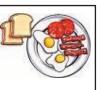


KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUNDAY BRUNCH Today - Sunday, March 20th



St. Mary's Cultural Centre

Following the 9:00 am & 11:00 am Divine Liturgies

The Knights Would Appreciate your Support! Everyone Welcome !

DATE	Тіме	EPISTLE	CANTOR	USHERS	ORGANIST	GREETERS
Sat Mar 19	5:00 pm English	Marge Ortynski	Peter Kobylka	Paul Shewchuk Andy Mathuik		
Sun Mar 20 Palm / Willow Sunday	9:00 am Ukrainian	Peter Moroz	Ed Pindus	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood		
	11:00 am English	Toni Gromnisky	Laurie Fedorowich Ron Wizniak	Ed Lischynski Gerald Gromnisky	Iris Skehar	Gloria Rhinas
SAT MAR 26	8:00 pm English	Len Niedzielski	Laurie Fedorowich Ron Wizniak	Leonard Puchala Bill Prybylski Tony Mazur	lris Skehar	Linda McCulough Joanna Pidperyhora
Sun Mar 27 Resurrection / Easter Sunday	7:00 am Ukrainian	Ed Pindus	Colette Karapita	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood		
	10:00 am English		Laurie Fedorowich Ron Wizniak	Emil Strutynski William Harasymuk Peter Wyatt		

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH CAMPS OF SASKATCHEWAN INC. NOTICE OF AGM

ST. MICHAEL'S CAMP. MADGE LAKE SATURDAY. APRIL 16TH 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Please direct inquiries to: Myron Derow 306.260.8398 MAP: http://www.stmichaelscamp.com/location.htm

	Received in 192 Regular Envelopes\$ 2,987.00
	Loose Collection\$ 219.05
	Received in 12 Other Envelopes \$ 340.00
2016	Received in 70 Easter Flowers Envelopes \$ 635.00

CONTACT INFORMATION						
OFFICE: st.mary.yorkton@sasktel.net PASTOR: blukie@gmail.com						
WEB: www.saintmarysyorkton.com EPARCHY OF SASKATOON: www.skeparchy.org					q	
EPARCHIAL PASTORAL COUNCIL - Pat Thompson 306-782-9425 PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Geraldine Koban 306-782-0270						
	Parish Cou	NCIL PRESIDENT	⁻ - Geraldine	Koban 306-7	82-0270	
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	- Bill Prybylski	306-782-525	9 UCWLC	-	Doreen Rathgeber	306-782-1527
UCBC -	Peter Moroz	306-783-629	3 CULTUR	AL CENTRE -	Russ Thompson	306-782-9425
GOLDEN AGERS -	Verna Moroz	306-783-629	3 CULTURA	l Centre Mana	GER - Stan Shymanski	306-782-1010
Young Adult MINISTRY OFFICE - Phone: 1-204-799-1060 EMAIL: rymcssr@gmail.com WeB: www.yorktonredemptorists.com						

ST. MARY'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Церква Матері Божої Неустанної Помочі

Our Mother of Perpetual Help

155 Catherine Street, Yorkton, SK S3N 0B9

March 20, 2016
Christ is Among Us ! He is and will be !

The parish community of St. Mary's extends a warm Welcome - Вітаємо to everyone who is with us today, especially all Visitors. We are pleased that you have come to pray with us this Sunday. May the Lord bless You.

Pastoral Care of the **Ukrainian Redemptorists**

Fr. Bohdan Lukie, CSsR - Pastor Fr. Raymond Lukie, CSsR - Assistant Pastor Fr. Methodius Kushko, CSsR - Assistant Pastor

OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 9:15 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Office 306-783-4594 Info Line 306-782-0654

SICK CALLS - Anytime **BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES*** by Appointment *Please contact the pastor at least six months before the wedding date.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts - 7:00 pm THURSDAY Vespers & Divine Liturgy - 7:00 pm GOOD FRIDAY Divine Liturgy (for Annunciation) - 9:00 am Laying of the Shroud & Vespers - 3:00 pm Jerusalem Matins - 7:00 pm HOLY SATURDAY Vespers & Divine Liturgy - 2:00 pm Blessing of Easter Foods - 3:30 & 5:00 pm Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy (Eng) - 8:00 pm **RESURRECTION SUNDAY** Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy (Ukr) - 7:00 am Easter Divine Liturgy (Eng) - 10:00 am

