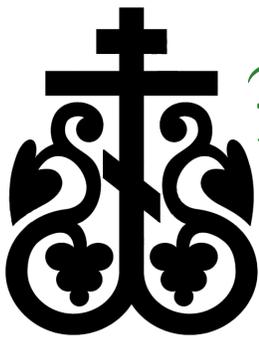


District Priest: Fr. Peter Haugen - 587-252-2715
District President: Andrew Misiak - 780-573-5386
Newsletter Contact: Dobr. Erin Haugen - 587-252-3410

February 2014
Volume 1, Issue 2



Bonnyville & District Parish News

From the Editor

By Dobr. Erin Haugen

Here we go: Round two with our District Newsletter! I want to thank those who contributed to this issue on such late notice. While I initially thought the first few issues could come out bi monthly while we worked out the kinks... The more I thought about it, the more I was determined to push to get it out monthly from the start. I want the newsletter to be a tool, and for people to anticipate it's arrival. The only way to really show what it can do is to get it out there—So here it is!

Remember, this newsletter is for the benefit of our parishioners and all those with interest in our District Parishes. There are individuals who I will be contacting monthly to come up with submissions, but anyone is welcome to submit anything to me at any time. Maybe you want be sure there is a write up about a recent event you attended within the District, or perhaps you want to announce an upcoming event... Write it and send it my way! Or maybe you read a poem or quote that you were moved by and would like to share... Let me know! I also welcome any questions, concerns or comments in general.

Once again, enjoy!

Yours in Christ,
Dobr. Erin Haugen
ehaugen@hotmail.ca

Notes from the President

By Andrew Misiak

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

In this months newsletter, I wish to talk about the positive benefits of belonging to a congregation within a district filled with other member congregations. I mentioned this in my report during our recently concluded Annual General Meeting in the basement of St. Elias.

Our service schedule is set up in such a manner that all congregations can be



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**Ukrainian Orthodox
Church of Canada**

www.uocc.ca

Western Eparchy

www.uocc-we.ca

**Bonnyville/St. Paul
Parochial District**

www.bonnyvilleanddistrictuoc.ca/

Ancient Faith Radio

www.ancientfaith.com



District President continued from page 1:

visited, depending on their remoteness, amenities and seasonal cycles. Each church is unique in its size and construction. Each church has members that come from all facets of life within a country town and farm environment. I still get that wonderful city & country folk feeling when I follow our service schedule. My roots of faith and congregational life was born (as was I) in Winnipeg and our Metropolitan's Holy Trinity Cathedral. I also visited the other churches in the city. I also can't forget to mention the small country churches that I visited in Gonor, Gardenton, Brandon, Roblin and Dauphin, Manitoba. The winds of change eventually moved me out west and blessed my years at St. Mary's in the Whalley suburb of The City of Surrey, BC. Just a drive over the Patullo Bridge, gave me access to other churches in New Westminster and Vancouver. A trip

Give yourselves a moment to read the article or find other interesting information on Orthodoxy in North America or worldwide.

So back to our small district in God's country in the province of Alberta. Please make the effort to follow our Fr. Peter on his tour of our congregations in the district. Carpool with those unable to get to services because they may be in-firmed, elderly or are shut in. Feel the hospitality of our congregation's fellowship lunches. Come early before service to just sit and pray or follow the prayers read by our cantors and readers. Witness our priest in prayer as he prepares the gifts during Proskomedie. Fill your hearts spiritually and sustain each other in community and Christian unity.

*“O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God. Have mercy on me, a sinner .”
-Jesus Prayer*

*Bonnyville
Cookbooks are
here!*

**St. Elias Parish in
Bonnyville has
produced a cookbook!**

Books can be purchased upstairs at **Brosseau's Department Store** in Bonnyville or **contact Janet Hutskal at 780-826-4547 or 780-826-3973**. The cost is **\$10.00**. A great addition to your kitchen or gift for your neighbour.

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east into Mission, Chilliwack, or into the interior of Kelowna and Kamloops gave me the added benefit of visiting more churches. Trips to our churches on Vancouver Island were very special too! If a person truly wanted to find the closest church and next service, you could. Celebrating the Patron Saint's Day or XPAM of these churches was most rewarding and showed my love and support for their prayerful efforts. It's thrilling to know that I'm part of a much larger church - The Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada.

This church didn't just pop up overnight. This took years of pioneer growth both from faithful congregants and pioneer priests. A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA is a wonderful article listed on our UOCC.ca website.

