

**ACCORDING TO THE NORTHERN HEALTH AUTHORITIES
ONLY FULLY VACCINATED
CAN ATTEND THE SERVICES IN PERSON**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

HOLY PROPHET MALACHI

NO SERVICE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

SYNAXIS OF THE SEVENTY HOLY DISCIPLES

9:00AM - DIVINE LITURGY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

THEOPHANY EVE // НАВЕЧІРЯ БОГОЯВЛЕННЯ

4:00AM - GREAT VESPERS WITH THE DIVINE LITURGY

BLESSING OF THE WATER



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY // СВЯТО БОГОЯВЛЕННЯ

10:00AM - DIVINE LITURGY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

SYNAXIS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

9:00AM - DIVINE LITURGY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

VENERABLE FATHER GEORGE THE CHOSEBITE

9:00AM - DIVINE LITURGY

5:00PM - GREAT VESPERS



SUNDAY, JANUARY 9



**SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY
НЕДІЛЯ ПО БОГОЯВЛЕННЯМ**

10:00AM DIVINE LITURGY



PRAYER OF INTERCESSION TO SAINT GEORGE

Faithful servant of God and invincible martyr, Saint George; favored by God with the gift of faith, and inflamed with an ardent love of Christ, You did fight valiantly against the dragon of pride, falsehood, and deceit. Neither pain nor torture, sword nor death could part You from the love of Christ. I fervently implore You for the sake of this love to help me by Your intercession to overcome the temptations that surround me, and to bear bravely the trials that oppress me, so that I may patiently carry the cross which is placed upon me; and let neither distress nor difficulties separate me from the love of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Valiant champion of the Faith, assist me in the combat against evil, that I may win the crown promised to them that persevere unto the end. Amen



**SAINT GEORGE'S
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА**

СВЯТОГО ЮРІЯ

opens wide its doors

to all who mourn or need comfort;
to all who are weary and need rest;

to all who seek friendship;

to all who desire to grow
in relationship with God;

to all who yearn to pray;

to all who need a Saviour,
and in the name our Lord, says:

WELCOME!

CONTACT US

ADDRESS: 2414 Vanier Drive,

Prince George BC, V2N 1T7

PHONE: (250)-563-2015 (Church)

(250)-563-7240 (Rectory)

E-MAIL: pgparish@yahoo.com

WEB: sgparish.ca

HOLY MYSTERIES

✠ **CONFESION / СПОВІДЬ** ✠

every Saturday: 4:00-4:50pm

or by appointment

✠ **HOLY COMMUNION / СВ. ПРИЧАСТЯ** ✠

for the sick, by appointment,

any time

✠ **BAPTISM / ХРЕЩЕННЯ** ✠

by appointment

✠ **MARRIAGE / ВІНЧАННЯ** ✠

6 months notice should be given

to the parish priest, and he should

be contacted before any other

arrangements are made

✠ **FUNERAL / ПОХОРОН** ✠

by appointment

**JANUARY 2, 2022
SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY**



Theophany is the culmination of the Christmas Season. The Feast commemorates the Baptism of Christ and the divine revelation of the Holy Trinity. At the baptism of Christ the Holy Trinity appeared clearly to mankind for the first time. All Three Persons were made manifest together.

Theophany was also a manifestation of Jesus to the world; it was the beginning of His public ministry. The "manifestation" is expressed in Scripture with the symbolism of light: "Christ has appeared and enlightened the world." Thus, January 6 is also known as the Feast of Lights.

Do you see how many and how great blessings we would have lost, if the Lord had yielded to the exhortation of John, and declined baptism? For the heavens were shut before this; the region above was inaccessible...

He also renewed the old man and committed to him again the sceptre of adoption...

A reconciliation took place of the visible with the invisible; the celestial orders were filled with joy; the diseases of earth were healed; secret things were made known; those at enmity were restored to amity. St Hippolytus

Troparion, T.7: By Your cross You destroyed death;* You opened Paradise to the thief;* You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy,* and charged the apostles to proclaim* that You are risen, O Christ our God,* offering great mercy to the world.

