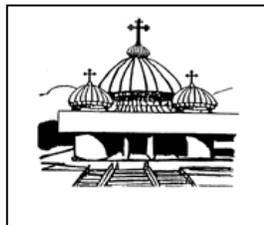


Вісті Української Католицької Парохії Святої Покрови

St. Mary's Church Bulletin



40 Notre Dame Ave., Sudbury On, P3C 5K2

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Pastor: Fr. Petro (Peter) Bodnar

DIVINE LITURGY:

SUNDAY: 9:00 a.m. (Ukrainian) **SUNDAY** 10:30 a.m. (English)

SATURDAY : 4:00 pm (English)

Confession:

Before Divine Liturgies 9:00 am and 10:30 am on Sundays or anytime upon request.

Baptisms & Marriages:

By prior arrangement (at least 1 year before the marriage date), through the parish office.

Visitations & Anointing of the Sick:

Please notify the office if a member of your family is in need of a visit.

December 20, 2015 - 29th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Colossians 3: 4-11 see explanation on page 467

Gospel: **Luke 17:12-19** see explanation on page 183

Propers for the Divine Liturgy: **Page 341**

Prayer Intentions (Dec.21-27)

MONDAY:	9:00 a.m.	+Marguerite & Gerry Lougheed (Anniv.) with Panakhyda - Fr. Peter
TUESDAY:	9:00 a.m.	Immaculate Conception ; for health Mary Proch & Nick Holunga- Fr. Peter
WEDNESDAY:	9:00 a.m.	For health of Sonia Pawluch – Fr. Peter
THURSDAY:	2:45 pm	Christmas Vespers
	4:00 p.m.	<u>Christmas Eve Liturgy (Gregorian Calendar) – English</u>
FRIDAY:		No Divine Liturgy
SATURDAY:	4:00 p.m.	Divine Liturgy – English
SUNDAY:	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy + Roman Chomickyj(40 th day) – family
	10:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy – English

Year of Mercy Columns: Dec. 20: What Does “Jubilee” Mean?

Jubilee years have a deep history in the Hebrew scriptures. According to Leviticus, slaves and prisoners were freed, debts forgiven, land and possessions returned to their rightful owners. Perhaps most important, during such a year the mercy of God would be manifested.

The word “jubilee” is based on the Hebrew “yobel.” The word described a “trumpet-blast of liberty” according to the Septuagint, the early translation from Hebrew into Greek.

Just as the ancient Hebrews forgave debts, so the Church today, in the words of Pope Francis, “has an endless desire to show mercy.”

The Holy Father states it clearly: “This is an opportune moment to change our lives.”

The custom of calling jubilee years dates back to the sixteenth century. Since then, there here have been only 26 ordinary Holy Year celebrations. So the current celebration is something extraordinary.

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Holy Father calls on sinners to repent, reminding us that “God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy.”

Our prayer today: *Dear Jesus, give me the wisdom and courage so that I may become an island of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference.*”

РІЗДВЯНІ ПРОБИ ХОРУ –у кожна неділю після Служби Божої о год. 10:00 ранку у церковній аудиторії. Всіх щиро запрошуємо.

ADDITIONAL ELECTRIC DOOR OPENER: The small right hand door to enter into the church nave has now been equipped with an electric opener.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD: Christian charity is always needed, especially so during the Christmas season. Next weekend, a box will be placed in the narthex where parishioners will have the opportunity to donate non-perishable food. All donations will be brought to the Sudbury Food Bank.

ALTAR BOY DALMATIC SPECIAL DONATIONS: As our church needs new dalmatics for the altar boys to wear when helping with Divine Liturgy, eight new dalmatics, “*Mother of God blue*, and also *gold*,” have been ordered. The estimated cost for all the dalmatics will be \$4000.00. If you are interested in helping out by making a special donation towards this project, we would greatly appreciate it. May God Bless you and your family abundantly for your generosity!

CONFESSION: In the Byzantine church Advent is called St Philips Fast and this started on Friday Nov 27. It's the time we as Catholics prepare ourselves for birth of Jesus. Opportunity for a confession is available every Sunday before the Divine Liturgy.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING: Anyone wishing to help off set the cost of printing our Sunday Bulletin is invited to place an advertisement in the Bulletin for the year 2016. Please contact the Parish Office at: 705-675-8244 or by email stmaryssudbury@yahoo.ca. Ads will be printed from January to December 2016.

