



Вітаємо Всіх до Нашої Парафії! Welcome Everyone to Our Parish! ~ A Place of Prayer, Family and Community for More than 50 Years ~



Epistle: Hebrews 11: 9-10,17-23, 32-40 **Gospel:** Matthew 1: 1-25
Troparia are found on the insert included with this bulletin

Epistle Readers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Evelyn Poleschuk
Sunday (10 a.m.): Susan Soldan



Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Linda Douglas
Sunday (10 a.m.): Stanley Myslicki



We hear in today's Gospel the genealogy of Jesus. From Matthew 1, verse 1 to verse 16, the names are recounted, ending with "Jesus, who is called Christ." No other names are listed as no other names are needed. It's as if God is announcing to a despairing, discouraged world: "See? I did it just like I promised I would! The plan succeeded — even though there were so many flawed people involved — it all led to the birth of the Saviour of the world." It is the climax of the entire story of God's relationship with humankind.

Why do you suppose God used those people? He didn't have to. He could have just delivered Jesus from the heavens. But God wants us to know that even in the bleakest moments, He is in control. Perhaps this genealogy is meant to prepare us for the unusual way God works and what God can do with our lives — no matter who we are, where we are or what is in the past. As we look back on our lives, we will probably acknowledge that many of the best things about us may well have come from painful experiences, redeemed by God. And that's why Jesus has come into our broken world, for God is LOVE and He loves you and me, for the name of Jesus means "our God saves."

~ condensed and edited from a sermon by Kenneth Sauer

Words of Wisdom and Faith

"From the moment Adam and Eve had sinned, God promised restoration, and He promised that a Saviour would come to save the world. Then God renewed this promise to Abraham, and He said that from Abraham's seed, the Messiah would be born, and all nations will be blessed by Him."

Your Return Gift to God

Let us strive to live as Christian stewards, receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them generously & lovingly with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.



DECEMBER 15/16

Envelopes: \$3,995.⁰⁰ Mission: \$54.³⁰
Special Projects: \$20.⁰⁰ Flowers: \$20.⁰⁰

Thank you for your generosity ~ Щиро Вам дякуємо!

The Mission Collection for December is designated for the **Dew Drop Inn** (St. Andrew's Soup Kitchen).

Please pick-up your **2019 Parish Collection Envelopes** in the narthex, but do **not** use them until the New Year. The numbering system has again been reorganized as a number of boxes of envelopes were not utilized this past year, which means that some may have a new number for 2019. Please check the box when you pick it up and ensure that your name is on it. Any concerns, questions or changes in contact information should be directed to our bookkeeper Michele. Leave a message on the Parish Office answering machine and she will address them as soon as she is able to. Please note that Michele will not be in on Monday, December 24, but will return later in the week.

CHRISTMAS WEEK SERVICES

For this week, please refer to the **Order of Services for Christmas, New Year's and Theophany** insert that was published separately (copies are in the narthex).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

4:45 p.m. ~ Christmas carol sing-along
5:00 p.m. ~ **Sunday after the Nativity**
Epistle Reader: Michael Watral

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:45 a.m. ~ Christmas carol sing-along
10:00 a.m. ~ **Sunday after the Nativity**
Epistle Reader: Walter Warywoda



Parish News & Activities

Attention all Epistle Readers & Eucharistic Ministers! The 2019 schedules are now available. Thank you again to those who have volunteered for these important tasks. Check the box in the narthex for your copy.

We are still looking for individuals to help count the weekly collections. Our counters work in pairs and are assigned for specific months. New counters will receive training. To volunteer, speak with Susan Soldan or call her at 475-4550. ☺

Колядуймо разом! Christmas carolling will take place this year on **Sunday, December 30** beginning at **1:30 p.m.** If you wish to have the carollers come for a short visit to sing, please sign the sheet posted on the narthex bulletin board. Carolling will only take place provided there is a minimum of **three (3) places** on the list by Christmas Day. And if you'd like to participate or need more information, please speak with Dr. Jennifer Swerdlyk or Michael Watral at your earliest convenience.

