

## 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 № 9, MARCH 06, 2016 A.D.



### THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST SAINT JOHN OF THE LADDER

This Sunday, the Church calls our attention to St. John Climacus or St. John of the Ladder, because this Father, who lived in the seventh century, realised in his own life the ideal of penitence on which we should fix our eyes during Lent. "Let us honour John ... glory of ascetics..." we sing at the Vesper. At Matins, we address the saint thus: "As your body became thin through abstinence, so did you renew the power of your soul, enriching it with heavenly glory."

Saint John Climacus was the abbot of the Monastery of St. Katherine on Mt. Sinai. St. John wrote *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, which is a guide to ascetic living (living a spiritually disciplined life). In this book, St. John writes about 33 rungs of the ladder we climb in our ascent to heaven. Each rung represents a different Christian virtue (obedience, repentance, love, humility, etc.).

*"Repentance is the renewal of baptism. Repentance is a contract with God for a second life. A penitent is a buyer of humility. Repentance is constant distrust of bodily comfort. Repentance is self-condemning reflection, and carefree self-care. Repentance is the daughter of hope and the renunciation of despair. A penitent is an undisgraced convict. Repentance is reconciliation with the Lord by the practice of good deeds contrary to the sins. Repentance is purification of conscience. Repentance is the voluntary endurance of all afflictions. A penitent is the inflicter of his own punishments. Repentance is a mighty persecution of the stomach, and a striking of the soul into vigorous awareness."*

**(St. John of the Ladder. The Ladder of Divine Ascent)**

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

*The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is served.*

**Troparion, Tone 8:** You came down from oh high, O Merciful One,\* and accepted three days of burial\* to free us from our sufferings.\* O Lord, our life and our resurrection,\* glory be to You.

**Troparion, Tone 1:** O John, our God-bearing father,\* you were shown to be a citizen of the desert,\* an angel in bodily form,\* and a worker of miracles.\* Through fasting, prayers and vigils you received heavenly gifts\* to heal the sick and the souls of those who, in faith, run to you.\* Glory to Him who gives you strength.\* Glory to Him who crowned you.\* Glory to Him who works healing for all through you.

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

**Kontakion, Tone 4:** On the heights of true abstinence,\* the Lord established you as a reliable star,\* giving light for guidance to the ends of the earth,\* O father John, our teacher.

**Prokeimenon, Tone 7** The Lord will give strength to His people;\* the Lord will bless His people with peace.

verse: Bring to the Lord, O you sons of God; bring to the Lord young rams. (Psalm 28:11,1)

**Prokeimenon,** The venerable ones will exult in glory\* and they shall be joyful in their beds.

**A reading from the Epistle to the Hebrews (6:13-20)** Brothers and Sisters, when God made a promise to Abraham, because he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Human beings, of course, swear by someone greater than themselves, and an oath given as confirmation puts an end to all dispute. In the same way, when God desired to show even more clearly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it by an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God would prove false, we who have taken refuge might be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

**Alleluia, Tone 7**

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)

verse: They who are planted in the hose of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

**Gospel: Mark 9:17-31** At that time, someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so." He answered them, "You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us."

*Згідно Типікону в цей день служиться літургія св. Василя Великого.*

**Тропар (глас 8):** З висоти зійшов Ти, Милосердний,\* і триденне погребення прийняв Ти,\* щоб нас звільнити від страждань.\* Життя і воскресіння наше,\* Господи, слава Тобі.

**Тропар (глас 1):** Пустинним жителем і в тілі ангелом,\* і чудотворцем показав ти себе, богоносний отче наш Іване.\* Постом, чуванням, молитвою небесні дарування прийнявши,\* зціляєш недужих і душі, що з вірою прибігають до тебе.\* Слава тому, що дав тобі кріпость,\* слава тому, що вінчав тебе,\* слава тому, що діє тобою всім зцілення.

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

**Кондак (глас 4):** На висоті правдивої повздержности\* Господь тебе поставив, як звізду необманну,\* що просвічує світокраї,\* наставнику Іване, отче наш.

**Прокімен (глас 7):** Господь силу людям Своім дасть,\* Господь поблагословить людей своїх миром (Пс 28,11).

*Стих:* Принесіть Господеві, сини Божі, принесіть Господеві молодих баранців (Пс 28,1).

