

**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://facebook.com/stnicholasvictoria)

1112 Caledonia Avenue, Victoria, BC V8T 1G1

Web: [www.stnicholasparish.org](http://www.stnicholasparish.org) E-

mail: [st.nicholas.victoria@gmail.com](mailto:st.nicholas.victoria@gmail.com)

**Tue-Fri DL - 9am; Sun DL - 10am**

*The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster  
Bishop: Most Rev. Ken Nowakowski  
[www.nweparchy.ca](http://www.nweparchy.ca)*

**EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
ВОСЬМА НЕДІЛЯ ПІСЛЯ П'ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦІ**

You were a second Constantine in word and deed, for he was born in a Christian age, yet lived for many years among the pagans, while you were born of heathen, but loved Christ who loved you. You have gone to Him rejoicing! Pray ceaselessly to Him for those who honour your memory.

Brightly shining Mount Sinai, rejoices eternally, for it is sanctified by the law of Moses and has seen the invisible, and your great city, Volodymyr, also shine brightly and celebrates with joy, beholding in the Spirit the Son glorified in you with the Father. Pray to Him to save and enlighten our souls!

You were a root of the true faith, Volodymyr, watered by the Holy Spirit. You put forth for us divinely planted branches with fragrant flowers: the wondrous Boris, and Hlib, the zealot of godliness; abundant sources of miracles for all the faithful. Standing with them before Christ, pray to Him to save and enlighten our souls.



*Holy Prince Volodymyr  
the Great, Equal to the  
Apostles*

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP AFTER DIVINE LITURGY!**

<b>SUNDAY HYMNS</b>			
OPENING HYMN	Увійди Єрею / Come My Friends pg. 238-239		
COMMUNION HYMN	Витай Між Нами / With Solemn Greeting. pg. 244-245		
CLOSING HYMN	Наче Повний Голос Дзвону / Having Shared Your Loving Kindness pg. 270-271		
<i>Please join us today in singing our Sunday hymns!</i>			
<b>SUNDAY &amp; DAILY SCHEDULE</b>			
SUNDAY, July 15	Divine Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish		10:00 AM
MONDAY, July 16	NO SERVICE		
TUESDAY, July 17	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
WEDNESDAY, July 18	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
THURSDAY, July 19	NO SERVICE		
FRIDAY, July 20	NO SERVICE		
SATURDAY, July 21	NO SERVICE		
SUNDAY, July 22	Divine Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish		10:00 AM
<i>Please Note: to request a Divine Liturgy for a special intention, please see Fr. Yuriy to arrange for it!</i>			
<b>SUNDAY EPISTLE READERS</b>			
DATE	READING	UKRAINIAN	ENGLISH
SUNDAY, July 15	1 Cor 1:10-18	Dmytro Maksymiv	Carol Chapman
SUNDAY, July 22	1 Cor. 3:9-17	Glikeria Iwanuck	Peter Iwanuck
SUNDAY, July 29	Rm. 15:1-7	Andrij Pelekhayti	Caroline Smudy
SUNDAY, August 5	1 Cor. 15:1-11	Motria Koropecy	Rita Vanderven
<i>Thank you, Epistle readers, for your service in proclaiming God's Word!</i>			
<b>2018 PARISH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE</b>		<b>PASTORAL MINISTRY &amp; HOLY MYSTERIES</b>	
CHAIRPERSON.....Alec Rossa - 250.472.3374		CONFESSIONS.....1/2 hour before Liturgy	
SECRETARY.....Richard DeMerchant - 250.893.3484		EUCARIST.....for the sick - any time	
TREASURER.....William Vanderven - 250.478.1458		BAPTISMS.....by appointment	
FINANCIAL SECRETARY.....David Newberry - 250.598.8197		MARRIAGES.....six months notice should be given to the parish priest, and he should be contacted before any other arrangements are made	
FUNDRAISING/HALL RENTAL.....Robert Herchak - 250.386.7872		FUNERALS.....by appointment	
MAINTENANCE.....Murray Chapman - 250.658.4769		ANOINTING.....any time	
LITURGICAL COMMITTEE...Motria Koropecy - 250.658.3051		HOSPITAL VISITS.....any time	
MEMBER AT LARGE.....Cindy Lazaruk - 778.677.9072			
<p><b>Bequests &amp; Wills:</b> 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."</p>			

