

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers



Our Venerable Father Spiridon the Wonderworker, Bishop of Tremithus – Spiridon was born on Cyprus where he lived and spent his life in the service of the church. He was a simple farmer, married with many children. Because of his devotion he was consecrated bishop, continuing his simple lifestyle, tiling his own land and tending his cattle. He attended the first Ecumenical Council in 325. He died in 348. His relics were transferred to the Island of Corfu where he became the island's patron saint. ****

Nativity Fast.

**** Sunday, December 12th, 2021****

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This Week's Parish Liturgical Services

Sunday, Dec. 12 * 9:30 a.m.** Rosary/Sacrament of Repentance (Confession) *** **10:00 a.m. *** Div. Lit.** (Eng./Ukr.): God's blessings for all parishioners

Monday, Dec. 13 ** 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit.: *+Martin Ostopowich*

Tuesday, Dec. 14 ** 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit.: *God's blessings & good health for Marge & Vic Moore*

Wednesday, Dec. 15 * 6:30 p.m.** "Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLPH parish

Thursday Dec. 16 * 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit.: God's blessings & good health for Knights of Columbus Members & their families**

Friday Dec. 17* 4:30 p.m. "Moleben to Emanuel"**

Sunday, December 19 * 9:30 a.m.**
Rosary/Sacrament of Repentance (Confession) ***
10:00 a.m. * Div. Lit. (Eng./Ukr.): God's blessings to all parishioners**



Troparion, Tone 4: When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel* the glorious news of the resurrection* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,* they proudly told the apostles:* “Death has been plundered!* Christ our God is risen,* granting to the world great mercy.”

Troparion, Tone 2: By faith You justified Your ancestors * and through them in advance You betrothed the Church taken from the nations. * The saints exult in glory; * from their seed comes the blessed fruit, the one who bore You without seed. * By their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion, Tone 2: You shone, O victorious Martyr, * as a brilliant light for those sitting in the darkness of ignorance. * And armed with faith as with a lance, O Eustratios, most eloquent orator, * you feared not your enemies’ arrogance.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 6: Armed by the Being that defies description, * you defied the man-made idol, O thrice blessed youth. * In the midst of the unbearable flames you stood and cried out to God: * “In Your mercy, O gracious One, hasten and come to our aid,” * for You can do whatever You will.

Prokeimenon, Tone 4 - Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers,* and praised and glorified is Your Name forever.

verse: For You are righteous in everything that You have done to us. (*Daniel 3:26,27*)



Epistle - Colossians 3:4-11

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Therefore put to death your members, which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

Alleluia, Tone 4 - Moses and Aaron are among His priests and Samuel among those who call upon His name.

verse: They called on the Lord and He heard them.

Gospel - Luke 14:16-24

The Lord told this parable: "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of

the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.’ And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’ Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.’”

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



Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church – “Christ Our Pascha” #159, p. 59

The Promise of the Messiah.

The fall of Adam did not turn away the love of God for humanity. God shows mercy to the fallen human race: ‘And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them’ (Gen. 3:21). By offering the promise of salvation, God assures us that with respect to our growth in God-likeness, divine adoption, and divinization, God’s plan remains immutable. The power of God’s promise is stronger than the weakness of human sin: ‘[We] have gained still greater things through Christ’s unspeakable grace than we had lost through the devil’s malice’ [St. Leo the Great]. In the Old Testament preaching of the prophets, God’s promise is gradually associated with the figure of God’s Anointed One, the Messiah, who ‘in the fullness of time’ (see Gal. 4:4) appears as the incarnate Word of God.”



Today we commemorate the Holy Forefathers, beginning with the first man, Adam, and on through Seth, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, King David, and others.

These ancient people, separated from us by millennia, nevertheless have a direct and close bearing upon us. In general,

the Church brings them to our attention now, right before Christmas, largely because of their faith – their belief in the promise given by God to Adam during his expulsion from the garden of Eden, that in the end a Saviour will come into the world and will redeem mankind from original sin.

All the forefathers – who lived on earth long before the birth of Christ – lived and burned with this faith, never allowing it to be extinguished. They are a shining example to us, who are living on earth after the incarnation of our Lord.

Just like those ancient people we, too, have never actually seen Christ: they only knew that He would come into the world, while we know that He did come into the world. But they firmly believed in His coming and their faith was justified.

Let us try to follow the example of the Forefathers, since we currently find ourselves in a similar situation. We can respect the beliefs of our neighbors, but we should not compromise our own faith.

**** To Ponder – The Fathers & Mothers Speak *****

“Prayer is a state of continual gratitude.” St. John of Kronstadt

*“Even Almighty God cannot fill what is already full. We must be empty if we want God to fill us with His fullness.... God loves me. I’m not here just to fill a place, just to be a number. He has chosen me for a purpose. I know it. He will fulfill it if I don’t put an obstacle in His way. He will not force me, but He wants me to say yes.”
St. Mother Teresa*

Gospel Reflection:

<https://godwithusonline.org/reflections/the-sunday-of-the-forefathers-ukrainian/>

**** ANNOUNCEMENTS ****



A warm welcome - to all parishioners who join us today in our church for the Divine Liturgy and those who continue to pray at home. We wish you a healthy & blessed week!

