

St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Dioceses of Canada

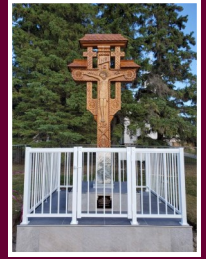
The "Priest's Page"

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February 7, 2021

The Meeting of the Lord. February 2.

Luke 2:25-32

And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

In accordance with the Mosaic law, 40 days after the birth of a male child the mother is required to present the child in the Temple. The presentation of a first-born son also signified redemption or buying back, for all first-born creature were considered to belong to God.

Mary and Joseph obeyed this precept of the law. They brought Jesus to the Temple where he was met and blessed by a very old Holy man. On that day in the Temple, both Simeon and a woman by the name of Anna, by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, recognized the infant Jesus as the Messiah and Saviour of the world. Simeon had been promised by God that he would live to witness the coming of the Messiah to the world. The Church

today calls each one of us to make our Soul a Temple of God, where the Holy Virgin can bring her Divine Child. And each one of us should, like Simeon, take the Child in our arms and say to the Father:

"My eyes have seen your salvation, now let your servant depart in peace".

This Prayer of Simeon should also mean for us, in particular, that having seen and touched the Saviour, we are released from the hold that sin has on us, and in peace, we can leave the realm of evil.

This Feast is considered one of the Twelve Imperial Feast days of the Church year. The Twelve Imperial Feast Days are all pertaining directly of the person of Jesus.



Dates to Remember

February	2	The Meeting of the Lord
February	28	The Pious Saint Ioan Casian
		(Patron Saint Name Day of His Grace Bishop Ioan Casian)

Schedule of Services

February 7th. Prayer Service in time of Pandemic.

Services will begin at 11:00 a.m. We ask that you strictly follow provincial protocols for church gatherings. Masks, social distancing, hand sanitizing, and entering and exiting will be strictly monitored. Only 15 people can be in the church at one time, including the priest. Any number over 15, please wait in your vehicle until you are ushered in.

February 21st. Prayer Service in time of Pandemic.

Services will begin at 11:00 a.m. The number of people and conditions will remain as those of February 7th.

We request anyone who has any cold or flu symptoms, or is not comfortable attending church, to remain at home and follow services through live streaming at stnicholaschurch.org for English and catedralasfgeorgehe.ca for Romanian. Do not forget the time difference for these two churches is two hours. They are in the Eastern Time Zone.

A Prayer in time of the Pandemic

Lord our God, You who are rich in mercy, and with careful wisdom direct our lives, listen to our prayer, receive our repentance for our sins, bring an end to this new infectious disease, this new epidemic, just as you averted the punishment of your people in the time of David the King. You who are the Doctor of our souls and bodies, grant restored health to those who have been seized by this illness, raising them from their bed of suffering, so that they might glorify You, Merciful Savior, and to those who are healthy keep them from every sickness. By your grace, Lord, bless, strengthen, and preserve, all those who out of love and sacrifice care for the sick, either in their homes or in the hospitals. Remove all sickness and suffering from your people, and teach us to value life and health as gifts from You. Give us Your peace, O God, and fill our hearts with unflinching faith in Your protection, hope in Your help, and love for You and our neighbour. For Yours it is to have mercy on us and save us, O our God, and to You we give glory: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever, to the ages of ages.

Amen.

Funerals



Rosemary (Ionetz) Wolchansky fell asleep in the Lord on December 22, 2020 and was buried on December 31, 2020.

Helen (Tschir) Basaraba fell asleep in the Lord on January 19, 2021 and was buried on January 29, 2021.

May the Lord rest their souls. May their memories be eternal! Vesnica Pomenire!



Membership (Stewardship) at Boian Church

These are still difficult times for everyone, in many areas. One area is financial. This is another gentle reminder to those who have not paid their membership for past year (2020), to please do so now. Donations are important to the church. There are still many expenses and some funds have been coming but more are needed. If you are able, please continue sending your contributions and membership. What ever you can afford is welcomed. We thank those who continue to support St. Mary's. You may send your membership or donation cheque to:

St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church, Boian, P.O. Box 14, Willingdon, Alberta T0B 4R0

Birthday & Anniversary Greetings

(If you have someone you would like to have greetings sent to via The Priest's Page, please notify me.)

Birthdays

- Birthday wishes go to Donna (Bezovie) Beards (January 4), Lawrence Toma (January 12) and Willis Soprovich (February 7).

Anniversaries

- Wedding Anniversary congratulations go out to Doug and Charlotte (Kelba) Lukas (December 30, 2020) and Eugene & Lillian Toma (January 19, 2021).

May God grant all of you, many years ! La Multi Ani !

St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church Website: boianchurch.ca