### 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!



**ST. NICHOLAS 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. 270-318; propers - pg. 356, 860  
 The Liturgy prescribed for today is that of St. John Chrysostom.*

**Troparion, Tone 7:** By Your cross You destroyed death;\* You opened Paradise to the thief;\* You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy,\* and charged the apostles to proclaim\* that You are risen, O Christ our God,\* offering great mercy to the world.

**Troparion, Tone 4:** You resembled the merchant who sought the pearl of great price,\* O Vladimir, glorious in might:\* seated on the throne of Kiev, the divinely-saved mother of the cities of Rus',\* as a seeker you sent envoys to the Imperial City\* to know the orthodox faith,\* and found Christ the pearl, who chose you as another Paul,\* and removed your blindness both spiritual and bodily in the holy font.\* Therefore we, your people, feast your falling asleep.\* Pray that the leaders of Rus' be saved with those entrusted to them.

**Glory: Kontakion, Tone 7:** No longer shall the dominion of death be able to hold humanity,\* for Christ went down shattering and destroying its powers.\* Hades is bound.\* The prophets exult with one voice.\* The Saviour has come for those with faith, saying:\* "Come forth, O faithful, to the resurrection!"

**Now: Kontakion, Tone 8:** You emulated Paul the great apostle,\* O glorious Vladimir,\* late in life you abandoned your zeal for idols as childish thinking,\* and as a full-grown man you were adorned with divine baptism's royal purple.\* Standing with joy in the presence of Christ the Saviour,\* pray that the leaders of Rus' may be saved with those entrusted to them.

**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.

**Prokeimenon, Tone 3:** Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

**Epistle - 1 Cor. 1:10-18 - A Reading from the Letter of Saint Apostle Paul to Corinthians:** Brothers and sisters, I appeal to you by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarrelling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I am thankful that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest any one should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**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. *Verse:* I have exalted one chosen from among My people. *Verse:* Indeed, My hand shall sustain him, and My arm shall make him strong.

**Gospel - Mt. 14:14-22 -** At that time, when Jesus went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may

---

---

go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’ Jesus said to them, ‘They need not go away; you give them something to eat.’ They replied, ‘We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.’ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

**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.

**Prayer After Holy Communion:** Having been made worthy to partake in a mystical way of Your immaculate Body and precious Blood, O Christ our God, I acclaim and bless, worship and glorify You, and proclaim the greatness of Your saving acts, now and for ever and ever. Amen. *(more Prayers After Holy Communion on pg. 324-326 in the Anthology book).*



**Тропар, глас 7:** Знищив Ти хрестом Твоім смерть,\* відчинив розбійникові рай,\* мироносицям плач на радість перемінив\* і апостолам звелів проповідувати,\* що воскрес Ти, Христе Боже,\* даючи світові велику милість.

**Слава: Кондак, глас 7:** Вже більше влада смерти не зможе людей держати,\* зійшов бо Христос, знищивши і знівечивши сили її,\* зв’язується ад,\* пророки ж однодушно радіють.\* З’явився Спас тим, що вірують, промовляючи:\* Виходьте, вірні, до воскресіння.

**І нині: Богородичний, глас 7:** Як на скарбницю нашого воскресіння,\* надіємось на Тебе, Всехвальна,\* тож виведи нас з ями й безодні прогріхів,\* бо Ти спасла підлеглих гріхам, породивши наш Спасіння.\* Як перед народ-женням ти була Діва,\* так і в народженні і по народженні, Ти залишилась Дівою.

**Прокімен, глас 7:** Господь силу людям Своім дасть,\* Господь поблагословить людей своїх миром. *Стих:* Принесіть Господеві, сину Божі, принесіть Господеві молодих баранців.

