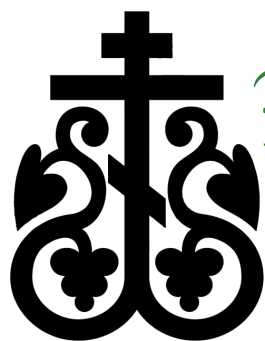


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Summer 2015
(May/June/July/August)
Volume 2, Issue 1



Bonnyville & District Parish News

From the Editor

By Dobr. Erin Haugen

I wish to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude towards all members of the district for your kind words, condolences and prayers over the recent loss of my step-father Carmen. Joyce Drapaka presented me with a stunning floral arrangement which I know Carmen would have deeply appreciated as an accomplished florist himself. The gesture meant so much to our family.

I also wish to thank the district for your patience over the last month with regards to the newsletter. You'll notice that this issue contains information for both July and August. Monthly issues will resume beginning in September.

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Submitted by Fr. Peter Haugen

Христос посеред нас! Christ is amongst us!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Several years ago at a Clergy Retreat, the clergy witnessed a presentation by Fr. Oleh Krawchenko on the role of laity in the Church. It was a wonderful reminder to me as a Priest of my own position and the harmonious nature the Church is meant to have. This month's pastoral article is based upon that presentation.

Clergy and Laity - One Calling in Christ

Clergy and Laity are often seen as two distinct and different groups within the Church. Although this may appear to be the case on the surface, the truth is that although they may be distinct they are not at all different. I say this because both the Clergy and Laity have a common goal in their own personal lives and in the life of the Church, and that goal is to lead a Christ centered life. People understand that the role of Clergy is to be a part of the Church on every level, however one must further understand that the Laity should be just as involved, (and thus are no different than Clergy), I will break down the role of the Laity in the Church.



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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

Laity in worship

The word Laity comes from the Greek word meaning 'people'. There is nothing negative or opposed to clergy in this term. Laos - We are all people: This term is in fact highly positive and inclusive. This term refers to the people of God, those chosen. The church insists on two sacraments to become members of the Church - Baptism and Chrismation - and everyone who is Baptized and Chrismated into the Orthodox Church is a part of "The Community of Saints". Everyone is at first the "people of God", and as such we are all members of the church. In this way Laity is truly an inclusive word and is a common vocation for all the people God. By virtue of their baptism and Chrismation are people are ordained to the 'Royal Priesthood'. Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration, and Chrismation gives us the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church refers to each Baptized and Chrismated Christian as the servant of God, and that they are to be an honorable member, a "consecrated vessel", an "heir of God's Kingdom". There is nothing secular about this.

With all this in mind, the questions then is raised "If laity are ordained, what is their role?" It is true that Worship is seen almost exclusively as a clerical field of endeavor. However, it is in worship that the Laity should excel. Laity's participation is indispensable when it come to worship as it is a common worldly action involving all God's people. It is also true that while the bishop or priest may preside over the prayers, those prayers are not the prayers of the clergy presiding. Those prayers are the prayers of the church, and the laity are concelebrants in worship with the clergy. Think of how all of our prayer petitions end with the laity singing "Amen", this is done because no prayer is said that does not end with the acceptance and approval of the laity. Our Divine Liturgy is a common action that through dialogue that requires responsible participation from both clergy and laity.

Laity in teaching

Laity can teach under the guidance of the local priest who is answerable to his bishop. This is why most Sunday Schools are taught by laity. The Church is responsible for educating Christians about the Faith, however the main education of our faith does not take place in our churches, it takes place in the home. As such, education is not only for children but there is a dire need for adult education as well. This is why it is incumbent on every Christian not simply to wait for the Priest to hold studies, or even rely on said studies alone, but to take their spiritual education into their own hands and invest time into learning and researching the Church and its teachings. Such learning can be achieved in various ways including simply making time to read the bible or comb through the books at your local library – or for those which the technological means, surfing the internet. When in doubt, your priest can suggest some reputable materials. There is a misconception that Theologians (experts on Theology) are always members of the Clergy when in fact, Theologians can be male, female, clergy, or laity. Many members of the Laity who have been educated in theology are brought forth by the bishops to assist the clergy in teaching.

Laity in administration:

To discuss the administration of the church two misconceptions must be dispelled:



Liturgical Scripture Readings

July 2015

Sunday, July 5th
*5th Sunday after
Pentecost*

Epistle: Rom. 10:1-10;
Gospel: Matt. 8:28-9:1.

