

The Sunday Shepherd

**Descent of the Holy Spirit
Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Sobor)
in Regina**

**1305 – 12th Avenue
Regina, SK S4P 4L6**

**Український Православний
Собор Зіслання Св. Духа в
Реджайні**

**And serving the congregations of
St. Michael's in Candiac,
Selo Gardens Chapel,
St. Volodymyr's in Moose Jaw**

Parish Bulletin for the week of December 27, 2020

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НЕДІЛЯ 29-та. ПО П'ЯТИДЕСЯТНИЦІ.

ГОЛОС 4-ий.

НЕДІЛЯ СВЯТИХ ПРАОТЦІВ.

29-th. SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.

TONE – 4.

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS.



Please let Father Volodymyr know of anyone who is in the hospital or is convalescing at home or if you may, for any other reason, wish to have a visit from Father please call (306) 581-5600. Father's regular Office hours at the Sobor Office - MONDAY morning 10:00 – 12:00 noon and WEDNESDAYS 4:00 – 6:00 pm.

Orthodox faith teaches us the importance of interceding on behalf of others through Prayer. In our prayers today please remember the following faithful who are hospitalized, convalescing or ill: Individuals will be kept on the prayer list for one mon

Madeline 12-4	Doug 12-4	Brent 12-4	William 12-4
Thomas 12-4	Ksenia 12-4	Donna 12-4	Hania 12-4
Diana Ov12-4	WallyK 12-4	Cara 12-4	Larysa 12-4
Bill D 12-4	Marge 12-4	Orest 12-4	Steve 12-4
Edward 12-4	Bill Ber 12-4	Andrea124	Georgina 12-4
Natalia 12-4	Vasyl 12-4	Wasyl 12-4	Larissa 12-4
Nick 12-4	Jean T 12-4	Ivan 12-4	Yurij 12-4
Kim 12-4	BillW12-4		

And those in care homes or similar situations:

Doreen Kuyek Ann Fellingner Larry Trafananko

Christina Spak

(Please let Bulletin Editor Yaroslav Lozowchuk (306-501-9200) know if there are others who we should pray for.)

We pray for peace in Ukraine. Вічна Пам'ять! Memory Eternal to all (13,000 plus) who died in the conflict in Ukraine and we pray for the healing of the over 20,000 maimed these past weeks and months.

- **Let us also remember in prayer:**
 - **The continuing horrible destruction in Syria and the Middle East.**
 - **Let us also pray that the Lord bless the ministry in our midst of our pastor.**
 - **We pray that the Holy Spirit guide the newly instituted autocephalous Orthodox Church of Ukraine in its formation and that it truly become a beacon of God's love in the world in the 21st Century.**
 - **We pray that the Lord bless the President of Ukraine, the Cabinet and deputies of Verchovna Rada with wisdom and virtue.**
 - **We pray that the Lord bless our Federal and Provincial leadership to make just and acceptable to God decisions.**
 - **We pray for the repose of the souls of all who died as a result of the Coronavirus to- date and pray for God's protection of our church, our community, our country and the world from the destruction resulting from the Coronavirus.**
 - **We pray for all that have lost their jobs in the past months. Lord bless all who are struggling with fear of the unknown with the assurance of Your Love and grant us to never lose hope and to be open to serving our brethren.**
 - **We pray that the Lord changes the hearts of the Russian leadership and stops them from escalating violence and further invasion of Ukrainian territory and that he protect the Ukrainian people from Russian imperial violence and destruction in the coming days and weeks.**
 - **We pray that the Lord protect the people of Byelorussia and bless the leadership of both sides with His wisdom.**
 - **We pray that the Lord bless the American people with a peaceful post election period.**
 - **We pray that the Lord bless the Ukrainian leadership with wisdom in resolving the current political – constitutional crisis.**

ТРОПАР НЕДІЛЬНИЙ НА ГОЛОС 4

Світлую воскресіння проповідь, від ангела почувши Господні учениці, і прадідне осудження відкинувши, апостолам хвалячися, промовляли. Знищена смерть, воскрес Христос Бог, даруючи світові велику милість.

ТРОПАР ПРАОТЦІВ НА ГОЛОС 2

Вірою праотців оправдав Ти, з народів через них Ти Церкву наперед заручив. Хваляться у славі святі, бо з сімена їх благословенний плід, та, що безсіменно родила Тебе. За молитвами їх, Христе Боже, помилуй нас.

СЛАВА Отцю і Сину і Святому Духові, і нині і повсякчас і на віки вічні, Амінь.

