

Sunday of the Prodigal Son, Post-feast of the Encounter

The Holy Martyr Agatha (249-51) –
Agatha, born of a noble Sicilian family,
was martyred under Emperor Decius.

**** Sunday, February 5th, 2023****

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Liturgical Services this coming week

Saturday, Feb. 4 * Grindrod Parish ***4:00 p.m. Div. Lit.:**
God's blessings to all parishioners (Blessing of candles)

Sunday, Feb. 5 * 9:30 a.m. Rosary*** 10:00 a.m. *****
Baptism & Div. Lit. (Eng./Ukr.): God's blessings to all
parishioners

Monday, Feb. 6 * 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit.:** *God's blessings for*
Rosalia & her family

Tuesday, Feb. 7 * 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit.:** *+Joyce & Joe Kalfics*

Thursday, Feb. 9 * 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit.:** God's blessings &
good health to Tom T.

Friday, Feb. 10 * 9:30 a.m. Div. Lit.:** *God's blessings & good*
health for the Comin family

Saturday, Feb. 11 * 9:00 a.m. Div. Lit.:** *1st All Souls Service*

Grindrod Parish ***4:00 p.m. Div. Lit.:

God's blessings to all
parishioners

Sunday, Feb. 12 * 9:30 a.m. Rosary*** 10:00 a.m. *** Div.**
Lit. (Eng./Ukr.): God's blessings to all parishioners

Troparion, Tone 2: When You went down to death, O Life Immortal, * You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity. * When You raised the dead from the nether world, * all the powers of heaven cried out: * “O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory be to You!”

Troparion, Tone 1: Rejoice, full of grace, Virgin Mother of God! * From you there dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, * who enlightens those who dwell in darkness. * And you, O righteous Elder, be glad! * You received in your embrace * the Liberator of our souls, * who grants us resurrection.

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

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.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 1: By Your birth, You sanctified a virgin womb* and fittingly blessed the hands of Simeon.* You have come also now and saved us, O Christ our God;* give peace to Your community in time of war,* and strengthen its rulers, whom You love,* for You alone,* are the Lover of mankind.

Prokeimenon, Tone 2 - The Lord is my strength and my song of praise, and He has become my salvation.
verse: The Lord has indeed chastised me, but He has not delivered me to death. (Psalm 117:14,18)

Epistle - 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

A reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

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 2 - The Lord will hear you in the day of tribulation; the name of the God of Jacob will shield you.

verse: Lord, grant victory to the king and hear us in the day that we shall call upon You. (Psalm 19:2,10)

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.’”

Hymn to the Mother of God - O God-bearing Virgin, hope of Christians, protect and guard and save all those who put their trust in you.

and the Irmos, Tone 3: In the law, the shadow, and the scriptures, we the faithful see a figure: every male child that opens the womb shall be sanctified to God. Therefore do we magnify the first-born Word and Son of the Father who is without

beginning, the first-born Child of a Mother who had not known man.

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



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

CATECHETICAL SUMMARY

“You are not your own.”

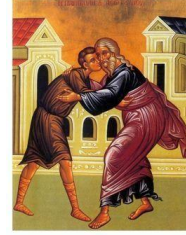
“Independence” is one of the great “rights” of man that is held to be sacred and inviolable for North Americans. The Epistle proclaimed in the Church today, however, challenges our modern notion of independence when it proclaims Saint Paul’s teaching that we were “purchased with a price” and that we are not our own, but that we belong to the Lord.

On the day of our baptism, each one of us was incorporated into the church and made members of Christ’s body, and sharers in his eternal life. Just as the parts of the body are interdependent, and ultimately totally dependent on the soul and spirit for life, so it is with Christ and the members of his Church. Each of us derives our spiritual life from Christ and receives that life through other members of the body of the Church. As such, none of us is “independent,” but rather we are totally dependent upon one another, and all of us are dependent upon Christ.

From the important biblical concept of spiritual dependence, we can understand the need for us to live a life in conformity with him from whom we received it, and on whom we depend for everything. Applying the parable of the prodigal son to the above explanation helps this truth take flesh in our imagination and allows us and those whom we teach to better understand what life is like away from our source of life, and what it is like to return in our hearts to our King and our God.

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

"Look, O Christ, upon the sorrow of my heart, look upon my conversion and my tears, O Saviour, and do not reject me!" (Ode 9 in the Canon of Matins of the Prodigal Son)



In preparing us for the Great Fast, holy Church pointed out in the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee that the first step to conversion is humility. On this Sunday, she sets before us the example of the Prodigal Son to show us how one is converted to God. Where there is humility and sorrow of heart, there the door to God's mercy is opened.

Scripture scholars call the parable of the Prodigal Son "the pearl" of all the parables. It is unique for its deep moral content. Its dramatic story is being constantly repeated in the souls of millions throughout the world.

The Prodigal Son is the symbol of every sinful soul. This parable clearly demonstrates that nothing on earth can satisfy our biting hunger and parching thirst for happiness. True happiness and peace is to be found only in God, our loving Father.

Some exponents of the spiritual life also call this parable, the parable of God's love.

Anyone who alienates himself from God by sin and seeks happiness outside of God, sooner or later, will be forced to say with the Prodigal Son: "I shall rise and go to my father." (Luke 15, 18) and with St. Augustine, who was a prodigal son for many years, "Our heart is restless, O God, until it rests in you."