Sunday, July 12th
*6th Sunday after
Pentecost*
Epistle: Rom. 12:6-14;
Gospel: Matt. 9:1-8.

Sunday, July 19th
*7th Sunday after
Pentecost*
Epistle: Rom. 15:1-7;
Gospel: Matt. 9:27-35.

Sunday, July 26th
*8th Sunday after
Pentecost*
Epistle: 1 Cor. 1:10-18;
Gospel: Matt. 14:14-22.

Newsletter Submissions Needed!

Please keep the submissions for the newsletter coming! Announcements, reports, stories, photos... If you want to share it, we want to see it! Please feel free to submit to me anytime.

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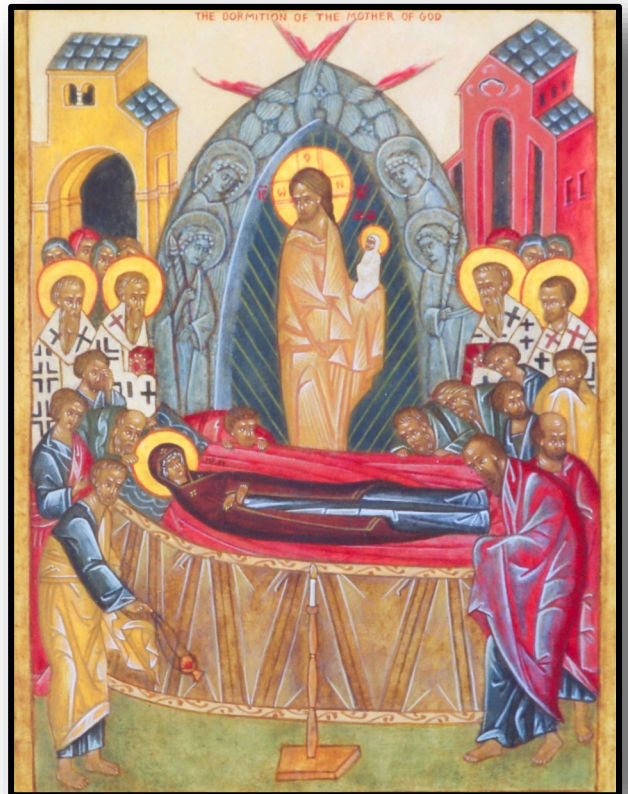
pmthaugen@hotmail.com

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.

1. The church is not a democracy. Democracy is defined as "of the people, by the people, for the people." As the church is not a worldly entity it does not fit this definition. The Church is "of God, by God, and for the people of God." As such the Church is not "by popular vote".

2. The church is not an Autocracy. The church is not ruled by Bishops or Presbyters as if they had no account to give. The welfare of the church should be our common concern and corporate responsibility. We are all responsible for the church and responsible to God!

The ideal way to administer to the Church is through a conciliar system. The church is hierarchical but is it also conciliar. We may respect a bishop's authority to make decisions on small matters, but one bishop alone does not make decisions for the entire Church, a council of bishops does. The administrative authority of the Church belongs to the Bishop as the shepherd of his flock. However, the canons require the bishop to consult his elders or constituents, meaning the Clergy and Laity. Laity therefore, have a critically important role to play in administration.



Dormition of the Theotokos—August 18th

As you can see, the separation between Clergy and Laity is not, and should not, be that far apart from each other. After all, Clergy are those who have been chosen from amongst the Laity, by the Laity, for the ministry to the Laity. In all of us there is a diversity of gifts and a diversity of ministries, but it all comes from the same Lord. Not everyone can be a Teacher, Doctor, Homemaker, Carpenter, Preacher, Minister, etc. But in whatever role we find ourselves, we all find ourselves ministering to and for God.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Peter Haugen

HEALTH WARNING!

Submitted by Father Peter Haugen

With the summertime now upon us it is the time of year where we relax and let loose for a couple months. But is important during this time not to forget about our church and our faith, I found this article written by Fr. Andrew Jarmus several years ago and I found it speaks a good message for all of us to remember this summer. I hope you all have an enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you throughout the summertime services.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Peter Haugen

HEALTH WARNING... Keep going to church over the summer months

by Rev. Fr. Andrew Jarmus

"Summer time and the living is easy," as the old Sam Cooke song goes. As soon as the weather gets warmer, our thoughts turn to relaxing, lightening up on the responsibilities of life. School lets out. We take vacations from work. And some put their Church attendance on hiatus until the fall.

