



“ORTHODOX 9” PARISHES BULLETIN

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN CANADA

Monthly Newsletter for the family of Orthodox Churches including:



St. Mary’s (the Nativity of the Holy Virgin) - NISKU

Sts. Peter & Paul - BONNYVILLE

St. John the Baptist - HOREN

Holy Ascension - CALMAR

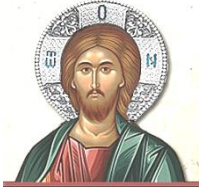
St. Onuphrius - FOAM LAKE (SK)

Whitsuntide (Holy Trinity) - THORSBY

Dormition of Theotokos -MACNUTT (SK)

St. John the Baptist - VEGREVILLE

Sts. Peter & Paul - INSINGER (SK)



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Volume 62, Issue 6

Christ is risen!

June 2024

The Feast of Holy Pentecost – the Day of the Holy Trinity and The Church’s Birthday



On the fiftieth day after the Resurrection of Christ, His disciples and the Holy Virgin Mary were together when the Holy Spirit in the form of the tongues of fire descended upon all of them, according to the promise of the Lord, from Heaven.

This day is also called the **Day of the Holy Trinity**, revealing the mystery of the Triune God as fully as human mind can comprehend. This fullness was not accessible to the ancient Jews, who worshipped the One God, but with the coming of Jesus Christ and the appearance of the Holy Spirit—first as a dove at the

Baptism of the Lord and here as the flames of fire at Pentecost—God revealed Himself to the world as the Triune God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

In the Festal Gospel reading, Jesus Christ says, “Whoever believes in Me, out of their heart will flow rivers of living water” (John 7:38). Many around Him were disturbed by these words, not accepting Him as the True God. However, He was speaking of the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom all believers in the Savior would receive. The Apostles received the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, and every Christian receives Him at Baptism. The Holy Spirit granted the apostles visible gifts, such as the ability to speak in different languages instantly, necessary for spreading the Gospel worldwide.

The Feast of the Holy Trinity reminds us that we Christians are mystical vessels filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit. If we see envy, lies, greed, despair, or hatred in our hearts, we should look deeper and find the thirst to be with Christ, to follow His commandments, to be kind, humble, courageous in faith, and loving to others, quickly forgiving wrongs.

(to be continued on the next page)

The Day of Pentecost, which we celebrate on June 23 in 2024, is also **the Birthday of the Church of Christ**.

As the Apostle Paul repeatedly states in his Epistles, that the Church is the Body of Christ (Eph. 1:23; Col. 1:24). The term 'Body of Christ' implies the unity of the human and the Divine. The human element includes all of us who believe in the Holy Trinity, pray, and come to the church, while the Divine element is manifested by the Holy Spirit. Since the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles, God's grace works in the Church, saving and enlightening us if we are part of the Divine-human organism—the Church!

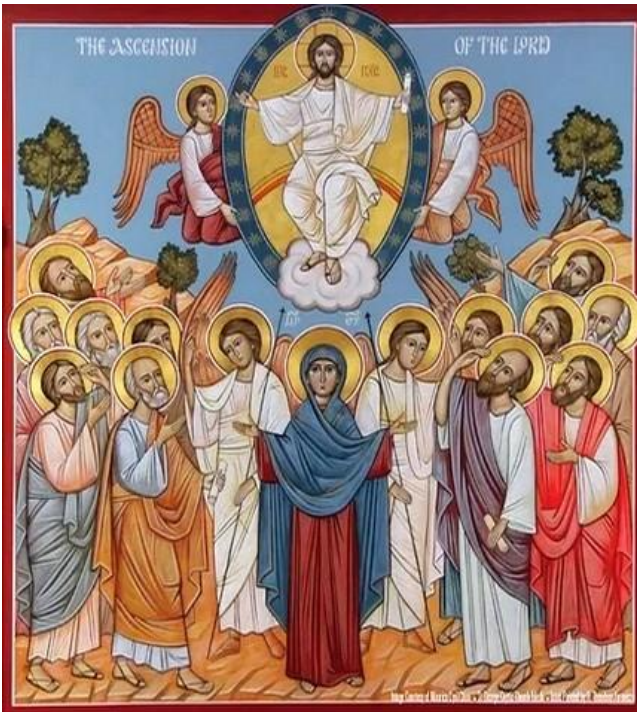
St. Hilarion Troitsky, New Martyr, the righteous Confessor of the Church, and the prophet who tried to save people from the upcoming calamity in 20th century, in his book "*Christianity or the Church?*" sets forth the Scriptural and Patristic understanding of what Christ came to establish: not an invisible, personal "Christianity" but the Church which He promised He would build (Matt. 16:18).

