

St. Andrew's Outreach Newsletter



LORD, HAVE MERCY

When we stand in church we see in the icons the faces of holy people transfigured by the Holy Spirit. In the Eucharist we hear all the saints commemorated "who through the ages have been well-pleasing to God" and who are united by the Sacrament of Redemption. Like the Apostle we can say: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sing which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith." (Heb. 12:1-2)

The glory suggested by the haloes of the saints was granted to them only when their lives of ascetic struggle were drawing to a close, and even then it happened in a visible manner only to a few. They had to start where we too must start, namely with repentance and "laying aside every weight."

The fact that in Holy Baptism we promised to renounce the tempter and stand on Christ's side is a decisive beginning. In the

sacrament of repentance or confession we have renewed our loyalty to Christ and even shown it visibly by kissing the Cross and the Book of the Gospel, the Word of Christ. Yet we feel again and again that "sin clings so closely." Even the Apostle sighs: "For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do," and he confesses: "I can will what is right, but I cannot do it." (Rom. 7:18-19)

We all know the things that go on in our inmost selves, how evil gets a foothold and develops in our minds and hearts. We also feel our powerlessness. We are like a person besieged on all sides by a pack of wolves. What does such a person do? He climbs up the tree that is behind him and is saved. That saving tree is prayer; so the Fathers teach.

But what is prayer? According to the usual definition prayer is lifting up one's mind and heart to God. But it has also been said that prayer is the science of sciences and the art of arts. So it is a most simple thing and at the same time very rich in expressions.

Prayer gives expression to our striving towards communion with God. This communion is the natural manifestation of our love for God and of God's love for us. Through the channel of prayer we "pour out our hearts before God," which is a Biblical expression meaning that in prayer we express to God our thoughts and feelings of praise, Gratitude, and worship.

However, prayer is not only a form of worship; it is also a means available to us for overcoming the evil that lodges in our inmost self. In this sense prayer is like a special line that carries man's cry for help to God.

Lord, have mercy! This is the cry for help that is repeated again and again in the service. It is also the individuals' cry for help as he keeps watch at the door of his heart and cries out to the Lord to drive away the passions that creep in. This corporate and private cry for help arises from our sense of powerlessness: "Apart from me you can do nothing," the Lord says. (John 15:5) But it is equally strongly based on our trust that the Lord wants to purify our hearts, if only we ask. ...

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Websites:

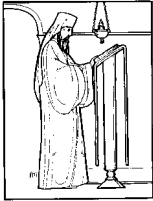
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada:
www.uocc.ca

Western Diocese
www.uocc.wd.ca/

St. Andrew's Parish
www.uocc-standrew.ca/



LITURGICAL



Liturgical Scripture Readings...

November 2007

Sunday, November 4th
23rd Sunday After Pentecost
Epistle: Eph. 2:4-10;
Gospel: Luke 8:26-39.

Sunday, November 11th
24th Sunday After Pentecost
Epistle: Eph. 2:14-22;
Gospel: Luke 8:41-56.

Sunday, November 18th
25th Sunday After Pentecost
Epistle: Eph. 4:1-6;
Gospel: Luke 10:25-37.

Sunday, November 25th
26th Sunday After Pentecost
Epistle: Eph. 5:9-19;
Gospel: Luke 12:16-21.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday, November 4th
Bilingual

Sunday, November 11th
Bilingual

Sunday, November 18th
Bilingual

Sunday, November 25th
English

Confession @ 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy commences
@ 10 a.m.



**Nativity Fast
Begins
November
28th**

WORSHIP SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S SELO

Wednesday, November 21st
*Synaxis of the
Archangel Michael*

Wednesday, December 19th
*St. Nicholas the
Wonder Worker*

10 am - Divine Liturgy
Fellowship Coffee & Lunch
to follow every Divine Liturgy.



COPIES OF "THE HANDMAIDEN" &
"AGAIN" MAGAZINES ARE AVAILABLE @
\$6.00/COPY AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE
CHURCH, OR SUBSCRIBE
@ \$5.00/COPY.