Please Pray for health of ... All those affected by the coronavirus, and: Bishop Stephan Ch., Zbigniew K., Pat B., Bishop Kenneth, Anne D., Rob E., Margaret M., Jayne & Ernie P., Ambrose S., Robert M., Dave & Betty C., Matt D., Miroslaw G., John N., Fr. John N., T.W., Bill P., Thomas H., Lawrence & Ping B., Peter O., Gladys O., Alex S., Jessica N., Zonia K., Brian K., Ray O., Mary & Dave E., Sharon & Al L., Joe S., Jeanne R., Lisa M., Michael L., Greg H., Melynda S., Suzanne C., Clay B., Maria W., all sick brothers and sisters in our families and 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 Supporters – Дякуємо – Our

Dr. Kyo

gratitude to everyone for your prayers & ongoing financial support of our parish and for all other ways in which you assist our church community. Many thanks to everyone who helped decorate our Christmas tree last Sunday. Our gratitude to the UCWLC for purchasing poinsettias to beautify our church. God bless you all!

Sincerest Condolences! Vichnaya Pamiat! – we extend our prayers & condolences to Mrs. Mary Emery & Mrs. Elsie Kinaschuk and their families, as well to members of the Prokop family, as they mourn the death of their beloved brother **Don Prokop** who died on Tuesday, Dec. 7th, 2021. May Don's soul rest in peace.

Pre-Christmas Altar Cloth Change – will take place today after the Divine Liturgy. Thank you for your help.

Food Bank Collection – as in previous years during St. Philip's Fast, we are collecting non-perishable food for the Kamloops Food Bank. A box is provided at the church entrance. Thank you for your support.

SSVP Board Meeting – will take place this coming Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.

Advent Penitential Services - Fr. Andrzej will be assisting in the Sacrament of Confession at OLPH parish this coming Wednesday, Dec. 15th starting at 6:30 p.m.



Reconciliation Service during St Philip's Fast—although our parish will not have an official Advent Mission this year, as spiritual preparation for Christ's Nativity, parishioners are invited & encouraged to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Father Andrzej will be available for confession each Sunday before & after the Divine Liturgy (9:00 & after 11:00) There is also opportunity for confession before the daily Divine Liturgies. For your information - the **Sacrament of Reconciliation is available** at OLPH on: Wednesday 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. & Saturday 10:00 - 11:00 am.

Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Zoom Monthly Meeting – will take place this coming Thursday, Dec. 16th at 7:00 p.m.



Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree Council 8132 (OLPH) – will be meeting to prepare Christmas food hampers this coming Friday, Dec. 17th at 7:00 p.m. at OLPH Parish Center.

Monthly Parish Council Meeting – will take place on **Tuesday, Dec. 21st** at 11:00 a.m. in the parish hall.

New Westminster Eparchy Clergy - Zoom meeting will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 29 at 7: 00 p.m.



2021 “Christmas Candle/Різдвяна свічка” Campaign - Since 2012, the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster has been collecting funds to help underprivileged and orphaned children in Ukraine through

our Christmas Candle appeal. Our fundraising program, “**Christmas Candle/Різдвяна свічка**” is part of a larger global appeal sponsored by Caritas Ukraine. The appeal is once again taking place during the month of December, and we encourage everyone to remember these children during our Christmas season with a donation. Donations can be made at any Ukrainian Catholic Parish in BC, or mailed and made payable to the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster clearly marked with “Christmas Candle Project” on the envelope and cheque. For more information, please contact Dana

Koren Lupynis, Natalia Lupynis or Emelia Lupynis at nweparchy.christmascandle@gmail.com and follow us on Facebook at *Caritas “Christmas Candle/Різдва́на свічка” Campaign, sponsored by NWEparchy.*

Video series “Journey through Advent 2021” - Each week, beginning on Sunday, 21 November 2021, the Solemnity of Christ the King, the CCCB will release a video recording of a Bishop reflecting on the Gospel Reading for each Sunday of Advent. This year’s reflections were inspired by the Indigenous Delegation travelling to Rome to meet with Pope Francis from 17-20 December 2021. *(This visit has been postponed due to covid concerns)* Each reflection is based on one of the five essential stages of reconciliation: examen, confession, repentance, reparation (making amends), and reconciliation. It is likewise hoped these reflections will assist the faithful, Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike, in preparing for Pope Francis’ eventual apostolic journey to Canada. The videos were developed under the auspices of the Bishops Working Group on Coordinating Indigenous Initiatives, with the script being approved by the same, as agreed to by the Executive Committee at its Special Meeting on 12 November 2021.

