

WESTERN DIOCESE NEWSLETTER

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA

From The Administrator ...

Church as the Mainstay of Spiritual Development

The awareness that one is alone and one's existence is unnecessary leads one to search for support in life. Man suffers unbearable when he is forced to live with and in himself alone, with no one to care for, and no one to offer him a helping hand. Where is one to find that which is eternal and to which one could cleave with all one's being?

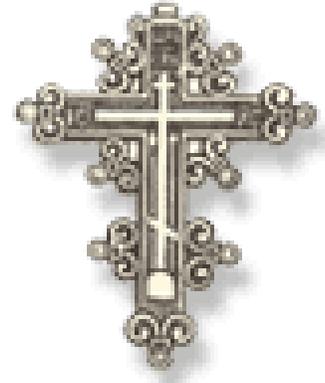
It is in the Church. The Church frees us from such oppressive suffering. Within the Church we enter into the moral and spiritual communion with persons in whom the Christian life has found its fullness, revealed to such glory. Such Christian people are called the light of the world by the Savior Himself. The wide experience of one member in the Church, the profound wisdom of another member, and the spirituality exalted life of yet another, by serving the Church, serve everyone. Entry into the Church widens the dimensions of spiritual life, and so the entering Christian can begin the slow process of conversion and sanctification.

The Church strengthens those who by themselves are weak. As living members of the Church, they become rich in the profound experience and understanding handed down through generations and preserved by the Church. To bind one's active life to the Church means to link it closely with the work of those generations before and after us. Nothing gives so much joy to the soul as the help we in the Church, succored by divine grace, give each other for the high goal of salvation. Life on earth has real meaning only when thus sanctified by the Church. This Church experience can raise the spirit, supply energy, and guide the weak to great accomplishment and great sacrifice, protecting them from temptation to evil and from all weaknesses in life. Life in the Church and activity devoted to the service of the Church make the light eternal shine upon us. He who distances himself from the Church deprives himself of all these beneficial influences.

-Rt. Rev. Victor Lakusta
Western Diocese Administrator

Church News — Welcome!

With the recent assignments of Pastors, we welcome to the Western Diocese: Rev. Charles Baxter who has been assigned to Vancouver Island Parochial District (Victoria & Parksville). Welcome Fr. Charles! Our best wishes in your newly assigned pastoral responsibilities,



2007 Camp Dates:

- **Camp Bar-V-Nok** (July 1st—14th, ages: 8 to 14 yrs)
(Contact: Lesia Pohoreski @ barvnok@shaw.ca)
- **Camp Kiev's-K-Hi** (July 8th—15th; 15th—22nd; 22nd—29th; August 5th—12th)
(Contact: Linda Boser @ boser@telusplanet.net or Larry Godziuk @ larry.godziuk@nlsd.ca)
- **Camp Kolomayka** (B.C.) (August 6th—20th)
(Contact: Irina Chuck @ ichucko@yahoo.ca)

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**Ukrainian
Orthodox Church
of Canada
Website**

<http://www.uocc.ca>

The UOCC website provides a vast amount of information under subsections:

- > Orthodox Faith
- > About UOCC
- > Parishes
- > Church Goods
- > Visnyk
- > Photos
- > News
- > Links
- > Contacts

Under the section— "Parishes" there is photo display of our UOCC parishes, providing a digital photo had been sent to the Consistory. For example:



St. Volodymyr Parish
Calgary, AB.



St. Peter & Paul
Kaleland, AB,

Ex-Officio Chair:

His Eminence Metropolitan JOHN
9 St. John's Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R2W 1G8
Consistory telephone: (877) 586-3093 ext. 222
Consistory fax: (204) 582-5241
Email: metropolitan@uocc.ca



From The Diocesan Office ...

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Status of Levies (as of May 24th)

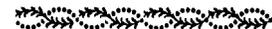
According to our records, the following parishes have already paid their levies in full for 2007:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Andrew</i> | <i>Athabasca</i> |
| <i>Bonnyville</i> | <i>Brosseau</i> |
| <i>Calmar</i> | <i>Camrose</i> |
| <i>Craigend</i> | <i>Downing</i> |
| <i>Edmonton (St. Elias)</i> | <i>Glendon</i> |
| <i>Grassland</i> | <i>Hamlin</i> |
| <i>Kaleland</i> | <i>Kamloops</i> |
| <i>Lethbridge</i> | <i>Lloydminster</i> |
| <i>Luzan</i> | <i>Luzan-Topor</i> |
| <i>Myrnam</i> | <i>Peno</i> |
| <i>Redwater</i> | <i>Reno</i> |
| <i>Spedden</i> | <i>Spirit River</i> |
| <i>Stry</i> | <i>Surrey</i> |
| <i>Szepenitz</i> | <i>Thorhild</i> |

