

# THE CATHEDRAL CONNECTION

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2017

VOLUME XXI, ISSUE II

ST. JOHN'S UKRAINIAN  
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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10611-110 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta

## GREETINGS FROM THE CATHEDRAL DEAN

Дорогі брати й сестри в Христі!

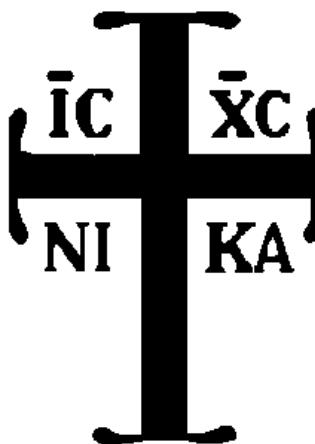
В цей час сердечно вітаю всіх Вас із надходячим початком Нового Церковного Року, і хочу вірити, що ви всі із охотою приступатимете до нової праці й діяльності при нашій Громаді. Я заохочую й прошу Вас регулярно вчащати до Церкви й активно включатись в Церковне Життя.

I sincerely greet each and every one of you with the coming of the New Church Year. Our programs and activities will soon be commencing. Let us view church attendance as a gift, rather than as an obligation and troublesome duty. We need to be mindful of the fact that living in a society of many temptations and countless mixed messages, we need the encouragement of one another to help us become and remain strong Christians. It is only by supporting one another that we are able to avoid distraction, remain focused, and order our priorities rightly. That is why St. Paul writes: "Let us not give up the habit of meeting together ... but let us encourage one another all the more." (Heb. 10:25)

Those of you, who cannot attend Church regularly, because of ill health, or some other valid reason, can still pray for the Church, its ministry, its needs and its people. At the same time, those of us who are not limited must take the Church to those who cannot attend. We must visit them regularly, bring them antidoron, and be God's presence in their lives. In this way we "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2)

Ще раз закликаю всіх Вас до відданого й активного життя в нашій Церкві!

In Christ's love,  
Father Stephan & Dobrodiyka Diana



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are now in the third quarter of 2017 and soon I will conclude my third year as President. The Cathedral Connection newsletter gives me the opportunity to thank my fellow parishioners for their support, both financial and through volunteering for various functions at our beautiful Cultural Centre. The cooperation I have received at Council meetings indicates that we are continuing on the right track.

Our catering operation, led by our esteemed chef Maxine Zakordonski, is well recognized by our parish members and the Ukrainian community and public at-large. Sincerest thanks to all who offer up their time to cater event after successful event. Our kitchen veterans will tell you, it certainly takes more than one man (or woman!) to please our hungry clients, and have them coming back for seconds, year after year. There is more to it than just the delicious food we cook up. Whether you are involved with set-up, table setting, food prep, serving, bussing, or tear-down, your service is an invaluable part of a well-oiled machine. Maxine, you have mentored our volunteers well in these many aspects. You are truly a Jill-of-all-trades!

Turning to the Cathedral, now, I have observed that attendance at church services can be much improved. Attendance is directly reflected in the offerings that the Parish receives on a weekly basis. Our Treasurer, Michael Hnatiw informs me that offerings are down almost \$10,000 from this time last year. This is significant. Mr. Hnatiw reminds that many projects are delayed because of financial constraints. Not all of them are planned, but often necessary maintenance. Most recently the City of Edmonton required us to install backflow preventers on our mainline and sprinkler lines which were mandated to prevent contamination of the city water supply by commercial facilities. This was not anticipated, and cost in excess of \$7,000. Luckily our budget accounted for a decent amount of repairs, as usual. All the same, if we do not have a reliable revenue stream, we must make concessions and delay less immediately urgent undertakings. For example, we were planning on complete workover servicing of the boilers this year, but this will have to be postponed until 2018.

Thankfully, many of the capital projects this year have been funded by outside groups, but other maintenance without a clear benefit to clients, but vital to the facility operation, are also important. Reliable heating in the Church and Cultural Centre, for instance. Replacing the obsolete cooling system in the walk-in kitchen fridge will cost \$7,000 – \$9,000. Furthermore, it bears reminding that with our Parish's 100th anniversary just years away, our icon screen ("iconostas") needs repairing. Currently \$1000 has been donated to this project. New church chimes have been donated by Eugene Topolnisky, but inspection and repair/replacement of the outside speakers needs to be done. Landscaping of our facility and cathedral grounds will be costing too.

Grants are limited and campaign donation appeals can only go so far. The summer months have been quiet at the Cultural Centre yet again. In years past we hosted over a dozen weddings and large functions. Who knows when it will pick up; we do what we can to bring people to our wonderful facility. Catering revenue may be up or down, but not to worry. We still have you, our most reliable and generous parishioners, who have always helped to keep us going. *Дякую всім!* Thank you all!

