

**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)

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**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)*

**TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
ДВАДЦЯТЬ ДРУГА НЕДІЛЯ ПІСЛЯ П'ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦІ**

St Hilarion the Great was born in 291 in the Palestinian village of Tabatha. He was sent to Alexandria to study. There he became acquainted with Christianity and was baptized. After the death of his parents he distributed his family's inheritance to the poor and set out into the desert.

In the desert the monk struggled intensely with impure thoughts, vexations of the mind and the burning passions of the flesh, but he defeated them with heavy labor, fasting and fervent prayer.

Soon all of Palestine learned about the holy ascetic. The Lord granted to Saint Hilarion the power to cast out unclean spirits. With this gift of grace he loosed the bonds of many of the afflicted. The sick came for healing, and the monk cured them free of charge, saying that the grace of God is not for sale.

With the blessing of Saint Hilarion, monasteries began to spring up throughout Palestine. Going from one monastery to another, he instituted a strict ascetic manner of life.



*Venerable Hilarion the  
Great*

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

<b>SUNDAY HYMNS</b>			
OPENING HYMN	В Страсі і Покорі / We Are Gathered pg. 234-235		
COMMUNION HYMN	Витай Між Нами / With Solemn Greeting pg. 244-245		
CLOSING HYMN	Боже Великий, Єдиний pg. 264		
<i>Please join us today in singing our Sunday hymns!</i>			
<b>SUNDAY &amp; DAILY SCHEDULE</b>			
SUNDAY, October 21	Divine Liturgy - for the Parishioners of St Nicholas Parish		10:00 AM
MONDAY, October 22	NO SERVICE		
TUESDAY, October 23	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
WEDNESDAY, October 24	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
THURSDAY, October 25	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
FRIDAY, October 26	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom		9:00 AM
SATURDAY, October 27	NO SERVICE		
SUNDAY, October 28	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, October 21	Gal. 6:11-18	Motria Koropecy	William Vanderven
SUNDAY, October 28	Eph. 2:4-10	Yuliya Pelekhata	Marian Chalifoux
SUNDAY, November 4	Eph. 2:14-22	Dmytro Maksymiv	Robert Herchak
SUNDAY, November 11	Eph. 4:1-6	Kateryna Yaremyn	Bryan Melnyk
<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			
<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."			

### 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. 345*

*The Liturgy prescribed for today is that of St. John Chrysostom.*

**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.

**Glory: Kontakion, Tone 5:** You, my Saviour, descended to Hades,\* and as the Almighty, You shattered its gates.\* With Yourself You, as the Creator, raised the dead and shattered the sting of death,\* and delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Humankind.\* And so we cry out: "Save us, O Lord."

**Now: Theotokion, Tone 5:** Rejoice, O rampart and protection of those who have recourse to you!\* Rejoice, O tranquil haven and Virgin,\* who gave birth in the flesh to your Maker and God!  
\* Fail not to intercede for those\* who sing and worship the Child you bore.

**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.

**Epistle - Gal. 6:11-18 - A Reading from the Letter of Saint Apostle Paul to Hebrews:**  
Brothers and Sisters, see what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule— peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

**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 - Luke 16:19-31 -** The Lord told this parable: "There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.' Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.' But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.' He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from

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the dead goes to them, they will repent.' Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'

**Communion Hymn:** 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 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.

**Слава: Кондак, глас 5:** До аду, Спасе мій, зійшов Ти,\* і, як всемогутній, сокрушивши його брами,\* Ти, Чоловіколюбче, як Творець, воскресив з Собою померлих,\* жало смерти вирвав, й Адама від прокляття визволив.\* Тому всі до Тебе звиваємо:\* Спаси нас, Господи!

**І нині: Богородичний, глас 5:** Радуйся, Брамо Господня, непрохідна!\* Радуйся, Охороно і Покрове тих, що до Тебе приходять!\* Радуйся, тиха Пристане і Вседіво, що Свого Творця і Бога тілом породила!\* Молись безупинно за тих, що прославляють\* і почитають Народженого від Тебе.

