

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

Fr Joseph Pidskalny OSBM (Admin)

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day in Canada, celebrated in October, has roots in religious and cultural traditions, giving thanks to God for the harvest and blessings of the year. Though not a liturgical feast, thanksgiving is central to Christian life. Jesus taught, "Give to others, and God will give to you" (Luke 6:38), highlighting the importance of generosity and gratitude.

Thanksgiving is a time for family to gather, feast, and express gratitude to God and each other.

As you celebrate, continue your family traditions or start new ones, like volunteering or inviting someone in need to dinner. At the table, share what you're grateful for and include a prayer of thanks. Attend church as a family to show your gratitude to God. The word "thanksgiving" comes from the Greek word eucharistia, meaning thanksgiving. In the Eucharist, we give thanks to God by receiving Jesus' body and blood.

We are people of the Eucharist, living in gratitude.

Ukrainian Catholic Edmonton Eparchy



Windshield Wipers

One rainy afternoon, I was driving along one of the main streets in town, taking extra precautions because the roads were wet and slick. Suddenly, my son, Matthew, spoke up from his relaxed position in the back seat. "Mom, I'm thinking of something."

"What are you thinking?" I asked.

"The rain," he began, "is like sin, and the windshield wipers are like God wiping our sins away."

Chills ran up my arms as I absorbed his words. "That's really good, Matthew," I said, impressed by his insight.

Curious to see how far he would take this revelation, I asked, "Do you notice how the rain keeps on coming? What does that tell you?"

Matthew didn't hesitate for a moment. "We keep on sinning, and God just keeps on forgiving us."

His simple yet profound observation stayed with me. Now, every time I turn on the windshield wipers, I'm reminded of Matthew's words. It's a beautiful reminder that, just like the rain, we may falter, but God's forgiveness is always there, washing away our sins.

Brenda Hunter

UPCOMING EVENTS

Taras Luka

Monday October 7 9pm-12
I Alexander St Vancouver

ВЕЛИКИЙ УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ ПІКНІК

Saturday Oct 12 1pm

Rocky point Park Port Moody

https://t.me/budmo_znayomi_bcua

Ukrainian Story Time

Sunday October 20 3-4pm

New Westminster Public Library

Perogies for Peace

Saturday October 26 4-6pm

Holy Eucharist Cathedral New West

Alyona Alyona Canadian Tour

Friday November 1, 7:30pm

Film Hive & Ukrainian Harmony

Urban Folk/Klezmer Band from Ukraine

Saturday November 2 8pm

950 W 41st Vancouver

Inventions of Hope Ukrainian Fundraiser

Saturday November 9, 7:30pm

Canadian Music Centre Vancouver

Ukrainian Christmas Fair

Saturday November 30 11am-4pm

3150 Ash St Ukrainian Centre Van BC

Ukrainian Opera and Ballet

March 2025

Richmond Theatre

Check with the venue for details or updates

You can see more at :

<https://sites.google.com/uahub.ca/bcuaca/home>

Father Theodosius Dobko OSBM

The Order of Saint Basil the Great (OSBM) sent their first missionaries to Canada in 1902. They formed part of a North American jurisdiction, but eventually they established a Canadian "province" of their Order in 1948 with the first Provincial Superior being Fr. Theodosius Dobko, OSBM

Fr Theodosius Dobko took over the pastoral duties in Vancouver's Ukrainian Catholic parish (St Stephens) in 1940. Realizing the benefits of a parish choir which would revive and enrich the Liturgies Fr. Dobko organizes the first Parish Choir, which he directs himself. 15 people showed up for the first rehearsal. and on January 6, 1941 the new church choir sang the whole divine liturgy in church for the first time.

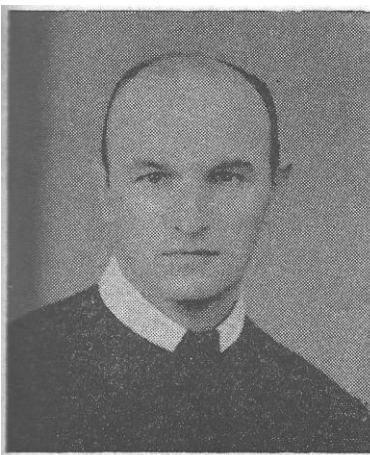
In 1941 he assumed the duties of a Chaplain for the Canadian Armed Forces in BC. On Sundays he served two liturgies-one early in the morning for the Ukrainian soldiers in the barracks, and the other in the Parish at 11:30 am



Fr. Dobko in 1943 inspired the Ukrainian catholic community in Richmond and Vancouver to build their own church. The inspired Richmond parishioners bought the property that now hosts their church in 1946. Whereas the parishioners in Vancouver purchased the Swedish Lutheran church on Princess and Pender on February 9, 1944 for \$10,000. On May 7, 1944 the parish held a solemn opening of the newly acquired church and dedicated it to the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary now know as St Mary's Ukrainian catholic church

Fr Dobko's assignment as chaplain of the Armed Forces ends in September 1945 and he once again resumes full pastoral duties in the parish of St Mary's

On December 5, 1947 Fr Dobko is transferred Alberta. At the age of 45 he was killed in a car accident near Mundare, Alberta on Friday December 11, 1953. He was the first Canadian-born Basilian to be ordained a priest and the first Canadian-born to serve as Provincial Superior 1948-1953.



Father Theodosius Theodore Dobko, OSBM

Born in Yorkton, Saskatchewan May 4 1908
Entered the Order at Mundare September 28 1925
Solemn Profession August 10 1931
Ordained Priest October 2 1932.
First Canadian-born Priest
Provincial Superior 1948-1953
Died near Edmonton December 11 1953
Buried at Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery, Mundare

