



# WESTERN EPARCHY NEWSLETTER

WESTERN EPARCHY  
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
OF CANADA

Issue 27: Spring, 2018



## PASCHAL GREETING FROM HIS GRACE BISHOP ILARION



### ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕС!

Всечесні отці, дорогі браття і сестри!  
В ці дні світлого Христового Воскресіння молитовно бажаю,  
щоб Воскреслий Господь дарував всім вам духовну радість і  
спокій, здоров'я тілесне і допомогу Божу в усіх добрих справах  
на многії літа.

### CHRIST IS RISEN!

Dear Fathers, Beloved Brothers and Sisters,  
In these joyful and glorious days of the Resurrection of our Lord  
and Saviour, Jesus Christ, I prayerfully greet you with the hope  
that His Resurrection gives us all spiritual joy and peace, strong  
physical health, and abundant strength from the Lord in all our  
good deeds for His Glory for many years.

With the blessing of His Grace  
Bishop Ilarion, Bishop of  
Edmonton, all youth of the  
Western Eparchy  
are invited to attend:

**UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX  
CHURCH OF CANADA  
YOUTH RETREAT**

**Banff, Alberta  
MAY 11 - 13**

All Ukrainian Orthodox youth,  
ages 10 and up are welcome  
to register.

For further information contact:  
Fr. Timothy Chrapko  
Phone: 403-700-9947  
Email: [fr.t.chrapko@gmail.com](mailto:fr.t.chrapko@gmail.com)

To register, please visit:  
[www.uoccyouth.com](http://www.uoccyouth.com)

## LENTEN CLERGY RETREAT 2018



### CONTACT INFORMATION

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***“The Resurrection Acted out in the Orthodox Easter Service”***

There are some thoughts so deep that words are powerless to express them. They have to be acted out, if they are to be expressed at all. One such event is the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus. How can we express this great happening with mere words? How can we describe it? What can mere words say to help us capture its full meaning for man? Very little.

That is why the Orthodox Church tries to preach the Resurrection through her liturgy and the magnificent Resurrection Service. The Resurrection is acted out before us and we are allowed to participate in it to help us capture its meaning existentially.

First, the Church gradually sinks into total darkness symbolizing the darkness of the grave, also the darkness of man’s life without God. All men sin. All men die. These are inescapable facts of our existence. This is part of the darkness in which we stand—the darkness that is within us and around us. Most everyone is aware of this, even though we call sin by other names and try to deny the finality of death. We are threatened by the dark.

But in the darkness there is light. “In Him (Christ) was life, and the life was the light of man. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. God has come into the world in Christ Jesus and has met the full force of sin and death and has won the victory.”

Thus, the Paschal Candle is illuminated at the altar—the candle that represents Christ, the Light of the Word. The door to the sanctuary swings open, representing the opening of Christ’s tomb, and His priest appears holding the light, representing the Resurrected Christ, “Come, receive light from the unwaning light,” he sings, “and glorify Christ who is risen from the dead.” The congregation lights their candles from the priest’s, passing on the light to their neighbors until the whole Church is ablaze with the new Light of the Resurrection proclaiming to the world that Christ is risen, that through His Resurrection our darkness has been changed into light; our death has become life; our midnight has become dawn, a dawn of victory.

Then the priest reads the story of the Resurrection from the Gospel of St. Mark ( 16:1). Following this reading the choir and congregation begin singing the Easter hymn “Christ is risen!” It is sung again and again in tones ever more and more triumphant. ...For here is the true message of Christianity: the joy that our last and greatest enemy has been defeated, the joy that Christ has won for us the greatest possible victory; a cosmic victory; a victory in which we all share. “Because I live, you shall live also.”

The Orthodox Easter liturgy is anything but subdued. It begins in darkness and ends in brilliant light. It begins in sadness and ends in jubilation with everyone in the congregation breaking forth with the greeting, “Christ is risen” and hearing the reply: “He is risen indeed” – a greeting that is used in lieu of any other for the forty days of Easter. The icon of the Resurrected Christ is then displayed prominently in the centre of the congregation. The Easter liturgy includes the famous words of St. John Chrysostom:

**“ O Death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory? Christ is risen and thou art overthrown. Christ is risen and the demons have fallen. Christ is risen and the Angels rejoice. Christ is risen and freedom is given to life. Christ is risen and there is none dead in the tomb. For Christ is raised from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. To Him be glory and power from all Ages to all Ages. Amen.”**

The Orthodox Church is called the Church of the Resurrection. It not only acts out the Resurrection in every liturgy, it lives and breathes by the power of Christ “Who on the third day rose again according to the Scriptures.”



## JOURNEY OF GREAT LENT TO HOLY PASCHA 2018

“The Lord says ‘if anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me’ (Matthew 16:24). The days of Great Lent are the days when, with God’s help, we should make the maximum effort, weak and sinful as we are, to carry our cross. We should try to repent more deeply, to cleanse our body and soul from sin more, to forgive others more, to pray more, to fast more, to engage in constant spiritual warfare and thus lay a good foundation for our spiritual cleansing and spiritual development so that we are worthy for Passion Week and the Holy Resurrection.”

### Forgiveness Vespers



“Forgive me, father/brother/sister.”  
“God forgives. Forgive me. And pray for me.”



### Great Compline and the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete



Prayer of St. Ephraim: “O Lord and Master of my life!  
Do not permit me the spirit of laziness, despair, lust of power, and idle talk.  
But give, rather, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Your servant.  
O, Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions and not to judge my brother, for blessed are You unto ages of ages. Amen.”

### PASSIA SERVICE – The Order of the Divine Sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ



“You accomplished salvation on earth, O Christ God; on the Cross You stretched forth Your most pure hands, gathering all peoples that implore: O Lord, glory to You!”

### Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts



“Let my prayer rise as incense before You, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.”



**REDWATER – Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity  
February 25, 2018**

**His Grace Bishop Ilarion celebrated the Divine Liturgy, assisted by clergy.**



**Orphanage in Ukraine update**

**“The rich man is not one who has much but one who gives much. For, what he gives away remains forever” ....St. John Chrysostom**



**CONSECRATION OF UKRAINIAN  
ORTHODOX CHURCH OF  
STS. PETER AND PAUL  
THORHILD, ALBERTA**

**SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018  
@ 9:00 AM.**



**Please consider donating to their Church.  
All donations will receive a taxable receipt.  
Please make your donations directly to:**

**Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
of Sts. Peter and Paul,  
Box 153,  
Thorhild, AB. T0A 3J0**

**The Western Eparchy UOCC continues to support orphanages in Ukraine. Please continue to make donations to:**

**Western Eparchy UOCC and put “Orphanages in Ukraine” in the Memo on cheque.**

**Tax Receipts for Revenue Canada will be issued.**

**THANK YOU FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPORT RECEIVED THROUGH YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS.**

**SECOND PLATE COLLECTION**

**All parishes are reminded to hold a second plate collection during the Paschal Season for funds for the Western Eparchy. We thank the parishes and districts that made donations for the Second Plate Nativity Appeal.**

**WESTERN EPARCHY LEVIES 2018**

**Levies for 2018 will remain at \$15.00 per member (based on membership as of December 31, 2017.)**

**Levies are payable now.**