



St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Romanian Orthodox Dioceses of Canada

The "Priest's Page"

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Pastoral Message 2022

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Hristos A Inviat ! Adevarat A Inviat ! Christ Is Risen ! Indeed He is Risen !!

The very first persons to see the Tomb empty, were the women who had come to anoint the body of Jesus as was the customs of the Jews. These same women were the first to know that Christ had risen when, on their way to tell the Apostles what the Angel had told them, were met by the Lord and were greeted by the word: "*Rejoice!*" (Matthew 28:9)

This same word "*Rejoice*" should be used by all of us on these days. Just as the Apostles and those close to Jesus were downfallen by the events of the crucifixion, we are downfallen by the loss of family and friends during and by this Covid-19 pandemic. But with the Resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we "*Rejoice*" because in spite of the difficulties and trials and tribulations, the depth of His love for us has unburdened us all and bids us to enter His Resurrection. Christ is Risen and all of creation is changed for all time as have we. Christ is Risen and we have received His grace to live again free of fear because we are no longer in darkness but walk in the Light of His Resurrection.

May the Light of the Resurrection of Our Saviour Jesus Christ shine brightly in your hearts.

On behalf of Preoteasa and my family, I greet you with the Great Feast of Pascha and wish you health and long life.
Father Mircea

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Dates to Remember

April	25	Holy Pascha. The Resurrection of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
May	1	Second Sunday of Pascha (Easter) (Saint Thomas Sunday)
May	8	Third Sunday of Pascha (Sunday of the Myrrh bearing Women)
May	15*	Fourth Sunday of Pascha (Prohod) & (Blessing of the Memorial Cross, the Graves, and Celebration of 86 years of the founding of The Boian Ladies Club)
May	21*	Sts. Constantine and Elena (Patrons of the Edmonton Romanian Orthodox Church)
May	22*	Celebration of 50 years since the consecration of Sts. Constantin and Elena Romanian Orthodox Church of Edmonton.

***It is expected that His Grace Bishop Ioan Casian will be present at Boian on May 15 and in Edmonton on May 21-22.**

Schedule of Services

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.

We would like to also resurrect the longtime tradition of the Resurrection Bonfire at Boian. The story of Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1-4:17) is a decisive moment in which God reveals His name to Moses on Mount Sinai. The Burning Bush was on fire, but was not consumed by flames. When Moses beholds the burning bush, God speaks to Moses and tells him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt and into Canaan. The Bonfire symbolically leads us out of sin and on to Life Everlasting guided the light of Jesus' Resurrection.

We request anyone who has any cold or flu symptoms or is not comfortable to attend church, to not come. 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 two (2) hrs. They are in the Eastern Time Zone.

Paschal Candle

Those wishing to make a donation towards the 2022 Paschal Candle, please see the candle attendant or Fr. Mircea.



Anniversary and Birthday Greetings

We extend best wishes to all parishioners celebrating a birthday or anniversary during the month of April.

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.

Church Cleaning

We would like to thank Cornelia Cybruch, Domnița Petrovan, Daniela Draghici, Catalina Bruma, Daniela Cobuz, Vasile Duta, Anghel Raicu, and Rama for volunteering to do a thorough cleaning of the church before this year's Pascha. Icons were taken down and wiped; the walls were washed of the soot from the candles; benches were moved to one side and the floor was scrubbed and waxed; windows were washed, and carpet was cleaned. After a number of years of being unable to clean the church, it is now spic and span and ready for the service of Resurrection. We would also like to thank the Boian Ladies Club members who prepared and served lunch to the volunteers.



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 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

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.