

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Fr. Stepan's vacation time** – from Thursday, December 28th until Saturday, December 30th inclusive, Fr. Stepan will be away on the final part of his annual vacation. Fr. Pavlo Myts from Kelowna will be substituting him. In case of emergency, Fr. Pavlo's contact information: Tel: 1-250-860-7295
- **Sunday January 28 St. Josaphat's parish AGM** after Divine Liturgy.
- **"Save-on- Foods" gift cards** – are available for sale. Anyone wishing to buy the cards, please contact Mrs. Ann Mary, or Fr. Stepan.
- Please, contact Fr. Stepan **if you want to have the Divine Liturgies** celebrated in your special (such as: In thanksgiving for favours received, the Infirm, General Intentions, the Deceased, Help of the Holy Spirit, for the Travelers, etc.) intentions.
- **Reminder for families of individuals who are admitted to hospital** - If you or a family member is admitted to hospital and you wish to have a priest visit, please be sure to have someone call the rectory to make this request. 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.

"Christmas Candle" - Since 2012 our Eparchy has been collecting funds to help underprivileged and orphaned children in Ukraine through our Christmas Candle appeal. Our fundraising program is part of a larger global appeal sponsored by Caritas Ukraine. We have had great momentum over the last few years raising over \$20,000 with support from our BC Parishes as well as Parishes in other Provinces and parts of the United States.

The appeal is once again taking place for the month of December and we encourage everyone to remember these children during our Christmas season with a voluntary donation. Please place your donation in an envelope marked Christmas Candle, with your name and address and include it with the Sunday collection at any Ukrainian Catholic Church in BC. All donations over \$20 are eligible to receive a tax receipt if requested and cheques can be made out to your Parish with Christmas Candle Project in the Memo. We thank you for your past support and generosity and ask that you again consider supporting this ongoing appeal as part of your Christmas tradition. Caritas is an organization that is supported and approved by His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk and His Excellency Bishop Ken Nowakowski. 100% of the proceeds go to Caritas Ukraine.

For more information, please contact the coordinators Dana Koren Lupynis or Natalia Lupynis at nweparchy.christmascandle@gmail.com

- **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS (Vernon):** Dec 17 - \$385
- **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS (Grindrod):** Dec 17 - \$235

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church

2210 – 40th Avenue, Vernon, BC V1T 8Z9

The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster

Eparch: Most Rev. Ken Nowakowski

Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church

Carlin Street and 3rd Avenue, Grindrod, BC

The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster

Eparch: Most Rev. Ken Nowakowski

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK (VERNON): Dec 24 - Dec 31

SUNDAY, Dec 24	For the Parishioners of the St. Josaphat See Christmas Season schedule (Grindrod)	10:00 AM 8:00 PM
MONDAY, Dec 25	NATIVITY OF OUR LORD	10:00 AM
TUESDAY, Dec 26	Synaxis of the BVM	9:00 AM
WEDNESDAY, Dec 27	First Martyr Stephen	9:00 AM
THURSDAY, Dec 28	NO SERVICES	*****
FRIDAY, Dec 29	NO SERVICES	*****
SATURDAY, Dec 30	For the Parishioners of the Saints Peter and Paul	5:00 PM
SUNDAY, Dec 31	For the Parishioners of the St. Josaphat	10:00 AM

Please Note: to request a Divine Liturgy for a special intention, please see Fr. Stepan to arrange for it!

WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS & GUESTS WHO HAVE JOINED US TODAY!

Parish administrated by: Fr. Stepan Dovhoshyia / о. Степан Довгошия

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Sunday before the Nativity of Christ
DIVINE LITURGY PROPERS

Troparion, Tone 4: When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel* the glorious news of the resurrection* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,* they proudly told the apostles:* “Death has been plundered!* Christ our God is risen,* granting to the world great mercy.”

Troparion, Tone 2: Great are the achievements of faith!* In the fountain of flames, the three holy youths rejoiced as by the water of rest,* and the prophet Daniel was revealed shepherding lions like sheep.* Through their intercession, O Christ God,* save our souls.

+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 6: Armed by the Being that defies description* You defied the man-made idol, O thrice blessed youth.* In the midst of the unbearable flames you stood and cried out to God:* “In Your mercy, O gracious One, hasten and come to our aid,”* for You can do whatever You will.

Prokeimenon, Tone 4

Blessed are You, Lord God of our fathers,* and praised and glorified is Your Name forever. verse: For You are righteous in everything that You have done to us. (Daniel 3:26,27)

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10,17-23,32-40 Reading from Saint Paul’s letter to the Hebrews:

Brothers and Sisters, by faith Abraham he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, of whom he had been told, “It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you.” He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked blessings for the future on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, “bowing in worship over the top of his staff.” By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions about his burial. By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge

of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Апостол: Євр 11,9-10. 17-23. 32-40 До Євреїв Послання Святого Апостола Павла Читання: Браття і Сестри, вірою Авраам перебував у обіцяній землі, як у чужій, живучи у наметах з Ісааком та Яковом, спадкоємцями, як і він, тієї самої обітниці. Бо чекав міста з непохитними основами, якого Бог будівничий і засновник. Вірою Авраам, поставлений на пробу, приніс у жертву Ісаака; і то єдиного приніс у жертву сина, він, що обітниці одержав, до якого було сказано: «Від Ісаака тобі народиться потомство», думаючи, що Бог має силу і з мертвих воскресити; тому його й одержав назад, як символ. Вірою Ісаак благословив Якова та Ісава на майбутнє. Вірою Яків, перед смертю, благословив кожного з синів Йосифа і поклонився, спираючись на кінець палиці своєї. Вірою Йосиф, вмираючи, згадав про вихід синів Ізраїля і розпорядився про свої кості. Вірою батьки Мойсея, як він народився, три місяці його ховали, бо бачили красу дитини, і не злякалися царського наказу. І що ще скажу? Часу не вистане мені, коли заходжуся розповідати про Гедеона, про Варака, про Самсона, про Єфту, про Давида й Самуїла та пророків, що вірою підбили царства, чинили справедливість, обітниць осягнули, загородили пащі левам, силу вогню гасили, вістря меча уникали, ставали сильні, будучи недолугі, на війні проявили мужність, наскоки чужинців відбивали. Жінки діставали назад своїх померлих, які воскресали. Інші загинули в муках, відкинувши визволення, щоб осягнути ліпше воскресіння. Інші наруг і бичів зазнали та ще й кайданів і в’язниці; їх каменовано, розрізувано пилою, брано на допити; вони вмирили, мечем забиті; тинялися в овечих та козячих шкурах, збідовані, гноблені, кривджені; вони, яких світ був невартий, блукали пустинями, горами, печерами та земними вертепами. І всі вони, дарма що мали добре засвідчення вірою, не одержали обіцяного, бо Бог зберіг нам щось краще, щоб вони не без нас осягли досконалість.

Alleluia, Tone 4

verse: O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have told us the work You did in their days.

verse: You saved us from our oppressors and put to shame those who hate us. (Psalm 43:2,8)

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest (Psalm 148:1).* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;* praise befits the righteous (Psalm 32:1).* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.