



Welcome



## St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Vernon, BC

2210 – 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vernon, BC V1T 8Z9

**Liturgies:** Tuesday to Friday – 9:00 a.m.  
Holy Days - 10:00 a.m.



Sundays – 9:30 a.m. – Rosary  
10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy

## Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Grindrod, BC



Carlín Street and 3rd Avenue,  
Grindrod, BC

**Sundays Divine Liturgy:**

Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 2:00 p.m.  
Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 p.m.  
Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 p.m.

Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 p.m.  
Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 p.m.  
Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> – 3:00 p.m.

*Pastor: Rev. Volodymyr Dmyterko*  
P.O. Box 20064 Vernon, BC V1T 9L4  
Phone: 250-549-1327;

Email: o.volodymyr@yahoo.ca

Parish website: <http://vernon.nweparchy.ca/bulletins/>  
Eparchy: [www.nweparchy.ca](http://www.nweparchy.ca)



*“The Vibrant Parish – a place  
to encounter the living Christ”*

*Patriarch Sviatoslav*

### **Welcome! Бiмаємо!**

We extend a warm welcome to our parishioners, your families and friends. We are glad that you have come to worship with us today and pray that your participation in our parish will be enriching to you. Following every Sunday Divine Liturgy, Fellowship Coffee is served! We invite everyone to join us.

#### **PASTORAL MINISTRY AND SACRAMENTS:**

SACRAMENT of CONFESSIONS: on Sundays and Holy Days: 30 min before Divine Liturgy and other days, by appointment.

HOLY COMMUNION: for the sick, by appointment, any time.

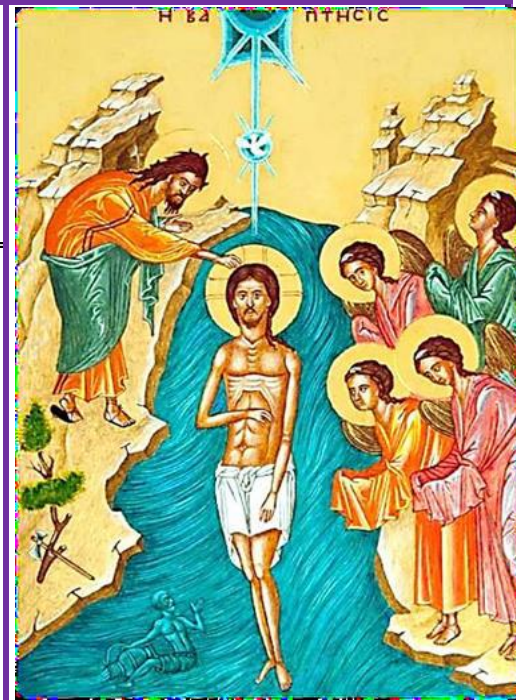
BAPTISMS - by appointment.

MARRIAGES - by appointment, at least 6 month in advance.

FUNERALS - by appointment.

ANOINTING of the sick, hospital visits - by appointment, any time

**Please note:** parish members requesting the celebration of a Divine Liturgy for a special intention (such as: Thanksgiving, the Infirm, General Intentions, the Deceased, Help of the Holy Spirit, for the Travelers, etc.), please see Fr. Volodymyr to arrange for it.



Our parish community extends a welcome to visitors who wish to pray and worship with us and who would like to participate in the life of our parish in all aspects. We assure you that visitors to St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Vernon meet with the warmest hospitality. Although we are a small community, we pride ourselves in being a family which centers itself on faith, prayer and a shared love of our Traditions. Although we are proud to belong to the Ukrainian Catholic Church, a number of ethnic backgrounds are represented in our parish community.

Divine Services are celebrated according to the Byzantine Catholic Rite of Ukrainian usage. Whether you are familiar with our Liturgy and Traditions from your own faith formation or would like to learn more about them, we extend a heartfelt welcome to you to join us for Divine Liturgy. Whether you are Roman Catholic or a member of another Church or Religious Tradition, you are most welcome to join us for worship. The Liturgy is celebrated using a mix of English and Ukrainian. The readings from the Holy Gospel and Epistles, as well as homilies are in English.



Sunday before Theophany Holy Prophet Malachi (5th c. BC);  
the Holy Martyr Gordius (324)

**DIVINE LITURGY PROPERS**

**Troparion** (Tone 7): By Your cross You destroyed death,\* You opened Paradise to the thief;\* You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy,\* and charged the apostles to proclaim\* that You are risen, O Christ our God,\* offering great mercy to the world.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**Kontakion** (Tone 7): No longer shall the dominion of death be able to hold humanity,\* for Christ went down shattering and destroying its powers.\* Hades is bound.\* The prophets exult with one voice.\* The Saviour has come for those with faith, saying:\* "Come forth, O faithful, to the resurrection!"