That's the positive feeling that I get living in this area. We should never lose sight that our journey in our spiritual life comes in circles as small or as large as we want to make them. I look forward to our next Divine Liturgy and fellowship together.

Yours in Christ,

Andrew Misiak
Parochial President

Pastoral Message

By Fr. Peter Haugen

Христос посеред нас! Christ is amongst us!

Since arriving in the district, I have been receiving several questions as to how we should enter the church and proper things to be doing while in church. In this month's article, I have taken portions from similar articles found online on Church etiquette in hopes of bringing to light some of the practical aspects of entering and worshipping in an Orthodox Church.

Venerating Icons - When you enter the church, it is traditional to venerate the icons. The main icon is located on the Tetrapod at the front of the church.



The Presentation of our Lord in the Temple—February 15th

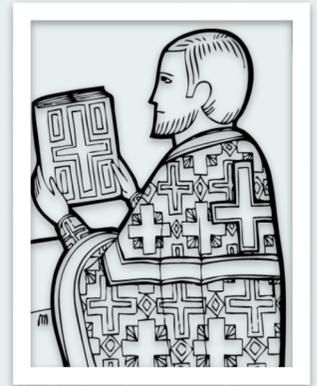
When venerating (kissing) an icon, pay attention to where you kiss. It is not proper to kiss an icon in the face. When you approach an icon to venerate it, kiss the gospel, scroll, or hand cross in the hand of the person in the icon, or kiss the hand or foot of the person depicted. As you venerate and icon, show proper respect to the person depicted in the icon — the same respect you would show the person by venerating him or her in an appropriate place.

Lighting Candles - Lighting candles is an important part of Orthodox worship. We light them as we pray, making an offering to accompany our prayers. Orthodox typically light candles upon entering the church, after venerating the icons. If a service is already in progress, and the candle stands are up front, it is important to wait for a proper time.

Candles should not be lit during the Epistle and Gospel reading or during the Sermon, and most times when people are standing. A good rule of thumb is if people are sitting (other than the sermon) you may light candles.

Kiss (Don't Shake) the Bishop's and Priest's Hand - The proper way to greet a bishop or priest is to ask his blessing and kiss his right hand. How do you do this? Approach the bishop or priest with your right hand over your left and say "Father ("Master," in the case of a bishop), bless." This is appropriate and traditional, rather than shaking their hands. When you receive such a blessing it is Christ Himself who offers the blessing through the hand of the priest or bishop. Who of us would not want all of Christ's blessings we can get?

Making the Sign of the Cross - A person looking around on a Sunday morning may notice that different people cross themselves at different times. To a certain extent, when to cross oneself is a matter of personal piety and not of dogma.



Liturgical Scripture Readings

January 2014

Sunday, February 2nd

Zacchaeus Sunday

Epistle: 1 Tim. 4:9-15 &

Heb. 13:17-21

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10 &

Luke 6:17-23.

Sunday, February 9th

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

Epistle: 2 Tim. 3:10-15 &

Heb. 7:26-8:2;

Gospel: Luke 18:10-24 &

John 10:9-16.

Sunday, February 16th

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Epistle: 1 Cor. 6:12-20;

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32.

Sunday, February 23rd

Meat-Fare Sunday

Epistle: 1 Cor. 8:8-9:2;

Gospel: Mat. 25:31-46.

Newsletter Submissions Needed!

I would like to assign one person per parish to act as **submission coordinator** for the newsletter. This person would be in contact with me regarding upcoming events and announcements for their parish to ensure I know the details to include in the newsletter. If you would like to volunteer or find out more, please speak with your President and let me know!

Dobr. Erin Haugen:
ehaugen@hotmail.ca
587-252-3410

Fr. Peter's Contact Information:

5525-55 Ave.
St. Paul, Alberta
T0A 3A1

Phone:

587-252-2715

Email:

pmthaugen@hotmail.com

If anyone you know is in the Hospital, or are at home ill and would like a visitation from me, please contact me and I will make immediate arrangements to meet with them.

