

***Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic Parishes of St. George, Prince Albert,  
All Saints, Nipawin, and Holy Spirit, Melfort***

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[www.skeparchy.org](http://www.skeparchy.org)

**PRINCE ALBERT LITURGICAL SCHEDULE: No services until further notice**

## Christ is Risen! Христос Воскрес!

Click on the following link to watch the Divine Liturgy

<https://www.skeparchy.org/wordpress/liturgy-live-in-our-parishes-of-the-eparchy-of-saskatoon/>

### Happy Feast day!

This week we celebrate the Feast day of St. George, the patron saint of our parish. Here are a few things about St. George

- He was born in 3<sup>rd</sup> Century. His mother was from Palestine while his father was from Cappadocia.
- He joined the military and became a military tribune (that is, a commander of a thousand troops).
- He was an excellent soldier and highly honoured for his courage and faith.
- Many icons of the Saint show him mounted on horseback, slaying a dragon with a spear. This is from a story of a young girl who was offered as a sacrifice to a pagan god and sent to a cave which housed a wild animal. St. George rode



up on his horse and in the name of Jesus Christ, killed the animal (dragon) that lived in the cave.

- When he learned that the Emperor was preparing a persecution of the Christians, St. George presented himself before the Emperor and told him that it was wrong.
- The Emperor wanted him to renounce Christ, so St. George was horribly tortured in the hopes that he would recant. With great bravery he withstood all torture and did not renounce Jesus Christ.
- His example inspired the Emperor's wife Queen Alexandra to become a Christian.
- St. George was executed in 296AD, around the age of 30.

## How the Grinch stole Easter

I read a humorous article this week from someone who changed the story of 'How the Grinch stole Christmas' to 'How the Grinch stole Easter'. Just like in the animated short film created in 1966, the article explained that even though the Grinch stole all the symbols related to Christmas, Christmas still came because Christmas lives in the heart.

The author went on to explain that just like that story, the Coronavirus stole the gathering time of Easter, but Easter still occurred. Easter is the time we remember the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, out of love for us, and that brings great hope. Easter has come and let us express our joy in the Resurrection!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs giving life.

(Image accessed from: <https://www.alternateending.com/2018/11/how-the-grinch-stole-christmas-1966.html>)



## Faith Formation with Fr. Gregory Hrynkiw

Fr. Gregory came a few years back to do our Lenten Mission. He is an amazing academic who has taught at University and Seminary. He is a monk who also offers much spiritual guidance. He is providing some faith formation online. If you are interested, please send Sister Bonnie or Sister Marijka an email [rel.ed@sasktel.net](mailto:rel.ed@sasktel.net)

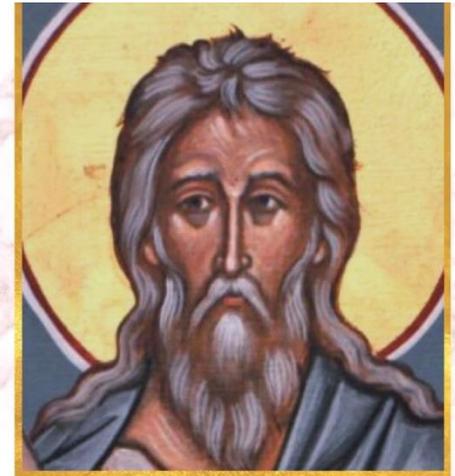
*Join us  
for a five week session on*

**Prophecy and the  
Prophet Isaiah**

*with Fr. Gregory Hrynkiw*

**Every Thursday starting  
April 30, 2020  
at 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm  
connecting on WebEx by  
Internet and  
Landline(Audio only)**

Registration by: April 27, 2020  
Email: [rel.ed@sasktel.net](mailto:rel.ed@sasktel.net)



## Writer of the Gospel of Mark Feast Day

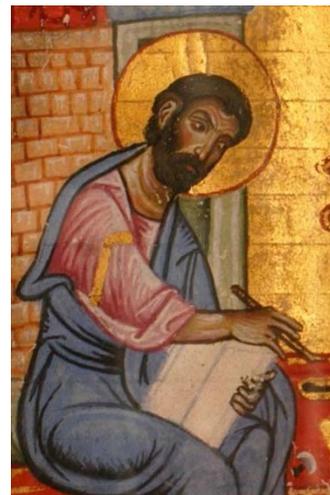
In addition to St. George's feast day, the Gospel writer of Mark will also have his feast day on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Here is a bit more about the writer of Gospel Mark

- It is very likely the writer of the Gospel of Mark was John Mark,
- The Bible never actually refers to someone named John Mark. But several passages in Acts refer to a man as "John, also called Mark."
- He spent time with (and learned from) both the Apostle Peter and Apostle Paul.

