



THE FAITH WE HOLD (Archbishop Paul of Finland)

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The Church ~

The Orthodox Church simply calls itself "the Church," just as the Greeks in the past used the word "Christians" to refer to the Orthodox. This follows naturally from the fact that the Eastern Orthodox Church is organically the same congregation or *ecclesia* which was born at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem on Pentecost. In many places already mentioned in the New Testament this congregation has remained the same throughout history. The Orthodox Church does not need to give proof of its historical authenticity; it is simply the direct continuation of the Church of the Apostolic Age.

Does the Orthodox Church of today in fact correspond to the picture we get of the congregation of the Apostolic Age when we read the New Testament and the writings of the Apostolic Fathers? It does — as much as a grown-up person corresponds to a picture taken of himself as a child. Although the Church has developed, it is the same in essence and spirit in the twentieth century as it has been from the beginning.

The coming of Christ when the time was "fulfilled" (Mk 1:15) was an appointed event; indeed, our calendar begins there. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit in fulfillment of the "promise of the Father" (Acts 1:4) was also an appointed, unique historical event. For the Church it meant "power from on high" and "the Spirit of truth" (Lk 24:49, Jn 16:13). On the strength of this we believe that although the grace of the Holy Spirit is at work in the later churches and communities according to their faith, the plenitude of grace once given to the Church in the historical outpouring of the Holy Spirit will

not be given again. In a hymn for Pentecost the Church sings:

Blessed art Thou, O Christ, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of man, glory to Thee!

"When the Spirit of truth comes He will guide you into all the truth," Christ promised (Jn 16:13). After this promise had been fulfilled, the Apostle indeed gave to the "Church of the living God" the name "pillar and bulwark of the truth" (1 Tim 3:15).

The promised gift of "all the truth" came to the Church in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, but it took centuries, the whole Patristic Age, to define it using man's limited concepts. And although the Fathers were learned men, profound thinkers, and pure in their lives, this alone is not enough to guarantee the absolute character of the truth inherited from the time of the Fathers. Therefore we need the power of the Holy Spirit, which was given to the Church, to guide it to the truth and to protect it. The verbal formulations of the faith which was in the consciousness of the Church from the very beginning have developed over a long period. Similarly, the whole ecclesiastical life has found richer and richer expressions in the various parts of Christ's Church which differ from one another in form but not in spirit. Thus every attempt to create an apostolic congregation, disregarding the work of the Holy Spirit which has gone on in the Church for two thousand years, seems artificial from the Church's point of view.

Just as Christ has both divine and human nature, ...

-Cont'd on p. 5

Websites:

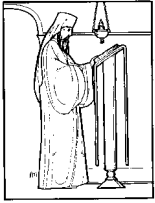
Ukrainian Orthodox
Church of Canada:
www.uocc.ca

Western Diocese
www.uocc.wd.ca/

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

You can now read
our monthly
"Outreach"
newsletter
on the
Parish
website!





LITURGICAL SCRIPTURE READINGS

February 2008

Sunday, February 3rd
36th Sunday After Pentecost
Epistle: 2 Cor. 6:16-7:1;
Gospel: Matt. 15:21-28

Sunday, February 10th
37th Sunday After Pentecost
Epistle: 1 Tim. 4:9-15;
Gospel: Luke 19:1-10.

Sunday, February 17th
"Sunday of the Publican and
Pharisee"
Epistle: 2 Tim. 3:10-15;
Gospel: Luke 18:10-14.

Sunday, February 24th
"Sunday of the Prodigal Son"
Epistle: 1 Cor. 6:12-20;
Gospel: Luke 15:11-32.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday, February 3rd
Bilingual

Sunday, February 10th
Bilingual

Sunday, February 17th
Bilingual

Sunday, February 24th
English

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



WE DON'T CHANGE THE
MESSAGE, THE MESSAGE
CHANGES US.

