

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS PARISH UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

13753 - 108TH AVENUE, SURREY, BC V3T 2K6
PARISH ADMINISTERED BY: REV. ANDRII CHORNENKYI

УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА ПАРАФІЯ ВОЗДВИЖЕННЯ ЧЕСНОГО ХРЕСТА

PARISH BULLETIN № 6. FEBRUARY 07, 2016 A.D.



SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS

The Sunday of Forgiveness, the last of the preparatory Sundays before Great Lent, has two themes: it commemorates Adam's expulsion from Paradise, and it accentuates our need for forgiveness. There are obvious reasons why these two things should be brought to our attention as we stand on the threshold of Great Lent. Lent is a time when we weep with Adam and Eve before the closed gate of Eden, repenting with them for the sins that have deprived us of our free communion with God. But Lent is also a time when we are preparing to celebrate the saving event of Christ's death and rising, which has reopened Paradise to us once more (Luke 23:43). So sorrow for our exile in sin is tempered by hope of our re-entry into Paradise.

The second theme, that of forgiveness, is emphasized in the Gospel reading for this Sunday (Matthew 6:14-21) and in the special ceremony of mutual forgiveness at the end of the Vespers on Sunday evening. Before we enter the Lenten fast, we are reminded that there can be no true fast, no genuine repentance, no reconciliation with God, unless we are at the same time reconciled with one another. A fast without mutual love is the fast of demons. We do not travel the road of Lent as isolated individuals but as members of a family. Our asceticism and fasting should not separate us from others, but should link us to them with ever-stronger bonds. (<http://lent.goarch.org/forgiveness>)

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND GUESTS WHO HAVE JOINED US TODAY
COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP ARE IN OUR PARISH HALL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY

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.”

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

Kontakion, Tone 6: O Master, Guide to Wisdom*, Bestower of prudent counsel,* Instructor of the foolish and Defender of the poor ones;* make firm my heart and give it understanding.* Give me a word, O Word of the Father:* Behold, I shall not stop my lips from crying out to You:* In Your mercy, have mercy on me who am fallen.

Prokeimenon, Tone 8: Pray and give praise to the Lord our God.* Pray and give praise to the Lord our God.

verse: In Judea God is known; His name is great in Israel. (Psalm 75:12,2)

A Reading of the Epistle to the Romans (13:11-14:4): Brothers and Sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Alleluia, Tone 6

verse: It is good to give praise to the Lord, and to sing to Your name, O Most High.

verse: To announce Your mercy in the morning and Your truth every night. (Psalm 91:2,3)

Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21 The Lord said, “If you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest. (Psalm 148:1)Alleluia. (x3)

Тропар (глас 4): Світлу про воскресіння розповідь від ангела почувши* і від прадідного засуду звільнившись,* Господні учениці, радіючи, казали апостолам:* Здолано смерть, воскрес Христос Бог,* що дає світові велику милість.

Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові. І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.

Кондак (глас 6): Премудрости наставнику,* розуму подателю,* немудрих учителю і нищих захиснику,* утверди, врозуми серце моє, Владико.* Ти дай мені слово, Отче Слово,* бо оце устам моїм не забороню, щоб звали тобі:* Милостивий, помилуй мене, падшого.

Прокімен (глас 8): Помоліться і воздайте* Господеві, Богу нашому (Пс 75,12).

Стих: Відомий у Юдеї Бог, в Ізраїлі велике ім'я його (Пс 75,2).

До Римлян Послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: (13,11-14,4): Браття і Сестри, вже пора вам прокинутись із сну: тепер бо ближче нас спасіння, ніж тоді, як ми увірували. Ніч проминула, день наблизився. Відкиньмо, отже, вчинки темряви й одягнімось у зброю світла. Як день, – поведьмося чесно: не в ненажерстві та пияцтві, не в перелюбі та розпусті, не у сварні та заздрощах; але вдягніться у Господа Ісуса Христа і не дбайте про тіло задля похотей. Слабкого в вірі приймайте, не вступаючи з ним у суперечки. Один вірить, що можна все їсти, а слабкий (у вірі) їсть городину. Хто їсть, хай тим, що не їсть, не гордує; а хто не їсть, хай того, що їсть, не судить, бо Бог його прийняв. Ти хто такий, що чужого слугу судиш? Своєму господареві стоїть він або падає; а стоятиме, бо Господь має силу втримати його.

