



WESTERN EPARCHY NEWSLETTER

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UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF
CANADA

Volume I, Issue I

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GREETINGS

from HIS GRACE, BISHOP ILARION



GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST!

СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ!

Beloved in Christ, Fathers,

Brothers and Sisters;

By the grace of God, we are starting our Eparchial Newsletter.

I hope that on these pages you will find many useful and beneficial articles and

information to help you with your spiritual growth. You will find a response to questions that worry you. You will be informed about events that happened or will be happening in our God protected Eparchy.

I believe that our Newsletter is an instrument that draws us closer

together in one spiritual family.

I pray that our efforts will bring results for the good of our Eparchy and for the glory of God.

May God bless all of you and keep you in spiritual and physical strength for many years.

Yours in Christ,

+ILARION,

Bishop of Edmonton

GREETINGS from First Vice – Chairman, Fr. Patrick Yamniuk

Glory To Jesus Christ!

It is with great joy that I write this greeting for our Western Eparchy Newsletter. I thank all those who have contributed to this first issue and encourage others to contribute to the future issues. It has been a long road of planning and we are finally here!

It is my hope that this newsletter becomes an organ of the Western Eparchy for informing its members of what is happening in our Eparchy as well as an educational tool to spiritually nourish those who read it. We are only limited by what our mind thinks

that this newsletter can become. So let's dream big and bring it to fruition with your help!

As we approach the Western Eparchy Sobor, I thank the Executive and Full Council for their contributions this past year and wish the future Council, that will be elected, the best of success in their endeavors.

Yours In Christ,

Fr. Patrick Yamniuk

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Spiritual/Theological

Repentance and Forgiveness

by Fr. Michael Maranchuk

On repentance and forgiveness, St. Ephraim the Syrian writes “The sins of those who ask for pardon are forgiven. But see that you do not harbour hatred for your brother when you ask forgiveness of your sins.”

St Ephraim gives us good news; any who truly repent will be forgiven. But the other part of his message is that we need to be sure that we have forgiven others before we ask for forgiveness for ourselves. Why is that? If we cannot forgive, if we hold a grudge, then we ourselves are not worthy or ready to be forgiven. Christ tells us to love your neighbour as you love yourself. If we are holding a grudge then there can be no forgiveness.

Sometimes it is our own shame or stubbornness that keeps us from forgiving but forgive we must. It is in forgiveness that we find love and it is in repentance that we find salvation.

Liturgical Eschatology

By Fr. Timothy Chrapko

The term “eschatology” comes from the Greek word ἔσχατος, which means when we are speaking of time, those things that come last. In the context of Orthodox Christian Worship, this term refers to the ending of the old age and the ushering in of a new age, an age that is beyond the limitations of time and matter. This is the time of the Kingdom of Heaven. Specifically speaking in the Orthodox Christian context, we are able to see that this notion is a calling of the Church to her faithful to structure their lives in accordance with future expectations. Thus the eschaton is not only the remedy for the fallen world in which we live, but also is the rule which is to regulate our spiritual life. The basis for this understanding is found in various places of the Old and New Testaments. One example is the mystical supper, which holds the character of an Eschatological meal. It is the earthly meal of the Church that has implication in the Kingdom of God. The Holy Mysteries (Sacraments) of the Church also have this eschatological character, as we participate in the life of the Kingdom of God. Even through such simple and everyday actions as helping those in need, we are participating in the life of the Kingdom to come. Through charitable actions the faithful seek to become more like Christ, and if those we help are able to see Christ in us, then the Holy Spirit can continue to do the work begun on the day of Pentecost. In order to draw near to Christ and participate in Eschatological actions, it is essential that we seek union with Christ, most evidently through constant partaking of the Eucharist. The more invested we become in the living worship of the Church (i.e the Eucharist), the more likely we are to be able to take with us the Eschatological images of our worship. Moreover, as a result of this personal investment in worship, believers ultimately are able to orient their life around these eschatological concepts; not focusing on the present things, but on the Eschatos or final things. This will allow us to live as eschatological beings, or citizens of the Kingdom to come; thus the seemingly unsurpassable obstacles of this present life will be put into proper context and we can focus on those things that are necessary. By this we will become Marys and not Marthas and thus choose the portion that will never be taken away from us. (Luke 10:42)

IN OUR PARISHES — SPIRITUAL GROWTH SESSIONS

With the Blessing of His Grace, Bishop Ilarion, the parish of St. Vladimir’s in Calgary, Alberta began a new Educational Series called “The Way” on September 15th, 2011. This series was developed under the Guidance of His Eminence Metropolitan Kalistos of Diokleia at the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies in Cambridge, United Kingdom. This faith study consists of a series of talks on various aspects of the Orthodox Faith, which the Bible Study group in Calgary watches and then discusses. This series allows for adult education groups that have already completed “The Guiding Principles” Bible Study to have an appropriate and thought-provoking resource to use to help their parishioners continue to explore their faith. So far, the communities in Calgary and Red Deer have enjoyed the series, and look forward to continuing to explore it this fall.