~

WORSHIP SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S SELO

Tuesday, February 12th
"Synaxis of the Three
Hierarchs"

Saturday, March 15th
"Theodore Saturday"
(Great Lent Confession &
Communion)
10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

*Fellowship Coffee & Lunch
to follow every
Divine Liturgy.*



LITURGICAL

Upcoming Memorial Services

Sunday, February 10th - *Workun Family*
(2 year memorial for Nancy's husband, Walter Workun)

Sunday, February 24th - *at the request of the Sawchuk, Gushaty, and Ostapchuk Families.*

Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs:

St. Basil the Great

Gregory the Theologian

St. John Chrysostom



How To Behave In God's Temple

Metropolitan Ilarion (Ohienko)

We Must Thoroughly Prepare Ourselves Before Attending Church —

1. In preparing to attend Church services, and particularly the Divine Liturgy, we must seek reconciliation with those who have slighted us in any way, and ask to be pardoned by those whom we may have offended. Jesus Himself instructed us: "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your own way" (Mt. 5:23-24). In the words of the Prophet Hosea (6:6), God uttered: "For I desired mercy and not sacrifice ..."

And when it is for some reason impossible to personally ask forgiveness of those whom you offended, then seek their forgiveness in your heart.

We must never forget to be generous, and be ready to share that which we have with those who have not; this is the source of all goodness. We should be especially generous on communion days.

2. We should attend Church whenever there is a service, following the example of the earliest Christians: "So continuing daily with one accord in the temple ..." (Acts 2:46)

And we must perceive with our whole being that we attend Church not because we are coerced into doing so, but because of our spiritual need, our ardent love of God which fills the heart of every true Christian. "Lord, I have loved the habitation of Your house, and the place where Your glory dwells" (Ps. 26:8).

Apart from this, the Church is our School of Life wherein we learn the Orthodox Faith and how to live a virtuous life, without which no one can be fully human.

3. We must prepare ourselves outwardly when we enter into God's temple; our bodies must be clean and our attire becoming the sanctity of God's presence. We do not wish to be queried: "Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?" (Mt. 22:12)

4. The Ukrainian Church retains the custom established in very early times that attendance at the Divine Liturgy precludes the taking of any food. This custom is widely observed. It is a form of fasting" (Acts 14:23). Only children and the infirm may break the fast; all others should heed it.

IN MEMORIAM!

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

- ⇒ Walter & Sylvia Killick and family on the repose of Walter's cousin, Amelia Mytrunec;
- ⇒ Allen & Dolores Babiuk and family on the repose of Dolores' mother, Ethel Damure;
- ⇒ Nestor & Elsie Chanasyk and family on the repose of Nestor's sister, Amelia Mytrunec (of Myrnam);
- ⇒ Cathy & Ronald Yeremiy on the repose of Cathy's mother;
- ⇒ Kay Koshman & Family on the repose of Kay's husband, Harry Koshman, and to Walter Koshman, Gordon Koshman & Adele Sawchyn and their families on the repose of their uncle.

[Should you have names of loved ones you would like included in this section, please contact the Church Office (469-1463)]

ETERNAL BE THEIR MEMORY!

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

UOCC Bylaws

In preparation for discussing the new proposed bylaws of the *Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada* and to get a better understanding of the Orthodox Church, a Bible Study series (4 parts) has been prepared. The "Guiding Principles Bible Study" presents the biblical and ecclesiological foundation for our new Church bylaws, and all those who would like to constructively contribute to the formation of these bylaws, as well as all those who are interested in learning more about the biblical basis of the Orthodox Church in general, are strongly encouraged to take part in the Bible Study session that will be offered.



Copies of the Bible Study, the Proposed Revised UOCC Bylaws, and a document comparing the current bylaws and proposed bylaws are all available at the entrance to the Church or at the Church Office. Please sign-in when you take a copy. Thank you!



OUR PARISH BULLETIN BOARD



NEXT PYROHY SUPPER!

Our next "Pyrohy Suppers" will be held on **Friday, February 1st** and then on **March 7th** 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 **January** sponsors:

Fellowship Committee (Jan. 13th); Fellowship Committee (Jan. 20th); Fellowship Committee (Jan. 27th).

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!

ST. ANDREW'S MEN'S CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, Feb. 18th
7:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Cultural Center

All current Men's Club members and any men interested in learning more about the activities of St. Andrew's Men's Club are urged to attend.

-Lawrence Dary, President

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor Parish
Annual General Meeting

February 3, 2008
1:00 p.m.

