



**Українська Католицька Парафія  
Покров Пресвятої Богородиці  
Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Ukrainian Catholic Parish**

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

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**2 лютого, 2025**

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**February 2, 2025**

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**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

**Празник Стрітення  
Господа Нашого Ісуса Христа**

**Неділя Закхея**



**Feast of the Presentation  
of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**Zacchaeus Sunday**

Hebrews 7:7-17

Luke 2:22-40

**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.**

**Today: Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple.**  
Blessing of Candles at both morning Divine Liturgies.

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

### **Hymns at the 10:30 Divine Liturgy**

Opening: page 238: Увійди, єрею; Uviydy, yereyu

Communion: page 378: Просимо тя, Діво; Prosymo tia, Divo

Closing: page 134: Вже можеш, Боже; Vzhe mozhesh, Bozhe

**Wednesday, February 5: 10:00 am** Parish Council meeting in the Fellowship Room.

**Sunday, February 9:** Our Young Adults will be hosting a **Pancake Breakfast** after both morning Divine Liturgies in the Boardroom. Everyone is most welcome to attend. Please come and enjoy good food and fellowship.

The **2025 Almanac “Svitlo”** is available in the Bookstore at a cost of \$20/copy.

**GREAT LENT begins on Monday, March 3.** During Great Lent we will celebrate:

- **Stations of the Cross** on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in chapel.
- **Divine Liturgy and the Sorokousty Service** (praying for our deceased family members and friends) on Fridays at 7:00 pm in church.

You may submit new names for the Sorokousty Service by using the Sorokousty envelopes that are found in the church vestibule.

### **Ukrainian Embroidery Club**

A Ukrainian Embroidery Club meets on Monday evenings at St. Mary's from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in the downstairs classroom. New students, family and friends are welcome. For more information, please call Emily at 778.888.3057.

### **Ukrainian Classes for Adults**

Ukrainian classes for adults are held on Monday evenings at St. Mary's. Please come join us. All levels welcome. For more information and tuition rates, etc., see [ukrainianclasses.com](http://ukrainianclasses.com), email [info@ukrainianclasses.com](mailto:info@ukrainianclasses.com) or call Susan at 604.733.3756.

### **The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for February 2025**

**For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.** Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

### **Frozen Pyrohy (Perogies)**

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

### **Relics of Blessed Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky, C.Ss.R**

Our parish has been gifted a number of Third Class Relics of Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky, a Ukrainian Catholic Redemptorist Bishop and Martyr. (A Third Class Relic of Blessed Vasyl is a piece of cloth, which was touched to his holy body, wrapped in paper.) Please see Fr. Joseph to obtain a relic of Blessed Martyr Vasyl.

For more information on Blessed Martyr Vasyl's life and of the Shrine dedicated to him in Winnipeg, please visit: <https://bvmartyrshrine.com/about/his-life/>

### **Intercessory Prayer to Blessed Martyr Vasyl**

O Lord God, You are praised by the whole world for the marvelous works in your saints. I thank you for the grace you gave to Blessed Martyr Vasyl Velychkovsky to be a faithful witness to You unto the point of death. Through his intercession I ask for the following favour \_\_\_\_\_, for your Name is glorified forever. Amen.

### **Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord - February 2**

On this Feast Day, we see Jesus forty days old, carried into the temple in Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph, to be recognized as God's Messiah by the aged Simeon and Anna.

In obedience to the Law of Moses, the Lord Jesus, the first-born, was presented in the Temple by his Blessed Mother and his foster father. Joseph and Mary brought the Child Jesus into the temple along with a humble sacrifice of young pigeons as a sign of thanksgiving.

In Jerusalem at that time there lived a man, Simeon, who was just and devout. According to tradition, Simeon had been visited by an angel of the Lord who foretold him that he would not see death before seeing the Messiah born of the Virgin. Led by the Holy Spirit into the temple on the day that the holy family brought the Child Jesus to fulfill the law, Simeon took the Child into his arms and blessed God by saying: "Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32). This is another 'epiphany' celebration insofar as the Christ Child is revealed as the Messiah through the canticle and words of Simeon and the testimony of Anna the prophetess who was also in the temple that day. Christ is the light of the nations, hence the blessing of candles on this day.

Simeon and Anna represent the true Israel of God. They have kept the law given through Moses. They have worshiped in the holy place, the Temple, and they are alive to the unexpectedness of God's providence.

Simeon and Anna are inspired by the Holy Spirit to see in this child the Holy One of Israel, long awaited. They themselves are old and have grown old in the service of God. They have that widened perception which comes with continual praying.

In this Feast Day, each one of us ought to be a Temple of God to which Mary brings Jesus. And each should, like Simeon, take the Child in our arms and say to the Father: "My eyes have seen Your salvation." And having seen and touched the Saviour, we are released from the hold that sin has on us and in peace we can leave the realm of evil.

<https://www.skeparchy.org/wordpress/resources/feast-day-information/feast-of-the-encounter-presentation-of-our-lord-into-the-temple/>

## Sunday of Zacchaeus - Sunday, February 2, 2025

Fr. Joseph Kapusnak

The Sunday of Zacchaeus reminds us that we will soon be entering the time of Great Lent which in turn prepares us for the passion and death of Jesus through which our salvation is secured and promised in the Holy Resurrection.

Before we enter the Great Forty Days, we already get a glimpse of the Feast of feasts - Pascha as we hear the words of our Lord to Zacchaeus: *"Today salvation has come to this house."* Salvation is not just a word but rather a person - the Person of Jesus Christ. Isn't it a feeling of joy for us to realize that Jesus comes to be the guest of one of us? Zacchaeus, a public swindler, welcomed Him with great joy. And yet, today's holy gospel account tells us that when Jesus was asked to stay with Zacchaeus, everyone began to murmur, because He was entering the house of a known sinner, a publican - a puppet tax collector for the Roman occupation forces in Israel.

Isn't it a pity that we seem to be kinder to people in their times of adversity than in their times of joy? The twins of envy and jealousy hidden within us try to prevent us from rejoicing in the good fortunes of neighbors. We ourselves have received many blessings, but often we would deny the same to others. We see this same attitude on the part of the Pharisees and Scribes as described in the holy gospels.

The gospel lessons of the pre-Great Fast Sundays give us the guidelines to complete the Great Fast journey successfully. The desire to see Jesus is one of the key attitudes that we must take along on our journey to Pascha. Obviously, the desire of Zacchaeus to see the Lord was so great that he gave no thought to the people around him as they tried to prevent him in his quest. Desire is our lesson for this first pre-Great Fast Sunday. This is the first step toward repentance.

The next four Sundays of the pre-Great Fast season will also give us lessons and attitudes as conveyed through the epistles and gospels which will help us along the way. Envy and jealousy are not the vehicles of travel for us. But rejoicing in the Lord for the abundance of His blessings is an excellent means to reach the goal. Jesus' words directed towards Zacchaeus are meant for all of us: *"Today salvation has come to this house."* Let us prepare to accept Christ as our salvation in the days to come.

### For Quieter Moments

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"In its essence prayer is the union of the soul with God. Its effects and fruits are: a pure soul, collection of inner forces, reconciliation with God, tears, forgiveness of sins, a bridge which leads us above and over temptation, a wall of protection against sorrows. It is the work of angels, a food for all spiritual beings, the joy of eternity, a divine action, a source of virtues, a treasury of graces; it is spiritual progress, the food of the soul, revelation, the exclusion of faintheartedness, a prop for our confidence, a comfort in grief."

St. John Climacus