

# THE CATHEDRAL CONNECTION

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2017

VOLUME XXI, ISSUE III

ST. JOHN'S UKRAINIAN  
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Phone: 780.425.9692  
Fax: 780.425.3991

10611-110 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta

## GREETINGS FROM THE CATHEDRAL DEAN

### ХРИСТОС РОЖДАЄТЬСЯ! СЛАВІМО ЙОГО!

Дорогі брати й сестри в Христі!

У цей час Різдва Христового, Нового Року, та надходячого свята Йордану, хочу від себе та своєї родини скласти всім Вам щирий привіт. Нехай веселі свята Різдва Господа Ісуса Христа оживить та збагатить наше життя ще більшою любов'ю до Бога. Особливо в цей критичний час, коли світ відвертається від Господа Бога, й руйнує себе всякими злими вчинками, ми більш як коли потребуємо відчутти присутність Новонародженого Христа.

The annual celebration of the birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ once again brings the Gospel message of hope to the world. In the Word made flesh, the depth of God's love is revealed. In Jesus Christ, the power of death is broken; the power of truth restored and human flesh is blessed with eternal life.

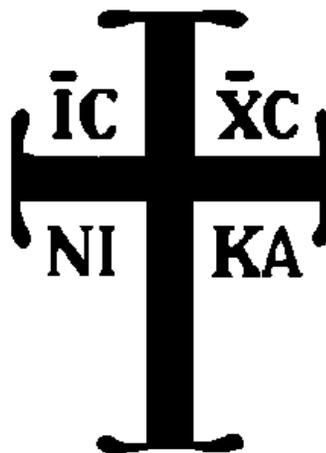
God came to dwell in our midst, yet there was no room in the Inn of Bethlehem, or in the hearts of many whom He came to save. However, in the heart of God there was ample room for all, even the most despised of men.

Open your hearts and let the Son of God enter in to dwell in you. Receive the Body and Blood of Christ that you may abide in Him and He may abide in you. Then too, the fullness of God's greatest gift, in all its beauty and joy will fill your life with the promise of salvation, immortality and the inheritance of the Kingdom of God.

On this saving Feast of the Nativity and coming Epiphany, we extend to each and every one of you sincere and heartfelt greetings. We wish you all holy and radiant joy – for God Is With Us! May you enjoy the best of health and happiness in the New Year!

**CHRIST IS BORN! LET US GLORIFY HIM!**

In Christ's love,  
Father Stephan & Dobrodiyka Diana



## IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	2-3
UOCC APPEAL	4
NOTICE OF MEETING	5
CONGRATS, 2017 GRADUATES!	6-8
ST. JOHN'S SENIOR CYMK	9
ST. JOHN'S PARISH	10
A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION...	11
IN MEMORIAM	12
UPCOMING EVENTS	12
UWAC LIBRARY	12
CAMP BAR-V-NOK SUBSIDY	*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**ХРИСТОС НАРОДИВСЯ!**

**СЛАВИТЕ ЙОГО!**

How time flies! We are quickly approaching the festive season celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. On behalf of the St. John Cathedral Parish Council, I wish to greet each one of you with the best wishes of the season. May God's Blessing grant you all with health and happiness in the New Year.

Reflecting on the past year, we all can take pride in our accomplishments, and satisfaction in contributing financially or by volunteering, and helping our church community prosper. Few words can express the sincere gratitude I feel for our patrons and volunteers.

We continue to be busy at the Cultural Centre even though major events were fewer than in previous years. Our monthly pyrohy suppers and annual Malanka celebration are currently the only catering events hosted by our Parish that provide us some financial support. We always have a full house for these functions, and they attract many members of the public outside of our parish community. We are eternally thankful for their patronage.

Once again, summer church attendance has been somewhat disappointing as attendance in general is reflected in the generosity of the offerings. We are very grateful for those who generously donate and attend services. I am also reminded of those supporters of ours, of blessed memory, who are no longer with us. Their contributions to our Cathedral and Cultural Centre have kept us going over the years and in large part we continue on today thanks to them. Sadly, the number of these benevolent individuals is gradually declining. May God grant them eternal rest in peace. Вічна їм пам'ять!

