

Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin December 24, 2018

Христос Раждається! Славимо Його!
Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Serving the Parishes of St. Michael's Goodeve, St. Demetrius Holar/elfros, St. John's Bahoslav Krasne/Wynyard, St. Michael's Wishart Farm, Sacred Heart Wynyard, Holy Eucharist Foam Lake, Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Wishart Town



Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!

Angela, Samuel and I want to wish all of my parishioners a blessed and joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2019! Let us remember to keep "Christ" in Christmas and to serve our Lord in our actions, words, and thoughts every single day! Yes, Christmas is a time to celebrate with our friends and family and to rejoice for all the blessings that we have been given in this world by our Eternal Father in Heaven. But Christmas is also a time to remember the less fortunate in our society, those who are grieving the loss of their loved ones, those who are lonely and sad and feel lost in the world we live in. We have to remember that Jesus was born into this world for every single human being, to bring them hope, to bring them joy, to bring them Eternal Happiness. Let us continue to pray constantly for the entire world, for peace in the world,, and for peoples' hearts to turn to Jesus so that we all may be find salvation in our Lord.

May you continue to be blessed now and in the future!

Fr. Basil, Angela and Samuel Malowany

PASTORAL LETTER OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF CANADA ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD 2018/2019

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” ([Luke 2:14](#))

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, we do so with a sense of wonder in our hearts. The story of the birth of Jesus serves as a constant reminder of God’s love for us.

To express God’s boundless love for us, God appears among us in the person of his own son, Jesus Christ. God with us. Emmanuel. And in this we rejoice!

This year, we celebrate Christmas in the context of the 100th Anniversary of the End of World War I. On November 11, 1918, church bells rang out throughout the world as an outpouring of relief that four years of war had come to an end. We remember and honour those who served and sacrificed – millions who gave with their lives – that we might have peace. We remember the joy that peace brought after so much death and destruction.

Peace.

Jesus, at his birth, comes into the world as the Prince of Peace, in fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah: “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” ([Isaiah 9: 6](#)).

Jesus is the Prince of Peace. He comes into the world as the great peacemaker among humanity.

He teaches in the Beatitudes, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God” ([Matthew 5: 9](#)).

At his death, he tells his disciples, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you” ([John 14: 27](#)).

On that very first Easter, we are told: “When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’” ([John 20: 19](#)).

Alongside other powerful names such as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, and Eternal Father, Jesus is given the title Prince of Peace, indicating one of His many roles — the One who is the leader of peace and offers it to others.

As we celebrate Jesus’ birth this Christmas, let us thank God for the gift of peace. And let us honour the Prince of Peace by continuing to be peacemakers in the world, starting within our own families and among our friends and neighbours.

But how can we do so?

The story is told about an old rabbi once asked his students how one could recognize the time when night ends and day begins. One student asked, "Is it when, from a great distance, you can tell a dog from a sheep?" "No," said the rabbi. Another student asked, "Is it when, from a great distance, you can tell a date palm from a fig tree?" "No," said the rabbi. "Then," the students asked, "when is it?" The rabbi answered, "It is when you look into the face of any human creature and see your brother or sister there. Until then, night is still with us."

Ah, to see brother or sister in all. This is the call of all humanity.

Yet, we live in a world that is all too often filled with horrific examples of communities torn apart: hunger and starvation, ethnic cleansing, segregation, genocide, tougher immigration, and so on.

Still, there is plenty of food and work for everyone in the world if we but share our common wealth and recognize that we are all brothers and sisters. We are not alone but are related with others all around the world. We belong to the family of God, and it is the love of God that binds us together.

This Christmas, we remember those that fought for peace in the world. We remember the joy that peace brought, and pray for peace and a better world – including places where there is conflict today: Ukraine, Syria, the Middle East, and others – when we can truly call each other brother and sister. As we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, may Christ, truly bless you and your family with peace, love and joy, now and in the New Year!

Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!