Troparion, T.4: Make ready, O Zabulon,* and prepare yourself, O Nephtali;* O river Jordan, stop and receive with joy* the Master coming to be baptized.* O Adam, rejoice with the first mother, Eve,* and do not hide yourselves as before in paradise.* For having seen you unclothed* Christ has appeared to clothe you with the first robe.* He has appeared to renew all creation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion, T.7: No longer shall the dominion of death be able to hold humanity,* for Christ went down shattering and destroying its powers.* Hades is bound.* The prophets exult with one voice.* The Saviour has come for those with faith, saying:* "Come forth, O faithful, to the resurrection!".

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, T.4: Today the Lord stood in Jordan's current telling John:* Do not be afraid to baptize Me,* for I have come to save Adam, the first man.

Prokeimenon, T.6: Save Your people, O Lord,* and bless Your inheritance.
verse: Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence.

A Reading of the Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy 4:5-8: Timothy, my son, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Alleluia, T.8

verse: God, be merciful to us and bless us.

verse: Make the light of Your face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

Тропар, гл.7: Знищив Ти хрестом Твоїм смерть, відчинив розбійникові рай, мироносицям плач на радість перемінив і апостолам звелів проповідувати, що воскрес Ти, Христе Боже, даючи світові велику милість.!

Тропар, гл. 4: Готуйся, Завулоне, зодягнись у прикраси, Неффалиме,* Йордане ріко, зупинися* і радісно приймай Владика, що йде хреститися.* Веселися, Адаме, з праматір'ю* і не окривайтесь, як колись у раю;* бачивши вас нагими, Він явився,* щоб зодягнути вас у первісну одягу.* Христос явився,* бажаючи оновити все творіння.

Слава Отцю і Сину і Святому Духові.

Кондак, гл.7: Вже більше влада смерті не зможе людей держати, зійшов бо Христос, знищивши і знівечивши сили її, зв'язується ад, пророки ж однодушно радіють. З'явився Спас тим, що вірують, промовляючи: Виходьте, вірні, до воскресіння..

І нині і повсякчас і навіки віків. Амінь.

Кондак гл.4: У течіях Йорданових сьогодні став Господь,* кажучи Йоанові: не бійся Мене хрестити,* бо Я прийшов спасти Адама первоствореного.

Прокімен, гл.6: Спаси, Господи, людей Твоїх і благослови насліддя Твоє.

Стих: До Тебе, Господи, взиватиму, Боже мій, щоб не відвертався Ти мовчки від мене.

До Тимотея друге послання Св. Апостола Павла читання (4, 5-8): Сину Тимотею, Ти ж будь тверезим у всьому, знось напасті, виконуй працю євангелиста, виконуй твою службу. Бо я вже готовий на ливну жертву, і час мого відходу настав. Я боровся доброю борнею, скінчив біг – віру зберіг. Тепер же приготований мені вінок справедливості, що його дасть мені того дня Господь, справедливий Суддя; та не лише мені, але всім тим, що з любов'ю чекали на його появу.

Алилуя гл. 8

Стих: Боже, ущедри нас і благослови нас.

Стих: Просвіти лице Твоє на нас і помилуй нас.

Євангеліє Марка 1: 1-8

Причасний: Хваліте Господа з небес, хваліте Його в вишніх. Алилуя, тричі.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ **JORDAN HOME BLESSING:** Our Church has a beautiful tradition of visiting people's homes in the new year with blessed Jordan waters. Spiritually, it is meant to cleanse the home of any evil or strife that has built up over the past year, so that we can start the new year on a positive note.