Beloved Parishioners and Guests of St. Mary's,

Today is "Willow Sunday" or should I say, "Flowery Sunday" a time to recall Christ's Triumphant entrance into Jerusalem – a hopefully, happy time! The KING HAS COME! But still a sad preparation for the 'crown' that Jesus would wear on Great Friday - "a crown of thorns"

They waved 'palm branches' in praise of the King, we wave "pussy willows" as our sign of respect to Christ. PUSSY WILLOWS are the first blossoms to appear in spring – the first sign of NEW LIFE... and a "Sign of Re-newed Faith" - which really means we try to live our **PASTOR'S DESK** Catholic faith this Sunday and the next and every day of the year. May

we, as your pastors, lovingly, caringly, hopefully and faithfully WELCOME you and walk with you in our spiritual journey always!

Also did you know that the Great Lent has ended? Yesterday we began Holy Passion Week with Lazarus Saturday. On this day we experience the power of Jesus over death. Lazarus, Jesus' special friend, was dead for four days before Jesus brought him back to life. Thus Jesus foreshadowed the victory that He will gloriously accomplish on Easter Sunday when He finally destroys death once and for all and promises each of us who believe life everlasting.

This week is the most important Church week of the whole year. Our Ukrainian Church is abundantly rich with unique services all week. Each religious service has its specific historical commemoration and theme: they offer us an opportunity to experience Jesus' suffering. Death and Resurrection. However, the whole purpose of the spiritual services is not just to remember what happened, but rather to enter mystically into these events and personally experience their powerful effect on us in this day and age,

It is we who are asked to die with Jesus and to rise with Him. This, in fact, takes place as we enter spiritually into the **Paschal Mystery**, i.e., the mystery of Jesus' Death and Resurrection. If this is not our hope and prayer, blessing an **Easter basket** has no real meaning! The basket symbolizes a "holy break-fast" - because we personally have experienced the pain of Passion Week and the ecstatic joy of Jesus' Resurrection. Again, I repeat, as believing Christians, we must allow the Truth of God's Love to enter deeply into our hearts and change our lives.

Therefore we strongly and fervently encourage you to make time and attend as many of this Services as you can. And please do bring your children. It is especially important that they experience the drama of this week. Let us celebrate the Pre-Sanctified Liturgies on Monday. Tuesday & Wednesday and also receive the Sacrament of Holy Anointing. Let us re-live the washing of the feet during the Holy Thursday Liturgy and sincerely receive Jesus in Holy Communion on this sacred night. Rarely is the Divine Liturgy celebrated on Great Friday, but the feast of the Holy Annunciation (March 25th) falling on this day gives us the privilege of celebrating and honoring the Blessed Mother with Liturgy at 9:00 am. And of course, we encourage you to actively participate in the procession of the Holy Shroud (Plaschanitsya) at 3:00 pm. And please do come and pray the Jerusalem Matins 7:00 pm – the painful prayers of the Blessed Mother during this candle-lite service. This is a most poignant service and I confess it is my favorite Lenten prayer service!

On Holy Saturday 2:00 pm, we witness the transformation of the 'colour' of our church, the flower pedals, the rose-scented holy water and then the blessing of the baskets in preparation for the joy and the life-giving Resurrection Service.

COME CELEBRATE AND PRAY WITH US!

FROM THE

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 23	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood Bingo	1:00 pm
	8	1.00 pm
March 25	Feast of the Annunciation	
March 27	Resurrection - Easter Sunday	
March 31	Golden Agers Birthdays and Anniversaries	1:00 pm
April 4	Cultural Centre Board Meeting (at the Monastery- note change of date)	7:30 pm
April 5	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood Bingo	7:00 pm
April 10	First Solemn Holy Communion Class	9:45 am
April 11	UCWLC Meeting	7:00 pm
April 11	Knights of Columbus Meeting	7:00 pm
April 12	Parish Council Meeting	7:00 pm
April 13	Holy Rosary Hour	12:00 Noon
April 14	Knights of Columbus Bingo	7:00 pm
April 17	First Solemn Holy Communion Class - Review & Practice	9:45 am

S.E.R.V.E

(Summer Endeavour in a Redemptorist Volunteer Experience)



May 5-20, 2016 at The Welcome Home in Winnipeg, MB Experience 2 weeks that could very well change your life! Enjoy

community life, learn about Redemptorist spirituality, volunteer in various

inner-city organizations and relax during a weekend lake retreat! For young adults ages 18-35 years. For more information or to request an application

contact Michelle at rymcssr@gmail.com or call/text 204-799-1060.

