



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



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**PASTOR:
FR. YURIY VYSHNEVSKYY**

**~ 26 JANUARY 2020 ~
ZACCHAEUS SUNDAY
НЕДІЛЯ ЗАКХЕЯ**



St. **Xenophon**, his wife **Maria**, and their sons **Arcadius** and **John**, were noted citizens of Constantinople. Despite their riches and position, they distinguished themselves by their simplicity of soul and goodness of heart. Wishing to give their sons John and Arcadius a more complete education, they sent them off to the Phoenician city of Beirut.

By divine Providence the ship on which brothers sailed was wrecked. The waves tossed the brothers ashore at different places. Grieved at being separated, the brothers dedicated themselves to God and became monks. For a long time the parents had no news of their children and presumed them to be dead.

Xenophon, however, already quite old, maintained a firm hope in the Lord and consoled his wife Maria, telling her not to be sad, but to believe that the Lord watched over their children. After several years the couple made a pilgrimage to the holy places, and at Jerusalem they met their sons, living in asceticism at different monasteries.

Saints Xenophon and Maria went to separate monasteries and dedicated themselves to God. The monks Arcadius and John, having taken leave of their parents, went out into the wilderness, where after long ascetic toil they were glorified by gifts of wonderworking and discernment. Saints Xenophon and Maria, laboring in silence and strict fasting, also received from God the gift of wonderworking.

SUNDAY HYMNS	
OPENING HYMN	Бог Предвічний / God Eternal pg. 28-29
COMMUNION HYMN	Небо і Земля / Heaven and Earth pg. 72-74
CLOSING HYMN	В Вифлеємі Новина / Joy in Bethlehem pg. 38-40

SUNDAY & DAILY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, Jan. 26	Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish	10:00 AM
MONDAY, Jan. 27	NO SERVICES	
TUESDAY, Jan. 28	Divine Liturgy for +Eve Bruce-Lockhart	9:00 AM
WEDNESDAY, Jan. 29	Divine Liturgy for +Glikeria Iwanuck	9:00 AM
THURSDAY, Jan. 30	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom	9:00 AM
FRIDAY, Jan. 31	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom	9:00 AM
SATURDAY, Feb. 1	NO SERVICES	
SUNDAY, Feb. 2	Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish	10:00 AM

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

SUNDAY EPISTLE READERS

DATE	READING	UKRAINIAN	ENGLISH
SUNDAY, Jan. 26	1 Tim. 4: 9-15	Motria Koropecky	Darryl Huculak
SUNDAY, Feb. 2	Heb. 7:7-17	Yuliya Pelekhata	Graciela Spaciuk-Schwarz
SUNDAY, Feb. 9	1 Cor. 6:12-20	Dmytro Maksymiv	William Vanderven
SUNDAY, Feb. 16	1 Cor. 8:8-9:2	Kateryna Yaremyn	Marian Chalifoux

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

PASTORAL MINISTRY & HOLY MYSTERIES

CONFESSIONS..... 1/2 hour before Liturgy
 EUCHARIST..... for the sick - any time
 BAPTISMS..... by appointment
 MARRIAGES..... six months notice should be given to the parish priest, and he should be contacted before any other arrangements are made
 FUNERALS..... by appointment
 ANOINTING..... any time
 HOSPITAL VISITS..... any time

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DIVINE LITURGY PROPERS

*The Divine Liturgy of our Father among the Saints John Chrysostom
An Anthology for Worship: Liturgy - pg. 270-318; propers - pg. 357*

Troparion, Tone 8: You came down from on 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.

Glory: Kontakion, Tone 8: When You rose from the tomb,* You also raised the dead and resurrected Adam.* Eve exults in Your resurrection,* and the ends of the world celebrate Your rising from the dead* O most merciful One.

Now: Theotokion, Tone 8: To You, O Mother of God,* the invincible leader,* we, Your servants, ascribe these victory hymns* in thanksgiving for our deliverance from evil.* With Your invincible power free us from all dangers* that we may cry out to You:* "Hail, O Bride, and pure Virgin!"

Prokimenon, Tone 8: Pray and give praise to the Lord our God.* Pray and give praise to the Lord our God. *Verse:* In Judea God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle - 1 Tim. 4: 9-15 - A Reading from the Letter of Saint Apostle Paul to Timothy: Timothy my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and struggle, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Saviour of all people, especially of those who believe. These are the things you must insist on and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

Alleluia, Tone 8: *Verse:* Come, let us rejoice in the Lord; let us acclaim God our Saviour. *Verse:* Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.