If you would like Fr. Andrii to visit your family & bless your home with Jordan water, please fill out the Jordan Home Blessing sign-up sheet (at the back of the church) or contact him at pparish@yahoo.com or at 1-778-387-7071

◆ **CHRISTMAS CANDLE:** Since 2012 the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster has been collecting funds to help underprivileged and orphaned children in Ukraine through our Christmas Candle appeal. Our fundraising program, "**Christmas Candle/Різдвяна свічка**" is part of a larger global appeal sponsored by Caritas Ukraine. The appeal is once again taking place for the month of December, and we encourage everyone to remember these children during our Christmas season with a donation. Donations can be made at any Ukrainian Catholic Parish in BC or mailed and payable to the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of New Westminster and clearly marked with "Christmas Candle Project" on an envelope & cheque.

◆ **CONGRATULATION to WALTER MELNYK AND IVAN DANILEC** who celebrate their Birthdays. May the Almighty God bless them all with good health and salvation in Many Happy & Blessed Years of Life. Mnohaya I Blahaya Lita!

◆ **PRAYER REQUEST: PLEASE REMEMBER** the sick and infirmed of our Parish in your prayers: **BERNICE KALTWASSER, ROSEMARIE PROKOPCHUK, DAVE SULLIVAN, BETH PAWLUK, MIKE LUTZ &** all who have asked us to pray for them.

◆ **DEEPEST WORDS OF GRATITUDE** to all those who continue financially supporting our parish. **Christmas donations:** December 24/25/26th – \$1,520.90. May Our Lord reward you richly with his heavenly and earthly blessings.

◆ **ZAHALNYTSIA.** Due to the festive Christmas season, the Fridays between Christmas & Theophany are **not** fasting days. Let us rejoice!

◆ **A GIFT OF TIME:** Everyone has been affected by the COVID pandemic. For some the effects have been physical however many people have been affected psychologically experiencing stress, anxiety and depression. While there may be people who have more money and possessions, we all have the same amount of time: exactly 24 hours in every day. The greatest gift you can give someone is your time. Over these holidays we encourage you to reach over the phone to connect with your fellow parishioners and

share with them your gift of time. Let it be your gift to them and a gift to yourself as well as we all connect as a spiritual family.

◆ **BEQUESTS AND WILLS:** Leaving a bequest is a process of giving a donation through your will. It is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. It can be as small or as large a donation as you wish. It is important that you talk to your lawyer about the process. In your kindness please remember St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church in your bequests and wills. If anyone wishes to make such a bequest in their will, the following clause may be included or added to a will: *"I give, devise, and bequeath to St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Parish - 2414 Vanier Dr, Prince George, BC., the sum of \$_ (or _% of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the parish and it's pastoral activities."*

GREAT BLESSING OF WATER



Water—what an amazing gift! Something that we often take for granted—we use it lavishly—we use it for bathing, laundry, dishwashing, watering our plants and so on—but we only need about two litres a day for drinking to survive. So, what is the significance of the symbolism of water during Theophany and the Feast of Jordan? Why do we use water as a means of grace? Water is the most beautiful of the four elements of the cosmos. We rise from the waters of baptism into a new life, born again of water and the Spirit. Water has been used as symbol for Jesus, *"whoever drinks of the water I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."* (John 4:13-14) Once our physical needs are met, our spiritual thirst remains. We thirst for knowledge, we thirst for meaning, we thirst to know who we are. We thirst to know God. If we cannot answer these questions, our inner thirst grows painful.

Introduced in the fourth century, the Great Blessing of Water, in Ukrainian called *Vodokhreshcha*, is a magnificent ritual that is carried out twice: first on the vigil of the Feast (the eve of Theophany) and then on the feast day itself (today, it is usually done once.) A container of water, which stands for the beautiful world of God's original creation and ultimate glorification by Christ in the Kingdom of God, is placed on a low table in front of the Tetrapod surrounded by candles and flowers. It begins with the singing of special hymns and the incensing of the water, and then follows a ceremony which includes: the immersion of the lighted trident candle, breathing on the waters, the immersion of the priest's right hand.

