OUTREACH

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ST. ANDREW'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX SOBOR PARISH



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PASTORAL MESSAGE

By Very Rev. Archpriest Dr. Roman I. Shiyan

What Does it Mean to be a Parishioner and a Member of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada?

Glory to Jesus Christ!
Dear beloved in Christ brothers and sisters, fellow parishioners, friends and guests at our services and parish events.

This message from your priest is, in some way, long overdue. Yet, it is also very timely considering persisting problems with dwindling membership numbers in our parish(es), challenges with spiritually re-invigorating the existing parish members, and struggles with attracting new parishioners. The message itself is a product of many an hour of reflections about how we can, and I believe, must, proceed with building up our faith, our commitment to God and the Body of Christ, Our Church, to our parish, as well as explaining and/or reminding people around us what it truly means becoming and being a member of the Body of Christ and a member of an Orthodox parish, like St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor. Any long road starts with a first step, and our first step has to do with us forming a deeper understanding of what it really means to be an active member of the Church, to be a parishioner.

To begin with, I am indebted to my Greek Orthodox Church brethren for pondering over and presenting their views on what it means to be a parishioner and a member of the Orthodox Church, particularly living on this side of the Atlantic Ocean. (Here is one of such contributions for your illumination: https://www.stgeorgehollywood.org/our-faith/additional-information/being-a-parishioner)

The truth is that many of our faithful have been, and still are, working tirelessly in our parish(es) demonstrating their great commitment to God and His people. We see them regularly at the church services, partaking of the Holy Eucharist, ministering to their parish(es) regularly in many meaningful ways by donating their time, their talents, and their money. These faithful make things happen. They keep the church doors open. They keep the parish(es) running. At the same time, they are relatively few, and they are getting older, experiencing health issues, feeling overextended while trying to keep the parish(es) afloat with little or no help coming their way.



Pastoral Message Continued

There are also many more people, who have faith; who also love God; who likewise identify themselves as parishioners, as church members, as Orthodox Christians. Regrettably, their spiritual life and their commitment to the Church, to their parish, often falls victim to the perceived lack of time, to many familial and professional responsibilities, to a variety of worldly distractions, in short, to their life priorities set in a certain way. They come to the church when they can, or when they must (for sacraments of baptism, matrimony, or funeral). Sometimes they come to confession. Sometimes they stay for the entire service. At times, they just come to light a candle, say a short prayer, adorn themselves with a sign of cross, and then leave to attend to their affairs without coming back to the church for a longer time. And yet, when they do come to the church next time, they expect it to be still there, with its doors open, with church services and other activities in the parish taking place: all these without asking themselves a simple question of how did the church, the parish manage to survive without their deeper involvement in its life, without their support? Perhaps, they think that there is, always will be, someone who will make this happen. And they may even be correct in thinking that. However, what they must be thinking instead is: "Why did it take me so long to realize this simple fact? Why did it take me so long to come to their aid, to offer my church, my parish, my time, talents, money, my steadfast, unwavering support?" Asking this question, accepting the answer, changing one's spiritual direction, making and following through with one's commitment to the Church and to the parish must be the answer, must be the solution to our struggling faith, to our struggling parish(es).

Being a member of the Church and a parishioner involves three important components of membership: 1) Sacramental, 2) Canonical, and 3) Stewardship. It is not one component, or two: all three components combined denote the full parish and Church membership.

(1) The Sacramental Component

The Holy Orthodox Church is not a worldly organization, business or club. It is the ecclesiastical Body of Christ on earth. The Church is the repository of faith and the arena in which we work out our salvation with fear and trembling, in our unity born out of our humility: "Therefore, if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others" (*Philippians* 2: 1-4,12). Our membership in the Body of Christ is solely dependent on our regular participation in that Body's Divine Liturgy, in its rich liturgical life, which goes beyond Sunday services. For example, one can hardly say that he or she is a parishioner if their presence at the Divine Liturgy is sporadic, at best, and any other services are never attended. If we wish to be part of the Body of Christ, then our membership must be nourished and sustained by the Liturgical and Sacramental life of that Body. Regular reception of the Holy Communion (Eucharist), regular participation in confession (penance) and unction are the essential musts of Church membership.

(2) The Canonical Component

If we are to be "parishioners in good standing" in the Orthodox Church, our entire life must come under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. This includes our participation in Holy Sacraments (e.g. Orthodox matrimony, penance, Eucharist) and our obedience to the doctrine (teaching) of the Church and to its hierarchy.

(3)The Stewardship Component

The "open doors" of your parish church means ongoing liturgical and sacramental life, spiritual nourishment, support, and many other benefits of the ministries offered in that parish



Pastoral Message Continued

Without your steadfast and continued help these things may not be possible soon, and it is your duty and obligation to support your parish(es), particularly with your financial resources (e.g. with membership fees, donations, participation in fund-raising initiatives). Think of your support as of "sustenance", of "nourishment", which you gratefully and reciprocally offer for receiving your spiritual sustenance, your spiritual nourishment in the church and within your parish community.

