



St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Dioceses of Canada

The "Priest's Page"

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February 5, 2023

33rd Sunday after Pentecost
(Sunday of The Publican and the Pharisee)

Luke 18:10:14

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a Tax Collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

The Church has ordained four Sundays in the Triodion Period (Pre-Lenten cycle, of Great Lent and of Holy Week) as "preparation Sundays", so we can learn that for renewal of our spiritual life, for the resurrection of our souls from death caused by sin, and to meet with Christ Crucified and Resurrected, four important things should happen; we need prayer with humility, sincere repentance, generous charity and fasting or abstinence. These Sundays are given to assist us in understanding the scope and path of our spiritual ascent towards Resurrection and the means of preparation for the joyful receipt of the Light of Holy Easter.

We should learn from the good deeds of the Pharisee and the humble prayer of the Tax Collector in the gospel. Only through humility, are the doors of God's mercy opened for forgiveness of sins. Only those who repent through humble prayer can straighten their lives. The soul of the humble person is lifted by God's love. Humble prayer is the foundation of spiritual life. Humble prayer is the source of merciful life.

May The Lord assist us during this beginning of our spiritual journey and humble prayer which includes God's wish that "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2, 4).

(Patriarch Daniel)

Dates to Remember

- February 2 Meeting of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple
- February 19 Meat Fare Sunday and Annual General Meeting of Boian Church
- February 23 The Holy Martyr Policarp the Patron name of the first Bishop of our Diocese
- February 27 Beginning of Easter Fast



Boian Church Annual General Meeting—February 19, 2023

N.B. The Annual General Meeting of St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Congregation of Boian will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2023, in the Boian Hall following the Divine Liturgy at 1:30 p.m. Only those who have paid their membership for the year 2022 have the right to vote at this meeting. A light lunch will be provided.

50th Anniversary For The Very Rev. Fr. George Bazgan

On Sunday, January 15, 2023, The Very Rev. Fr. George Bazgan, Administrative Vicar of the Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Canada, celebrated the 50th Anniversary of his ordination as a priest. The celebration took place in Sts. Constantine and Elena Romanian Orthodox Church, Edmonton with the participation of His Grace Bishop Ioan Casian, most of the priests and deacons from the Western Deanery and many parishioners from Edmonton and beyond. Father George's ordination took place in Iasi, Romania, on January 7, 1973 and he served churches in Romania, the United States and Edmonton, Canada.



Congratulations Father George ! La Multi Ani Parinte George !

Schedule of Services - February 2023

February 5, 2023 Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.
February 19, 2023 Divine Liturgy at 10:00a.m.
February 26, 2023 Memorial Service at 11:00 a.m.

Membership (Stewardship) at Boian Church

We thank you for choosing to be members of St. Mary's on the Hill and for the donations you have given. Income tax receipts will be issued for all donations. We ask that you continue supporting St. Mary's Boian. Continue the legacy left to us by those faithful pioneers who settled in the Boian area over 100 years ago. You may send your membership or donation to:

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

N.B. Do not forget to pickup your income receipts at the church for the year 2022, if your have not already received them.

Memorials /Funerals

On Sunday, January 22, 2023, Memorial services were said for Delima Iftody - 1 year;
Paul Shelemey - 7 years; Jordan Christianson - 6 years; and Lloyd (Sylvia) Medwid - 2 years.



Memorial services for 40 days was said for Daniela Lavinia (Dana) Roman and Annie (Lawrence) Toma.

***May the Lord rest their souls and number them among the righteous in His Kingdom.
Dumnezeu să-i ierte și să-i numere cu dreptii întru Impărăția Sa!***

Memorial Eternal ! Veșnica lor Pomenire!

Boian Cemetery Plots

N.B. The Boian Cemetery is a private cemetery owned by the members of St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church, Boian. Only members in good standing may reserve a burial plot. Membership fees accrue over time to the cost of the plot. Fees must be paid consecutively and continuously for the plot to be reserved. Should your membership fees lapse or are in arrears, the reserved status is then revoked.

It is the member's responsibility to inquire, from the Treasurer or any member of the Church Board, the status of his/her membership.

The current price of an unreserved plot is one thousand (1,000) dollars and is subject to change by the General Membership of St. Mary's Church.