КОНДАК ПРАОТЦІВ НА ГОЛОС 6

Рукотворного образу не почитавшись, але неописаним єством захистившись, триблаженні, в подвизі вогню ви прославилися і посеред нестерпного полум'я, стоячи, Бога призивали: Прискори, милосердний, і поспішися, як милостивий, на поміч нам бо Ти можеш, якщо воля Твоя.

ПРОКИМЕН НА ГОЛОС 2

Благословен єси, Господи Боже отців наших, і хвальне, і прославлене Ім'я Твоє навіки.

Бо праведний єси в усьому, що вчинив Ти нам.

TROPAR OF SUNDAY IN TONE 4

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and with gladness told the apostles; Death is overthrown. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

TROPAR TO THE HOLY ANCESTORS – TONE 2

Through faith You justified the Forefathers when through them You betrothed Yourself to the Church from among the nations. The saints exult in glory, that from their seed came a blessed fruit: She who bore You without seed. By their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us.

GLORY to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

KONDAK IN TONE 6

You would not worship a hand-made image, O thrice-blessed ones, but armed with the boundless essence of God, You were glorified in a trial by fire. Standing in the midst of unbearable flames You called on God: Hasten, O Compassionate One, come quickly to our defense, since You are merciful; for You are able if it be Your will.

PROKIMEN IN TONE 4

Blessed are You, Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name to the ages.

For You are righteous in all that You have done for us.

АПОСТОЛ – EPISTLE

3 Послання Святого Апостола Павла До Колосян 3:4-11 читання

Ukrainian Bible

4 Коли з'явиться Христос, наше життя, тоді з'явитеся з Ним у славі і ви.

5 Отож, умертвіть ваші земні члени: розпусту, нечисть, пристрасть, лиху пожадливість та зажерливість, що вона ідолослуження,

6 бо гнів Божий приходить за них на неслухняних.

7 І ви поміж ними ходили колись, як жили поміж ними.

8 Тепер же відкиньте і ви все оце: гнів, лютість, злобу, богозневагу, безсоромні слова з ваших уст.

9 Не кажіть неправди один на одного, якщо скинули з себе людину стародавню з її вчинками,

10 та зодягнулися в нову, що відновлюється для пізнання за образом Створителя її,

11 де нема ані геллена, ані юдея, обрізання та необрізання, варвара, скита, раба, вільного, але все та в усьому Христос!

Lesson from the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Colossians 3:4–11

New International Version

4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. 11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

АЛИЛУЯ НА ГОЛОС 4

На Тебе, Мойсей і Аарон між ієреями Його, і
Самуїл серед тих, що призивають Ім'я Його.
Алилуя.

Призивали вони Господа, і Він вислухав Їх.
Алилуя.

ALLELUIA IN TONE 4

Moses and Aaron are among His priests and
Samuel among them that call upon His Name.
Alleluia.

They called upon the Lord and He hearkened
unto them. Alleluia.

Євангелія – Gospel

Євангеліє від Луки – 14:16-24

Сказав Господь притчу оцю: Один чоловік спорядив був велику вечерю, і запросив багатьох. І послав він свого раба часу вечері сказати запрошеним: Ідіть, бо вже все наготовано. І зараз усі почали відмовлятися. Перший сказав йому: Поле купив я, і маю потребу піти та оглянути його. Прошу тебе, вибач мені! А другий сказав: Я купив собі п'ять пар волів, і йду спробувати їх. Прошу тебе, вибач мені!

І знов інший сказав: Одружився ось я, і через те я не можу прийти.

І вернувся той раб і панові своєму про все розповів. Розгнівався господар тоді, та й сказав до свого раба: Піди швидко на вулиці та на завулки міські, і приведи сюди вбогих, і калік, і сліпих, і кривих. І згодом раб повідомив: Пане, сталося так, як звелів ти, та місця є ще. І сказав пан рабові: Піди на дороги й на загороди, та й силуй прийти, щоб наповнився дім мій. Кажу бо я вам, що жаден із запрошених мужів тих не покуштує моєї вечері... Бо багато покликаних, та вибраних мало!

Saint Luke – 14:16-24

The Lord narrated this parable: “A man gave a great banquet to which he invited many guests. When the banquet hour came, he sent around his servant to tell the guests: ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’”

“All of them, with one accord, began to excuse themselves. The first one said to him: ‘I have bought a piece of land, so I must go and look at it. Please have me excused.’ Another said: ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen and I am going to try them. Please have me excused.’ Another said: ‘I have married, so I am unable to come. Please have me excused.’ The servant came back and reported these excuses to his master.