As I remind you often, we experience from time to time unexpected failures in our aging equipment. Such was the case with our cathedral steam boiler in recent months. Prior to winter start-up, it was determined to be unsafe to operate and repairs were scheduled to be made. The repairs were completed, but at this time the total cost is yet to be finalised. The original quotation did not cover any additional costs associated with correcting issues that were not immediately obvious in the initial inspection. The current estimate is well over \$15,000. We want to sincerely thank the **Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada — St. John's Cathedral Branch** for generously pledging **\$10,000** towards this bill. Thank you, Ladies! Thank you as well, to the individual members and adherents who have contributed to these repairs. We all know by now how uncomfortable it is to sit through liturgy on a chilly autumn morning with no active boiler. Now we can all stay nice and toasty during the remaining course of the winter season. Hopefully not too warm! The boiler is running very efficiently now, and has reminded us that the thermostats, regulators, and register controls may need to be looked at next. As the current working state of the boiler is unlikely to last more than a couple winters, we can attend to these repairs and replacements as part of our project for acquiring a replacement boiler. Campaign funding and grant applications will be underway in the New Year!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT'D

On the topic of membership pledges, more timely payments would very much be appreciated. The breakdown of a single member pledge is as follows: Of the \$200 pledge given for the 2017 year, \$100 was levied by the Consistory of the UOCC for maintaining our head office. \$15 was given to the Western Eparchy for its operations. This left \$85 for our Cathedral operations. In 2018, the UOCC levy will increase by \$5.00, meaning our parish will be left with \$80. This annual rate of increase will continue until the next SOBOR in 2020. We must address this growing disparity of allocations going forward, which may result in an increase of our Parish's membership pledge.

At our Council meeting in November, a motion was passed to assist the debt reduction of the UOCC, by asking each member parishioner of our Cathedral to contribute to this cause. This action would comply with a resolution passed at the Western Eparchy Assembly 2 years ago, where all parishes of the Western Eparchy would help pay down our share of the debt. Many churches have already made donations. We have not. As the largest Parish in the UOCC, if we are generous enough, we should have little difficulty raising at least \$15,000 and set an example for the other parishes of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. We already lead in Christmas and Easter donations to the Consistory and Western Eparchy. Why not this cause too? Please support us in this campaign which we hope to conclude by Easter. **Please see the following page for more details.**

As President, I feel that we can accomplish many of the projects that we will be undertaking, as we are approaching the 100th Year Anniversary of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. This milestone will be celebrated in Saskatoon, SK in August of 2018. More details will be provided in due time for this momentous occasion.

May you each have a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEWYEAR!

With Christian love,

Marshall Kachmar, President



## **SPECIAL FUNDRAISING APPEAL FOR THE CONSISTORY OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA...**

At the 57<sup>th</sup> Western Eparchy Eparchial Assembly, Resolution 2.1, below, was passed by the delegates in attendance:

**2.1 WHEREAS the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada is currently, and has been for the previous five years, in a predicament of financial shortfall,**

**WHEREAS we, members of the UOCC, are all responsible for the good stewardship of the Church**

**BE IT RESOLVED, that parishes include in their programming in 2016 and 2017 a specific fundraising initiative to help eliminate debt at the national level of our Church.**

**FUNDRAISING TARGET: \$135 000.00**

The Consistory has dealt with the shortfall by re-evaluating staffing of our Consistory Office, reducing travel where necessary, and taking other measures to reduce costs. While some of the shortfall can be attributed to a diminished membership in the UOCC, much of it is the result of various external challenges placed upon our Church operational funds. Answering these challenges and this extraordinary call to stewardship of our Church, with a desire to assist our central administration and national governing body, many parishes of the Western Eparchy have already undertaken fundraising and have submitted their share of financial support pledged by the membership of our eparchy.

As the “mother church” of the Western Eparchy, the time has come for us, the membership of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist to be leaders in this important action and do our part to contribute...

To this end, our Parish Council has passed a motion to initiate an ongoing campaign of collection of contributions toward the debt reduction efforts of the Consistory. **From now until HOLY PASCHA 2018, we are responsible for contributing to the Consistory debt-reduction campaign – as much as each individual / family is able – with the goal of forwarding a generous sum to the Consistory during Bright Week 2018.**

It has been determined, based on the fundraising target established at the 57<sup>th</sup> Eparchial Assembly, that **if each member of our cathedral community contributed \$60 toward the campaign, our “allotted” portion of the total contribution will be met.**

We are confident our membership will answer this call to leadership in stewardship! Please consider and make plans to contribute to this important fundraising endeavour over the next five months! *The Lord save you, for your efforts and generosity!*

**2018 UPCOMING AGM**

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

**The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral Parish of St. John  
will be held**

**12:30 p.m. Sunday, February 25, 2018**

**at the St. John's Cultural Centre**

***Please plan to attend!***

**Prior to the Annual Meeting there will be a Parish Luncheon  
and a meeting of the V-Nok Cultural Society**

## CONGRATULATIONS, 2017 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

**ROXOLIANA TSISAR** is the daughter of Fedir and Luba Tsisar, and sister to Solomia and Pavlo. Roxoliana has been actively involved in the St. John's Cathedral community, having grown up attending Sadochok, church school, and CYMK.