WESTERN EPARCHY HIGHLIGHTS

CLERGY, DEACON ORDINATIONS in THE WESTERN EPARCHY, 2010-2011

FATHER MICHAEL FARYNA



His Grace, BISHOP ILARION, ordained Fr. Michael to the Holy Priesthood at the UO Sobor of St. Andrew, Edmonton on December 12, 2010. Fr. Michael grew up in Edmonton and was involved in the UOC of St. Volodymyr in Calgary. He is currently assigned pastoral duties in the Mission District of Hyas – Kamsack - Swan River. He is married to Dobr. Deleena. May God grant him many years the service of our Lord!

FATHER DEACON ROMAN SHIYAN



His Grace, BISHOP ILARION, ordained Fr. Deacon Roman to the Holy Diaconate at the UOC of St. Elia, Edmonton on November 7, 2010.

Fr. Deacon Roman moved to Canada from Ukraine in 2000 and has been employed at the University of Alberta, and has been studying Theology through St. Andrew's College in Winnipeg. He is married to Dobr. Natalya and they have a daughter, Katya.

May God grant Fr. Deacon Roman many years in the service of our Lord.

FATHER DEACON CHAD PAWLYSHYN



His Grace, BISHOP ILARION, ordained Fr. Chad to the Holy Diaconate at the UOC of St. Volodymyr, Calgary, on April 3, 2011. Fr. Deacon Chad has a long history of involvement with the Orthodox Church. He is married to Dobr. Carmen and they have one daughter, Anastasia.

May God grant Fr. Deacon Chad many years in the service of our Lord!



IN MEMORIAM



Dobr. Stephania Yurkiwsky

April 1, 1923 – September 9, 2011

Dobr. Stephania dedicated her life to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and to the Ukrainian culture.

May she rest among the Saints.

ВІЧНА ЇЇ ПАМ'ЯТЬ

MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!



CONGRATULATIONS

Fr. Georg PODTEPA

On the

25th ANNIVERSARY

of his

ORDINATION

TO THE HOLY PRIESTHOOD

May God grant him many, many years!





BLESSING OF ICONOSTAS, SPEDDEN, AB



His Grace, BISHOP ILARION, together with Fr. Benny Ambrosie and clergy, celebrated a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy and blessed the new Iconostas at The U.O. C. of the Holy Trinity, Spedden, AB on June 4, 2011

The Bishop's Tea — June 5, 2011



His Grace, BISHOP ILARION, was honoured with a joyful tea, designed to generate funds for mission work in the Western Eparchy, held at St. Andrew's Sobor, Edmonton, on Sunday, June 5, 2011.

NORTHERN ALBERTA MISSION WORK



His Grace, BISHOP ILARION, and Fr. Georg Podtepa have made several trips to Northern Alberta celebrating the Divine Liturgy in Grande Prairie, Spirit River, as well as blessing graves in Spirit River and Ksituan (Blueberry Creek).

Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Mission Parish of Red Deer

Update September 2011

The Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Mission Parish of Red Deer is continuing to move towards a building of their own. The parish has stayed mostly consistent with its membership, with the addition of two new families who attend regularly. The parish was disappointed this summer when the land deal they were moving towards with the German Club in Red Deer fell through, due to a change in direction on the part of the German Club. This meant that Holy Trinity had to start looking for new land. While there are several options in Red Deer for land to build on, they are all considerably more expensive than the original price they intended to pay. This has slowed down the building process, and the new church will not be built this fall. The parish is putting in offers for land in Red Deer at present, and hopes to finalize their new building site soon.

The parish looks forward to continuing to grow. Events planned this fall include a cantor-ing workshop for Southern Alberta in November, and continued fundraising with perohy and sausage fundraisers. The parish hopes to plan larger fundraising events for the spring. The parish would like to thank the donors who gave so generously within the last year that have helped the building fund to grow and made building a possibility. The parish still has a long way to go to pay for their building, so if any other groups wish to donate to the parish, please contact Fr. Timothy Chrapko at fr.t.chrapko@gmail.com or 403-700-9947.



WESTERN EPARCHY DONATIONS SUMMARY 2010-2011

RECEIVED	
BISHOP'S TEA	2,920
COMMUNITY SPIRIT	7,975
ORGANIZATIONS	10,500
TOTAL	21,395
GIVEN	
CAMPS	4,500
ORGANIZATIONS	2,000
CHARITY	2,000
TOTAL	8,500