



Rosburn
Ukrainian Catholic
Pastoral District

Український католицько-пастирський округ Росберн

*Serving the communities of
Rosburn, Russell, Oakburn, Shoal Lake, Olha, Birtle, Lakedale,
Angusville, Ruthenia, Dolyny and Seech Lake*

December 2020 Parish Bulletin

A note from the Pastor...

Слава Ісусу Христу! Glory be to Jesus Christ!

As our communities and the entire Province of Manitoba continue to face rather uncertain times in an uphill battle against the global pandemic of Covid-19, I would like to take the moment to greet the entire Rosburn Pastoral District.

I would first like to thank all of those who have volunteered over the last number of months ensuring protocols are followed in our parishes as well as ensuring the sanitary conditions in each building. Your assistance and commitment have not gone unnoticed and are very much appreciated! Thank you!

To all those who are now praying from their homes via livestreaming, I thank you for your patience and understanding in these trying times. It is not easy for me to pray with and preach to an empty building, so I can only imagine praying in the solace of your home is just as difficult. Thank you for abiding by the rules and doing our part in battling the rise of Covid-19.

Lastly, I encourage everyone to use this time to not be distracted by all the bad in the world today. I pray that we all stay focused on Christmas and celebrating to the best of our abilities. While we may be tempted to cut corners with our meals, or only decorate minimally, take this time to fill our lives with some sort of normality by keeping to our traditions as best as we can and celebrate the season as joyously as possible even if only with our immediate households. And of course, remember what this season is all about and to keep that at the heart of our celebrations this year!

You all remain in my prayers daily,



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December Feasts Days

In December, we have a number of special feast days that we celebrate in our Ukrainian-Greek Catholic Church. One of them is one of the 12 Great Feasts of the Church: the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ (aka: Christmas!!). The others are important feasts where the faithful are encouraged to attend liturgical celebrations on that day. Read more below to learn about each of these feasts.



St. Nicholas (Dec. 6)

St. Nicholas is of course the original inspiration for the modern day Santa Claus, but what many do not realize is that St. Nicholas is one of the greatest saints of the early Church having participated in the very first Ecumenical Council. He stood up to the man named Arius, who taught a heresy that would be known as Arianism. St. Nicholas was so against this teaching that he actually struck Arius and is famously known for this even to this day!

Conception of Saint Anna (Dec. 9)

The feast celebrates when St. Anna conceived the Mother of God, Mary. Anna and her husband, Joachim were advanced in age and still had yet to have a child. After many prayers, God answered their prayers and blessed them with Mary who would later become the Most Holy Theotokos, the Mother of God. St. Anna is often seen as a patron for those who are trying conceive a child.



Synaxis of the Mother of God (Dec. 26)

After each major feast in our Church, we celebrate a synaxis feast, which is usually a celebration for someone who has played a major role in the feast the day before. In this case, it is the Mother of God. In the icon for this feast, the Magi, the shepherds, the angelic powers, and other saints are portrayed to show how all of Creation honours and venerates the Mother of God who has just given birth to the Saviour of the World.

Proto-Martyr Stephen (Dec. 27)

St. Stephen is the Proto-Martyr, the first one who had ever died for his belief in Jesus Christ. St. Stephen was eldest of the first deacons of the Church. He contested the Jews about Jesus and was accused of blasphemy. For this he was stoned to death, and thus became the one of the first who received the Salvation that Christ had promised through His Passion which was possible, because of our Lord's incarnation at His Nativity.



Journey Through St. Philip's Fast - Be sure to join Fr. Jay on a Journey through St. Philip's Fast. Twice a week an infograph and a video presentation are posted on our Facebook page helping us all to go a little deeper during this fasting period of St. Philip's Fast. Videos will also be posted to our YouTube channel and emails will be sent out.

Why are there so many colours of vestments and what do they all mean??

Do you ever get to church on Sunday or start up your livestream at home, and wonder what colour of vestments that Fr. Jay is going to be wearing that day? Well believe it or not, he does not necessarily get to choose which colour he is going to wear on any given day. Below is a brief explanation to the colours we wear in our Ukrainian Catholic Church and when we wear them.

Sundays - Generally on Sundays, we wear bright colours which result in either gold (yellow) or white. This is because we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord each and every Sunday and we celebrate that with bright colours to resemble the fact that light shines forth from our Risen Lord. There are of course exceptions, but we will explain that later on.



Weekdays - On weekdays, we wear a variety colours. Often on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursday we wear those same bright colours: gold or white. Again, the Divine Liturgy is all about the living and the Resurrection of our Lord. However, on Wednesday and Fridays, if you ever read or listen to the propers (tropar and kondak) you will notice they talk about the Cross and the death of our Lord. So those days we wear red, to commemorate the Passion of our Lord.

Marian Feasts - The Mother of God is often portrayed in icons or images as wearing blue. Because of this, blue has become associated with her and so on feasts that honour the Mother of God, we wear blue. And if blue isn't available, we default to gold or white.