It is not merely understanding of Christian teachings that reunites man with God! "People who have joined the Church and loved each other are like the three Persons of the Most Holy Trinity, whose love unites Them into one Being. The Church is, as it were, the consubstantiality of all persons, created by their common love for each other." (St. Hilarion Troitsky). Thus, this grace and love unites us with the Holy Trinity and with each other! And trying to substitute the Church with Christianity is like valuing the vessel more than the life-giving water which is inside!

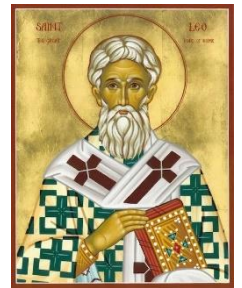
Our earthly life is given to us to strengthen and develop this transformative power of the Holy Spirit, so that with His help we may become children of God. The Holy Church—Her services, Holy Scriptures, Sacraments, prayers, and unity in love among brothers and sisters in Christ—is the environment where we live and learn this, preparing ourselves for the meeting with the Lord and the blessed eternal life with Him. Amen.

SERMON ON THE LORD'S HOLY ASCENSION by St. Leo the Great (†461)

1. The Events Recorded as Happening After the Resurrection Were Intended to Convince Its Truth



Since the blessed and glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, whereby the Divine power in three days raised the true Temple of God, which the wickedness of the Jews had overthrown, the sacred forty days, dearly-beloved are to-day ended, which by most holy appointment were devoted to our most profitable instruction, so that, during the period that the Lord thus protracted the lingering of His bodily presence, our faith in the Resurrection might be fortified by needful proofs.



For Christ's Death had much disturbed the disciples' hearts, and a kind of torpor of distrust had crept over their grief-laden minds at His torture on the cross, at His giving up the ghost, at His lifeless body's burial. For, when the holy women, as the Gospel-story has revealed, brought word of the stone rolled away from the tomb, the sepulchre emptied of the body, and the angels bearing witness to the living Lord, their words seemed like ravings to the Apostles and other disciples.

Which doubtfulness, the result of human weakness, the Spirit of Truth would most assuredly not have permitted to exist in His own preacher's breasts, had not their trembling anxiety and careful hesitation laid the foundations of our faith. It was our perplexities and our dangers that were provided for in the Apostles: it was ourselves who in these

men were taught how to meet the cavillings of the ungodly and the arguments of earthly wisdom. We are instructed by their lookings, we are taught by their hearings, we are convinced by their handlings. Let us give thanks to the Divine management and the holy Fathers' necessary slowness of belief. Others doubted, that we might not doubt.

2. And Therefore They are in the Highest Degree Instructive

Those days, therefore, dearly-beloved, which intervened between the Lord's Resurrection and Ascension did not pass by in uneventful leisure, but great mysteries were ratified in them, deep truths revealed. In them the fear of awful death was removed, and the immortality not only of the soul but also of the flesh established. In them, through the Lord's breathing upon them, the Holy Spirit is poured upon all the Apostles, and to the blessed Apostle Peter beyond the rest the care of the Lord's flock is entrusted, in addition to the keys of the kingdom.

Then it was that the Lord joined the two disciples as a companion on the way, and, to the sweeping away of all the clouds of our uncertainty, upbraided them with the slowness of their timorous hearts. Their enlightened hearts catch the flame of faith, and lukewarm as they have been, are made to burn while the Lord unfolds the Scriptures. In the breaking of bread also their eyes are opened as they eat with Him: how far more blessed is the opening of their eyes, to whom the glorification of their nature is revealed than that of our first parents, on whom fell the disastrous consequences of their transgression.