Алилуя (глас 6):

Стих: Благо є сповідуватись Господеві і співати імені твоєму, Всевишній (Пс 91,3).

Стих: Сповідати зарання милість твою і істину твою на всяку ніч (Пс 91,3).

Євангеліє: (Мт 6, 14-21): Сказав Господь: “Коли ви прощатимете людям їхні провини, то й Отець ваш небесний простить вам. А коли ви не будете прощати людям, то й Отець ваш небесний не простить вам провин ваших. Коли ж ви постите, не будьте сумні, як лицеміри: бо вони виснажують своє обличчя, щоб було видно людям, мовляв, вони постять. Істинно кажу вам: Вони вже мають свою нагороду. Ти ж, коли постиш, намасти свою голову й умий своє обличчя, щоб не показати людям, що ти постиш, але Отцеві твоєму, що перебуває в тайні; і Отець твій, що бачить таємне, віддасть тобі. Не збирайте собі скарбів на землі, де міль і хробацтво нівечить, і де підкопують злодії і викрадають. Збирайте собі скарби на небі, де ні міль, ані хробацтво не нівечить і де злодії не пробивають стін і не викрадають. Бо де твій скарб, там буде і твоє серце.”

Причасний: Хваліте Господа з небес,* хваліте Його на висотах (Пс 148,1). Алилуя (x3).

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

✱ **GREAT FAST 2016 – Великий Піст – will begin this year on Monday, FEBRUARY 08.**

Please remember that the First Day of Lent is a STRICT FAST from all meat, eggs, and dairy products. Originally, this “Black Fast” was kept for the entire 40 day of Lent. Our Holy Mother Church has since lessened our load by applying this strict fast to just the First and Last day of Lent (Good Friday). Outside of the regular meatless Friday we should also try to keep Wednesday meatless, increase our almsgiving and works of charity, as well increase the amount of time we spend in prayer.

✱ **BLESSING OF ICONS.** Next Sunday is the Sunday of Orthodoxy and in our Church there is a beautiful rite of blessing of the icons. Please, bring from your home any icon that you would like to have blessed.

✱ **SOROKOUSTY** for the deceased of individual family members will be celebrated every Friday during Great Lent at 10:00 am. Arrange to have the deceased members of your family remembered during these Services.

✱ **WEEKDAY LITURGIES DURING THE GREAT LENT** - Normally during Lent, we do not celebrate a regular Divine Liturgy during the weekdays. This is due to the penitential nature of Lent, versus the joyous Easter nature of our regular Divine Liturgy. To get around this, our Church, many centuries ago, instituted the Divine Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts - a combination of Vespers (evening Prayers) combined with Holy Communion, with Bread that had been consecrated at the previous Sunday Divine Liturgy. This service is celebrated usually on Wednesdays and Fridays during The Great Fast.

✱ **ANNUAL PARISH GENERAL MEETING** will take place on **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21TH, 2016.** The meeting will follow the Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. **On that Sunday we will celebrate only one Divine Liturgy (Bilingual).** **PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING**

✱ **SUNDAYS DONATION:** January 24th, 2016 - \$ 721

✱ **UCWLC MEMBERSHIP FEES** are now due. Please pay \$20 to Helen Uchaz.

✱ **SPECIAL PETITION DURING THE DIVINE LITURGY:** We also pray to be blessed with generous hearts to contribute to our Bishop's initiatives and programmes, such as: the support of parishes, the education of parishioners, and the formation of seminarians, Lord hear us and have mercy.

✱ **REMINDER FOR FAMILIES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.** If you or family member is admitted to hospital and you wish to have a priest visit, please be sure to have someone call the rectory to make this request. Your pastor may have no other way of knowing that you are in hospital, as privacy legislation restricts the information that can be given to him by the hospital.

✱ **TAX RECEIPT:** To ensure that you receive a tax receipt for your church donations please make sure you name or envelope number is put with your donation.

