

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

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Ukrainian Catholic Religious Education Centre (UCREC), 214 Ave. M South, Saskatoon, Sk. S7M2K4

306-652-1718

Family & Life Office, 214 Ave. M South, Saskatoon, Sk. S7M 2K4 306-653-0138 ext. 228

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/>

Vichnaya Pamiat - Eternal Memories

Funeral Divine Liturgy and Panakhyda for the late Rt. Rev. Walter Kostiuk will be held on Monday, May 4 at 10:00am, at St. George's Cathedral Parish in Saskatoon. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, only the family will be in attendance, as well as Bishop Bryan and Fr. Janko.

If you wish, you could watch the service on Monday by clicking on this link.

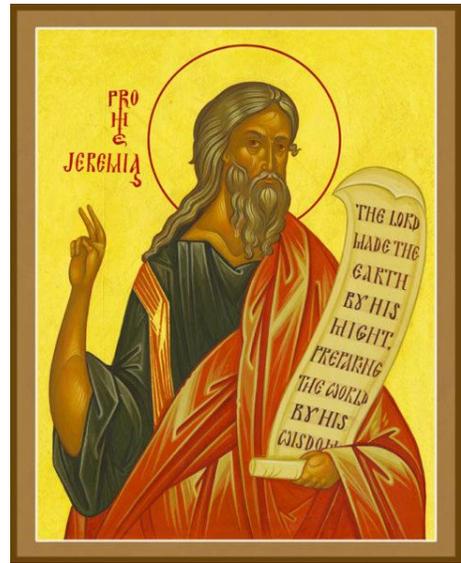
<https://www.skeparchy.org/wordpress/livestream-ukrainian-catholic-cathedral-of-st-george/>

Prophet Jeremiah

On Friday, May 1st, we celebrate the feast day of the Prophet Jeremiah from the Old Testament

Here are a few things about this major prophet's life:

- The prophet Jeremiah was born in about the year 650BC.
- His story is written in different books of the Bible, including the Book of Jeremiah.
- Jeremiah tried to warn the people to turn away from worshipping idols and to return to God. Jeremiah predicted that the people would face a time of great persecution. He predicted that the Babylonians would take over the city, but the people would not listen.
- In the year 586BC, the Babylonians attacked and destroyed almost every building in Jerusalem (including the temple) and took the vast majority of the Jews back to Babylon as their slaves. They were slaves for 70 years before being allowed to return and rebuild some of Jerusalem.
- Yet Jeremiah shares a vision of hope. In one of the most famous passages in the Book of Jeremiah (ch 32), the prophet buys a field as the armies of Babylon were marching toward Jerusalem. This gesture that has come to represent hope in God's faithfulness to his people.

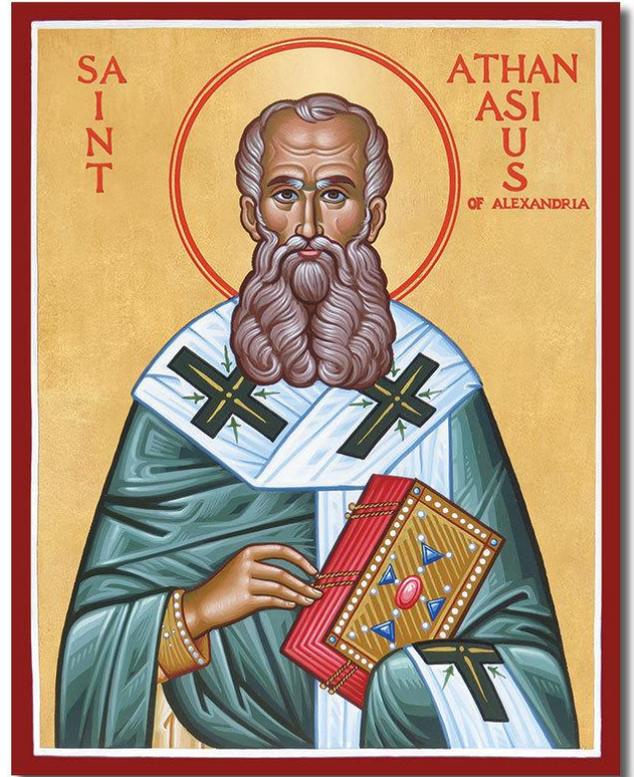


(Image accessed from: <http://damascenegallery.com/shop/icon/classic-icons/holy-prophet-jeremiah-3/>)

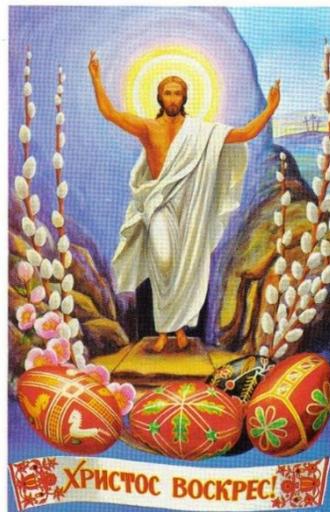
St. Athanasius

- May 2nd is the feast day of St. Athanasius. There is a Ukrainian Catholic Church in Regina named for him.