**Прокімен (глас 8):** Возхваляться преподобні у славі і возрадуються на ложах своїх.

**До Євреїв послання читання (Євр 6,13-20):** Браття і Сестри, коли Бог учиняв Авраамові обітницю, не маючи поклястися ніким вищим, то поклявся самим собою, кажучи: «Справді поблагословлю тебе щедро й розмножу тебе вельми.» І він, завдяки довгій терпеливості, осягнув обітницю: люди клянуться більшим від себе, і всякі їхні суперечки кінчаються клятвою на ствердження. Тому й Бог, бажаючи дати спадкоємцям обітниці якнайсильніший доказ, що його рішення непорушне, вжив клятви, щоб двома незмінними речами, в яких неможливо, щоб Бог казав неправду, ми мали сильну заохоту – ми, що прибігли прийняти надію, призначену нам. В ньому маємо, неначе якор душі, безпечний та міцний, що входить аж до середини за завісу, куди ввійшов за нас, як предтеча, Ісус, ставши архиереєм повіки, на зразок Мелхиседека.

**Алилуя (глас 7):**

*Стих:* Добре воно - прославляти Господа, і співати Твоєму імені, Всевишній (Пс 91,2).

*Стих:* Звіщати вранці Твою милість, ночами - Твою вірність (Пс 91,3).

*Стих:* Насаджені в домі Господнім, у дворах Бога нашого процвітуть (Пс 91,14).

**Євангеліє: (Мр 9,17-31):** У той час один чоловік прийшов до Ісуса і, кланяючись, йому сказав: "Учителю, привів я до тебе сина мого, що має німого духа, і де тільки його вхопить, кидає його об землю так, що пиниться, скрегоче зубами, дерев'яніє. Просив я учнів твоїх, щоб його вигнали, та не змогли." Він же у відповідь каже їм: "О роде невірний! Доки я буду з вами? Доки вас терпітиму? Приведіть но його до мене." І привели його до нього. Скоро дух угледів його, притьмом того затряс, і повалившись той на землю, запінившись, почав качатися. Спитав же його батька: "Скільки часу, як це йому сталося?" – "З дитинства", – відповів той. "І часто він кидає його у вогонь і в воду, щоб його погубити. Та якщо можеш, поможи нам, змилосердившись над ним." Ісус же каже йому: "Щодо того – якщо

Jesus said to him, "If you are able! —All things can be done for the one who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out, "I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!" After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "This kind can come out only through prayer." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."

**Hymn to the Mother of God:** In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all the human race. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins' pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before all ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider that all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

**Communion Hymn** Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest. \* The just man shall be in everlasting remembrance;\* of evil hearsay he shall have no fear.\* Alleluia (x3).

#### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✿ **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** will take place TODAY at 1:30pm in the parish hall.
- ✿ **GREAT FAST 2016 – Великий Піст – began on Monday, FEBRUARY 08.** 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.
- ✿ **BIG THANK YOU** to our parishioners who have sacrificed their time and talents to help us with BAKING KHRUSTYKY. May God bless you and your families.
- ✿ **SOROKOUSTY** for the deceased of individual family members will be celebrated every Friday during Great Lent at 09:30 am. Arrange to have the deceased members of your family remembered during these Services.
- ✿ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY MEETING** – will take place this coming **TUESDAY, MARCH 8 TH**, at the parish hall at 7:30 p.m.
- ✿ **EASTER BAKE SALE.** The UCWLC of the Holy Cross parish invites all to ANNUAL EASTER BAKE SALE on SATURDAY, MARCH 19th, 2016 starting at 9:00am.
- ✿ **SUNDAYS DONATION:** February 21st, 2016 - \$ 708
- ✿ **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
- ✿ **CONGRATULATION.** May the Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in Many Happy and Blessed Years of Life to everyone who celebrated his/her Birthday. Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!

можеш – то все можливо тому, хто вірує." І вмить батько хлопчини викрикнув кризь сльози: "Вірю, поможи моєму невірству!" Ісус же, бачивши, що збігається народ, погрозив нечистому духові, кажучи: "Німий та глухий душе! Наказую тобі: Вийди з нього й не входи більше в нього." І, закричавши та сильно його стрясаши, вийшов з нього. І наче змертвів той, тож многі казали: "Вмер він." Але Ісус, узявши його за руку, підвів його, і той устав. Коли ж увійшов у дім, то учні його питали його насамоті: "Чому ми не могли його вигнати?" Він відповів їм: "Цей рід нічим не можна вигнати, тільки молитвою та постом."