With Christian Love,  
Marshall Kachmar  
Parish President

## NEWS FROM UWAC ST. JOHN'S BRANCH

The Ukrainian Women's Association, St. John's Cathedral Branch, held their annual Members' Dinner on June 7 at the St. John's Cultural Centre, at which they honoured their longstanding members. Members honoured were the following:

40 years:	Halyna Domytrak Gloria Zaharia
50 years:	Mary Bartko Isabelle Darcovich Geraldine Nakonechny
70 years:	Victoria Lazaruk Natalka Melnychuk
80 years:	Anna Zwozdesky

The Branch has been very fortunate to have these committed, longstanding members, and we wish God's blessings upon them all.

Approximately 90 members and their families from St. John's Branch and other nearby branches enjoyed the dinner and program which included entertainment by the concert ensemble, Chaika.

A special thank you to St. John's Parish Board for providing the beverages for the dinner, and special thanks to George Zaharia and his "crew" of male members from St. John's, for their exceptional service in providing assistance with food preparation, serving and clean-up. Many thanks also to CYMK who helped with the serving and clean-up. *Submitted by Oryssia Lennie, Membership Convenor*



Anna Zwozdesky (80 Year UWAC Member)



Long-Serving Members of St. John's Cathedral Branch UWAC

From back left: Fr. Stephan Semotiuk, Bishop Ilarion, Christine Zwozdesky, Iris Ciona, Oryssia Lennie

Front: Gloria Zaharia, Anna Zwozdesky, Mary Bartko, Halyna Domytrak, Isabelle Darcovich, Dr. Geraldine Nakonechny

Back: Joanne Melnychuk and Elena Scharabun (representing their Mother, Natalka Melnychuk), Kay Hobden

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



Iris Ciona presents a cheque for \$20,000 on behalf of Soyuz Ukrainok Kanady (UWAC – St. John's Branch) to St. John's Cathedral, accepted by Parish President, Marshall Kachmar at St. John's Cultural Centre during "Spil'ne Sviachene" luncheon (*Sunday, April 23, 2017*)



Volunteers at St. John's Parish annual sponsored Pyrohy Luncheon for Staff, Students, and Family of John A. McDougall Elementary School (*June 14, 2017*)

Myroslava Chomiak, Julia Elaschuk, Elaine Harasymiw, Larysa Chomiak

## ST. JOHN'S SENIOR CYMK

The following is a summary of the activity of Sr. CYMK over the past several months:

### April

8- AB CYMK sponsored a Lenten Event with the focus being on prayer and alms-giving. The highlight of this day was preparing cards of good wishes attached to stuffed bears which were then donated to the Stollery Children's Hospital to be given to the sick children.

**April 28- May 6-** five of our CYMKivsti along with parent chaperone Gerald Kruhlak accompanied His Grace Bishop Ilarion as they travelled to Lviv, Ukraine, to visit an orphanage in Sambir. Our CYMKivsti were very touched by their experience at the orphanage and sincerely thank His Grace Bishop Ilarion and the Western Eparchy for this opportunity.

### May

27- CYMK members visited the "Five Waves of Inspiration" Display at the Alberta Art Gallery during which they went on an hour tour with renowned artist Larysa Sembaliuk-Cheladyn.

28- CYMK members who participated in the orphanage mission trip to Ukraine did a presentation on their experience in Ukraine, during the St. John's Ladies Association sponsored fellowship. It was a most informative presentation.

### June

3- "Prayer in the Park" event was held at the Kinsmen Park which included a picnic-style religious session lead by Father Cornell on the topic of giving to our church. After this interesting discussion, CYMK members enjoyed some soccer and football in the park.

8- Sr. CYMK members came together as a team to help volunteer in the kitchen for the St. John's Fraternal Year end BarBQ

24- Members hosted a breakfast for the Saskatchewan CYMKivsti who were visiting Edmonton. It was fun to meet and greet CYMKivsti from our neighbouring province.

### August

9-13- Nine Sr. CYMK members and one advisor, Vivianne Kruhlak, travelled to Winnipeg to attend the National CYC Convention 2017. The convention was a valuable time to discuss issues relating to CYMK and also the possible restructuring of our CYC organization. Our CYMKivsti bonded with CYMK from across the regions through activities including a visit to Fort White, a tour of the Human Rights Museum and many religious and leadership sessions. On Saturday morning, we held the CYMK Business Meeting and AGM which resulted in the CYMK National Executive staying in Toronto and area for the next two year term. A convention would not be complete without a zabava where we danced well into the night! On Sunday morning, all CYMKivsti, advisors and guests joined together to sing the Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity Cathedral with our very own talented Christina Kowalenko as conductor. Many people complimented our beautiful sound. Following the service, there was a brunch served in the church hall and everyone bid farewell to yet another incredible convention experience. Congratulations are extended to the Winnipeg convention planning committee and Christina Kowalenko for their time and dedication.

