

# THE CATHEDRAL CONNECTION

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2017

VOLUME XXI, ISSUE I

ST. JOHN'S UKRAINIAN  
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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10611-110 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta

## GREETINGS FROM THE CATHEDRAL DEAN

### ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС! ВОІСТИНУ ВОСКРЕС!

Дорогі брати й сестри в Христі!

З нагоди великого й радісного Свята Воскресення Христового, від себе та своєї родини, щиро й сердечно вітаю всіх членів та прихильників Катебри Св. Івана та бажаю всім веселих Великодних Свят.

The Resurrection of Christ is the crown and the glory of the acts accomplished for our salvation through the sacrificial love of Our Lord Jesus Christ for the human race. May the inexhaustible grace-filled joy of Pascha be ever with us, shining in our hearts with the unwaning light of Christ's Resurrection.

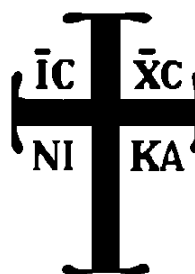
Let us celebrate in joy the Holy Pascha on the bright-dawning night of the Resurrection of Christ and at this light-bringing Paschal season; and let us this day especially glorify from the depths of our faithful hearts Christ Risen from the dead, and sing to Him, the Victor over Death, the hymn of love and gratitude: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon them in the tombs bestowing life. And unto us hath He given life eternal. Wherefore, let us adore His Resurrection on the third day!

Therefore we greet all of you with this glorious and blessed holiday. We pray to God that the grace of this Holy Day will illuminate each and every one of you with its heavenly light.

Нехай Великодне Чудо стане всім нам ясним запевненням, що ми всі міцно віруємо в Свого Господа Бога, і всі поспішаємо до Нього, і що ми надалі будемо любити один одного, як Воскреслий Христос любить нас! І що ми будемо завжди жити в братерській згоді та в міцній єдності, бо Христос Воскрес і Вічна Радість Його Воскресення! Ще раз, усіх сердечно вітаємо з Воскресенням Христовим і всім голосно й щиро проказуємо:

**ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС!**

In Christ's love,  
Father Stephan & Dobrodiyka Diana



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

May this Easter renew and refresh us in our faith. On behalf of the Parish Council, I wish to express sincerest greetings and hope you all may celebrate in joy the Holy Pascha and Resurrection of Christ.

Thank you for your confidence in re-electing me as your President for a third term. I wish to share my President's Report from our recent Annual General Meeting on February 26<sup>th</sup> with all members who were unable to attend:

*It has been a privilege serving as your Parish President for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year now. Dear members: Thank you to every one who I have had the pleasure of working with — and every one who, through your contributions and support of our Parish, have made my job easier and worthwhile.*

*The support I have received from His Grace, Bishop Ilarion and the Clergy has been most appreciated. I am humbly thankful for their confidence as I carried on in my role. I look forward to participating in the Hierarchical Divine Liturgies during His Grace, Bishop Ilarion's visitations again this year at Pascha, Patron Saint's Feast Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. I also thank the Reverend Fathers Stephan and Cornell for their spiritual guidance and Fr. Mykola Petrushchak and Fr. Victor Lakusta for assisting as the need arose.*

*With Alice Chumer directing the Cathedral Choir and Fedir Gotsaliouk cantoring, our liturgies are especially beautiful. Thank you for sharing your skills and talents. Let us not forget our choir members who so faithfully rehearse and perform to the enjoyment of our parishioners. Your angelic voices are a pleasure to behold.*

*We are continuing with having English services on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month following the Ukrainian Liturgy. Greater attendance would be very encouraging. Thank you Eugene Topolnisky (cantor), Dobr. Merrie Zubritsky, and Gordon Gordey for your help in singing the English Liturgy.*

*Thank you to our Elder, Ken Ozipko for your service, assisting our clergy and keeping our Cathedral in order after Liturgy. Especially considering the number of liturgies that will be held in the coming Lenten & Paschal season, as every year — I offer my sincerest gratitude to you and Melvina for your boundless dedication in service of our Cathedral. The Parish appreciates your great work!*

*Of continuing concern is the dwindling attendance at Sunday Liturgy. But we remain optimistic that increasing turnout is an achievable goal: The Christmas, Easter, Palm Sunday, and Theophany Services draw record faithful in — the pews can certainly be filled! So we look to encourage these families to attend our Cathedral more routinely throughout the year — and many new faces we have already greeted on a weekly basis. Let us continue this openness, this welcoming outreach.*

