

PARISH NEWS - February 16th, 2020
Meatfare Sunday (of the Fearful Judgement)
М'ясопусна Неділя (Страшного Суду)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS / ПРОСИМ О МОЛИТВУ ЗА ЗДОРОВ'Я

... all our parishioners who are in the hospitals, care homes, shut-ins and those who are not able to join us actively due to health reasons. Remember, if you would like a hospital or home visit, please call the parish office and let us know. Due to privacy laws, all requests must come from the individual or the immediate family.

Divine Liturgy:

Sunday 9:30 a.m. (English & Ukrainian)
Weekdays & Holy Days: Please see bulletin

Your Return Gift to God:

Last Sunday's Offering: \$771.00 (21 envelopes)
Special donation to the church: \$20.00
Thank You for Your Generosity! Щиро Вам Дякуємо!

~ Parish and Community Announcement ~

Coffee and Fellowship After Divine Liturgy - Come join us!

SAVE THE DATE - 4TH ANNUAL KofC Spring Dinner Dance

Fundraiser for Coats for Kids, St Vincent de Paul and other charities. 7 pm - Sat, 25 April 2020 - Our Lady of Mercy Parish Hall. Semi-Formal, 5-course sit down dinner by the Giresis.
DJ, Cash bar, Dancing, 50-50,
Photo Booth, Gift Baskets and more. Details to follow.

Lent begins on Monday of March 24th. Take a few moments this month to consider how Lent can become a meaningful opportunity for renewal and spiritual growth.

The following are dispensed from the obligation of fasting: children up to 14 years, persons who have completed 60 years of age, those seriously ill, pregnant women, postpartum women who are lactating, travelers, (if the travel time exceeds eight hours); hard manual workers, those who eat from the table of others, the poor who live of charity.

Lenten Memorial Services will begin on Friday, February 28th, at 6:00 p.m.
Please give Fr. Bohdan the names of those whom you wish to remember in these services.

LENTEN MISSION AND CONFESSION

This year our Lenten Mission will be offered on:

March 27th (Friday) - 6:00 PM and March 28th (Saturday) - 10:00 AM. Please mark those days.

Our Mission priest will be Fr. Bohdan Choly, a pastor at St. Ss Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. Catharines, ON.

Fr. Bohdan will be away from Sunday evening March 1st until Saturday March 14th.

Fr. Eugene Halitsky from Windsor will celebrate Divine Liturgy on March 8th.

For all weekly spiritual emergencies please contact Fr. Zbigniew Rodzinka, Queen of Peace Roman Catholic Church at 519-337-7943. In case of all other emergencies please contact Fr. Tom Hrywna at 519- 890-0416 (Sts. Vladimir and Olga, Windsor Parish).

LET US LIVE BY THE POWER OF OUR EXAMPLE AND NOT THE EXAMPLE OF OUR POWER

GOSPEL REFLECTION: Matthew 25: 31- 46

Christian love is the "possible impossibility" to see Christ in another man, whoever he is, and whom God, in His eternal and mysterious plan, has decided to introduce into my life, be it only for a few moments, not as an occasion for a "good deed" or an exercise in philanthropy, but as the beginning of an eternal companionship in God Himself. For, indeed, what is love if not that mysterious power which transcends the accidental and the external in the "other" --- his physical appearance, social rank, ethnic origin, intellectual capacity --- and reaches the soul, the unique and uniquely personal "root" of a human being, truly the part of God in him? If God loves every man it is because He alone knows the priceless and absolutely unique treasure, the "soul" or "person" He gave every man. Christian love then is the participation in that divine knowledge and the gift of that divine love. There is no "Impersonal" love because love is the wonderful discovery of the "person" in "man," of the personal and unique in the common and general. It is the discovery in each man of that which is "lovable" in him, of that which is from God.

