

WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS & GUESTS WHO HAVE JOINED US TODAY!



**ST. NICHOLAS THE WONDERWORKER PARISH
ПАРАФІЯ СВ. МИКОЛАЯ ЧУДОТВОРЦЯ**

Pastor: Fr. Yuriy Vyshnevskyy
Emergency: 250.891.4507
Church: 250.384.2292 Hall: 250.384.2255
Facebook: [facebook.com/stnicholasvictoria](https://www.facebook.com/stnicholasvictoria)
1112 Caledonia Avenue, Victoria, BC V8T 1G1
Web: www.stnicholasparish.org E-mail: stnicks@telus.net
Tue-Sat DL - 9am; Sat Vespers-6pm; Sun DL - 10am

*The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster
Bishop: Most Rev. Ken Nowakowski
www.nweparchy.ca*

П'ЯТА НЕДІЛЯ ПОСТУ - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Having worshipped at the holy places with great joy, you have received saving grace for the journey of virtue, and with all haste you have set out upon the good path you have chosen. Crossing the stream of the Jordan, with eagerness you have gone to live in the dwelling place of the Baptist. you have tamed the savagery of the passions through your ascetic way of life, and boldly you have broken the rebelliousness of the flesh, O Mother ever-glorious.

Having gone to dwell in the wilderness, you had blotted out from your soul the images of your sensual passions, and marked upon it the God-given imprint of holiness. You attained such glory, blessed Mother, as to walk upon the surface of the water, and in your prayers to God you were raised up from the earth. And now, all-glorious Mary, standing before Christ with boldness, entreat Him for our souls.

The power of Your Cross, O Christ, has worked wonders, for even the woman who was once a harlot chose to follow the ascetic way. Casting aside her weakness, bravely she opposed the devil; and having gained the prize of victory, she intercedes for our souls.



*Venerable Mother Mary
of Egypt*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP AFTER DIVINE LITURGY!

SUNDAY HYMNS	
OPENING HYMN	With Joy we Keep the Holy Fast pg. 1008 (<i>Anthology of Worship</i>)
COMMUNION HYMN	Страдална Мати / The Mournful Mother pg. 158-159
CLOSING HYMN	Витай Нам Хресте / We Sing Your Praises pg. 4-5

Please join us today in singing our Sunday hymns!

SUNDAY & DAILY SCHEDULE		
SUNDAY, April 2	Divine Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish	10:00 AM
MONDAY, April 3	NO SERVICES	*****
TUESDAY, April 4	NO SERVICES	*****
WEDNESDAY, April 5	NO SERVICES	*****
THURSDAY, April 6	Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom	9:00 AM
FRIDAY, April 7	Divine Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts	6:00 PM
SATURDAY, April 8	Divine Liturgy followed by Sorokousty	9:00 AM
SUNDAY, April 9	Divine Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish	10:00 AM

Please Note: to request a Divine Liturgy for a special intention, please see Fr. Yuriy to arrange for it!

SUNDAY EPISTLE READERS			
DATE	READING	UKRAINIAN	ENGLISH
SUNDAY, April 2	Heb. 9: 11-14	Liliia Palyvoda	Marian Chalifoux
SUNDAY, April 9	Phil. 4: 4-9	Motria Koropecy	Robert Herchak
SUNDAY, April 16	Act. 1: 1-8	Yuliya Pelekhata	Peter Iwanuck
SUNDAY, April 23	Act. 5: 12-20	Glikeria Iwanuck	Caroline Smudy

Thank you, Epistle readers, for your service in proclaiming God's Word!

