St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Dioceses of Canada

The "Priest's Page"

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Gospel Reading for the 6th Sunday following Pentecost

Matthew 9, 1-8

At that time, getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Rise and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" he then said to the paralytic -- "Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

The Gospel Reading for the 6th Sunday following Pentecost shows first and foremost, the power of Jesus Christ to forgive sins and to heal the sick. It also shows that prayers for the sick are the first steps of being charitable and kind to others. The Reading also shows us the power of prayers from others for us. We tend to pray for ourselves, those close to us such as, our families and relatives but the Centurion shows us we should also pray for others less significant especially those who are ill and helpless. Our prayers for others and visiting them in their illness or suffering is how we can show our love for them.

Schedule of Services

It appears that the pandemic curve is continuing to flatten out in Alberta and in most of Canada. In spite of this, there will be no Divine Liturgy during the month of July.

On **Sunday July 19th and 26th.** although there are no services, Father Mircea will never the less be at the church during the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to allow anyone who wishes time for contemplation, private prayer, light a candle, for other spiritual needs or for those who have come to Boian on their pilgrimage. All those who enter the church need to follow the COVID 19 recommendations of wearing a mask, keeping two metres distance between one another, and using the provided hand sanitizer. These guidelines will apply to all services as well, once resumed.

August 2 - To slowly begin the cycle of returning to Church, we will have an outdoor prayer service (weather permitting) at the altar in front of the Church after which the Oath of Office will be administered to the elected members of the Board and Ladies Club. Those attending are asked to wear face masks and observe the two metre distance from others. **N.B. There will be no fellowship following the service.**

Website

We are very happy to announce the recent launch of the Boian Church's new website. From your browser, insert boianchurch.ca and you will reach it. Many thanks to Grayson and Peggy Soprovich for the many hours spent to bring this project to fruition. This is just the starting point. Suggestions are welcome and should be sent to soprovich@digitalweb.net.

Gravesite Blessing

A 40 day Memorial Service for the late Margaret Toma Langston sister of Pearl Demchuk was performed on Saturday June 27th at the same time as the Blessing of the Graves at the Malin Church cemetery. A small number gathered for the blessing within the allowable conditions and social distancing. Everyone returned to their respective homes for the memorial meals. *May the Lord Rest their Souls and may He number them among the righteous!*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

The following have celebrated or will celebrate a birthday and anniversary. Preoteasa Ileana Panciuk (June 12), Hannah Spachynski (June 19), Charles Kelba and Charlotte Kelba Lucas (June 24), Rita Soprovich, Sebastian Panciuk (July 6), Mitch Panciuk (July 8), Anda Panciuk, Daphne Miller (July 11), Sharon Bezovie (July 16), Liz Toma (July 22), Jared Bezovie (July 24), Nichita Adam (Boian's youngest altar boy) (July 27), Erin Bezovie, Daphne Bezovie (July 31), Daphne & Lorne Miller 30th Anniversary (May 26) and Janet and Brad Bezovie 33rd wedding anniversary (July 11).

We wish Gods Blessings of health and happiness to all! La Multi Ani!

Graduations

Congratulations to Tristan Toma, grandson of Lil and Eugene Toma who graduated from Two Hills High School and is on his way to another step of his education. God grant you His blessings and we wish you success in your future endeavours.

Memorial Cross

At long last and after much work the Memorial Cross, a project of two years in the making, has been erected!

On Saturday, June 20th, the foundation was dug. On Monday, June 22nd, the forms were built and reinforcing bars were placed. Concrete was poured on Tuesday, June 23rd and on Thursday, June 25, the forms were removed and the cross was fixed onto the pedestal.

This was all made possible by the help of David Hauca, David and Debbie Bezovie, Jocelyn Kisilevich, Daryl Toma, Brad Bezovie, Vasile Pasca and Vasile Samoila. Thank you!

The remaining work to be done includes the tiling of the pedestal, the installation of a fence and the landscaping around the area.

A blessing ceremony is planned in the future when COVID-19 conditions are more relaxed.









Membership at Boian Church

These are difficult times for everyone, in many areas. One area is financial. This is a gentle reminder to those who have not paid their membership for the current year (2020). The membership dues have not changed for a number of years; they are still \$75/person or \$150/family.

Donations are important to the church because there are many expenses even though there have not been any services. If you are able please continue sending your contributions and membership. Whatever you can afford is welcomed. You may send your membership or donation cheque to:

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