Gospel - Luke 19:1-10 - At that time, Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall

repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost."

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens,* praise Him in the highest. 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 8: З висоти зійшов Ти, Милосердний,* і триденне погребення прийняв Ти,* щоб нас звільнити від страждань.* Життя і воскресіння наше,* Господи, слава Тобі.

Слава: Кондак, глас 8: Коли Ти воскрес із гробу,* то й померлих підняв,* і Адама воскресив,* радіє Єва воскресінням Твоїм* і кінці світу прославляють* Твоє з мертвих воскресіння,* Багатомилостивий.

І нині: Богородичний, глас 8: Тобі, вибраній Владарці,* подячні пісні перемоги співаємо* ми, вратовані від лиха,* слуги Твої, Богородице.* Ти, що маєш силу нездоланну,* захорони нас від усяких бід, щоб звати нам:* Радуйся, Невісто, Діво чистая!

Прокімен, глас 8: Помоліться і хвалу віддайте* Господеві, Богу нашому. Стих: Відомий Бог у Юдеї, в Ізраїлі велике ім'я Його.

Апостол - 1 Тим. 4: 9-15 - До Тимотея послання Святого Апостола Павла читання: Сину Тимотею, вірне це слово й повного довір'я гідне. На це бо й трудимося та боремося, тому що ми поклали нашу надію на живого Бога, який є Спасителем усіх людей, особливо ж вірних. Це наказуй і навчай. Ніхто твоїм молодим віком хай не гордує, але будь зразком для вірних у слові, поведінці, любові, вірі й чистоті. Заки я прийду, віддавайся читанню, умовлянню та навчанню. Не занедбуй у собі дару, що був даний тобі через пророцтво з накладанням рук збору пресвітерів. Про це міркуй, будь увесь у цьому, щоб поступ твій усім був очевидний.

Алилуя, глас 8: Стих: Прийдімо з похвалами пере обличчя Його, і псалмами воскликнім Йому. Стих: Хваліте Господа з небес, хваліте Його на висотах.

Євангеліє - Лука 19:1-10 - У той час, увійшовши в Єрихон, Ісус проходив через місто. А був там чоловік, Закхей на ім'я; він був головою над митарями й був багатий. Він бажав бачити Ісуса, хто він такий, але не міг із-за народу, бо був малого зросту. Побіг він

наперед, виліз на сикомор, щоб подивитися на нього, бо Ісус мав проходити тудою. Прийшовши на те місце, Ісус глянув угору і сказав до нього: “Закхею, притьмом злізай, бо я сьогодні маю бути в твоїм домі.” І зліз той швидко і прийняв його радо. Всі, бачивши те, заходилися нарікати та й казали: “До чоловіка грішника зайшов у гостину.” А Закхей устав і до Господа промовив: “Господи, ось половину майна свого даю вбогим, а коли чимсь когось і покривдив, поверну вчетверо.” Ісус сказав до нього: “Сьогодні на цей дім зійшло спасіння, бо й він син Авраама. Син бо Чоловічий прийшов шукати і спасти те, що загинуло.”

Причасний: Хваліте Господа з небес,* хваліте Його на висотах. Аلیلуя, аلیلуя, аلیلуя!

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

✿ **FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR BISHOP KEN:** Holy Eucharist Cathedral parish would like to invite you on **Saturday, February 29, 2020** to a farewell reception for Bishop Ken that will begin with Divine Liturgy at 11:00AM with reception to follow. Let us take this opportunity to celebrate Bishop Ken's new appointment as Bishop of the Holy Family of London Eparchy and most importantly his 12 years of dedicated service, enthusiastic leadership and prayerful ministry in the Eparchy of New Westminster.

✿ **CAMINO SESSION:** The Way of St. James was one of the most important Christian pilgrimages during the later Middle Ages, and a pilgrimage route on which a plenary indulgence could be earned. Legend holds that St. James's remains were carried by boat from Jerusalem to northern Spain, where he was buried in what is now the city of Santiago de Compostela. The movie, *The Way* (available on YouTube), stars Martin Sheen as he learns that his son has died early along the route and takes up the pilgrimage in order to complete it on the son's behalf. On **January 26th from 6:30pm to 8:30 pm St Nicholas** will host a Camino session, “Camino Addicted”: Why I return to walk the Camino ... again and again.” Parishioners are invited to attend. We are delighted that Lea Pennock, the President of CCoP and a self-described Camino addict, will be in town and will be participating in this discussion. This will be a “semi-guided presentation”- short Camino descriptions, a break, followed by some facilitated Q & A. Please join us for what should be a very illuminating evening. Please speak to Richard or Darlene DeMerchant for more information.