✱ **VALENTINE'S DINNER AND DANCE** Mark your calendars for Surrey Delta Pro-Life's Annual Valentine's Dinner and Dance taking place on Saturday, February 6, 2016, at the Cloverdale Catholic Parish Centre (17475 - 59 Ave, Surrey). The Dutchmans will be catering the event and

entertainment will be provided again by The Pat Chessell Band. Tickets for this event are \$35 each for adults and \$20 each for university/college students. Tickets make a great birthday or anniversary gift. Contact SDPL at 604- 574-0225 to purchase or reserve your tickets.

✱ **LENTEN MISSION.** All are welcome for our **Four-Parish Lower Mainland Lenten Mission with Right Reverend Lawrence George Stephen Gosselin.** *Father Lawrence is a priest of the Melkite Greek-Catholic Eparchy of Newton in the United States and a hieromonk. He is a retired military chaplain and presently serves as the chaplain to the Romanian Greek-Catholic nuns of Holy Theophany Monastery in Olympia, Washington.*

SCHEDULE

Monday, February 15th, at the Dormition of the Mother of God parish, Richmond.

6:00pm - 6:30pm: Time for Confessions

6:30pm – 7:00pm: Vespers Service

7:00pm – 1st Session (Followed by refreshments)

Tuesday, February 16th, at the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish, Vancouver.

6:00pm - 6:30pm: Time for Confessions

6:30pm - 7:00pm: Akathist to the Sufferings of Jesus Christ

7:00pm – 2nd Session (Followed by refreshments)

Wednesday, February 17th, at the Exaltation of the Holy Cross parish, Surrey.

6:00pm – 7:00pm: Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts (Confession during the Service)

7:00pm – 3rd Session (Followed by refreshments)

Thursday, February 18th, at the Holy Eucharist Cathedral, New Westminster.

6:00pm - 6:30pm: Time for Confessions

6:30pm - 7:00pm: Service of the 9th Hour

7:00pm – 4th Session (Followed by refreshments)

✱ **PLEASE REMEMBER** the sick and infirmed of our Parish in your prayers: JANETTE OUCHARECK, JOE AND SYLVIA OSTROWERCHA, LANCE DE SILVA, HENRY MARTIN, MARY SHEMLEY, MIKE HAWKEN, VICTORIA HITCHIN, MARY LITWIN, PATRICIA and ERNEST PYLYPOW, STELLA SYRNYK, STELLA ANDRUSIAK, ADELINE AND KATRUSIA SWERYDA and those who have asked us pray for them. Let us also remember our sisters and brothers in Ukraine, those throughout the world in our prayers and those who are celebrating birthdays in the month of January!

✱ May the Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in Many Happy and Blessed Years of Life to **JODY PYLYPOW, DENYS TYMCHUK** and **LISA KROLENKO** who celebrated their Birthday. Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!

✱ **BEQUESTS AND WILLS:** Leaving a bequest is a process of giving a donation through your will. It is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. It can be as small or as large a donation as you wish. It is important that you talk to your lawyer about the process. In your kindness please remember the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church in your bequests and wills. If anyone wishes to make such a bequest in their will,

the following clause may be included or added to a will: "I give, devise, and bequeath to the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Parish - 13753 108 Ave, Surrey, BC., the sum of \$_ (or _% of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the parish and its pastoral activities."

✿ **OLGC PRESCHOOL BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE** For kids 2 ½ to 12 years old at 10504 139th Street, Surrey. For more info, call Lenny at 604.581.3225

EPARCHIAL NEWS



Chancery Office
Eparchy of New Westminster

To the Very Rev. and Rev. Clergy, Religious
and Lay-Faithful of the Eparchy of New Westminster

20 January 2016

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This more than a year ago our Eparchy held a special meeting – our Eparchial Sobor. Our Eparchial delegates examined how we can best live the spirit of the pastoral letter of His Beatitude Sviatoslav titled "The Vibrant Parish – a place to encounter the Living Christ". Later on, delegates from all of our Eparchies in the world (including our own) gathered in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine to hold our world-wide Sobor. At both our Eparchial Sobor and the world-wide Sobor the six elements of the pastoral letter were discussed. One of the elements of the Vibrant Parish is of course "diakonia" or put in another way, service to others. In this letter about the Vibrant Parish His Beatitude reminds all of us about the Christian act of charity and to be in solidarity with those in need. He wrote that ...