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Vegreville</i> | <i>Vernon</i> |
| <i>Victoria</i> | <i>Vilna</i> |
| <i>Waskatenau</i> | <i>Westlock</i> |
| <i>Egremont</i> | <i>Chilliwack</i> |
| <i>Mission</i> | <i>Thorsby</i> |
| <i>Radway</i> | <i>Chilliwack</i> |
| <i>Edmonton (St. Michael)</i> | <i>Bellis</i> |
| <i>Edmonton (St. Andrew)</i> | <i>Kahwin</i> |
| <i>Parksville</i> | <i>Two Hills</i> |
| <i>Gifford/Nowa Bukowyna</i> | |
| <i>Sarrail</i> | <i>Sandy Rapids</i> |

Those parishes that have either not paid their levies or have paid in part, we would appreciate you doing so as soon as possible. There are some parishes that have not fulfilled their 2006 budget levies. We would appreciate that those be addressed as well.

-Western Diocese Exec. Committee



The Diocesan Financial Update

The Western Diocese budget levies are now due. These levies are divided as such — \$7 Operations, \$2 Mission Fund, \$1 Christian Heritage & Education Fund, and \$1 Cemetery and Property Maintenance Fund — for a total of \$11 per member.

Following two previous deficits, we find that we no longer can operate on a \$7 balanced budget. Costs have escalated, resulting in the following breakdown based on approximately 3500 membership:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Insurance | \$1.00 |
| Property tax | \$1.00 |
| Administration | \$1.80 |
| Utilities | \$2.20 |
| Office | \$0.75 |
| Maintenance | \$1.25 |
| TOTAL Fixed Costs | \$8.00 |
| Council expenses, clergy retreats and capital improvement projects are additional operating expenses. Our fiscal year is from September 1st to August 31st, making it further difficult to pay bills as it takes 6 months before we start ... | |



Diocesan Financial Update *Continued from page 2 ...*

More Parish Photos!



Sts. Peter & Paul Andrew, AB.



St. John's Cathedral Edmonton, AB.

Definitions!

The "Rural Issues Committee of the UOCC" has defined different levels of parishes, etc.

Congregations...

A group of faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada at a given geographical location, gathering together for a common worship at a suitable designated place of worship; gather together regularly to worship God in the Orthodox manner; incorporated with the Consistory of the UOCC, adheres to the statutes and by-laws of the UOCC and receives regular services of a priest of the UOCC.

... receiving revenues from the budget levies.

It is crucial that levies are paid before fiscal year end on August 31st (if at all possible). *Congratulations to St. Demetrius Parish in Vilna for being the first to submit their 2007 levies!*

The Finance Committee has identified some \$21,000 worth of work that must be acted on. An additional \$13,100 has been spent in the previous budget year, making a noticeable impact on our finances.

- Recent expenditures of \$2400 for disposal of the church in Round Hill, repairs to the manse of \$3500, and replacement of the fence around the manse property at a cost of \$7200 have been noticeable to our finances.
- Two major items for immediate attention are the

repairs to the front steps of the manse at a cost of \$7000 and basement wall repairs estimated to cost \$700 to \$1000.

- Additional funding will be required to make ceiling repairs in the office at a cost of \$2000, to replace the deck at a cost of \$6000, and to landscape and install a sprinkler system at a cost of \$5000.
- Funds will also be required for disposal of or repairs to the church in Barrhead.

This appeal is for financial assistance to maintain our property in good condition.

May God Bless you in your Christian work! See you at the fall conference!

-Yours in Christ,
Marshall Kachmar, Treasurer

Determining Parish Levies!

Levy calculations are based on your membership roll as of December 31st of the previous year. For example: "A parish has a membership of 100 individuals as of December 31st, 2006. The levy assessment for 2007 would be based on the membership count of the previous year (100 individual members). Therefore, based on 100 members that parish's 2007 levy to the Western Diocese would be \$1100 (\$11.00 x 100) and to the Consistory of the UOCC it would be \$5800 (\$58.00 x 100)."

Remember: Levies for the current year are based on your membership roll as of December 31st of the previous year. Levies are not calculated on your current membership roll. This year's membership will be the basis for next year's levy calculation.

Has your parish sent in its "Annual Reports to the Western Diocese & the Consistory of the UOCC"?



New "Good Shepherd" Prayer Book is Now Available! This new bilingual prayer book may be ordered from the Consistory Church Goods at the cost of \$39.95 + S/H + GST. To order call: 1-877-586-3093, Ext. 227.



All-Canada Pilgrimage of Ukrainian Orthodox Faithful will take place: August 4th & 5th, 2007 at the **Historical St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Gardenton, MB.**

This is the site of the first Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada.

Details available on the UOCC website.

“Has your parish submitted the ‘Parish Report Form’ to the Diocesan Office, along with your levy payment?”



THE VISION of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada...

