

St. Mary's Newsletter

St Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Parish
550 West 14th Ave Vancouver BC V5Z 1P6
www.stmarysbc.com 604-879-5830



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Newsletter email: orestbohdan@outlook.com editor: Orest Kernycky

Divine Liturgies

Sundays: 8:30am English (spoken)
10:30am Ukrainian (sung)
Mon-Sat: 7:30am (Chapel)
Holy Days: 10:00am

Father Joseph Pidskalny OSBM (Admin)
Father Josafat Oliiynk OSBM

Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis declared 2025 as a Jubilee Year designating its theme as "Pilgrims of Hope." In the words of the Holy Father, "Pilgrims of Hope" evokes "the movement of a Church that walks in pilgrimage to the light of hope that makes the future possible..."

The Jubilee, with its focus on conversion, forgiveness, abundance, walk, and mercy, becomes a possibility for the future itself. Hope is the light that brightens the future. The light is that of the Son made Man, Jesus, who with the very Word, gathers every people and every nation. We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, **Pilgrims of Hope.**

" Follow the Vatican's official Jubilee 2025 website (<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>) for the latest details on plans, news,



A Wise Man Jokes

A wise man once faced a group of people who were complaining about the same issues over and over again. One day, instead of listening to the complaints, he told them a joke and everyone cracked up laughing.

Then, the man repeated the joke. A few people smiled.

Finally, the man repeated the joke a third time—but no one reacted.

The man smiled and said, "You won't laugh at the same joke more than once. So, what are you getting from continuing to complain about the same problem?"

The Moral:

You're not going to get anywhere if you keep complaining about the same problem but do nothing to fix it.

Don't waste your time complaining, expecting other people to continue to react to your complaints.

Instead, take action to make a change.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Latexfauna Charity Concert
Sunday May 19 7-10 pm
Biltmore Cabaret Vancouver

The Chosen – Movie Serial
Weds May 29, June 12, 26 6:45pm
Holy Eucharist Cathedral New West

Okanagan Ukrainian Festival
Sunday May 26 2pm
Vernon Performing Arts Centre

Vesna-A Season of Hope
Sunday June 2 2pm
Strathcona Ukrainian Hall -Vancouver

Anton Tymoshenko -stand-up comedy
Sunday June 2, 7-9:30pm
The Clutch, York Theatre

Taras Luka
Saturday June 8 11pm
Frankie's Jazz Club

Monatik – North American Tour
Friday June 21, 8-11pm
Vogue Theatre Vancouver BC

Slave Komissarenko
Wednesday June 26 8pm
Vogue Theatre -Vancouver

TVORCHI -North American Tour
Wednesday July 31 8pm
Biltmore Cabaret -Vancouver

Homemade Husbands-DIY Manual
Saturday October 5 7:30pm
York Theatre Vancouver

Check with the venue for details or updates
You can see more at :
<https://sites.google.com/uahub.ca/bcuaca/home>

History of Women's Organizations Ukrainian Catholic Parish

The women of the parish have played a distinguished role in the long-term organizational development of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Vancouver. Early in the parish's history, under the pastoral leadership of Fr Joseph Bala (1928-29), a group of women joined together to form a society. Its purpose was to maintain and clean the church, protect Ukrainian Catholicism and perpetuate Ukrainian traditions and culture. They organized various events in order to materially sustain the church during these critical early years

Unfortunately, no documentation has been saved which would provide information about the formative period of this first "women's" organization or the names of the members. There is a bit more information about the **Society of St. Olha** which was organized by Fr Sebastian Shewchuk, OSBM, and which held its first meeting on 11 June 1938. Initially, it consisted of fourteen members: **Frances Babiy, Mary Yarmish, Catherine Station, Pearl Babiy, M. Lebedovych, M. Hawryschuk, Anna Banzai, T. Salahub, Maria Gonta, P. Nykolaiw, Irene Fedyk, Antonina Drushkiw, Pelagia Kushnir, and Gloria Kaniuka**. The first elected executive : **Frances Babiy, President; Catherine Station, Vice-President; Gloria Kaniuka, Secretary; Pearl Babiy, Treasurer; and M. Lebedovych, Anna Bonzal and Antonina Drushkiw, Members**.

The women generously donated their time and resources. The church/hall and the nearby home which was to become the parish residence were in deplorable condition. The church lacked such essentials as priest's vestments, liturgical books, a chalice and altar cloths. The Society took steps to obtain everything that was needed. Despite the economic difficulties of the period, the members raised money through dinners, get-togethers, concerts, bingo and other activities.

The Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada (UCWLC) was established in June 1944 as a unifying centre for the earlier sisterhoods and women's church group. Through the efforts of Fr Sloboda on May 24, 1949 organized the Vancouver UCWLC; with 20 members signed up. The first executive was President **Etta Jackson; Secretary Julia Stashuk** and treasurer **Tiny Zarski** At its second meeting, held in October 1949, the organization decided to seek affiliation with the Eparchial Executive of the UCWLC in Edmonton. It remained affiliated with the Edmonton Eparchy until the formation of an Eparchial Executive in the new Eparchy of New Westminster, 12 June 1976.

As the League's membership grew, the activity of the **Society of St. Olha** diminished and, at its General Meeting in 1953, the membership decided to disband the Society.



Українське Католицьке Т-во св. Ольги організоване 11 серпня 1938.
St. Olga's Ukrainian Catholic Women's Organization organized August 11, 1938.



UCWL 1950



Etta Johnson (1949)
First President UCWLC 1949



Julia Stashuk (1981)
UCWL Secretary 1949



Tiny Zarski (1974)
UCWLC Treasurer 1949



Frances Babiy(1940)
President St Olha Society