The parable of the Last Judgment is about Christian love. Not all of us are called to work for "humanity," yet each one of us has received the gift and the grace of Christ's love. We know that all men ultimately need this personal love...The recognition in them of their unique soul in which the beauty of the whole creation is reflected in a unique way. We also know that men are in prison and are sick and thirsty and hungry because that personal love has been denied them. And, finally, we know that however narrow and limited the framework of our personal existence, each one of us has been made responsible for a tiny part of the Kingdom of God, made responsible by that very gift of Christ's love. Thus, on whether or not we have accepted this responsibility, on whether we have loved or refused to love, shall we be judged. For "inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, you have done it unto Me..."

Are you in despair? PRAY!

Have you lost hope? PRAY!

Do you find it difficult? PRAY!

Are you happy? PRAY!

Are you grateful? PRAY!

Going to Church is being close to God. Why do we stress Church attendance?

The Church is literally the Body of Christ. We believe that the same glorious presence of God, the Shekinah Glory, that dwelt on the Ark of the Covenant now resides on each altar in every Catholic Temple. “God is with us, understand all ye nations.” Isaiah 8:10, as the hymn from Great Compline says. If we truly understood what this means --- that the God “who is a consuming fire” is literally present in the Church --- we would strive to worship before Him frequently. Church attendance is not merely about obligation, guilt, or nostalgia. It is about being where the beloved is and worshipping Him simply because we love Him. It is about being the Body of Christ in oneness. By going to Church we learn to lay aside ego, we learn to love, we learn to live, and we learn how to be truly human. Christ Himself told us to make God the absolute center of our lives and to make all else secondary. Eternal life begins at the altar where we remain in His Presence without distractions, “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” Matt 6:21.

How 4-8-Year-Old Kids Describe Love

“Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.” *Terri - age 4*

“When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth.” *Billy - age 4*

“Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him – to make sure the taste is OK.” *Danny - age 7*

“If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate.” *Nikka - age 6* (we need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)

“You really shouldn't say ‘I love you’ unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.” *Jessica - age 8*

Lord Jesus Christ, grant me the gift of understanding. Help me to understand the feelings of others, the desires of others, the goals of others. At the same time, help me to understand myself in my actions and reactions. Widen my vision beyond my own small world to embrace with knowledge and love the worlds of others.

Sunday, February 16, 2020

Meatfare Sunday (Of the Fearful Judgement)

The Holy Martyrs Pamphilus the Priest (c. 309) and Porphyrius and Their Companions

Troparion, Tone 3: Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.* He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead;* He saved us from the abyss of Hades* and granted great mercy to the world.

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

Kontakion, Tone 1: When You come on earth, O God, in glory,* and the universe trembles,* while the river of fire flows before the seat of judgement,* and the books are opened and all secrets disclosed,* then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,* and count me worthy to stand at Your right hand,* O Judge who are most just.

Prokeimenon

Great is our Lord and great is His strength;* and of His knowledge there is no end.

verse: Praise the Lord, for a psalm is good; may praise be sweet to Him. (*Psalm 146:5,1*)

Epistle - 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Brethren, food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.

But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Alleluia

verse: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord; let us acclaim God our Saviour.

verse: Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms. (*Psalm 94:1,2*)

Gospel - Matthew 25:31-46

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest. (*Psalm 148:1*)* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia. (*Psalm 32:1*)

Schedule of Liturgies this week:

DATE	TIME	DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS	OFFERED BY
Monday, February 17 th	6:00 PM	Health & God’s Blessings for Peige Phillion	Emilienne Phillion
Wednesday, February 19 th	9:00 AM	Health & God’s Blessings for Peige Phillion	Emilienne Phillion
Sunday, February 23 rd	9:30 AM	For our parishioners	Fr. Bohdan

Visiting our Parish? Just stepped in? Checking us out? Came with friends or family? That’s great! **We are happy to have you with us today! Listen, if you have questions or need help or just want to know more about us or want to join us formally just ask the person beside you and/or speak with our Pastor, Fr. Bohdan and/or contact the Parish Office. 519-542-9903.**