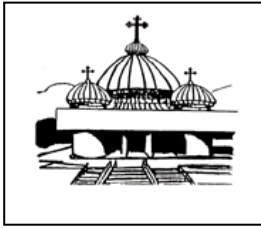


В і с т і У к р а ї н с ь к о ї К а т о л и ц ь к о ї П а р о х і ї С в я т о ї П о к р о в и
St. Mary's Church Bulletin



40 Notre Dame Ave., Sudbury On, P3C 5K2 Parish Tel. (705) 675-8244

Website: www.saintmarysudbury.com

Email: stmaryssudbury@yahoo.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysukrainiancatholicchurchsudbury>

Pastor: Fr. Petro (Peter) Bodnar

DIVINE LITURGY:

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

January 10, 2021
Sunday after Theophany

Prayer Intentions January 10 – Jan. 17

Saturday: 4:00 pm Thanksgiving & Health Annie Muzyka – Fr. Peter
Sunday: 9:00 am + Fr. Roman Hrobelsky - M. M. Kozak
10:30 am +Pauline Yawney – Sudbury Catholic School Board
Monday – Thursday No Divine Liturgy
Friday 6:00 pm +Anna Pyzik
Saturday: 4:00 p.m. +Theodor & Maria Pawluch – S. T. Pawluch
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. For Parishioners
10:30 a.m. +Annie Onufryk – Mary Ann & Rebecca Stonewall

IMPORTANT NOTICE – Please be reminded that due to Covid 19 protocol, we are only allowed 10 people in the church. If you would like to attend, please call the parish office or send an email. Also, the church must be locked at the beginning of the service. Please, arrive at least 10 minutes before the service starts.

MASKS ARE NOW MANDATORY IN CHURCH. It is now mandatory to wear a mask, when attending Divine Liturgy. Please remember it will help protect you and those around you from Covid - 19. Thank you for your continued cooperation and understanding during the pandemic.

E transfers are still accepted - Thank you to all who continually supported our parish during interesting times.

HAS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGED ?? Please notify the Parish Office if you have a change of address or a new phone number. This will help to keep our records current and ensure that tax receipts go to the correct address. Thank you.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. (Isaiah 60:3)

Picture an apple seed planted in the dark, cold ground—seemingly dead. At the right moment, however, nourished by the sun and rain, it bursts forth into the light of day. As the seed grows and matures into a tree, it delights our senses with the beauty of its branches, the fragrance of its blossoms, the taste of its fruit, the shade of its leaves.

So it was for Jerusalem at the time of this prophecy. The holy city had been destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar's army; it lay in ruins during the long years of the Babylonian exile. Yet in the midst of this darkness, Yahweh spoke prophetically about what he would do: make Jerusalem a light that would attract the Gentiles to God.

In a similar way, Jesus' birth was the dawn of a glorious light, yet as an infant he did not look all that powerful or resplendent. He was born in the darkness of a stable without any fanfare. Only a few recognized him. Among these "few" were the wise men who were led to Jesus by God's revelation. These emissaries from the East stand in Scripture as representatives of the "nations" who would at last come to the light of God.

"Epiphany" is a Greek word meaning "manifestation." What was manifested or made clear to the wise men who came from the East to worship the Jewish Messiah? They knew that they were somehow included in the promise of this one who was "born king of the Jews" (Matthew 2:2). These wise men were Gentile, not Jewish. They were the first fulfillment of what was proclaimed in the letter to the Ephesians: With the coming of Jesus, the Jewish Messiah, God was inviting the Gentiles to be part of his people (Ephesians 3:5-6).

Today, this prophecy from the Book of Isaiah continues to realize its fulfillment as the Church is called to "arise" and "shine" (Isaiah 60:1), drawing everyone from all nations to Christ. Yet even in her current state, the Church is only a shadow of what God has in store for her! Even the most glorious aspects of the Church are dark compared with the light that will shine upon it when Jesus returns to take his Church—all his people—into his kingdom.