Веселих Свят Вам Всім! Merry Christmas to All!





Since 1960!

The first bingo session for us in 2019 will be on **Thursday, January 17** in the evening. The next training session for new volunteers is scheduled for **Sunday, January 13** (4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.). All training is held at Superior Shores Gaming Centre, 435 Memorial Avenue.



At this time of the year, we wish all members and their loved ones a very special holiday season with all the best in 2019! Our first meeting in the new year will be the annual **'Super Bowl'** Meeting on **Sunday, February 3** beginning at 4:30 p.m. followed by a dinner and social. Hope to see many members and some new faces in attendance for this traditional gathering!

PREPARE ROOM IN YOUR HEART FOR THE BIRTH OF BABY JESUS

As we prepare for Christmas, we are wise to create room for the greatest gift of Christmas to be delivered. We are wise to make sure we don't say, "Jesus, I don't have room for you." Because, if we fill our mind, our actions and our hearts with other things, we will have a big sign on our hearts that shines "no vacancy."

This means, we have to slow down, and clear out some internal junk to make room for Jesus. We must open the doors of our soul and say, "Yes, Lord, we have room." We must look Him in the eyes and say, "Let us roll out the red carpet – the VIP treatment – for You Lord!" We must say, "You are the preferred guest in my heart."

Prepare your heart. Make room for the King for He is coming. Don't let your heart blink with a no vacancy sign. Don't turn away the greatest gift ever given. Create room for the arrival of baby Jesus.

~ Kelly Balarie

Holy Cross Golden Agers



Thursday afternoon activities are now cancelled for this year through to the end of January, and will resume on **February 7, 2019** at the usual time when new members are welcome to join. We wish all current members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay active and healthy!

Want to get away but not in the mood to drive during the winter? Then you're in luck. The next bus to Grand Portage is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 16, 2019**. Please call Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann (G) Opaski (577-2805) between now and early January to book your seat. This is a **free** service for those 18 years and older who have a valid passport. Come join us for the ride and recreation!

Readings for the Sunday after Christmas

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

Epistle: Galatians 1: 11-19

(How Paul Became An Apostle)

Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-23

(The Escape to and Return from Egypt)

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 understand.

Sunday Smile

A LITTLE GIRL was sitting with her grandmother, who had presented her with her first little children's Bible, in an easy-to-read translation, when she was very young.

Now, a decade or so later, the elderly lady was ready to spend a few sweet moments handing down the big old family Bible, in the time-honoured King James Version, to her only grandchild.

Understandably excited, the youngster was asking a number of questions, both about the family members whose births and deaths were recorded therein, and about various aspects of the Scriptures themselves.

Her grandmother was endeavouring to answer all the child's questions in terms she could understand, but the one that stopped her cold was this sincere inquiry:

"Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus? Was it the Virgin Mary, or the King James virgin?"



IT WAS THE DAY of the big pre-Christmas sale. Rumours of the sale of cheap booze at the liquor store were the main reason for the long line that formed by 9:00 a.m. even though the store wasn't open until 10 o'clock.

A small man pushed his way to the front of the line, only to be pushed back, amid loud and bawdy curses. On his second attempt, he was punched squarely in the jaw, knocked around a bit, and then thrown to the end of the line again. As he got up the second time, he shouted to all who were present, "That does it! If you folks do that one more time, I won't open the store!"

WHAT, WHERE, AND WHEN IN OUR CITY

'Mini-Monster Bingo' - Sunday, December 31 at Superior Shores Gaming Centre, 435 Memorial Avenue, 6:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Doors open at 4 p.m. with dinner following from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tickets limited; \$60 per person (18 years and over).



Featuring elevated jackpots including a \$3,000 final full card, plus 3 swag bags and gift card random raffles - over \$10,000 in guaranteed prizes. Help ring in the New Year while supporting local charities!

