



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 3, 2022

The Fourth Sunday of Lent
(Sunday of St. John Climacus)

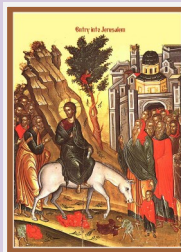
Mark 9, 17-32

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

*This Gospel shows us, in concrete terms three great works performed by Our Saviour Jesus Christ, namely: He cures the doubt of a sick child's father, He cures a child's disease by casting out an unclean spirit, and He heals His disciples of spiritual ignorance as they witness the casting out of the unclean spirit. We are shown that repentance along with humility creates miracles. Our Saviour brings to light the existence of evil spirits that are exorcised **only** by prayer and fasting. Evil is overcome only through humble and merciful love and fervent prayer united with fasting.*

Dates to Remember

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|-------------|---|
| April 17 | Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem. (<i>Palm Sunday</i>) |
| April 24 | The Resurrection of Our Saviour Jesus Christ. (<i>Easter</i>) |
| April 25-30 | Bright Week |
| April 29 | Bright Friday (<i>The Life-giving Fountain</i>) |



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 !

Boian Church Website

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

Schedule of Services

April 3 Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Beginning Sunday, March 6, 2022, services have reverted back to the celebration of The Divine Liturgy. Services will begin at **10:00 a.m.** Provincial COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed but those who still wish to wear the mask and sanitize may do so upon entering and leaving the church. Continue to be prudent and cautious while gathering indoors.

April 17 Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Conditions for attending service will be the same as what was requested for APRIL 3rd.

We request anyone who has any cold or flu symptoms or is not comfortable to attend not come to church. You may follow services through live streaming at stnicholaschurch.org for English and catedralasfgeorghe.ca for Romanian. Do not forget the time difference for these two churches is 2 hrs. They are in the Eastern Time Zone.

April 23-24 Resurrection Eve (*MIDNIGHT SERVICE*)

Resurrection Service will begin at 12:00 midnight with the receiving of the Light, the procession around the church, followed by the Divine Liturgy, and the outside Blessing of the Easter Baskets.

Memorials

Constantine Marcu, of Edmonton, fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, February 4, 2022. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, followed by internment in the Boian Cemetery.

A 40 Day Memorial Service was held for George Moss on Sunday March 6, 2022.

A 40 Day Memorial Service was held for Constantin Marcu on Sunday March 20, 2022.

May the Lord Rest their Souls !
Memory Eternal !

Dumnezeu sa-i ierte !
Vesnica lor Pomenire !



A Prayer for cessation of war in Ukraine



O Lord Jesus, Servant and Master, Bringer of Peace and Reconciliation, with deep sorrow and concern, we cry out to you for the beginnings of this war now occurring in Ukraine. We long for you to arrest this violence and destruction, to bring this war to a just end, and for your protection for all innocent victims and everyone directly involved in military action, in Ukraine and in Russia. For You are the Prince of Peace and the Saviour of our souls and to you we ascribe glory, to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, always now and ever and unto ages.

Membership (Stewardship) at Boian Church

We would like to thank all those in the past years who have retained or became new members and/or have donated to the "Church on the Hill", Saint Mary's.

We continue to ask the readers of The Priest's Page to support with prayers and donations to the mission of Saint Mary's. By supporting, you also carry on the precious legacy left to us by those pioneers who brought the faith, traditions, and helped open the land of this great province. Any amount is welcomed. You may send your membership or donation to :

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

A Prayer in time of the Pandemic

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, You Who created human beings with utter goodness, the healer of our souls and bodies, heed now the supplication of Your children, and save us from the impending threat against the world. For this affliction has spread ferociously and the fear of death has surrounded us. Many have suffered and many have passed on to repose, and there is none to save us, except You, O Lord.

We know, Merciful Lord, that all this will cultivate our faith, as we implore you, crying out in utter repentance. Undo, O Lord, the dangerous effects of the virus and heal all people, as a most Gracious Lord. For those, who repose in peace, give rest in Your heavenly abode. Grant Peace to the world, so that all people know that You are the Only God, and your faithful are not bound by death, but live forever.

For You are our hope and our whole life is in Your benevolent hands, and to You we give glory, as well as to the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.