



### KAISER CARD TOURNAMENT

Knights of Columbus are hosting a Kaiser Card Tournament on **Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** at **St. Mary's Cultural Centre**.  
 Cash prizes for both ladies and men Light lunch to follow.  
**Admission** \$4.00 /person. Come early for registration.  
 For further information,  
 contact Ed Lischynski 306-782-5077 or Steve Popowich 306-521-1500



DATE	TIME	EPISTLE	CANTOR	USHERS	ORGANIST
<b>SAT DEC 10</b>	5:00 pm English	Tom Abrametz	Tom Abrametz	Julie Abrametz Eleanor Yasinsky	
<b>SUN DEC 11</b> <i>Sunday of the Holy Fore-Fathers</i>	9:00 am Ukrainian	Sr. Terry Ann Slota	Lorne Stechyshyn	Alice Chopty Mary Malin	
	11:00 am English	Sandra German	Laurie Fedorowich Ron Wizniak	Ray Gorchinski Elaine Gorchinski	Iris Skehar
<b>SAT DEC 17</b>	5:00 pm English	Sr. Suzanne Kokuruds	Sr. Suzanne Kokuruds	John Ostrowercha Vicky Ostrowercha	
<b>SUN DEC 18</b> <i>Sunday before the Nativity</i>	9:00 am Ukrainian	Halyna Tsymbali	Lorne Stechyshyn	Mary Malin	
	11:00 am English	Sharla Schrader	Laurie Fedorowich Ron Wizniak	Fred Schrader Sharla Schrader	Iris Skehar

**WE NEED YOUR HELP..** We are looking for volunteers to help with ushering duties at the weekend Divine Liturgies. Training is available if needed. Please call Gwen at 306-621-8725 for more information.

<b>SUNDAY</b>	Received on November 27 in 61 Regular Envelopes .....	\$ 1,472.00
<b>COLLECTION</b>	Received on December 4 in 74 Regular Envelopes .....	\$ 3,217.00
<b>Nov 27, 2022</b>	Received in Loose Collection .....	\$ 84.10
<b>DEC 4, 2022</b>	Received in 19 Other Envelopes .....	\$ 230.00

### CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE: st.mary.yorkton@sasktel.net  
 WEB: www.saintmarysyorkton.com

PASTOR: lmalkov@sasktel.net  
 EPARCHY OF SASKATOON: www.skeparchy.org

**Eparchial Pastoral Council** - Pat Thompson 306-782-9425  
**Parish Council President** - Fred Schrader 306-621-7609

**Knights of Columbus** - Steve Popowich 306-783-5441  
**UCBC** - Dave Spelay 306-782-5320  
**Golden Agers** - Verna Moroz 306-783-6293

**UCWLC** - Gwen Bilyk 306-782-4093  
**Cultural Centre** - Eugene Maystrowich 306-782-5004  
**Cultural Centre Manager** - Stan Shymanski 306-782-1010

## ST. MARY'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Церква Матері Божої Неустанної Помочі  
 Our Mother of Perpetual Help  
 155 Catherine Street, Yorkton, SK S3N 0B9



VOL. 59, No. 24

PARISH BULLETIN

DECEMBER 11 & 18, 2022

Christ is Among Us !  
He is and will be !

Христос Посеред нас !  
Є і буде !

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. Leonid Malkov, CSsR - Pastor  
 Fr. Yevhen Zadorozhnyi, CSsR - Assistant Pastor  
 Most Rev. Peter Stasiuk, CSsR

**\*\*OFFICE HOURS\*\***  
 Tuesday - Thursday \*\*9:00 am - 12:00 pm\*\*  
*Office is in the Church Basement-  
 use Golden Agers Entrance on North side*

**Office 306-783-4594**  
**Sick Calls - 306-229-1755**

**BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES\*** by Appointment  
*\*Please contact the pastor at least six months  
 before the wedding date.*

### DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY**

Saturday	5:00 pm	English
Sunday	9:00 am	Ukrainian
	11:00 am	English

**HOLY DAYS**  
9:00 am

**WEEKDAYS**

8:00 am	Monday - Friday
9:00 am	Saturday

**CONFESSIONS** are available 30 minutes prior to each Divine Liturgy

## MUSÉE UKRAINA MUSEUM 2023 LOTTERY CALENDARS



Musée Ukraina Museum 2023 Lottery Calendars are available for \$20.00 each for 365 draws. The 2023 calendar features select decorative woods from the Museum's collection and private collections.