At the conclusion of this ceremony, the priest immerses the hand cross into the water during the singing of the Troparion of the Feast. He then sprinkles the people and the church with the newly-blessed water. Following the celebration, the faithful are invited to approach and drink some of the holy water and then fill their containers. They take the water home for various purposes such as; to bless the sick, to bless people on special occasions, to avert calamities such as fire and inclement weather. At the traditional Supper on the Eve of Theophany (*Shchedryj Vechir*), the faithful drink this water. After the ceremonies in church and the following weeks, the priest visits the homes of the faithful to bless them with holy water. We should value the efficacy of this holy water, for if we have faith and devotion, the holy water confers actual graces, restrains the power of the devil and remits venial sins. You can partake of the blessed water whenever you feel you have a need for the Lord's presence as it represents the Lord's healing and loving presence always.

WHY DO WE BLESS HOME WITH THE HOLY WATER OF THEOPHANY?



The blessing of homes constitutes an *invocative blessing*, meaning that by his prayer and by the sprinkling of Holy Water the priest *invokes* God's blessings and protection upon the home and those living in it. We bless homes for many reasons:

- † to reveal the home as what God had created it to be, a way to Heaven
- † to rid the home of every evil
- † to show that the family is a small Church unit in Christ
- † to consecrate the home and all activity in it to God
- † to fill the home and all who live in it with the fullness of God

Traditionally, the priest personally visits all his parishioners each year to pray with them in the place where they live, and to bless their surroundings with the newly sanctified water of Theophany. By sanctifying our homes we extend the grace of God to our individual dwellings.

Just as our souls, so also our homes become tainted by the sins of those living in them and consequently lose God's protective power. We cleanse our souls of sins at least once a year and the church is blessed with the newly blessed water every year, so should our homes be sanctified with Holy Water to invoke God's blessings and protection on it and its inhabitants. As we renew the insurance on our home every year, so we should renew our insurance of God's protection and His blessing which is of greater importance and more effective.

What should we do during a home blessing? As we welcome a priest during the holy season of Theophany to bless our home, let us be mindful that he is bringing to us the "blessing of the Jordan," and that unless God protects and blesses our home, we "labour in vain." (Ps. 12 7:1)

Each family is considered a small church and the family table is the home altar. When the priest comes, have as many family members there as possible. If you do not have an icon corner, ensure that you set up a place for prayer either at the kitchen or dining table. On the table include an icon and a lit candle. You may also include anything that you may want to have blessed (i.e. icon, cross, personal item, etc.) Make sure that the lights are on in every room.

The priest will begin the blessing at the icon corner or table. If you have children, they may lead the priest, while holding a candle, to each room in the house.

The Jordan home blessing is a wonderful time for you and your priest to get to know each other better. (Source: goarch.org)

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS OF ST. GEMMA



On New Years eve, 1895-96 Gemma wrote: "So I resolved to change my life, because Jesus had given me clear lights to the effect that I should be a religious. I had a good occasion to do this, for we were about to begin the year of 1896. I wrote in a little notebook: "During this new year I resolve to begin a new life. I do not know what will happen to me during this year. But I abandon myself entirely to you, my God. And my aspirations and all my affections will be for You. I feel so weak, dear Jesus, but with Your help I hope and resolve to live a different life, that is, a life closer to You."

Writing to her spiritual director Gemma writes: "Father, do you know the latest idea that has come into my head? It is to become a saint at all costs. I made this resolution yesterday evening. During my meditation I was thinking that one lives only once, and it is certain that one is going to die; then one will have to answer to God."

BOTTLE DRIVE FUNDRAISING (RETURN-IT EXPRESS)

How it works:

1. Put your containers in clear plastic bags, no sorting needed!
2. Go to an Express depot, at the kiosk use parish's phone number (250-563-2015) to log in and print your labels, one per bag.
3. Place a label on each of your bags & leave them in the bag drop area.
4. Your containers will be sorted and within 5 business days refund will be added to our Express account.