3. The Prove the Resurrection of the Flesh

And in the course of these and other miracles, when the disciples were harassed by bewildering thoughts, and the Lord had appeared in their midst and said, "Peace be unto you," that what was passing through their hearts might not be their fixed opinion (for they thought they saw a spirit not flesh), He refutes their thoughts so discordant with the Truth, offers to the doubters' eyes the marks of the cross that remained in His hands and feet, and invites them to handle Him with careful scrutiny, because the traces of the nails and spear had been retained to heal the wounds of unbelieving hearts, so that not with wavering faith, but with most steadfast knowledge they might comprehend that the Nature which had been lain in the sepulchre was to sit on God the Father's throne.

4. Christ's Ascension Has Given Us Greater Privileges and Joys Than the Devil Had Taken from Us

Accordingly, dearly-beloved, throughout this time which elapsed between the Lord's Resurrection and Ascension, God's Providence had this in view, to teach and impress upon both the eyes and hearts of His own people that the Lord Jesus Christ might be acknowledged to have as truly risen, as He was truly born, suffered, and died. And hence the most blessed Apostles and all the disciples, who had been both bewildered at His death on the cross and backward in believing His Resurrection, were so strengthened by the clearness of the truth that when the Lord entered the heights of heaven, not only were they affected with no sadness, but were even filled with great joy.

And truly great and unspeakable was their cause for joy, when in the sight of the holy multitude, above the dignity of all heavenly creatures, the Nature of mankind went up, to pass above the angels' ranks and to rise beyond the archangels' heights, and to have Its uplifting limited by no elevation until, received to sit with the Eternal Father, It should be associated on the throne with His glory, to Whose Nature It was united in the Son.

Since then Christ's Ascension is our uplifting, and the hope of the Body is raised, whither the glory of the Head has gone before, let us exult, dearly-beloved, with worthy joy and delight in the loyal paying of thanks. For to-day not only are we confirmed as possessors of paradise, but have also in Christ penetrated the heights of heaven, and have gained still greater things through Christ's unspeakable grace than we had lost through the devil's malice.

For us, whom our virulent enemy had driven out from the bliss of our first abode, the Son of God has made members of Himself and placed at the right hand of the Father, with Whom He lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God unto ages of ages. Amen.

St. Leo the Great
From *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers,*
Series 2, Volume 12, Sermon LXXIV

Traditional Celebration at St. Nicholas Church at Ukrainian Village in 2024

Christ is risen!

On the 20th of May the Patriarchal Parishes conducted a service of the Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Church in Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village which is East of Edmonton.

This is our annual celebration of the Patronal Feast of the church that was moved to this site from the Vegreville area (Warwick) in 1971, to preserve the building and provide the services in the holy temple.

Since then, it has been a special spring event that would gather all the faithful and even very often is blessed by the Archpastoral Liturgy, and with a friendly picnic thereafter.

Once again, we had a very good church singing with St. Barbara's Cathedral's choir with Irina Trutneva leading, and the altar was filled with numerous altar helpers!

Though it was not the warmest day there, the old oven in the church kindly lit by the Ukrainian museum staff created an atmosphere of the farmers' home church of old. People were also grateful to the museum servants for delivering us to the church site through the rural streets with their after-the-rain charm.

Again, we could see the trees of the groves and orchards, the farmers' fields and the lakes right out of the window during our church gathering, like it used to be in the life of our righteous ancestors.

The Life of the great saint and Wonderworker Nicholas was read during the service, and we had partakers of the Holy Communion of the Lord, and the Paschal hymns and songs were sung in many languages during the concert.

At the end of the Liturgy, the dean and rector of St. Barbara's Cathedral, Father Igor Kisil greeted the faithful with the fourth week after the Holy Pascha, and the eve of the celebration of the Great Saint Nicholas of Myrra of Likia, whose help and protection he prayfully called upon all the people present!

The President of the St. Barbara's Russian Orthodox Cathedral Roman Lopushinsky also addressed the people, and congratulated everyone with both statutory and church feasts, and invited the congregation to the festive picnic dinner outside in the greenery and the comfortable tables, which they always prepare for all the people.

