

St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Dioceses of Canada

The "Priest's Page"

The Very Rev. Fr. Mircea Panciuk

Tel. 780-456-7737

Cell: 780-722-5438

E-mail: mpanciuk@yahoo.com



Vol. 3 Issue 3

March 7, 2021

Sunday of the Last Judgement

Matthew 25:31-46

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'

And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

This Gospel also known as the Gospel of The Last Judgement shows us the importance of showing "merciful love" to those in need, so much so that without "merciful love" no one will be saved. The first coming of the Son of Man was in humility to serve and die for us, but the Second Coming will be in glory as a King to judge all nations. We need to be "servants" to the needy for they, "the least of these" are those who suffer. Jesus Christ who identifies Himself with the poor and down trodden calls us together who have love in their hearts for others.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 15 -The First Day of Easter Lent

Many of us think that fasting is only abstaining from certain foods. Physical fasting works together with spiritual fasting and good works. The point of fasting is not only to avoid certain foods, but we should also fast with our eyes, ears, mind, and the whole body. It is important to keep in mind that fasting is not a law for us—rather, a voluntary way of remembering to not sin and do evil, but to help keep our focus on prayer, repentance and doing acts of kindness, for we "are not under the law but under grace" (Romans 6:14).

March 25 - The Feast of the Annunciation

The Feast of the Annunciation of Our Most Holy Lady, The Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on March 25 each year. The Feast commemorates the announcement by the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Son of God, would become incarnate and enter into this world through her womb.



Schedule of Services

March 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.

March 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 March 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 catedralasfgeorge.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

O God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Your ineffable goodness, look down upon Your people gathered in Your name. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction. You know our weakness. You hear our cry in repentance and contrition of heart. O Lord who loves mankind deliver us from the impending threat of the coronavirus. Send Your Angel to watch over us and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of physicians, and preserve those who are healthy that we may continue to serve You in peace and glorify Your most honorable and majestic Name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.



Amen.

Memorial Services



Memorial services were officiated for the following loved ones fallen asleep in the Lord: Ioana (40 days), Mihail and Anton, and Nicolae on January 17, Lloyd (40 days) and Nick (7 Years), Aleks and Mary on February 7, Kenneth (1 year) on February 8, and Florea (1 Year) on February 21.

May the Lord Rest their Souls ! Vesnica Lor 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 that membership (\$75 per person and \$150 per family) for 2021 is now due. Donations are also very 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:

Birthday greetings go to Daryl Toma (February 15), Jackie Toma (February 19) and Veronica Toma (February 28).



To those parishioners who are celebrating a birthday or anniversary during the month of March, we extend best wishes of good health and many years.

May God Grant you many Years! La multi Ani!

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