District Priest: Fr. Peter Haugen - 587-252-2715 District President: Ron Rusnak - 780-826-2062 Newsletter Contact: Dobr. Erin Haugen - 587-252-3410

January 2019 Volume 5, Issue 10



Sponsors!

This month's issue is sponsored by

Nick and Nancy Ozero Христос Народився!

Photos from their beautifully decorated and lit up farm can be found on page 5,

If you are interested in how you can sponsor a newsletter, please see Caroline Yewchin.

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Submitted by Fr. Peter Haugen

Христос Народився! Christ is Born!

NEW & IMPROVED! **Nativity Epistle of the Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops Outside the Borders of Ukraine**

To the God-beloved Pastors, Honoured Monastics, and all Faithful Children of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the Diaspora and Ukraine,

"Today, the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds give glory. The magi journey with a star. For unto us is born a young Child, the Pre-eternal God" (Kondak of the Nativity of Christ).



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Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

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Bonnyville/St. Paul **Parochial District**

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Ancient Faith Radio www.ancientfaith.com

Pastoral continued from page 1.

Christ is Born!

Once again, according to the Mercy of God, we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity. Faithful hearts, full of gratitude to God, again glorify the Pre-eternal Word, the Divine Christ Child, Who for us and our salvation came down to earth and was incarnated from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man. Today the soul of every Christian with great spiritual joy cries out "Christ is Born -Glorify Him! Christ from Heaven - Let us meet Him! Christ on Earth – be exalted! Let all the earth sing to the Lord! (St. Gregory the Theologian).

The coming of the Son of God to earth was the most important event in the entire history of the human race. It is an event which the human mind cannot fully comprehend, the wonder of wonders: "great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh" (1 Tim. 3:16).

The Nativity of Christ was the event which ushered in a new cultural life rooted in love for God and neighbor, an event which initiated the Kingdom of Christ on earth. Many things have happened and happen on our earthly planet. But none of them have been discussed and preached for ages as has the event of the Nativity of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The Nativity of Christ is for all of us a great and joyful feast. St. John Chrysostom writes: "The day of Christ's Nativity is the most important day among all the feasts, for it is shown to be the mother of all feasts. Without the Nativity of Christ there would be no Resurrection." Humanity awaited the coming into the world of the Saviour with great impatience. The Lord, yet in the earthly paradise of Eden, after the sin of Adam and Eve said that He would send them a Saviour Who would return to them and to the entire human race their lost happiness and conquer the power of the devil.

Adam's sin is the history of the sin of all mankind and every person individually. The transgression of Adam is repeated in each one of us when we turn from God and commit sin. The greatest and deepest mystery of the Christian faith is the mystery of the incarnation of the Son of God. The Pre-eternal God becomes a small child without ceasing to be God. As St. John the Evangelist writes, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn. 1:14).

Christ "for the sake of us men and for our salvation came down from the heavens and took flesh from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin May, and became man" so that He might destroy the barrier between man and God which arose due to human sin. And every time we Christians celebrate the Nativity of Christ a meeting takes place in our heart and soul with God Himself. We meet the Messiah – Christ – in the Mystery of the Eucharist. Through Holy Communion our human flesh is filled with His Divine power, which strengthens us spiritually and physically. We meet the Saviour in the other mysteries of our Orthodox Faith, which open to us the path to eternal life. We meet Christ in our daily life, sensing in everything His care and presence. And so every year Christ is born in the hearts and souls of faithful people.



<u>Liturgical Scripture</u> Readings

January 2019

Sunday, January 6th

32nd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday before the Nativity of Christ

Epistle: Heb. 11:9-10, 17-23,32-40;

Gospel: Mt. 1:1-25.

Sunday, January 13th

33rd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday after the Nativity of Christ

Epistle: Gal. 1:11-19;

Gospel: Mt. 2:13-23.

Sunday, January 20th

34th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday after Theophany

Epistle: Eph. 4:7-13;

Gospel: Mt. 4:12-17.

Sunday, January 27th

35th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Col. 3:12-16;

Gospel: Lk. 18:18-27.

Newsletter Submissions Needed!

Please keep the submissions for the newsletter coming! Announcements, reports, stories, photos... If you want to share it, we want to see it! Please feel free to submit to me anytime.

Dobr. Erin Haugen: ehaugen@hotmail.ca 587-252-3410

Fr. Peter's Contact Information:

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Phone:

587-252-2715

Email:

pmthaugen@hotmail.com

If anyone you know is in the Hospital, or are at home ill and would like a visitation from me, please contact me and I will make immediate arrangements to meet with them.

Pastoral continued from page 2.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

In 2018 we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian Orthodox Churches in the USA and in Canada. We thank God for all His grace and bounties poured out upon us in the past. We beseech Him that in the coming century the Lord would continue to preserve and protect our Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the diaspora.

We especially beseech the Divine Christ Child that in this new year He would bless our ancestral homeland of Ukraine with peace, spiritual and economic growth, and our God-beloved Ukrainian people with unity, brotherly love, and a united Orthodox Church in Ukraine which is recognized by all other local Orthodox Churches.

We extend our gratitude to the Mother Church – the Great Church of Constantinople, and especially to His All-Holiness, Patriarch Bartholomew and the Holy Synod for all that they have done on behalf of the daughter Church, the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, during the past year of 2018.

We beseech Christ the Saviour, who said "I will build my Church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it." (Mt. 16:18), that in the new year the Lord will preserve His One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church from schism.

From sincere hearts and the depth of our souls we greet all of you on the occasion of the great feast of the Nativity of our Lord, the New Year of God's goodness 2019, and the Holy Theophany. We prayerfully wish you God's limitless mercies.