- In Byzantine Christianity, there are four big names from the early Church that contributed much to our understanding of the faith. Those four are:
 - St. John Chrysostom (in who's name we have dedicated the regular Divine Liturgy)
 - St. Basil the Great (in who's name we have dedicated the special Divine Liturgy parts that we use 10 times a year)
 - St. Gregory of Nazianzus (who wrote much about the Trinity)
 - St. Athanasius (who wrote a lot about the nature of Christ.)
- It is said that St. Athanasius was the first to list the 27 books of the New Testament that we use today. (During his time, there was a debate about which books should or should not be included by many Church leaders. Once the decision was made, St. Athanasius wrote the books in a letter he sent and that was our proof of the decision made.)

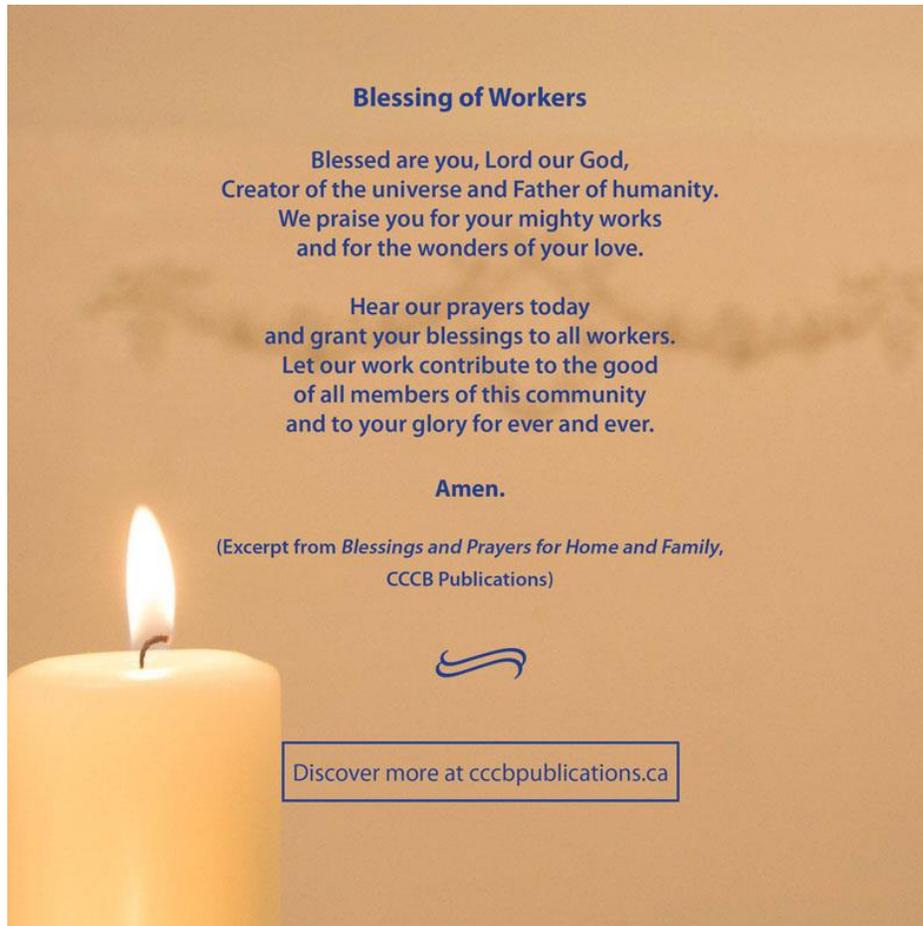


(Image accessed from: <https://www.monasteryicons.com/product/st-athanasius-icon-702/icons-of-saints>)



Please pray for those who continue to work during this time of the pandemic. Their work is greatly appreciated!!!