*"I am the way, the truth, and the
life. No one comes to the Father
except through me."
(John 14:6)*



Celebrating Fr. Victor's
40th Anniversary



Clergy Awards:

Ecclesiastical awards are a means for recognizing and rewarding the clergy for their efforts and achievements for Orthodoxy. These efforts may be in any of many different areas, and the exact criteria and system of awards will vary somewhat between Orthodox jurisdictions. There are seen as a means of rewarding clergy for their contribution to Orthodoxy, whether pastorally, theologically, academically, administratively, spiritually, socially, educationally, or by missionary or charitable works.

The awards are granted in the strict order of gradation. The presentation of awards for priests and deacons are made by the Primate or, by his direction, by the ruling Diocesan hierarch. Upon presentation of hierarchical awards the hierarch places his right hand over the candidates head as he prays that the candidate receives the Holy Spirit and proclaims "Axios" (Greek word meaning "worthy"). The congregation witnesses the award and proclaims the work of the Holy Spirit by responding in unison "Axios!"

The order of rewards for the priesthood is as follows:

Nabedrennik – The award is by decree of Diocesan hierarch not earlier than three years following the recipient's ordination. The "Nabedrennik" is suspended from the left shoulder.

Kamilavka – The award is by decree not earlier than three years following the awarding of the Nabedrennik. It is worn during Divine services as well as during official and solemn events.

Gold Pastoral Cross – The award is by decree not earlier than three years following the awarding of the Kamilavka.

The rank of Archpriest – Awarded not earlier than ten years of service in the priestly order.

Palitza – Awarded not earlier than five years after elevation to the order of Archpriest. The "Palitza" is worn under the "Phelon", over the shoulder; the "Palitza" is worn on the right side and the "Nabedrennik" on the left.

Jewelled Cross – The award is not earlier than five years after the awarding of the "Palitza"

Mitred Archpriest – The award is made by decree not earlier than thirty years of exemplary service in God's Church.

The rank of Protopresbyter – The award is made in exceptional circumstances, for exemplary service within the Church; the highest rank of priesthood in the Church.



OUR PARISH BULLETIN BOARD



In Memoriam!

St. Andrew's Sobor Family Extends their sincerest condolences to:

- ⇒ Gail & Ivan Kupchenko and Family on the repose of Gail's father, Paul Muzechka (of Vegreville);
- ⇒ Margaret Wozmirsky and Family on the repose of Margaret's aunt, Ethel Umrysh.

[Should you have names of loved ones you would like included in this section, please contact the Church Office (469-1463) and help us to keep our information current. Thank you!]

ETERNAL BE THEIR MEMORY!

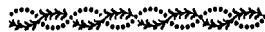
WE PRAY THAT THE LORD GOD WILL ESTABLISH THEIR SOUL WHERE THE RIGHTEOUS REPOSE

LORD, HAVE MERCY ...

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

... We are branches of Christ the Vine, and each branch that strives to bear fruit the Lord 'prunes, that it may bear more fruit.' (John 15:2)

Thus God's help and our own prayers will save us from "the corruption that is in the world because of passion."



NEXT PYROHY SUPPER!

Our next "Pyrohy Supper" will be held on



on **Friday,**

November 2nd

from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Bring Family & Friends!

Dine In or Take Out!



DONATION ENVELOPES

Should you require more "Offering Envelopes" contact Gene Luchka (465-1736) or Mark Bartko (469-9921) or fill out the request form in the Church vestibule entrance area.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIPS

The Sunday Fellowships are greatly appreciated by the worshipping congregation; therefore we would like to thank those who sponsored or provided these fellowships. **A most heartfelt thank you to:**

... the months of **October** sponsors:

- Stephanie McNee (Oct. 7) - One Year Memorial for Mrs. Sedor; Parish Thanksgiving Sunday (Oct. 14); Sharyn Johnstone, Pauline Lysak, David & Elizabeth Chomik (Oct. 21); 125th Anniversary of the Birth of Meotropolitan Ilarion (Ohienko) (Oct. 28).