The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, by clearly communicating Her teachings and values to us, Her faithful, as individuals and as a community, will foster an environment of love and caring that will challenge us to pursue our fundamental human calling of deification—the process by which human persons grow God-like. Thus, together we may become “a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that (we) may proclaim the praises of Him who called (us) out of the darkness into His marvelous light...” (2 Peter 2:9)

From The Diocesan Office...

The **Annual Western Diocese Conference for Clergy and Laity** will be held on Oct. 25th - 28th, 2007.

It is our intent to have the **Blessing of the Chapel Icons and Altars** during the Diocesan Conference.

Donations are now being received to offset the cost of the icons installed in the chapel. To date donations have been received for four icons. See page five for details.

In addition to the thirteen icons purchased, two icons have been ordered for the **Icon Stands** and appropriate **Altar coverings**. Donations would be graciously appreciated.



Unused Church items... Does your parish have any old church articles, such as Chalice & Paten sets, Gospel Books, Censers, Hand

Crosses, Altar Crosses & Candle Holders stored away in some cupboard or box no longer used? If there are, keeping in mind that these items had been blessed at some time for liturgical use; therefore they should not be lying around in musty or dusty place but brought in to the Western Diocese Office for appropriate storage.

This also includes any archival documents, records and old liturgical books.



Around the Diocese...

In our Diocesan Newsletter we intend to have an ongoing section publicizing parish related events around the Diocese. We encourage your parish to submit such announcements or brief reports of special events in your parish. The next Diocesan Newsletter will be in September.

In the meantime we wish to announce that:

> **St. Andrew’s Sobor Parish (Edmonton)** will be holding a **“Family Camping Weekend”** at Camp Bar-V-Nok on June 22 - 24. Info: 463-0454 or email: flakusta@telusplanet.net

> **St. John’s Cathedral Parish (Edmonton)** will be celebrating their **Patron Saint Feast Day** on Sunday, June

24th. Metropolitan John will be making an Archpastoral visitation to the parish,

> **Sts. Peter & Paul Parish (Kelowna, B.C.)** will also be celebrating their **Patron Saint Feast Day** on July 8th with an Archpastoral visitation by Metropolitan John.



Fundraising for Feast Day Icons

The Western Diocese Chapel located in the Diocesan Office & Bishop's Residence is in the final completion stage. Funding for the chapel was provided outside the budget levies.

Thirteen icons of the Great Feast Days will complete the chapel. Donations of \$100 per icon (your choice of icon) would be greatly appreciated. Your donation will help us complete the chapel. Income tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

All donors will be published!

The Thirteen Feast Day Icons:

- 1} Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem
- 2} Easter- Resurrection of Lord Jesus Christ
- 3} Ascension of Our Lord
- 4} Descent of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost)
- 5} Baptism of Our Lord (Theophany)
- 6} Meeting of Our Lord
- 7} Annunciation of the Theotokos
- 8} Transfiguration of Our Lord
- 9} Dormition of the Theotokos
- 10} Nativity of the Theotokos
- 11} Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple
- 12} Nativity of Our Lord
- 13} Exaltation of the Holy Cross



UOCC News ...

SOBOR RESOLUTION 18: INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR PARISHES TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS

Whereas membership numbers have been declining over the past many years; and

Whereas the parishes play the major role in attracting and recruiting members; and

Whereas there is a great potential among the large numbers of new immigrants from Ukraine to significantly increase the size of our parishes; and

Whereas given the financial situation of many from this new immigrant community, church membership fees are not necessarily their priority in the first years of residence in Canada, and

Whereas parishes frequently provide various forms of incentives and subsidies at considerable cost to their existing members to encourage these families to associate and become active within their respective parish communities,

18.1 BE IT RESOLVED that the UOCC implement a Parish New Member Incentive Program as a national pilot program during the next five years which would provide parishes with the necessary encouragement for them to continue to expand their investment of energy and resources to recruit new members (new immigrants or established Canadians) to their parish; and

18.2 BE IT RESOLVED that the key elements of this program include:

- **18.2.1** a two year moratorium on levies to be remitted to the UOCC for all new members that are officially approved and registered as new parish members; and
- **18.2.2** the Visnyk/Herald for these new members be provided and paid for from the UOCC Missionary Fund; and
- **18.2.3** Parishes may indicate their interest in participating in this pilot project to the Consistory.

This is a pilot project that will run from 2005 to 2010. If a parish wants to participate in this pilot project, that parish must write a letter to the Consistory of the UOCC stating their intent..

When a new member joins a parish, that Parish does not have to pay levies to the Consistory for two consecutive years. The Herald/Visnyk will be sent to the new member at no cost to the Parish. Payment of levies will commence in the third year of membership.

Please note that the introduction makes reference to new immigrants. However, in 18.1 it is clarified that this pilot project also applies to established Canadians.

Western Diocese Council 2006-2007

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