Available from Elizabeth Zahayko (UCWLC), 306-783-6232; Peter Moroz (UCBC), 306-783-6293 or the Parish Office at 306-783-4593 during office hours Tuesday-Thursday from 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon.

License # RR22-0403

*Great gift for a birthday, anniversary, special thank-you or for Christmas.*



## Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood - St. Volodymyr Branch Annual Meeting Sunday, December 11 2:00 pm St. Mary's Cultural Centre



## Winners from the Annual UCBC Raffle



\$100 - Azalea Parisien (Regina)	\$100 - Julia Guthrie (Yorkton)
\$100 - Steve Hrynkiw Family (Yorkton)	\$100 - Shane Wallace (Saskatoon)
\$100 - Abbey Derow (Regina)	\$100 - Paula Spanke (Yorkton)
\$100 - Joyce Nesbitt (Yorkton)	\$100 - Adrienne Fullawka (Yorkton)
\$100 - Hudson McConnell (Regina)	\$100 - Brian Brodziak (Yorkton)
\$500 - Caroll Tarr (Regina)	\$1,000 - Diana Dorais (Calgary, AB)

*Thank you for your support in our Annual UCBC Raffle.*



## ST. MARY'S PARISH PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING PLAN (PAG)

The Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) Program enables you to make donations to the parish on a monthly or semi-monthly basis right from your bank account. It eliminates the need of having the correct amount of cash on Sunday and/or from having to write a cheque.

**\*\*Please support your parish by joining PAG\*\***

For more information or to enroll, please see the pamphlets at the church entrances or at the Parish Office.



The Ukrainian Catholic Foundation of Saskatchewan Corporation greatly appreciates the support and generosity of **St. Mary's Parish**, **St. Mary's UCWLC** and the **Knights of Columbus Council #5182** for the purchase of 8 tickets to the "Christmas Classic" fundraiser held in Saskatoon. The tickets were distributed to Ukrainian refugee families by Fr. Andre' Lalach of the Saskatoon Dormition of the Blessed Mother of God Parish.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 25	<i>Nativity of Our Lord</i>	
December 26	<i>Sobor of the Mother of God</i>	
December 27	<i>Feast of St. Stephen</i>	
January 1	<i>Circumcision of Our Lord - St. Basil's - New Year's</i>	
January 6	<i>Feast of Theophany (Jordan)</i>	
January 5	Divine Liturgy at Yorkton & District Nursing Home	10:00 am
January 7	Divine Liturgy at Yorkton Crossing	10:30 am
January 10	Divine Liturgy at Gladstone Seniors Residence	11:00 am
January 17	Parish Council Meeting	7:00 pm
January 19	Divine Liturgy at Queen Elizabeth Court	2:00 pm
January 20	Divine Liturgy at the Bentley	10:30 am
January 26	Divine Liturgy at Theodore Health Centre	2:00 pm

## YORKTON DISTRICT PARISHES

### Schedule of Services in the Yorkton Pastoral District

**\*\*Please note: this schedule is subject to change, please check regularly\*\***

BEAVERDALE	Sunday, December 25	10:00 am	Christmas Divine Liturgy
CALDER	Saturday, December 24	7:00 pm	God is with Us & Divine Liturgy

## A TRADITIONAL UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS LITURGY BROADCAST

From St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church

**GX94: 940 AM on Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
from 10:00 am to 11:30 am**



The program will include: The Christmas Compline (Povecheriye), the Divine Liturgy, Ukrainian Carols and Christmas greetings on behalf of the parish.  
If you are not in the listening area, tune in to: [www.gx94radio.com](http://www.gx94radio.com) (<http://cjgx.streamon.fm>).

**Sponsored by Our Parish Organizations:**

Knights of Columbus, Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood and UCWLC

Any donations from our parishioners are gratefully accepted.

Please remember to designate your donation for the Radio Broadcast.