...



From Your Membership Chair

A sincere thank you to all contributors who have donated any amount ranging from \$20 to \$1400 as shown by the report of donations up to the end of September.

Of serious concern as we approach the end of 2007 is the number of singles (10) and couples (20) who have yet to contribute even one dollar! As well, there are a number of "members" who have made "token" donations far short of the \$150 suggested initial contribution.

We have a budge of \$248,385 in operating costs for this year. As indicated in previous issues of the "Outreach", we need far more than \$150 per member. Indeed, it will take an average of over \$500 per member to achieve the budget!

At this point, we are appealing to those of you who make one donation of \$150 (single) or \$300 (couple) and no more for the rest of the year! Please re-consider your priorities and see whether it is possible for you to contribute a more equitable share of the cost of operating OUR CHURCH!

-H.J. Hohol

Membership Chair



REMEMBRANCE DAY

A Remembrance Day Memorial Service will take place on **Sunday, November 11th**



REMINDER:

Parish Group Membership Photo



Sunday, Nov. 4th

To be taken immediately after the Divine Liturgy (for the 2008 Church Almanac)

Mark your calendar!

Those who had made the effort to sponsor or provide a Fellowship Lunch have to be commended.

At the same time we invite other parish members to also sponsor an occasional Fellowship. If you are so inclined, please sign-up on the displayed sheet or contact **Stephanie** (469-1463 or 469-5293). Thank you!

LADIES AUXILIARY ANNUAL TEA & BAKE SALE



Saturday, Nov. 17th
1 - 3 p.m.

St. Andrew's Cultural Complex

Featuring: Crafts, Pyrohy, Cabbage Rolls, Pampushky, Perishky, Nalysnyky and more!!!



MORE PARISH BULLETIN BOARD!



GREETERS' ROSTER

Listed below is a roster of those who have confirmed their participation as "Greeters/Hosts/Ushers" for this month:

November 4th -

Carol & Bob Stanicky

November 11th -

Dobr. Marusia &

Wally Yadlowski

November 18th - *Vivian &*

Dr. Ernest Skakun

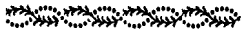
November 25th -

Gloria & Bruce Macdonald

Many thanks to those of you who have already volunteered for this ministry.

MORE GREETERS NEEDED

If you are interested in acting as a Greeter, please contact Pauline Lysak (434-4826) or Father Victor (440-4822).



NEW LIBRARY BOOKS



Several new books have been added to our Atrium Library Collection. You may wish to have a look. One in particular, which may be of interest after hearing Fr. Bohdan Bilas speak here at St. Andrew's Parish during Fellowship, is Victor Malarek's book, "*The Natashas*".



WELCOME WESTERN DIOCESE CONFERENCE DELEGATES!

This year our Sobor Parish hosted the Western Diocese Pastoral and Diocesan Conference, which was held from October 24th to the 28th.



YOUNG PERFORMERS' SHOWCASE OF UKRAINIAN MUSIC

February 10th, 2008

Ritchie United Church
9624 - 74 Avenue

Deadline for registration: Dec. 31, 2007. For more information contact Luba Boyko-Bell (469-4890) of the Ukr. Music Society.

PARISH PATRON FEAST DAY & ORDINATION

Our Sobor Parish will be celebrating its Patron Saint Feast Day and the Ordination of *Subdeacon Peter Haugen* to the Order of Deaconate on **Sunday, December 9th.**



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Glory to Jesus Christ!

A big thank you to the Altar Boys, Myrrh-bearers and petal throwers who participated in Father Victor's 40th Anniversary Celebration of his Ordination into the Holy Priesthood.

Special thank you to the greeters — Megan Alexandruk and Robert Bartko, and presenters of the albums — Michael Hnatiw, Rachelia Pawluk and Robyn Alexandruk. It was a very memorable celebration.

Thank you students and parents for bringing and preparing the vegetables for blessing on Thanksgiving (Pokrova). The students also enjoyed an afternoon of bowling and pizza on October 21st.