Tillie Kurysh Hall
(Parish Complex)

Copies of the Agenda, Minutes of the 2007 AGM, Board Reports, Financial Statement for 2007 and Proposed Budget for 2008 will be available for pick up one week prior to the meeting. If you are unable to pick up these materials, please telephone the Church Office (469-1463).

-Board of Management



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:

February 3rd -
Steve & Emilie Gorgichuk
February 10th -
Stephen & Patricia Pawluk
February 17th - *Dobr. Marusia & ?*
February 24th - *Ernest & Vivian Skakun*

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).

WALL CALENDARS

2008 Wall Calendars are now available at the Entrance to the Church. A nominal donation per calendar would be appreciated!



CAMP BAR-V-NOK

For those families who are busy scheduling dancing, hockey, soccer, ball games, etc., we wish to inform you in advance that the Annual St. Andrew's weekend at Camp Bar-V-Nok has been booked for Thursday, June 19th - Sunday, June 22nd, 2008!

-*Gordon Ostapchuk*
Committee Chair

ORTHODOX MEN'S RETREAT OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

The 5th Annual Retreat will be held April 11-13, 2008 at the Sanctum Retreat Centre in Caroline, Alberta. The theme for this year is "Walking in Wisdom" with Guest Speaker Fr. John Finlay. For more information contact Glen Tracey c/o St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Congregation in Calgary (403-934-4688).



EPIPHANY BLESSING OF HOMES

As the home is considered to be the "Domestic Church", Fr. Victor is currently visiting the homes of those members who wish to have their home blessed and prayers offered. All visitations will be by appointment booked through Stephanie in the Church Office (469-1463).

WELCOME!

Rev. Deacon Timothy Chrapko has recently been assigned to St. Andrew's Sobor for his Deacon Internship. We also wish to welcome *Dobr. Julie!* Also, St. Andrew's welcomes *Antonia Triska* as a new member to the Parish.



Welcome!



NEW CD

The *Heruvymy* Ukrainian Female Quartet CD "And On Earth Peace" is available for purchase through the Church Office. The cost is \$20.00

NEW PRIEST'S VESTMENTS!

Two sets of priest's vestments (one gold and one purple) were purchased for our Sobor Parish; therefore, we are appealing for donations, to cover the cost of these vestments. Please submit your donation to the Church Office or the Sunday Offering Baskets — clearly indicating that your donation is for the 'vestments'. All donors will be published in our future newsletter. We thank you for your generous support!

CAROLING DONATIONS

Caroling Donations would still be graciously appreciated. Please use the appropriate "Carol Donation Envelopes" available and place them in the Offering Baskets. Thank you for your support!

Pochaiv Safe House Update

We are pleased to announce that the property in Ukraine for the *Klenovi Lyst* Safe House facility has been acquired! Many thanks for your donations! **To date we have collected over \$ 24,000.00**



Thank You To ~

- the Malanka Committee — Gene Luchka, Trish Bartko, Stephanie McNee, Adele Krewusik, Michael Zukiwsky and Gordon Haug
- the St. Andrew's Ladies Auxiliary and the Men's Club for table setting, bartending, and the delicious meal and those who helped with decorating the hall(s)
- Fedor's *Barvinok* Band for the great music
- the "Veerneest" Ukrainian Dancers for their entertaining performance
- anyone else who helped to make this a wonderful evening and another successful event!

-*Wally Yadlowski*
St. Andrew's Men's Club, Social Chair

Man's way leads to a hopeless end — God's way leads to an endless hope!

👏👏👏👏👏 **CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS** 👏👏👏👏👏

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Special thanks goes out to students for participating in the St. Nicholas Day Concert and caroling during Veneration of the Cross. Also thank you parents for your help with the Fellowship Lunch.

Upcoming Events:

March 2nd - Church School Celebration Banquet following the Divine Liturgy. We will need help with the preparation and serving of the food and clean-up. A sign up sheet will be posted. More information will be forthcoming.

March 16th - Orthodoxy Sunday

April 12th - Paska & Pysanka Workshop
(1:30 pm)



April 13th - Youth Sunday, First Confession, and Godparents' Day

Parents: - Please check for any Church School library or Pew books in your home. We are missing quite a number of books and would appreciate their return as soon as possible!