*Your offerings throughout the year, dear parishioners, are much appreciated — and necessary to maintain our beautiful Church. Thank you to all donors who contributed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> collections taken at Christmas, Palm Sunday, and Easter. The Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada and the Western Eparchy are very grateful as these donations help keep our levies lower than they would be otherwise.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

*The Palm Sunday collection was much appreciated by the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada — St. John's Cathedral Branch, allowing them to provide flowers throughout the year to beautify our church. Thank you, Ladies, for your significant financial support of our Cathedral over the years.*

*Our office has become a very busy place as we continue to steadily book more and more activities. Thank you to our staff for keeping the place going. In fact, our whole complex has been praised for its excellent up-keep and cleanliness. Thank you to Ganna Wilson and Petro Motyka for their hard work — as our facilities become busier, so do their schedules!*

*Our catering operation, under the leadership of Maxine Zakordonski, has been well recognized as one of the best in the community. Many positive comments have been received. Thank you cards have poured in especially this past year from clients thanking our staff for the excellent service we provide: our table-setters, our cooks, our servers, our bartenders, and our clean-up crew — having consistently gone above and beyond to deliver a memorable experience — deserve every syllable of that gratitude. Without the help of our volunteers, such a recognized and continued success would not be possible. We are most grateful for our volunteers, as they contribute greatly to the overall financial stability of our Parish. Щиро вам дякую!*

*In a most humbling gesture of appreciation for St. John's excellent facilities and food service, the Edmonton Host Lions Club, our longstanding clients, have made a generous offer to further improve our Solarium. I am pleased to announce that the Lions Club will sponsor the audio-visual upgrade project for this small, but well-used hall.*

*Personally, I want to thank the Council Members for attending all our meetings and actively participating in discussions. Your selfless service to our Parish is indispensable. Thank you also, Michael Hnatiw, for closely monitoring our finances and managing our resources for a 2<sup>nd</sup> successful term.*

*Thank you, members and all, for your continued generosity in your giving, as operational and maintenance costs increase and our equipment and facility slowly ages.*

*A special thank you to Eugene Topolnisky, Bruce Sembaliuk, Jars Balan, and Dr. Lesia Boychuk-Balan for their great generosity during the year.*

*There are, however, many more people to thank for their invaluable contributions of all kinds — for volunteering, supporting functions with their attendance, and in general supporting the Parish and its Council. I could not hope to mention them all, at the risk of excluding even one deserving person.*

*I pray that the Lord God Bless Each and Every One of You.*

*With Love in Christ,*

*Marshall Kachmar  
President*

MK

**Members as of the end of 2016**

**Total** Couples:      102    =    204 members

Singles:                105    =    105 members

Families:                207    =    309 members

**Members Rate 2017**

Single \$200.00

Family \$400.00

Honorary Single \$175.00

Honorary Family \$350.00

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**PARISH COUNCIL 2017**

The following members were elected to the Parish Council at the February 26, 2017 Annual General Meeting:

- President – Marshall Kachmar
- Vice President – *VACANT*
- Secretary – Karla Palichuk
- Treasurer – Michael Hnatiw
- Membership Chair – Elaine Harasymiw
- Archivist – Larissa Ewanchuk-Laniuk
- Property Manager (Hospodar) – Greg Yewchuk
- Assistant Treasurer – Elaine Harasymiw
- Events Chair – Halyna Elkow

The following members were appointed to the Parish Council:

- Past President – Eugene Topolnisky
- Church School – Merrie Zubritsky, Susan Jereniuk
- UWAC – Iris Zwozdesky-Ciona, Lesia Pohoreski
- Cathedral Choir – John-Paul Himka, Karla Palichuk
- St. John's Seniors – Eileen Yewchuk

The following member was elected at the March 8, 2017 Council Meeting:

- Interim Vice President - Pauline Mudry



**PASSION WEEK & PASCHAL SERVICES - 2017****9 April: PALM SUNDAY**

8:30 A.M. – Matins & Holy Confession  
 10:00 A.M. – Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Willows

**12 April: HOLY WEDNESDAY**

9:00 A.M. – The Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts  
 6:00 P.M. – Holy Mystery of Anointing with Oil (Holy Unction) — **St. Elias Church**

**13 April: HOLY THURSDAY**

9:00 A.M. – Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great  
 6:00 P.M. – Matins — Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels

**14 April: HOLY FRIDAY**

3:30 P.M. – Vespers & Procession of the Holy Shroud

**15 April: HOLY SATURDAY**

9:00 A.M. – Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great  
 6:00 P.M. – Blessing of Paska in St. John's Home (13516–102 ST)  
 10:30 P.M. – Nadhrobne/Midnight Office  
 11:00 P.M. – Paschal Matins