Вийшовши звідти, проходили кризь Галилею, і він не хотів, щоб будь-хто знав. Навчав бо своїх учнів і казав їм: "Син Чоловічий буде виданий у руки людям, і вб'ють його, і, вбитий, по трьох днях, воскресне."

**Замість Достойно:** Тобою радується, Благодатная, всяка твар, ангельський собор і чоловічеський рід, освящений храме і раю словесний, дівственна похвало, що із неї Бог воплотився і младенцем став – перед віками суцїй Бог наш. Лоно бо твоє престолом сотворив і утробу твою просторишою небес учинив. Тобою радується, Благодатная, всяка твар, слава тобі.

**Причасний:** Хваліте Господа з небес,\* хваліте Його на висотах (Пс 148,1). \* В пам'ять вічну буде праведник,\* злих слухів не убоїться (Пс 111,6-7). Алилуя (x3).

#### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✿ **UCWLC MEMBERSHIP FEES** are now due. Please pay \$20 to Helen Uchaz.
- ✿ **LENTEN PROJECT: FOOD BANK COLLECTION.** - Along with fasting and prayer, almsgiving is another way that we can practice our Lenten good works. This year we will be collecting non-parishable goods to be donated to Surrey food bank. Please bring your non-parishable goods and drop them off at the back of the church.
- ✿ **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 I 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.
- ✿ **A CATHOLIC BIBLE SEMINAR – APRIL 22, 23 & 24, 2016 "THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES".** Fr. Jim Nisbet, a noted Biblical scholar and highly sought after speaker from San Luis Obispo, Calif, will be presenting **The Acts of the Apostles** April 22, 23 & 24, 2016 at All Saints Parish Centre, 821 Fairfax Street in Coquitlam. Married couples \$100, Adult \$55. Day rates available Friday (\$15), Saturday (\$35), Sunday (\$35), with a \$10 discount for Students on the full days. Advance registration required. For more information and to register please visit [www.biblestudies4.wix.com/biblecentre](http://www.biblestudies4.wix.com/biblecentre) or email [biblestudies@shaw.ca](mailto:biblestudies@shaw.ca) or call Adrian at 604-380-2575 (after 7 PM).
- ✿ **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, ADELIN 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 February!

✿ **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."

#### YEAR OF MERCY COLUMN



Mercy may seem reckless to us at times. Mercy trusts those who have proven themselves untrustworthy, those who have failed us. Mercy loves those who acted without love. Mercy hopes in those for whom it seems all hope is lost. Mercy seems reckless. It seems counter-intuitive. Mercy seems, very often, like a naïveté—like a choice only made by those who do not understand the world. Very often, we question the practice of mercy. A wife forgives an unfaithful husband, and her friends call her a fool. A man gives money to those on the street, and his family warns that the money will be spent on alcohol or drugs. If we befriend the weak, or the elderly, or the unborn, or the disgraced, the world believes we are wasting our time.

But God is merciful. God trusts us, even when we have failed him. God hopes in us, even when we disappoint. God loves us, with love beyond measure, even when we do not believe that we are worthy of his love.

God is not merciful because he is reckless. God is merciful because we are his children. God is merciful because we are made in his image; in God's sight, we are worthy of his sacrificial love, for the sake of our redemption. God's mercy is a mystery. But the mystery of God's mercy gives us new life.

Our lives are often messy, complicated, and disappointing. Very often, we have the sense of being unloved. Our sins can leave us depressed and despondent: without a sense of meaning, or purpose, or hope. Unhappiness, rootlessness, and loneliness seem often to be endemic to the human condition. But, as Archbishop Charles Chaput so often reminds us, mercy gives us "a new life in God's friendship."

There is nothing more profound than receiving the mercy of God. And in his grace, we can receive his mercy through the sacramental life of the Church. Pope Francis says that the sacraments—especially the sacrament of confession—are the "bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to a hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness."

St. Paul says that, at all times, "God is rich in mercy, because of his great love." In the sacrament of confession, God reminds us that his love has no conditions, no bounds, and no exceptions.

There is no sin too great for the Lord to forgive. No matter what we've done, he loves us. In the holy sacrament of confession, mercy conquers our sinfulness.

Mercy forgives, and it strengthens, and comforts, and restores. Mercy is not reckless, because mercy prepares us to leave our sinfulness behind, and to love as God loves, in faithfulness and freedom. Mercy sets us free for new lives of holiness and joy.