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

**Апостол - Гл. 6:11-18 - До Галатів Послання Святого Апостола Павла Читання:** Браття і сестри, гляньте, якими буквами пишу вам власною рукою. Ті, що хочуть показатися гарними тілом, – вони силують вас обрізатися, щоб тільки уникнути переслідування за хрест Христа. Бо й самі обрізані, не додержують закону, а хочуть, щоб ви обрізувалися, щоб їм хвалитися вашим тілом. Мене ж не доведи, Боже, чимсь хвалитися, як тільки хрестом Господа нашого Ісуса Христа, яким для мене світ розп'ятий, а я – світові; бо ані обрізання, ані необрізання є щось, лише – нове створіння. На тих, які поступають за цим правилом, мир на них і милосердя, а й на Ізраїля Божого. На майбутнє нехай ніхто мені не завдає клопоту, бо я ношу на моїм тілі рани Ісуса. Благодать Господа нашого Ісуса Христа нехай буде з вашим духом, брати! Амінь.

**Аллилуя, 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.

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**Євангеліє - Лука 16:19-31** - Сказав Господь притчу оцю: Був один чоловік багатий, що одягавсь у кармазин та вісон та бенкетував щодня розкішно. Убогий же якийсь, на ім'я Лазар, лежав у нього при воротах, увесь струпами вкритий; він бажав насититися тим, що падало в багатого зо столу; ба навіть пси приходили й лизали рани його. Та сталося, що помер убогий, і ангели занесли його на лоно Авраама. Помер також багатий, і його поховали. В аді, терплячи тяжкі муки, зняв він очі й побачив здалека Авраама та Лазаря на його лоні, і він закричав у голос: Отче Аврааме, змилуйся надо мною і пошли Лазаря, нехай умочить у воду кінець пальця свого й прохолодить язик мій, бо я мучуся в полум'ї цім. Авраам же промовив: Згадай, мій сину, що ти одержав твої блага за життя свого, так само, як і Лазар свої лиха. Отже, тепер він тішиться тут, а ти мучишся. А крім того всього між нами й вами вирита велика пропасть, тож ті, що хотіли б перейти звідси до вас, не можуть; ані звідти до нас не переходять. Отче, сказав багатий, благаю ж тебе, пошли його в дім батька мого; я маю п'ять братів, нехай він їм скаже, щоб і вони також не прийшли в це місце муки. Авраам мовив: Мають Мойсея і пророків; нехай їх слухають. Той відповів: Ні, отче Аврааме, але коли до них прийде хто з мертвих, вони покаються. А той відозвався до нього: Як вони не слухають Мойсея і пророків, то навіть коли хто воскресне з мертвих, не повірять.

**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 CINDY LAZARUK 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!
- ◆ **CORNELL BABIE FUNERAL DETAILS:** Wednesday, October 24 at **11am** at St. Nicholas church; Divine Liturgy with Panakhyda followed by a luncheon in the parish hall. May our Lord place Cornell's soul in the place where all the saints abide, and may his memory be everlasting - Вічная пам'ять!
- ◆ **BE A STEWARD - CLEANING THE CHURCH:** at this time we are reaching out to ask parishioners and their family members to volunteer in the cleaning of the church interior. This requires a bi-monthly commitment of vacuuming, dusting and flower arranging. If there is a sufficient number of volunteers the commitment would be minimal about once every two or

three months. Please consider donating your time and energy. For more information please contact Motria.

- ◆ **PRAYER REQUEST:** Please keep in your prayers GORD HRYHORYSHEN 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**; “The Rosary - The Prayer Rule of the Mother of God in the Ukrainian Catholic Church” - **\$10**.
  - ◆ **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 Koropecy 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
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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.*

◆**OCTOBER 14, SUNDAY DONATIONS** - Coffee: \$43.00; Vigil lights: \$12.00; Loose collection: \$20.00; Envelope collection: \$543.45; Pre-authorized donations Oct 8 to Oct 14: \$120.00 **TOTAL: \$738.45**

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR ICONOSTASIS



### **St. Olha, Equal of the Apostles, Princess of Kyivan Rus' (July 11)**

St. Olha, Equal of the Apostles, was the wife of Kyivan Great Prince Ihor. After Ihor's death the burden of government fell upon Olha and her three-year-old son Svyatoslav. Olha entered into history as a great builder of the civil life and culture of Kyivan Rus. She extensively traveled throughout the land with the aim of the well-being and improvement of the civil and domestic manner of the life of her subjects.