✿ **PRAYER REQUEST:** Please keep in your prayers SYLVIA KELLY, CHARLOTTE KRAKOWSKI, RICHARD NEWBERRY 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:** “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**; “The Rosary - The Prayer Rule of the Mother of God in the Ukrainian Catholic Church” - **\$10**.

✿ **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.

✿ **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).

✿ **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.*

✿ **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."

✿ **JANUARY 19 DONATIONS** - Coffee: \$45.60; Vigil lights: \$15.00; Loose collection: \$30.00; Envelope collection: \$733.82; Pre-authorized donations Jan 13 to Jan 19: \$185.00. **TOTAL: \$1,009.42.** May God bless and reward you abundantly for your generosity!

CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION

It may be surprising, but Christian persecution around the world is one of the biggest human rights issues of this era. So why does Christian persecution happen?

There are many reasons why Christians are persecuted. Sometimes, religion may be tied to ethnic or cultural identity. In other places, governments who thrive on power view Jesus as competition and those who follow Him as threats. Still other areas put such a high value on their majority religion that any other faith is seen as something to be rooted out and violently oppressed.

Here are some of the main reasons Christians are targeted for following Jesus:

1. Authoritarian governments who view Christianity as a threat to power

In some countries, Christian persecution takes place under authoritarian governments. In places like North Korea or Eritrea, authoritarian governments seek to control all religious thought and expression as part of a comprehensive plan to tightly oversee all aspects of political

and everyday life. These governments regard some religious groups as enemies of the state because they hold religious beliefs that may challenge loyalty to the rulers.

2. Suspicion of anything outside the majority cultural faith

In some places, there is great hostility towards nontraditional and minority religious groups viewed as foreign or non-native to the culture. For example, in Niger, more than 98 percent of the population is Muslim, and hostility comes more from society than from the government. In India, Hindu nationalists claim that to be Indian is to be Hindu, so non-Hindus - religious minorities like Christians and Muslims—are targeted for abuse. In these places, to be a Christian is to claim an identity other than the one claimed by the dominant culture, and that is often powerfully opposed.

3. Extremists groups who want to destroy Christians

In some areas of the world, there are radicalized extremist groups who wage war against anyone who doesn't adhere to their specific interpretation of religion. For instance, in places like the Middle East and Nigeria, Islamic extremist groups terrorize communities and churches, killing those they consider to be "infidels" (often in coordinated bombings), raping and kidnapping women and burning down homes and churches. Their victims can be fellow adherents of a religion - for instance, Boko Haram attacks Muslims in Nigeria - but they always target Christians out of hatred for other faiths.

4. Official and cultural domination of a single religion

Around the world, there are many places that have official laws instilled to tightly control or even discourage Christians from openly practicing their faith, all in the name of service to a dominant religion. In places like the Maldives or Saudi Arabia, Islam is such a dominant religion that to try to worship Jesus openly can be unheard of - especially outside of the prescribed (and restrictive) settings. In places like Pakistan, the laws are guided by Islamic law, which means if a Christian is accused of "blasphemy" they can be sentenced to death. Christians in Iran are only allowed to worship in churches that don't speak the language of everyday Iranians. And in places like Malaysia, there are restrictive rules about conversion from Islam for certain ethnic groups.

Religious freedom is a disrespected human right

Freedom of religion, like all freedoms of thought and expression, is inherent. Our beliefs help define who we are and serve as a foundation for what we contribute to our societies. However, today, many people live under governments that abuse or restrict freedom of religion. Christians in such areas face persecution, suffer deeply, and are denied basic freedoms that humans should be entitled to.

For instance, in Eritrea, there are violations of the freedom of expression, assembly, and religious belief and movement, in addition to extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, extended detention, torture, and indefinite national service, which cause many Eritreans to flee the country.