"...an important element, which expresses the inner nature of the Church and reveals the vibrancy of a parish is diakonia, which means serving in love or performing "charitable activity." This service to our neighbor flows from our rootedness in Christ. Active love of neighbor is the vocation and task of each Christian without exception. It is only faith, acting in love, which leads us to salvation (see Gal. 5:6). Faith without works is dead (see James 2:26). "As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mat. 25:40), – says the Lord Jesus.

On December 8th, last year, His Holiness Pope Francis proclaimed a special year of Jubilee for the world – a Year of Mercy. He has encouraged each bishop, each parish priest and every lay-faithful to take this Jubilee Year of Mercy and find ways that we can express in real concrete ways God's mercy, and that certainly means showing mercy to others.

Each year our Eparchy along with all the other Ukrainian Catholic Eparchies in North America receives requests from our Church in Ukraine for financial assistance for very worthy causes and endeavors in Ukraine. As has been our Eparchial custom for the last few years, during the Great Fast/Lent we take time to remember our sisters and brothers in Ukraine who are in need and through our donations we show that we stand in solidarity with them.

In St. John's 1st Letter, he reminds the early Christian church that if anyone has the world's goods and sees their brother or sister in need yet closes their heart against them, how does God's love abide in them?

While there are no doubt many worthy causes to donate our funds to in Ukraine, our Eparchy has identified the following beneficiaries for our donations:

- **Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv** This is the only Ukrainian Catholic University in Ukraine. It is pivotal to the future needs of the leaders of Ukrainian society. Today more than ever, we need to support a free and honest educational endeavourer in Ukraine and certainly, the Ukrainian Catholic University is worthy of our support.
- **Caritas Ukraine** Caritas Ukraine continues to be the main charities organization of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine providing social care to the needy of Ukraine in the area of humanitarian aid, clothing distribution, street children's assistance programs, HIV & AIDS programs, anti-trafficking in people programs, emergency aid, home-care programs and much more. Since the Revolution of Dignity in Ukraine and the invasion of Ukraine's Eastern territories almost two million people have been internally displaced. Caritas Ukraine along with partner organizations is attempting to meet the challenges this has brought to Ukrainian society by providing housing, meals, and rehabilitation to these families.
- **Holy Resurrection Sobor in Kyiv** The building project is on going and the interior artwork has begun. This Cathedral is meant to be not just for our Ukrainian Catholics in Kyiv, but indeed the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral for all of us.
- **Andrew's Pence** The Head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, our Patriarch has many requests for financial support from our Ukrainian Catholic communities of faithful in the poorest areas of Eastern Europe and in the East, in places like Kazakhstan, Siberia, etc. These communities are often located in areas where the local or national governments are not at all supportive. They rely heavily on assistance from their sisters and brothers in the other areas where our Church faithful live, like right here in British Columbia. Our donations to Andrew's Pence assist the Patriarch in providing financial support for these far away and often desolate communities.
- **Synod Administration Fund** Each Eparchy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church throughout our world is asked to assist in the administrative and operational costs of the Synodal Offices in Kyiv. As members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church our Eparchy is assessed a sum of around \$10,000 annually. Your contributions will assist us in our Synodal Administrative Fund assessment.

In order to assist you in deciding to how much you are able to donate to these worthy causes I have let you know something about them and what your donations will help with. The envelopes provided allow you to indicate the amount as well as to which fund(s) you would like your donation to be given to.

If you would like to receive a tax receipt for your donation, please make the cheque payable to your own parish (ie: Holy Eucharist Cathedral, or St. Nicholas Parish) and a tax receipt will be issued to you directly from your parish. Your parish treasurer will then send a cheque made out to the Eparchy of New Westminster for the total amount collected and indicate the amounts and to whom the collected amount is to be given to. The Eparchy will then add together the amounts collected from each parish and to whom/which organization the donation is to be given to.