We wish to remind the following students about the **group pictures which will be taken on Sunday, November 4th, 2007:**

Myrrh-bearers

Altar Boys

Church School Students

On November 11th, there will be a Remembrance Day Memorial after the Divine Liturgy. The students will participate by holding candles.

On December 9th we will be celebrating Our Patron Saint's Feast Day with a visitation by Metropolitan John. Students are invited to do a short presentation on the life of St. Andrew. The St. Nicholas Concert will be on December 16th. Rehearsal will take place on Saturday, December 15th.

Yours in Christ,

*Olga Alexandruk &
Marusia Lakusta*

Lifeline... Who is the Holy Spirit? In Orthodox, the Holy Spirit is considered the one who "strengthens." St. Basil writes: "*What kind of strengthening is it? Perfection in holiness.*" As far as we cooperate with the Holy Spirit, we can be made holy. The Holy Spirit is also called "*the giver of Life.*" He whom we received at baptism and cremation is our **lifeline** to eternity.

Lifeline... The beauty of nature has led people to wonder about God, and subsequently many have acquired faith in God. It is said that wonder and thanksgiving lead to worship. The next time you prepare for the **Liturgy**, ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to the wonder of God's creation, and remember to offer thanksgiving.

Lifeline... Jesus took on the consequence of our sins, death, thereby opening the path of salvation to us. However, we must walk the path. When we sin, we have turned from the path. When we repent, we return to the path that leads to eternal life.



From Our Parish President

From the Parish President on Behalf of the Board of Management

Christ is Among Us! Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ. This report consists of several announcements, a summary of the October 09 2007 Board meeting, and as usual, something to think about.

Announcements:

1. Patron Saint's Day Celebration. A celebration of our Patron Saint, Saint Andrew, will take place in our Parish on December 09 2007. His Eminence, Metropolitan John will worship with us in an Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, which will be followed by dinner and a program. During the program, members of committees, executive members of related and affiliated organizations, and volunteers in general will be recognized. Further correspondence from me to committee chairs and related and affiliated organization presidents will be forthcoming.

2. Annual General Meeting. The AGM has been scheduled for February 03, 2008. This is an advance notice to Board members and to chairs and presidents of committees and related and affiliated organizations that they should have their reports submitted to the Church office by mid-January 2008.

Website. The Parish website (www.uocc-standrew.ca) is operational. If you have suggestions

for changes or additions to any part of the website, please provide them in writing to me.

Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee for Board positions consists of the four immediate past presidents. The Committee has been directed to begin the process of completing the slate of officers for 2008. Hence, if you are approached a member of the Nominating Committee and asked to take a board position, consider that request an honor.

From the October 09 2007 Board Meeting:

1. Welcomed Mrs. Alexandra Hohol, newly elected president of the Ladies Auxiliary, as a member of the Board.

2. Heard from Mr. Eugene Luchka, that funds donated to the Pochaiv Safe House Project will be shown in the treasury as a liability and that for the purposes of Canada Revenue Agency, an agreement between the Parish Board and the "Pochaiv Safe House Project" is required.

3. Heard a report from Ms. Ollie Sluzar on income and expenses associated with Fr. Victor's 40th Ordination Anniversary. A total of \$3325.00 was received in donations during dinner to offset costs incurred. Since some expenses were still outstanding, a complete listing of expenses will be presented at a future Board meeting.

4. Heard from Mr. Eugene Luchka that training sessions for managing the new heating/cooling/venting system will be scheduled pending completion of project deficiencies.

5. Accepted that Dobr. Marusia Lakusta, Dr. Ernest Skakun, Mr. William Dymainiw, Mrs. Pauline Lysak, Mrs. Olga Alexandruk, and Mr. Michael Alexandruk serve as delegates to the Western Diocese Conference (October 25-28, 2007) and that additional delegate applications be approved by the Parish Pastor and the Parish Priest.