Deadline for applications is April 1!

Co-Missionary Fund 2015 -16	Co-Missionary Fund Contributions can be made monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. Our goal is to contribute \$250/month or \$3,000/yr. Please make your cheques payable to "St. Mary's" but memo the cheque <i>Co-Missionary Fund</i> .	
Our Target for this year is \$3000.00	ECUMENICAL ART RETREAT Saturday, April 2 nd 10:00 am — 3:00 pm St. Gerard's Parish Complex	
\$3,000 \$2,500	Whether you draw, paint, quilt, do embroidery, do photography, knit, crochet,	
\$2,000 \$1,500	or whatever your creative gift, you are most welcome! Please bring your own supplies for your project, a bag lunch, and an open and creative spirit There is no charge for this event, but please pre-register by calling	
\$1,000 \$ 500	Debbie and Keith at (306) 783-0963. Everyone is welcome!	
2015 2016	Sundays 3:00 - 4:00 pm Mondays 10:00 - 11:00 pm on 98.5 the ROCK	

HOLY WEEK

We have begun the most sacred time of the church year, Holy Week. It is not merely a time to remember events of the past. On the contrary, we are invited to participate in the last days of Christ on earth. We are called to experience the sufferings and death of Jesus so that we may gloriously share in the Resurrection of Christ. Each day of this week is special.

LAZARUS SATURDAY & PALM SUNDAY introduce us to Holy Week. Yesterday's Gospel proclaimed how Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. This miracle not only foreshadows what is to come but also proclaims that Christ is the Giver of Life. On that first Palm Sunday, after hearing about this great miracle, people gathered in Jerusalem to welcome Jesus as King. Today we are asked to declare our allegiance to Christ, our King and God.

HOLY MONDAY, HOLY TUESDAY & HOLY WEDNESDAY are known as the *Bridegroom Days*. The general theme of these days is our need to *be prepared*. The Scripture passage that is associated with these days is the parable of the ten virgins. Five of them were not prepared, but the five who filled their lamps with oil were prepared to receive the bridegroom. Christ is the Bridegroom. During the Presanctified Liturgy of Holy Wednesday, we are invited to receive the *Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick*. This Sacrament is usually given to those who are ill. Once a year, the Church invites all the faithful during this service to receive this sacrament which is for the healing of our bodies and for the forgiveness of all our sins. This is certainly a beautiful way to prepare ourselves for the rest of Holy week.

HOLY THURSDAY is the day that Jesus shared in the Last Supper with His disciples. The bread and wine of this meal became the Body and Blood of Christ that gives us eternal life.

GOOD AND HOLY FRIDAY is the day that we commemorate the Passion and Death of Jesus through three special services.

HOLY SATURDAY The Gospel read during the Divine Liturgy on this day announces the finding of the empty tomb. The service of Holy Saturday also proclaims the destruction of Hades by Christ.

HOLY PASCHA On Easter Sunday, we celebrate the Lord's Glorious Resurrection, and we proclaim **Xpucroc Bockpec!** - Christ is Risen! We gather at Resurrection Matins and sing This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it! Our rejoicing continues in the Divine Liturgy where we hear the Gospel proclaimed in as many languages as possible. The Artos, a special bread representing the Risen Lord, is blessed at the Liturgy and will be distributed to all on Thomas Sunday. In the evening, Resurrection Vespers will be celebrated. Throughout this day we proclaim to one another **Xpucroc Bockpec!** - Christ is Risen!

YORKTON DISTRICT PARISHES

JEDBURGH/SPRINGSIDE NEWS: Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church is sponsoring a Ham & Turkey Bingo, Sunday, March 20th @ 2:00 pm at the Springside Hall. Food hampers raffled; Coffee & doughnuts available. Doors open at 1:00 pm.

Schedule of Services in the Yorkton Pastoral District

BEAVERDALE	Sunday, March 20	9:00 am	Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Willows
	Friday, March 25	5:30 pm	Laying of the Shroud
	Saturday, March 26	8:00 pm	Easter Div. Lit. & Blessing of Baskets
CALDER	Sunday, March 20	11:00 am	Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Willows
	Friday, March 25	3:00 pm	Laying of the Shroud
	Sunday, March 27	9:00 am	Easter Div. Lit. & Blessing of Baskets

WILLOW / PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 20, 2016

The theme of Sunday is always Resurrection. We invite you to refrain from kneeling during the Divine Liturgy.