I completely endorse and recommend to you dear Sisters and Brothers that the organizations listed above in this letter. They are truly worthy causes and those in charge will use wisely our donations. Along with your donations, I would ask for your prayerful support of those who work in the service of our Church in Ukraine, bringing the Good News of Our Lord's love and salvation to them. So, Dearly Beloved in Christ, if you can find it in your heart and bank accounts to make a donation, please do so. May the blessing of Our Lord be upon you for your generosity.

I am designating the Sundays of February 21th and 28th of the Great Fast (Lent) for our Eparchial Collection in favour of the needs of our Church in Ukraine. I would ask that this letter along with special envelopes be distributed to our Faithful in our parish bulletins on Sundays February 7th and 14th so that they may prepare themselves for the donation. If for good reason they will be absent from the Divine Liturgy on February 21th and 28th they can make their contribution either prior to the general collection date or by the end of the Great Fast (Lent).

I would like to ask that our parishes provide the funds collected noting the amounts for the various projects be sent to our office no later than Monday 25 April so that we can send these funds to the appropriate organizations by the first week of May of this year.

I am uniting my prayers with those of yours in our journey through the Great Fast (Lent) to the joyful celebration of Our Lord's Holy Resurrection on Easter Sunday!

**Sincerely yours in the Lord,
+Ken
Eparchial Bishop of New Westminster**



**Chancery Office
Eparchy of New Westminster**

To the Faithful of the Eparchy of New Westminster

3 February 2016

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear Friends,

I wanted to write to you and let you know how our Eparchial Fund Raising Campaign "Share Your Heart" is coming along. We launched this initiative just a little more than two months ago. I have some wonderful news to share with you. Through your generosity, we have passed \$41,000 of dedication and love! I want to thank those of you who have already contributed and I

want to encourage our Faithful to make your donation as soon as possible. Jesus taught us in several of his parables that sharing our time, talent and treasure are at the very core of being his disciples.

In my letter to you dated 25 November 2016 I appealed to you for your support to continue the pastoral care of our faithful and to reach out to those in our communities and let them know about the Good News that our Church proclaims – the news of Salvation through personal relationship with Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! We set as our financial goal a sum of \$500,000. I realize that that seems like a large amount. In this letter to you, I want to highlight in this letter how we use our funds in the eparchy through three examples.

We need funds to continue to support our seminary, especially our own seminarian Mykhailo Ozorovych, whom many of you know. I am very proud of his academic accomplishments since he became a seminarian in our Eparchy. He has almost consistently achieved "A" in his academic grades at the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute at Saint Paul University in Ottawa. His formators and professors have advised me many times how dedicated he is to preparing himself for ordained pastoral ministry in our Eparchy and Mykhailo has often expressed to me his profound gratitude for your prayers, love and support. By our support of his formation today we are ensuring high quality pastoral care for years to come in our Eparchy.

Over the last year we have brought two wonderful priests into our Eparchy from Ukraine. This is primarily because the young men of our Eparchy have not felt God's call to serve our communities as priests. This is not a criticism of our faithful, just a statement of the fact that there has not been an abundance of priestly vocations coming from Canada.

At the beginning of 2015 Fr. Iurii Tychenok and his wife Maria and their two sons arrived from Lviv and have been assigned to our parish in Prince George. Fr. Iurii has been a priest for several years, serving in a large parish in the city of Lviv. When he heard about our pastoral needs in our most Northern parish, he came out to visit us and see our Eparchy and discern with me if he had a vocation to serve in our Eparchy. We spent several weeks together, in our Eparchy traveling to Prince George and meeting with our parishioners there and talking with our Eparchial clergy and their families both about the challenges and yes rewards of living in British Columbia. Fr. Iurii went home to Lviv and soon afterwards I received word that his wife and two sons were eager to join our pastoral team. On 1 January 2015 he was installed as our priest in Prince George. I know that our faithful have been very enthusiastic about him and we have seen our little parish grow in the short time he has been there.