**Now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Theotokion**, (Tone 7): O all-praised treasury of our resurrection, we hope in you,\* bring us up from the pit and depth of sin,\* for you have saved those subject to sin\* by giving birth to our Salvation,\* O Virgin before childbirth, and Virgin in childbirth,\* and still a Virgin after childbirth.

**Prokimenon** (tone 6): Save Your people, O Lord,\* and bless Your inheritance.

**Verse:** Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence. (Psalm 27:9,1)

**Epistle:** A reading of the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy (*Tim. 4:5-8*)



Timothy, my son, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

**Alleluia (tone 8):** God, be merciful to us and bless us.

**Verse:** Make the light of Your face shine upon us and have mercy on us. (Psalm 66:2)

**Gospel: (Mt 2:13-23) (Mark 1:1-8):** The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**Communion Hymn:** Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia (3x). (Ps 148:1)

## Prayer for a Vibrant Parish Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, as you once gathered lost sheep that they might hear Your voice and be your flock, so also today graciously look down from heaven upon our parish community, and send down on it your Holy Spirit, that it might be a place to receive the joy of Your Good News. Strengthen us with your presence, and always gather us together in prayer. Grant us the spirit of serving others, so that in our parish all might encounter You, the merciful God. Bless our spiritual leaders with Your wisdom, and inspire us to generously give of our time, talents and treasure for the building up of Your Kingdom. Unite us in peace and harmony, as befits Your community of love. Instill in us a missionary spirit, and let our parish community shine with the light of the Gospel, with prayer and good works, inviting all to share in the divine life, so that Your Name, O Savior, may be praised, together with Your eternal Father, and your most-holy, good and life-giving Spirit. Amen.

SPECIAL PETITION DURING THE DIVINE LITURGY: — We also pray to be blessed with generous hearts to contribute to our Bishop's initiatives and programmes, such as: the support of parishes, the education of parishioners, and the formation of seminarians, Lord hear us and have mercy

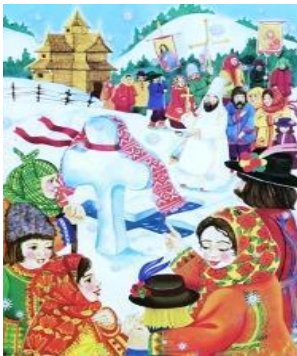


**For peace in Ukraine**, let us pray: Our Father ... Hail Mary ... Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

We also pray for the people of Ukraine, that with the help of the Holy Spirit, they may obtain social peace, political harmony and economic stability: Lord, hear us and have mercy.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**



**Theophany with blessing of water** - The Feast of the Holy Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on January 6. The Feast commemorates the Baptism of Christ and the divine revelation of the Holy Trinity. At the Baptism of Christ, all three Persons of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—were made manifest. Thus, the name of the Feast is Epiphany, meaning manifestation, or Theophany, meaning manifestation of God.

**This is a Holy Day of obligation. Liturgies, with Great Blessing of Water, will be held on Jan. 6th at 10 A.M. in Vernon and 2:00 p.m. in Grindrod.**

**Theophany/Jordan Home Blessing:** Fr. Volodymyr will be blessing homes this week. Please, use the sign-up sheet at the entrance of the church so that Fr. Volodymyr can coordinate our annual Home Blessing visits.

**2015 Nominating Committee** – we are now beginning our preparation for the election of the new Parish Council for the year 2016. The following parishioners will be part of the Nominating Committee: Mrs. Ruth Cushing, Mrs. Wanda March, Mrs. Cecile Thompson, Mrs. Pat Holowenko and Fr. Volodymyr.



**Parish Christmas Dinner** – will take place on **Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> 2016** after the **Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.**

**Happy Birthday** – May the Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in Many Happy and Blessed Years of Life to those who celebrated their birthday in month of January: Mrs. Marion McAreavy (Jan. 2); Mr. Douglas Samec (Jan. 9); Mrs. Rose Scherba (Jan. 17); Mr. Anthony Mulik (Jan. 19); Mrs. Lidia Melesko (Jan. 31) **Many happy healthy years! Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!**

**"Save-on- Foods" gift cards** – are available for sale. Anyone wishing to buy the cards, please contact Miss. Teresa Huculak or Fr. Volodymyr.

**Vernon Sundays collection: December 25<sup>th</sup> - \$ 340; December 27<sup>th</sup> - \$ 350.** God bless all of you for your kindness and generous financial support of our parish community!

**Grace.** If for any of these or other reasons you cannot receive Holy Communion, you are welcome to come for a blessing. Please indicate to the priest that you would like to receive his blessing.