Why is special about the Gospel of Mark?

- Mark's gospel portrays Jesus as constantly on the move. The constant motion in Mark's writing keeps the reader's mind continually looking ahead to the cross and the resurrection. (Thirty-nine times Mark used the word 'immediately', giving a sense that Jesus's time on earth was short).



- Mark portrays Jesus as a suffering servant. Mark 10:45, “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”
- It is the shortest gospel with just over 11,000 original language words.

## Epistle reading for April 26th:

Acts 6:1–7

- This passage explains that as the Church grew, they picked seven men to help with serving the community while the apostles continued to preach about Jesus Christ.
- The apostles laid their hands upon these men to anoint them in their work.
- Often, this reading is associated with the work of Deacons as ‘Diakonia’ is the Greek word for service.
- We are all called to serve each other, for this is such an important part of our faith. Our challenge is to ask how you can serve your family, community, or church in more ways.



(Image accessed from

<https://berkeywaterfiltercanada.ca/contact/>)

## Gospel reading for April 26th: Mark 15:43–16:8

- This scriptural passage from the Gospel of Mark gives the details of what happened after Jesus died, including the resurrection.
  - Jesus dies on the cross. Joseph of Arimathea asked for the body of Jesus to give him a proper burial
  - Pilate asks a centurion to check if Jesus was already dead, then grants the request.
  - Jesus is quickly wrapped in linen and laid in a new tomb, with a large stone rolled in front.
  - After the Sabbath, the women return and notice the large stone moved, and an angel in the tomb who told them that Jesus has risen from the dead and would go visit Peter and the disciples soon.

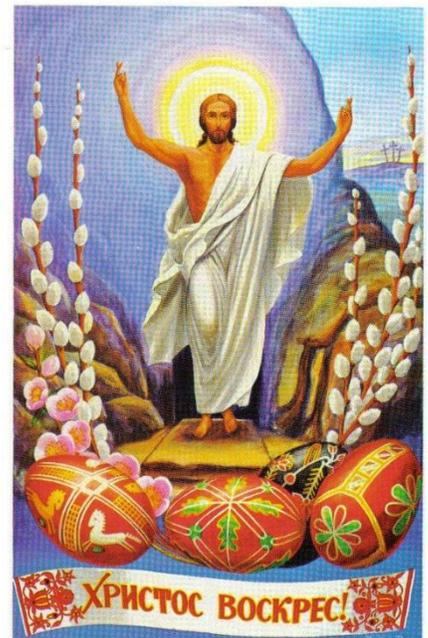
- The women were frightened and wondered what to do. The writer of the gospel of Mark tells us that they hurried out of the tomb and told no one.

## Reflection

- The phrase that comes to mind with the Gospel reading is “in a hurry”.
- For you see everything was in a hurry:
  - The chief priests were in a hurry to have a trial for Jesus when he was arrested (it would have occurred either late at night or early in the morning).
  - Jesus died at around 3:00 pm, and there was a hurry to take him down, wrap him in a clean shroud and place him in the tomb before sundown as that time indicated the start of a holy day when work could not be done.
  - Because of the hurry, they did not have a chance to properly bury Jesus, as they should have washed the body, placed burial spices, and carefully wrapped him. The women returned on early Sunday to finish the work that was not done.
  - The women hurried out of the tomb.