In 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This declaration came as a result of the treatment of the Jews in Nazi Germany. The document states that every person is entitled to basic human rights. This reaffirmed the dignity and worth of all human beings no matter what a person's race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth, or another status. In 1966, the [United Nations developed the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights \(ICCPR\)](#) in addition to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 18 of the ICCPR focuses on four elements of religious freedom:

- Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice, and freedom, either individually or in community with others, and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching.
- No one shall be subject to coercion which would impair his freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice.
- Freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs may be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, order, health, or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others.
- The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents and, when applicable, legal guardians to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.

When countries restrict religious freedom - including the free expression of Christianity and free worship of Jesus - they are rejecting this vital human right, which is built into the conscience of every human being and has been validated time-and-time again throughout history.

CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION AT A GLANCE:

Open Doors has - and continues to - tracked the rise of Christian persecution for years. Our annual World Watch List, which examines the 50 countries worldwide where it's most difficult to be a Christian, is the only annual in-depth survey of its kind. Here is the latest data we have available; it indicates Christian persecution is higher today than at any other time in modern history:

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- **245 Million:** In the top 50 [World Watch List](#) countries alone, 245 million Christians in the world experience high levels of persecution for their choice to follow Christ.
 - **1 in 9:** Christians worldwide experience high levels of persecution
 - **14%:** The rise in the number of Christians in the top 50 countries on the 2019 World Watch List (WWL) who experience high levels of persecution. (from the 2018 reporting period to 2019's)
 - **4,136:** Christians killed for faith-related reasons in the top 50 WWL countries.
 - **2,625:** Christians detained without trial, arrested, sentenced and imprisoned in the top 50 WWL countries.
 - **1,266:** churches or Christian buildings attacked in the top 50 WWL countries.
 - **7 out of 9:** In seven of the countries in the World Watch List's top 10, the primary cause of persecution is Islamic oppression.
 - **11:** countries scoring in the "extreme" level for their persecution of Christians. Five years ago, North Korea was the only one.
 - **18:** Consecutive years North Korea has ranked No. 1 as the world's most dangerous place for Christians.

TRENDS IN CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION

Open Doors' annual World Watch List examines the 50 countries worldwide where it's most difficult to be a Christian. It is the only annual in-depth survey of its kind, and reveals several trends in how Christians are being targeted around the world:

1. **The shocking reality of persecution against women**

In the 2019 World Watch List reporting period, there were shocking details about the persecution experienced by Christian women. In many places, they experience "double persecution" - one for being a Christian and one for being a woman. Even in the most restricted circumstances, gender-specific persecution is a key means of destroying the minority Christian community. This kind of persecution is difficult to assess because it is complex, violent and hidden - in many cultures where women are specifically targeted, it is difficult if not impossible to report accurate numbers.

2. **Islamic oppression continues to impact millions of Christians**

In seven out of the top 10 World Watch List countries, the primary cause of persecution is Islamic oppression. This means, for millions of Christians - particularly those who grew up Muslim or were born into Muslim families - openly following Jesus can have painful consequences. They can be treated as second-class citizens, discriminated against for jobs or even violently attacked.

3. The world's two most-populated countries on the World Watch List

For the first time since the start of the World Watch List, India has entered the top 10. Additionally, China jumped 16 spots, from 43 to 27. Each of these countries is home to more than a billion people, so these trends are distressing. Hindu nationalists in India continue to attack Christians with what seems like no consequences, and in China, the increased power of the government and the rule of Xi Jinping continue to make open worship difficult in some parts of the country.

4. The spread of Islam across sub-Saharan Africa

While the violent excesses of ISIS and other Islamic militants have mostly disappeared from headlines from the Middle East, their loss of territory there means that fighters have dispersed to a larger number of countries not only in the region but, increasingly, into sub-Saharan Africa. Their radical ideology has inspired or infiltrated, numerous splinter groups such as Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), a deadly group that broke away from Nigeria's Boko Haram that also enslaves Christian women and girls as an integral part of their strategy.

5. More laws added to control religion

State authoritarianism is increasing in many parts of the world, supported by the ever-spreading availability of personal digital technology, which governments can increasingly track through facial recognition, electronic chips and so on. Places like Vietnam, Myanmar, China and North Korea all saw increases in stricter state control of religious rights.

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“PASTA NITE”

Friday
21 Feb 2020
10030 - 3rd St.,
Sidney

Cocktails 6:30 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Tickets

Family \$25.00
Single \$10.00

Contact

Gord Hryhoryshen 250-652-4379

Ticket to be purchased by 19 Feb