And so, how do you evaluate your membership status in the Church and in your parish based on what you have read above? What changes do you need to make to ensure your "good standing" in the ecclesiastical body, that is in the Church, and in your parish(es)? What help do you need from your priest and your congregation to take those important steps? Because take those steps, make those changes in your Christian life, you must!

Beloved in Christ brothers and sisters, beloved spiritual children, now is the high time to truly become active members of your parish(es) and full members of the Body of Christ. Strengthen your faith, make and maintain your commitment, fulfill your obligation to the Church and to your parish.

May the blessings of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ be with all of you.

With love in Christ, the Lord,
Fr. Roman

Pastoral Visits

Please contact Father Roman if you or a loved one is ill and in need of spiritual care. Father can be reached on his cell at 780-994-8721.

Що це значить бути парафіянином (парафіянкою) і членом Української православної церкви в Канаді?

Слава Ісусу Христу!

Дорогі у Христі брати і сестри, парафіяни, друзі та гості наших богослужінь і парафіяльних заходів!

Це звернення від вашого священника певною мірою вже давно назріло. Водночас, воно є дуже своєчасним, зважаючи на тривалі проблеми зі зменшенням кількості вірян у нашій парафії (або інших наших парафіях), труднощі з духовним оновленням парафіян нинішніх, а також виклики, пов'язані із залученням нових парафіян. Це послання — результат довгих годин роздумів про те, як ми можемо — і, я переконаний, яким чином ми повинні — зміцнювати нашу віру, нашу відданість Богові, Тілу Христовому (тобто Церкві) та нашій парафії. Воно також має на меті пояснити або нагадати людям навколо нас, що насправді означає бути членом Тіла Христового та парафіянином православної громади — такої, як Український православний собор святого Андрія. Будь-який довгий шлях починається з першого кроку; і наш перший крок полягає в тому, щоб глибше усвідомити, що насправді означає бути активним членом Церкви, бути справжнім парафіянином (справжньою парафіянкою).



Pastoral Message Continued

Розпочну з того, що я вдячний моїм собратам з Грецької Православної Церкви за їхні роздуми та висловлення їхніх поглядів на те, що означає бути парафіянином і членом Православної Церкви, особливо живучи по цей бік Атлантичного океану. (Ось один з таких внесків для вашого кращого розуміння проблеми: https://www.stgeorgehollywood.org/our-faith/additional-information/being-a-parishioner) Правда полягає в тому, що багато хто з наших вірних невтомно працював і продовжує працювати в нашій парафії (або інших наших парафіях), демонструючи свою глибоку відданість Богу та Його людям. Ми постійно бачимо їх на богослужіннях, де вони причащаються Святих Таїн; вони регулярно служать своїй парафії, роблячи вагомий внесок — присвячуючи свій час, таланти та кошти. Саме завдяки цим вірним усе тримається. Вони дбають про те, щоб двері церкви залишалися відчиненими, а парафія — діяла. Водночас їх відносно небагато; до того ж вони старіють, мають проблеми зі здоров'ям і відчувають надмірне виснаження, намагаючись утримати парафію на плаву, майже не отримуючи при цьому жодної допомоги.

Є також багато інших людей, які мають віру, люблять Бога і вважають себе парафіянами, членами Церкви, православними християнами. На жаль, їхнє духовне життя та відданість Церкві й парафії часто стають жертвами уявного браку часу, численних сімейних і професійних обов'язків, різноманітних світських відволікань — узагальнюючи, наслідком того, як саме вони розставили свої життєві пріоритети. Вони приходять до храму тоді, коли можуть, або коли мусять (наприклад, для здійснення таїнств хрещення чи вінчання, або ж на похорон). Іноді вони приходять на сповідь. Часом залишаються на все богослужіння. А буває, що заходять лише для того, аби запалити свічку, коротко помолитися, перехреститися — і йдуть у своїх справах, надовго забуваючи дорогу до храму. І все ж, коли вони наступного разу приходять до церкви, то очікують, що вона все ще буде на місці, і що двері її будуть відчинені, а в парафії триватимуть богослужіння та інша діяльність. При цьому вони навіть не ставлять собі простого запитання: як же Церква і їхня парафія змогли вціліти, вижити без їхньої глибшої участі, без їхньої підтримки? Можливо, вони вважають, що завжди знайдеться хтось інший, хто про все це подбає. І, можливо, вони мають рацію. Проте їм варто було б замислитися над іншим: «Чому я так довго не усвідомлював (усвідомлювала) цього простого факту? Чому так довго не приходив (приходила) на допомогу — не пропонував (пропонувала) своїй Церкві, своїй парафії свій час, таланти, кошти, свою тверду й непохитну підтримку?» Поставити собі це запитання, прийняти відповідь, змінити свій духовний напрямок, взяти на себе зобов'язання перед Церквою та парафією і дотримуватися їх — саме в цьому полягає відповідь і вирішення проблем нашої слабкої віри та проблем наших парафій, що переживають нелегкі часи.
Бути членом Церкви та парафіянином передбачає три важливі складові членства: 1) сакраментальну (участь у літургійному житті і таїнствах), 2) канонічну, та 3) аспект відповідального управління (власна відповідальність за добробут парафії). Йдеться не про одну чи дві складові: лише всі три разом визначають повноцінне членство в парафії та Церкві.

