



Glory be to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!

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

March 26, 2017 ~ 4th Sunday of Lent

Epistle: Hebrews 6: 13-20

Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31

Troparia on found in the **grey booklet, pages 7 and 20**

Words of Wisdom

from St. John Climacus

"Repentance lifts a man up.

*Mourning knocks
at heaven's gate.*

Holy humility opens it."

Liturgical Services for This Week

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

10:00 a.m. ~ **Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** followed by
Panakhida (Sorokousty) for the deceased

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

11:00 a.m. ~ †**Frances Brescacin - 40th day**
Offered by the family

5:00 p.m. ~ **5th Sunday of Lent** - St. Mary of Egypt
Epistle Reader: Joseph Z. Myslicki

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

10:00 a.m. ~ **5th Sunday of Lent** - St. Mary of Egypt
Epistle Reader: Andrea Warywoda



Holy Cross Parish News & Events



Pyrohy Making continues on **Sunday** (ball making at 9 a.m.), and **Monday** (starting at 8 a.m. for doughmaking, pinching, boiling and packaging). Help is needed also on **Thursday** at **10:30 a.m.** for frozen pyrohy packaging and pick-up sales. We ask those who are able to come out and help to please do so. *Thank you!*

The schedule of services for **Passion Week** and **Easter Weekend** will be published as an insert in next week's bulletin and you will also be able to view it online on our parish website: www.holycrosstbay.com.

During this Lenten season, please remember the food hamper for non-perishable items located in the narthex. Items are regularly delivered to local food banks and soup kitchens through the courtesy of our parishioner Denny Verdenik. Please remember that no items past their 'best before' dates are to be included.



Tickets for our parish's **50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner** will be available starting **April 1** in the narthex. The price for all adults will be \$25 and \$15 for children 10 years of age and under. Tickets will be sold at these prices until **July 31** after which they will increase to \$30 for adults and \$20 for children from August 1 until the cut-off date of September.... You are encouraged to purchase your tickets well in advance so that the Committee can make the necessary arrangements and avoid any last-minute problems.

Please remember in your prayers those people of our parish who are in the hospitals, care homes, shut-ins and those who are not able to join us actively. Remember, if you or a family member would like a hospital visit or home visit, please speak to Father Stepan or call him at the rectory (577-7721) and let him know. Don't leave it to the last minute!



Preparations are already being made for our annual **Easter Dinner (Свячене)** on **Sunday, April 23rd** after the 10 a.m. St. Thomas Sunday Divine Liturgy. We will need help to make cabbage rolls the Friday afternoon (April 21) before the dinner. Volunteers will be also needed to set up the hall, prepare and serve the meal,

and clean up. Sign-up lists will be in the narthex next weekend. Let's all work together to have a blessed and enjoyable Parish Easter Dinner!

Important Notice! We are in need of envelope counters for the month of April. Current counters are welcome to switch months or add another month of service. New counters are strongly encouraged to come forward. Training will be provided. Please contact Susan at 475-4550 or send her an email at sasoldan@tbaytel.net. *Thank you!* ☺



Your Return Gift to God

MARCH 18/19

Envelopes: \$2,437.⁵⁰

Mission Collection: \$90.⁶⁵

Candle Offering: \$172.⁴⁰

Thank you for your generosity!

Щиро Вам дякуємо!

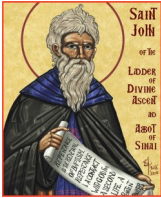
The Mission Collection for March is designated for **Community Clothing Assistance**. Its goal is to assist in the relief of poverty among needy families and people in crisis with an emphasis on community supported clothing assistance programmes.

On the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, we hear about the healing, at the request of his father, of the boy who is possessed by a demon. The father comes to Christ and describes his plight, a pitiable one. This boy is cast into the fire and into the water by this demon. He was incapable of free thought. He was incapable of free action because this demon controlled him. It took him where it wanted, it made him fall down where it wanted, it threw him towards the water or towards the fire, and the boy's father could only with great difficulty save him from being burned or being drowned.

It's not too much different, really, for us. We unfortunately addict ourselves to sins -- fire and water. Our plight is also a terrible one. We are addicted, we must admit this. We must admit that we need help. We must see ourselves for who we truly are and then we can come to Christ for healing.

The man in today's Gospel said, "Lord, I believe, help my unbelief." When you say, "Lord, I believe, help my unbelief," He will hear it and He will strengthen your belief. Amen!

(condensed and adapted from a sermon by Father Seraphim Holland)



Our venerable and God-bearing Father John Climacus (ca. 579 - 649), also known as John of the Ladder, John Scholasticus, and John Sinaites, was a 7th-century Christian monk at St. Catherine's monastery at the base of Mount Sinai. In Greek, his epithet is Κλίμακος (Klimakos). The Eastern Church celebrates his feast day on March 30.

He came to the monastery and became a novice when he was about 16 years old, and when he died in 649 he was the monastery's abbot. He wrote a number of instructive books, the most famous of which is The Ladder of Divine Ascent. (It is because of this book that John is known as "Climacus," which means "of the ladder".) It describes how to raise one's soul to God, as if on a ladder. This book is one of the most widely read among Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians, especially during the season of Great Lent which immediately precedes Pascha (Easter), and on the fourth Sunday of Great Lent he is especially commemorated.