The problem with this is that Church is not a responsibility, it is a gift. God gives us worship and the community of the Church as aides to help us grow in His image and likeness. "The Sabbath was made for man, man was not made for the Sabbath", Jesus teaches us.

Like all of life, our spiritual life is lived in a certain rhythm. Over the Church year, with all of its fasts and feasts, a certain momentum is developed in our souls. This momentum is a result of the active presence of the Holy Spirit in us -- guiding our decisions, nourishing our souls, and leading us to a personal communion with our Lord Jesus Christ.

However, a word of warning: if this momentum is not kept up, all that we gain begins to be lost. As a parish priest, I have sadly seen more people than I would like to count who had grown greatly over the winter and spring portions of the Church year, only to fall right back to square one because they took "time off" from church over the summer. The result of their "breather" was a loss of this Spirit-driven momentum (ironically, the Greek word for "breath" also means "spirit"). Like a muscle, when our souls are left inactive they atrophy.

If you are going away this summer, speak with your parish priest and ask him to help you find you the closest Orthodox church. If you are going out to the cabin or on a camping trip, take along a Bible and a prayer book; celebrate the glory of nature with its Creator. Every day is a "day that the Lord has made". Every season, every moment of our lives is a gift from God. Any time is time to spend with the Lord.

Let us not be fooled. Orthodox Christianity is a high-maintenance way of life. To neglect our spiritual lives is to invite the spirits of apathy, sloth and delusion into our hearts. To keep the Faith is to receive an ever-deepening sense of God's presence in our lives.



Liturgical Scripture Readings

August 2015

Sunday, August 2nd
*9th Sunday after
Pentecost*

Epistle: 1 Cor. 3:9-17;
Gospel: Matt. 14:22-34.

Sunday, August 9th
*10th Sunday after
Pentecost*
Epistle: 1 Cor. 4:9-16;
Gospel: Matt. 17:14-23.

Sunday, August 16th
*11th Sunday after
Pentecost*
Epistle: 1 Cor. 9:2-12;
Gospel: Matt. 18:23-35.

Sunday, August 23rd
*12th Sunday after
Pentecost*
Epistle: 1 Cor. 15:1-11;
Gospel: Matt. 19:16-26.

Sunday, August 30th
*13th Sunday after
Pentecost*
Epistle: 1 Cor. 16:13-24;
Gospel: Matt. 21:33-42.



Below: Basket blessing at St. Elia's, Bonnyville.

Above left, center & above right: PASCHAL Liturgy and basket blessing at All Saints, St. Paul.

Below: Basket blessing at Sts. Peter & Paul, Nowa Bukowina.



If you have
photos you would
like to share,
please email them
to me @
ehaugen@hotmail.ca





WOMEN'S MEETING 2015

Submitted by Caroline Yewchin

Women's Meeting September 6, 2015

Calling all ladies of our Bonnyville & District
Church Family to a meeting on
Sunday, September 6, 2015
(after the Church Service in St. Paul)

We will discuss ideas and plans for getting
our ladies together 2 or 3 times per year for
a time of fellowship, spiritual growth, and fun.
Bring your ideas! Come to be part of this new
and exciting "In Reach" Project.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

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

WEBSITE

**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

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

Sts. Peter & Paul
Nowa Bukowina, AB
Sandra Yuschyshyn
780-645-4815

Holy Trinity
Glendon, AB
Joyce Drapaka
780-645-3760

All Saints
Sandy Rapids, AB
Ron Rusnak
780-826-2062

Descent of the Holy Spirit
Stry, AB
Contact info TBA.



July 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
5 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM St. Paul	6	7	8	9	10	11
Kiev's K Hi Summer Sessions Begin						
12 Divine Liturgy/ XRAM 10:00 AM Nowa Bukowina	13	14	15	16	17	18
Kiev's K Hi Summer Session 2						
19 TBD (SOBOR)	20	21	22	23	24	25
Kiev's K Hi Summer Session 3						
26 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Kiev's K Hi	27	28	29	30	31	
Kiev's K Hi Summer Session 4						

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'!

August 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Kiev's K Hi	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kiev's K Hi Summer Session 5						
9 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Kiev's K Hi	10	11	12	13	14	15
Kiev's K Hi Summer Session 6						
16 ★ Divine Liturgy/ XRAM 10:00 AM Bonnyville	17	18	19 ★ <i>Transfiguration of our Lord</i> Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM St. Paul	20	21	22
23 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Glendon	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM Sandy Rapids	31					

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