(1) Участь у Літургійному житті і Таїнствах Церкви

Свята Православна Церква — це не світська організація, бізнес чи клуб. Це церковне Тіло Христове на землі. Церква є скарбницею віри та місцем, де ми звершуємо справу свого спасіння «зі страхом і трепетом» — у єдності, що народжується зі смирення: «Тож, коли є якась розрада в Христі, коли є якась потіха любові, коли є якесь спілкування Духа, коли є якесь милосердя та співчуття, — зробіть радість мою повною: будьте однодумні, майте ту саму любов, будьте однодушні й однодумні. Нічого не робіть через чванливість чи марнославство, але в смиренні вважайте інших кращими за себе.



Pastoral Message Continued

Нехай кожен дбає не лише про власні інтереси, а й про інтереси інших» (*Филип'янам* 2:1–4, 12). Наше членство в цьому Тілі Христовому цілком залежить від нашої регулярної участі в Божественній літургії цього Тіла та у інших літургійних службах. Навряд чи можна назвати себе парафіянином, якщо відвідування Божественної літургії є, у кращому випадку, епізодичним, а на інших службах їх ніколи не побачиш. Якщо ми прагнемо бути частиною Тіла Христового, то наше членство має живитися й підтримуватися літургійним та сакраментальним (участю у таїнствах) життям цього Тіла. Регулярне прийняття Святого Причастя (Євхаристії), а також участь у таїнствах Сповіді (покаяння) та Єлеоосвячення (соборування) є неодмінними умовами церковного членства.

(2) Канонічний аспект

Щоб бути «парафіянами, які перебувають у належному стані» (тобто мають добрий канонічний статус) в Православній Церкві, усе наше життя має підпорядковуватися Господеві Нашому Ісусу Христу. Це передбачає участь у святих Таїнствах (наприклад, вінчанні, сповіді, Євхаристії), а також послух церковному віровченню та ієрархії Церкви.

(3) Аспект відповідального управління (власна відповідальність за добробут парафії)

«Відчинені двері» парафіяльного храму означають постійне літургійне життя, уачсть у Святих Таїнствах, духовне підживлення, підтримку та багато інших благ, що надаються через служіння, яке відбувається у вашій парафії. Без вашої постійної та незмінної допомоги все це незабаром може стати неможливим; тому ваш обов'язок — підтримувати свою парафію (або парафії), зокрема й фінансово: через сплату членських внесків, що дає вам можливість брати участь в управлінні парафією, благодійницькі пожертви, участі у заходах зі збору коштів на підтримку парафії. Сприймайте свою підтримку як «забезпечення» чи «поживу», яку ви з вдячністю віддаєте у відповідь на те духовне підживлення, яке отримуєте в храмі та у своїй парафіяльній спільноті.

Отже, з огляду на прочитане вище, яким, як Ви особисто вважаєте, є Ваш статус у Церкві та у Вашій парафії? Які зміни Вам слід запровадити, щоб забезпечити свій «належний стан» (добрий статус) у церковному Тілі — тобто в Церкві, та у Вашій парафії? Яка саме допомога Вам потрібна від священника та парафіяльної громади, щоб зробити ці важливі кроки? Адже, правда полягає в тому, що Ви мусити визнати необхідність цього і зробити ці важливі кроки, ці зміни у Вашому християнському житті!

Улюблені у Христі брати й сестри, дорогі духовні чада, саме зараз час стати справді активними членами своєї парафії та повноцінними членами Тіла Христового. Зміцнюйте свою віру, беріть на себе зобов'язання й дотримуйтеся їх, виконуйте свій обов'язок перед Церквою та своєю парафією.

Нехай благословення Господа нашого Бога і Спасителя Ісуса Христа перебуває з усіма вами.
З любов'ю у Христі Господі,
о. Роман

Пастирські відвідування

Просимо звертатися до отця Романа у випадках якщо Ви, або Ваші близькі, захворіли і, або, якщо вам потрібна духовна підтримка та розрада у час смутку. Просимо звертатися до отця напряму за телефоном 780-994-8721.