## ST. JOHN'S SENIOR CYMK CONT'D

St. John's CYMK gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the following organizations in support of the Ukraine Orphanage Trip and the National CYC Convention. You have given our members so much through your support and they all truly appreciate it!

- St. John's Parish Board
- Alberta Ukrainian Self-Reliance League
- Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada- Western Eparchy
- Ukrainian Women's Association- Alberta Provincial Council
- Ukrainian Women's Association- St. John's Branch
- Ukrainian Women's Association- St. Anna's Branch
- Mr. Eugene Topolnisky
- St. John's Fraternal Society

### Upcoming events:

- A. On Friday, September 22, Sr. CYMK is holding their AGM beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the CYMK room.
- B. On Saturday, September 30, the Provincial CYC Convention will take place at Camp Barvinok. Sr. CYMK is beginning their program on Friday night which will include an overnight stay. If you are interested in finding out what CYMK is all about, consider joining our youth on this fun-filled weekend! See attached information poster and contact Andriy Kruhlak @ [andriy@ualberta.ca](mailto:andriy@ualberta.ca) to register.

Yours in Christ,

Marco Kruhlak  
St. John's Sr. CYMK President  
2016-17

## ST. JOHN'S SENIOR CYMK CONT'D

**National CYC Convention — August 9–13, 2017**



**ST. JOHN'S SENIOR CYMK CONT'D**

**SEPTEMBER 29-30**

**All Families Invited**

# **PROVINCIAL CYC CONVENTION**

**Registration Deadline Wednesday  
September 20**

**AT CAMP BAR-V-NOK**

**COST FREE**

**SCHEDULE**

**Friday**

- Scavenger Hunt
- Vatra
- Sleep Over

**Saturday**

- Morning Walk
- Religious Session
- Archery
- Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner
- CYMK AGM and much more...

For further information or to register please contact Andriy Kruhlak at [andriy@ualberta.ca](mailto:andriy@ualberta.ca)

PosterMyWall.com

## ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR

*What is the choir singing?*

The choir has a large collection of liturgical music, which has been collected and stored through the decades. The liturgical music dates back centuries – some of the music is so old, that the composer's name has been lost in time.

Introducing: Alexander Koshetz

Alexander Koshetz was born in 1875, and was a Ukrainian conductor, arranger, composer, ethnographer, writer, musicologist and lecturer. After WWI, he co-founded the 'Ukrainian Republic Capella' choir, which toured Europe and North America between 1919-1924, and 1926-27. This Choir's performance of Leontovych's "Schedryk" inspired US composer, Peter Whilhousky, to write 'The Carol of the Bells.'

Koshetz composed five Liturgies, ten religious chants, arranged numerous folk songs. His memoirs were published in 1947-8.

Although he moved to New York in 1922, he spent his summers teaching in Winnipeg, where he died in 1944 at the age of 69. The O. Koshetz choir in Winnipeg bears his name.

The Choir typically starts, and ends, the service with music composed by Koshetz.

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## SURVEY RESULTS!

***RE: Hosting January 6th Christmas Dinner (Свята Вечер'я) @ St. John's Cultural Centre***

In the April issue of the Cathedral Connection, we asked our 300+ members and adherents:

*If St. John's Parish were to organize and hold a Christmas Eve Dinner (Свята Вечер'я) on January 6th, at a ticket cost to be determined, would you attend?*

Of the 39 responses we received, 4 were YES and 35 were NO.

Comments included:

*"We celebrate "Йордан" with a public supper. Christmas supper is a "FAMILY" get-together event and it comes with a special "FAMILY BLESSING."*

*"A thousand times NO."*

*"We are not prepared to break with the tradition of hosting family in our homes on this special occasion."*

*"Could not ask volunteers to give up Christmas Eve with their loved ones."*

Although this was a small sample size, we expect this sentiment carries for the majority precisely because of how this time is traditionally celebrated. Our Parish hosts Theophany Holy Supper on January 18th, following Blessing of Water. This year's turnout was 107 attendees. Our Parish membership is over 300. It is obvious that many elect to celebrate this supper at home too. As special as the January 6th supper is, it is doubtful even this turnout would be attained. We must consider if outside catering can be justified for a small event, because our volunteer staff would not be available to host it. It is their Christmas too, after all. Perhaps a pot-luck could be more feasible?