**The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon Eparchial Safeguarding Policy: Covenant of Care, Electronic Communication and Technology & Abuse and Misconduct Policy** is a code of conduct which is designed to create safe and respectful church communities and healthy ministerial relationships, and to protect people from abuse and the harm that results.

To speak to someone about a concern please contact your Pastor, Parish Coordinator of Care (PCC) **Deborah Larmour**, Eparchial Coordinator of Care at **(306)-653-0138 ext. 228**; Cell: 306-222-1475 or email: **[safeguarding@skeparchy.org](mailto:safeguarding@skeparchy.org)** More information is available on the Eparchial Website, **[www.skeparchy.org](http://www.skeparchy.org)**.



**Церква Матері Божої Неустанної Помочі**  
**St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church**  
**Порядок Богослужень 2022-2023 Schedule of Services**

<b>Saturday, December 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve (Fast Day)</b>	<b>Навечір'я Різдва (Піст)</b>
God is With Us Service (Eng)	7:00 pm	Велике Повечеря (Анг)
Divine Liturgy (Eng)	7:30 pm	Служба Божа (Анг)
God is With Us Service (Ukr)	9:30 pm	Велике Повечеря (Укр)
Divine Liturgy (Ukr)	10:00 pm	Служба Божа (Укр)
<b>Sunday, December 25</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>Різдво Г.Н.І.Х.</b>
Divine Liturgy (Ukr)	9:00 am	Служба Божа (Укр)
Divine Liturgy (Eng)	11:00 am	Служба Божа (Анг)
<b>Monday, December 26</b>	<b>Sobor of the Blessed Mother</b>	<b>Собор Пресв. Богородиці</b>
Divine Liturgy (Eng)	9:00 am	Служба Божа (Анг)
<b>Tuesday, December 27</b>	<b>Feast of St. Stephen</b>	<b>св.Стефана</b>
Divine Liturgy (Eng)	9:00 am	Служба Божа (Анг)
<b>Saturday, December 31</b>	<b>Regular Schedule</b>	
Divine Liturgy (Eng)	9:00 am	Служба Божа (Анг)
Divine Liturgy (Eng)	5:00 pm	Служба Божа (Анг)
<b>Sunday, January 1</b>	<b>Circumcision of Our Lord/New Year</b>	<b>Обрізання Г.Н.І.Х. /Новий Рік</b>
Divine Liturgy (Ukr)	9:00 am	Служба Божа (Укр)
Divine Liturgy (Eng)	11:00 am	Служба Божа (Анг)
<b>Friday, January 6</b>	<b>Theophany (Jordan)</b>	<b>Богоявлення (Йордан)</b>
Divine Liturgy	9:00 am	Служба Божа
Solemn Water Blessing		Урочисте Водосвяття



**DIRECTIONS TO THE NEW PARISH OFFICE**

**We hear that Parishioners are having a hard time locating our new Parish Office...**

We are located in the former Golden Agers Centre. Please go past the end of the ramp on the north side of the church. Continue until you see the north wall of the church, if you walk toward the north wall, you will see an entrance to your right (the door faces west), please proceed down the stairs, turn left and you will find us. **Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon.**

**SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FORE-FATHERS**  
**SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY**

**DECEMBER 11, 2022**  
**DECEMBER 18, 2022**

*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 the*  
***Tropars, Kondaks, Epistle & Gospel Readings*** *handout available at the entrances.*

**THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT ST. MARY'S**

<b>SUN</b>	<b>DEC 11</b>	<b>Sunday of the Holy Fore-Fathers</b>
		9:00 am ..... Divine Liturgy <b>Ukrainian</b>
		11:00 am..... Divine Liturgy <b>English</b>
		2:00 pm..... UCBC Annual Meeting <b>Cultural Centre</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>DEC 13</b>	6:30 pm..... Parish Council Meeting <b>*Note time change</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>DEC 15</b>	2:00 pm..... Divine Liturgy at Queen Elizabeth Court
<b>FRI</b>	<b>DEC 16</b>	10:30 am..... Divine Liturgy at the Bentley
<b>SAT</b>	<b>DEC 17</b>	9:00 am ..... Divine Liturgy
		5:00 pm..... Divine Liturgy
<b>SUN</b>	<b>DEC 18</b>	<b>Sunday before the Nativity</b>
		9:00 am ..... Divine Liturgy <b>Ukrainian</b>
		11:00 am..... Divine Liturgy <b>English</b>
<b>MON</b>	<b>DEC 19</b>	6:00 pm..... St. Mary's Cultural Centre Board Meeting
<b>THU</b>	<b>DEC 22</b>	2:00 pm..... Divine Liturgy at Theodore Health Centre
<b>SAT</b>	<b>DEC 24</b>	9:00 am ..... Divine Liturgy
		<b>Vigil of the Nativity - Christmas Eve *Fasting Day*</b>
		7:00 pm ..... God is with Us Service <b>English</b>
		7:30 pm..... Divine Liturgy <b>English</b>
		9:30 pm..... God is with Us Service <b>Ukrainian</b>
		10:00 pm..... Divine Liturgy <b>Ukrainian</b>

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



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

**DEADLINE** for submissions to the bulletin **Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon.** The next bulletin will be printed for Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>. Please call the Parish Office in the mornings on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday or email your information to st.mary.yorkton@sasktel.net.

**DEEPEST SYMPATHY**

We express our sympathy & prayers to the family & friends of  
**+Melita Benko and +Terry Lees** who passed away recently.

**Вічная Память    God Grant Them Eternal Rest    Вічная Память**

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Sunday of the Holy Fore-Fathers Colossians 3:4-11 ~ Luke 14:16-24  
MON DEC 12 Venerable Spiridion 2 Timothy 2:20-26 ~ Luke 19:37-44

8:00 am +John and +Violetta.....Adela & Austin  
TUE DEC 13 Martyr Eustratius Ephesians 6:10-17 ~ Luke 21:12-28

8:00 am +Health for Samantha.....Baba & Geede  
WED DEC 14 Martyr Thyrcas and others 2 Timothy 4:9-22 ~ Luke 20:1-8

8:00 am +Tom, +Lena, +Mike, +Mabel, +Doug and +Sharon.....Brian & Sandi  
THU DEC 15 Priest Martyr Eleutherius Titus 1:5-2:1 ~ Luke 20:9-18

8:00 am +Athen Gazdewich (40 Days).....Emily & family  
FRI DEC 16 Prophet Haggai Titus 1:15-2:10 ~ Luke 20:19-26

8:00 am Birthday Blessings for Anna Gulka.....Olga Kondra  
SAT DEC 17 Prophet Daniel Ephesians 1:16-23 ~ Luke 12:32-40  
9:00 am +Matilda Krupp and +Deceased Krupp Family.....Theresa & Garry Barnes  
5:00 pm Health & God's Blessings for Delores.....Emil

DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Sunday before the Nativity Hebrews 11:9-10;17-23;32-40 ~ Matthew 1: 1 - 25  
MON DEC 19 Martyr Boniface Hebrews 3:5-11; 17-19 ~ Luke 20:27-44

8:00 am +John Kapitski.....Jean Kitsch & family  
TUE DEC 20 Priest Martyr Ignatius Hebrews 4:1-13 ~ Luke 21:12-19

8:00 am +Mark and +Donna.....Mom & Dad  
WED DEC 21 Martyr Juliana Hebrews 5:11-6:8 ~ Luke 21:5-7; 10-11; 20-24

8:00 am +Mike and +Kay Popowich, +Bernie Drosky.....Fran Drosky  
THU DEC 22 Great Martyr Anastasia Hebrews 7:1-16 ~ Luke 21:28-33

8:00 am +Victor Puchala.....Gloria Champagne  
FRI DEC 23 10 Martyrs of Crete Hebrews 7:18-25 ~ Luke 21:37-22:8

8:00 am +Sr. Nestor Kyba (1 Year).....SSMI  
SAT DEC 24 Vigil of the Nativity Hebrews 1:1-12 ~ Luke 2:1-20  
9:00 am Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

7:00 pm God is with Us service & Divine Liturgy 9:30 pm

Saint Mary's Building Fund Donations



In Memory of Melita Benko			
Delmar & Kimberly Zwirsky	\$ 60.00	Larry & Sandra German	\$ 25.00
Jason & Bev Dreger	\$ 50.00	Dave Hardy	\$ 20.00
Kenneth Smuk	\$ 50.00	Ronnie & Donna Lazurko	\$ 20.00
Orest & Elizabeth Zahayko	\$ 30.00		

Balance of the Fund to November 30, 2022 \$492,056.47 Thank you very much

ST. MARY'S RENOVATION PROJECT

Steve & Sonia Popowich \$ 1,000.00

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

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..."