Having consolidated the inner strengthening of the might of the Kyiv great-princely throne Olha centralized the whole of state rule with the help of the system of



“pohosti” (administrative trade centres). Later, when Olha had become a Christian, they began to erect the first churches at the “pohosti”; from the time of the Baptism of Rus’ the “pohost” and church (parish) became inseparably associated.

But it was not only the strengthening of the civil realm and the improvement of domestic norms of the manner of life for people that attracted the attention of Princess Olha. Even more urgent for her was the fundamental transformation of the religious life of Rus’, the spiritual transfiguration of the nation.

In the summer of 954, having entrusted Kyiv to her son Svyatoslav, Princess Olha traveled to Constantinople. This was a peaceful “expedition”, combining the tasks of religious pilgrimage and diplomatic mission, but the political considerations demanded that it become simultaneously a display of the military might of Rus’ on the Black Sea.

The appearance of the Kyivan fleet in the Bosphorus created the necessary effect for the developing of Kyivan-Byzantine dialogue. A great impression was produced by the wealth of Christian churches and the holy things preserved in them throughout Constantinople. Princess Olha attended services in the finest churches of Constantinople: at Hagia Sophia, at Blachernae, and others.

Princess Olha she made the decision to become a Christian. The sacrament of Baptism was made over her by the Constantinople Patriarch Theophylactus, and her godfather was Emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitos. At Baptism she was given the name Helen in honor of the holy Equal of the Apostles Helen, the mother of St. Constantine. In edifying words spoken at the conclusion of the rite, the Patriarch said, “Blessed are you among Kyivan women, for you have forsaken the darkness and have loved the Light. The Kyivan people shall bless you in all the future generations, from your grandson and great-grandson to your furthestmost descendants.” He instructed her in the truths of the Faith, the churchly rules and the rule of prayer, he explained the commands about fasting, chastity and charity. “She, however,” said the Monk Nestor, “bowed her head and stood, literally like a sponge absorbing water, listening to the teaching.” Bowing down to the Patriarch, she said, “By your prayers, O Master, let me be preserved from the wiles of enemies”.

After becoming a Christian, Olha zealously devoted herself to efforts of Christian evangelization among the pagans, and also church construction: “demanding the distressing of demons and the beginning of life for Christ Jesus”. She built the churches of St. Nicholas and the church of the Holy Wisdom at Kyiv, of the Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos at Vytebsk, and of the Holy Life-Creating Trinity at Pskov.

It was no mere coincidence that Olha received in Baptism the name of St. Helen, who found the Venerable Wood of the Cross. The foremost sacred item in the newly built Kyiv Sophia temple was a piece of the Holy Cross, brought by this new Helen from Constantinople, and

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received by her in blessing from the Patriarch of Constantinople. The Cross, by tradition, was hewn out from an entire piece of the Life-Creating Wood of the Lord.

After some years matters at Kyiv had twisted ultimately in favor of paganism, and Rus' having become neither Orthodox nor Catholic, had second thoughts about accepting Christianity. The pagan reaction was so strong that some of the Kyiv Christians who had been baptized with Olha at Constantinople began to suffer. By order of Svyatoslav, St. Olha's nephew Hlib was killed and some of the churches built by her were destroyed.

In the aftermath of these events Olha was obliged to accede to humiliation and withdraw into matters of personal piety, handing over the reigns of government to her pagan-son, Svyatoslav. When Svyatoslav was away from Kyiv on military campaigns and wars, the governance of the realm was again entrusted to his mother. But the question about the Baptism of Rus' was taken off the agenda, and this was ultimately bitter for St. Olha, who regarded the good news of the Gospel of Christ as the chief matter in her life.

On July 11, 969, St. Olha died. In her final years, amidst the triumph of paganism, she had to have a priest by her secretly. But before death, having found her former firmness and resolve, she forbid pagan celebrations of the dead, and gave final instructions to bury her openly in accord with the Christian ritual. Presbyter Gregory, who was with her at Constantinople in 957, fulfilled her request.