## ANNUAL BISHOP'S TEA



You are cordially invited to:

# The Bishop's Tea

in honour of

## His Grace Bishop Ilarion

Sunday, October 1, 2017

12:30 - 2:30 pm

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of St. Michael the Archangel

12104 – 129 Ave. EDMONTON

--- Donations appreciated for  
Mission Work in the Western Eparchy ---



## THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

### СВЯТО ПРЕОБРАЖЕННЯ - <СПАСА>

*<Преобразився єси на горі Христе Боже,  
показавши ученикам твоїм славу Твою>*

Катедра св. Івана в Едмонтоні відсвяткувала свято <Преображення> - або як в народі називають <Спаса> - що є одним з найбільш улюблених свят господарської України.

Вже ось-ось будемо бачити як золотисто почнуть мерехтіти дерева, бо наше, таке коротке, літо кінчается. Але на прощання того соняшного літа, наш нарід складає земленьці-матері подяку - приносячи плоди перед престіл в церкві, щоб вони були поблагословлені, бо цеж життя-давче наше майбутнє.

В суботу, 19-го серпня, 2017р., наша Парафія св. Івана дуже урочисто відсвяткувала це свято <Спаса>. Під проводом о. Пароха, митр. прот. С. Семотюка, в асисті о. К. Зубрицького і прот. В. Лакусти, церква заповнилася прекрасним співом всіх трьох Священослужителів - *<Преобразився єси на горі Христе Боже . . .>* Цей спів так милозвучно зливався зі співом нашого дяка, п. Ф. Гуцуляка, як також присутніх парафіян.

Проповідь про релігійне значення свята <Преображення> сказав дуже змістовно о. К. Зубрицький, який повязав значення цього великого свята з традиційними обрядовими звичаями.

Хоч цей звичай, святити овочі, є дуже старовинний, в Едмонтоні він почав занепадати. Кілька років тому, як згадує одна парафіянка, було лише чотири кошики до свячення. Хоч люди і тоді, як тепер, мали свої гарні овочеві сади і городи, звичай <Спаса> забувався.

## THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD CONT'D

Але таки не забувся, бо цього року аж три столи були заставлені чудовими кошиками, вдекорованими квітами і зіллям, повні прекрасних домашньо-вирощених овочів (фруктів) - винограду, яблук, черешень, помідорів, маку, і інше. Вірні принесли ці плоди, щоб їх поблагословив священик, і щоб подякувати Богові за щастя що живемо в такій мирній і тихій країні, де нема голоду і переслідувань.

Гарне число дорослих і молоді, дехто в вишиванках, молитовно клонили голову, коли о. Зубрицький <щедро> всіх <покропив> на добре майбутнє.

Дай Боже щоб слідуючого року нас ще більше взяло участь в святкуванні <Спаса>.

Ольга Логвиненко

Серпень 2017



## THE HOLY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD CONT'D



Celebration of the Feast of the Holy Transfiguration, with Blessing of Fruit  
(August 19, 2017)

Pictured bottom right: Marko Synevskyy



*All photos courtesy of VasyI Synevskyy*

## COLOURING FOR THE KIDS — FRUIT BASKET FOR BLESSING



## WHY GO TO CHURCH?

If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this!  
If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it.  
If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column.

Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals.

But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

---

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible & receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!

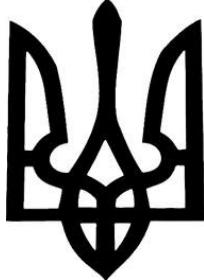
**IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL !**

B. I. B. L. E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!

"Life" is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one!

## 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.

**Monica Cheladyn**

**Mary Antoniuk**

**Annie Osoba**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 29, 30th** - AUSRL Convention  
@ Camp Bar-V-Nok

**October 1st** - Bishop's Tea @ St. Michael's Church

**October 14th** - Vohon's Annual Dine & Dance

**October 15th** - Thanksgiving Day Dinner

**October 20th** - Pyrohy Supper

**October 27, 28th** - Western Eparchy Youth Summit

**October 27, 28, 29th** - Western Eparchy Convention

**October 29th** - UWAC-sponsored Fellowship

**November 12th** - Remembrance Day  
Memorial Service: 10:45 a.m.  
(after Ukrainian Liturgy)

**November 24th** - Pyrohy Supper

**November 25th** - Annual Holodomor  
Commemoration (City Hall 12:30pm)

**December 3rd** - UWAC Annual General Meeting  
& Fellowship

**December 17th** - St. Nicholas Dinner & Concert

**December 29th** - Pyrohy Supper

### ST JOHN'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

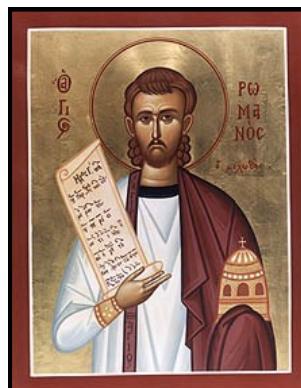
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Monday to Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



**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. Проби кожного четверга о 7:30 год. веч. По дальші інформації: Леся Чумер, диригент - (780) 418 1025.