PARISH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE	PASTORAL MINISTRY & HOLY MYSTERIES
CHAIRPERSON.....Alec Rossa - 250.472.3374	CONFESSIONS.....1/2 hour before Liturgy
VICE-CHAIRPERSON.....VACANT	EUCARIST.....for the sick - any time
SECRETARY.....Cindy Lazaruk - 778.677.9072	BAPTISMS.....by appointment
TREASURER.....William Vanderven - 250.478.1458	MARRIAGES.....six months notice should be given to the parish priest, and he should be contacted before any other arrangements are made
FINANCIAL SECRETARY.....David Newberry - 250.598.8197	FUNERALS.....by appointment
FUNDRAISING/HALL RENTAL.....Robert Herchak - 250.386.7872	ANOINTING.....any time
MAINTENANCE.....Murray Chapman - 250.658.4769	HOSPITAL VISITS.....any time
LITURGICAL COMMITTEE...Motria Koropecy - 250.658.3051	
MEMBER AT LARGE.....Liliia Palyvoda - 250.857.1683	
VIBRANT PARISH.....Darlene DeMerchant - 250.727.3837	

Bequests & Wills: Leaving a bequeath 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 St Nicholas the Wonderworker Ukrainian Catholic Church in your bequeath and will. If anyone wishes to make such a bequeath in their will, the following clause may be included or added to a will: "I give, devise, and bequeath to St Nicholas the Wonderworker Ukrainian Catholic Parish - 1112 Caledonia Avenue, Victoria BC, V8T 1G1, the sum of \$ _____ (or _____% of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the parish and it's pastoral activities."

Vibrant Parish Prayer

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!



THE VIBRANT PARISH
A PLACE TO ENCOUNTER THE LIVING CHRIST
Through the word, the Holy Mysteries & Prayer,
Serving One's Neighbor, Leadership
Fostering & Serving Unity and Missionary Spirit
(His Beatitude Sviatoslav)



Молитва Живої Парафії

Господи Ісусе Христе, Пастирю Добрий, як колись Ти пригорнув заблуканих овечок, щоб вони пізнали Твій голос і були Твоїм стадом, так і сьогодні глянь ласкаво з небесних висот на нашу парафію та зішли на неї Твого Святого Духа, щоб вона була місцем пізнання радості Доброї Новини. Скріплюй нас Твоєю присутністю та єднай нас кожночасно в молитві. Даруй нам духа служіння ближньому, щоб у нашій парафії кожний міг зустріти Тебе, милостивого Бога. Благослови наш духовний провід Твоєю мудрістю і дай, щоб ніхто з нас не шкодував ні часу, ні талантів, ні матеріальних дібр для розбудови Твого царства. Єднай нас у мирі та злагоді, щоб ми були Твоєю спільнотою любові. Всели в нас місійного духа, щоб ми стали тим світилом євангельського слова, молитви і добрих діл, що кличе кожного до участі в Божественному житті, щоб славилось, Спасе, Твоє Ім'я з безначальним Твоїм Отцем та пресвятим, благим і животворящим Твоїм Духом нині, і повсякчас, і на віки віків. Амінь.

DIVINE LITURGY PROPERS

The Divine Liturgy - An Anthology for Worship: Liturgy - pg. 388-461; propers - pg. 345, 635
The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is celebrated today (Anthology - 270-318)

Troparion, Tone 5: Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word,* co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,* and born of the Virgin for our salvation.* For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death* and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Troparion, Tone 8: The divine image was faithfully preserved in you, O mother,* for taking up the Cross, you followed Christ.* By your deeds you have taught us to see beyond the flesh, which passes,* and care for the soul, a thing immortal.* And so, O venerable Mary,* your spirit rejoices with the angels.

Glory: Now: Kontakion, Tone 3: Once you were filled with every impurity,* now through repentance you have been revealed as a bride of Christ,* following the angelic life, you crushed demons with the weapon of the Cross.* Therefore, O glorious Mary, you have been shown to be a bride of the kingdom.

Prokeimenon, Tone 5: You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us* from this generation and for ever. *Verse:* Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man.

Prokeimenon, Tone 4: God is wonderful in His saints,* the God of Israel.

Epistle - Heb. 9:11-14 - A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews: Brothers and sisters, when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Alleluia, Tone 5: *Verse:* Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing for ever; from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my mouth. *Verse:* For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared.

