

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

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www.skeparchy.org

PRINCE ALBERT LITURGICAL SCHEDULE: No services until further notice

Glory to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!

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/>

Parish Donations

If you are able to continue your weekly or monthly donations to the parish, to help offset the costs it would be greatly appreciated! Please send your donation to:

St. George's Parish,
710-Cuelenaere St.
Prince Albert, Sask.
S6V-2S9

Church re-opening plans

No doubt you have heard that the Saskatchewan Government is allowing Churches to slowly begin reopening. So, what does that mean for St. George's Church? Well, Parish Council is meeting on June 11th at which time we will discuss what re-opening means for us. Since we have more than 30 people per Sunday, we will have to work out how to ensure we do not go over the mandated 30 people, as well as how to limit exposure to our parish members. Our re-open plan will be listed in the upcoming bulletin reflections.



Feast day this week: Martyr Aquilina of Byblos in Syria – a strong willed woman

- The Holy Martyr Aquilina was born in the 3rd Century and raised as a Christian (remember this was during the time that Christianity was an illegal religion).
- At the age of 12 she persuaded a pagan friend to become a Christian.
- She was reported to the governor who demands that she renounce Jesus. She did not.
- She was tortured very badly, almost to the point of death. She was thrown outside the city gates to die.
- During the night, an angel appeared to Aquilina and revived her.
- The next morning, Aquilina went back to the governor to demonstrate her faith in Jesus Christ. The governor ordered her execution, however she prayed then gave up her spirit and died before the execution.
- Her relics were taken to Constantinople.



The first Sunday of Pentecost: All Saints Day

- Eastern Christians of the Byzantine Tradition commemorate all saints in heaven on the first Sunday after Pentecost, All Saints' Sunday. In the Roman Catholic tradition, All Saints day is recognized on November 1st.
- This celebration remembers all those whom the Church recognizes as being in heaven. There are many, many more saints in heaven than what is listed on a church liturgical calendar. Today is the day we celebrate all the saints in Heaven.
- In life, it our challenge to strive to be a saint, as people who go to heaven are called saints.

What about all Souls day?

- In Roman Catholic tradition, All souls day is the day after All Saints day. In Byzantine tradition, there are many all souls days.
 - On the first, second, third, and fourth Saturdays during the Great Fast (Lent) are commemorated for all souls
 - The Saturday before Pentecost Sunday is commemorated for all souls.

We continue to celebrate Pentecost: PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of Truth, Who are everywhere present and fill all things, Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life, come and dwell within us; cleanse us of all that defiles us and O Good One, save our souls.

Feast days this week: Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas

Saint Bartholomew, the Apostle.

- Bartholomew was one of the Twelve Great Apostles. In all probability, it appears that Bartholomew and Nathaniel are one and the same person.
- He was a companion of the Apostle Philip and St. John the Theologian.
- Bartholomew preached the Gospel first throughout Asia and, after that, in India and finally in Armenia where he died a martyr's death. It was here that a mob rose up against them and they crucified Philip and Bartholomew (Bartholomew was crucified upside down). At this time, an earthquake occurred. Feeling that this was a punishment from God, many ran to remove the apostles from the crosses but Philip was already dead while Bartholomew was still alive.
- After this, Bartholomew went to India where he preached and translated the Gospel of St. Matthew into the local language.
- However his preaching and actions caused him to be crucified again, this time leading to his death.
- Many miracles occurred over the relics of this saint.



(Image accessed from: http://www.spc.rs/eng/holy_apostles_bartholomew_and_barnabas)

Saint Barnabas, the Apostle.

- Barnabas was one of the Seventy Apostles.
- At first, he was called Joseph but the apostles then called him Barnabas, Son of Consolation, because he was exceptionally capable of comforting the souls of the people.
- After Saul's conversion, Barnabas was the first to introduce Saul to the apostles and after that, with Paul [Saul] and Mark he preached the Gospel in Antioch and throughout other places. In all probability, he was the first to preach in Rome.
- He suffered on the island of Cyprus at the hands of the Jews. Mark buried him beyond the western gate of the town of Salamis with the Gospel of St. Matthew on his chest which he, by his own hand, had copied.
- His grave remained unknown for several hundred years and since many received healing from sickness on this spot, this place was called: "the place of health".
(Image accessed from <https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/a-prayer-to-the-holy-spirit.html>)

Who are the Saints that our Catholic Schools are named after?

As a way to celebrate Catholic Education we will explore the question, “Who are the Saints that have a school named after them in our Catholic School Division?” A different school will be highlighted in the coming week. Remember, as a Catholic community, these are our schools, lets celebrate them!

This Week: •**Holy Cross**

- This school is named in honour of the Holy Cross. It is in the cross that we see the central message of our faith; that out of love for us Jesus died and rose for all of us. In life, the cross brings us great hope.
- In our daily journey, we sometimes find ourselves facing difficulty. Jesus invites us to look to the cross for help and inspiration.