6. Heard from Dr. Ernest Skakun, that an advertisement of our Parish has been forwarded to the Sherwood Park News.

7. Accepted that two sets of vestments for Fr. Victor be ordered with payment to be made in 2008.

8. Confirmed that the dates of our Family Camp Bar-V-Nok is June 19-22 2008. Mr. Eugene Luchka volunteered to serve as organizing committee consultant. Members of the organizing committee for 2007 will be asked to volunteer as members for the 2008 event.

9. Heard a report from Fr. Victor on the Open Forum Discussion held on September 18 2007. Dr. Ernest Skakun thanked Fr. Victor and the Outreach Ministry Committee for organizing the form and suggested that future forums be planned in the context of Mr. Lawrence Dary's Sustainability Report and the ...

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Pochaiv Safe House Update (by Pauline Lysak)



The present goal of the **Pochaiv Safe House** project is to raise funds for property in Ukraine where the **Klenovi Lyst** Safe House facility will be used as a transitional location for disadvantaged youth. Since Ukraine is a less developed country, poverty-stricken adolescents are left to wander streets in search of a life. (For St. Andrew' Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, the Safe House Project was a natural profession and continuation of the work the congregation began in 2001 working with over 2500 orphans, abused and neglected children in the Lviv areas. The orphanage is up and running). Unfortunately, after a child reaches adolescence there is no longer space for these children and unprepared for adult life, they are released from the orphanage. Quite often these youth are preyed upon by "false" relatives and sold into slavery. An excellent account for human trafficking is found in a book called, "The Natashas" by Victor Malarek — a *Nashi* supporter who speaks internationally about his experience with this travesty. This Safe House Project will provide a safe place to live and to learn useful trades such as sewing, computers skills, and carpentry. By collecting donations here in Alberta, we can match up to \$25,000 through the Wild Rose Foundation to send to this cause. All donors for this project will be published and the names of the donors will be posted on individual maple leaves. These leaves will be donned on a maple tree that will be set in the entrance of the Safe House in Ukraine to acknowledge this much needed Canadian funding.

To date we have collected close to \$16,000.00!!!

NOVEMBER 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Sunday Fellowship Roster: Nov. 4th Nov. 11th Nov. 18th Nov. 25th</p> <p><i>PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE CHURCH ATRIUM TO SPONSOR A FELLOWSHIP LUNCH</i></p>				1	2 Pyrohy Supper 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.	3
				7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice	6:30 p.m. - Ukr. Dance Classes	
4 23rd Sunday After Pentecost	5	6 Golden Age Club, 9:00 a.m.	7	8	9	10
<u>Bilingual</u>			7 p.m. - Ukr.	7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice	6:30 p.m. - Ukr. Dance Classes	
11 24th Sunday After Pentecost <i>Remembrance Day Commemoration</i>	12 7:00 p.m. - Parish Board Mtg.	13 Golden Age Club, 9:00 a.m.	14 7 p.m. - Ukr. Lang. Classes	15	16	17 1 to 3 p.m. — Ladies Auxiliary Pre-Christmas Bazaar (Tea & Bake Sale)
<u>Bilingual</u>				7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice	6:30 p.m. - Ukr. Dance Classes	
18 25th Sunday After Pentecost	19 7:00 p.m. - Ladies Auxiliary & Men's Club Mtgs.	20 Golden Age Club, 9:00 a.m.	21 "St. Michael" Liturgy @ Selo, 10:00 a.m. 7 p.m. - Ukr. Lang. Classes	22	23	24
<u>Bilingual</u>				7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice	6:30 p.m. - Ukr. Dance Classes	
25 26th Sunday After Pentecost	26	27 Golden Age Club, 9:00 a.m.	28	29	30	
<u>English</u>			Nativity Fast: November 28th — January 7th			
			7 p.m. - Ukr. Lang. Classes	7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice	6:30 p.m. - Ukr. Dance Classes	

Confession... 9:00 - 9:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy...10:00 a.m.

Reading of Hours (Youth Sunday)... 9:30: a.m.