Gospel - Mark 10:32-45 - At that time, taking the Twelve aside, Jesus began to tell them what was going to happen to him. "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles who will mock him, spit upon him, scourge him, and put him to death, but after three days he will rise." Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." He replied, "What do you wish (me) to do for you?" They answered him, "Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at your left." Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" They said to him, "We can." Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been prepared." When the ten heard this, they became indignant at James and John. Jesus summoned them and said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of

all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Instead of "It is truly right..." we sing: 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 than 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, alleluia,* alleluia.



Тропар, глас 5: Рівнобезначальне з Отцем і Духом Слово,* що від Діви народилося на спасіння наше,* прославмо, вірні, і поклонімся,* бо Воно благозволило тілом зійти на хрест* і смерть перетерпіти, і воскресити померлих* славним воскресінням Своїм.

Тропар, глас 8: В тобі, мати, дбайливо зберігся образ, бо, прийнявши хрест, ти пішла слідом за Христом і ділом навчала ти погорджувати тілом, бо воно проминає, а дбати про душу - єство безсмертне. Тим-то з ангелами разом радується, преподобна Маріє, дух твій.

Слава: І нині: Кондак, глас 3: Перше блудами всякими сповнена, як Христова невіста через покаєння днесь явилася, ангельське життя наслідуючи, демонів оружжям хреста ти убиваєш. Ради цього як невіста царева ти явилася, Маріє преславна.

Прокімен, глас 5: Ти, Господи, збережеш нас і захистиш нас* від роду цього і повік.
Стих: Спаси мене, Господи, бо не стало праведного.

Прокімен, глас 4: Величний Бог у святих своїх,* Бог Ізраїлів.

Апостол - Євр. 9:11-14 - До Євреїв послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: Браття і сестри, Христос же, з'явившись як архиерей майбутніх благ, через більший і досконаліший намет, що зроблений не людською рукою, тобто не земної будови, – і не з кров'ю козлів та телят, але з власною кров'ю, – увійшов, раз назавжди у святиню і знайшов вічне відкуплення. Бо коли кров волів і козлів та попів із телиці, як покропить нечистих, освячує, даючи їм чистоту тіла, то скільки більше кров Христа, – який Духом вічним приніс себе самому Богові непорочним, – очистить наше сумління від мертвих діл, на служіння Богові живому! В тобі, мати, дбайливо зберігся образ, бо, прийнявши хрест, ти пішла слідом за Христом і ділом навчала ти погорджувати тілом, бо воно проминає, а дбати про душу – єство безсмертне. Тим-то з ангелами разом радується, преподобна Маріє, дух твій. Перше блудами всякими сповнена, як Христова невіста через покаєння днесь явилася, ангельське життя наслідуючи, демонів оружжям хреста ти убиваєш. Ради цього як невіста царева ти явилася, Маріє преславна.

Алилуя, глас 5: *Стих:* Милості Твої, Господи, оспівуватиму повік, і з роду в рід сповіщу устами моїми Твою вірність. *Стих:* Бо сказав Ти: Повік милість збудується, на небесах приготується істина Твоя.

Євангеліє - Марко 10:32-45 - У той час взяв Ісус дванадцятьох і почав їм говорити, що має статися з ним: "Оце йдемо в Єрусалим, і Син Чоловічий буде виданий первосвященникам та книжникам, і засудять його на смерть, і видадуть його поганам; і насміхатимуться з нього, плюватимуть на нього, бичуватимуть його й уб'ють, він же по трьох днях воскресне." Яків же та Йоан, сини Заведея, підходять до нього та й кажуть йому: "Учителю, хочемо, щоб ти нам зробив те, чого попросим." Він же їм відповів: "Що хочете, щоб я зробив вам?" "Зволь нам, – ті йому кажуть, – щоб ми сиділи: один праворуч, другий ліворуч від тебе у твоїй славі." Ісус же сказав їм: "Не знаєте, чого просите. Чи можете пити чашу, яку я п'ю, і христитися хрищенням, яким я хрищусь?" Ті йому відповіли: "Можемо." Ісус сказав їм: "Чашу, яку я п'ю, питимете, і хрищенням, яким я хрищуся, христитиметесь. Сидіти ж праворуч від мене чи ліворуч, – не моя річ вам дати, а кому приготовано." Почули про те десятеро, тож обурились на Якова та Йоана. Тоді Ісус прикликав їх і сказав їм: "Ви знаєте, що ті, яких вважають князями народів, верховодять ними, а їхні вельможі утискають їх. Не так воно хай буде між вами, але хто з-між вас хоче стати великим, хай буде вам слугою, і хто з-між вас хоче бути першим, хай буде рабом усіх. Бо й Син Чоловічий прийшов не на те, щоб йому служити, лише щоб служити й віддати своє життя як викуп за багатьох."