Yours in Christ,
-Olga Alexandruk
(998-2356)

FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES:

"I know what the Bible means!", exclaimed the son.

"Okay," said the father, "What does the Bible mean?"



"That's easy, Daddy," said the young boy. "It stands for **B**asic **I**nformation **B**efore **L**eaving **E**arth - **B-I-B-L-E**."



FAITH WE HOLD ... (Cont'd from p. 1)

... so has the Church. On its human side the Church susceptible to errors, weaknesses and failings, but it has consolation in the promise: "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Mt 16:18) This means that though the storms of time may ravage the human substance of the Church, they will not destroy the Church. The Church will endure until the next period of God's rule over the world is ushered in, until the *parousia* or Second Coming of Christ. Until then the Church which was established at the first Christian Pentecost will endure as the protector of the truth, maintaining its characteristic features of apostolic priesthood, the Eucharist and other sacraments, and the common experience of the Church, its Tradition.



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 January 15 2008 Board meeting, and a comment.

Announcements:

1. **Annual General Meeting.** The AGM has been scheduled for February 03 2008. Copies of the Agenda, Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting, Board Member Annual Reports, Financial Statement for 2007, and Proposed Budget for 2008 will be available for pick up one week prior to the meeting (January 27 2008). If you are unable to pick up the meeting materials but would like to receive the materials by mail, please telephone the Parish office at 469-1463 and make that request.

2. **Celebration of Divine Liturgy Predominantly in Ukrainian.** At the January 15 2008 Board Meeting, the Board reaffirmed that one Sunday per month, the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated predominantly in Ukrainian. To review, several years ago, the practice for celebrating the Divine Liturgy was one Sunday Ukrainian language, one Sunday English language, and the remainder of the Sundays in that month would be bilingual. That practice appeared to be fair and satisfactory given that our membership is diverse. That is, some members prefer Ukrainian because that is the language that they grew up with; others prefer English because they lack Ukrainian; and others are comfortable with both languages. About two years ago, the Ukrainian language Divine Liturgy was replaced with a bilingual service. No reasons were provided for the change. By re-instituting the Ukrainian language service, we believe that we are, one again, being fair to all our parishioners.

3. **50th Anniversary Planning Committee.** Our Parish was officially inaugurated on December 22 1959 and 2009 will mark its 50th Anniversary. While 2009 may seem far away, it is necessary to start planning this event. In this regard, an Anniversary Planning Committee is being established. Preliminary membership would include 1 or 2 Board members, a representative from each of the Ladies Auxiliary and the Men's Club, and 3 - 5 parish members at large. Parish members at large willing to serve on this committee should contact the Parish President. Selection of representatives from the Board, the Ladies Auxiliary, and the Men's Club will be handled by the respective presidents.

4. **Review of UOCC Proposed Revised By-Laws.** This is a reminder that the proposed revised UOCC By-Laws are available for review. Copies of the by-laws and associated materials can be obtained from the Parish Office. It is imperative that we as a Parish review the proposed by-laws. The plans for the process for reviewing the by-laws are being developed and further information will be forthcoming. ...

