

**PARISH NEWS - February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

**Publican and Pharisee Sunday - Неділя Митаря і Фарисея  
The Encounter of Our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ - Стрітення**

**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. (Eng. & Ukr)

Weekdays: Please see Divine Liturgy Intention Schedule



**Your Return Gift to God:**

Last Sunday's Offering: \$635.00 (21 envelopes)

Special donations to the church: Sally Smoly - \$510.00

Thank You for Your Generosity! Щиро Вам Дякуємо!

**~ Parish and Community Announcement ~**

Blessing of candles will be held at the end of today's Liturgy.

**Coffee and Fellowship After Divine Liturgy - Come join us!**

Fr. Bohdan Winnicki will be away on Sunday February 2<sup>nd</sup>

Fr. Eugene Halitsky from Windsor will celebrate Divine Liturgy.

In case of emergencies please contact Fr. Bohdan directly at 416-419-1097.

**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.

**Lenten Memorial Services will begin on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.**

Please give Fr. Bohdan the names of those whom you wish to remember in these services.

Сорокоусти - відправи за померлих членів наших родин відправлятимуться у кожен п'ятницю Великого Посту починаючи із п'ятниці 28-го лютого. Просимо подати імена членів родин, щоб виголосити їх в часі сорокоустних відправ.

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.**

**Presentation of Our Lord (February 2<sup>nd</sup>)**

The feast was first observed in the Eastern Church as "The Encounter." The Presentation of the Lord concludes the celebration of the Nativity and with the offerings of the Virgin Mother and the prophecy of Simeon, the events now point toward Easter. "In obedience to the Old Law, the Lord Jesus, the first-born, was presented in the Temple by His Blessed Mother and His foster father. This is another 'epiphany' celebration insofar as the Christ Child is revealed as the Messiah through the words of Simeon and the testimony of Anna the prophetess. Christ is the light of the nations, hence the blessing of candles on this day.

**Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee (Luke 18:10-14)**

The focus of Sunday is on the Gospel of Luke 18:10-14, in which two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, an externally decent and righteous man of religion, and the other was a publican, a sinful tax-collector who was cheating the people. Though the Pharisee was genuinely righteous under the Law, he boasted before God and was condemned. The publican, although he was truly sinful, begged for mercy, received it, and was justified by God. On this Sunday in the preparation for Great Lent, we are called to think about ourselves, in the light of Christ's teaching, as they really are and to beg for mercy.

This Sunday emphasizes humility as a key attitude for repentance. The Greek word for repentance is metanoia, which means a change of mind. To repent we must not boast of our spiritual feats, but humble ourselves like the Publican who longs for a change of mind. We are called to learn this secret of the inward poverty of the Publican rather than the self-righteousness of the Pharisee who is convinced of his perfectness and not open to change because of his pride.

*For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and everyone who humbles himself will be exalted. (Luke 18:14)*

Every five years, His Beatitude Patriarch Sviatoslav calls a Patriarchal Sobor: an assembly of our entire Church with representatives from every eparchy, exarchate, and area where our Church ministers to its faithful. Patriarch Sviatoslav has called for the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Patriarchal Sobor to be held from August 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in Lviv. The theme and motto of this Sobor are: “**Emigration, Settlement, and the Global Unity of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church.**” “***The Church is Always and Everywhere with You.***”

In preparation for the Patriarchal Sobor, each eparchy is to hold its own Eparchial Sobor to discuss the following three questions proposed by Patriarch Sviatoslav and provide answers for them that reflect the varying needs of their eparchy.

**Question #1: Where are we today?**

Try to analyze: where do our faithful reside today and to where are they travelling? How many of them are actually on our territory? What part of their total number is under our pastoral care, and what part, unfortunately, has left our community network? What is the difference between the total number of our faithful residing in a given territory and the number that we have attending our Sunday Divine services?

**Question #2: What are we like today?**

What are the needs of our faithful? To what extent does our Church today respond to the pastoral needs of the faithful in Ukraine, in the diaspora, and abroad? To what extent does the network of our Church structures correspond to the actual presence of our faithful? Do our faithful feel like members of the community of their Church, and do they seek it? Do they realize their identity and recognize it?

**Question #3: How do we proceed from here?**

What should we do to lessen the differences between the total number of our faithful on our territory and the number of those actually under our pastoral care and belonging to the network of our communities? How can we develop our eparchial and parish structures so that they respond to the needs of the faithful in places where they reside? What course of action is necessary to find our faithful? In migrating, how can one not get lost, and how can we help those newly arrived from other parishes, eparchies, or countries to become integrated into our communities? In the intense scattering of our faithful happening now in the modern world, how can we foster the unity of our Church at all levels?

To allow for greater participation at the eparchial level, Bishop Bryan has decreed that in our eparchy, there will be six regional assemblies rather than one, central Eparchial Sobor. Our deanery, the Southwest Ontario deanery, will hold its regional assembly to address these questions on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at Christ the King Ukrainian Catholic Church in London, Ontario with parishioners from the following parishes: Brantford, Cambridge, Chatham, Kitchener, London, Sarnia, Waterford, and Windsor. The assembly will begin at noon and end at 5:00pm.

Our parish would like to send up to 10 delegates to this regional assembly. We would like these delegates to reflect the demographics of our parish: delegates of various ages; delegates who are ethnically Ukrainian and those who have no Ukrainian ethnicity; etc. Our parish is very diverse and our delegates should reflect that diversity, especially when addressing the three questions posed by our Patriarch as it concerns how our parish, our eparchy, and our entire Church should understand the theme and motto of this Patriarchal Sobor.

**Sunday, February 2, 2020**

**Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee  
The Encounter of Our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ**

**Entrance**

The Lord has made known His salvation;\* He has revealed His truth before the nations.

***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.

***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:*** Let us bring sighs of sorrow to the Lord as did the Publican\* and approach the Master as sinners,\* for He desires salvation for everyone.\* He grants forgiveness to all who repent.\* For as God, the One-who-is, co-eternal with the Father, He became flesh for us.  
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 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. (*Psalm 32:22,1*)

***verse:*** My soul magnifies the Lord,\* and my spirit has rejoiced in God, My Saviour.

**Epistle - 2 Timothy 3:10-15; Hebrews 7:7-17**

**Alleluia, Tone 1**

***verse:*** 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. (*Psalm 17:48,51*)

***verse:*** Now, O Master, You dismiss Your servant in peace according to Your word.

***verse:*** For my eyes have seen Your salvation, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people, Israel. (*Luke 2:29,32*)

**Gospel - Luke 18:10-14; Luke 2:22-40**

**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. (*Psalm 148:1*)\* I will take the chalice of salvation;\* and I will call upon the name of the Lord.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (*Psalm 116:13*)

**Divine Liturgies this week:**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>INTENTION</b>	<b>OFFERED BY</b>
Wednesday, February 5 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM	Health & God's Blessings for Ernie Paquette	Doreen Paquette
Friday, February 7 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM	For all Souls	Emilienne Phillion
Sunday, February 9 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM	For our parishioners	Fr. Bohdan