The videos can be now accessed on the CCCB website at the following link:

<https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

The Most Holy Trinity Parish Stewardship: Sunday, Dec. 5 - \$ 435.00 (includes \$55 “Christmas Candle”) **** *May God bless and reward you for your generosity & support.*

Prayer During the Coronavirus Outbreak

Lord, Our God, We thank you for the life that is your gift,

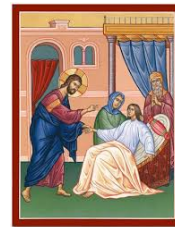
For the providence that sustains us,

And for your wisdom that directs the course of our days. The threat of an infection of coronavirus is upon us today. This disease causes fear among us and has claimed lives.

We humbly beg you, loving Lord, dispel our fear and deliver us from this and other diseases.

Heal those who are afflicted and stop the spread of the virus.

Strengthen us in charity to care for one another.



For You are a God of mercy, kindness, and love, and we glorify You Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.



Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in these Holy Gifts!
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot receive You now,
I place before You my whole life and hope, O loving Master;
and I ask, pray, and entreat You: Make me worthy to partake in a mystical way and with a pure conscience of Your awesome and heavenly Mysteries:
for forgiveness of sins, for the pardon of offenses, for communion of the Holy Spirit, for the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven, for confidence before You, and not for judgment or condemnation.

I embrace You as You enter and abide in me, and I unite myself completely to You. Permeate my soul and body, and never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Prayer for Preparation for Holy Communion (St. John of Damascus)

“O Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, You alone have authority to forgive people their sins, for You are good and love all. Forgive my transgressions committed in knowledge or ignorance. Make me worthy to receive Your divine and glorious, all-pure and life-giving Mysteries without condemnation, incurring neither punishment, nor the increase of my sins. Let me, instead, receive cleansing, sanctification, and a pledge of life and kingdom to come. Let Your Mysteries be a rampart, a help, a routing of my adversaries; and let them wipe away my many transgressions. For You are a

God of mercy, compassion, and love for all, and to You we render glory, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and always and for ever and ever. Amen.

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.



Eparchy of New Westminster – implementation of new requirements in response to the Nov. 30, 2021 Provincial Health announcement (The [new requirements by the Provincial Health Officer](#))

These measures include:

- A requirement that worship services must be limited to 50% of seated capacity, unless all the participants are vaccinated, in which case the capacity could increase to 100. While the BC Vaccine Card is an option available for this purpose, faith leaders will have the flexibility to design their own system to ensure that all participants are vaccinated, if that is the model they choose to follow.
- At our Most Holy Trinity parish, we will require participants to pre-register for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day services.
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2021 Christmas Schedule

Friday, Dec. 24th - CHRISTMAS EVE /
НАВЕЧІР'Я РІЗДВА



10:00 a.m. – Royal Hours

3:00 p.m. - Great Compline with Lytia & Divine
Liturgy (please pre-register)

Saturday, Dec. 25th - NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy (please pre-register)

Sunday, Dec. 26th - Synaxis of the BVM

10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy

Monday, Dec. 27th - First Martyr Stephen

10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy



Please join in live-streamed coverage of liturgical services:

Holy Eucharist Cathedral (New Westminster) – Divine Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. (Eng.) & 10:30 a.m. (Ukr.)

<https://www.facebook.com/holyeucharistcathedral/>

Youtube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPp1JaDotlj_4h3aAJq0Srg

St. Nicholas Parish, (Victoria) - Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. via [Facebook](#) or [Website](#)

St. George's Parish (Prince George) - Divine

Liturgy live streamed at 10:00 AM on the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ParishPG> and on the parish web-site at <http://www.sgparish.ca>





UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH
SVIATOSLAV SHEVCHUK
MAJOR ARCHBISHOP OF KYIV-HALYCH

Kyiv, 8 December 2021
Prot. N. 21/349

Most Reverend David Motiuk
Apostolic Administrator
Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of
New Westminster

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Your Excellency,

Over the last few weeks, we have all seen the news with images of the devastating effect on the lives and livelihood of so many people in British Columbia due to recent torrential rains, floods and landslides. Seeing the images of the floods in the Fraser Valley, I recalled my own travels in August 2012 from Vancouver to Kelowna through that very same area and over the Coquihalla highway. I was amazed at the stunning natural beauty of British Columbia with its farmlands and the majesty of the mountains. My thoughts are very much with those who are suffering today because of the magnitude of this past summer's forest fires and now with the destruction from the recent floods.

Please share my message to the clergy, religious and lay-faithful of the Eparchy of New Westminster, that with the ongoing challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the task of rebuilding homes, businesses and infrastructures made more difficult by the cold winter weather, I am praying that Our Lord will send you and the people of British Columbia all His comfort and grace.

Placing you under the protection of the Most Holy Mother of God, I remain,

Sincerely yours in the Lord



Sviatoslav
+SVIATOSLAV