



# СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ ~ СЛАВА НА ВІКИ! GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST ~ GLORY FOREVER!

We extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors.  
We pray that your participation in the Divine Liturgy will be enriching for you as well.

## September 10, 2017 ~ Sunday before the Exaltation

**Epistle:** Galatians 6: 11-18      **Gospel:** John 3: 13-17  
Please refer to the bulletin insert for the Troparia and special texts

### Liturgical Services for This Week

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

4:00 p.m. ~ **Exaltation of the Holy Cross Divine Liturgy**  
(50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish)  
Epistle Reader: Gloria Sherban



#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

10:00 a.m. ~ **Sunday after the Exaltation**  
Epistle Reader: Michael Watral

### Parish News & Activities

Many, many thanks to all who attended St. George's Annual Corn Roast last Saturday evening and helped make it a super success once again. Congratulations to the Corn Roast Committee and the small group of volunteers for putting on yet another great event ~ May God bless you always!

**Important Notice:** If there are any children of our parish who are of age to make their First Holy Communion this coming spring, please inform Father Stepan (577-7721) at your earliest convenience so that preparations for instruction can be arranged.

Holy Cross Golden Agers will be making pyrohy on **Tuesday, September 26**. Advanced orders are now being taken. You may contact either Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805) at any time to do so. *Thank you for your support!*



Attention all St. George's members: Due to a scheduling conflict, the **Annual Golf Tournament** must be deferred to **Saturday, September 30**. Check out the sign-up list on the narthex bulletin board for more information.

## Your Return Gift to God

### AUGUST 26/27

Envelopes: \$1,616.<sup>50</sup>  
Vigil Lights: \$53.<sup>00</sup>  
Special Projects: \$115.<sup>00</sup>  
Mission: \$74.<sup>10</sup>

### SEPTEMBER 2/3

Envelopes: \$1,970.<sup>00</sup>  
Eparchial Youth Fund: \$75.<sup>00</sup>  
Vigil Lights: \$63.<sup>50</sup>  
Special Projects: \$80.<sup>00</sup>  
Mission: \$59.<sup>80</sup>

*Thank you for your generosity ~ Щиро Вам дякуємо!*

The Mission Collection for August totalled \$243.<sup>05</sup> which will be sent to the **Thunder Bay & District Humane Society**.

The Mission Collection for September is designated for **The Underground Gym**, a unique gathering place for community youth in transition. It offers free access to equipment and mentoring in a safe environment that is open to children and youth who lack the cultural, social or economic resources required to access existing facilities. Visit [www.undergroundgym.ca](http://www.undergroundgym.ca).

### HOLY CROSS 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PREPARATIONS and REMINDERS



There will be a very important choir rehearsal on **Tuesday, September 12** beginning at **7:00 p.m.** in our loft in preparation for our Parish Praznyk 50<sup>th</sup> Divine Liturgy next Saturday. All singers are requested to attend.

And one final reminder to all that the church service will take place on Saturday starting at **4:00 p.m.** rather than the usual 5:00 p.m. For those who are unable to attend Liturgy at that time, there will be one on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. as usual.

**Please note:** Final numbers for the celebratory dinner and dance have been communicated to the Slovak Legion staff, and all tables and seating arrangements are being confirmed. As previously announced, tickets will **not** be available at the door. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

### DONATE TO HOLY CROSS PARISH ONLINE

**FYI:** Donations can be made online through the Holy Cross website ([www.holycrossbay.com/donate](http://www.holycrossbay.com/donate)). Parishioners, family and friends can do so by setting up automatic weekly donations or by one-time donation. One-time donations can be made through any major credit card, while automatic donations require the use of a PayPal® account. All donations are eligible for tax receipts. If you have any questions about the process, please contact Andrea Warywoda at 629-6818.