SUNDAY ENVELOPES: Sunday envelopes and wall calendars for 2016 will be distributed next Sunday. If you wish to have envelopes issued, please call the Parish office

MEMORIAL FUND: Mr. & Mrs. E. Lukie - +Dennis - \$100.00

LARGE DONATION: Mrs. D. Suslyk \$50.0

CALENDARS: By lifting up the 2016 calendar pad you will locate the English translation of Epistle and Gospel Ukrainian daily readings listed.

ST. NICHOLAS FELLOWSHIP— You are invited to St. Nicholas Fellowship today at 12:00 Noon and will be followed by a visit from St. Nicholas. All are invited.

Here is a riddle for you: he is the most influential person in the Bible, yet not a single word of his is recorded.

Can you guess who this is?

Embracing a New Plan. God has a marvelous plan for each of our lives. Sometimes that plan is very different from what we have in mind. You can imagine Joseph, before the angel's visit, planning on a quiet, happy life in the town of Nazareth. But that didn't happen! Surely Joseph never thought he would have to uproot his young family and flee to Egypt. He never imagined that he would have to guard the innocent baby entrusted to him—and against someone as cruel and powerful as King Herod!

Joseph never had any training on how to raise the Son of God, either. Imagine how many times he doubted himself and wondered if he was up to the task? Imagine how many times he prayed, “God, please help me; I don't want to make any mistakes.” Imagine Joseph, after seeing Jesus teaching the elders in the Temple, asking himself, “How can I teach my son, when he ought to be teaching me?” Joseph must have faced all kinds of doubts and fears. But he kept moving forward. And look at what he was able to accomplish! More next week!

Formed by Grace. God is asking us the same questions he asked Joseph: “Are you willing to build up your family for the sake of my Church? You don’t have to be perfect. But you do have to learn how I have called you to live.” God has blessed us with gifts and talents, just as he blessed Joseph. And just as he did for Joseph, he asks us to use those talents as we step out in faith and lead our families to him. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us, parents are the “first heralds” of the faith for their children, and the home is “the domestic church, a community of grace and prayer” (2225, 1666).

Joseph didn’t have a blueprint or a handbook on how to protect Mary, care for the Holy Family, or raise the Son of God. All he had were his own good intentions, his willingness to learn through trial and error, and his trust in God’s grace and guidance. But that was all he needed. The same is true for us.

St. Ignatius of Loyola once wrote, “There are very few men [or women] who realize what God would make of them if they abandoned themselves entirely into his hands and let themselves be formed by his grace.” That’s what Joseph did, and that’s what God wants us to do.

Keep Moving Forward. So take Joseph as your model, and try your best to devote yourself to serving God and your family. Take one or two small areas that you want to work on and focus on them. Don’t try to do everything; just take it one step at a time, and you’ll find God opening more and more doors for you.

Then, when you come up against your weaknesses or when you find yourself falling into sin, remember Abraham, Moses, and David. Remember that you’re only human, just as they were. God doesn’t expect you to be perfect, just as he didn’t expect Joseph to be perfect. All he asks is that you be as faithful as you can and keep moving forward.

So this Advent, make this your prayer: “Father, I give you permission to form me and shape me. Let your grace take hold of my life so that I can become more like your servant Joseph.” He’ll take care of everything else—just as he did for every other hero of the faith.

Pope Benedict XVI:

Certainly, it is difficult, sometimes, to accept this profound reality (God is good), since evil makes more noise than the good: a brutal murder, the spread of violence, serious injustices make the news. Gestures of love and service, on the contrary, daily struggles endured with patience and fidelity are often left in the shadows. And this is why we cannot rely solely on the news if we want to understand the world and life. We must be able to remain in silence, in meditation, in calm and prolonged reflection; we must know how to stop and think. In this way, our mind can find healing from the inevitable wounds of daily life, can go deeper into the events that occur in our lives and in the world, and come to the knowledge that allows us to evaluate things with new eyes. The Christian is a man of hope, even and especially in the face of the darkness that often exists in the world, not as a consequence of God’s plans, but because of the wrong choices of man, because the Christian knows that the power of faith can move mountains (cf. Mt 17:20): the Lord can brighten even the deepest darkness.

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