**16 April: HOLY PASCHA – THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST**

12:00 A.M. – Paschal Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Paska  
 8:00 A.M. – Paschal Hierarchical Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Paska

**17 April: BRIGHT MONDAY**

9:00 A.M. – Paschal Matins  
 10:00 A.M. – Divine Liturgy

**18 April: BRIGHT TUESDAY**

10:00 A.M. – Divine Liturgy & Paschal Lunch at Dnipro Home (11030–107 ST)

**23 April: ST. THOMAS SUNDAY – PROVIDNA**

9:00 A.M. – Matins  
 10:00 A.M. – Divine Liturgy & Breaking of Artos – Parish Paschal Luncheon

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BLESSING OF PASCHAL BASKETS – PASKAS WILL TAKE PLACE ONLY  
 AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGIES AT 1:45 A.M. & 10:00 A.M.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MEMORIAL SERVICES – PROVODY**

THE ORDER FOR THE EDMONTON DEANERY MEMORIAL SERVICES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

23 April – EDMONTON CEMETERY at 3:00 P.M.  
 30 April – BEECHMOUNT CEMETERY at 2:00 P.M.  
 7 May – ST. MICHAEL'S CEMETERY at 2:00 P.M.  
 14 May – EVERGREEN MEMORIAL GARDENS at 2:00 P.M.  
 21 May – ST. STEPHEN'S CEMETERY at 2:00 P.M.

(In case of rain on any of the above-mentioned Sundays,  
 Memorial Services will be served on **Sunday, 21 May at 3:30 P.M.**)

ALL OTHER CEMETERIES WILL BE VISITED UPON REQUEST.

PLEASE CONTACT OUR CATHEDRAL CLERGY:

**FR. STEPHAN (780-475-3712)**

**FR. CORNELL (780-705-8612)**

## ST. JOHN'S KITCHEN



Kitchen volunteers enjoying a wonderfully prepared and well-deserved lunch following another busy Tuesday morning of pinching over 300 dozen pyrohy! Смачного! (March 21, 2017)



Ladies and gents, at it again — stocking our freezers with holubtsi for a busy springtime. Thank you for your hard work everyone! You are all an invaluable part of our Parish Family! (March 28, 2017)

*Thank you, everyone who contributed to another successful*  
**PARISH EASTER BAKE SALE** (March 31, 2017)!

*Our skilled paska and babka bakers:*

**Rick Aussant, Pauline Bizuk, Shirley & Matthew Borys, Lil Boyko, Halyna Elkow, Rick Fyk, Alison Glass, Cathie Gordey, Kate Hawrysh, Brian Hill, Shirley Jackson, Martha Kostenko, Donna Kowalishin, Theresa Kunyk, Mary Laniuk, Flo Mitchell, Pauline Mudry, Nadia Opyr, Svitlana Romanova, Lorna Stefaniuk, Lilly Velt, Maxine Zakordonski**

*A special thank you to **Ken & Georgina Shields**, and **Pauline Mudry** for managing the Bake Sale during a very busy Pyrohy Supper.*

*Thank you to everyone who donated home-made baking — our guests really enjoyed the impressive selection:*

**Shirley & Matthew Borys, Leona Bridges, Myroslava & Larysa Chomiak, Sylvia Chomyc, Natalie Deptuck, Kate Hawrysh, Donna Kowalishin, Oryssia Lennie, Pauline Mudry, Geraldine Nakonechny, Nadia Opyr, Melvina Ozipko, Grace Pelepchan, Olesia Talpash, Christine Zwozdesky**

## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH

### Oryssia Lennie Named to Order of Canada

Oryssia Lennie, a member of the Ukrainian Women's Association, St. John's Cathedral Branch, Edmonton since 1984, was among those named to the Order of Canada on December 31, 2016. The Order of Canada is one of the country's highest civilian honours, recognizing outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. In a news release announcing the recipients, Governor General David Johnston said, "Let's be inspired by the examples set by these remarkable Canadians and use this occasion to build a smarter and more caring country in which every individual can succeed to the greatest extent possible." Oryssia is cited "for her contributions to provincial politics in Alberta and the improvement of federal-provincial relations in Canada."

Oryssia, the daughter of Nicholas and Wasylena (Bessie) Melnyk of Andrew, Alberta, completed her primary and secondary schooling in Andrew. She attended the University of Alberta, with a year of residency at St. John's Institute, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Political Science. Following completion of her course work for a Master of Arts degree, she began working with the Alberta Government in 1971. She has over 38 years of experience in public administration and public policy development: 26 years with the Alberta Government and 12 years with the Federal Government.