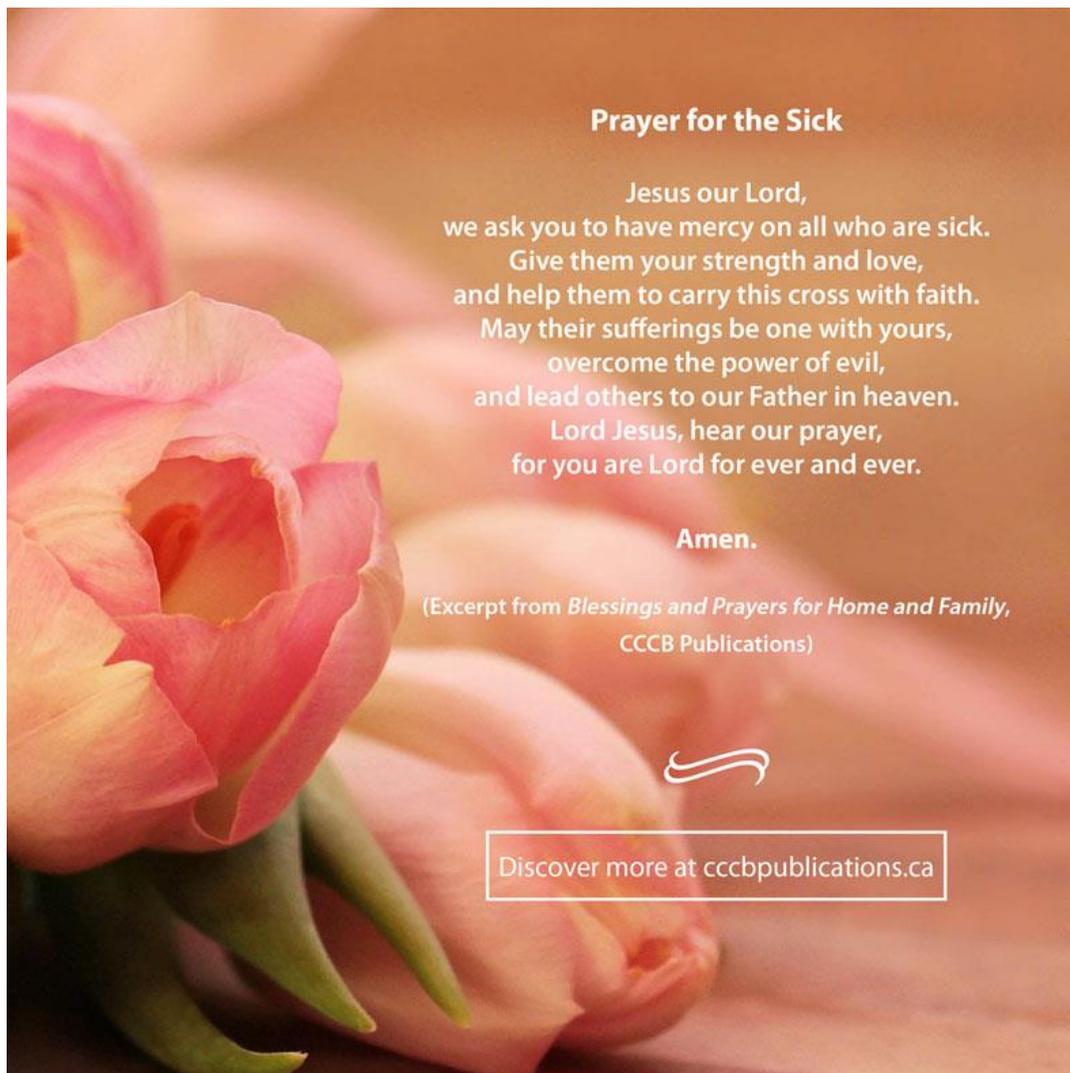
- It seems in life that sometimes we hurry so much, we miss important things that happen. I am reminded of the old song by the group Alabama which says “I’m in a hurry to get things done, I rush and rush until life’s no fun, All I really gotta do is live and die, But I’m in a hurry and don’t know why”.
- With so many things on pause right now, we have time to slow down, to pray, and to give thanks to God for his many blessings in our life.
- This week, let’s not be in a hurry, but remember that Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs, giving life! Let us give Him thanks for this great gift!



- (Image accessed from <https://kalynacare.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/kalyna-care-leisure-and-lifestyle-calendar-april-2019.pdf>)
- (Image accessed from: <https://clipartart.com/categories/be-in-a-hurry-clipart.html>)
- (image accessed from: <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/jimmy-akin/8-things-to-know-and-share-about-st.-mark-and-his-gospel>)

## Items from the Eparchy of Saskatoon

- Recently Pope Francis has talked a lot about his vision for Christian unity. He will host a webinar on Wednesday, April 29 at 3pm (1 hr). This is a free webinar and if you are interested, please email [njesson@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:njesson@archregina.sk.ca) to register.
- Parliament is discussing changes to the law making doctor-assisted death easier. Among other things, Bill C-7 is proposing the removal of a 10-day waiting period, meaning that death could be immediate. Let your Member of Parliament know how you feel on this issue. Do some more research online.
- A prayer that you may wish to say for those affected by COVID 19 is found on the following picture:



Some humour for the week:



Why there were no more unicorns after the flood....



Have a safe and spiritual week!!!!