Following every Sunday Divine Liturgy, "Fellowship Coffee & Lunch" is served!

We welcome you and yours!



More From Our Parish President ...

Continued from p. 5

... suggestions arising from the Stakeholders and Budget and Finance Committee meetings.

10. Heard comments from Dr. Ernest Skakun on Sustainability. Dr. Skakun circulated his comments along with a document titled "Open Comments on Parish Sustainability" produced by a Parish member. The document contains many suggestions for projects that would aid sustainability.

11. Accepted that in supporting the concept of inclusiveness, the Board encourages all affiliated groups in the Parish (Men's Club, Ladies Auxiliary, Church School, Veerneest Dance Program, Ukrainian Language Program, CYMK, etc..) to invite participation in each other's age-appropriate religious, cultural, educational, and social activities.

12. Dr. Ernest Skakun asked the Board to review for the next Board meeting, the "draft plan" for an "All Ukrainian" Divine Liturgy developed by Mr. Michael Zukiwsky.

13. Read correspondence from Mr. Andy Feniuk, President of St. Michael's Parish on their fundraising event to be held on October 20 2007; from Fr. Victor on the UOCC Western Diocese Conference; from Mr. William Dymianiw, Chair of the Advisory Committee; and from Mrs. Olga Alexandruk, Chair of the Church School Program.

14. Accepted in principle the recommendations of the Advisory Committee regarding acknowledgment of members' monetary and

voluntary contributions and requested that the Advisory Committee review the policy set in 1986.

15. Accepted that the Church School Program purchase a scanner/copier/printer and that the equipment be available for use by all groups in the Parish.

16. Heard reports from the Board members.

17. Accepted the Treasurer's Report as circulated.

18. Accepted that bills payable as presented be paid.

19. Agreed to purchase fire extinguishers for the front of the church where candles are lit.

20. Heard from Mr. Walter Zukiwsky the need for all of us to take more care in security of the Parish complex. Doors should be locked 15 minutes after the start of an event.

21. Heard from Mrs. Alexandra Hohol that the Ladies Auxiliary Pre-Christmas Bazaar will be held on November 17 2007.

22. Heard from Mr. Lawrence Dary that the Men's Club will not be hosting a Puschenia in November 2007.

23. Questioned the need for the Herald (Visnyk) to publish Christmas and Easter Greetings. An alternative would be to publish one greeting and list all the contributing parishes.

24. Set the date of the next Board meeting for Monday, November 12 2007.

Something to think about:

In preparation for the Parish plans and budget for

2008, the first meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee members, Board members, Committee chairs, and Related and Affiliated Organization presidents was held on October 11 2007. In listening to the many suggestions for plans and activities for the coming year and upon reflection, I got to thinking once again, about solidarity, unity, sustainability, and human development and behaviors, actions, and things that I need to keep in mind for St. Andrew's to thrive. To begin with, St. Andrew's is a community that hopefully will grow. However, in order to grow and flourish, we might need to think a little differently. Traditionally, community-building began by considering deficiencies, problems, and needs. Outside help arrives when a convincing story of need has been told. Need focuses on deficiencies and the belief is that outside help will correct these deficiencies. There is another way of building a community and that is to focus not on deficiencies and needs but to focus on the strengths and capacities of those in the community. Each and every person, each and every one of us within the Parish has gifts. These are gifts of knowledge, skills, expertise, resources, values, experiences, and commitments. And all of this was evident by the suggestions made by those in attendance at the meeting on October 11. Such enthusiasm and talent must be nourished. To do so, requires that first solidarity and unity, that is, that we are inclusive rather than exclusive; that

