasons this past year if not more frequently; 3) You attend Divine Services regularly; 4) Your lifestyle is consistent with the teaching of the Catholic Church; 5) You have kept the Liturgical fast – no food at least one hour prior to the Divine Liturgy (water and medicine does not break the fast). 6) You have been in church from the beginning of the service, or at least heard the Gospel. 7) To the best of your ability, you are in the state of Grace.

If for any of these or other reasons you cannot receive Holy Communion, you are very welcome to come for a blessing. Please indicate to the priest that you would like to receive his blessing.



“The state has a legitimate interest in protecting the unborn”

Statement on the 30th anniversary of the Morgentaler Decision

Exactly thirty years ago, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that existing abortion provisions in our nation's Criminal Code violated a woman's Charter rights to the security of person, and were thus unconstitutional. Since that ruling, there has been no criminal law regulating abortion in Canada. Yet, Mr. Justice Gerard Mitchell, retired Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island, has noted that at the time of the 1988 Morgentaler decision, “none of the seven judges held that there was a constitutional right to abortion on demand”. In fact, “all of the judges acknowledged [that] the state has a legitimate interest in

protecting the unborn".¹ Despite the heroic efforts of countless Canadian citizens and organizations to secure in law that full protection for the unborn, a succession of federal governments has failed to take any decisive action. Canada today is one of the only countries in the world in which abortion continues to be permitted at every stage of pre-natal development and for any motive.

Legal or not, every abortion involves at least four victims: the unborn child, the mother, the father, and the community. The mother's actions, whether coerced or freely chosen, leave her wounded – in many instances for the remainder of her life. Abortion can also cause destructive tensions between the parents themselves and with their families. While unrestricted access to abortion continues to be touted by some as the guarantor of women's freedom, the truth is that abortion does nothing at all to address the very real challenges which confront a woman when she finds herself facing an unintended pregnancy. Nor does it address any of the other conditions in a society that unjustly limit a woman's freedom. Abortion merely makes it easier for society to avoid its moral obligations to ensure protection and shelter for the most vulnerable – expectant mothers, the unborn child, and all who are in need. Abortion is never a solution.

From its very beginning, and throughout its history, the Catholic Church has consistently taught that human life is sacred, and derives its value not from any measure of "usefulness" but from its origin, hidden in the creative power of God, and from the eternal destiny to which it is directed. The intentional killing of

¹ Justice Gerard Mitchell, "Clarifying facts on Canada's abortion law or lack of," Letter to the Editor in *The (P.E.I.) Guardian* (22 May 2014), in which he states: "None of the seven judges held that there was a constitutional right to abortion on demand. All of the judges acknowledged the state has a legitimate interest in protecting the unborn. Even Madam Justice Wilson, who rendered the most liberal opinion in favour of a woman's rights, advocated an approach to abortion that would balance those rights with the state's interest in protecting the unborn." Gerard Mitchell is a former provincial court judge (1975-1977), P.E.I. Supreme Court Justice (1981-1987) and Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island (1987 to 2008). Link to the article: <http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/opinion/letter-to-the-editor/clarifying-facts-on-canadas-abortion-law-or-lack-of-111599/>.

innocent human beings at any stage of development is always gravely wrong. The life that begins at conception is that of a unique and irreplaceable human being; a life, like all others, at least in some measure dependent yet genetically distinct – a human life, full of potential. As proclaimed in *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), we hold that every member of the human family enjoys the right to life. Today, the sciences of embryology and genetics have placed the humanity of the unborn child beyond question. That a new human life comes into existence at conception is not, as some suggest, “a theological opinion”; reason tells us that each human life has the right not to be killed. As Canadians, we take pride in our record of upholding international human rights – while at the same time failing to provide the most basic protection for the child in the womb and so contradicting and eroding our own humanity. In our country, in order to create a society which recognizes the inherent value of human life, we need to do more in making the choice for life a real option and opposing erroneous notions of “freedom” and “autonomy” which pit the welfare and rights of the individual against those of his or her neighbour, friend, or unborn child and thus also against the human community. What impoverishes one impoverishes all; what enriches one enriches all. To those who have succumbed to the pressures to abort, we hold out the promise of divine forgiveness. God, who is full of mercy and compassion, desires the friendship and healing of all.