Замість "Достойно" співаємо: Тобою радується, Благодатная, всяка твар, ангельський собор і чоловічеський рід, о священний храм і раю словесний, дівственна похвало, що із неї Бог воплотився і младенцем став, перед віками сущий Бог наш. Лоно бо твоє престолом сотворив і утробу твою просторішою небес учинив. Тобою радується, Благодатная, всяка твар, слава тобі.

Причасний: Хваліте Господа з небес,* хваліте Його на висотах. В пам'ять вічну буде праведник,* злих слухів не убоїться. Алилуя, алилуя, алилуя.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ **ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR + EUGENIA ROSSA:** today after Divine Liturgy.

◆ **Talk on "THE WAR IN UKRAINE: THREE YEARS ON"** by professor Serhy Yekelchuk. Co-sponsored by the Centre for Global Studies and the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies. It will take place on Thursday, 6 April, from 3 to 5 p.m., in David Strong Building, Room C118. The event is free and open to the public, but the University's parking rates apply.

The link to the campus map is below (please look for Strong Building or DSB) <https://www.uvic.ca/home/about/campus-info/maps/>

- ◆ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to all those who celebrated their birthdays this past week. May the Lord Our God continue to bless you abundantly and the Holy Mother of God protects you at all times. Многая Літа!

- ◆ **PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND:** October 12-24, 2017. Walk in the footsteps of Jesus; an unforgettable experience with Fr. Joe Ostopowich, Sr. Angelica SSMI, brother & sister pilgrims. For details and price call Myrna Arychuk at [604.617.7200](tel:604.617.7200)

- ◆ **SOROKOUSTY:** Lenten Memorial Services for the deceased is celebrated every Saturday of Lent at the 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy. The books for the deceased are available at the church entrance. Please remember to pray for the deceased members of your family & friends.

- ◆ **DEACON MYKHAILO OZOROVYCH PRIESTLY ORDINATION:** It is with great joy the Eparchy of New Westminster invites you to the ordination of Deacon Mykhailo Ozorovych to the priesthood! On Saturday April 8th at 2:00 pm, Deacon Mykhailo will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Ken during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at Holy Eucharist Cathedral in New Westminster. On Palm Sunday April 9th at 10:00 am, newly ordained Father Mykhailo will celebrate his first Divine Liturgy at Holy Eucharist Cathedral in New Westminster. The ordination and first Divine Liturgy banquet-reception will be held in the Cathedral hall immediately following the Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy. Tickets for the Reception (on Palm Sunday) are only \$15.00 per person. Free for those under 15 years - but they still must obtain a (free) ticket - important to ensure sufficient food. For tickets, please contact Deacon Mykhailo at: [604.524.8824](tel:604.524.8824) or mykhailo.oz@gmail.com The deadline to obtain banquet tickets is Sunday 2 April.

- ◆ **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BURSARY PROGRAM:** Bishop Thomas J. Lobsinger, OMI Memorial Bursary Program: The annual British Columbia and Yukon Bursary Program is known as the Bishop Thomas J. Lobsinger, OMI Memorial Bursary Program. The 2017 program is now receiving applications. Once again we are privileged to offer thirty bursaries of \$500.00 each to Catholic students across the Province of British Columbia. These bursaries are made available on a one-time-only basis to young practicing Catholic students who are in their second or subsequent year of post secondary education at a recognized institute of higher learning within the Province. Applications are accepted from 1 January, 2017 until 30 June 30, 2017 with the bursaries being awarded in the fall. The Terms of Reference can be found on our web site at <http://kofcbc.org/files/2013/08/Terms-of-Reference-2017.pdf>. Requests for applications should be addressed to: Knights of Columbus BC & Yukon Attn: Dale Hofer, Bursaries Chairman 2300 Teal Place, Vernon, BC V1H 1R1. We would like to once again congratulate the many recipients over the past years and look forward the opportunity to assist many more young people in the advancement of their education.