Today's special liturgical parts & readings are found on pages 37-40 in the Tropars, Kondaks, Epistle & Gospel Readings booklets that are found at the entrances of the church. Next Week's Readings: Epistle - Acts 1:1-8 Gospel - John 1:1-17

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

SUN	9:00 am & 11:00 am 9:45 am 10:15 am & 12:15 pm 11:00 am	Knights of Columbus Brunch
MON	7:00 pm	
TUE	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	6:30 pm	
	7:00 pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
WED	1:00 pm	Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood Bingo
	6:30 pm	Confessions
		Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Anointing of the Sick
THU	7:00 pm	Vespers & Divine Liturgy
FRI	9:00 am	Divine Liturgy (for the Feast of the Annunciation)
	3:00 pm	Vespers & Laying of the Shroud
	4:00 pm	Good Friday All Night Vigil begins
	7:00 pm	Jerusalem Matins
	8:00 pm	
SAT		All Night Vigil continues
	2:00 pm	Vespers & Divine Liturgy
		Blessing of Easter Foods (at St. Mary's Cultural Centre)
	8:00 pm	Resurrection Matins & Easter Divine Liturgy

OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday (March 25th) & Bright Monday (March 28th).

WEDDINGS PLANS ??- If you are planning to be married at St. Mary's or any of the Yorkton District parishes, *please contact Fr. Bohdan (306-783-4594) at least six months before the wedding date.*

 $\ensuremath{\text{DEADLINE}}$ for submissions to the bulletin is Tuesdays at 4:30 pm.

All Night Vigil - Good Friday Please consider spending an hour in vigil at Our Lord's Tomb on Good Friday The sign up sheet is in the East Entrance



DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

	OUNDAT, MAN	
Willow / Palm Sunday		Philippians 4:4-9 ~ John 12:1-18
MON Mar 21	Confessor James	Acts 10:34-43 ~ Matthew 24:3-35
7:00 pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts	
TUE Mar 22	Priest Martyr Basil	Ephesians 1:1-9 ~ Matthew 24:36-26:2
7:00 pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts	
WED Mar 23	Venerable Nicon	1 Corinthians 2:6-9 ~ Matthew 26:6-16

7:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Anointing of the Sick

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS - If you are paying for this service by cheque, please make your cheque payable to: Ukrainian Catholic Mission

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



On Tuesday, March 22nd, Adoration and Reparation to the Blessed Sacrament will take place from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to spend some time in church during these Holy Hours of Lenten Devotions. Plenty of literature will be available.

- Joseph Cho

There will be no Adoration on Tuesday, March 29th, April 5th or April 12th Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on Tuesday, April 19th.

+Sr. Junia Kunanec, SSMI

1930-2016

Fell asleep in the Lord on March 2, 2016 at Holy Family Home, Winnipeg, MB Funeral services were held on March 10 & 11 at St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Winnipeg. She was Provincial Superior for the Canadian Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (1999-2009). She is also remembered as

a kind and gentle teacher and Principal at Sacred Heart High School.

Вічная Память God Grant Her Eternal Rest Вічная Память



Saint Mary's Building Fund Donations

Balance of the Fund to date: \$311.942.78

Thank you very much

Donations may be given anytime. All funds collected will be used for the future renovations of our church. Building Fund Envelopes are available at the entrances of the Church



EMAIL BULLETIN - If you would like to have the Bulletin emailed to you please send your request to: cssrmonastery@sasktel.net

St. MARY'S CHURCH DONATIONS

In Memory of Brian Pedde Della Chizma

\$ 50.00

In Memory of Peter & Ann Beyko William Beyko

\$ 100.00

	In Mem	ory of Matt Shumay
Paul Shumay	\$ 50.00	Mike Smud
Dan & May Shumay	\$ 50.00	Bill Koban
Yorkton Bowl Arena	\$ 50.00	Nick & Margaret
Bill & Elizabeth Shumay	\$ 30.00	Carol Martin
Allan Bailey	\$ 20.00	Larry & Sandra G
Anton & Angeline Chupa	\$ 20.00	Pauline Spilchen
Jerry Beblow	\$ 10.00	Paul Beblow

\$ 20.00 20.00 20.00 Koshman 20.00 \$ 20.00 German S \$ 10.00 \$ 10.00

CHURCH DONATIONS - To ensure that your donation is properly recorded and acknowledged. please mark your envelope and the memo line on your cheque "In memory of ... " or "On the occasion of ... "



Congratulations to the following parishioners who were elected to the Parish Council during the parish's Annual Meeting which was held on March 13, 2016.

