

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

We extend a warm welcome to all and pray that your participation in the Divine Liturgy will be enriching and meaningful.



July 16, 2017 ~ 6th Sunday after Pentecost

(Commemoration of the First Six Ecumenical Councils)

Epistle: Romans 12: 6-14

Gospel: Matthew 9: 1-8

Troparia and special texts are found on the insert

July 23, 2017 ~ 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle: Romans 15: 1-7

Gospel: Matthew 9: 27-35

Troparia are found in **Tone 6, page 101** in the navy blue missals



Your Return Gift to God

JULY 1/2

Envelopes: \$1,210.⁰⁰
Special Projects: \$100.⁰⁰
Mission Collection: \$81.⁰⁰
50th Anniversary
Donations: \$170.⁰⁰
PayPal® Website Donations:
\$1, 125.⁰⁰

JULY 8/9

Envelopes: \$1,255.⁰⁰
Special Projects: \$200.⁰⁰
Mission Collection: \$41.⁶⁵
50th Anniversary
Donations: \$100.⁰⁰
Donations in memory of
†Maria Lacyk: \$225.⁰⁰

Thank you for your generosity ~ Щиро Вам дякуємо!

The Mission Collection for July is designated for the **Boys and Girls Clubs of Thunder Bay** serving children and youth between the ages of 4 and 14 for over 40 years.

Readings for the 8th Sunday after Pentecost and Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

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

8th Sunday after Pentecost (July 30)

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

Gospel: Matthew 14: 14-22

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord (August 6)

Epistle: 2 Peter 1: 10-19

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9

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.

Inspirational Words of Wisdom

*“Faith is seeing light
with your heart when all
that your eyes see is darkness.”*

Author unknown

Schedule of Liturgical Services

MONDAY, JULY 17

11:00 a.m. ~ Funeral services for †**Julia (Horde) Coskie**

TUESDAY, JULY 18

10:00 a.m. ~ †**Joseph Soldan** ~ 40th day

THURSDAY, JULY 20

10:00 a.m. ~ **Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah (Elias)**

SATURDAY, JULY 22

5:00 p.m. ~ 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle Reader: Linda Douglas

SUNDAY, JULY 23

10:00 a.m. ~ 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle Reader: Denny Verdenik

SATURDAY, JULY 29

5:00 p.m. ~ 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle Reader: Michael Watral

SUNDAY, JULY 30

10:00 a.m. ~ 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle Reader: Larissa Warywoda



Holy Cross Parish News and Events

We extend our deepest condolences to the Lacyk family on the passing of their beloved †**Maria** on July 1; to Beverley Stefureak and family on the passing of their beloved †**Mathew** (in Midland, ON) also on July 1; and to the Horde/Merkley family on the passing of their beloved †**Julia** on July 8. May the Lord accept the souls of His ever-to-be-remembered servants †**Maria**, †**Mathew**, and †**Julia** into His heavenly kingdom and may their memory be eternal ~ вічна їм пам'ять.

Congratulations and best wishes to our bookkeeper **Michele Verdenik** and fiancé **Steve Tanguay** who were joined together in the sacrament of Holy Matrimony on July 8. May the Lord grant them many happy and blessed years together ~ На многая літа!



On **Sunday, July 16**, following the 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy, we invite everyone to come down to the parish hall for the return of the mini-luncheon/coffee hour. Saturday worshippers are also encouraged to join us, for there will be plenty of food, drink and conversation. Tickets for our parish's **50th Anniversary Dinner & Dance** on September 16 will be available for purchase there as well. Get yours today and avoid the \$5 increase on August 1!

Focus on the Gospel Readings

The Gospel passage from the 6th Sunday teaches us that Jesus, Who stirred up so much controversy by His claims about Himself, proves He is the Son of God. And as the Son of God, He possesses the divine authority to forgive sins that are committed against God. He has taken the burden of our debt to God on Himself — He Who had no 'sin-debt' whatsoever; and Who willingly paid the debt for us. And what's more, Jesus has the authority from God Himself to announce our debt to God "forgiven". The prophet Isaiah says of Him that "He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows" (Isaiah 53:4); and that "the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (v. 6).