Oryssia was part of the team that represented Alberta in the negotiations for the 1982 Constitution Act and, as Assistant Deputy Minister (1985-90) and then Deputy Minister (1990-97) of the Alberta Department of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs, she led the Alberta officials' team in the Meech Lake (1987-90) and Charlottetown (1992) constitutional negotiations. During the Meech Lake negotiations, she was chosen to be the representative at the officials' level for all of the provinces and, as such, was one of two non-elected officials who were present during the intensive negotiations between the Prime Minister and the ten Premiers and who provided advice on constitutional proposals. It was during this time that former Ontario Premier David Peterson dubbed her "the Mother of Confederation". In addition to her work in the constitutional realm, Oryssia was responsible for a broad range of issues, including internal trade agreement negotiations, international trade policy, and intergovernmental negotiations on the social union and economic policy. She says that her work in intergovernmental relations not only gave her a greater understanding of the issues that are important to Albertans but she also gained a deep appreciation for the country and the different issues facing different regions.



## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D

Believing strongly in the need to “build bridges” between the provincial and federal governments and with other provinces, Oryssia moved to the federal government in 1997. As Deputy Minister of Western Economic Diversification Canada from 1997 until her retirement in 2009, she led a federal department which promoted the development and diversification of the western Canadian economy through support for innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives.

Oryssia's strong commitment to public and community service has been and continues to be reflected in other ways as well. She holds a number of board positions currently, including the following: Chair, Alberta Research and Innovation Advisory Committee; Chair, Habitat for Humanity; Director, Canada West Foundation; and Director, Edmonton Symphony Society. Past affiliations with professional and volunteer community boards include: Chair, United Way Centraide Canada; Chair, United Way of the Edmonton Capital Region; Vice-Chair, MacEwan University Board of Governors; Vice-Chair, University of Alberta Board of Governors; Director, Business Development Bank; Vice-Chair, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, and Director, Canadian Space Agency.

Oryssia and her husband, Malcolm, are members of St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Edmonton, and Oryssia was a member of the Parish Council for several years as the Sunday (Church) School Co-Chair. She currently is the Membership Convenor for the St. John's Cathedral Branch of UWAC.

She has received numerous awards for her accomplishments in public service and management, including the University of Alberta Alumni Honour Award, 2015; the Peter Lougheed Leadership Award for Leadership in Public Policy, 2014; the Lieutenant Governor's Gold Medal for Excellence in Public Service, 2001; the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal, 2002; the YWCA Women of Distinction Award, 1997; and the Commemorative Medal for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation, 1992.

Oryssia credits her mother and father for instilling strong values about public service in both herself and her sister, Geraldine Nakonechny, who was also an Order of Canada recipient in 2007 for her distinguished contributions in the field of nursing education. Her father, Nicholas Melnyk, was a teacher and Member of the Legislative Assembly in Alberta (1959-71) and was very active with the church and other organizations in his community. Her mother, Wasylena, was active in the church and in the Ukrainian Women's Association branch in Andrew. Both strongly encouraged their daughters to work diligently and do the best they could, and to give back to the community.

Acknowledging that strong family support was critical to her career success, Oryssia is very grateful for the unwavering support that she received from her husband, Malcolm, and their two sons, David (Jessica) and Christopher (Melanie). She traveled extensively to Ottawa, across Canada, and internationally throughout her working career, and her family's willingness to accommodate and adjust to her schedule was key to her being able to assume the responsibilities that she had.

She is deeply honoured to receive the appointment to the Order of Canada and looks forward to her investiture by the Governor General at Rideau Hall later this year.