Our second priest that came to us last year, is Fr. Stepan Dovhoshyia. In May of 2015, I met with Stepan and his wife Yulyia when I was in Ukraine for meetings and we talked about the pastoral needs in our Eparchy. Stepan, who is from the city of Ternopil and had just completed his studies and formation for the priesthood at Holy Spirit Seminary in Lviv agreed to come to British Columbia for a few weeks in the summer and like Fr. Tychenok, discern with me if he had a vocation to serve as a priest in our Eparchy. Stepan had an opportunity to meet many of our faithful and visit several of our parishes. He worked with our seminarian Mykhailo with our children's day camp in Surrey, our Altar server day camp at Holy Eucharist Cathedral and also participated in our summer Bible Study program for teens and young adults. He was ordained a

subdeacon at our parish in Richmond and a deacon in our Cathedral in New Westminster and at the end of July returned to Ternopil. He and his wife with their little son Lucas began to prepare themselves to join us in Canada, and I was privileged to participate in that preparation when I ordained him to the priesthood on August 28th, in his home parish in Ternopil where his father is the pastor. He and his family arrived just before Thanksgiving to New Westminster. Fr. Stepan began a rather intense period of pastoral internship under the guidance of Fr. Yuriy Vyshnevskyy, Fr. Richard Soo, sj, and Fr. Chornenkyy to prepare him to become the parish priest at our Cathedral in mid January of this year after the transfer of Fr. Yuriy to our parish in Victoria.

To ensure that we have good and holy qualified clergy to serve our Eparchy we need to support them, and when we recruit them from abroad we have to assist them with their travel and relocation costs. I also believe that it is proper to reimburse some of their education costs since we are the beneficiaries of their seminary studies. Our Eparchy is committed to providing effective and good pastoral care.

Please help me as your bishop through our clergy to evangelize and provide you with great pastoral care. If you have already contributed, please consider adding to your donation again this year, if you have not yet donated, please be generous.

I look forward to writing to you soon with more good news about our Eparchial Fundraising Campaign.

**With prayerful best wishes and assurance of my Episcopal blessings, I remain,
Sincerely yours in the Lord,
+Ken**

LENTEN SERVICES. WHAT IS...

...COMMUNAL RIGHT OF MUTUAL FORGIVENESS? When the disciples of the Lord asked him to teach them how to pray (Luke 11:1-13), He left us with what we refer to as the Lord's Pray, the "Our Father". In this prayer we pray as a community or family, we do not say "My Father who are in Heaven..." we pray: "Our Father..." We ask God to forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Before beginning our Great Fast (Lenten) Journey together, as a parish family community, it is important for us to express to each other our desire to forgive each other for anything that we may have done that may have hurt or offended someone over the past year, or indeed during our life time so that we can be free without these heavy burdens to walk together as a united family as true daughters and sons of God!

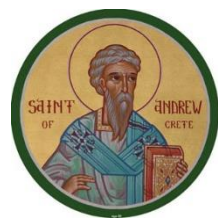
This Communal Right of Mutual Forgiveness is not the Mystery/Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) and does not replace that Mystery/Sacrament, but rather is a tangible sign to each other of our forgiveness and also the experience of being forgiven. Hence there is no need to name our offenses, but rather with total sincerity in our hearts let us say to each other: "Forgive me sister/ brother" and answer with sincerity and love, "May God have mercy on you and I know that I forgive you."

... SOROKOUSTY? Lent is not only a time for fasting and penance, but also a time for praying for the departed souls. The ancient practice of praying for those who have departed from us is based

on the Dogma of the "Communion of Saints". The Communion of Saints is a mystical union of the Baptized Faithful here on earth, the blessed & saints in heaven and the suffering souls in purgatory all joined together in the bond of Love of God and Love of neighbor. The Holy Church teaches that the blessed in heaven can and do help those on earth and purgatory by interceding for them before God, while those in purgatory can pray for us, but cannot help themselves. However, we on earth can assist them by our prayers, good works, and above all by the sacrifice of the Divine Liturgy. One special way we can do this during Great Lent is through the service of the Sorokousty. The word "Sorokoust" literally means: "forty mouths" (sorok - forty; ust-mouth), ie., a prayer offered by 40 mouths or by forty priests. To honour the deceased members of their families worthily, the custom developed of holding services for them in the great cathedral churches on the 3rd, 9th, and 40th day and Anniversary after their death, with forty priests participating in the celebration.