The Nativity of our Lord

The Feast of the Nativity of Jesus is one of the most joyful days of the Orthodox Church. It ranks next to the greatest holiday, the Resurrection of Jesus. The Feast of the Birth of Jesus is also known as the "Incarnation of Christ." This means that Jesus became a man and came into the world to save us. We also refer to this joyous feast as Christmas.

Biblical Story

The story of the Nativity of Christ is beautifully told in the Holy Scriptures. The story is found in Matthew 1:18-25 and in Luke 2:1-20. No matter how often the Birth of Jesus is told, we realize that it is an important event.

As the story is told by the Apostles, the Roman Empire was powerful. The Romans had conquered much of the then known world. Judea and Samaria, what we know today as Israel, were included in their conquests. Emperor Augustus ordered that a census be taken in all his lands. He needed to know how many people lived in the empire so he could tax them. Everyone had to go to the town of their family's origin to register for the census. This meant that Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem. They were descendants of King David and Bethlehem was the City of David.

Now, that night the shepherds were out in the fields guarding their sheep. Suddenly, there was a bright light which startled the shepherds. The light was so bright that it turned the night into daylight. Of course, the shepherds were frightened. Nothing such as this had ever happened. Soon an angel appeared and calmed them. The angel said:

"Fear not for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior; which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger" (Luke 2:11-12).

Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth and it was a great distance from Bethlehem. It was about 100 miles over very rugged roads. Moreover, Mary was expecting the baby and it was almost time for her to give birth. Bethlehem was a small town and there were many descendants of David who had come to register for the census. By the time Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem there was no place for them to stay. Joseph tried very hard to find a place to sleep that evening. There was no room at the inn. Finally, Joseph found a cave-like place where they could rest. This place was used by shepherds to protect their sheep in stormy weather. It was here that Mary gave birth to Jesus. The baby was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in the straw in the manger.



Then a larger group of angels appeared. They praised and glorified God and sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will toward men" (Luke 2:14). When the angels finished singing, they disappeared and the light began to fade. It became dimmer and dimmer until it was dark again. The shepherds were awed. They didn't know what to do. Finally, they decided to leave their flocks of sheep and go to Bethlehem. They decided that they wanted to see for themselves what the angels had told them. When they got to Bethlehem, they found Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus. They fell to their knees and adored Jesus.



Some Wise Men came from the East for they knew of the coming of Jesus. They had seen a star that told them that a new king had been born to the Jews. They followed the star and were looking for the child. At this time the governor of Judea was King Herod. He was a wicked man and was feared and hated by the people. When Herod heard about the Wise Men looking for the child, he invited them to his palace. Herod asked the Wise Men to find the child so that he, too, could worship Him. But Herod was lying. He did not want anyone to take his place. The Wise Men went on to look for Jesus. The Star led them to Jesus and Mary. When the Wise Men found Jesus, they fell to their knees and worshipped Him. They gave Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The Wise Men left but did not return to Herod. They had a dream that warned them that Herod wanted to harm Jesus. Instead, they returned to their native country by a different route.

The Orthodox Celebration of the Feast of the Nativity

As with Pascha, or Easter, the Feast of the Nativity begins with a period of preparation. It is proceeded by a fast corresponding to Lent and lasting for forty days. The fast begins on November 15.

On Christmas Day the service commemorates the birth of Christ in Bethlehem, the adoration of the Shepherds, and the arrival of the Wise Men with their gifts. The service held on this day is the Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom.

The days following Christmas are associated with the Theotokos and Joseph. December 26 is the Synaxis of the Mother of God, and the first Sunday after the Feast commemorates “Joseph the Betrothed.” December 29 commemorates the Massacre of the Innocents, and January 1 the Circumcision of our Lord. The Nativity season concludes on December 31, but the spirit of the festival extends to the celebration of Theophany (Epiphany), the feast commemorating the Baptism of our Lord in the Jordan River. Adopted and Adapted from The Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Flesh - Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

The "Caring Heart Winter Drive"



Glory to Jesus Christ!

Last month, I proposed a parish-wide initiative to raise funds among our parishioners, and among all those who wish to join them, in order to support charities in our city. I am talking about charities, which help to ease hardships of people, who are struggling with getting necessary food, clothing, and other basic necessities, especially during the harsh winter months.

Our family, and other families in our parish have already made donations to this cause. No amount is too big, or too small: it is your care for others that counts!

Make your monetary donations to St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor parish earmarking it "The Caring Heart Winter Drive".

May Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ bestow His blessings upon all of you!

With love in Christ, the Lord,

Father Roman

Благодійна акція «Дбайливе серце: Зимове тепло»

Слава Ісусу Христу!

