

# St. Mary's Newsletter

St Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Parish  
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## 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

## A Mosaic Chronicle

### A Tale of Time and Faith

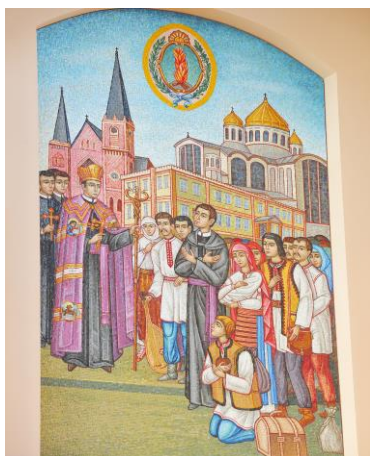
In the quiet northwestern wall corner of St. Mary's church, a mosaic reveals itself only to those who stand at the Marian altar, gazing westward. A tapestry of our parish's journey.

Bishop Nykyta Budka the first Ukrainian Catholic bishop of Canada blesses the First Immigrants: Their faces emerged from the mosaic, weathered by ocean crossings and dreams of a new land. A priest with his arms crossed receives the blessing.

The Basilian Monastery in Mundare, Alberta is shown just above them: where the Basilian priests began their spiritual journey west. To the left you see the spires of the Old St. Mary's Church on Princess Street: and on the right is the current church of St Mary's.

At the very top you see the emblem of the Basilian Order, the pillar of fire which led Moses and God's chosen People in the desert, represents St. Basil's firm faith and intense love of God and fellowman.

In this sacred space, the mosaic speaks—a silent sermon...reminding us that faith transcends walls, that history is woven into every stone. As you look at the mosaic you see—a tapestry of love, sacrifice, and hope.



The longer  
you hold on  
the heavier  
it gets.

## The Weight of Worries

A psychology professor held up a glass of water in class. He asked, "How heavy is this glass?"

Students guessed, ranging from 4 ounces to a pound. The professor explained, "It's not the absolute weight that matters; it's how long you hold it."

"If I hold it for two minutes, it's bearable. An hour, and my muscles tire. A day or week, and I'm paralyzed with pain."

"The glass represents daily worries. Briefly consider them, then let go. Carrying them all day weighs you down."

**Moral: Let go of things that are out of your control. Don't carry your worries around with you everywhere you go, as they will do nothing but bring you down.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Ukrainian Food Tasting

**Wednesday June 5 12-2pm**

Sandwich Express Burrard St

Taras Luka

**Saturday June 8 11pm**

Frankie's Jazz Club

Monatik – North American Tour

**Friday June 21, 8-11pm**

Vogue Theatre Vancouver BC

Perogies for Peace (food)

**Saturday June 22 4pm**

Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral New West

Slava Komissarenko

**Wednesday June 26 8pm**

Vogue Theatre -Vancouver

TVORCHI -North American Tour

**Wednesday July 31 8pm**

Biltmore Cabaret -Vancouver

BC Dumpling Festival

**Saturday August 10 11am**

Coquitlam Town Centre Park

Ukrainian Golf Tournament

**September TBA**

Ivan Franko Society

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>

# Sodality of our Lady in St Mary's Parish

The Sodality of Our Lady was first initiated by Fr Vital Pidskalny in 1956. Twelve girls expressed an interest in joining. On March 23, 1956 permission was granted. On May 27, 1956 twelve candidates were formally received into the Sodality. Great encouragement was given by the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League who provided the capes for the initiates. With the parish support and the efforts of Prefects: Clara Babiy, Gail Ewaskin and Marilyn Nikiforuk the sodality grew and in 1981 it celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

In the heart of St. Mary's parish, a spirited group of women came together—the Sodality of Our Lady. With unwavering support from the community and the tireless efforts of Prefects Clara Babiy, Gail Ewaskin, and Marilyn Nikiforuk, this vibrant sisterhood flourished.

The parish joyously, echoed the commitment and sisterhood that had grown over the years as the Sodality marked its 25th anniversary. The celebration was nothing short of spectacular.

**A Few Years Later...** around 1983, the Sodality's chapter came to a close. The memories lingered like incense in the sanctuary. The blue capes, once worn with pride, now hang in a wardrobe closet next to the UCWL room in the basement of St. Mary's. They still whisper stories of unity, purpose, and shared laughter... when the Sodality gathered for retreats, heartfelt conversations, the warmth of friendship and faith, communion breakfasts, wedding showers, The Sodality adorned brides-to-be with lace, laughter, and well wishes. Wrapped gifts, shared marriage advice (some practical, some poetic), and celebrated love's promise. The church echoed with joy as they showered blessings upon the newlyweds.

Though the Sodality of Our Lady official chapter closed; the quiet prayers, the candlelit vigils, the shared hymns and memories transcends time. Their devotion to St. Mary's remains unwavering, like the stained-glass windows of St Mary' that catch the morning sun.



L-R 2nd Row: Joyce Semkiw, Audrine Babiy, Nancy Padden, Delphine Maskal, Clara Bariy, Patricia Werbicki.  
1st Row L-R: Alice Garby, Joan Zarski, Betty Jigolyk, MaryAnn Kitura, Rose Marie Druskin, Laurie Pope. Fr Vital Pidskalny Organizer  
1956

L-R- 3rd row Marianne Petelycky, Tracy Golinsky, Maria Citulski  
2nd Row Theresa Petelycky, Roberta Fedoruk, Allison Polanowski Colleen Karakochuk  
1st Row Lynn Hnatow, Karen Kutney, Theresa Pacholko, Oksana Laschuk  
Fr Josaphat Tyrkalo 1981



**Clara Babiy (Kochan)**  
Prefect 1956-60, 61-64



**Gail Ewaskin)**  
Prefect 1960



**Marilyn Nikiforuk**  
Prefect 1965- 1966



**Patricia Turchak**  
Prefect 1967-69



**Marlayne Prybysh**  
Prefect 1969-72



**Patricia Chomnycky**  
Prefect 1972-73, 1975



**Eileen Prybysh**  
Prefect 1974-75



**Sonya Tokar**  
Prefect 1976-78



**Mary Masynyk**  
Prefect 1978-81



**Beverley Pacholko**  
Prefect 1982-83