May the Newly-born in Bethlehem Lord and Saviour of world grant all of you good physical health, spiritual peace, familial warmth, joy, and prosperity. Bowing before the manger in Bethlehem, we offer the New-born Christ Child our sincere and heartfelt prayers, and thank Him for all that we have. May the joy of the Nativity enter into every Christian heart, be present within every family, and ever abide among all of you.

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

With Hierarchical Blessings,

- † YURIJ, Metropolitan, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
- † ANTONY, Metropolitan, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and the Diaspora
- † JEREMIAH, Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Brazil and South America
- † DANIEL, Archbishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Western Europe
- † ILARION, Bishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
- †ANDRIY, Bishop, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

Great Vespers

We will be holding Great Vespers on the Saturdays preceding the Divine Liturgies in St. Paul and Bonnyville. It is my hope that in time, as our parishioners become more comfortable with this service, that individuals will volunteer to assist in the readings when they arrive at the Church. No one will be forced to read, so please don't avoid these services in fear of being asked, but it really is a wonderful way of becoming more involved in our worship services.

Schedule of Great Vespers:

Saturday - January 26th - St. Elias, Bonnyville - 5 pm Saturday - February 23rd - St. Elias, Bonnyville - 5 pm

Genesis Bible Study

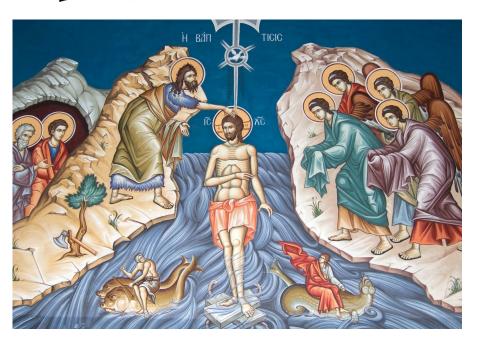
Due to the poor weather conditions and a desire to participate in all the lessons being voiced by those who are attending Bible Studies, we have moved the Bible Studies with the intent of making them available to as many people as possible. The Dates are as follows:



Monday, Feb 11th - St. Paul @ 6:30pm- Introduction to the Old Testament Tuesday, Feb. 12th - Bonnyville @ 6:30pm- Genesis Part 1 - Creation

Monday, Feb 18th - St. Paul @ 6:30pm- Genesis Part 2 - Adam and Eve Tuesday, Feb. 19th - Bonnyville @ 6:30pm- Genesis Part 2 - Adam and Eve

Monday, Feb 25th - St. Paul @ 6:30pm- Genesis Part 3 - After the Fall Tuesday, Feb. 26th - Bonnyville @ 6:30pm- Genesis Part 3 - After the Fall



THEOPHANY

Great Blessing water will be served on the Eve of Theophany (January 18th) in Bonnyville at 5pm, followed by a traditional Holy supper and on Sunday, January 20th at Camp Kiev's Ki Hi!



GREETINGS FROM THE OZERO FARM









"O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God. Have mercy on me, a sinner ."
-Jesus Prayer

WEBSITE

Don't forget we have a website!

It is under a bit of construction, but you can find updates, locations, and a long term schedule there. Photos will be coming soon as well.

Check it out!

www.bonnyvilleanddistrictuoc.ca/

We're also on Facebook! Look up:

Bonnyville District of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada All Saints
St. Paul, AB
Dwayne Ternovoy
780-614-0858

St. Elias
Bonnyville, AB
Janet Hutskal
780-573-3470

Sts. Peter & Paul Nowa Bukowina, AB Sandra Yuschyshyn 780-645-4815

Holy Trinity
Glendon, AB
Joyce Drapaka
780-645-3760

All Saints
Sandy Rapids, AB
Ron Rusnak
780-826-2062

Descent of the Holy Spirit Stry, AB Marion Chimko 780-636-2870





Bonnyville & District Ukrainian Orthodox Parish Council Society - Schedule of Services - 2019

Note: Services may be cancelled due to inclement weather. If weather is a concern, please contact the President listed to learn service status.

JANUARY							
Date	Day	Time	Location	Description			
6	Sunday	9:30 PM	St. Paul	Eve of Nativity			
7	Monday	10:00 AM	Bonnyville	*Nativity of our Lord*			
13	Sunday	10:00 AM	Nowa Bukowina	Sunday After Nativity			
18	Friday	5:00 PM	Bonnyville	Eve of Theophany - Water Blessing			
19	Saturday	*THEOPHANY*					
20	Sunday	10:00 AM	Kiev's-K-Hi	Great Water Blessing			
21	Monday	7:00 PM	St. Paul	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity			
26	Saturday	5:00 PM	Bonnyville	Great Vespers			
27	Sunday	10:00 AM	Bonnyville	35th Sunday after Pentecost/ District AGM			

FEBRUARY							
Date	Day	Time	Location	Description			
3	Sunday	10:00 AM	St. Paul	Thirty Sixth Sunday After Pentecost			
10	Sunday	10:00 AM	Nowa Bukowina	Thirty Seventh Sunday After Pentecost			
15	Friday	*MEETING OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE*					
17	Sunday	10:00 AM	Glendon	Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee			
23	Saturday	5:00 PM	Bonnyville	Great Vespers			
24	Sunday	10:00 AM	Bonnyville	Sunday of the Prodigal Son			

MARCH							
Date	Day	Time	Location	Description			
2	Saturday	10:00 AM	Bonnyville	ENTIRE DISTRICT MEMORIAL SATURDAY			
	Saturday	5:00 PM	St. Paul	Great Vespers			
3	Sunday	10:00 AM	St. Paul	Cheesefare Sunday			
10	Sunday	10:00 AM	Nowa Bukowina	Meatfare/Forgiveness Sunday			