“Then the master of the house was angry and said to his servant: ‘Go out quickly to the streets and squares of the city and bring in the poor, the cripples, the lame, and the blind.’ The servant came back and reported: ‘Master, I have done what you ordered, but there is still room.’ The master answered him: ‘Go out to the roads and the hedges, and compel everybody to come in until my house is full. Indeed, I tell you that none of the first invited guests will taste of my banquet. For many are invited, but few are qualified.’”

ПРИЧАСНИЙ.

Хвалить Господа з небес, хвалить його в небі.
Алилуя.

Радуйтеся, праведні, в Господі, праведним
належить похвала. Алилуя.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in
the highest. Alleluia.

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, praise befits
the upright. Alleluia.

The Forefathers of Christ

Among the greatest blasphemies ever constructed by humankind was that of Nazi Germany. Not satisfied with their political dominance, they also sought a religious dominance as well. The notion of an “Aryan Christ” was perhaps the depths of their theological blasphemies mirrored in their dehumanization and murder of the Jews. At many points in the past two millennia, the relationship between Christians and Jews has hit low points – with the Jews almost universally at the short end of the stick. But to seek to create a Christ who Himself was not a Jew is (for a Christian) the worst of insults.

The second Sunday before the Nativity, in Orthodox Tradition, is set aside as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers in which the Church remembers all those who are of the ancestry of Christ.

These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, “In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

In this modern century it also stands as a stark reminder that Christ was a Jew and as He said, “Salvation is of the Jews” (Jn. 4:22). There is a tendency (seen at its worst in Germany of the 1930’s and 40’s) to divorce Christ from His history, to treat Him as though He simply appeared on earth, full-grown. This same tendency diminishes the role of His mother in the events of our salvation, contrary to the witness of Scripture.

For most of the Christian Church divorced from the fullness of Orthodox Tradition, the saints are only those of the New Testament, the Old Testament having been relegated to a questionable status (not questionable as Scripture, per se, but often divorced from its proper role in the story of salvation). Many Christians, on the popular level, distance themselves from the Old Testament saying, “I believe in the God of the New Testament.” This last statement is, though unknown to many, a heresy (Marcionism).

The theological maxim: the law of praying is the law of believing, is again manifested in its proper manner in Orthodox worship. There, the ancestors of Christ are remembered in a singular way, understanding that the plan of our salvation stretches through the whole of human history (indeed it is prophesied in Genesis). Added to this is the Orthodox custom of celebrating Old Testament saints, many with their own singular feast day (Churches are named for them as well). Unless the Church actually incorporates the whole life of the people of God into its own worship life, its people will begin to think that those prior to the New Testament have some lesser value – occasionally to a disastrous conclusion.

It is true that for Christians, the New Testament is the means for reading the Old (a neglected practice by those who practice a number of the so-called historical approaches). We must learn to see in the Old the shadow of the New and in so doing, not to despise the shadow because it was yet looking for its fulfillment. To despise the shadow is to despise the image is to despise the very reality itself.

Related to a theme I have touched on several times lately – to preach the fullness of the Gospel of Christ – the Christian story must not be truncated in any manner. Thus to remember the ancestors of Christ is to remember that the Gospel of Christ, the salvation accomplished on the Cross, is a Divine work, taken up by generations who preserved the Torah, who observed the Law, who suffered under Egyptian, Philistine, Babylonian, Persian, Alexandrian and numerous other oppressors as well as struggling against their own temptations (no less than we must ourselves). There is a great line of faithfulness that runs throughout those generations, despite any lapses, that finds its culmination for Christians in the Theotokos, the one whom all generations will call blessed. She recapitulates the whole of human history that had gone before, and unlike the primordial ancestor Eve, she responds to the initiative of God with, “Behold the handmaiden of the Lord, be it done unto me according to Thy word.” And thus the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. But let us tell the whole story that the fullness of the mercy of God might be remembered and the full company of His faithful children recalled. May they be blessed forever.