St. Olha lived, died, and was buried as a Christian. "And thus having lived and well having glorified God in Trinity, Father and Son and Holy Spirit, having worshipped in the blessed faith, she ended her life in the peace of Christ Jesus, our Lord." As her prophetic testament to succeeding generations, with deep Christian humility she confessed her faith concerning her nation: "God's will be done! If it pleases God to have mercy upon my native Kyivan Land, then they shall turn their hearts to God, just as I have received this gift."

St. Olha glorified God with good deeds in all things, and God glorified her. In 1007, under Prince Volodymyr, the relics of St. Olha were transferred to the Desyatynna Church of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos and placed in a special sarcophagus.

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## READING THE CATECHISM “CHRIST - OUR PASCHA”



### 2) *The Rite of Crowning*

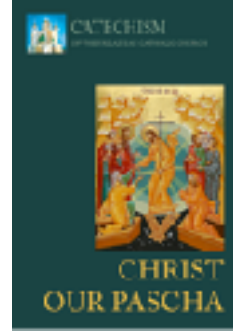
**#481** The asceticism of Christian marriage is also presented in the troparia sung before the removal of the crowns. In the first troparion we hear the words: “Dance, Isaiah: the Virgin has conceived in her womb and has borne a Son, Emmanuel, who is God and man...” The Church rejoices in the fulfilment of the prophecy of

Isaiah about Emmanuel God-with-us coming into the new marriage and dwelling there as in a domestic church. In the second troparion, “O holy martyrs, you suffered gloriously and have received your crowns...,” the Church asks the holy martyrs for their intercession. She prays that Christ, the “apostles’ boast and the martyrs’ joy” (as sung in the third troparion), become the boast and joy of this couple, so that in their marriage they may imitate the sacrificial love of the martyrs and proclaim the consubstantial Trinity.

**#482** Removing the crowns from their heads, the priest prays that Christ would receive the couple’s crowns in his kingdom, and “keep them unblemished, undefiled, and unassailed for ever and ever.” This is a sign that by the power of Christ the marital love of the couple is stronger than death and will endure for ages. The Rite of Crowning concludes with the blessing of the couple in the name of the Most Holy Trinity, of whom they are called to be an icon.

### 3) *The Rite of Second Crowning*

**#483** Love does not cease with the death of one of the spouses. Love is stronger than death. The Church encourages the widower or widow to preserve fidelity to the deceased partner as an indication of their unique relationship. As testimony to the eternity of their love, it invites them to abstain from a second marriage (see 1 Cor 7:40). If, however, it is too burdensome for the widower or widow to remain without a marital relationship, the Church can give a blessing for a second crowning. When a widower marries a widow (that is, when both of the spouses have previously been married), the Church blesses their marriage with a special Rite of Second Crowning. Some of the prayers of this Rite have a penitential character. The priest prays: “Cleanse the iniquities of your servants who find themselves unable to bear the heat and the daily burden of passion, and so are coming together in second marriage. Such was the injunction you gave through your apostle Paul” (see 1 Cor 7:9; 7:39)



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**NEWS**

**US envoy says Ukraine conflict, though forgotten, still a major threat**

In the nearly four years that have elapsed since Russia annexed the Crimean Peninsula and invaded eastern Ukraine, some 10,000 people have been killed and more than 1.5 million displaced in the conflict that ensued, with new deaths recorded daily.

With humanitarian conditions worsening in Ukraine's Donbas area and the risk of disease increasing due to a lack of supplies that would normally be available, the list of problems and risks "goes on and on," meaning negotiations to reach peace are even more crucial, Kurt Volker, U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations, told Crux in an interview.

Though there has been much talk of a U.N. peace-keeping mission to the conflict area that would help stabilize the region, now it is impossible, he said, saying Russia is holding up the process by refusing to agree to the mission, which is "a shame, because it's the local residents who are really suffering."

Volker also spoke of Russian resistance to implementing the 2014-2015 Minsk Agreements aimed at a ceasefire and a de-militarization of eastern Ukraine, saying they are "unfairly" faulting Ukraine for the delays, and said the United States intends to hold sanctions against Russia in place until they cooperate.

Speaking of his visit to Italy and the Holy See last week, where he held meetings with various officials to discuss the Ukraine conflict, Volker said major points of convergence between the U.S. government and the Vatican are the humanitarian situation and the treatment of prisoners.