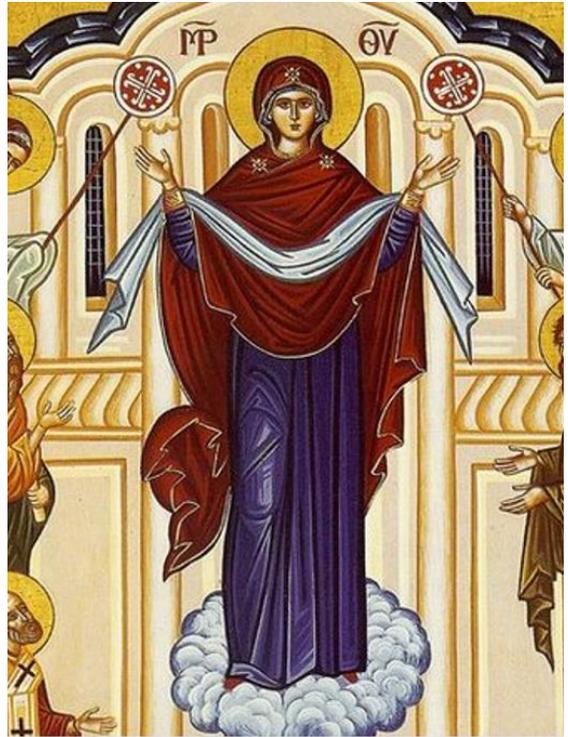
This prayer comes from the Catholic Council of Catholic Bishops.



Consecrated to the Mother of God – Month of May honours the Theotokos

- As Catholics, we honour the Theotokos during the month of May.
- On May 1st, Bishop Bryan, in collaboration with all the Catholic Bishops of Canada, consecrated the Eparchy to the protection of the Most Holy Theotokos to ask for her petitions during the pandemic.
- Here is part of the prayer that was said (please pray it as well):

- O Mother of God and Protectors of the Canadian lands! Beneath your tenderness we take refuge, we implore your help, we place our hope only in you. Receive all of us under your Protecting Veil, bless us and continue to watch over us as your chosen community. By your prayers make us proven workers of Christ's commandments. Stand by us forever as one who is merciful and compassionate, as one who loves people, in this present life, fervent in intercession and in help, driving away all sickness, especially the Coronavirus COVID-19, and leading us toward salvation.
- For we have no other help, we have no other hope, except you, O most pure Virgin! Come to our aid, we hope in you, and we glory in you, for we are your servants—do not let us be ashamed now and for ever and ever.



May 3rd Epistle reading: Acts 9:32-42

- In this reading we hear of two miracles performed in the name of Jesus Christ by Peter:
 - A man named Aeneas, was paralyzed and bedridden for eight years. Peter said, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; get up and make your bed!" And immediately he got up. The reading then tells of a second miracle.
 - A woman named Tabitha (in Greek her name was Dorcas) who just died. The widows were crying and showing others the clothes that Tabitha made for them. (This is how Tabitha served her community, by giving clothes to those with very little). Peter prayed to Jesus then said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes and got up! She was alive again!
- These healings help us to remember that anything is possible in Jesus' name.



- This reading also tells us that Tabitha found ways that she could help those in need in her community. To help doesn't always mean a financial donation. Each and everyone of us in the Body of Christ can help in some way no matter what situation we find ourselves in!

- (Image accessed from: <https://truerichesradio.com/who-was-dorcas-in-the-bible/>)

May 3rd Gospel reading: John 5:1-15

- We read that while in Jerusalem for a feast day, and it was the Sabbath, Jesus notices a man who had been ill for 38 years. He was waiting by the pool by the temple. Now it was said that if someone went into the water when it stirred, that person would be made well.
- Jesus approaches the man to ask, "Do you want to be made well?" The man indicates that he had no one to help him as he moves very slow, and someone gets there before him.
- Jesus tells the man to stand up, take his mat, and walk.
- Since it was a Sabbath, the Jews told the man not to carry his mat. The man explained that the one who cured him told him to carry it. The Jews asked who was the man that cured him, but the man did not know.
- Later the man met Jesus in the temple and Jesus told him to avoid sin in his life.

Reflection

- In this Easter Season, we've heard about the resurrection stories for the past two Sundays. Today we hear about a healing. Why would this healing be so important that it is read during the Easter Season and right about hearing about the Resurrection of Jesus?
- This reading is important for two reasons:
 - Jesus approaches
 - Because we hear how Jesus reached out to the man. In other miracles, the person wanting a healing approaches Jesus and asks for a healing. Today, Jesus approaches the man and asks, "Do you want to be made well?"
 - Because we read how Jesus reaches out, and that is so very important. Sometimes we think of a God way out in the universe and once in a while we get His attention. Here we hear how God is active in our world, asking us, do you want to be made well?
 - That is our challenge this week, to say yes to God, to pray, Yes Lord, I want to be made well...and see what happens.
 - This healing allows us to ponder about God.
 - At the pool, there were other sick people waiting for the stirring of the water. Why then, did Jesus not heal all those who were waiting there?

- The brief answer is that we don't know. But it does remind us that God is God and that we need him. In other words, we don't understand everything, but we know that we need him at all times!
 - C.S. Lewis wrote in his book, *The Problem of Pain*: "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain, it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world."

Announcements:

If you are interested, please send Sister Bonnie or Sister Marijka an email 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

And some humour for the week:



(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>)