-Cont'd on p. 7

FEBRUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Fellowship Roster: Feb. 3rd... AGM Meeting Feb. 10th... Workun Family (Memorial Fellowship) Feb. 17th... Feb. 24th... Sawchuk, Gushaty & Ostapchuk Families (Memorial Fellowship) PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE CHURCH ATRIUM TO SPONSOR A FELLOWSHIP LUNCH					1 5 - 8 pm — Pyrohy Supper 6:30 pm - Dance Classes & Family Meeting	2
3 36th Sunday <i>After Pentecost</i> Parish Annual Meeting	4	5 9 am - Golden Age Club Mtg.	6 7 pm - Ukr. Lang. Classes	7 7:30 pm - Choir Practice	8 6:30 pm - Ukr. Dance Classes	9
10 37th <i>Sunday After</i> <i>Pentecost</i>	11 7:00 pm - Parish Board Mtg	12 "Synaxis of Three Hierarchs" 10 am - Liturgy @ Selo 9 am - Golden Age Club Mtg.	13 7 pm - Ukr. Lang. Classes 7:00 pm - Bible Study	14 7:30 pm - Choir Practice	15 "Meeting of Our Lord" 9:30 am - Liturgy @ St. Andrew's 6:30 pm - Ukr. Dance Classes	16
17 "Publican and Pharisee"	18 Family Day Holiday Weekend 7:00 pm - Mtgs of Ladies Aux. & Men's Club (AGM)	19 9 am - Golden Age Club Mtg. 7:00 p.m. - Outreach Ministry Mtg	20 7 pm - Ukr. Lang. Classes 7:00 pm - Bible Study	21 7:30 pm - Choir Practice	22 6:30 pm - Ukr. Dance Classes	23 "Veerneest" Picture Day & Performance
24 "Prodigal Son" English	25	26 9 am - Golden Age Club Mtg.	27 7 pm - Ukr. Lang. Classes 7:00 pm - Bible Study	28 7:30 pm - Choir Practice	29 6:30 pm - 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!



FROM OUR PARISH PRESIDENT ... CONT'D FROM P. 5

From the January 15 2008 Board Meeting:

1. Heard from Fr. Victor that a Special Sobor is being planned for August 2008 to be held in Saskatoon and to deal specifically with the proposed revised by-laws and the selection of a new bishop.
2. Heard from Dr. Skakun that some parts of the Parish Website are incomplete or require updating. Changes and additions to the website should be directed to Dr. Skakun, Chair of the Communications Committee.
3. Heard from Dr. Skakun that the time allotted for recognizing committees, organizations, and volunteers on our Patron Saint's Day was underestimated making it a long day. There is a need to review the event of recognizing volunteers.
4. Held discussion of Commemoration of Holodomor/Famine of 1932-33 in Ukraine. No action plan was made.
5. Heard a report from Mr. Walter Zukiwsky, Chair of the Nominating Committee, that all Board positions, except that of Facilities Manager/Hospodar have been filled.
6. Held discussion on development of policy for requests for financial aid. Agreed that no policy is required at this time and that each request should be judged on its merits.
7. Read correspondence from Veerneest Ukrainian Dance Program (Newsletter) and from Mr. John Karbasheski informing the Board of his resignation from the Financial Review Committee.

8. Accepted that the bills payable be paid.

9. Accepted Ms. Antonia Triska's application for membership in our Parish.

10. Accepted that for the purposes of levies to the Consistory and the Western Diocese for 2008 we follow the Parish By-Laws for determining the number of members.

11. Accepted that a photograph be taken of the 2007 Board of Management and of Boards in the future.

12. Heard from Fr. Victor that Fr. Deacon Timothy Chrapko has been assigned to our Parish and that Fr. Meroslaw Kryschuk and Fr. Michael Kopchuk are attached to our Parish. Fr. Victor reported that Fr. Deacon Tim Chrapko and Sub Deacon Anton Lakusta would be re-activating the CYMK organization in our Parish.

13. Dr. Skakun circulated the recommendations from the Budget and Finance Committee and asked that Board members review the recommendations for the next Board meeting.

14. Scheduled the next Board meeting for February 11 2008.

A Comment:

Our personal lives are never static. We are constantly faced with changes. The same holds for the life of our Parish. For example, the Budget and Finance Committee and the committees and related and affiliated organizations of our Parish work diligently throughout the year, developing plans

for the coming and ensuing years. Their work culminates in a set of recommendations that the Budget and Finance Committee submits to the Board. Many of the recommendations can be viewed as changes. And so the question that arises is "how do we view or react to change?" The question is general, that is, how do persons react to change? Most of us can cope with minor changes. However, if the changes are substantive, then we might feel afraid, threatened, and uncomfortable. In extreme situations, we might call for abandoning proposed changes, resorting to tactics such as issuing threats, using "killer phrases", and predicting impending storms and restlessness. In such cases, where the principles of Orthodox Christianity and rationality should govern our decision making, they have been replaced by emotion. Moving away from the familiar is never easy, not even for me. And so began my search for literature that would help me not only cope with change but also help implement change. I pass this on to you. The books *Oriented Leadership* authored by Benjamin Williams and Michael McKibben and *Orthodox Christian Meetings* written by Michael McKibben provide excellent information on leadership couched in the context of Orthodox Christianity. Both books are "heavy" reading; each paragraph is packed with information. As an aside, it would be

worthwhile to pursue the feasibility of having Williams and McKibben conduct a workshop for our Parish.

