

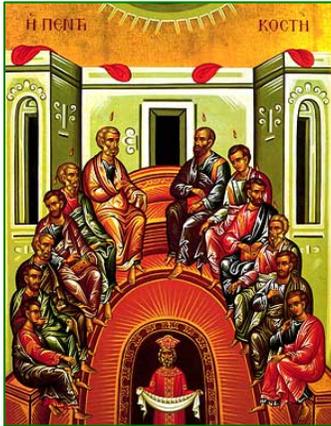


WESTERN EPARCHY NEWSLETTER

WESTERN EPARCHY NEWSLETTER
THE WESTERN EPARCHY
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF CANADA

WESTERN EPARCHY

(Issue: 12) Summer, 2014



HOLY PENTECOST

ТРОПАР, НОЛОС 8

Благословен еси, Христе Боже наш, що премудрими рибаків явив, пославши їм Духа Святого, і ними увесь світ уловив. Чоловіколюбче, слава Тобі.

TROPAR, TONE 8

Blessed are You, O Christ our God, Who has revealed the fishermen to be most wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit and through them drew the universe into Your net, O Lover-of-Mankind, glory to You.

Inside this issue:

Holy Pentecost	1
The Founding of the UOC of St. Nicholas, Red Deer, AB	1
Thoughts on Frequent Communion– part 2	2
Activities in the Western Eparchy	3
Activities in the Western Eparchy	4

The Founding of a new Church and the Erecting of the Holy Cross UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, RED DEER, ALBERTA Holy Pentecost, June 8, 2014



CONTACT INFORMATION

The Western Eparchy

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

11404 - 112 Ave.

Edmonton, AB . T5G 0H6

Ph. 780 - 455 - 1938

Fax. 780 - 454 - 5287

Website:

www.uocc-we.ca

Email:

admin@uocc-we.ca





Some Thoughts about Frequent Communion—part 2

(continued from WE Newsletter, Spring 2014 edition)

by Joana Janis, age 93



Did my adult years in the Orthodox church bring any change in frequency of communion?

No. After I married Walter in July 1948, we moved to Edmonton, and in the fall of 1948, I became a member of St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, then located on 96th Street. As of 2013, I have been a member of St. John's for sixty-five years (many of our present members haven't even lived that long!)

For my first sixty years as a member, I followed the parish custom for adults - confession and communion once or twice a year—at Pascha and/or Christmas. More frequent partaking was only for young children. Occasionally, personal circumstances prompted more than the bi-annual pilgrimage to confession and communion, but my partaking couldn't be called frequent—when you consider there are fifty two Sunday Divine Liturgies, plus feast days and other Liturgies being served every year! But I wasn't alone.

What I took away. The practiced of infrequent communion became institutionalized. It was the custom that everyone, clergy and parishioners, grew up with, was used to, and followed. No one preached or followed anything different.

Why, at age eighty-eight, did I (seemingly suddenly) want to go more often to communion?

Maybe it's partly about aging. As you get older, and closer to the end of your life than the beginning of it, maybe the words " healing of body and soul' and " forgiveness of sins" become more meaningful. The occasional ache becomes an ongoing pain becomes a chronic medical condition—and you wish it wasn't so. Realizing that there's more time past than time to come can make accumulated, or recent, hurts and regrets weigh heavy –And you wish it wasn't so.

Mainly, though, *I found myself uneasy with the contradiction in my life. I knew about communion and its importance for Orthodox Christians, and yet my behaviour was not consistent with the knowledge. That bothered me.* In the end, because of what I knew, my belief in, desire for, and need of communion, led me to want to change my behaviour to come to the chalice more often.

Was it easy going to communion more often?

Both easy and hard. In understanding what God freely offers to us through communion, it was easy to make the personal decision to make this sacrament a part of my life as often as possible—I could do that in private. The hard part was that I had to fulfill that commitment at the Divine Liturgy, in public.

Especially at the beginning, there were some difficult times for me. It was like I could feel people thinking, " Not again! What is wrong with her?"—*which was very unnerving, and disheartening.* Some people even came up and asked me things such as, "Do you sin so much?" " How come you go to communion so often?" " Why do you have to go *all* the time?"

I'd say that my sense of this attitude among some did affect my communion attendance to an extent. For one thing, I didn't immediately start taking communion every week! I didn't want, by my actions, to upset, point fingers at, or judge anyone; and by the same token, I didn't want to tempt others to do that to me. So, for all our sakes, my frequency increased slowly. But with the decision made—and emboldened, I know, by the Eucharist—I was drawn to go more and more often. In the last three years of attending Divine Liturgies, I've almost always gone to communion.

(to be concluded in the next issue of the Western Eparchy Newsletter.)



Youth Retreat—Banff, May 2014

The Western Eparchy Youth Retreat took place in Banff, Alberta, May 9-11, 2014. As we have experienced in the past, 29 youth attended the retreat. When we include the necessary supervision to make this retreat possible, the bus was near its capacity. There appears to be a growing interest among the Youth of the Western Eparchy in attending this event. It is interesting to see a good mix of both a growing group of returning youth, along with a number of youth who have not previously attended Western Eparchy Youth events, now attending the events.

A breakdown of the youth attending from the respective parishes is as follows:

St. Paul, AB parish - All Saints, Edmonton parishes: St. Andrew's, St. Anthony's, St. John's Cathedral, Calgary parish - St. Vladimir's.

The event was run in nearly an identical fashion to last year's retreat. The transportation was provided by Mr. Terry Baydala of Vegreville, and a member of the Vegreville parish district. The speakers were Fr. Timothy and Dobr. Julie Chrapko. The topic of "Orthodoxy and the World" appeared to be well received by the Youth. The night was concluded with a film and discussion that incorporated the themes of the retreat.



CLERGY ELEVATIONS



According to the blessing of the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

The Right Rev. NICHOLAS RAULIUK

is elevated to the rank of

PROTOPRESBYTER



According to the blessing of the Council of Bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

The Right Rev. STEPHAN SEMOTIUK

Is elevated to the rank of

PROTOPRESBYTER



BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS—April 19, 2014

His Grace Bishop Ilarion with Fr. Alexandre Palamarchuk blessed Easter Baskets in the Radway Parochial District

Westlock—The UOC of St. Volodymyr



Radway— The UOC of The Holy Ascension



Thorhild— The UOC of Sts. Peter and Paul



Redwater—The UOC of The Holy Trinity



Fedorah — The UOC of St. John



WESTERN EPARCHY (UOCC) Fall Assembly - Youth Appreciation Banquet

Dates: October 23-26

Place: The UOC Cathedral of St. John and St. John's Cultural Center, Edmonton.

**YOUTH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BANQUET AND PRESENTATIONS
on OCTOBER 25, 5:00 PM.**

ORPHANAGE PROJECT IN UKRAINE

Many needed items were purchased in February, 2014. Donations gratefully accepted for continued support of the Orphanages in Ukraine.

Tax Receipts for Revenue Canada will be issued.



THANK YOU for all donations made to the Orphanage Project in Ukraine.

2 Corinthians 9: 6-8

He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

DONATIONS FOR THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, RED DEER, AB. GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.

Please make donations to the continued building of The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas to:

P.O. Box 24038 (RPO City Centre)

Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6X6

Cheques Should Be Made out to:

"Ukrainian Orthodox Parish of Red Deer"



Building for future generations.