*Thank you for your generous contributions to our parish!*

### Readings for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and Sunday after the Exaltation



(to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)



#### Exaltation of the Holy Cross

*Epistle:* 1 Corinthians 1: 18-24  
*Gospel:* John 19: 6-11; 13-20; 25-28; 30-35

#### Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

*Epistle:* Galatians 2: 16-20  
*Gospel:* Mark 8: 34 - 9: 1

As you read each passage, ask yourself these questions, "What thoughts, ideas, words or images come to mind?" and "What are the connections between them?" This will help make them easier to follow and evoke a richer understanding.

## HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS

**Important Notice:** Due to the bus trip to Winnipeg this coming week, regular Thursday afternoon activities are cancelled and will resume on **Thursday, September 21**. New members (55+) may join at that time — it's only \$10 per year & a lot of fun.

The next bus to Grand Portage will depart from the church parking lot on **Wednesday, September 20** at 3:45 p.m. and return @ 10 p.m. Call Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805) to book your seat today. This is a **free** service. Everyone is welcome aboard!

A reminder to all members that we will be making pyrohy on **Tuesday, September 26**. Advance orders may be placed now. Contact either Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805) at any time and help spread the word!

### *Words of Wisdom and Faith*

*"God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him."*

John 3: 16-17

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Peace Day Celebration (change of local date)** September 21 is United Nations International Day of Peace. For this occasion, the Rotary Clubs of Thunder Bay will hold its annual Peace Day Ceremony on **September 16, 2017** from 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon at the Peace Pole located on Saul Laskin Drive at our marina (just above the band shell). Everyone is invited to attend this important event that represents and teaches peace!

St. Dominic's CWL presents its '**Autumnburst Bazaar**' on **Sunday, September 24** in St. Dominic's Parish Hall, 130 W. Redwood Avenue, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sandwiches, dainties and refreshments, lotteries, Bake Table, knitting, Penny Auction, Home and Garden and Grand Draw. Adults: \$5; children 5-10 years: \$3; 4 years and under are free.



Celebrate '**Oktoberfest**' with St. Dominic's Church on **Friday, October 13** in the parish hall! Symposium is at 6:30 p.m.; Dinner begins @ 7:30 p.m. Dance to music by Quest featuring John Scaffeo on accordion. Tickets are just \$25 per person. Call the parish office at 577-5672 (Monday to Friday) to reserve yours soon.

### **Focus on the Gospel for the Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross**

**T**oday we hear the words of the Gospel concerning how the Lord loved the world: "For God so loved the world that He gave His Only-Begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:16-17).

What is this salvation? What do the words mean that God so loved the world that He gave His Only-Begotten Son, that all who believe in Him might not perish, but have eternal life? We know that, first of all, this refers to the Saviour's redeeming sacrifice, His suffering on the Cross, His descent into Hades, and His Resurrection from the dead. This Gospel is read today because the Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross is approaching, the veneration of the saving sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. He redeems us through His own death and His Resurrection from the dead from the power of the sin and the devil. We are redeemed from slavery; by this sacrifice we are seemingly saved.

But no. God does not stop at simply making amends for our primordial sin and returning us to Adam's former possession. He does much more. He indeed saves us in the sense that no one has ascended into heaven except He that descended therefrom, the Son of Man. He allows us the opportunity to grow up unto His Only-Begotten Son in order to ascend to heaven, because no one has ascended into heaven except the Son of Man, Who descended from heaven. And this is what salvation is: to ascend unto heaven. It is to ascend unto heaven alongside the Only-Begotten Son, to follow His path to the end.

*Condensed from a sermon by Alexei Uminsky*

We extend congratulations and best wishes to the following couples from our parish:

**BRYAN AND MICHELLE OPASKI**  
10<sup>th</sup> anniversary — married August 25, 2007;

**IHOR AND SOPHIE KOZYRA**  
50<sup>th</sup> anniversary — married September 2, 1967;

**Многая літа! Many happy years!**

### ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY NEWS

**A reminder to all fishermen:** Please submit your weigh-in slips on a regular basis to Committee members *Maurice Zakrewski, Morris Tarnawsky, Myron Warywoda, or Eugene Zdebiak*. You have until Sunday, October 29 to do so. Good luck to all anglers, and remember to be safe on the lake. Tight lines and keep your tip up!