ST. MARY'S CHURCH DONATIONS

In Memory Athen Gazdewich  
Curtis & Christine Gazdewich \$300.00

Thank you for your donations!



JUST A REMINDER... All contributions and donations that require a tax receipt for 2022 must be in the Parish Office by Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>.

HAS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGED ??

Please notify the Parish Office if you have a change of address or a new phone number.  
This will help to keep our records current  
and ensure that tax receipts go to the correct address. Thank you.

CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE

There will be a priest available in the confessional 30 minutes prior to every Divine Liturgy.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT OUR CHURCH IS A SACRED SPACE...

Please refrain from speaking loudly in church. People are praying and need silence.  
Also, kindly silence your mobile devices during Divine Liturgy.



Thank you.



DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS - If you are making an offering for this service by cheque, please make your cheque payable to: Ukrainian Catholic Mission. The suggested stipend (offering) for a Divine Liturgy Intention is \$20.00. You can find Liturgy Request Forms with envelopes at the Church Entrances. Once you have completed the form, place it in the envelope with your stipend, seal the envelope and drop into the collection plate.

## TROPARS, KONDAKS, EPISTLE & GOSPEL FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

### SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FORE-FATHERS



**Tropar, tone 2:** When You went down to death, O Life Immortal,\* You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity.\* When You raised the dead from the nether world,\* all the powers of heaven cried out:\* “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You!”

**Tropar of the Forefathers, tone 2:** O Christ, You have justified the forefathers by faith,\* thus forming through them the Church of the gentiles.\* These saints are glorified because the Virgin who bore You descends from them.\* O Christ God, through their prayers have mercy on us.

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;***

**Kondak of the Forefathers, tone 6:** Armed with invisible power,\*you did not adore the idols made by human hands, O thrice-holy youths;\* strengthened by a power beyond words,\* you stood in the midst of a devouring fire and called upon God, saying,\* “Hasten, O merciful One, and speed to our help,\* for You are good and have power to do whatever you desire.”

***now and for ever and ever. Amen!***

**Feastday Kondak, tone 4:** Today the universe rejoices,\* for Anne conceived in a manner caused by God;\* and because the one born to her\* will give birth to the Word.

**Prokimen, tone 4:** Blessed are you, and praiseworthy, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and glorious forever is your name.

**Verse:** *For you are just in all you have done.*

**Epistle:** A reading from the Letter of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians 3: 4-11

Brothers and Sisters! When Christ our life appears, then you shall appear with him in glory. Put to death whatever in your nature is rooted in earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desires, and that lust which is idolatry. These are the sins which provoke God's wrath. Your own conduct was once of this sort, when these sins were your very life. You must put that aside now: all the anger and quick temper, the

malice, the insults, the foul language. Stop lying to one another. What you have done is put aside your old self with its past deeds and put on a new man, one who grows in knowledge as he is formed anew in the image of his Creator. There is no Greek or Jew here, circumcised or uncircumcised, foreigner Scythian, slave, or freeman. Rather, Christ is everything in all of you.

**Alleluia Verses:**

*Moses and Aaron were among his priests, and Samuel, among those who called upon his name. They called upon the Lord, and he answered them.*

**Gospel:** Luke 14:16-24

At that time the Lord said this parable: "A man was giving a large dinner and he invited many. At dinner time he sent his servant to say to those invited, 'Come along, everything is ready now.' But they began to excuse themselves, one and all. The first one said to the servant, 'I have bought some land and must go out and inspect it. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen and I am going out to test them. Please excuse me.' A third said, 'I am newly married and so I cannot come.' The servant returning reported all this to his master. The master of the house grew angry at the account. He said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor and the crippled, the blind and the lame.' The servant reported, after some time, 'Your orders have been carried out, my lord, and there is still room.' The master then said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and along the hedgerows and force them to come in. I want my house to be full, but I tell you that not one of those invited shall taste a morsel of my dinner. For many are called, but few are chosen.' "

**Instead of ‘It is truly right . . .’:** O my soul, extol the glorious conception\* of the Mother of God.\* You are an inexhaustible source of life,\* O Mother of God.\* You are a radiant lamp of grace, a temple of the Holy Spirit,\* an all-pure tent more spacious\* than the heavens and the earth.\* Therefore, we the faithful,\* praise you.