On the 7th Sunday, we are taught that Jesus has the authority to restore physical sight to those who are blind, and did that frequently enough to show He had that power. This is why people today can pray for healing, although they must allow that the answer to their prayers may come now, or in the resurrection, for God has His timetable and His purposes.

But behind the healing of the blind men is the deeper meaning of the healing of their souls. Jesus was more concerned with the spiritual blindness in Israel than the physical blindness, which was often a symbol of the former. And the fact that these men came by faith to be healed physically shows that Jesus had *already begun to reveal Himself to their souls, that they already had been enabled to see spiritually.*

The second point of the passage is that faith is required to gain sight, both physically and spiritually. Whoever comes to Christ must believe that He is the promised Messiah and that He has the power and the authority to give sight. We who have received our sight, who have come to faith, should then be characterized by (1) praise and thanksgiving, (2) devotion to Christ, (3) a growing spiritual discernment in all things, and (4) public witness of the glories of the Lord.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



ROSIE'S LUNCH BUFFET - Enjoy lunch with your family, friends or colleagues at the Columbus Centre on Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The buffet boasts crowd-pleasing favourites such as pasta, meatballs, chicken, perogies, potatoes/gravy and vegetables, as well as breads, desserts and beverages. The cost is \$13 per person (including tax). Walk in or make a reservation by calling 623-3252.

CELEBRITY SKATE FOR EASTER SEAL KIDS - Easter Seals Ontario hosts this event on **Tuesday, July 25** from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Thunder Bay Tournament Centre, 2050 Mountain Road. Raise a minimum of \$50 in pledges to join the fun and excitement of skating with local NHL players while raising funds for children and youth with physical disabilities. Prizes will be awarded to the top three fundraisers donated by our local businesses. Spot skate prizes will be awarded throughout the event. Autograph opportunities will take place after the skate, one autograph per player per child participating. For more information, please contact Rhonda Harrison at rharrison@easterseals.org or call **345-7622**. Remember to bring your own skates and helmet as they will **not** be provided on site.

HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS - Regular activities will resume on **Thursday, September 7th**. New members (55+) may join at that time — it's only \$10 per year & a lot of fun!

Feeling lucky? Two mini-excursions to Grand Portage will take place during the summer: **July 19th & August 16th** (both Wednesdays). The bus will depart from the church parking lot 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!

The Golden Agers are also planning a trip to Winnipeg for **September 11-14, 2017** and are extending an invitation to parishioners to join them in order to help fill up the bus. See Peter Swerdlyk or George Rusnick for more information.



Have a little extra time this summer? It's the perfect occasion to remember your beloved ones and have a weekday Divine Liturgy celebrated in their honour. Father Stepan is available to do so, Monday to Friday morning or evening, or at a special time at your convenience where possible. You may contact him at the rectory (577-7721) to arrange for this important service. *With the saints, give them rest, O Christ, and everlasting memory ~ вічна її пам'ять.*

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY - Our next bingo is on **Wednesday, July 26** in the evening. Please speak with Gerry Bullock if you are able to serve on the date. The next two training sessions will take place on **Sunday, July 16 and Sunday, August 20** from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. at Superior Shores Gaming Centre. Please consider attending (all parishioners are also welcome) as we could use more volunteers for bingo.

We need members for usher duty on Sundays in the month of **August**. Please volunteer your services if you available.

A reminder to all fishermen: Please submit your weigh-in slips on a regular basis to the following Committee members: *Maurice Zakrewski, Morris Tarnawsky, Myron Warywoda, or Eugene Zdebiak*. Good luck to all anglers, and remember to be safe on the lakes. Wear a regulation PFD at all times and do not drink alcohol while operating a motorized vehicle.

Tight lines and keep your tip up!