- ◆ **PARISH CALENDAR OF BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:** If you would like to be included in our Parish Calendar of Birthday and Anniversary celebrations, please put date in our calendar located at the church vestibule. Each week, we will list the names in our parish bulletin so we can celebrate these happy occasions together!
- ◆ **PRAYER REQUEST:** Please keep in your prayers MOTRIA KOROPECKY, LYN SALYN and other members of our parish, our family and friends who are ailing, in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join actively in their community.
- ◆ **TRAVELING ICON:** Anyone interested in gracing their home with Christ The Teacher Icon can call Darlene DeMerchant at [250.727.3837](tel:250.727.3837)
- ◆ **JOIN OUR CHOIR:** Do you enjoy singing? Please consider joining our St Nicholas Parish Choir and remember that we ALWAYS looking for new members! Contact Motria Koropecy for details at [250.658.3051](tel:250.658.3051)
- ◆ **CATECHISM ANNOUNCEMENT:** *"And they were bringing to Him also the infants, in order that He may be touching them; but after the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Himself and said, Let alone the little children to come to Me, and cease hindering them; for of such is the kingdom of God."* We are happy to welcome all children to our St. Nicholas The Wonderworker catechism program. Weekly classes are scheduled Sunday morning during Divine Liturgy. We want your children to learn more about their Catholic faith, sacred scripture, feast days, and religious practices and customs of the Ukrainian Catholic church. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Marian Chalifoux at [250.507.1005](tel:250.507.1005)
- ◆ **THRIFTY'S PRE-PAID FOOD CARDS** - We all have to buy groceries. Why not have 6% of it returned back to the church at no extra charge! Cards are available in \$100, \$200, and \$500 denominations. Talk to Alec after today's liturgy to pre- order your cards. We need to sell A LOT of them! We encourage you to consider purchasing them for yourselves as gifts too.
- ◆ **SUNDAY COFFEE VOLUNTEERS** act as hosts and serve light refreshments following the Sunday morning Divine Liturgy, providing an opportunity for the faithful to socialize with friends and visitors following their shared worship experience. We thank all of our parishioners who kind volunteer to serve refreshments. Whether you are new to the Parish, or are a long-time members, please join us for coffee.
- ◆ **BE A STEWARD:** Have you ever wondered what more can you do to help our parish? Here are some suggestions: **Steward of property security**; **Steward of grounds cleaning**; **Steward of cleaning church**; **Steward of church linen**; **Steward of outreach**; **Steward of caring**; **Steward of prayer**; **Steward of service**. Quite often, our homebound or senior members, once active in their younger years, want to find purpose in their senior years. It's not only about doing but

about “BEING” present to others. Contact Fr. Yuriy **OR** Darlene DeMerchant for more information. You will be amazed how “BEING” can make a difference.

◆ **MARCH 26, SUNDAY DONATIONS:** Coffee: \$41.00; Vigil lights: \$7.70; Loose collection: \$90.00; Envelope collection: \$625.00; Needs of the Church in Ukraine: \$145.00; Pre-authorized donations Mar 20 to Mar 26: \$120.00

CAMP SAINT VOLODYMYR; AUGUST 20-27

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The purpose of camp is to provide an opportunity for youth to experience God through nature and the companionship of others. Children will experience Ukrainian language and culture during camp along with games, religious activities, hikes, sports, arts and crafts, camp fires, water activities and other summer camp activities.

This marks the 34th year of our Ukrainian Catholic Summer Camp. Camp will take place in Kelowna at the OAC facility. Camp offers a wide range of activities for campers aged 7-15 (as of December 31, 2017). Registration will be available online via Eventbrite “Camp St. Volodymyr BC 2017.” Early bird registration Ends July 6, 2017.