Holy Cross Golden Agers

ATTENTION ALL CURRENT MEMBERS! Our regular monthly meeting is this **Thursday, March 30** at **1:30 p.m.** preceded by a bean bag tournament starting at 12:30 p.m. Following the meeting, bingo will take place as usual. Refreshments will be available also. Hope to see many present!



If you missed the last bus to Grand Portage, you can catch the next one. It will leave the church parking lot **Wednesday, April 19** at 3:45 p.m. and return @ 10 p.m. To book your seat, please contact either Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann Opaski (577-2805). This is a **free** service for *everyone*. Non-members are cordially invited for the ride as well.



St. George's Society

Pyrohy Making continues Sunday and Monday. The usual schedule will be followed. Members are encouraged to come out to assist in the various tasks. *Thank you ~ Дякую!*

The Executive will meet on **Tuesday, March 28** at 6:30 p.m. in the hall. Please check your email for the agenda.

Our next monthly meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 2** at **7 p.m.** in our parish hall. Your attendance is encouraged!

The next Bingo Training session will be held on **Tuesday, April 4** at **7 p.m.** in our parish hall.

Love and Service to God since 1960

Community Calendar of Events CITY OF Thunder Bay Superior by Nature

Primavera Tea - Sunday, March 26 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Da Vinci Centre, 340 Waterloo Street. Hosted by the Principe Di Piemonte Society Ladies Auxiliary and featuring the following: Bake Table, Penny Auction, and Food Hamper. Admission is \$5/person. Sandwiches and dainties to be served. Proceeds to the Alzheimer Society of Thunder Bay.



Are you looking for that 'special treasure'? First-Wesley United Church, 130 N. Brodie St. is holding a **Garage Sale** on **Friday, March 31** from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and **Saturday, April 1** from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Household and yard articles, clothing, toys, books plus much more available. Free admission to all!

Learn to Make Beautiful Ukrainian Easter Eggs - The League of Ukrainian Canadians is hosting a **Pysanka Workshop** on **Saturday, April 1** from **2 p.m. to 5 p.m.** at 211 Robertson Street. Registration fee is \$20.00/person. To pre-register call Hanya Cvornjek at 344-3136 ~ limited seating. Everyone is welcome!

High Tea and Fashion Show - Sunday, April 2 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Prince Arthur Hotel and Suites. An afternoon featuring designer fashions, high tea with fancy sandwiches and desserts, Silent Auction, \$10 Raffle: Two tickets anywhere WestJet flies, prize for the best hat/fascinator at each table, and cash bar. Proceeds to the Canadian Mental Health Association and Shelter House Thunder Bay. For more information, contact Community Living Thunder Bay at 622-1099.

An Evening of Colour and Energy! - Tickets are now on sale for the Chaban Ukrainian Dance Group concert "Kalyna" **Saturday, April 29** at **7:00 p.m.** at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. Tickets are available in person, on line at www.tbca.com, or by calling the TBCA Box Office at 684-4444.



WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS ONLINE ~ Donations can now be accepted online through the Holy Cross website (www.holycrosstbay.com/donate). Parishioners, family and friends may donate funds through a one-time donation or by setting up easy automatic weekly donations. One-time donations can be made with 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 either process, contact Andrea Warywoda at 629-6818. *Thank you for your generous contributions to our parish community!* ☺



Have You Done Anything For Lent?

Did you know that we are currently in the season of the Great Fast or Lent? Our Church gives us the Great Fast to help us stay close to Jesus through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, or sharing what we have with those who have less. During the Great Fast we are to offer our time, our possessions, and our money to those who need our help.

Most people 'give up' something for Lent like eating chocolate or sweets, cutting down on the number of hours you might watch TV, or not spending a lot of money on movies or other fun activities. Other people might 'go on' something like reading the Bible more, helping an elderly person or attending more services at Church.

We are now past the half-way point of Lent and soon our journey to Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection will be over. There is still time to prepare ourselves for these holy events and if you haven't done anything yet during Lent, it's not too late to do so. Here is a list of activities that you can try.

1. **Give up the usual suspects.** Sweets, video games, soda, fast food, social media and other modern comforts.
2. **Quiet down.** Turn off your radio, computer, Ipod, TV or other music player and be silent for a while. Just sit and listen to nature and you can pray to God as well.
3. **Share.** The money you save on giving up things like candy, going to the mall or movies, or other items and activities can be donated to those kids less fortunate or another worthy charity or cause. Or you can even donate a few of your extra toys to children who are in the hospital.
4. **Do something kind every day.** Perform a different random act of kindness every day; doing it secretly makes it more fun.
5. **Get to know Jesus.** Together with your family members, read a passage from the Gospels once a day. You will better appreciate Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for us.

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John Climacus

Do not stop praying as long as, by God's grace, the fire and the water have not been exhausted, for it may happen that never again in your whole life will you have such a chance to ask for the forgiveness for your sins.

AZ QUOTES