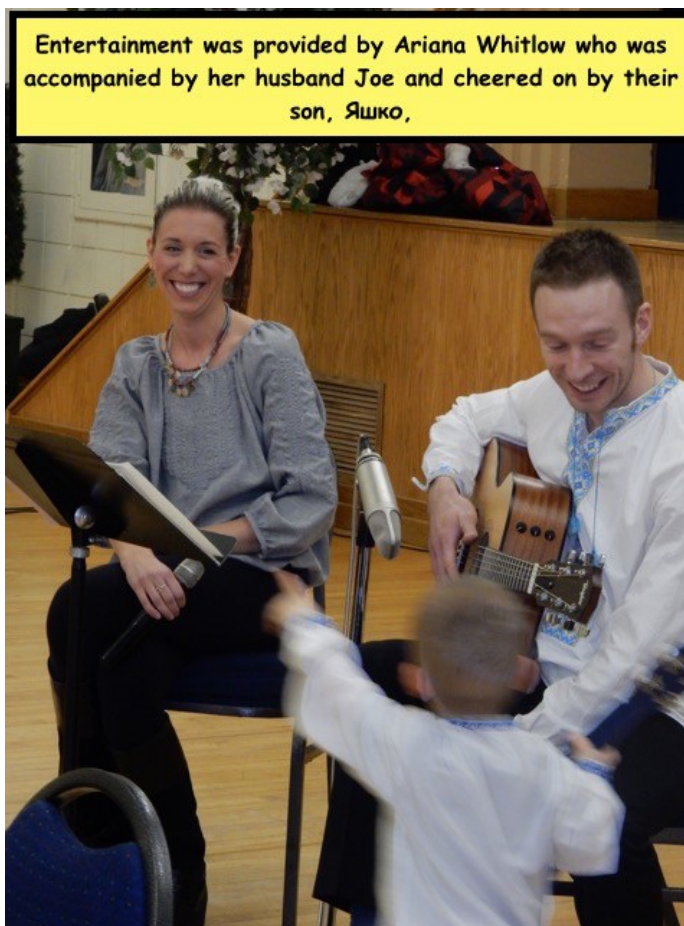
*Submitted by Geraldine Nakonechny C.M. Ed.D*



## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D



Guest speaker, Larisa Sembaliuk-Cheladyn, presenting her talk on "The History of Ukrainian Embroidery in Canada".



Entertainment was provided by Ariana Whitlow who was accompanied by her husband Joe and cheered on by their son, Яшко,



Julia Elaschuk and Iris Ciona honouring Oryssia Lennie, Order of Canada recipient



Membership Event Organizing Committee:  
Tatiana Martschenko, Oryssia Lennie, Iris Ciona



Oryssia Lennie congratulating Larisa Sembaliuk-Cheladyn on a most informative and fascinating review of the History of Ukrainian Embroidery in Canada.



## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D



## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH CONT'D

On Friday March 3rd our UWAC branch held a ladies night entitled "Pysanky and Prayer". Women were invited to come out and learn how to draw the "sorokoklyn" pysanka, often referred to as the lenten egg.

Father Cornell presented the pillars of Great Lent - prayer, almsgiving and fasting. A Sister Vassa video was shown, and participants had the opportunity to ask questions. Special thanks to Father Cornell for the engaging presentation.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped out with set up, or clean up.

Our UWAC branch is looking forward to hosting more events that bring the women of our church together.





## ST. JOHN'S SENIOR CYMK

St. John's Sr. CYMK has been very busy for the past few months including the following events:

### January

2- Fun Day- CYMKivsti enjoyed many activities including decorating the Christmas trees in the church, floor hockey, Malanka skit practice, koliady practice, religious talk by Father Cornell, pizza dinner and a Secret Santa gift exchange

8- Malanka skit rehearsal, light snack followed by carolling at the home of Rt Rev. Father Stephan and Dobr. Diana

13- St. John's Parish Malanka- cymkivsti performed the annual Malanka skit as well as entertaining the guests with beautiful koliady. Proceeds from the koliady were donated to the parish needs.

18- Sr. CYMK members and their parents volunteered in the kitchen on the occasion of the Feast of Jordan Epiphany dinner.

28- Visited the Ice Castles in Hawrelak Park following by a monthly meeting, pizza dinner and games/movie night at the Kruhlyak home

### February

5- CYMK members helped serve lunch at the annual Promin Tea sponsored by the St. John's Ladies Association

26- Monthly meeting

### March

4- CYMK members attended the "Bitter Harvest" movie, a film about the Holodomor

29- Eight CYMK members and two parent advisors teamed together to volunteer at Hope Mission serving dinner to the homeless.

31- CYMK sponsored the annual "Pysanka Bingo" held at St John's Cultural Centre. It was attended by many people and proceeds were donated to the Western Eparchy Youth Orphanage Project

Upcoming events include:

- Attending the AB CYMK sponsored Lenten Event on Saturday, April 8
- Hosting the Saskatchewan CYMK visit in June
- Attending the National CYC Convention in Winnipeg from Aug 9-13, 2017

### **IMPORTANT PROJECT- YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**

From April 28- May 6, five CYMK members are accompanying His Grace Bishop Ilarion as they travel to Lviv, Ukraine, to visit several orphanages that are supported by the Western Eparchy. They will be spending time with the children and helping support their needs. Your donation will be used to help with this mission trip as well as Western Eparchy Youth Programming. Cheques can be made payable to "Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada- Western Eparchy" and may be dropped off in the church office or by contacting Marco at [mkruhlyak02@gmail.com](mailto:mkruhlyak02@gmail.com). Tax receipts will be issued for your donations. Thank you in advance for your support for this worthy cause!