Минулого місяця я запропонував парафіяльну ініціативу зі збору коштів серед наших парафіян та всіх охочих долучитися до неї, щоб підтримати благодійні організації нашого міста. Йдеться про організації, які допомагають полегшити становище людей, котрі мають труднощі із забезпеченням себе їжею, одягом та іншими речами першої необхідності — особливо в суворі зимові місяці.

Наша родина, а також інші сім’ї нашої парафії, вже зробили свої пожертви на цю справу. Не існує занадто великої чи занадто малої суми: головне — ваша турбота про ближніх!

Ви можете зробити грошову пожертву на користь Українського православного собору святого Андрія, вказавши призначення платежу: "The Caring Heart Winter Drive". Нехай Господь Бог і Спаситель наш Ісус Христос щедро благословить усіх вас!

З любов’ю у Христі, Господі нашому,

отець Роман



Saint Nicholas Day!

Святий Миколай Чудотворець!

December 6, 2026

Come and join us for fellowship after Divine Liturgy.

We welcome all to the Tillie Kurysh Hall to visit with a friend or meet new friends.

Enjoy a bowl of borsch. NO Charge!

Святий Миколай will be handing out some treats for the children and youth. Bring your family!

Please join us and the fellowship team.

We look forward to meeting you.

Thanks!
Vivian Skakun and the fellowship team



St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

Our Holy Father Nicholas appears as a living pillar of the Church, zealous in defense of the faith and a model of pastoral solicitude for holy bishops. Through his countless miracles on behalf of the poor, the abandoned, of those suffering injustice and of all who call upon his fatherly protection, he has to this day shown himself “a good steward of the manifold grace of God” (I Peter 4:10).
Saint Nicholas was born in Patara in Lycia towards the end of the third century. He regarded himself merely as the steward of goods which belonged to the poor and took particular care to keep his good deeds secret, so as not to lose the heavenly reward (cf. Matthew 6:7).



God recompensed him through the charismata and miracles for which he became renowned in the sight of men. On pilgrimage to the Holy Places he twice by his prayer calmed the winds that imperiled the ship he was sailing in. For many years the holy Bishop was, as the presence of Christ, a friend of man and good shepherd to his faithful; there was no misfortune that would not move him to compassion, no injustice that he would not redress, no discord that he would not allay.
On many other occasions after his death as well as during his lifetime, Saint Nicholas has miraculously assisted ships in distress and people making voyages, and so is venerated as the protector of all who sail the seas. Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia - Orthodox Church in America



СОЮЗ УКРАЇНОК КАНАДИ

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Ladies Auxiliary (SAUOLA) Branch
By Vivian Skakun

Dear Members, Associate Members and Friends of the Parish,

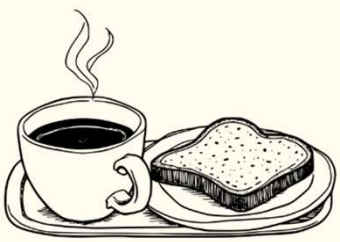
Glory Be To Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!

Events: Sunday, October 4, 2026, Celebration of 100th Anniversary of Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada (UWAC) held at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor Parish. After Divine Liturgy, His Eminence Metropolitan Ilarion served a Moleben for Wellness for Women at the request of Provincial UWAC Executive. Following a group photograph of the all the Soyzanky, we continued with celebrations on the lower level in the Tillie Kurysh Hall.



UWAC 100th Anniversary Celebratory Tea/ Luncheon, October 4, 2026, hosted at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor Parish. Source of photo unknown – taken off the UOCC Website.

The program included prayers and blessing from Very Rev. Archpriest Dr. Roman I. Shiyan and His Eminence Metropolitan Ilarion as well as words of encouragement from His Eminence to continue the endeavors of Soyuz. Victoria Kinhinicki, Provincial Vice-President also brought greetings. During the Luncheon of Quiche, Salad and Tea, Olya Grystiv introduced the models of the fashion show wearing costumes from different parts of Ukraine. Both the October 3rd and 4th event at St. John's and St. Andrew's were recorded and aired on KONTACT and can be viewed on YouTube. Thank you to Kathy Buchanan for the lovely luncheon and all the volunteers that assisted with the event October 4th.



Next Fellowships
December 6th and 20th



Ladies Auxiliary President's Message Continued

Christmas Bake Sale – The Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Bake Sale will be **on Saturday, December 12, 2026** from **1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** Intake of items for the Bake Sale will be on Friday**, December 11, 2026 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m**. and on **Saturday morning from 9:00 -12:00 p.m.**

In addition to baked and frozen goods, we will be selling St. Andrew's Ladies Cookbook: *More Cooking Favorites*. Also, we will have homemade small blankets and denim aprons for sale.