With great hope and thanksgiving, the Catholic Bishops of Canada recognize that respect for life and opposition to abortion is not, as some have asserted, merely “the Catholic” position. Over the course of the last decades, many of our fellow Christians, members of other faiths, and those of no faith at all, have worked tirelessly with members of our own communities to uphold the value of human life from the first moment of conception. Through these collaborative efforts, countless vulnerable lives have been protected and mothers assisted; couples struggling with infertility have experienced the joys of parenthood; and mercy, forgiveness and healing have been

celebrated and shared throughout the community. It is our prayer that this unity of purpose may continue to grow and flourish and that in the near future Canadian law will offer protection for the lives of the unborn. Let us continue to try hard and do what is right so that the most vulnerable among us will one day benefit from the protection which they are owed.

+Lionel Gendron, P.S.S.

Bishop of Saint-Jean-Longueuil
and President of the Canadian
Conference of Catholic Bishops

27 January 2018



January 25, 2018

Dear Prime Minister/Minister Hajdu,
Re. Changes to the Canada Summer Jobs Grant Program

We the undersigned leaders of diverse faith communities and organizations in Canada, call on the Prime Minister and the Government of Canada religious organizations to stay true to their communal identity and beliefs. The new application to amend the Canada Summer Jobs guidelines and application process so that it does not compel agreement or belief, and allows requires each organization to give non-negotiable and unqualified affirmation of certain beliefs held by the current government.

Canada has a long history of cooperation and collaboration between religious organizations and governments in our health care and social welfare systems, and in many other areas of life.

Faith-based organizations wish to continue to partner with the federal government in delivering programming and services to vulnerable members of their local communities, including

children and youth, newcomers to Canada, and people experiencing poverty and homelessness.

However, with the changes to the Canada Summer Jobs guidelines, many organizations will be deemed ineligible because they are unable or unwilling to attest that their “core mandate” and beliefs align with the current government’s position. These groups are being denied equal access to a government benefit solely because of their religious beliefs or conscientious objection.

In managing its programs, the government should respect and accommodate the diversity of values and beliefs within Canadian society and must itself abide by the Charter in its treatment of individuals and groups. The fundamental freedoms of conscience and religion, thought, belief, opinion and expression, as guaranteed in the Charter, must be respected and affirmed in legislation, regulations and policy.

The promise of a free and democratic society is that there be no religious or ideological tests or conditions to receiving government benefits or protection.

The changes to the Canada Summer Jobs guidelines and application not only violate the fundamental freedoms of faith-based organizations, they also significantly impact the broader communities served by their programs, often the most vulnerable in Canadian society.

Canada is known and widely respected as a religiously plural and multicultural society. Respect for the diversity of beliefs of all Canadians and meaningful engagement with those who hold differing beliefs is essential to maintaining a robust democracy. Please ensure that Canadians continue to benefit from collaboration between governments and faith-based organizations working together for the common good of our country.

Sincerely,

Dave Addison, Executive Director Toronto City Mission

Rabea Allos

Canadian Middle Eastern Christian Congress

Adriana Bara, Executive Director Canadian Centre for Ecumenism

Mr. Kerry Belt

President, Rocky Mountain College

James Beerley, DCD, President Crossworld Canada

Rev. Dr. Andrew Bennett Director, Cardus Law

Father Daniel Bessada

St. Mary and St. John the Beloved Coptic Orthodox Church

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President

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Rev. Tim McCoy, Executive Minister Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec

Dr. Stephen W. Martin Associate Professor of Theology The King's University

Kevin McKay, President Partners International Canada

Rev. Paul J. McPhail, General Secretary Independent Assemblies of God International (Canada)

Rev. Wesley Mills, President
Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada Inc.

Dr. Lawson Murray, President Scripture Union Canada

Rev. Robert Ogilvie, Executive Minister Canadian Baptists of Western Canada

Michael B. Pawelke, DMin, President Briercrest College & Seminary

Rev. John Pellowe, MBA, DMin
Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Council of Christian Charities