WAYS TO HELP

VOLUNTEER: Camp St. Volodymyr is a nonprofit camp, run on a volunteer basis. If you are interested in helping at this year’s camp as a counsellor, chef, arts & crafts or cultural coordinator please contact Jennifer. Applications forms for counsellors are due May 15, 2017. All volunteers will be subject to a criminal records check and must sign the camp code of conduct.

DONATE: We are always happy to accept food donations of vegetables, fruits, cereals, and treats for children such as cakes, cookies, as well as monetary donations. Tax receipts can be issued with donations of \$25 or more.

***For more information contact Jennifer Caldwell @ 604.220.0584 or jennsawka@hotmail.com.
Visit our webpage via www.nweparchy.ca***

HOLYWEEK / EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE
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Monday, April 10

5:00 PM - Divine Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

Tuesday, April 11

5:00 PM - Divine Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

Wednesday, April 12

5:00 PM - Divine Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts

Thursday, April 13

9:00 AM - Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

5:00 PM - Passion Matins (Reading of the Passion Gospels)

Friday, April 14 - Good Friday

11:00 AM - Vespers with laying out of the Plashchanytsya

5:00 PM - Jerusalem Matins

Saturday, April 15

9:00 AM - Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Sunday, April 16 - Easter Sunday

8:00 AM - Service at the Tomb of Our Lord; Paschal Matins

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy & blessing of Paska and Easter Food

Monday, April 17 - Bright Monday

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy

SAINT MARY OF EGYPT

The biography of this wonderful saint was written by St. Sophronius, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Once, during the Lenten Season, a certain priest-monk, the Elder Zosimus, withdrew into the wilderness beyond the Jordan. Suddenly, he caught sight of a human being with a withered and naked body whose hair was as white as snow and who began to flee from the sight of Zosimus. The elder ran for a long while until this person crouched down in a brook and cried out: “Abba Zosimus forgive me for the sake of the Lord. I cannot face you for I am a naked woman.” Zosimus then tossed his outer garment to her which she wrapped around herself and then showed herself to him. The elder was frightened upon hearing his name spoken from the mouth of this woman he did not know.

Following his prolonged insistence, the woman related her life story. She was born in Egypt and at the age of twelve began to live a life of debauchery in Alexandria where she spent seventeen years. Driven by the adulterous flame of the flesh, one day she boarded a boat which was sailing for Jerusalem. Arriving at the Holy City, she wanted to enter the church in order to venerate the Honorable Cross but some invisible force restrained her and prevented her from entering the church. In great fear, she gazed upon the icon of the All-Holy Mother of God in the vestibule and prayed that she be allowed to enter the church to venerate the Honorable Cross, all the while confessing her sinfulness and uncleanness and promising that she would go wherever the All-Pure One would direct her. She was then permitted to enter the church. Having venerated the Cross she again entered the vestibule and, before the icon, gave thanks to the Mother of God. At that very moment she heard a voice saying: “If you cross over Jordan you will find real peace!” Immediately she purchased three loaves of bread and started out for the Jordan where she arrived that same evening. The next day she received Holy Communion in the Monastery of St. John and crossed over the Jordan river.

She remained in the wilderness for forty-eight years in great torment, fear and struggle with passionate thoughts as though with wild beasts. She fed on vegetation. Afterward, when she stood for prayer, Zosimus saw her levitate in the air. She begged him to bring her Holy Communion the following year on the shore of the Jordan where she would then come to receive it. The following year, Zosimus arrived on the shore of the Jordan in the evening with Holy Communion. He wondered how this saint would cross the Jordan. At that moment, in the light of the moon, he saw her as she approached the river, made the sign of the cross over it and walked upon the water as though upon dry land. After Zosimus administered Holy Communion to her, she begged him to come the following year to the same brook where they had first met.