Christmas Bureau/ Silent Auction - On December 21st the Men's Club and Ladies Auxiliary, after our respective meetings, will hold a joint social. We bring a Lenten snack and an item for silent auction. We place purchased tickets in a paper bag behind the item of our choice. The proceeds from his auction, as well as the donation of the Ladies Auxiliary, will be sent to the Christmas Bureau. All Members please join in the fun. We look forward to prospective new members. We work for the benefit of our church and parish. More hands make light work.









More photos of the UWAC 100th Anniversary Celebratory Tea/ Luncheon, October 4, 2026 hosted at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor Parish. Source of photo – Vivian Skakun



ST ANDREW'S MENS CLUB By Ernest N. Skakun

Glory To Jesus Christ! May His Glory Be Forever!

Dear Members, Associate Members, Honorary Members, and Friends;

On behalf of St. Andrew's Mens Club (SAMC) Board of Directors and members, I greet all of you. This communication deals with 3 items – 1. Update on Kitchen Renovations Project, 2. SAMC Budget Planning, and 3. St. Stephen's Cemetery.

Kitchen Renovations Project

Over the past number of years, various suggestions have been made for renovations to the kitchen. In 2024, at the request of the Parish, SAMC submitted a grant application to the Community Facilities Enhancement Program for several projects. One of the projects was for a kitchen consultant to provide a conceptual plan of a renovated kitchen. I served as project manager for kitchen renovation. The kitchen project has not been completed. Initial quotes were obtained from three companies, two were asked to submit updated quotes. Representatives from two of the companies met with members of the Parish, Ladies Auxiliary, and SAMC to discuss their plans for a renovated kitchen. Based on the discussions, quotes were provided by both companies, however, quotes differed due to quotes being based on different project specifications and priorities. One of the companies has been asked to provide a more complete quote. A meeting with the company representative has been scheduled. Once that quote is submitted, the project is complete. That is, conceptual plans and quotes will be in place for further review, The next step(s) to taken would be the Parish's responsibility.

SAMC Budget Planning

SAMC will begin its budget planning for the coming year (2027) in December, 2026. The Parish depends on donations from members and friends of the Parish, SAMC, and St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Ladies Auxiliary (SAUOLA) to support the operations and maintenance of the Parish Complex as well as help and support with major projects. The details of donations, support, and help from SAUOLA and SAMC to the Parish is outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the three parties in 2024.

St. Stephen's Cemetery

Most of you know of St. Stephen's Cemetery. It was established in 2000 and is one of the newest cemeteries in Edmonton and area. The setting is peaceful and gives the visitor a quiet serene location. It is easily accessible from every part of Edmonton and region. St. Stephen's Cemetery is located just off Manning Drive (Highway 15), 6 minutes north of the Anthony Henday Drive (Highway 216). What you might not know is that the Cemetery is owned by the Council of Ukrainian Orthodox Churches of Edmonton (CUOCE), that is, the 5 Ukrainian Orthodox Parishes in Edmonton. Our Parish is a co-owner and makes an annual donation in a form of a levy to support the operations and maintenance of the Cemetery. Two representatives from our Parish serving on Council. For further information on the Cemetery, see the link on the Parish website or www.ststephenscemetery.ca.

Very soon, we will be celebrating the festive season of the Nativity of Jesus Christ (birth of Jesus Christ,) New Years, Eve of Theophany, and the Holy Theophany. The SAMC Executive and Directors wish you a Very Merry Christmas, a prosperous New Year, and in our tradition ХРИСТОС НАРОДИВСЯ! СЛАВІМО ЙОГО! Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!

On behalf of the SAMC Board of Directors,

Ernest N. Skakun, President



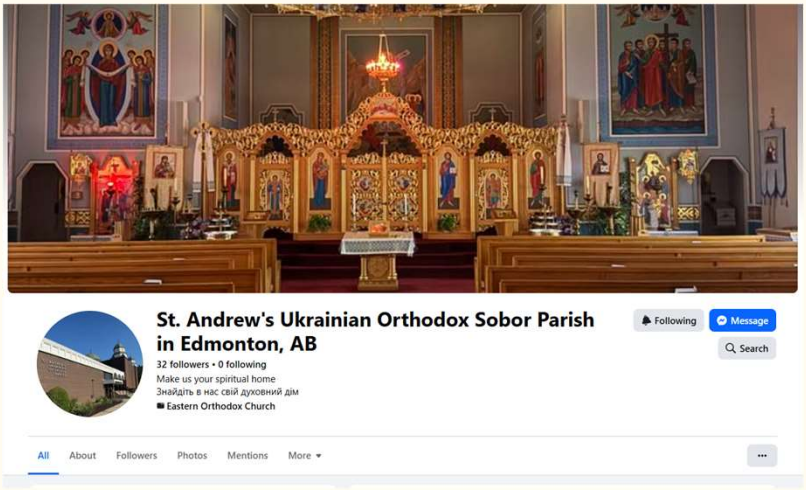
Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club invites all senior members and friends of the church to join in **fellowship, fun, and activities**. We celebrate the wisdom, experience, and joy of our senior community through monthly gatherings, shared meals, and enjoyable programs.