Malanka ~ New Year's Eve Ukrainian Style - Presented by Zorya Ukrainian Dance Association, **Saturday, January 12, 2019** at the Royal Canadian Slovak Legion, 801 Atlantic Ave. Symposium: 6:00 p.m.; Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Entertainment by the Zorya Dancers. Music by Danny Johnson and 21 Gun Fun. Featuring Kolomeyka, 50/50 Draw, and Late-night Snacks. **Advanced tickets only.** \$65 per person; \$500 for a table of 8; \$625 for a table of 10. Tickets available at the Slovak Legion (632-3354) or contact Alice Chony at 577-2100.

RING IN THE NEW YEAR



WITH A UKRAINIAN



There is Salvation in the Name of Jesus

One of the most exciting times in a mommy's and daddy's life is when they find out that they are going to have a baby. There are many things that must be done to prepare for the birth of a new baby, but none is more important than choosing a name for the baby. A baby's name is chosen very carefully because the baby will live with that name for the rest of his or her life.

When a couple is choosing a name for their baby, they will sometimes go to a bookstore or a library and get a book. It may have thousands of names from which to choose. Not only that, but many names have a special meaning and will tell you what those names mean. Here are a few examples:

- John - God gave
- Mary - the perfect one
- Caleb - faithful, bold
- Alex or Alexis - helper
- Michael or Michaela - one who is like God
- Elizabeth - God's promise
- Daniel or Danielle - God is my judge

When Mary and Joseph found out that they were going to have a baby, they didn't go to the bookstore and get a book to help them choose a name for Mary's baby. In fact, they didn't choose the baby's name at all! God chose



it for them! God sent an angel to tell Mary what to name her baby. The angel said to Mary, "You will have a son, and you will call his name Jesus" You see, the name Jesus means "the Lord saves." Was it important for Mary's baby to be named Jesus? Yes it was, because the Bible tells us that there is no other name that can save us from our sin. (Acts 4:12)

Dear Father, thank You for sending Your Son. During this season when we celebrate His birth, help us to remember that there is salvation in the name of Jesus. In His name we pray. Amen.

Source: www.sermons4kids.com



Search horizontally, vertically, or diagonally in the puzzle to the right for the words listed that are associated with Christmas. The remaining letters will spell out a holiday message.