Religious freedom is also a key shared concern, he said, particularly in light of the decision earlier this month by the Orthodoxy's Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople to grant the Ukrainian Orthodox Church independence from the Russian Orthodox Church - a decision Volker believes was prompted by the current conflict with Russia.

Below are excerpts of Crux's conversation with Volker.

**This conflict has fallen off the radar for most people. They've forgotten there is a war going on in Europe. How serious would you say this conflict is not only for Europe, but also beyond, given that there is so much international intervention?**

It has fallen off the radar, and that's one of the things I need to try to do is to keep it on the radar. If you think about it, this war in Europe has killed more people in Europe since the Balkan wars in the '90s, over 10,000 people have been killed. It has produced more displaced

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persons than any war in Europe since World War II, over a million and a half people have been displaced.

**There has been talk of a peace-keeping mission there. How realistic is that mission at this point, and what support would it offer?**

In terms of practicality, I think it's very realistic ... What is required here is really for Russia to agree, because the Ukrainians are happy with this. Western nations are happy. Other U.N. security members, the U.S., France the UK, everyone is happy with this, but Russia needs to agree for it to happen. So far Russia is not willing to do that, and it's a shame.

**So that's the only thing stopping the mission at this point?**

Yes. The Russians don't like the proposal for a couple of reasons. Mostly they want to see the people's republics they set up there remain in place, and they want the Ukrainians and the international community to negotiate with them, which would have the effect of making this conflict permanent.

**So Russia is resisting, but have they been open to other negotiations? How many steps, if any, have they taken to implement the Minsk Agreements?**

Almost none. The Russians deny that they are there, which is inaccurate. They have regular military forces in eastern Ukraine, they have total command and control of the military forces that are there. Those that are not regular military Russian forces are contract soldiers hired by a Russian firm and paid for by Russia, so it's as if the U.S. had hired Blackwater to conduct a military operation somewhere else.

**You've previously spoken about the importance of maintaining sanctions against Russia. Would you say these have been effective so far?**

Yes, I would. It has contributed to a situation where we are deterring Russia from further aggression and intervention ... I think we're at a stage now where a combination of the sanctions, the political resolve that the transatlantic community has shown, the improvement of Ukraine's defense capabilities, means that the costs to Russia going forward will be much higher, so I think it has helped blunt Russia's aggression.

**Do you think this is a possibility as things are, or is more pressure potentially needed?**

It's always possible, why not, everything is always possible. I think the most compelling reason is Russia's invasion and seizure of territory and killing of Ukrainians has really alienated the Ukrainian public and driven Ukraine to becoming more unified, with a stronger national

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identity, more pro-western, more Russia-sceptic than ever before. This really isn't what Russia wanted out of this.

**How much of a role does religious debate play in the conflict?**

It doesn't. Religion does not play a role in the conflict. This is Russia's effort to influence the orientation of Ukraine from being a European democracy to being part of a wider-Russian civilization. What has happened, however, is that with this invasion and killing of Ukrainians, occupation of territory, it has alienated Ukrainians from Russia, and I think it has given impetus to this demand from Ukrainians that they want recognition of their own church. That would not have happened five years ago, but it is happening today because of the circumstance of Russia's invasion.

**What has engagement with the Holy See been like? Pope Francis has been very committed to Ukraine, and the head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is a good friend of his from Buenos Aires, so what kind of interaction has there been between the U.S. government and the Vatican?**

I met the equivalent of the foreign minister, Archbishop [Paul Richard] Gallagher, and I think the first thing is that the Vatican places a very high priority on humanitarian issues. They care about the people there. Religious freedom is also a shared interest. They believe religious freedom is terribly important, including that even if this process of recognition of the Ukrainian Orthodox goes through, that doesn't mean that Ukraine should be establishing a state church to the exclusion of others, not by any means, and there should be a respect for all religious communities in Ukraine.

**Would you say the Vatican has been supportive of the U.S. position?**

No, I wouldn't put it that way. I think they have quite a unique perspective on things being a religious entity and a state entity at the same time, and I think they are much more cautious about expressing a view on some of these matters than we would be. We'll be a little more outspoken and they'll be a little more reserved, but that said, I think there is a lot of shared understanding and shared concern on some of these aspects.