President: Vice-President: Secretary:

Parish Council Executive Geraldine Koban Past President: Gwen Bilyk Treasurer: Vicky Ostrowercha

Dave Spelay Kathy Rusnak

Communications: Finance: Liturgical: Parish Activities: Building & Property: Children & Youth: Education: Stewardship: Outreach:

Val Thiessen, Julie Abrametz, Tom Abrametz Fred Schrader Laurie Fedorowich, Ron Wizniak, Lorne Stechyshyn Faye Spelay Peter Moroz, Bill Popik, Theodore Trotz Lana Klemetski, Shelly Kluk Pat Thompson, Janet Lawrence, Val Thiessen Vi Protz Verlee Zulyniak, Dolores Harris

Pastor's, President's, Treasurer's and committee reports were presented. (Transcripts available at the Parish Office)

Parish Council Committees:



ST. MARY'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH YORKTON SCHEDULE OF EASTER SERVICES



SATURDAY, MARCH 19

5:00 pm (English) - Divine Liturgy & blessing of Pussy Willows

SUNDAY, MARCH 20 - WILLOW SUNDAY

9:00 am (Ukrainian) - Divine Liturgy & blessing of Pussy Willows 11:00 am (English) - Divine Liturgy & blessing of Pussy Willows

Monday, March 21

7:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

6:30 pm - Confessions 7:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

6:30 pm - Confessions 7:00 pm - Presanctified Liturgy & the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

THURSDAY, MARCH 24 - HOLY THURSDAY

7:00 pm - Vespers & Divine Liturgy

FRIDAY, MARCH 25- FEAST OF ANNUNCIATION / GOOD FRIDAY 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Annunciation 3:00 pm - Vespers - Laying of the Shroud

7:00 pm - Jerusalem Matins

SATURDAY, MARCH 26 - HOLY SATURDAY

2:00 pm - Vespers & Divine Liturgy 3:30 pm & 5:00 pm - Blessing of Easter Foods 8:00 pm - (English) Resurrection Matins & Easter Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 - RESURRECTION SUNDAY

7:00 am - (Ukrainian) Resurrection Matins, Divine Liturgy & blessing of Easter Foods 10:00 am - (English) Easter Divine Liturgy

Monday, March 28 - Friday, April 1 Bright Week

9:00 am - Divine Liturgy

2016 Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

Every Good Friday a special collection is taken for the Holy Land. This collection supports the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land. The mission of which is "to keep alive the liturgy in the places of worship, to enhance apostolic works, and support the Christian Community."

This collection will be taken on Good Friday, March 25, 2016. You can drop your donation in the basket by Our Lord's Tomb or in the Regular Collection. Please use the special envelope that came with your Sunday Offering Envelopes.





YORKTON DISTRICT PARISHES SCHEDULE OF EASTER SERVICES



BEAVERDALE

Sunday, March 20 - Willow Sunday 9:00 am - Divine Liturgy & blessing of Pussy Willows

Friday, March 25 - Good Friday 5:30 pm - Vespers - Laying of the Shroud - Confessions

Saturday, March 26 (anticipated for Resurrection Sunday) 8:00 pm - Resurrection Matins, Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Easter Foods

<u>Calder</u>

Sunday, March 20 - Willow Sunday 11:00 am - Divine Liturgy & blessing of Pussy Willows

Friday, March 25 - Good Friday 3:00 pm - Vespers - Laying of the Shroud - Confessions

Sunday, March 27 - Resurrection Easter Sunday 9:00 am - Resurrection Matins, Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Easter Foods



A Tradítional Ukrainian Easter Dívíne Líturgy will be broadcasted on GX94 Radio

Easter Sunday, March 27th 10:00 am - 11:30 am

The two hour program will consist of Resurrection Matins, Divine Liturgy & Easter hymns. This was recorded by the Ukrainian Choir under the direction of Colette Karapita



YEAR OF MERCY ON DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

ALL UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC & ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

The **Jubilee Year of Mercy** that Pope Francis opened on December 8, 2015 is a invitation to the faithful to strike out on a year long spiritual journey to recognize a loving God who is already knocking on your door. When we recognize God's generous love, this should kick-start us into acting more tolerant, patient and tender.