H.G. Anba Mina, Bishop of Mississauga, Vancouver and Western Canada
The Coptic Orthodox Church in Canada
Dr. Mouhammad Iqbal Nadvi, Chair, Canadian Council of Imams
Cardinal Thomas Collins Archbishop of Toronto
Messianic Vision Canada
John G. Denbok, Executive Director SIM Canada
Eric Derksen, President Vanguard College
Maureen Dinner, MA, Executive Director The Pregnancy Centre
Davide DiSabatino, Lead Pastor Church in the Hills
Tim Dyck, General Secretary Evangelical Mennonite Conference
Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education & Action
Evangel Chapel
Fort St. John, British Columbia
Steve Falkiner, President
Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada
Bruce Fawcett, Ph.D. President and Vice Chancellor Crandall University
Cliff Fletcher, Bishop, The Free Methodist Church in Canada
Rabbinical Council of America
Kervin Raugust, President, Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada
Bren Cressman, Policy, Media & Research Analyst
Rabbi Reuben Poupko
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Rev. Rick Reed, President
Heritage College & Seminary
Geri Rodman, President
Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship of Canada
Rev. Dr. Darren Roorda
Canadian Ministries Director

Christian Reformed Church in North America

Derek B.M. Ross, LL.B, LL.M. Executive Director & General Counsel Christian Legal Fellowship

Rev. Dr. David Schrader

National Pastor, Congregational Christian Churches in Canada

Rev. Lance Schubert, President Nipawin Bible College

André Schutten, HonB.A., LL.B., LL.M. Legal Counsel & Director of Law and Policy Association for Reformed Political Action

Dr. Stephen Roy, President & Dean

Immanuel Bible College

The Very Reverend Angelos Saad

Church of V. Mary and St. Athanasius

Coptic Orthodox Church

John Friesen, CEO Muskoka Bible Centre

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl

Beth Tzedec Congregation, Toronto

Executive Member, Canadian Rabbinic Caucus

The Most Reverend Lionel Gendron, P.S.S. Bishop of Saint-Jean Longueuil

President, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

Rev. Len Goddard, President

Community Christian Fellowship Church of Canada

Graham Greenwood, Executive Pastor Mill Woods Assembly

Randolph Haluza-DeLay, PhD, Sociology The King's University

Rev. David Hearn, President

The Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada

His Grace Bishop Abgar Hovakimian

Primate of the Armenian Holy Apostolic Church, Diocese of Canada

Don Huston, MC, RCC, Lead Pastor Julia Street Community Church

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Rev. Richard Janes, President Master's College & Seminary

Archbishop Shane B. Janzen
The Anglican Catholic Church of Canada (TAC)

Imam Ilyas Sidiyat
The Islamic Association of Saskatchewan Saskatoon Inc.

Dan Slade, International Director Partners in Harvest

His Eminence Metropolitan Archbishop Sotirios Primate, Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto & All Canada

Terry Smith, Executive Director Canadian Baptist Ministries

His Excellency Bishop Bawai Soro Chaldean Eparchy of Mar Addai

Michael Stone, Lead Pastor Crossroads Community Church

Philippe Straforelli, Director Christian Life Assembly

Rabbi Chaim Strauchler
Shaarei Shomayim Congregation

Gerry Taillon, National Ministry Leader Canadian National Baptist Convention

Bill Taylor, Executive Director Evangelical Free Church of Canada

Mr. Hani Tawfils, Community Leader Coptic Orthodox Community in Canada

Rev. Timothy Teuscher, President Lutheran Church-Canada

Wayne Johnson, President & CEO Tearfund Canada

Rabbi Daniel Korobkin

BAYT – Thornhill

Craig Kraft, Executive Director Outreach Canada

Hubert Krygsman, Executive Director Global Scholars Canada

Ronald A. Kuipers, President Institute for Christian Studies

Rabbi Debra Landsberg
Temple Emanu-El, Toronto
Executive Member, Canadian Rabbinic Caucus

Laura Lewis, MD, CCFP, Executive Director Canadian Association of Pregnancy Support Services

Dr. Michel MacDonald, Executive Director Catholic Organization for Life and Family

Vaad Harabanim of Toronto

Dr. Jason Van Vliet, Principal
Canadian Reformed Theological Seminary

Fred Verwoerd, CPA, CMA, Interim President Redeemer University College

Ray Wall, President/Superintendent Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada

Rev. Gary Walsh, Executive Director Wesley Acres

Rev. David Wells, General Superintendent The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

Rev. Simon Wong, General Director Association of Christian Evangelical Ministries (Canada)

His Eminence Metropolitan YURIJ Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

Rev. Michael Zabiran
Worship and Community Life Pastor Sanctuary Church, Edmonton