The Prodigal Son — Symbol of God's Mercy Towards the Sinner

The parable of the Prodigal Son has a deep symbolic meaning. When we ponder it, we spontaneously perceive that the Prodigal Son is none other than every person who through a sinful life has become estranged from God. For this reason, the parable is very

real to us; it is the story of our lives. It is a symbol of our infidelity to God. But it is also the symbol of God's unbounded mercy toward us. Today, as the world teems with prodigal sons and daughters, this parable is dramatized in countless millions. Every person is either that older son who is ever faithful to his father, or that younger son who only through hard and painful experience becomes convinced that outside the father's house there is no happiness.

The parable teaches us that God forgives and mercifully receives even the greatest sinners, if they repent and are sorry for their sins. The history of the human race is nothing but the history of God's mercy. "The mercy of the Lord is from eternity to eternity upon them that fear him." (Psalm 103, 17)



** ANNOUNCEMENTS **

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



Thank you to all our Supporters & Volunteers –
Дякуємо – Many thanks to everyone



for your continued support of our parish community and for supporting our brothers & sisters in Ukraine. We express gratitude to our parish UCWLC for their generous donation of \$3000. Many thanks to Mr. Orest Hrycewich for snow ploughing our parking lot and to everyone who came to help put away our Christmas decorations. God bless you all.

Please Pray for health of ... All those wounded in the war in Ukraine and: Armin K., Zora & Stanislaw N., Ellie; Guin; Ken S. Michelle M., Anne T., Rita N., Claude & Eva G., Mary & Dave E., Lawrence & Ping B., Ashley H.; Jill C., Shelly N., Shane E., Ray S; Jeanette N., Elsie K., Sharon & Al L., Wilma C., Rob E., Billie M., Peter O., Rob R., Zbigniew K., Pat B., Anne D., Dave & Betty C.,



Matt D., Bill P., Thomas H., Gladys O., Jeanne R., Lisa M., Michael L., Suzanne C., Clay B., Stefanica K., Sarah N., 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.

Congratulations! Mnohaya Lita! – on behalf our our parish community we wish many God’s blessings of good health, joy, peace and happiness to Mr. & Mrs. Andriy & Valerria Skapenko & their entire family on the occasion of the Baptism of their son Nazariy Theodore. Многая Літа!

Blessed Candles – as part of celebrating the feast of the Encounter of Our Lord, we blessed candles. They are to be lit in times of special need. For those who have not received a blessed candle yet, they are available for you at the back of the church.

Knights of Columbus Council 8132 (OLPH) Monthly Meeting - will take place this coming Thursday, Feb. 9th, at 7:00 p.m. at the OLPH Center.

1st All Souls Saturday (Задушна Субота) – our 1st prayers for our beloved deceased ones will take place this coming **Saturday, Feb. 11th, 2023.**

2023 AGM at the Most Holy Trinity Parish - will take place next Sunday, February 12th after the Divine Liturgy.

Hopewell Pregnancy Center – a presentation about the ministry of the Hopewell Centre will be given by our parishioner, Mrs. Mae Romero on Sunday Feb 19, during our coffee time.

Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Monthly Meeting – will take place on Thursday, February 16th, at 7:00 p.m.



Society of St. Vincent De Paul Board Meeting – will take place on Tuesday, February 14th at 11:00 a.m.

Great Fast (Lent) 2023 – will begin on **Monday, Feb. 20th.**

Society of St. Vincent De Paul Members Meeting – will take place on Tuesday, February 28th at 11:00 a.m.

2023 Parish Fund – we are very grateful to everyone who was

able to support our parish through the parish fund last year, and to those who have already contributed for 2023. Just a reminder that an annual contribution remains \$55.00 per member. May God reward you for your generosity.

Sunday Coffee Volunteers Needed – after our Sunday Divine Liturgies, we have the wonderful opportunity to get together and grow closer as a community over coffee. This is only possible with the generosity of volunteers. However, we need more parishioners to be involved. Please contact Mrs. Mary Emery to add your name to the list.

Perogy Sales – We are continuing to take orders for perogy purchases. Anyone wishing to place an order, please call Mrs. Adelle Dmyterko at **250-554-3107** or Mrs. Mary Emery **250-376-8934**. Cost: \$6.00 a dozen.



2023 Jordan House Blessings & Pastoral Visits – will continue this week. Please assist Fr. Andrzej in planning these visits by contacting him at 250-461-7249 or 250-376-3690.

Ukrainian Catholic Holy Spirit Seminary in Edmonton - Metropolitan Lawrence, on behalf of the Ukrainian Catholic Bishops in Canada, **appointed Rev. Julian Bilyj and Rev. Mark Bayrock as Rector and Spiritual Director, respectively, of Holy Spirit Seminary**, effective August 1, 2023.

At the same time, Metropolitan Lawrence thanks Rev. Greg Faryna, current Rector, and Rev. Mihajlo Planchak, current Spiritual Director, for their dedicated service in forming candidates for the priesthood for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada.

This Week's Parish Stewardship: Sunday, Jan. 29 - **Kamloops:** \$820.00 & \$3000 UCWLC *** **Grindrod:** \$475.00 (Jan. 22) & \$440 (Jan. 29). *May God bless and reward you for your generosity & support.*



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.

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 the parish priest, please call or email Fr. Andrzej in advance to arrange a time and a day.

******* Prayers *******

Prayer for the Afflicted People of Ukraine in Time of War

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that Your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all Your precious children, at risk and in fear, that You would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.