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

Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## TROPARS, KONDAKS, EPISTLE & GOSPEL FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

### SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY



**Tropar, tone 3:** Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,\* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.\* He trampled death by death; He became the first born of the dead;\* He saved us from the abyss of Hades\* and granted great mercy to the world.

**Tropar of the Holy Fathers, tone 2:** The three young men who are the great guides of the faith,\* rejoiced in the pit of flame as if they were in a water of rest,\* and the prophet Daniel appeared as a shepherd to the lions.\* O Christ God, save our souls for their sake.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen!**

**Kondak of the Holy Fathers, tone 6:** You did not worship a man-made image, O thrice-blessed youths,\* but were glorified in the test of fire,\* protected by a power beyond description.\* From the searing flames you cried out to God, saying\*: Hasten to help us, O merciful Lord,\* for in your greatness You can do whatever You will.

**Prokimen, tone 4:** Blessed are you, and praiseworthy, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and glorious forever is your name.

**Verse:** *For you are just in all you have done.*

**Epistle:** A reading from the Letter of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews 11:9-10; 17-23; 32-40

Brothers and Sisters! By faith Abraham sojourned in the promised land as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs of the same promise; for he was looking forward to the city with foundations whose designer and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac; he who had received the promises was ready to sacrifice his only son, of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your descendants be called.” He reasoned that God was able to raise from the dead, and so he received Isaac back as a symbol. By faith Isaac invoked for Jacob and Esau blessings that were still to be. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshipped God, leaning on the head of his staff. By faith Joseph, near the end of his life spoke of the Exodus of the Israelites, and gave instructions about his burial. By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after his birth, thereby disregarding the king’s edict because they saw that he was a beautiful child. What more shall I recount? I have no time to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, did what was just, obtained the promises; they broke the jaws of lions, put out raging fires, escaped the devouring sword; though weak they were made powerful, became strong in battle, and turned back foreign invaders. Women received back their dead through resurrection. Others were tortured and would not receive deliverance, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Still others endured mockery, scourging, even chains and imprisonment.

They were stoned, sawed in two, put to death at sword’s point; they went about garbed in the skins of sheep or goats, needy, afflicted, tormented. The world was not worthy of them. They wandered about in deserts and on mountains, they dwelt in caves and in holes of the earth. Yet despite the fact that all of these were approved because of their faith, they did not obtain what had been promised. God had made a better plan, a plan which included us. Without us, they were not to be made perfect.

**Alleluia Verses:** *O God, our ears have heard, our fathers have declared to us.*

*But you have saved us from our foes, and those who hated us you put to shame.*

**Gospel:** Matthew 1: 1 - 25

A family record of Jesus Christ, Son of David, son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac. Isaac the father of Jacob. Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez was the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram. Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon. Salmon was the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed was the father of Jesse, Jesse the father of King David, David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa. Asa was the father of Jehosaphat, Jehosaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah. Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah was the father of Manesseh, Manesseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the Babylonian exile. After the Babylonian exile Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud, Abiud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor. Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud. Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob. Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary. It was of her that Jesus who is called the Messiah was born. Thus the total number of generations is: from Abraham to David, fourteen generations; from David to the Babylonian captivity, fourteen generations; from the Babylonian captivity to the Messiah, fourteen generations. Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, an upright man unwilling to expose her to the law, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when suddenly the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream and said to him: “Joseph, son of David, have no fear about taking Mary as your wife. It is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived this child. She is to have a son and you are to name him Jesus because he will save his people from their sins.” All this happened to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin shall be with child and give birth to a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel,” a name which means “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke he did as the angel of the Lord had directed him and received her into his home as his wife. He had no relations with her at any time before she bore a son, whom he named Jesus.

**Communion Hymn:** Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest.  
Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!