- + Lawrence Huculak OSBM, Metropolitan Archbishop of Winnipeg
- + Michael Wiwchar CSSR, Bishop Emeritus of Saskatoon
- + Severian Yakymyshyn OSBM, Bishop Emeritus of New Westminster
- + David Motiuk, Eparchial Bishop of Edmonton
- + Stephen Chmilar, Eparchial Bishop of Toronto
- + Ken Nowakowski, Eparchial Bishop of New Westminster
- + Bryan Bayda CSSR, Eparchial Bishop of Saskatoon



The Magic of
Christmas
is not in the presents
but in *His* 
presence

Let us celebrate the ultimate gift of Jesus' birth that we are all given at Christmas. May you and your families have a blessed Christmas!

Sacred Heart Ituna
Ukrainian Catholic



We pray your spirit is light with hope, your heart is filled with joy, and your holiday is blessed with the Glory of God. May his love bring you peace at

Christmas and always.



The Knights of Columbus
Father Boels Council

2018 Christmas Message from His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop Bryan Bayda, CSSR is available for viewing on our Eparchial website. The direct link is: <https://www.skeparchy.org/wordpress/2018-christmas-video-message-from-his-excellency-most-reverend-bishop-bryan-bayda-cssr/>.

It is also available on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Vsc1Pr0fU>.



May the joy of Christmas
and the peace
which the Birth of the Saviour
brings into the world
be in your hearts forever.

The Parish Councils of Sacred Heart Ituna, St. Michael's Goodeve, St. Demetrius Holar/Elfros, St. John's Bahoslav Krasne/Wynyard, St. Michael's Wishart Farm, Sacred Heart Wynyard, Holy Eucharist Foam Lake, Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Wishart Town



**CHRISTMAS PASTORAL LETTER
OF HIS BEATITUDE SVIATOSLAV**

**Most Reverend Archbishops and Metropolitans,
God-loving Bishops, Very Reverend Clergy, Venerable Monastics,
Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters,
in Ukraine and throughout the world**

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:5)*

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Beloved in Christ!

Today heaven and earth is filled with the light of joy and peace. Angels and men, all creation welcomes Christ the Saviour born in human flesh. All of us together with the shepherds and wise men hasten to the poor stable-cave to join Mary and Joseph in venerating the incarnate God, who rests on hay in a manger. We hasten to receive the love and peace that the Lord brings into a world of hate and violence.

The Gospel narrative of the Nativity conveys to us the Good News proclaimed by the angel: "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:12). In the Christmas carols and services of this mystical night we hear of a mighty heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" (Luke 2:14). All of humanity, in awaiting the birth of the Saviour, had hoped for the beginning of a new era in human history – a new time when the Messiah as Prince of Peace would restore harmony to human relations, would abolish all forms of violence of men against men; not as a victor in war, like his ancestor David, but as the Son of God, conquering the very reason for wars and hostility – human sin, that evil which is the greatest disfigurement of paradisiacal happiness.

Human beings are created by God for peace which is a sign of the presence and action of the Holy Spirit (see Galatians 5:22-23). In spite of our nature, fallen through sin, human beings invariably seek this peace, even though we may not always know how to achieve it. For this very reason our Divine Liturgy, after calling for the establishment and strengthening of the blessed Kingdom of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, immediately invites us to pray for peace from on high for the entire world and the well-being of God's holy churches. Indeed, today's feast proclaims to us that Christ is the Prince of Peace and that the might of God is revealed in peace.

When we hear the word “prince,” we immediately think of a person who has authority and power. We encounter many “princes,” good and bad, in various spheres of human life: politics, employment, family, and even church life. However, from the Gospel perspective and in light of the example of Christ as Prince of Peace, it becomes evident that divine authority is expressed through service, and divine power is found in the infinite and unconditional, faithful, and sacrificial love of the Lord for His creation.

A human being can live in peace and become a servant of peace only when he or she receives the Prince of Peace, newly-born today, into their hearts, into their internal spiritual world, into their personal and social life. Saint Paul writes in his epistle to the Ephesians: “He is our peace” (Ephesians 2:14). Therefore, the greatest expression of God’s universal might, the manner in which the Prince of Peace manifests His power and authority, is not in the humiliation of others through injustice and violence, but in serving others out of unconditional love for the sake of peace!

At times in our daily lives it may seem to us that the one who is powerful is the one who is able to humiliate another. However, in reality such an expression of power is violence. Therefore, standing before the manger of the Prince of Peace, we begin to understand that violence is always the argument of a weakling, of one who wishes to appear powerful. It is the behaviour of a coward, who simply fears the other, no matter how weak.