We would like to gratefully thank the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada- St. John's Branch for their donation for CYMK programming. Your support is appreciated!

Yours in Christ,

Marco Kruhlyak

Sr. CYMK President- 2016-17





CYMKivtsi visit the Ice Castles at Hawrelak Park (January 28, 2017)

## THANK YOU, EDMONTON HOST LIONS CLUB!

Wendy Carter, Vice President of the Edmonton Host Lions Club presents Marshall Kachmar, President of the Ukrainian Orthodox Parish of St. John with a cheque for \$8000. The Lions Club is generously sponsoring the audio-video system upgrade in the Solarium, a hall they rent frequently for meetings throughout the year. Thank you Lions!





The above photo, courtesy of Mr. Walter Bartko, was taken in 1965 at the ground breaking for construction of the church's new auditorium. This event was an important moment in our Parish's history, and ought to be included in our chronicle for the 100th Anniversary Celebration. We need your help in identifying some of the individuals here pictured. If you are able to assist, please contact the Administration Office by email at [info@uocc-stjohn.ca](mailto:info@uocc-stjohn.ca) or by phone at 780-425-9692, with the full name and location in the photo of anyone you recognise.

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### **REMINDER: HAWRYSH SCHOLARSHIP**

Attention students! The Parish office is once again accepting applications for the Hawrysh Scholarship. The deadline is June 15. Please contact the office at 780-425-9692, or [info@uocc-stjohn.ca](mailto:info@uocc-stjohn.ca) for details and eligibility requirements if you are interested.

### **REMINDER: PICTORIAL CHURCH DIRECTORY 2016**

If you had a picture taken or included in the 2016 pictorial directory and have not yet received your copy, they are available at the St. John's Parish administration office.



## RIDE TO CONQUER CANCER—MARIA DEREWIANKA

Please support my Ride to Conquer Cancer...

The Enbridge Ride to Conquer Cancer (August 12-13, 2017), benefiting the Alberta Cancer Foundation and presented by Evraz, is a cycling journey along the Canadian Rockies in southern Alberta, that I'm embarking on to fight cancer. It is a challenging ride, but with your generosity, a real impact will and can be made!



This will be my 4th year doing the RTCC. It is a tough ride, but a great ride, with great people, for a great cause. I still remember how I felt when I finished 2+ Kms in 2 days in 2012. The weekend was literally full of mud, sweat and tears, but, surprisingly, I had a blast, even though it rained the entire weekend. I couldn't believe I actually finished...some days I still can't. I was a jumble of emotions and sometimes still am when I recall that memorable weekend.

I know so many people who have gone through or are going through their own challenging life with cancer. Some have made it to the other side and are cancer free, others are fighting the good fight every single day, and still others have unfortunately lost their battle but will never be forgotten. With God's help, I truly and sincerely hope that one day all cancers will be eradicated.

Now, this is where you come in. Please seriously consider joining me in this bicycle ride by making your donation today--whether that's \$10 or \$100 or whatever you can give, because every little bit counts. With a donation of \$10 or more, a tax receipt will be sent to you. Help me help the many doctors and researchers find a cure once and for all.

You can find a donation form in the church entrance, or you can make your online donation at <http://ab17.conquercancer.ca> by clicking on the **Donate** button at the top of the screen and then typing **Derewianka** in the **Last Name**.

Thank you for your donation and God bless each and every one of you!!!



*Who is Maria Derewianka? I have been a member of St. John's for the last 10+ years, I was your parish council recording secretary for the last year and a half, I sing in the choir (go sopranos), and you can see me in church every Sunday like clockwork (unless I'm out of town visiting family or friends). I've been a litigation legal assistant and/or paralegal for almost 18 years. I enjoy singing, going to church, cycling, walking, reading, nature, spending time with family/friends, etc. I feel very strongly about this cause and I hope you'll help me along in this epic cycling journey.*

## IN MEMORIAM

The St. John's Cathedral Parish Family would like to remember the following individuals who have reposed to the Lord over the past months.



We pray that the Lord God will establish their souls where the righteous repose.