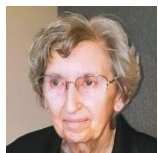
May the Lord, through the prayers of his Saint – Nicholas the Wonderworker, remember us, help and protect, saving us for the spiritual life in Him! Amen



Christ is Risen! Chrystos Voskres!

The parishioners of Orthodox IX extend our deepest and sincere condolences to the relatives of the newly departed! May God comfort you with His compassion, and may God settle them, where the light of His countenance shall visit! Memory lternal to the departed!

Victoria Annette Draganiuk
July 31, 1944 - March 17, 2024



It is with great sadness that the family of Victoria Draganiuk, (nee Predie) announce her passing.

Victoria was the second daughter born to Metro and Anne Predie.

Victoria will be lovingly remembered and missed by her daughters Judy Lynn Lake, Tinamaria Zotek; 6 grandchildren; mother-in-law Eva Draganiuk; sister Pat (Dave); and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Victoria was predeceased by her parents Metro and Anne Predie; her sister Livia McCutcheon; father-in-law Alex Draganiuk; brother-in-law Ken Draganiuk; sister-in-law Eileen Draganiuk; nephew Derek Draganiuk; brother-in-law Wayne Whitehead; and niece Christine Whitehead.

May God remember His servant in His Kingdom!

The mercy of God, the Kingdom of Heaven!

Leon Mankow
September 7, 1938 - April 28, 2024



It is with profound sadness that the family of Leon Mankow announces his peaceful passing on April 28, 2024, in the Drayton Valley Continuing Care Centre at the age of 85. Leon was surrounded by the love of his family as he embarked on his final journey.

Leon is survived by his devoted wife of 54 years, Ethel; two sons, Lonney and Brian; and his daughter, Joanne (Robert). Leon's spirit is also celebrated by his brother Sergius Mankow and sister Joan (Reay) Clarke. Leon reveled in the joys of being a grandfather to Earle, Loni Lee, Mitchell, Rachel, and Karilee, and sharing with them his love of horses.

Leon is now reunited with loved ones who preceded him in death including his parents John and Katherine, sister Elizabeth Moffat, brother-in-law Doug Moffat, father-in-law Rudolf Neuman, mother-in-law Johanna Neuman, and sisters-in-law Ina Peckett and Frieda Edmunds.

Beyond his immediate family, Leon leaves behind countless nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends. His impact on their lives is a testament to the kindness and generosity that defined Leon throughout his 85 years.

Leon was born in the Wilton Park district on September 7, 1938, the second of four children to his parents John and Katherine (Koziol). He attended school in the area until he completed Grade 12 in 1956. Through the early years, he was employed as an oilfield maintenance worker and truck driver, travelling all over BC, Alberta, Yukon and North West Territories, along with trips to the US. He married his wife, Ethel, in 1969, settled down in Drumheller, and began his 25-year career with Western Decalta (later Pembina Resources) retiring in 1997 as area foreman in Drayton Valley. He then spent another 15 years working as a consultant with his family company, TEEL Enterprises. Never one to be idle, he was active in many service groups in Drayton Valley, notably the Elks, DV Horse Club, the Museum, and the Seniors Citizen Club, and spent many years dabbling in small-engine repair.

Leon's legacy will endure through the memories he created and the love he shared with all those fortunate enough to know him. May he rest in eternal peace!

The mercy of God, the Kingdom of Heaven!



“So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” Galatians 6:10



Arrival of the Holy spirit Pentecost



Quiz

How many flames
can you find?

• A sound like the blowing of a violent _____ came from heaven. (Acts 2:2)

- a) Wind b) Trumpet c) Thunder

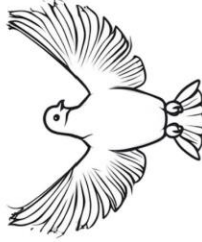
• They saw what seemed to be _____ that separated and came to rest
on each of them. (Acts 2:3)