**Апостол - 1 Кор. 1:10-18 - До Коринтян Послання Святого Апостола Павла Читання:** Браття і сестри, благаю вас ім’ям Господа нашого Ісуса Христа, щоб ви всі те саме говорили; щоб не було розколів поміж вами, але щоб були поєднані в однім розумінні й у одній думці. Я бо довідався про вас, мої брати, від людей Хлої, що між вами є суперечки. Казку ж про те, що кожен з вас говорить: «Я – Павлів, а я – Аполлосів, а я – Кифин, а я – Христів.» Чи ж Христос розділюється? Хіба Павло був розп’ятий за вас? Або хіба в Павлове ім’я ви христилися? Дякую Богові, що я нікого з вас не охристів, крім Криспа та Гаїя, щоб

не сказав хтось, що ви були охрищені в моє ім'я. Охрестив я теж дім Стефана; а більш не знаю, чи хрестив я когось іншого. Христос же послав мене не хрестити, а благовістити, і то не мудрістю слова, щоб хрест Христа не став безуспішним. Бо слово про хрест – глупота тим, що погибають, а для нас, що спасаємося, сила Божа.

**Алилуя, глас 7:** *Стих:* Добре воно - прославляти Господа, і співати Твоєму імені, Всевишній. *Стих:* Звіщати вранці Твою милість, ночами - Твою вірність.

**Євангеліє - Мт. 14:14-22** - У той час, вийшовши, Ісус побачив силу народу і змилосердився над ними та вигоїв їхніх недужих. Якже настав вечір, підійшли до нього його учні й кажуть: “Пусте це місце та й час минув уже. Відпусти людей, нехай ідуть по селах та куплять собі поживи.” А Ісус сказав їм: “Не треба їм відходити: дайте ви їм їсти.” Вони ж мовлять до нього: “Ми маємо тут тільки п'ять хлібів і дві риби.” Тоді він каже: “Принесіть мені їх сюди.” І, звелівши народові посідати на траві, взяв п'ять хлібів і дві риби, підвів очі до неба, поблагословив і розламав ті хліби, і дав учням, а учні – людям. Всі їли до наситу й назбирали куснів, що zostалися, дванадцять кошів повних. Тих же, що їли, було яких п'ять тисяч чоловіків, окрім жінок та дітей. І зараз же спонукав учнів увійти до човна й переплисти на той бік раніше від нього, тим часом як він відпускав народ.

**Причасний:** Хваліте Господа з небес,\* хваліте Його на висотах. Алилуя, алилуя, алилуя!

**Молитва По Святім Причастю:** Таїнственно удостоївшись бути причасником Твого пречистого тіла і чесної крові, Христе Боже, оспівую і благословлю, поклоняюся, і славлю, і величаю спасіння Твої, Господи, нині і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь. *(більше Молитов По Святім Причастю на ст. 80-87 в маленькій книжечці “Божественна Літургія”).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to PETER IWANUCK and 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!

◆ **PRAYER REQUEST:** Please keep in your prayers GORD HRYHORYSHEN, CORNELL BABIE 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.

◆ **ST. NICHOLAS BOOK STORE:** The Divine Liturgy An Anthology of Worship - **\$25**; “Christ Our Pascha” Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church/“Христос Наша Пасха” Катехизм Української Католицької Церкви - **\$25**; “Sing to Our God” hymn book - **\$15**; Молитовник “Прийдіте Поклонімся” - **\$10**.

- ◆ **TRAVELING ICON:** Anyone interested in gracing their home with Christ The Teacher Icon can call Darlene DeMerchant at 250.727.3837.
  - ◆ **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!
  - ◆ **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 Koropecky for details at 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.
  - ◆ **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.
  - ◆ **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.
  - ◆ **PARISH LIBRARY:** please visit our parish library and browse through the books on spirituality, church history, iconography, history of the Ukrainians in Canada, children's books and more... The library is located in the church vestibule. Please use a library book sign out form when borrowing a book.
  - ◆ **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. Please speak with Robert if you would like to volunteer.

