



## St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Dioceses of Canada

### The "Priest's Page"

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Sunday, April 9, 2023

Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday)

John 12:1-18

Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always." Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus. The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: **"Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!"** Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him. Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.

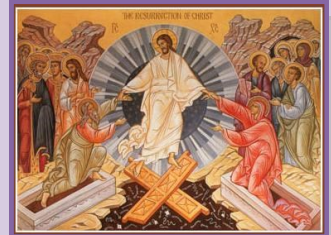
*The Gospel reveals to us the sign of the immense gratitude Lazarus' sister Mary had for Jesus. She anointed Jesus' feet with the very expensive oil of spikenard. The very expensive oil, a symbol of Jesus' burial, became in the Orthodox church, The Great and Holy Myrrh, used to consecrate the Holy Table in the Altar of churches. The holy Table symbolizes the Tomb in which Jesus was buried and resurrected. It is also used to consecrate the Holy Antimension (Cloth Icon on the Holy Table used at all Divine Liturgies) which symbolizes the placing in the Tomb of Our Saviour Jesus Christ. The Great and Holy Myrrh is also used to anoint newly baptized persons, thereby allowing them partake in the Sacrament of the Death and Resurrection of Our Lord. The Great and Holy Myrrh is a symbol of the beauty of the Church. All things used in the church are beautiful, ie.colours of the church, vestments used during services and the purified souls of those who enter the church.*

*Our Saviour's entrance into Jerusalem prefigures His entrance as a person in Jerusalem of Heaven. The flowers or boughs of palms are symbols of the virtues we have gathered during this Lenten period.*

*We pray that Jesus Our Saviour will help us to receive Him with humility and godliness not only as He entered in the earthly Jerusalem of old days but also as He enters our souls, and our homes for His Glory and for our salvation.*

### Dates to Remember

- April 9 Palm Sunday
- April 16 Resurrection Sunday (Orthodox Easter)
- April 21 The Life Giving Spring
- April 23 The Great Martyr St. George



Those wishing to contribute to the Pascal candle may do so by giving their donation to the person at the candle stand.

## Schedule of Services

**April 9** **Palm Sunday - 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy** followed by the Blessing of the Palms. Service celebrated by Fr. Gheorghe.

**April 16** **Midnight Resurrection Service (11:59 p.m.)** followed by the Blessing of the Baskets. Services celebrated by Frs. Gheorghe and Mircea.

### Anniversary and Birthday Greetings

We extend best wishes to all parishioners celebrating a birthday or anniversary during the month of April. *May God grant you all many years! La Multi Ani !*

### Church Spring Cleaning

We would like to thank Cornelia Cybruch, Johny Cybruch, Adrian Vicol, Catalina Bruma, and Marineta Ghidoveanu for spending the whole day on Saturday March 11, 2023 doing a thorough spring cleaning of the church. The church is once again "spic and span" for the upcoming ordination of Deacon Gheorghe and for Resurrection Service. This was a good job done well.



### Ordinations to the Priesthood

Rev. Deacon Ciprian Roman of Calgary was ordained to the priesthood in Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Kelowna on Sunday, March 5, 2023. Rev. Fr. Ciprian will now serve St. Nektarios of Eghina Romanian Orthodox Mission in Kelowna.



Rev. Deacon Gheorghe Petrovan of Edmonton was ordained in St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church, Boian to the priesthood on Sunday, March 19, 2023. Rev. Fr. Gheorghe Petrovan will now serve St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church, Boian. Six members of Fr. Gheorghe's family were present from Romania at the ordination.

We congratulate both newly ordained priests, Fr. Ciprian and Fr. Gheorghe.

They are worthy !

Vrednici sunt !



On Sunday, March 19, 2023, following the Diving Liturgy, David Bezovie and David Hauca were presented with the Patriarchal Cross for Lay People by His Grace Bishop Ioan Casian. The Cross is presented to people who have been good stewards to Christ's Church during their life times.

Congratulations David and Dave on your receiving the Patriarchal Cross for all the work you both have given to our Church.

### 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 and/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 for the year 2022 at the church if you have not already received them.**

### Boian Church Website

Check out the Boian Church website! From your browser, insert [boianchurch.ca](http://boianchurch.ca) to reach it. Suggestions for the site are welcome and should be directed to Peggy Soprovich at [soprovich@digitalweb.net](mailto:soprovich@digitalweb.net).