Pastoral message continued:

However, there are times in the service when crossing oneself (thumb and first two fingers touching each other, third and fourth fingers folded into the palm: touching head first, to stomach, right shoulder to left) is called for:

- To cross: when you hear one of the variations of the phrase "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit"; before venerating an icon, Gospel, or Cross; when blessed with an icon, Cross, Gospel, or Chalice; entering and exiting the temple; when passing before the Altar.
- Not to Cross: (only bowing of the head): when blessed with hand (as in "Peace be unto all"), or censed. In receiving a blessing from a bishop or priest one does not make the sign of the Cross beforehand. "In this way ought we to distinguish between reverence toward holy things and toward persons"

Standing vs. Sitting - The traditional posture for prayer and worship in the Orthodox Church has been to stand. In the Orthodox "old countries", there are usually no pews in the churches. Chairs or benches on the side walls are usually reserved for the elderly and infirm. In North America, we have tended to build our churches with pews, and since we have them, we need to figure out when we may sit and when we should stand. First of all, it is fully acceptable (even preferable) to stand for the entire service. If you prefer this, it would be better to find a place closer to the back or side of the church so as not to stand out or block someone's view. When should you definitely stand? Always during the Gospel reading, the Little and Great Entrances, the Anaphora, the distribution of Holy Communion, whenever the priest gives a blessing, and the Dismissal. In many parishes, the Divine Liturgy books in the pew have suggested times when sitting is acceptable. Follow those

instructions (it's probably safer than to follow what the people are doing in the first couple of rows). When in doubt, stand. It is never wrong to stand in church.

Handling the Holy Bread /

"Antidoron" - After taking Communion, at the end of the Divine Liturgy, and at Vespers with a "Litya" or "Blessing of Bread", it is traditional to eat a piece of holy bread or antidoron—the left-over bread from which Holy Communion was prepared and various commemorations made. While antidoron is not the Body and Blood of Christ, it is blessed bread, and as such, we should take precaution to eat it carefully so that crumbs don't fall to be trampled underfoot. Monitor the children as they take the antidoron, teaching them to eat respectfully.

A Word About Lipstick - Lipstick has a tendency to leave smeared lip prints on icons, crosses, the communion spoon, and the priest's or bishop's hand. This detracts from the beauty of the act of veneration and can be disturbing to others venerating after you. What is the answer? If one insists on wearing lipstick to church, blot your lips well before venerating or wait until after the Divine Liturgy to apply your lipstick.

These are just some of the practical guidelines for how we approach worshipping and entering the Church. Along these lines, I will be holding a lecture series on Orthodoxy throughout Great Lent that will focus and remind us of some of the basics of our faith. Should you have any further questions or would like some further clarity on any of the above topics, please feel free to contact me!

Yours In Christ,

Fr. Peter Haugen

FEAST OF JORDAN

Annual blessing of ice cross and Divine Liturgy at Kiev's—K—Hi Parish
Submitted by Dobr. Erin Haugen



On Sunday January 19th a wonderful turnout from our Parish District family gathered together at Kiev's—K—Hi to celebrate Theophany with Divine Liturgy followed by the annual tradition of blessing a cross constructed from ice cut from the lake, the blessing of water to take home, and a wonderful potluck feast.

The weather was beautiful and truly allowed those present to focus on the stunning and meaningful service. The lunch following was a lovely opportunity for fellowship. I cannot imagine a better day to experience this tradition for the first time as Fr. Peter, myself and our boys did. (I will admit to feeling hesitant about braving the typical bitter cold temperatures I've heard have been experienced in the past...).

I look very forward to partaking in this beautiful tradition in future years.

Micah and Nika Boser and Noah Haugen holding candles for the blessing of the ice cross and water at Kiev's—K—Hi on January 19,



Thank you to those hard workers who constructed this year's cross!

And a big thank you to Linda Boser for helping to organize the events on the day of.

*Every good & perfect Gift comes from above.
James 1:17*

Parish Reports:

The intention for this section of the newsletter is to provide a message from each of our Parish Presidents on a rotating basis.

This month Janet Hutskal bravely took on my request last minute... Thank you! It is my hope that these reports give our whole district family insights into the individual goings on at each of our wonderful parishes. Stay tuned!

HOUSE BLESSINGS

By Mid-February Fr. Peter should be completed house blessings for the year. Between Fr. Peter and a few volunteers we have tried to contact the members of our district the best we can. However, if anyone was missed and you would still like your house blessed please contact Fr. Peter and let me know so that:

- 1: We know that we missed you and can improve the system for next year.
- 2: We can still schedule an appointment.

Thank you.

Parish Report:

From St. Elias Parish in Bonnyville, AB

St. Elias has been very busy this season. On December 8th, the annual Christmas get together & fundraiser was held in the church basement. Canned goods were collected for the BNCFC Food Bank. A silent auction and raffle was also held. Part of the money raised was donated to a young family whose son requires glasses with a \$10,000 price tag in order to see with 20/20 vision. Many thanks to the Bonnyville and Sandy Rapids members who made the night a success.