Christ endured violence from the very moment of His birth. King Herod, whom history calls great, in reality was a little coward: he feared for his authority, he perceived himself a failure in the face of God as a powerless Child. In order to retain authority and the riches entailed in it, he resorted to violence: commanding the death of the little ones of Bethlehem, the children of his own people! The peace of God, on the other hand, is always mightier than human violence, and that is why He is always victorious.

Only the powerless and weak in spirit adopt a strategy of insidious attack, aggression, or blind violence as a method of ensuring one’s authority, being incapable of convincing or leading others any other way. In contrast, human frailty, vested in Divine power, often becomes the pledge of true victory and a lasting peace. Let us recall what the Lord revealed to the Apostle of the nations: “My power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Corinthians 12:9). The weakness of God is mightier than the appearance of human power. Herod was buried not long after the birth of our Lord Jesus, while Christ, the Prince of Peace, is alive – yesterday, today and forever! (see Hebrews 13:8).

Beloved in Christ! To celebrate Christmas is to be filled with peace from heaven and to say “no” to violence. Let us receive the newly-born Saviour as Prince of Peace in our families and become, following the example of St. Joseph and Mary the Theotokos, bearers and custodians of peace. Let us avoid all forms of violence – in word and deed – especially in our family circle, in relations between husband and wife or parents and children. Let us reject the culture of death which allows for the killing of the innocent unborn and, as we see in some countries of the world, encourages the gravely ill or elderly to shorten their life under the guise of a so-called “sweet death,” which is nothing more than an offense against God and a crime against the sanctity and inviolability of human life.

Let our ancient Christmas carols resound in our schools and educational institutions, safeguarding our children from events of violence. In societies where we live, let us not permit the presence of blind physical or moral violence on the political battleground. Representatives of political forces who encourage violence and foment conflicts are in reality spiritual weaklings, and they will never be capable of serving the common good of our people. Wherever we live, whether in Ukraine, which in the near future will be electing a president and parliament, or in the countries where our people have settled, let us support

those who aspire elected office not in order to rule others, but in order to serve. Let us support those who resist violence and seek to establish the peace of God, a peace that is just and lasting.

Let us celebrate Christ's Nativity today and bring forth the joy and peace that comes from heaven. Let us conquer violence and fear, both in our personal lives, and on all the fronts of this war, whose consequences profoundly affect each and every one of us. Let us counter foreign aggression, as do those who defend our native land in Ukraine's East, with the sacrifice of our love, in active solidarity with the victims of aggression. Let us be persistent in prayer, calling for the peace of God upon our land, in our families and hearts! May the words of the prophet Isaiah be fulfilled for us: "Violence shall no more be heard in your land, devastation or destruction within your borders; you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise" (Isaiah 60:18).

Beloved Brothers and Sisters! With this Christmas letter I greet all of you who today, as domestic Church, receive the new-born Christ into your families – parents and children, the elderly and youth. I hasten to share the good news of joy and peace with those, who labour abroad – far away from their home and loved-ones. I embrace those brothers and sisters who have been forced to migrate, who miss their native lands, and all, who today carry on their bodies and in their hearts the wounds of war and violence.

With the Nativity of Christ, I especially greet our soldiers, the defenders of peace and victors of war. My thoughts and prayers go to the cold prisons, where our prisoners of war and of conscience continue to suffer; to the hospitals, where our wounded in battle for our nation regain their health; to the homes, where Ukrainians afflicted with grief mourn the loss of their loved-ones because of the war. The Lord of peace is with us! May the Christmas star shine upon us with its light, and in every home the words of our carol-song resound clearly:

Ангели співають: (The Angels sing:)
«Слава» восклицаютъ, (Exclaiming "Glory!")
На небесах і на землі (In heaven and on earth)
Мир проповідують. (Proclaiming peace.)

I wish all of you the authentic joy that is given to the children of God, a cheerful celebration of Christ's Nativity, and a happy, peaceful and blessed New Year!

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

† SVIATOSLAV

Given in Kyiv
at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ,
on the day of our father St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia,
the 19th (6th) of December in the 2018th Year of our Lord