We meet **every Tuesday between 9:30 and Noon in the church cultural hall**.

For more information, please contact Eugene Luchka at 780-919-8863.

Please visit our new Facebook page at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor parish in Edmonton, AB



If you do not have access to a computer and would like a copy of the Outreach mailed to you, contact us at:

Info@uocc-standrew.ca 780-460-1463 (office)



Deadline for Newsletter Submissions

The deadline for the December Outreach is November 15th. Please provide your submission by email to norine.murrell@uocc-standrew.ca

Do you have **photos** of recent events at our Parish? If so, please submit them for consideration in the Outreach. Your input is valuable! Please email them to: info@uocc-standrew.ca

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor
Very Rev. Archpriest Dr. Roman I. Shiyan

780-994-8721 or fr.roman.shiyan@gmail.com

December 2026 Schedule

December 2 (Wednesday) - – Noon Service at St. Michael's Senior Home at 10:30 am

December 5 (Saturday) – Great Vespers at 5:00 pm with the Rite of Confession to follow.

December 6 (St. Nicholas) - Reading of the Hours and Confession at 9:30 am. Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am. Fellowship at 12:00 pm.

December 12 (Saturday) – "The Orthodox Faith and Orthodox Living" class at 3:30 p.m.

December 12 (Saturday) – Great Vespers at 5:00 pm with the Rite of Confession to follow

December 13- Reading of the Hours and Confession at 9:30 am. Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

December 19 (Saturday) – Great Vespers at 5:00 pm with the Rite of Confession to follow

December 20 (Sunday before the Nativity) - Reading of the Hours and Confession at 9:30 am. Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am. Fellowship at 12:00 pm.

December 24 (Thursday) "Great Compline" (Nativity)" with Litiya at 5:00 pm

December 25 (Friday) **+NATIVITY OF CHRIST** Reading of the Hours and Confession at 9:30 am. Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

December 25 (Friday) Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary at 5:00 pm

December 26 (Saturday) – "The Orthodox Faith and Orthodox Living" class at 3:30 p.m.

December 26 (Saturday) – Great Vespers at 5:00 pm with the Rite of Confession to follow

December 27 - Reading of the Hours and Confession at 9:30 am. Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

December 28 – January 1. Priest is on vacation. No services in the parish

Father Roman will be serving noon services on the first Wednesday of every month at 10:00 am at
St. Michael's Extended Care Centre.

If you have any questions, please contact Father Roman on his cell at 780-994-8721 or email: fr.roman.shiyan@gmail.com

Український православний Собор Святого апостола Андрія

Настоятель отець протоієрей д-р Роман Шиян

780-994-8721 або fr.roman.shiyan@gmail.com

Розклад служб і класів на грудень 2026 року

2 грудня (середа) – Обідниця у будинку для людей похилого віку Святого Михайла о 10:30 ранку

5 грудня (субота) – Велика вечірня о 17:00 з чином сповіді після служби

6 грудня (Св. Николая) – Читання Часів та сповідь о 9:30 ранку. Божественна Літургія о 10:00 ранку. Зустріч лри каві о 12:00.

12 грудня (субота) – Заняття «Православна віра та православне життя» о 15:30

12 грудня (субота) – Велика вечірня о 16:00 з чином сповіді після служби

13 грудня – Читання Часів та сповідь о 9:30 ранку. Божественна Літургія о 10:00 ранку

19 грудня (субота) – Велика вечірня о 17:00, після якої відбудеться чин сповіді

20 грудня - Читання Часів та сповідь о 9:30 ранку. Божественна Літургія о 10:00 ранку. Зустріч лри каві о 12:00.

24 грудня (четвер) “Велике повечір'я Різдва Христового” з літією о 17:00

25 грудня (п'ятниця) **+РІЗДВО ХРИСТОВЕ** Читання Часів та сповідь о 9:30 ранку. Божественна Літургія о 10:00 ранку

25 грудня (п'ятниця). Акафіст до Пресвятої Богородиці та Приснодіви Марії о 17:00 вечора

26 грудня (субота) – Заняття «Православна віра та православне життя» о 15:30

26 грудня (субота) – Велика вечірня о 17:00, після якої відбудеться чин сповіді

27 грудня - Читання Часів та сповідь о 9:30 ранку. Божественна Літургія о 10:00 ранку