◆**WE SHARE THE AIR:** Please keep it healthy and fragrant free. Someone in this area is scent-sitive. The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other respiratory ailments. **PLEASE DO NOT** \*wear perfume, cologne, lotion, aftershave and other fragrances; \*USE unscented personal care products. Be Sensitive to Others. Thank you for your understanding. *St. Nicholas parish.*

◆**JULY 8, SUNDAY DONATIONS** - Coffee: \$32.15; Vigil lights: \$16.50; Loose collection: \$50.00; Envelope collection: \$807.00; Pre-authorized donations July 1 to July 8: \$320.00  
**Total: \$1,225.65**

### **CAMP ST. VOLODYMYR - August 19-26, 2018**

If you are between the ages of 7-15 this is a summer must do! Camp St. Volodymyr is a great opportunity for campers to experience God through nature and the companionship of others. Campers will learn about the Ukrainian language and culture along with games, hikes, sports, arts and crafts, camp fires, water activities and much more!

Come join us August 19-26, 2018 in celebrating our 34<sup>th</sup> year of offering camp to children in our Eparchy! Register today and use the promo code **July 2018** to get \$50 off your registration. Register online using Eventbrite. Search "Camp St. Volodymyr BC 2018."

For more information contact Jennifer Caldwell @ 604.220.0584 or [jennsawka@hotmail.com](mailto:jennsawka@hotmail.com).

### **WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR CAMP**

#### **DONATE Food**

We are always happy to accept food donations of fresh fruits and vegetables, breakfast items; cereal, syrup, pancake mix, jam, Nutella, lunch items; chicken soup, Kraft dinner, cheese, drinks; juice boxes, powdered drinks, brownie/cake mixes, Jello, snack bars, cookies or treats. Gift certificates to Superstore and Costco are also welcomed.

#### **DONATE Monetarily**



Each year the Eparchy sponsors several children to attend. You can help send a deserving child to camp through your donations. Donation can be made through the Eparchy or online at our Eventbrite page. Tax receipts can be issued for donations of \$25 or more.

[nweparchy.ca](http://nweparchy.ca)

## READING THE CATECHISM “CHRIST - OUR PASCHA”



### 3) *The Rite of Chrismation*

**#428** The Rite of Chrismation is performed immediately after Baptism because where there is life, there is breath. Holy Chrism, a fragrant mixture of oils and other aromatic components, symbolizes the richness and diversity of the spiritual gifts which the Holy Spirit grants to the newborn in Christ.



Beware of supposing that this oil [i.e., Chrism] is mere ointment. Just as after the invocation of the Holy Spirit the Eucharistic bread is no longer ordinary bread but the Body of Christ, so this holy oil, in conjunction with the invocation, is no longer simple or common oil but becomes the gracious gift of Christ and the Holy Spirit, producing the advent of his divinity.

Holy Chrism is consecrated on Holy Thursday by the head of a self-governing Church for use by priests, which evidences the unity of the Church.

**#429** During the Rite of Chrismation, the priest anoints the newly baptized on the forehead, eyes, nostrils, lips, ears, breast, hands, and feet. He proclaims: “The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Thus, “in every word and deed” the newly baptized is to please God and become “a son (daughter) and heir” of his kingdom. The Holy Spirit transfigures the thoughts, feelings, and deeds of those who are members of the kingdom.

**#430** The words “The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit” witness to the fact that the Christian belongs to God. Christians are his possession because we “were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory” (Eph 1:13-14). It is through the power and the action of the Holy Spirit that the Christian lives in Christ: “The anointing that you received from him abides in you, and so you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, abide in him” (1 Jn 2:27).

*c. The Mystery of the Eucharist*

**#431** The Mystery of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) is the third of the Mysteries of Christian initiation. In the Eucharist the newly baptized, who was born in Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit, receives the communion of the Body and Blood of Christ at the holy Eucharistic table. But unlike Baptism and Chrismation, which we receive only once, we receive the Mystery of the Eucharist throughout our lives, since it is through this Mystery that we grow in the grace received in Baptism and Chrismation - the grace to be sons and daughters of God. For this reason our Church offers Communion to the newly baptized.

