



**Українська Католицька Парафія
Покров Пресвятої Богородиці**

**Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Parish**

550 West 14 Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 1P6

Phone: 604.879.5830 Fax: 604.874.2727

E-Mail: office@stmarysbc.com

Website: www.stmarysbc.com

*“Today the Virgin stands before us in the temple,
And together with the choirs of saints prays to God for us.”*

29 грудня, 2024

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December 29, 2024

Служби Божі/Divine Liturgies

Неділя/Sunday: 8:30 am English

10:30 am Ukrainian

У Свята/Holy Day of Obligation

10:00 am

Щодня/Daily (Mon-Sat)

7:30 am in Chapel

Сповідь/Confessions

Before both Sunday Divine Liturgies

By appointment during the week

Baptism by appointment

Anointing of the Sick/Hospital Visits/

Eucharist for the sick - any time

Marriages - the arrangements with the priest must be made at least 6 months before the marriage

Funerals - by arrangement

Basilian Fathers serving the Parish

Fr. Joseph Pidskalny, OSBM - Administrator

Неділя по Різдві



Sunday after Christmas

Galatians 1:11-19

Matthew 2:13-23

Welcome! The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish welcomes everyone to our Sunday Divine Liturgy. Thank you for worshipping with us today. Your presence is a blessing to us.

Coffee and sweets following the 8:30 and 10:30 am Divine Liturgies. Please join us.

Today: Our parishioner, Adrian Kopystynski, will be ordained to the Subdiaconate by Bishop Michael Kwiatkowski at Holy Eucharist Cathedral in New Westminster at the 9:00 am Divine Liturgy.

We send our warmest congratulations to Adrian as he receives the grace of Subdiaconate in the Ukrainian Catholic Church. We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide and bless him as he prepares for Diaconate. Please keep Adrian and his family in your prayers.

Hymns at the 10:30 Divine Liturgy

Opening: page 38: В Вифлємі новина, V Vyfleyemi novyna

Communion: page 34: Бог ся рождає; Boh sia rozhdaye

Closing: page 54: Возвеселімся всі разом нині; Vozveselimsia vsi razom nyni

The Ukrainian Catholic Bishops of Canada have written a Pastoral Letter (English and Ukrainian) on the Jubilee Year 2025 "Pilgrims of Hope". These letters are found on the Eparchy of New Westminster's website. Link to the Pastoral Letter:

<https://nweparchy.ca/2024/12/pastoral-letter-on-the-jubilee-year-2025-pilgrims-of-hope/>

Thank you to all parishioners for your generosity at Christmas time. May Our Lord bless you abundantly.

Tickets for our Parish Christmas Dinner (Sunday, January 12) will be available in the church vestibule following both Divine Liturgies.

The **2025 Parish donation envelopes** are available in the church vestibule.

2025 Parish Calendars can be found in the church vestibule. Please take one calendar per family.

Tuesday, December 31: New Year's Eve

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy; Thanksgiving Hymn and Blessing

Wednesday, January 1: Feast of Circumcision of our Lord;

Feast of St. Basil the Great; New Year's Day

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Sunday, January 5: Sunday before Theophany/Eve of Theophany

(Day of abstinence from meat products)

Blessing of water will take place at the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy. Please bring your own containers for holy water as the parish will not be providing them this year.

Monday, January 6: Feast of Theophany - Jordan (Holy Day of Obligation)

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy and Blessing of water

Home Blessings: If you wish to have your home blessed please contact the parish office.

Parish Christmas Dinner

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Divine Liturgies: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

12:00 Noon: Parish Dinner in the Auditorium

Catered Dinner

Tickets: Advance purchase only

Weekday - Parish Office: 604.879.5830

Sunday - following the Divine Liturgies on December 29 & January 5

Cut-off date for ticket purchase: January 8, 2025

Adults & Seniors (60+): \$25 / Children & Youth (6-19): \$15

Children 5 & under: no charge

No walk-ins at the door

Year End Contributions

Thank you to all parishioners for your generous donations throughout the year. For any donations that you want included on your 2024 tax receipt: **ALL contributions must be received in the parish office, and your cheques dated no later than December 31, 2024 - this includes any donations for "Aid to Ukraine".**

Frozen Pyrohy (Perogies)

Frozen pyrohy (perogies) will be available for purchase after both Sunday Divine Liturgies in the Fellowship Room kitchen. \$10/dozen.

GO DRY January

Canadian Cancer Society Fundraiser St Mary's Church Team

"Go Dry January" is a cancer fundraiser that challenges you to go alcohol-free for 31 days. It is a good start to the year which helps you get healthy while also raising funds to make a difference for Canadians affected by cancer.

You can donate on-line at www.godry.ca or by making out a cheque to **CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY** and putting it in the Sunday collection plate, along with your name and address. Cash can be given in the same way. Tax receipts are issued for any donation \$20 or more. St Mary's team hopes to raise \$10,000. We need your continued support.

St Basil the Great - January 1



St. Basil the Great was born at Caesarea of Cappadocia around the end of 329. Ten children were born to the elder Basil and Emilia: five sons and five daughters. Five of them were later numbered among the saints: Basil the Great; Macrina (July 19) was an exemplar of ascetic life, and exerted strong influence on the life and character of Saint Basil the Great; Gregory, afterwards Bishop of Nyssa (January 10); Peter, Bishop of Sebaste (January 9); and Theosebia, a deaconess (January 10).

Saint Basil was of illustrious lineage, famed for its eminence and wealth, and zealous for the Christian Faith. The saint's grandfather and grandmother on his father's side had to hide in the forests of Pontus for seven years during the persecution under Diocletian. Saint Basil's mother, Saint Emilia, was the daughter of a martyr. On the Greek calendar, she is commemorated on May 30. Saint Basil's father was also named Basil. He was a lawyer and renowned rhetorician, and lived at Caesarea.

Basil attended school in Caesarea, as well as Constantinople and Athens, where he became acquainted with St. Gregory Nazianzus in 352. A little later, he opened a school of oratory in Caesarea and practiced law. Eventually he decided to become a monk and found a monastery in Pontus which he directed for five years.

As a monk, Basil wrote the first set of monastic rules which has proved the most lasting of those in the Eastern Churches. After founding several other monasteries, he was ordained a priest and in 370 made bishop of Caesarea. Basil continued to be a man of vast learning and constant activity, genuine eloquence and immense charity. This earned him the title of "Great" during his life and "Doctor of the Church" after his death in 379.

Basil is considered one of the giants of the early Church. He was responsible for the victory of Nicene orthodoxy over Arianism in the Byzantine East, and the denunciation of Arianism at the Council of Constantinople in 381-82 was in large measure due to his efforts. Basil fought simony, aided the victims of drought and famine, strove for a better clergy, insisted on a rigid clerical discipline, fearlessly denounced evil wherever he detected it, and excommunicated those involved in the widespread prostitution traffic in Cappadocia. He was learned, accomplished in statesmanship, a man of great personal holiness, and one of the great orators of Christianity.

Saint Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia, "belongs not to the Church of Caesarea alone, nor merely to his own time, nor was he of benefit only to his own kinsmen, but rather to all lands and cities worldwide, and to all people he brought and still brings benefit, and for Christians he always was and will be a most salvific teacher." Thus spoke Saint Basil's contemporary, Saint Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium.

The Feast of St. Basil the Great is celebrated on January 1st in the Eastern Church and on January 2nd in the Roman Catholic Church.