All of our Catholic Parishes are invited to a short prayer service at St. Mary's Chuch followed by a light meal to encourage all to socialize and reflect on the prayers.



Our guest speaker will be **Rev. Fr. Sir Knight Gregory Hrynkiw** who has been giving lectures at St. Thomas More College on the Joy of the Liturgy and the Joy of serving my neighbour. In 2010 Fr. Gregory made his solemn profession into the Hermitage of the Three Holy Hierarchs which unites both the contemplative and active aspects of monastic life.



DATE: Sunday, April 3, 2016

PLACE:

St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church 155 Catherine Street, Yorkton, SK

St. Mary's Cultural Centre 240 Wellington Avenue, Yorkton, SK

TIME: 3:30 pm Prayer Service 5:00 pm Luncheon & Social All Organizations are encouraged to wear their formal dress.

COST: Adults - \$10.00 Children- \$5.00

×

Hosted by:

Knights of Columbus

Fourth Degree Brother Stanislaus Assembly Yorkton, Saskatchewan

UKRAINIAN CHOIR: please join the Ukrainian Choir for any of the following:

- Good Friday, 3:00 pm Laying of Shroud Vespers (English)
- A Holy Saturday, 2:00 pm Vespers & Divine Liturgy (English)
- ☆ Easter Sunday, 7:00 am Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian)

THE EASTER BASKET

In earlier times, meat and dairy products were excluded from the daily diet during the entire season of the Great Fast. As the end of the strict fast approached, the people showed their joy and gratitude by taking their food to Church to be blessed and eaten after the Easter Divine Liturgy. As we celebrate Easter, the Feast of New Life, we bless the food that sustains our physical life. The foods traditionally blessed for Easter are: Pascha (Easter bread), Babka



(sweetbread), ham, sausage, butter, cottage cheese, eggs, horseradish, salt and pysanky (decorative and symbolic purpose only). The meaning of such variety of foods is interesting.

PASCHA - The Easter Bread, Pascha, is a large, round loaf of bread made of white flour. It is elaborately decorated with a braided cross and many rosettes. The Pascha symbolizes the joy of the New Life that is given to us by Jesus Christ.

BABKA (BABA) - The Babka is a tall, cylindrical, sweet bread enriched with raisins, butter, eggs. Saffron is added for coloring (orange-yellow). It is decorated with a simple cross. The Babka symbolizes the richness of eternal life.

HAM - The richness of this meat is symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Easter. Sometimes lamb or veal are used but these meats must be cooked well in advance so that the festivity of the day will not be burdened with the preparation.

KOBASSA - A spicy garlic sausage of pork products is indicative of God's favor and generosity.

CHEESE - Cottage Cheese, bland in taste, reminds us of the moderation that we should cultivate in our daily lives.

EGGS - Hard-boiled eggs are used. The father or the eldest in the family, if the father is not present, traditionally divides the first egg at the Easter breakfast table and shares it with each member of the family invoking an Easter blessing and greeting. The egg is symbolic of Christ's Death and Resurrection, that is, new life emerges from what appeared to be lifeless.

PYSANKY - These eggs are beautifully decorated with symbols derived from nature and later adapted to the Christian way of worship. The intricate patterns are applied with a stylus dipped in melted beeswax. The egg is dipped into successive dyes.

BUTTER - This favorite dairy product may be shaped into a lamb or decorated with whole cloves or peppercorn in the form of a cross. The butter reminds us of the goodness of Christ which in turn we should share with others.

SALT - The salt helps us to recall that we are committed to be followers of Christ and carry out His word: "You are the salt of the earth..."

HORSERADISH - The horseradish mixed with grated beets is symbolic of the Passion and Death of Christ. It reminds us of the bitterness of sin and of difficulties which we must undergo throughout our earthly life. CANDLE - The candle, made of beeswax, is placed in the basket and lit during the blessing celebration. It is symbolic of Christ "the light of the world" who brought us the glorious good news of New Life.

COVER - The embroidered cover reminds us of Christ's shroud (white linen) and of our Baptismal robe (kryszma). Being cleansed with the Baptismal waters, we celebrate the joy of New Life by putting on the kryszma.