**Parishioner's news section:** As a Parish, it would be wonderful if we could share in our fellow brothers and sisters journey- their joys and sorrows. If you have an upcoming event (birth announcement, big anniversary, graduation, etc) or updates such as medical news, prayer requests, etc., please send us an email or tell to the priest, so it can be included in the newsletter. As well, if you wish to celebrate a special occasion with us, you are more than welcome to bring a contribution to add to the coffee social.

**Parish Family Calendar:** If you would like to be included in our Parish Family Calendar of Birthdays, Celebrations, Name-Days and Anniversaries please put your birth date in the calendar at the table near the front door of the church. Let's celebrate these happy occasions together!

**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:** your family, your fellow parishioners, those who seeking God's answer to their prayers or those rejoicing with God's answer, those celebrating a birthday or anniversary, those called to their eternal reward and for the family they leave behind, those shut-in or in the hospital, and you wish to have a priest visit, please be sure to have someone call the rectory to make this request or notify Fr. Volodymyr Dmyterko directly. Your pastor may have no other way of knowing that you are in hospital, as privacy legislation restricts the information that can be given to him by the hospital.

**Please Pray for health of ...** Tatianna O'Donnell, Rose Shawchuk, Anthony Mulik, John Maiwka, Yanko Anna, Szadiak Victor and Gloria, Sophie Caskey, Walter Kociuba, Nick Roman, Kalyna Kociuba, Terry Konopada, Jesse Kosick, Marion McAreavy, Mary Ferguson, Nicholas Adam Laniel Cryss O'Donnell, Rose Ostopowich, Beverly Brodoway and all other parishioners and family members who need our support and God's healing at the present time. Let us also remember our sisters and brothers in Ukraine in our prayers!

Please let Fr. Volodymyr know if you would like to add new names to the prayer list and also notify him about any sick and/or hospitalized parishioners and family members.

 **EMAIL BULLETIN** - If you would like to have the Bulletin emailed to you please send your request to: [o.volodymyr@yahoo.ca](mailto:o.volodymyr@yahoo.ca)

**PARISH WEBSITE** - <http://vernon.nweparchy.ca/bulletins/>

### **Meetings Church Councils and Organizations:**

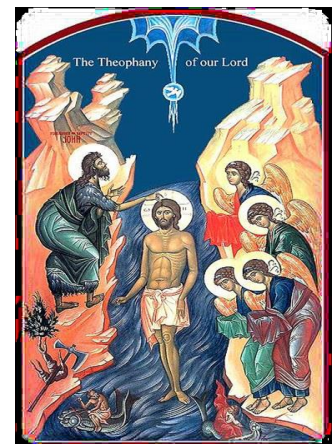
**St. Josaphat's Parish Council Meeting will take place, January 17<sup>th</sup> - After the Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.**

**St. Josaphat's Parish AGM will take place, January 31<sup>st</sup> - After the Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.**

**Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. at OLOV RC church.**

### **January 6 - The Holy Theophany of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ.**

On this day of the year 31 A.D., our Master, Lord and God, Jesus Christ, was baptized at the hands of St. John the Baptizer (the dyer). The feast is called in Greek the Feast of Theophany or the Feast of the Revelation of the Divine Nature of the Lord, for the Holy Trinity was revealed: our heavenly Father was heard from heaven saying, "This is My beloved Son," and the Son standing in the Jordan river, and the Holy Spirit was descending in the of a dove, and alighting upon Him. St. John the Baptist bore witness that the Lord Christ, when He had been baptized,



came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven saying, "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased."

St. John the evangelist said about this day, "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world. This is He of Whom I said, 'After me comes a Man Who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' I did not know him but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water.'" (*John 1:29-31*) The glory of our Lord Jesus Christ was revealed on this day, that He is the Son of God and that He is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world. For this reason, this feast has become a great feast for all believers, in which they are purified with water after the example of the baptism of our Lord, to Whom is the glory, to obtain forgiveness of their sins.

***Glory, honor and worship to our Lord God, now and forever more and to the end of ages. Amen.***

## **The Great Blessing of Water Vodokhreshcha**

### **Водохреща**

Water—what an amazing gift! Something that we often take for granted—we use it lavishly—we use it for bathing, laundry, dishwashing, watering our plants and so on—but we only need about two liters a day for drinking to survive. So, what is the significance of the symbolism of water during Theophany and the Feast of Jordan? Why do we use water as a means of grace? Water is the most beautiful of the four elements of the cosmos. We rise from the waters of baptism into a new life, born again of water and the Spirit. Water has been



used as symbol for Jesus, "*whoever drinks of the water I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.*" (*John 4:13-14*) Once our physical needs are met, our spiritual thirst remains. We thirst for knowledge, we thirst for meaning, and we thirst to know who we are. We thirst to know God. If we cannot answer these questions, our inner thirst grows painful. Introduced in the fourth century, the Great Blessing of Water, in Ukrainian called *Vodokhreshch*, is a magnificent ritual that is carried out twice: first on the vigil of the Feast (the eve of Theophany) and then on the feast day itself (today, it is usually done once.) A container of water, which stands for the beautiful world of God's original creation and ultimate glorification by Christ in the Kingdom of God, is placed on a low table in front of the Tetrapod surrounded by candles and flowers. It begins with the singing of special hymns and the incensing of the water, then follows a ceremony which includes:

† The immersion of the lighted trident candle (*trojka*): *Repeated three times by making a sign of the cross each time. During the rite, the priest immerses the lighted trident candle in the waters and prays "Great are You, O Lord, and Wonderful are Your works..." The immersion of the lighted candles signifies the remission of sins in Baptism.*

† Breathing on the waters: *Repeated three times in the form of a cross, the priest invokes: "O King and Lover of mankind come down through the descent of the Holy Spirit and sanctify this water."*

† The immersion of the priest's right hand: *Repeated three times by tracing the sign of the cross in the water and praying "O Master, sanctify this water today by Your Holy Spirit."*

At the conclusion of this ceremony, the priest immerses the hand cross into the water during the singing of the Troparion of the Feast. He then sprinkles the people and the church with the newly-blessed water. Following the celebration, the faithful are invited to approach and drink some of the holy water and then fill their containers. They take the water home for various purposes such as; to bless the sick, to bless people on special occasions (anniversaries, etc), to avert calamities such as fire and inclement weather. At the traditional Supper on the Eve of Theophany (*Shchedryj Vechir*), the faithful drink this water. After

the ceremonies in church and the following weeks, the priest visits the homes of the faithful to bless them with holy water. We should value the efficacy of this holy water, for if we have faith and devotion; the holy water confers actual graces, restrains the power of the devil and remits venial sins. You can partake of the blessed water whenever you feel you have a need for the Lord's presence as it represents the Lord's healing and loving presence always.

### Why Bless Homes?

The blessing of homes constitutes an *invocative blessing*, meaning that by his prayer and by the sprinkling of Holy Water the priest *invokes* God's blessings and protection upon the home and those living in it. We bless homes for many reasons:

† to reveal the home as what God had created it to be, a way to Heaven

† to rid the home of every evil

† to show that the family is a small Church unit in Christ

† to consecrate the home and all activity in it to God

† to fill the home and all who live in it with the fullness of God

Traditionally, the priest personally visits all his parishioners each year to pray with them in the place where they live, and to bless their surroundings with the newly sanctified water of Theophany.

By sanctifying our homes we extend the grace of God to our individual dwellings.

Just as our souls, so also our homes become tainted by the sins of those living in them and consequently lose God's protective power. We cleanse our souls of sins at least once a year and the church is blessed with the newly blessed water every year, so should our homes be sanctified with Holy Water to invoke God's blessings and protection on it and its inhabitants. As we renew the insurance on our home every year, so we should renew our insurance of God's protection and His blessing which is of greater importance and more effective.

*What should we do during a home blessing?*

As we welcome our priest during the holy season of Theophany to bless our home, let us be mindful that he is bringing to us the "blessing of the Jordan" and that unless God protects and blesses our home, we "labour in vain." (Ps. 12 7:1)

Each family is considered a small church and the family table is the home altar. When the priest comes, have as many family members there as possible. If you do not have an icon corner, ensure that you set up a place for prayer either at the kitchen or dining table. On the table include an icon and a lit candle. You may also include anything that you may want to have blessed (i.e. icon, cross, personal item, etc.) Make sure that the lights are on in every room. The priest will begin the blessing at the icon corner or table. If you have children, they may lead the priest, while holding a candle, to each room in the house.

<b>EPISTLE READERS:</b>				
DATE	READING	ENGLISH	UKRAINIAN	CANDLE HOLDERS
January 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2 Tim. 4:5-8 Mk. 1:1-8	Katherine Huculak	Joe Prystupa	Patti Huculak Greg Sawka
January 10 <sup>th</sup>	Eph. 4:7-13 Mt. 4:12-17	Anne Marie Johnston	Patricia Sawadsky	Bob and Pat Holowenko
January 17 <sup>th</sup>	2 Tim. 3:10-15 Lk. 18:10-14	Marry Harasymyshyn	Olga Piano	Victor and Vivian Belley
January 24 <sup>th</sup>	1 Col. 6:12-20 Lk. 15:11-32	Stephanie Hoffman	Helen Pesklewis	Ann Yaremchuk Olga Piano
January 31 <sup>st</sup>	1 Cor. 8:8-9:2 Mt. 25:31-46	Joann Kosick	Joe Prystupa	Mary Ferguson Wanda March