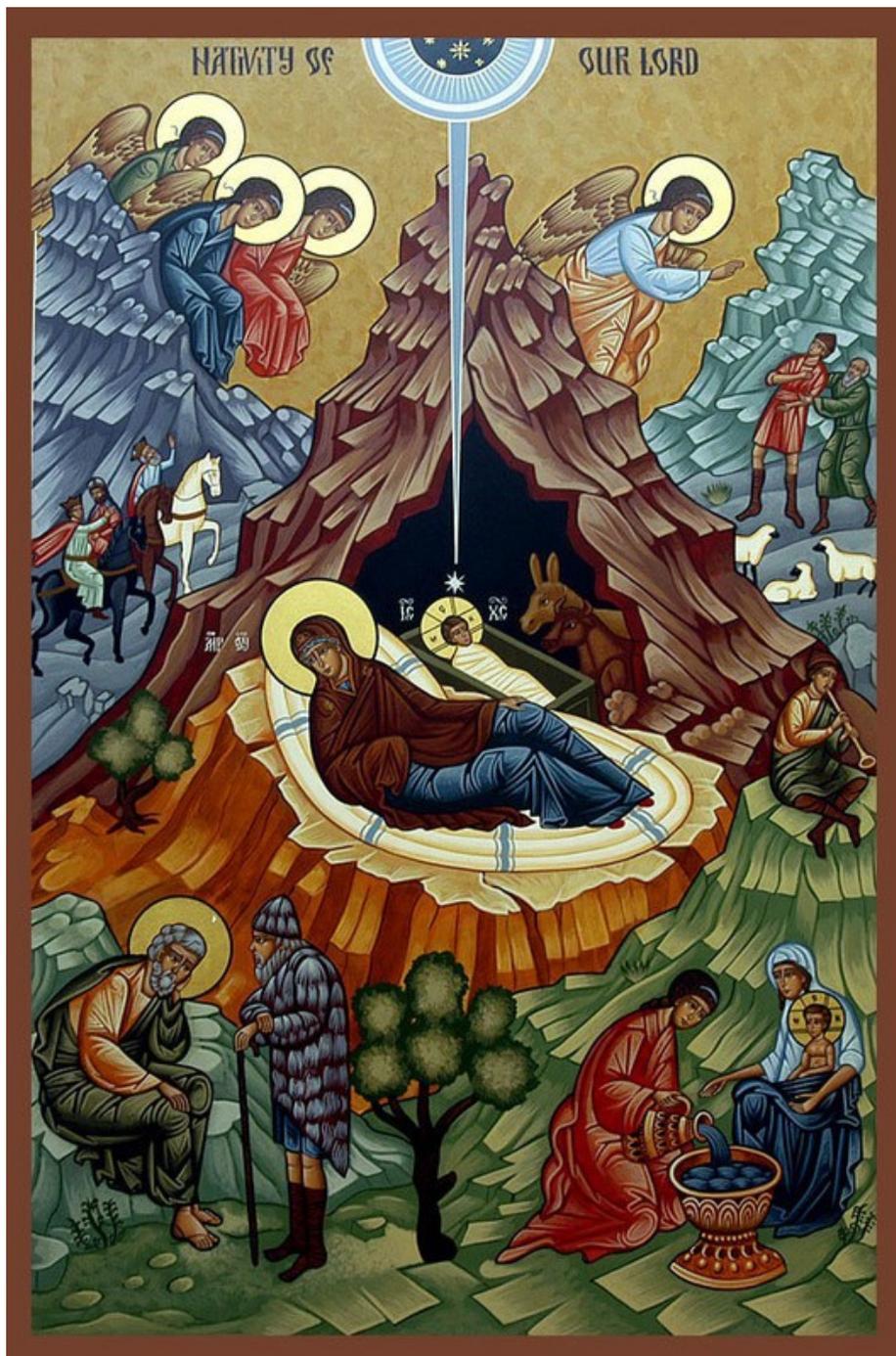
- | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|
| BELIEF | FRIENDS | NEWBORN |
| BIRTH | GENEROSITY | OCCASION |
| CARD | GIFT | PRESENT |
| CAROL | HOLLY | RELIGION |
| CELEBRATE | HOLY | SANTA |
| CHARITY | HOPE | SHARE |
| CHEER | JESUS | SLEIGH |
| CHURCH | JOSEPH | SNOW |
| DECORATE | MARY | STAR |
| FAITH | MERRY | TIDINGS |
| FEAST | MESSAGE | TOGETHER |
| FESTIVE | NATIVITY | WARMTH |

F	R	I	E	N	D	S	H	C	R	U	H	C	P	E
A	C	E	F	R	E	L	I	G	I	O	N	E	O	S
G	I	F	T	E	G	A	S	S	E	M	P	R	N	L
C	A	R	D	G	A	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E
S	C	H	E	E	R	S	E	E	M	E	E	H	O	I
G	A	R	S	N	O	W	T	E	Y	L	S	S	G	G
N	S	U	S	E	J	A	R	L	R	I	E	T	E	H
I	H	A	N	R	R	R	L	A	C	E	N	N	T	H
D	D	G	Y	O	Y	O	T	O	H	F	T	E	H	T
I	O	R	C	S	H	S	H	D	A	W	I	W	E	M
T	A	E	I	I	L	L	A	T	R	C	H	B	R	R
M	D	T	H	T	R	I	B	N	I	O	A	O	A	A
E	P	O	H	Y	T	I	V	I	T	A	N	R	L	W
L	L	E	V	I	T	S	E	F	Y	A	F	N	O	Y
J	O	S	E	P	H	O	C	C	A	S	I	O	N	L

Answer on the top of the next page.

Answer to **Christmas Message Wordsearch**

PEACE ON EARTH AND GOODWILL TO ALL MEN



ХРИСТОС РАЖДАЕТСЯ! СЛАВИТЕ ЙОГО!

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!