**Phyllis Kruhlak**

**Nadeya Bodnar**

**Vera Horobec**

**The Very Rev. Archpriest Alex Hupka**

**Len Hawreliak**

**Helen Fedorkiw**

**Lena Gulutsan**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 23rd** - Paschal Lunch ("Спільне Свячене")

**April 28th** - Pyrohy Supper

**May 4th** - Kyiv Konnection Banquet

**May 26th** - Pyrohy Supper

**June 7th** - UWAC Annual Members' Dinner

**June (TBD)** - Church School Picnic

**June 25th** - Chram, Parish Feast Day Dinner

**June 30th** - Pyrohy Supper

### ST JOHN'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

10611-110 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5H 1H7

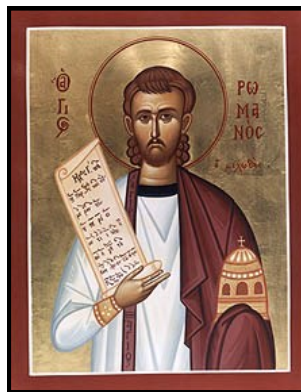
Phone: 780.425.9692

Fax: 780.425.3991

Email: [info@uocc-stjohn.ca](mailto:info@uocc-stjohn.ca)

Website: [www.uocc-stjohn.ca](http://www.uocc-stjohn.ca)

Monday to Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



**SINGERS!** The Cathedral Choir invites you to join! Rehearsals: Thursdays at 7:30 pm. For information, call Lesia Chumer at (780) 418 1025.

**СПІВАКИ-ХОРИСТИ!** Просимо Вас вступити до Катедрального Хору. Пробі кожного четверга о 7:30 год. веч. По дальші інформації: Леся Чумер, диригент - (780) 418 1025.



## UKRAINIAN EASTER

Easter, the most glorious and radiant event in all history, commemorates the Resurrection of Christ.

The joyful Easter Matins begin with the ringing of the church bells. The triumphant Resurrection service begins with a procession around the church. The church is emptied and the doors are closed, representing the closed tomb of Christ. The procession circles the church three times, symbolizing the journey of the myrrh-bearing women to the tomb of Christ in the early hours of the morning to anoint his body.

The visit to the empty sepulcher by the women is climaxed when the risen Saviour is seen and recognized. Here the priest greets the worshippers with the traditional words *Christ is Risen*. The people respond with *He is indeed Risen*. The church bells peal and the worshippers re-enter the church and the Easter service proceeds to its joyful completion.

Immediately after the service, people return home to break the long fast with an Easter breakfast of blessed food. The meal begins with Easter grace, followed by a ceremonious serving of the blessed egg, which the head of the family divides into portions, one for each person, again with the greeting of Easter. This ritual symbolizes family unity and expresses hope for a happy and prosperous year until next Easter.



## SVIACHENE: THE BLESSING OF THE TRADITIONAL EASTER FOODS

Historically, the Lenten period was a period of fasting and abstaining from meat and dairy products every day. To show their joy and gratitude at the end of this strict fast, people took food to the Divine Liturgy celebrated on Easter morning. This food was blessed and later eaten at their Easter "break-fast".

The custom of blessing the foods that will be consumed on Easter continues in all Ukrainian churches. There cannot be anyone who has ever eaten the traditional Easter breakfast of hard-boiled eggs, various meats and sausages, cheese or cheese-like foods, horseradish, butter, and the beautiful paska without feeling this meal is special, as it is, for each of these foods has symbolic meanings which reflect the faith of our people.

## THE EGGS: KRASHANKY AND PYSANKY

The egg is often likened to the tomb from which Christ arose. Jesus came out of the tomb like a living chick comes out of an egg, which looks dead. With the special meaning of hope, of the emergence of new life, and of the Resurrection, the decoration of pysanky with Christian symbols is fitting, and the sharing of the pysanky with friends and relatives shows the good wishes given to them. The krashanky (plain colored hard-boiled eggs) will be used to first break the fast, and the sharing of one egg by all members of the family shows family unity and hope for a good life in the year ahead.

## THE MEAT PRODUCTS: HAM, LAMB, SAUSAGE

All meat products represent the animals used in sacrifice in the Old Testament and remind us of the sacrifice of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who became for us a *Lamb of God, taking away the sins of the world*. Meats also remind us of the story of the fattened calf prepared by the father for the Prodigal Son: the analogy is the Lord giving His Son to mankind who sinned. Ham symbolizes freedom from the Old Law that did not allow some kinds of meat. The New Law began with the Resurrection. Roasted lamb is symbolic of Jesus, the Paschal Lamb by whose blood we are saved. Sausage represents the links of the chains of death that were broken when Christ rose from the dead.