This past year, Roxoliana graduated with honours from Archbishop Macdonald High School and was the recipient of the Rutherford Scholarship, as well as the Alberta Ukrainian Self Reliance Leadership Scholarship. She greatly enjoys her studies and she participated in the International Baccalaureate Program. She was an active member of her school community, being a part of various student groups and volunteering with school events. Roxoliana was selected to be a representative on Archbishop Macdonald's Peer Support Team, which gave her the opportunity to attend various leadership retreats and workshops. Roxoliana also attended Ivan Franko's School of Ukrainian Studies, from which she graduated in 2015. She enjoyed learning more about her culture and language in the program.



Roxoliana is currently enrolled in her first year at the University of Alberta studying Biological Sciences. She greatly enjoys volunteering, and currently volunteers with youth at the Stollery Children's Hospital. She is currently a member of a number of student groups, including VIDA Volunteers, and will be travelling with the group to volunteer in Nicaragua in June. Roxoliana's faith and culture are very important to her and she continues being involved in the church community. She is currently serving her third year as the treasurer of Alberta Provincial CYMK. She has had the opportunity to travel to Calgary, Toronto, and Winnipeg for to attend conventions and leadership conferences. As well, she is currently volunteering as a teacher in St. John's church school for her third year. Roxoliana attended Camp Bar-v-nok as a camper and has worked as a camp counselor for four years. In her spare time, she enjoys playing the piano and reading.

## CONGRATULATIONS, 2017 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

**MARCO KRUHLAK** was born and raised in Edmonton, being a member of St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral his entire life. He is the son of Vivianne and Gerald Kruhlak and the grandson of Paula Osachuk and the late Joseph Osachuk and the late Phyllis and Terry Kruhlak. He has four brothers (Stefan, Andriy, Lukian and Nikolai) and one sister (Ivanna). Marco has always been very active within the church community. At age 8, he became an altar server, serving monthly on Sundays, and also attended church school from a young age. Marco has always enjoyed supporting his church in any way he can, including volunteering in the kitchen catering operation on a regular basis preparing, serving and cleaning up at various banquets and celebrations.

Marco became a member of St. John's Jr. CYMK in 2007 and immediately became actively involved in the organization. Over the next several years he held various executive positions including treasurer (2011-12) and president (2012-13). In September, 2013, he moved up to Sr. CYMK where he continued to contribute and stay active. As a Sr. CYMK member, Marco held the positions of treasurer (2014-15) and president (2015-17). As a CYMK member, Marco helped organize charity events for the church and community such as the annual Pysanka Bingo and Clothing Drives. In August, 2017, he participated in the National CYC Convention in Winnipeg and has attended similar conventions in Edmonton, Calgary, Regina and Saskatoon. Marco also regularly attended Provincial CYC conventions and, this past September, took on the role of Vice-President of Alberta Provincial CYMK.

Within the Ukrainian community, Marco attended Barvnok Ukrainian Orthodox Summer Camp at Pidgeon Lake, first as a camper for seven years then as a counsellor for the past two summers. He was also involved in Ukrainian dancing from age 4-15 at various schools including Chermosh School of Ukrainian Dance, Shumka School of Dance, St. Basil's Ukrainian School of Dance and Edmonton School of Ukrainian Dance.



## CONGRATULATIONS, 2017 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

Within the general community, Marco enjoys volunteering his time to help the community. He is a volunteer for the Edmonton Humane Society in the Dog Socialization Program where he assists with walking dogs and spending time caring for them. Marco has been volunteering at the North Seera Hockey Society's annual Summer Camp for the past six years, helping children develop both their skating and hockey skills. In 2015, he also became involved as a volunteer in "The First Shift" program, a developmental hockey program sponsored by Hockey Canada and Canadian Tire, aimed at introducing the game of hockey to very young children. Since 2013, Marco has volunteered for the annual 630 CHED Santa's Anonymous Campaign as a porter, assisting with the transfer of gifts to cars on delivery day as well as helping deliver gifts to the homes of families in need. For the past five years, he also volunteered for the annual Festival of Trees, in support of the University of Alberta Hospital Foundation. Marco believes it is important to give back to his community and enjoys serving as a positive role model to young children as well as helping improve the lives of less fortunate people.

Marco completed the Ukrainian Bilingual Program, starting at Holyrood Elementary, followed by St. Kevin Jr. High and finally graduating from Austin O'Brien High School in June, 2017, as an Alexander Rutherford Scholarship recipient. In September, 2017, he began his post-secondary studies in the Faculty of Arts at Grant MacEwan University with the goal of eventually completing a degree in Education (Secondary Route)

In his leisure time, Marco enjoys playing sports and has been a member of the Highlands Junior Golf Program since 2013 including being a member of the Interclub Team this past season. Hockey has played a large role in his life, having played since age four and completing his final Midget year this past year winning the City Finals and representing Edmonton in the Provincial Championship. Over the years, Marco has been involved in many other sports including soccer, volleyball and ball hockey. In April, 2015, Marco completed his certification as a Water Safety Instructor and began part-time employment for the City of Edmonton as a swim instructor for children and adults. In August, 2017, he became certified as a Lifeguard.