Zosimus came and discovered her lifeless body on that spot. Above her head in the sand was written: “Abba Zosimus, bury the body of the humble Mary on this site; render dust to dust. I died on April 1, the same night of the saving-suffering of Christ, after having received Communion of the Divine Mysteries.” From this inscription Zosimus first learned her name and the other and awesome miracle was that, she, on that same night the previous year, when she

received Holy Communion, arrived at this brook which took him twenty days to travel. Thus, Zosimus buried the body of this wonderful saint, Mary the Egyptian. When he returned to the monastery Zosimus related the entire history of her life and the miracles which he had personally witnessed. Thus, the Lord knows how to glorify penitent sinners. The Church holds her up as an example to the faithful during these fast days as an incentive for repentance. She died about the year 530 A.D.

POPE URGES BISHOPS FROM WESTERN CANADA TO BE CLOSE TO THEIR PEOPLE

By Carol Glatz Catholic News Service



VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- "That's your bishop!" a woman shouted to Seamus McKelvey of Winnipeg, Manitoba, as he leaned in for an impromptu picture with three prelates posing for a professional portrait with St. Peter's Basilica in the background.

McKelvey was with a large group of tourists from western Canada that just happened to be crossing the large boulevard in front of St. Peter's Square when he decided he would crash the lineup and jump right in for his own souvenir snap with Archbishops Richard Gagnon of Winnipeg, Richard Smith of Edmonton, Alberta, and Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski of the Ukrainian Diocese of New Westminster, British Columbia. It was a prize picture with the prelates dressed in their finest, fresh from a meeting with Pope Francis March 27.

The day started "in a rather spectacular way" with an early morning Mass at the crypt at the tomb of St. Peter, followed by a two-and-a-half-hour conversation with the successor of Peter, Archbishop Gagnon told Catholic News Service.

Those two events, one after the other, would make it "a hard act to follow for the rest of the week" as the archbishop, who is president of the Assembly of Western Catholic Bishops, and another two dozen bishops from western Canada made their "ad limina" visits and pilgrimage to Rome and the Vatican.

Archbishop Gagnon said the major concerns and issues the group brought to the table for discussion included the Catholic Church's relationship with the indigenous people and how to minister to them in their communities. For example, the decline in religious vocations means that diocesan bishops "need to integrate more fully into that missionary mode" for indigenous peoples.

Archbishop Smith told CNS that the pope spent "a lot of time talking about immigration," reaffirming that people from other lands and cultures "are a gift" that should be integrated. He

said the pope told them, "Migration is a human phenomenon, don't be afraid, trust in the Lord, welcome people."

Bishop Nowakowski said the pope reminded them to listen to young people, to understand their perspectives.

When the bishops told the pope how young people are so bombarded with "so many anti-Gospel messages," he showed deep concern and said: "Please be close to your people. Accompany, be near them" so the church can offer "the hope that comes uniquely from the Gospel," Archbishop Smith said.

The archbishop said the pope emphasized the point that when the church listens young people, "you're listening to reality," and he urged them not to "confine yourselves to those in your parishes or dioceses, but reach out to those who are maybe having difficulties with the church or don't like the church: Talk to them, listen to them and go forward with that."

Archbishop Smith said the pope "is not afraid to say he doesn't have immediate answers" and therefore, neither should the bishop. But that does mean there is "a need for deep, sustained prayer, because the protagonist in all of this is the Holy Spirit leading us to Christ."

The only way to discern and accompany people properly, he said, is being "men of prayer, deep prayer, and listening to where the spirit is leading."

Archbishop Gagnon said that during their lengthy conversation, Pope Francis displayed "a powerful openness."

"Certainly his pastoral style is such where people feel affirmed and assured that there is a listening ear," he said.

There was "a feeling like we were talking with our brother," Bishop Nowakowski said.

Archbishop Gagnon said Pope Francis left them with a strong message of not giving up, despite the challenges.

The pope also reaffirmed the need for "a collaborative approach, understanding where people are coming from and knowing, at the same time, that clear decisions need to be taken on certain issues" that underline church teaching, Archbishop Gagnon said.

Archbishop Smith said this approach was particularly timely at this moment in history when outlooks, technology and culture are changing so quickly and "very often catching us all off guard."

It shows "discernment is exactly what has to be done" for the church "to respond with clarity with the Gospel," he said.