Blessed John Henry Newman wrote that the sacraments are the "keys which open the treasure-house of mercy." Newman said that the sacraments are "means and pledges of grace." In the sacrament of confession, God gives us the grace of his mercy, and pledges to continue that mercy—to remain with us, present to us to make us perfect—to unite us to him in holiness through the mystery of his love.

In the sacrament of confession, God offers us the key to the treasure-house of mercy [...]

In the sacrament of confession, God enters our hearts, and, if we allow him, gives us new lives in his friendship. No matter how long it has been since we've last confessed our sins, he is waiting. I pray that each one of you will enter the treasure-house of God's mercy in the sacrament of confession this Lent—at "24 Hours for the Lord," or at your parish.

God's mercy frees us, and gives us peace. As Blessed John Henry Newman wrote, "Oh what piercing, heart-subduing tranquility, provoking tears of joy, is poured, almost substantially and physically upon the soul, the oil of gladness, as Scripture calls it, when the penitent at length rises, his God reconciled to him, his sins rolled away for ever!"

God is rich in the mystery of mercy. May we encounter that mercy in the holy sacrament of confession!

*by Bishop James Conley of Lincoln, Nebraska,  
from the Southern Nebraska Register.*

#### SCHEDULE FOR THE HOLY WEEK

**MARCH 21 (HOLY MONDAY) 06:30 PM** - LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS (Ukr/Eng)

**MARCH 22 (HOLY TUESDAY) 06:30 PM** - LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS (Ukr/Eng)

**MARCH 23 (HOLY WEDNESDAY) 06:30 PM** - LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS (Ukr/Eng)

**MARCH 24 (HOLY THURSDAY) 07:00 PM** - MATINS OF THE 12 PASSION GOSPELS (Ukr/Eng)

**MARCH 25 (HOLY FRIDAY and FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION)**

**01:00 PM** - VESPERS WITH THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM.  
THE EXPOSITION OF THE HOLY SHROUD (Ukr/Eng)

**MARCH 26 (HOLY SATURDAY)**

**10:00 AM** - VESPER WITH THE DIVINE LITURGY (Ukr/Eng)

**05:00 PM** - SERVICE AT THE TOMB (Ukr/Eng)

**05:30 PM** - BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKETS

**MARCH 27 (EASTER SUNDAY)**

**08:00 AM** - RESURRECTION MATINS (Ukr/Eng)

**09:00 AM** - DIVINE LITURGY (Ukr/Eng),

MYROVANNIA AND BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKETS

## HOLY MYSTERIES (SACRAMENTS)

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>CONFESSION:</b>     | on Sundays and Holy Days: 30 min before Liturgy<br>other days, by appointment |
| <b>HOLY COMMUNION:</b> | for the sick, by appointment, any time  |
| <b>BAPTISM:</b>        | by appointment  |
| <b>MARRIAGES:</b>      | by appointment  |
| <b>FUNERALS:</b>       | by appointment  |

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK: MARCH 07 – MARCH 13

| <u>DATE</u>          | <u>TIME</u>     | <u>LITURGY INTENTION</u>            |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| MON. MAR. 07         | 09:00 AM        | DIVINE LITURGY (Rita Wheeler)       |
| TUE. MAR. 08         | 09:00 AM        | DIVINE LITURGY (Loc-Xuan Family)    |
| WED. MAR. 09         | 06:00 PM        | LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS |
| THR. MAR. 10         | 09:00 AM        | DIVINE LITURGY (Rita Wheeler)       |
|                      | 05:00 PM        | AKATHIST OF THE SUFFERING OF CHRIST |
| FRI. MAR. 11         | 09:30 AM        | SOROKOUSTY                          |
|                      | 06:30 PM        | LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS |
| <b>SUN. MARCH 13</b> | <b>08:30 AM</b> | <b>ROSARY (ENG)</b>                 |
|                      | <b>09:00 AM</b> | <b>DIVINE LITURGY (ENG)</b>         |
|                      | <b>10:30 AM</b> | <b>ROSARY (ENG)</b>                 |
|                      | <b>11:00 AM</b> | <b>DIVINE LITURGY (UKR)</b>         |

*Please note:* parish members requesting the celebration of a Divine Liturgy for a special intention (such as: Thanksgiving, the Infirm, General Intentions, the Deceased, Help of the Holy Spirit, for the Travelers, etc.), please see Fr. Andrii to arrange for it.

**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

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| <b>Web:</b>             | www.nweparchy.ca                                 |