Congratulations, Marco, on your many accomplishments! May God grant you many years of health and continued success! Mnohaya Lita!



Mrs. Kate Hawrysh congratulating Marco on receiving the Hawrysh Scholarship at St. John's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner (October 15, 2017)

## NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S SENIOR CYMK

Our year started with our Annual General Meeting which was held on, Friday September 22. The newly elected executive for the 2017-18 year is:

<b>President</b>	Adam Jereniuk
<b>Vice-President</b>	Nikolai Kruhlak
<b>Secretary</b>	Pavlo Tsisar
<b>Treasurer</b>	Marco Kruhlak
<b>Advisors</b>	Vivianne Kruhlak and Taras Jereniuk

We had 10 members attend the AUSRL Convention on September 29-30 at Camp Bar-V-Nok. A new provincial executive was elected. We also participated in the strategic planning session about Camp Bar-V-Nok. Several members also attended the Western Eparchy Youth Weekend and Appreciation Banquet from October 28-29. On Friday November 9, we had 8 members attend a Grant MacEwan volleyball game and had our monthly meeting. We commemorated the Holodomor at the Edmonton City Hall Ceremony on Saturday, November, 25 (see pictures below). In November and December, we collected coats and other winter items for the United Way Coats for Kids program, thank-you to all that donated. We are looking forward to celebrating Malanka with the Parish on Friday January 12.



## NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S PARISH

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **STEFAN KRUHLAK**, son of Vivianne and Gerald Kruhlak, who recently successfully completed the requirements for his CPA Designation (Certified Professional Accountant). Best wishes for much continued success! Mnohaya Lita!



A choir of our Parish youth entertain the Bishop and guests at the Annual Parish Thanksgiving Dinner, with Lesia Pohoreski conducting. (October 15, 2017)



Fellowship Luncheon prep -- a family affair!  
Roxoliana, Pavlo, and Fedir Tsisar  
(November 12, 2017)



Parish President Marshall Kachmar & Family celebrating his 80th Birthday. Mnohaya Lita! (November 3, 2017)



**POTATO PEELERS NEEDED!**  
Shirley's at it so fast, the camera can only catch a blur!  
(December 11, 2017)

## A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION...

### *Christmas Gift*

*The gifts I'd leave beneath your tree,  
Aren't those that you can touch or see;  
Not wrapped in Christmas tissue gay  
But gifts to bless you every day.*

*The gift of friendship warm and true,  
Is one that I would leave for you.  
Good health and happiness and cheer  
To keep you smiling through the year.*

*The gift of peace that comes from God,  
With prayer to guide each path you trod.  
And when your heart has lost its song  
The gift of hope to cheer you on.  
These are the gifts I'd leave for you.*

*~ Maureen*

### *Today*

***“God, let today not be a time of loss,  
but of gain in laughter and understanding...  
Let today not be a time of regret,  
but of increase in forgiveness and grace...”***

***“God, let today not be a time of sorrow,  
but of acceptance and compassion...  
Let today not be a time of sadness,  
but of peace, serenity, and joy.”***

## 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.



Christine Bazylewich

Nadia Nykolyn

Walter Domytrak

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 12th** - Malanka [Tickets SOLD OUT!]

**February 23rd** - Pyrohy Supper

**January 18th** - Eve of Theophany

**February 25th** - *Parish Annual General Meeting*

- Grand Blessing of Water 5:00PM

- Theophany Holy Supper 6:30PM

**March 23rd** - Pyrohy Supper & Easter Bake Sale

**January 26th** - Pyrohy Supper

**March 31st** - First Confession Breakfast

## НАША БІБЛІОТЕКА ~ NEWS FROM UWAC -- ST. JOHN'S ~ OUR LIBRARY

The **U.W.A.C. Library**, located in the Cathedral basement, will be open on the **first Sunday** of each month from **12:00 p.m. -- 1:00 p.m.** following the Divine Liturgy. Бібліотека під Катедрою буде відкрита в **першу неділю** кожного місяця після Служби від **12:00 до 13:00 год.**

### ST JOHN'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

10611-110 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5H 1H7

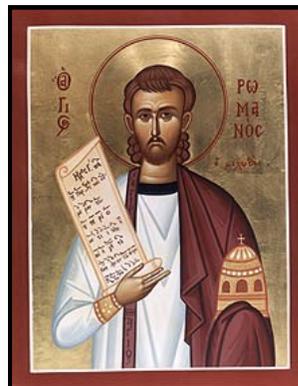
Phone: 780.425.9692

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  
9:00am to 3:00pm



**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.