### THE DAIRY PRODUCTS: BUTTER AND CHEESE

Butter in the shape of a lamb can also remind us of Jesus, the Paschal Lamb. All dairy products are related to the prophecies which told of the prosperity and peace of the Messianic times and are symbolic of the special gifts which God gives us.

### THE EASTER BREADS: PASKA AND BABKA

Bread is symbolic of Jesus Christ, the *Living Bread*, who came down from heaven to give life eternal to the world. The richness of this bread both in ingredients and in decoration is a reflection of the special meaning it holds. Bread reminds us of Jesus, who in the Eucharist is the true bread of everlasting life and who nourishes our souls as the bread nourishes our bodies.

### THE HORSERADISH AND THE SALT

Horseradish was part of the original Passover meal as a reminder to Jews of the bitterness and harshness of life in Egypt. To Christians, the horseradish represents the bitterness of sin and the hardships we must go through in life because of the original sin. The horseradish sweetened with red beets reminds us of the bitterness of the passion of Christ which He overcame in glory through His sacrifice and Resurrection.

Salt is a reflection of Christ's words: *You are the salt of the earth*, which we Christians must follow. Salt is also a symbol of fast and self-denial.

### THE BASKET

In Ukraine, the basket used for blessing the Easter food was special and never was used for any other purpose. Careful attention was paid to the preparation of the good to go in the basket. It was a matter of pride for the women to produce the most beautiful paska possible through the use of dough ornaments on the top of the loaf, for everyone would compare the contents of different baskets after Resurrection services when the blessing of the baskets would be held outside the

church. The embroidered covers for the baskets, symbolic of the great beauty of the *New Life* given all believers through Christ's suffering and Resurrection, would also be seen by all, and received their share of attention.

### PYSANKA

Although the art of decorating an egg began well before the advent of Christianity, it is wrong to identify the pysanka with paganism. The pysanka is a miniature mosaic, a precious icon of God's universe, of Christ's death and resurrection, and of the glorious life in Him.

*Pysanka* is derived from the verb *pysaty* (meaning to write). The colours and designs used on the ysanka all have significance. For instance, white stands of purity, green for the rebirth of nature, black for the darkest time before dawn (the period between the first and third crow of the rooster). The cross appears in many forms, symbolizing the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ. The star symbolizes God's love towards man; the ribbon or belt encircling the egg symbolizes eternity; triangle the Holy Trinity. Besides geometric symbols, animal and plant motifs are used.

Because the pysanka expressed the Christian faith and love of the writer, it was given away (not bought or sold) as you cannot buy faith or love. When we look at a pysanka we should not only appreciate the beauty of the artwork, but also the significance of the designs and then gain the real meaning — the Resurrection of Christ — an Easter tradition.





### **Why Easter is Celebrated on Different Dates**

In determining the day to celebrate Easter, early Christians faced a dilemma. It was known that Christ was crucified after Passover and therefore the date for Easter should fall after Passover. The date for Passover is the fourteenth day of Nisan (the first month of the Jewish ecclesiastical year, about the time of the vernal equinox), a fixed date in the Jewish lunar calendar. This date, translated to the old Julian or solar calendar that Christians used, became a floating date that fell anytime in a week, and therefore made the date and day for Easter change yearly. To add to the confusion, early Christians felt that Easter should always fall on a Sunday. This was resolved at the Council at Nicea in 325 A.D. when the date for Easter was set as the Sunday that fell after both the fourteenth of Nisan and the vernal equinox.

Further controversy in the date of Easter began in 1582 A.D. with the introduction of the Gregorian calendar. This calendar was not accepted by all countries, and even today, there are many churches that still use the old Julian calendar.

Currently, churches on the Gregorian calendar calculate Easter as the first Sunday after the full moon that comes on or after the vernal equinox (March 21). This means Easter can fall within a 35-day period between March 22 and April 25, inclusive. Churches that still use the old Julian calendar (as we, Ukrainian Orthodox use) occasionally have Easter on the same Sunday as those on the Gregorian calendar, but through the different method of calculation may celebrate Easter anywhere from one to five weeks later. This is due to a combination of factors including the thirteen-day lag behind the Gregorian calendar and the tradition that Easter must necessarily follow the Jewish Passover but must never precede or coincide with it.

-taken from: Ukrainian Easter, compiled by M.A.Woloch-Vaughn



A COLORING PAGE FOR OUR CHILDREN



The Holy Resurrection