- a) Sunlight b) Tongues of fire c) Birds

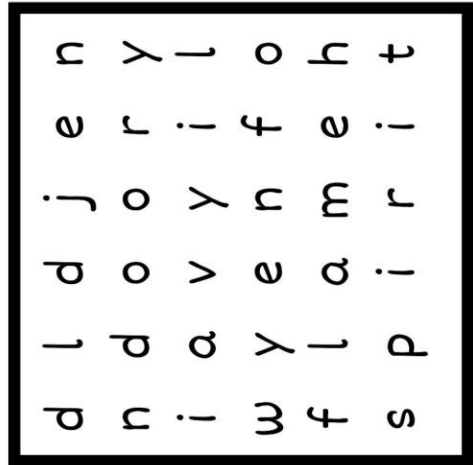
• All of them were filled with the Holy _____ (Acts 2:4)

They began to _____ as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:4)

- a) Speak in other tongues b) Heal people c) Dance from joy

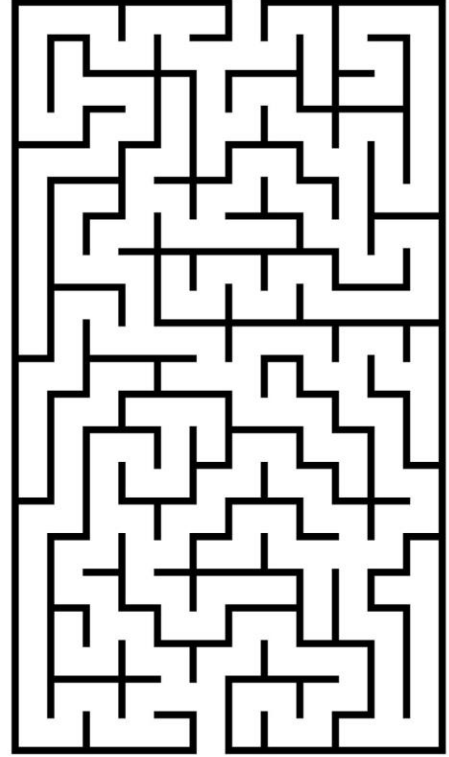


Find all the words written below.



- Holy
Spirit
Flame
Wind
Fire
Dove
Joy
Day

Maze



June 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><u>2</u></p> <p>10:00 am – Liturgy & Grave Yard Service – NISKU</p> <p>3:00 pm - Grave Yard Service - Old Cemetery - NISKU</p>	<p><u>3</u></p> <p>St Constantine and Helen</p> 	<p><u>4</u></p>	<p><u>5</u></p> <p>St. Michael the Confessor</p> 	<p><u>6</u></p>	<p><u>7</u></p> <p>Hieromartyr Therapontus, bishop of Cyprus</p> 	<p><u>8</u></p>
<p><u>9</u></p> <p>11:00 am - Grave Yard Service – HOREN – St. John’s Cemetery</p>	<p><u>10</u></p> <p>St. Helen nun of Diveyevo</p> 	<p><u>11</u></p>	<p><u>12</u></p> <p>St. Isaac the Confessor</p> 	<p><u>13</u></p> <p style="color: red;">The Ascension of our Lord</p> 	<p><u>14</u></p>	<p><u>15</u></p> <p>Great-martyr John the New</p> 
<p><u>16</u></p> <p>10:00 am - Liturgy - Patronal Feast – CALMAR - Blessing of water</p>	<p><u>17</u></p>	<p><u>18</u></p> <p>St. Constantine, metropolitan of Kiev</p> 	<p><u>19</u></p>	<p><u>20</u></p> <p>New Hieromartyr Andronicus</p> 	<p><u>21</u></p>	<p><u>22</u></p> <p>St. Columba of Iona</p> 
<p><u>23</u></p> <p style="color: red;">Holy Trinity Day</p>  <p>10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy – Patronal Feast – THORSBY – Blessing of water</p>	<p><u>24</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>First Week after Pentecost is a fast-free period</i></p>	<p><u>25</u></p> <p>St. Peter of Mt. Athos</p> 	<p><u>26</u></p>	<p><u>27</u></p> <p>Prophet Elisha (9th c. b.c.)</p> 	<p><u>28</u></p>	<p><u>29</u></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy & Grave Yard Service – MACNUTT</p> <p>5:00 pm - Grave Yard Service - INSINGER</p>
<p><u>30</u></p> <p>09:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy - Patronal Feast (Blessing of water) & Grave Yard Service – FOAM LAKE</p>						