The St. Elias cook book came out in late December. Initially it was to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the church. Now it has put our name out there.

The Feast of the Jordan was celebrated in our church on January 18th. Together the ladies of Sandy Rapids and Bonnyville prepared the traditional dishes, and the men cooked the fish (except for Bill Ostashek, he had some of the fish deep fried by Lakeland Grill) - What a great idea. An addition this year was the straw spread under the table. Hidden underneath was candy. When Father Peter gave the signal all the children started to dig for the treats. Awesome! Every member of St. Elias is talented in some way or other. This is more apparent as we continue to move forward with Father Peter.



Children (and Fr. Peter!) searching through straw for treats at St. Elias on January 18, 2014.



In Christ,

Janet Hutskal
President of St. Elias

MESSAGE BOARD:

Submissions welcome!

***Pyrohy* Supper**

Friday, Feb. 28

From 5:30 - 7:00 pm

All Saints
Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Centre,
St. Paul

(Fundraiser for All Saints Church)

Adults: \$15.00

Seniors: \$14.00

Children: \$ 9.00

Age 5 & under: free



Pysanky by
Dobr. Erin Haugen

Pasky by
youth in Parksville, BC.



***Pysanka* Workshop**

Saturday, March 15

1:00 - 6:00 pm

All Saints
Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Centre,
St Paul

A hands-on opportunity to learn the art of
Easter egg writing. All materials will be
provided.

***Pascha* Workshop**

Saturday, March 29

1:00 pm

All Saints
Ukrainian Orthodox Cultural Centre,
St. Paul

This session will teach participants how to
make the special Easter bread, "*Pascha*".
Each person will choose a design, braid, and
bake their own *Pascha*.

Register early as space is limited!

For more information on either workshop or to register, call

Caroline Yewchin at (780) 646-3975 or

Margie Kropiniski at (780) 645-1381

Your District

Executive:

President:

Andrew Misiak

Vice President:

Ron Rusnak

Secretary:

Krystal Johnson

Treasurer:

Sandra Yuschynshyn

Past President:

Caroline Yewchin

A Visit from CYMK:

On **March 2nd**, members from **Provincial CYMK** will be coming to our **service in St. Paul** to do a presentation on CYMK and hold activities for our youth in the district. **We are asking families with children to join us on this day as this will present us with an excellent opportunity to kick start a youth group within the district.** More details to come throughout the month.

What is CYMK?

Founded in 1931, CYMK allows youth to learn about and experience everything our Ukrainian culture and Orthodox faith have to offer. CYMK branches can be found in many Ukrainian Orthodox parishes across Canada.

CYMKivtsi cherish their heritage and are proud of their roots. They have a deep respect for the church and their Orthodox faith. CYMK is a place to socialize, make new friends, and build bonds that will last a lifetime. Parents play a vital role in CYMK, providing guidance and support through their commitment. CYMK is a vital part of our parish family.

“СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ! СЛАВА НА ВІКИ!

Glory Be To Jesus Christ! Glory Be Forever!”

Don't forget we have a website! It is under a bit of construction, but you can find updates, locations, and a long term schedule there. Photos will be coming soon as well. Check it out!

www.bonnyvilleanddistrictuoc.ca/

We're also on Facebook!
Look up:

Bonnyville District of the
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of
Canada



All Saints
St. Paul, AB
Dwayne Ternovoy
780-614-0858

Sts. Peter & Paul
Glendon, AB
Mike Stasyk

St. Elias
Bonnyville, AB
Janet Hutskal
780-573-3470

Sts. Peter & Paul
Sandy Rapids, AB
Ron Rusnak
780-812-6382

Sts. Peter & Paul
Nowa Bukowina, AB
Sandra Yuschynshyn
780-614-0786



February 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|--|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM St. Paul | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Glendon | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Nowa Bukowina | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Bonnyville | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28  Pyrohy Dinner 5:30 - 7 PM St. Paul | |

A more detailed and long-term schedule is available on the website and of course from Fr. Peter and your District Executive members. The schedule above and those in future newsletters are meant to serve as a visual reminder of services for the month. Please be sure to take note of the time and location of each service (again, due to space I could not include full names of parishes, locations, etc.). Fr. Peter will continue to announce upcoming services and events at church as he has been doing. Think of this as 'the month at a glance'!