decision-making is bottom-up rather than top-down; and that our decisions take into account each Parish member and the common good of the St. Andrew's Parish. We must practice to be non-judgmental or at least or failing that to strive for suspended judgment, that is, we should not pass judgment until we have acquired the facts and a deeper understanding or whatever it is that we are planning and discussing. With acquisition of knowledge and a deeper understanding, suspended judgment should turn into a sharing of ideas and a dialogue. We must be open-minded, honest, and genuine because in an atmosphere of close-mindedness, deception, supremacy, and authority, solidarity and unity deteriorate. Such deterioration usually has a negative impact on sustainability (the future of the St. Andrew's Parish) and if sustainability is weakened, the development and use of our gifts, talents, and expertise regresses. In closing, to all those who participated and contributed to the October 11 meeting, thank you for displaying the principles of solidarity and unity and keep up the good work. And what about the rest of us? We need to give some thought to what are our gifts, assets, expertise, and talents and how do we practice and show them. This is important because each of us has something to contribute St. Andrew's and for our Parish to be sustainable, we need to rely on each other's gifts.

God Bless!

Ernest N. Skakun – Parish President

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Email: st.andrews_uocc@telusplanet.net

PASTOR:

Right Rev. Fr. Victor Lakusta

Phone: 780 - 438-1890

Email: flakusta@telusplanet.net

Office Hours:

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Thursday: Pastoral Visitation Day

Friday: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

"St. Andrew's Outreach" is published monthly to encourage Christian growth, to share our faith in Our Lord God, Jesus Christ, to keep you informed of our parish events and activities, and to invite you to worship with us.

Next "Outreach" Issue - November 25th

Disclaimer: We do not claim that all the information published in this newsletter is accurate. All submissions are the responsibilities of their contributors.

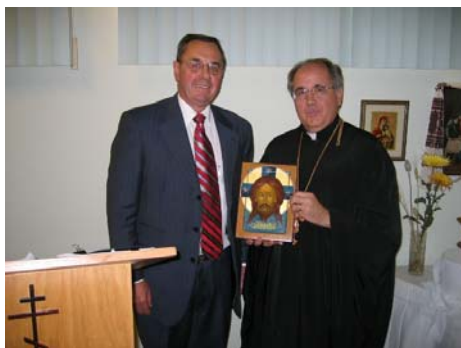


St. Andrew's Men's Club Website

www.uocc-standrew.ca/mensclub/



PASTORAL REFLECTIONS!



40 Years of Pastoral Ministry!

How quickly those years have gone by. As I think back, I so vividly remember the day I began my pastoral journey. It was the fall of 1963 when I enrolled in theological studies at St. Andrew's College in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

As I look back at my formative years and thereafter, I recall moments that brought joy to my heart, tears to my eyes, a smile to face. My tour of pastoral duty began in Northern Manitoba; on to Southern Manitoba, Edmonton, Vancouver, and back to Edmonton. Through all my pastoral experiences, I came to the realization that priesthood was not just another job but a "calling" to serve God by serving man. To this calling I had responded, and thank

the Blessed Lord God for the wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, goodness and fear of God with which He had anointed me.

As I embark upon my 41st year of pastoral ministry, I pray that the Blessed Lord God will continue to bless and guide my ministry, and I thank you for reminding me of the significance of priesthood; of the daily experiences of my pastoral work within the parish. Your celebratory tribute to my 40th Anniversary of Priesthood on September 30th encourages me further to pursue my "calling."

I feel honoured and privileged to have been elevated by His Eminence Metropolitan John to the highest rank bestowed upon a priest – that being "Protopresbyter". I only pray that I be worthy of such an honour. I was equally honoured and privileged by the presence of distinguished guests, clergy and the faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox community who gathered to celebrate my 40th Anniversary. I thank you for the congratulatory best wishes expressed and the gift icon – "The Holy Cloth of Edessa" present to me.

The celebratory event was truly a blessed and joyous affair. Many thanks to St. Andrew's Parish Board

of Management for initialling the event and to all who assisted with the planning, helped organize and execute, and showed their support of a pastor's ministry by their attendance. I forever cherish the memory! Thank you!

Fr. Victor



*Father Victor receiving
congratulations from
The Honourable Premier Ed Stelmach
&
The Honourable Gene Zwozdesky*

"Ask, and it will be given to you, seek, and you will find, knock, and it will be opened to you."

(Matthew 7:7)