Our first regular monthly meeting of the new society year will take place on **Sunday, September 24** (Time TBA). All members are encouraged to attend. Executive members will be contacted soon via phone/email to arrange their meeting.

The next St. George's sponsored bingo at Superior Shores Gaming Centre is on **Monday, September 25** in the afternoon. Those who have agreed to work on that date are reminded to be there no later than 12 noon. Dates for October and November are as follows: **Monday, October 16** (matinée) and **Thursday, November 16** (matinée).



**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The date for our **Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner** has been changed to one week later on **Saturday, September 30** at 3:00 p.m. at Chapples Golf Course. All members are cordially invited to come out and enjoy the fun in the sun. A sign-up list is posted on the narthex bulletin board for you to indicate your intentions. \$10 per member plus greens fees.



# God So Loved the World That He Gave His One and Only Son

Many people enjoy boating, fishing, sailing, and canoeing on lakes, rivers, and streams. Have you ever gone out in a boat? If so, you know what a life jacket is. You know that it is very important to put on a life jacket any time you go out in a boat. You never know when an accident might happen or when a storm might come up. If you are thrown from the boat, a life jacket can save your life.

One day, some men and boys went fishing on a lake. Before they got into the boat, they began to put on their life jackets. One of the men refused to put on a life jacket. Perhaps he thought it made him look like a weakling, or maybe he thought, "I know how to swim. If anything happens I can save myself." They had only been on the lake for a short time when a sudden storm came up. The wind blew and the waves became so high that they turned the boat over. The ones who were wearing life jackets made it to shore and were saved. The man who was not wearing a life jacket drowned because he had refused to take the one thing that could have saved him.

The Bible tells us that "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." Jesus wants to save us and take us to Heaven to be with Him, but there are some people who think they might look weak if they admit that they need Jesus. They think that they can take care of themselves without Him. When the storms of life come up, they are thrown overboard and are lost forever because they refused to take hold of the one thing that could save them... Jesus.

It is foolish to go out onto the water without a life jacket, but it is even more foolish to try to sail the sea of life without Jesus!

Dear God, we know that You sent Jesus to die on the cross to save us. We pray that as we sail upon the sea of life, each and every one here today will take hold of the one thing that can save us from the storms which we are sure to encounter... Jesus, our Saviour. Amen.

Source: [www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com)

## *Twelve Evidences That We Have Lost Our "First Love" for the Lord*

"Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou has left thy first love" (Revelation. 2:4).

1. When my delight in the Lord is no longer as great as my delight in someone else, I have lost my "first love."
2. When my soul does not long for times of rich fellowship in God's Word or in prayer, I have lost my "first love."
3. When my thoughts during leisure moments do not reflect upon the Lord, I have lost my "first love."
4. When I claim to be "only human" and easily give in to those things I know displease the Lord, I have lost my "first love."
5. When I do not willingly and cheerfully give to God's work or to the needs of others, I have lost my "first love."
6. When I cease to treat every Christian brother as I would the Lord, I have lost my "first love."
7. When I view the commands of Christ as restrictions to my happiness rather than expressions of His love, I have lost my "first love."
8. When I inwardly strive for the acclaim of this world rather than the approval of the Lord, I have lost my "first love."
9. When I fail to make Christ or His Words known because I fear rejection, I have lost my "first love."
10. When I refuse to give up an activity which I know is offending a weaker brother, I have lost my "first love."
11. When I become complacent to sinful conditions around me, I have lost my "first love."
12. When I am unable to forgive another for offending me, I have lost my "first love."

Source: [www.vscoc.org/Bulletinfdtr](http://www.vscoc.org/Bulletinfdtr)