God wants to save all his people and bring them into his body, the Church. Intercede on behalf of Church leaders and for all members of the Church, that they would be inspired to commit themselves to the work of building the kingdom. For your own parish, pray that the seed of God's grace, planted in each of us, would blossom into his perfect plan for the Church, so that as we reflect this plan more fully each day, his glory would shine to all nations.

Pray, too, for the Church, asking the Spirit that the light of God's glory would shine through the people of God and reflect Christ to all the earth. Let us pray that we will welcome Christ into our hearts every day, allowing his light to penetrate us and conquer any darkness within us. Both as individuals and as members of the Church, we can reflect the glory of God in our lives.

And spend some time this week considering: just as God drew the Magi to his Son with a compelling sign, a brilliant new star in the night sky, so he does in our lives, too. What compelling signs has God used to draw you closer to him? Finally, the Magi recognized Jesus, the Son of God, as a small baby in a humble setting. Try to recall a specific situation in which you recognized the presence of Jesus and what was it that made you "see" Christ. Thinking on such events and signs encourages us to see and expect and reflect more of Jesus in the world around us.

*God eternal is born tonight.
He came down from above
To save us with his love
And he rejoiced.."*

- with these words Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church His Beatitude Sviatoslav addressed the faithful on Christmas in the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ in Kyiv. Bishops Yosyf Milian, Bohdan Dziurakh, and Stepan Sus concelebrated with the Head of the UGCC.

Today, said the preacher, on this majestic and bright holiday of Christmas, heaven and earth rejoice. All creation today is experiencing a special moment in the history of the universe.

"Christmas is the center and apex of the history of salvation. On this day, all roads lead to Bethlehem, to this poor Nativity scene, where the almighty eternal invisible God is born as a fragile defenseless poor Child," said His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

According to the spiritual leader, this Christmas we feel a strange contradiction... As we look at the modern world, at the mankind wounded by disease and anxiety, we sometimes want to cry, feeling limits of human capabilities.

"But if we raise our eyes to heaven today, on Christmas, hear heavenly singing, and look at the Newborn Savior in the Nativity scene, we really want to rejoice because what is impossible for man is possible for God, who became man. And that is why in Him, in that little Child, we find our comfort, the power of optimism, the power of grace to go further," the Head of the Church asks to ponder.

And every time, he stressed, when we open our hearts to those who are weaker than us, we can experience the joy of Christmas again and again.

Yes, says His Beatitude Sviatoslav, today we must wear protective masks. "But let those masks not silence our carols. Let's learn to laugh with our eyes, because then our joy, our smile will be real. Let us not forget to cultivate real human relationships and pass on the message of the Incarnate God through them," urges the spiritual leader of Ukrainians.

The Head of the Church remembered all the children of the Church in Christmas prayer today. "From our golden-domed Kyiv, from the heart of our Mother Church, I send heartfelt greetings to all the children of Ukraine, from Melbourne to Vancouver, from Buenos Aires and Curitiba to London, Paris, Ukrainian Munich, and Rome. Today I cordially greet all the faithful of our Church from Lisbon to Karaganda and even further to Zelenyj Klyn. Let the whole of Ukraine rejoice today," asked the Primate of the UGCC.

The preacher especially asks to hurry with Christmas joy to our brothers and sisters in the occupied territories - in the Crimea and Donbas. "We want to sing carols for our soldiers today," said His Beatitude Sviatoslav, "as well as for those who are in captivity or imprisonment. Also, today we want to sing carols to our doctors, nurses, paramedics, who, like Mary and Joseph, watch over human life! We want to sing carols and bring Christmas joy to the sick, especially those who celebrate Christmas in a hospital bed or in self-isolation."

The Head of the Church wished everyone a Merry Christmas, a blessed New Year. "May it be the year of the victory of good over evil, health over disease, the year when we feel that we are all brothers and sisters, regardless of race, nationality or religion. For it is the worldwide brotherhood and unity that the Newborn Christ the Savior reveals to us today!" His Beatitude Sviatoslav wished.

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

The UGCC Department for Information