There's an issue in the occupied areas of Ukraine of the treatment of detainees. It's not pretty. I've met with some of them who have come back who have been tortured. I've met with families of some who have been tortured or who have disappeared or been killed. And the Red Cross does not have regular access to these people either, so facilitating the return of detainees and facilitating access for the Red Cross would be a shared interest as well.

**That's been a problem as well, correct? The border of the conflict zone has been pretty tight, not much can get in or out...**

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It's not the border or the boundary, it's the willingness of the local authorities there under Russian control to allow access. There are 40,000 border crossings a month, but it is restricted in what it can do. Restricted to people there, residents shopping and coming back, big goods, access to the international community, access to detainees, those kinds of things are restricted.

**Is there still a lack of basic supplies?**

It's under pressure, is what I would say. There is no healthy local economy anymore, so you have to go outside to shop, and come back. There is a lot of black-market activity. That does have the tendency to drive prices up and have a little unreliability in access. For the medical system, there are still hospitals, there are still doctors, it does still function, but again, there are pressures on that.

**You mentioned an increased resolve and increased nationalism among Ukrainians due to the conflict. Do you think this has also strengthened their cause for entry into the E.U.?**

Let's look at it from both ends of the spectrum. From the Ukrainian end of the spectrum, they have done more on economic reform and fighting corruption and strengthening the economy in the last three to four years, than in the preceding twenty years. So they've done a lot. It is still not up to E.U. standards in many, many ways, but they are moving that way and it's important to them. I think they can get there, I think it will take a lot more work, and years and time, but that's the trajectory they want to be on.

## CHRISTMAS FOOD FAIR FOOD PREPARATION SCHEDULE

**Saturday, Dec. 8 // 11am - 2pm**

DATE	TASK	TIME	VOLUNTEERS
Thu. Oct. 25	Steam/rib cabbage - LUNCH to follow	9:30-12:30 pm	Need 5-6 volunteers
Tue. Oct. 30	Peel potatoes/shred cheese	8:30-10:30 am	Need 2-3 volunteers
Wed. Oct. 31	Make potato balls	8:30 am-11:30 am	Need 5-6 volunteers
Thu. Nov. 1	Make pyrohy - LUNCH to follow	9:00 am-1:30 pm	Need 22-25 volunteers
Sat. Nov. 3	Bag frozen pyrohy	9:00 am-11:00 am	Need 3-4 volunteers
Thu. Nov. 8	Make cabbage rolls - LUNCH to follow	9:00 am-12:00 pm	Need 12-15 volunteers
Sat. Nov. 10	Package cooked cabbage rolls	12:00-1:30 pm	Need 2-3 volunteers
Tue. Nov. 13	Prep. sauerkraut & cottage cheese for pyrohy	9:00 am-11:00 am	Need 2 volunteers
Thu. Nov. 15	Make pyrohy (sauerkraut & cottage cheese) - LUNCH to follow	9:00 am-1:30 pm	Need 22-25 volunteers
Sat. Nov. 17	Bag frozen pyrohy	9:00 am-11:00 am	Need 3-4 volunteers
Sat. Nov. 20	Bake kolachi	8:30 am-1:30 pm	Need 5-6 volunteers
Tue. Nov. 27	Bake kolachi	8:30 am-1:30 pm	Need 5-6 volunteers
Tue. Dec. 4	Make pampushky & other pastries	8:30 am-12:00 pm	Need 5-6 volunteers
Fri. Dec. 7	Set up tables, package & price, put up signs	9:00 am-4:00 pm	Need 4-5 volunteers
Sat. Dec. 8	FOOD FAIR - 11:00am-2:00pm	8:30 am-4:00 pm	Need 20+ volunteers in shifts for sales & clean up

### NOTE - hot lunch TBD

As always your assistance in helping out with the preparations for our Christmas Food Fair is very much appreciated as this is a major fundraiser for our parish. Please invite your friends and other family members to help with the various food prep, specially to make pyrohy and cabbage rolls. For more information contact Robert Herchak  
@ 250-386-7872 or @ [rlherchak@gmail.com](mailto:rlherchak@gmail.com)