**#432** In the Mystery of Holy Communion, Christ gives us his very self, his Body and Blood, as nourishment for our growth in the new life. At the Mystical Supper (Last Supper) Christ offered himself for us so that we might be able to offer our lives for our neighbour, as he offered his life (see Jn 13:34). Receiving Communion in the Lord's Body and Blood, we receive a pledge of life eternal: "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day" ( Jn 6:54). Partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we already have eternal life, the fullness of which will be revealed in the glorious second coming of Christ. "For since he bestowed on us his own image and his own spirit and we did not guard them, he took himself a share in our poor and weak nature, in order that he might cleanse us and make us incorruptible, and establish us once more as partakers of his divinity."

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOLY PRINCE VOLODYMYR THE GREAT, EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES</b></p>
--

Volodymyr the Great (956-1015). Grand prince of Kyiv from 980. Over the next 35 years he expanded the borders of Kyivan Rus' and turned it into one of the most powerful states in Eastern Europe. Volodymyr, his family, and his closest associates were baptized in December 987, when he took the Christian name Vasyliy (Basil). Soon afterward he ordered the destruction of all pagan idols. The mass baptism of the citizens of Kyiv took place in 988 and the remaining population of Rus' was slowly converted, sometimes by force.

The Christianization of Rus' was essentially engineered by Byzantium. Byzantium supplied the first hierarchs and other missionary clergy in Rus' and introduced Byzantine art, education, and literature there. During Volodymyr's reign the first schools and churches were built, notably the Church of the Tithes in Kyiv. The adoption of Christianity as the official religion facilitated the unification of the Rus' tribes and the establishment of foreign dynastic, political, cultural, religious, and commercial relations, particularly with the Byzantine Empire, Bulgaria, and Germany.

Volodymyr the Great died on 15 July 2015 in the village of Spas-Berestov. At the Tithe church the coffin with the relics of St Volodymyr was met by Kyivan clergy with Metropolitan

---

---

John at the head of the procession. The holy relics were placed in a marble crypt, set within the St Clement chapel of the Dormition church beside the marble crypt of Empress Anna.

The clergy venerated Volodymyr because of his support of the church, but he was canonized only after 1240. Thereafter he was referred to as ‘the holy, equal to the Apostles, grand prince of Kyiv.’ The oldest extant mention of him as Saint Volodymyr is found in the Hypatian Chronicle under the year 1254, and his feast day, 15 July, was first celebrated in 1263.

## NEWS

### **His Beatitude Svyatoslav joined 24 Hour Bible Reading Marathon on Sofia Square**

*His Beatitude Sviatoslav, the Father and Head of the UGCC, took part in the round-the-clock Bible reading marathon, which began at Sofia Square in Kyiv.*

"I want to congratulate all of you with a special year in the history of our state - the Year of God's Word, which does not coincidentally happen together with the anniversary of the Baptism of Rus'-Ukraine. Now we will endure the special moment of unity – the unity of priests, faithful of various Churches, different confessions, all Ukrainian citizens around God's Word. The Apostle Paul teaches that the Word of God, the Gospel, is the power of God to salvation of everyone who believes. Let the joint reading, joint hearing, and therefore the joint fulfillment of God's Word in our lives become the moment of our national unity. And we still have to say with the prophet: "Speak to us, Lord, for your servant is listening," said His Beatitude Sviatoslav before the start of the marathon.

After that, the Head of the UGCC read out an excerpt from the Book of Genesis.

The Sacred Book will be read aloud from beginning to end. Over 300 readers - heads of churches and clerics from all over the country, state officials, representatives of the government and foreign guests are going to take part in it. The marathon will last until 19:00 on July 8th.

The action is nominated in the National Register of Records of Ukraine. Its purpose as one of the events on the occasion of the Year of God's Word is to draw the attention of Ukrainian society to the Bible not only as an ancient, historically significant book but also as an accessible and actual source of wisdom and moral and ethical norms for the present.

[news.ugcc.ua](http://news.ugcc.ua)

---

---