In contrast to these two books, there is the book *Who Moved My Cheese?* written by Spencer Johnson. Johnson's book can be read in an hour and to quote from the book jacket "Who Moved My Cheese? is a simple parable that reveals profound truths. It is an amusing and enlightening story of four characters who live in a "Maze" and look for "Cheese" to nourish them and make them happy. Two are mice named Sniff and Scurry. And two are "Littlepeople" – beings the size of mice who look and act a lot like people. Their names are Hem and Haw. "Cheese" is a metaphor for what you want to have in life – whether it is a good job, a loving relationship, money, a possession, health, or spiritual peace of mind. And the "Maze" is where you look for what you want – the organization you work in, or the family, or the community you live in. In the story, the characters are faced with unexpected change. Eventually, one of them deals with it successfully, and writes what he has learned from his experience on the Maze walls." What I found revealing in reading the book is that upon reflecting on my "Cheese" and "Maze", I could identify with each of the characters. I recommend all three books as worthy of reading.

God Bless!

- Ernest N. Skakun
Parish President

We're on the Web!
www.uocc-standrew.ca
Currently under construction!

News letter Editors: Rt. Rev. Victor Lakusta & Robyn Shewchuk

"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.

ST. ANDREW'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX PARISH

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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.

Next "Outreach" Issue - February 24th

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/

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



PASTORAL REFLECTIONS!

ON PRAYER — ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Prayer is a great good if offered up from a thankful soul; if we are steadfast in it, so that whether we receive or do not receive what we pray for we at all times give thanks to God. For since He will sometimes grant what we ask and sometimes will not, in both cases it is to our gain: for whether you receive or do not receive the answer to your prayer, you have received in not receiving, and whether you succeed or do not succeed, you succeeded by not succeeding in that which you sought. For many times it is more profitable for you not to obtain what you have prayed for. For unless what we ask is expedient for us, it will certainly not be granted to us: so that it is equally a gain to obtain our request and not to obtain it.

Neither should we bear it with bad grace if the answer to our prayer is long delayed. Rather let us because of this show great patience and resignation. For can God not grant our prayers even before we

ask Him? But He delays for this reason: that we may offer Him a fitting occasion of honouring us through His divine providence. Whether therefore we receive what we ask for, or do not receive it, let us still continue steadfast in prayer; and let us give thanks not only when we have received, but also when we have not received. For to fail in obtaining the desires of our heart when God so wills it, is not worse than to receive it; for we know not as He does what is profitable to us. And so whether we receive or do not receive, let us at all times give thanks to God, and receive with joy whatever shall seem most pleasing to Him.

For oftentimes God will delay, not as denying our prayer, but in His wisdom seeking rather our perseverance, and desiring to draw us nearer to Himself; as a loving father when asked by his son for something will often do; withholding consent, and not from the will to refuse, but rather to encourage him in steadfastness.

That our prayers therefore be

heard by God they must first come from one who is worthy of receiving. Secondly they should be made in accordance with the laws of God. Thirdly they should be unceasing. Fourthly it is required of us that we pray with earnestness, and not in a worldly manner. Fifthly that we join with Him in bringing them about, by asking only for what is fitting and expedient for us. But just as your prayers will be heard because of the fulfillment of these conditions, so likewise it may arise from these conditions that your requests will not be obtained; even though they who pray are just and worthy souls. For who was more just than Paul. Yet, because he asked for what was not profitable to him, his prayer was denied. *For which thing thrice I besought the Lord, he tells us, and he said to me: My grace is sufficient for thee* (2 Cor. 12:8, 9). And who was more just than Moses? Yet neither was his prayer answered, the Lord saying to him: *It is enough: speak no more to me of this matter ...*

-Cont'd in the "Outreach" EXTRA