During the Sorokousty service the "diptychs", the little black booklets containing the necrology (list of names of the deceased family members) are read and included in our prayers. The use of the Diptychs are mentioned in the writings of St. Cyprian (third century) and by St. John Chrysotom (fourth century). Today, this Sorokousty service is typically celebrated once a week during the 6 weeks of the great fast either in the context of a divine liturgy or a special parastas memorial service. The families who wish to have their deceased family & relatives commemorated would write their names either in a small black book or on a piece of paper and give it to father with a small donation. All of the accumulated names would then be read either aloud or in a soft voice during the weekly service.

... CANON OF ST. ANDREW? The Great Canon of St Andrew, Bishop of Crete, is the longest canon in all of our services, and is associated with Great Lent, since the only times it is appointed to be



read in church are the first four nights of Great Lent (Clean Monday through Clean Thursday, at Great Compline, when it is serialized) and at Matins for Thursday of the fifth week of Great Lent, when it is read in its entirety (in this latter service, the entire life of St Mary of Egypt is also read).

There is no other sacred hymn which compares with this monumental work, which St Andrew wrote for his personal meditations. Nothing else has its extensive typology and mystical explanations of the scripture, from both the Old and New Testaments. One can almost consider this hymn to be a "survey of the Old and New Testament". Its other distinguishing features are a spirit of mournful humility, hope in God, and complex and beautiful Trinitarian Doxologies and hymns to the Theotokos in each Ode.

The canon is a dialog between St. Andrew and his soul. The ongoing theme is an urgent exhortation to change one's life. St Andrew always mentions his own sinfulness placed in juxtaposition to God's mercy, and uses literally hundreds of references to good and bad examples from the OT and NT to "convince himself" to repent.

The troparia of the Great Canon in all its twelve Odes are usually chanted by the priest in the center of the church, with the choir singing the Irmos and Katavasia. There are varying traditions about bows and prostrations. Some prostrate and some make the sign of the cross and bow three times after the Irmos and each troparion.

PRAYER FOR THE VIBRANT PARISH

O God, Creator of Heaven and Earth! Because of your indescribable love for us, you sent your Only-Begotten Son, Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ - The Way, The Truth, and The Life - and our Salvation. In His name, we turn to You. Strengthen our hearts and minds in Christian love and in unity of purpose as we strive to build a Vibrant Parish. Give us the grace to model our lives according to the Word of God. Instill in us the desire to pray and to celebrate the Holy Mysteries as one Christian Family in our Parish Community. Inspire us to follow Your great command to be a servant to the less fortunate among us! Grant this, O Lord, through the mercies and love for mankind of Your Only-Begotten Son with whom You are blessed, together with Your All-Holy, Good and Life-Giving Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen!

HOLY MYSTERIES (SACRAMENTS)

CONFESSION:	on Sundays and Holy Days: 30 min before Liturgy other days, by appointment
HOLY COMMUNION:	for the sick, by appointment, any time
BAPTISM:	by appointment
MARRIAGES:	by appointment
FUNERALS:	by appointment

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK FEBRUARY 08 - FEBRUARY 07

MON.	FEB 08	09:30 AM	CANON OF ST. ANDREW OF CRETE
TUE.	FEB 09	09:30 AM	CANON OF ST. ANDREW OF CRETE
WED.	FEB 10	09:30 AM	CANON OF ST. ANDREW OF CRETE
		06:00 PM	LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS
THR.	FEB 11	09:30 AM	CANON OF ST. ANDREW OF CRETE
		06:00 PM	AKATHIST OF THE SUFFERING OF CHRIST
FRI.	FEB 12	09:30 AM	SOROKOUSTY
		06:30 PM	LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS
SUN.	FEB 14	08:30 AM	ROSERY (ENG)
		09:00 AM	DIVINE LITURGY (ENG)
		10:30 AM	JESUS PRAYER (UKR)
		11:00 AM	DIVINE LITURGY (UKR)

Big thanks to all our parishioners, guests, visitors and all people of the good will who by their kindness, time, generous donations, look after and support our parish.
May God bless you and your dear ones always!

CONTACT US

Mailing address:	13753 - 108th Avenue, Surrey BC, V3T 2K6
E-mail:	office.holycross@gmail.com
Phone:	604-496-2106(rectory) 604-584-4421 (parish hall)
Web:	www.nweparchy.ca