Today, as we celebrate the memorial of the Forefathers, let us the faithful raise a hymn to Christ the Redeemer, the Lord who magnifies them among all the nations, and faithfully performs extraordinary wonders, as he is mighty and powerful; and he showed forth from them a rod of power for us, pure Mary the Child of God who alone knew no man, from whom the flower, Christ, came forth, blossoming life for all and pleasure without cost and eternal life. - *By Father Steven Freeman*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **MEMORY ETERNAL - MEMORY ETERNAL** – We extend our deepest condolences to Grant and Nadiya Frew and their family on the falling asleep of Grant's mother. Our prayer is that the Lord bless Grant and his family with His comfort and peace at this time of loss and may the Lord grant Garnt's mother eternal life in His Kingdom.
2. St. Phillip's Fast is a time of special giving – please consider donating food products to the Food Bank and to those in need.
3. If you have Parish administrative related questions please feel free to contact Ivanna Torbyn, our newly appointed Parish Office Administrative Assistant at - Email: uocreginaoffice@gmail.com; Phone: (306) 757-0445; Office hours: Mondays and Fridays, 9:00am to 1:00pm.
4. If you are unable to attend church in person then please follow our services on Youtube – search for Descent of Spirit Ukrainian Orthodox Church Regina on Youtube and select the word SUBSCRIBE or open Facebook – and search - Regina Descent of the Holy Spirit Ukrainian Orthodox Church

<https://glavcom.ua/news/bilik-tina-karol-ponomarov-ta-dzidzo-podaruvali-krajini-spilnu-kolyadku-725711.html>

“God in His goodness has arranged things perfectly, so that with our gifts, we can help each other, and with our faults, we can be humbled by each other. For every person has some gifts; but everyone also has some faults which one must struggle to overcome.”

St Paisios of Mount Athos

“I realised that we all worry about ourselves too much and that only he who leaves everything to the will of God can feel truly joyous, light and peaceful.”
Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES - РОЗКЛАД БОГОСЛУЖІНЬ
FOR JANUARY - НА СІЧЕНЬ - 2021**

(All services will be held at the Sobor – Всі служби будуть відбуватися в Соборі.)

Wednesday - Середня 30 December - грудня – Akathyst - Акафіст 6 PM – вечора

Saturday - Субота 2 January - січня - Vespers - Вечірня 5 PM – вечора

Sunday - Неділя 3 January - січня Divine Liturgy - Літургія 10 AM – ранку

Wednesday - Середня 6 January - січня - Christmas Eve Service with Litia - Навечір'я Різдва Христового Велике Повечір'я з Літією 8 PM - вечора.

Thursday - Четвер 7 January – січня – Nativity Divine Liturgy - Різдво Господа Нашого Ісуса Христа Літургія 10 AM ранку

Friday - П'ятниця 8 January - січня - Divine Liturgy – Synaxis of the Theotokos - Собор Пресвятої Богородиці Літургія 10 AM – ранку

Saturday - Субота 9 January - січня - Divine Liturgy - Holy Protomartyr Steven - Первомученика Архидиякона Стефана Літургія 10 AM - ранку
Акафіст 5 вечора Вечірня

Sunday - Неділя 10 January - січня - Divine Liturgy - Літургія 10 AM ранку

Wednesday - Середня 13 January - січня - Great Vespers with Litia Велика Вечірня з Літією 6:30 PM – вечора

Thursday - Четвер 14 January- січня - Divine Liturgy – Circumcision - Обрізання Господнє Літургія 10 AM - ранку

Saturday - Субота 16 January - січня – Great Vespers - Велика Вечірня 5 PM – вечора

Sunday - Неділя 17 January - січня - Divine Liturgy - Літургія 10 AM - ранку

Monday - Понеділок 18 January - січня – Eve of Theophany Service – Great Blessing of Water - Навечір'я Богоявлення Велике Повечір'я і Велике освячення води 7 PM - вечора

Tuesday - Вівторок 19 January - січня - Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water - Літургія і Велике Освячення води 10 AM - ранку.

Wednesday - Середня 20 January - січня – Akathyst - Акафіст 6 PM - вечора

Saturday - Субота 23 January – січня – Great Vespers - Велика Вечірня 5 PM - вечора

Sunday - Неділя 24 January - січня Divine Liturgy - Літургія 10 AM – ранку

Wednesday - Середня 27 January - січня – Akathyst - Акафіст 6 PM – вечора

Saturday - Субота 30 January – січня – Great Vespers - Велика Вечірня 5 PM - вечора

Sunday - Неділя 31 January - січня - Divine Liturgy - Літургія 10 AM – ранку

The liturgy is, before everything else, the joyous gathering of those who are to meet the risen Lord and to enter with him into the bridal chamber. And it is this joy of expectation and this expectation of joy that are expressed in singing and ritual, in vestments and in censing, in that whole 'beauty' of the liturgy which has so often been denounced as unnecessary and even sinful. Unnecessary it is indeed, for we are beyond the categories of the 'necessary.' Beauty is never 'necessary,' 'functional' or 'useful.' And when, expecting someone whom we love, we put a beautiful tablecloth on the table and decorate it with candles and flowers, we do all this not out of necessity, but out of love. And the Church is love, expectation and joy. — Fr. Alexander Schmemmann