DONATE TO HOLY CROSS PARISH ONLINE

FYI: Donations are being accepted online through the Holy Cross website (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!

5TH ANNUAL VALLEY FRESH BUSKERS' FESTIVAL is presented by Valley Fresh Fruit and the Bay & Algoma BIA, **July 29 and 30**, featuring over 40 performers rotating through 10 stages on Upper Bay and Algoma Streets from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 2 days 2 streets — too much fun!

Have a wonderful 2nd half of July and enjoy the warm weather!



The Children's Corner will return in September.
Enjoy the summer, and always remember:
Keep Our Lord as the centre of your activities in July and August.

Faith and Works - Neither Can Stand Alone



An illustration of the balance between faith and works lies hidden within any tree, vine, or plant. Leaves use up the nutrients in the process of photosynthesis. As the leaves consume nutrients in the sap, a suction is formed, which draws more sap from the roots. Without the sap, the leaves and branches would die, but the continual flow of this sap comes only as it is used up by the work of the leaves. Likewise, we work, keep the Lord's commandments, in order to abide in His love. (John 15:4-10).

A Christian worked each day transporting tourists across a lake. On occasions, he would present the Gospel and its implications for life in an unusual way. He had painted the word "Faith" on one of the oars of his rowboat and "Works" on the other. When they got rather far from shore, he would stop, and beginning to row with only the one oar marked "Faith," he would cause the boat to go in circles to the left. Reversing the process, he would pull on the other oar marked "Works," and they would circle in the opposite direction. By this time the bewildered passengers were waiting for an explanation. This afforded him an opportunity to give the truth concerning discipleship. He always concluded by saying, "You see, neither faith nor works can stand alone. They are twins that cannot be separated!" (James 2:14-26).

Source: www.vscoc.org

AN IMPORTANT LETTER TO ALL PARISHIONERS OF HOLY CROSS PARISH

This is the time of the year that many Thunder Bay residents enjoy the most. But as families take vacations and enjoy the warm weather — not long enough for many of us in this part of the world, so do the financial woes of our area churches. Attendance is naturally lower during July and August when families tend to leave the church for some time, then, unfortunately, return to a 'financially neglected' church. You say you didn't know? Most don't, but it's true. That said, a church in many ways is much like a business. It has overhead, payroll, its own 10% tithes to the eparchy, emergency items and costs, and so on. These things must be paid in order to operate, just like any other business in the city or it runs the risk of closing its doors.

There is, however, one fundamental difference: the church doesn't take a profit. Just as fast as the money comes in, it goes out — to benefit the congregation. So, it needs your help. How? By doing one of the following things: 1) Send in your weekly envelope(s) ahead of your planned trip; 2) play appropriate catch-up when you return; or 3) tithe while away through regular mail or through our parish website. Please understand that this is **not**, nor has it ever been, because the parish is greedy and wants more, but rather, as quoted in Deuteronomy 14:23, "*The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.*" Remember: once your church is gone...it is gone. And unfortunately, we have already witnessed this twice in the past ten years. Please give what you can, for as St. Paul says in Acts 20, verse 35: "*Remember the words that the Lord Jesus Himself said, 'There is more happiness in giving than in receiving.'*"

No matter where you go to get away, you can take your church with you. The answer is right in your hand: your smartphone or Ipad. During the summer months, you can find and follow our parish on its website (www.holycrosstbay.com) and on [Facebook.com/holycrosstbay](https://www.facebook.com/holycrosstbay). You'll feel more connected to it and your fellow parishioners. You will also help to spread our message and mission. Whether you're at the beach, the amusement park, the airport, or just enjoying some quiet backyard time, church information, donations, offerings and tithes are just a few taps away.

Finally, have you considered including your parish in your will? A will is an expression of your commitment to the people and groups that you cherish here on earth. As a supporter of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, a bequest in your will ensures that our parish of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross will continue to thrive after you are gone — indeed, a legacy to remember. You can also make a special gift for our youth by donating to St. George's Scholarship Fund.