The cross helps us to remember the great love that Jesus has for us and that we can turn to him in time of need. By looking to the sacred image of the cross, we can have faith that Jesus will help us in the difficult times in life. The cross of Christ is great a symbol of amazing hope in life.

- Holy Cross celebrates their school on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in September.

Epistle reading for June 7th Hebrews 11: 33-12:2

- In the Epistle we hear some of the hardships that the early Christians were facing (mocking, torture, imprisonment, and even death) yet they were encouraged to hold on to their faith for God would help them.
- The reading goes on to say, “let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”
- This epistle reading is encouragement for them, and for us, to say that sometimes it is difficult to follow the faith when we see others doing and saying whatever they want. Yet we are reminded that we are on a faith journey, that there will be bumps in the road, yet we are encourage to stay on that road for the benefits are a life of hope, a witness of the faith to the world, and eternal life in heaven!



(Image accessed from <https://www.1001fonts.com/keep-the-faith-font.html>)

Gospel for June 7th

- This week's Gospel reading is a compilation of a number of verses from Matthew. We start with Chapter 10 verses 32 and 33 then go to verses 37 and 38 and end with Matthew 19:27-30.
- What all these verses have in common is what we are called to do for the faith:
 - Verses 32 and 33: If you acknowledge Jesus publicly, He will acknowledge you before the Father.
 - Verse 37 and 38: Jesus tells us ... "and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me."
 - In Chapter 19 verse 27-30 we hear of Peter who says to Jesus, "We have left everything for you." To that Jesus replies, that everyone who works building the Kingdom of God will receive great reward in Heaven.
- Jesus ends that discussion by saying, "But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

Reflection

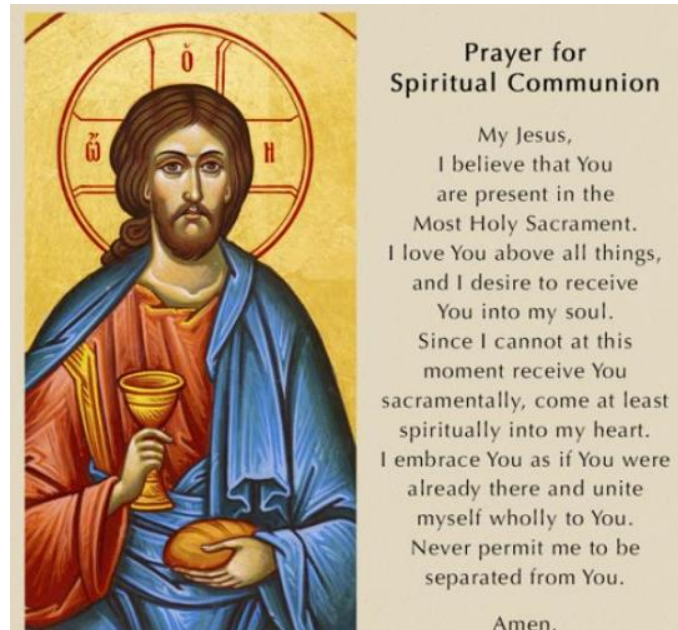
- The reading today gives us great advice as we remember that this is the Sunday of All Saints.
- By looking to the Saints, and reflecting on the reading, we have a picture emerge about how we should live our lives.
- I want to focus a bit more on the line... "and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me."
- This phrase (or similar phrase to it) is mentioned five times in the four Gospels! Each Gospel mentions it once and Luke mentions it twice.
- What does it mean? Well, I want to take Luke's version where Jesus says, 'deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me.'
- Let's look at each part:
 - "Deny yourself": In this Jesus is reminding us that we are to be humble in life. We are not to put our own needs and wishes first, rather those of God and his kingdom.
 - "Take up": In this Jesus is telling us that we all have a calling, that each one of us is to do something that promotes the Kingdom of God. We are not to leave it to someone else, but whatever we are capable of, we should offer to help the Church and each other.
 - "Your Cross": We are told to take up our cross. Our own cross is unique to us. We do not compare how much we are suffering with someone else in our family



or community. We also have to remember that our choices in life sometimes add to our suffering, so it might be worth our time to reflect on what 'Our Cross' means. On reflecting on "our cross" we could ask ourselves if we are using our time, treasure, or talents to help build the Kingdom of God in our community.

- "Follow Jesus": For us, we follow Him by following His teachings and following what He commands the church to do (Matt 25:34-40). It's not negotiable. We are told, "go into all the world" and "make disciples of all nations," by teaching them the very same things He taught His disciples (Matt 28:18-20).

(Image accessed from: <https://heartofworshipchurch.wordpress.com/2018/10/05/pick-up-your-cross-jesus-alter-calls/>)



And some humour for the week



(See Matthew 14:24-33) 08-05-2013

YOU'VE PROVEN YOU WON'T DROWN, JESUS,
BUT YOU STILL NEED TO SUIT UP AND
COMPLETE THE REQUESTED DRILLS BEFORE
I CAN PASS YOU



Have a safe week!