28 грудня – 1 січня. Священник у відпустці. Служб у Соборі немає

If you have any questions, please contact Father Roman on his cell at 780-994-8721 or email: fr.roman.shiyan@gmail.com

Christmas Bake Sale

Saturday, December 12, 2026

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor Parish

Cultural Hall

9831 – 75th Street

Edmonton, Alberta

- **Christmas Baking**
- **Pies** (A variety of baked pies)
- **Cabbage Rolls**
- **Pyrohy** (cottage cheese and potato or cheddar and potato)
- **Sausage** (gluten-free)
- **Wheat**
- **One of A Kind - Homemade Blankets / Aprons**
- **St. Andrew's Ladies Cookbook "*More Cooking Favorites*"**
- **And more!**

Sponsored by St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Ladies Auxiliary

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS - ALBERTA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
КОНГРЕС УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ - ПРОВІНЦІЙНА РАДА АЛЬБЕРТИ

PRESENTS

Congratulations to the Recipients!

Hetman Leadership Award
Andrii Lytvynets
Jason Sydor
Raymond George (Ray) Lacousta
Nataliya Grytsiv

Youth Leadership Award
Lukian Podilsky
Artem Bashtanov

Exemplary Volunteer Award
Mary Ann (Marusia) Dutka
Miroslaw (Mirko) Lewita

Professional Achievement Award
Nataliia Naiavko
Alla Semenko

Ukrainian Crisis Humanitarian Aid Award
Dr Myron and Elaine Semkuley

UKRAINIAN BANDURIST CHORUS
OF NORTH AMERICA
УКРАЇНСЬКА КАПЕЛЯ БАНДУРИСТІВ
ПІВНІЧНОЇ АМЕРИКИ

OLEH MAHLAY
artistic director - conductor

A UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS
УКРАЇНСЬКЕ РІЗДВО

Calgary, Alberta
December 4, 2026 | 7:00 pm
GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1009 15 Ave SW, Calgary

Edmonton, Alberta
December 5, 2026 | 7:00 pm
ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH
10209 123 St NW, Edmonton

UBC YOUTH INITIATIVE: ***FREE*** *for 22 and under*

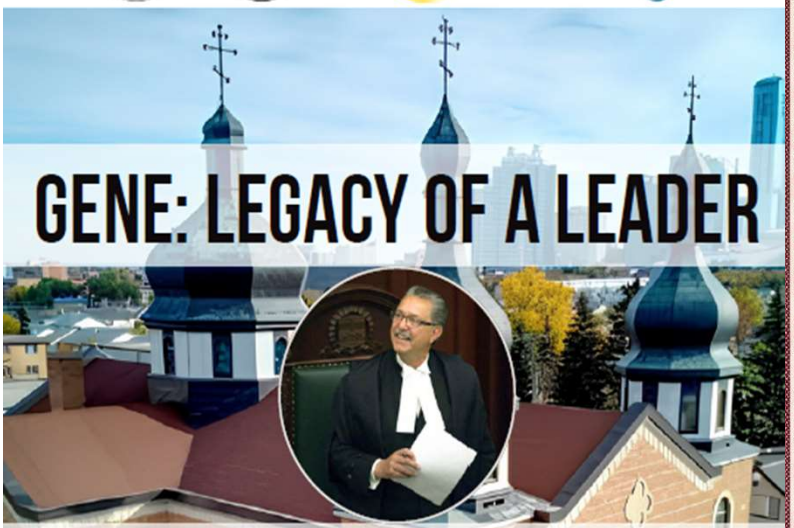
BANDURA.ORG/EVENTS

SHEVCHENKO FOUNDATION

ALIEA
Alberta Local & International Education Association

Lindisfarne PRODUCTIONS

GENE: LEGACY OF A LEADER



Admission by donation to
Gene Zwozdesky Artist in Residence Program at MacEwan

Film in English with Ukrainian subtitles

Sunday, Dec. 6, 2026

3:00 PM

St. John's Cultural Centre
10611 - 110 Ave

Watch the trailer by scanning the QR code!

Event is sponsored by Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of St. John the Baptist and TYC - Ukrainian Self Reliance Association

St. John's Malanka
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2027



Приєднуйтесь до нашої сімейної Маланки!

- 5:30 pm - Social hour
- 6:30 pm - Festive Dinner
- 8:00 pm - Malanka performances

STEPPE UKRAINIAN ZABAVA BAND

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY TO THE SOUNDS OF STEPPE!
Traditional carollers & special dance performances from the Shumka School of Ukrainian Dance

TICKET PRICES:
Adults/Seniors: $70 | Students (13-17): $40
Children (6-12): $25 | 5 & Under: $10

TICKETS & INFO:
Church office: (780) 425-9692 | Lesia: (780) 902-9572

Cash, cheque, or e-transfer. **NO HOLDS**