Funerals, Fast Periods, Holy Week - These three groups all reflect on sad and somber times. We are either mourning the loss of a loved one, or experiencing the Passion of our Lord, or simply a time where we are not in celebration. For these times we wear dark colours: red, purple or even black. We never wear dark colours on a Sunday, except for two Sundays of the entire year: the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (Sept. 14) when it falls on Sunday, and the Third Sunday of Lent when we commemorate the Precious and Life-Giving Cross.



Special Feast Days - On big occasions, like an ordination, or the one of the 12 Great Feasts of our Lord, we wear bright, but it is best if white can be worn rather than gold. Again, signifying that light that comes forth from God. So you will often see on Pascha (Easter) or on Christmas, the priest wearing bright white vestments, or the vestments he was ordained in. Sometimes, we also wear green vestments. These are worn on Pentecost, or Green Holiday to represent the new life that is budding, as well as Palm Sunday for the same reason.



DECEMBER 20

SUN

MON

TUE

W

CODE ORANGE CALENDAR

ALL SERVICES WILL BE
SCHEDULED AS NORMAL

01

10AM - Divine Liturgy
Rossburn
For +Kevin & +Lenora
by Woychyshyn Family

02

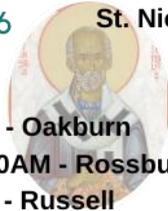
10AM - Div
Ross
For +Ada
by Sonia K

06

St. Nicholas

07

9AM - Oakburn
11:30AM - Rossburn
2PM - Russell



08

10AM - Divine Liturgy
Rossburn
5:30PM - Great Vespers
Rossburn

09

Concep
Saint
Divine
10AM - R



13

Sunday of the
Holy Forefathers

14

9AM - Russell
11:30AM - Shoal Lake
2PM - Rossburn

15

10AM - Divine Liturgy
Rossburn

16

10AM - Div
Ross

20 Sunday before the
Nativity of Christ

21

9AM - Rossburn
11:30AM - Russell
2PM - Oakburn

22

10AM - Divine Liturgy
Rossburn

23

10AM - Div
Ross

27 Sunday after the
Nativity of Christ

28

9AM - Oakburn
11:30AM - Russell
2PM - Rossburn

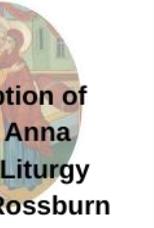
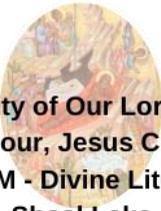
29

10AM - Divine Liturgy
Rossburn

30

10AM - Div
Ross

2020 ГРУДЕНЬ

| | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|---|--|
| Divine Liturgy Rossburn M Krupa Prykolowich | 03 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 04 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 05 5:30PM - Great Vespers Rossburn |
|  Annunciation of Anna Liturgy Rossburn | 10 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 11 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 12 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn +Nellie Gapka - 40 Days by Gapka Family |
| Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 17 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 18 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 19 Saturday before the Nativity 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn |
| Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 24 9AM - Royal Hours (Rossburn) 4PM - Divine Liturgy (Russell) 8PM - Compline & Divine Liturgy (Rossburn) | 25  Nativity of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ 10AM - Divine Liturgy Shoal Lake | 26 Saturday after the Nativity Synaxis of the Mother of God 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn |
| Divine Liturgy Rossburn | 31 10AM - Divine Liturgy Rossburn | | |

Vigil Candle Intentions for the month of October

December 1-4

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Icon of Our Lord | Health, blessings and forgiveness upon the Ditz Family living and passed by Kelly Ditz |
| Icon of the Theotokos | For our parishioners |

December 7-11

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Icon of Our Lord | Health, blessings and forgiveness upon the Ditz Family living and passed by Kelly Ditz |
| Icon of the Theotokos | For our parishioners |

December 14-18

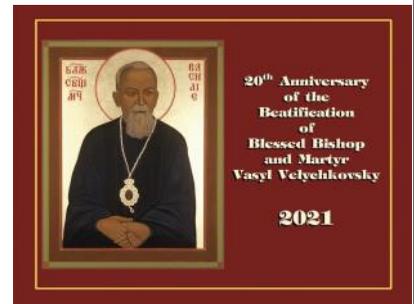
| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Icon of Our Lord | +Peter Shewchuk by Stella Shewchuk & family |
| Icon of the Theotokos | For our parishioners |

December 21-25

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Icon of Our Lord | Health, blessings and forgiveness upon the Ditz Family living and passed by Kelly Ditz |
| Icon of the Theotokos | For our parishioners |

TWO CALENDARS!? This month you may notice that there are two calendars that have been sent out. One them is labeled: CODE RED CALENDAR and the other is a CODE ORANGE CALENDAR. Due to the uncertainty of where we as a province will be in the coming weeks, I have prepared two calendars to help us facilitate between the two situations. The beginning of December will commence while the Province of Manitoba is still under the Code Red restrictions. In the event that we move out of Code Red and back into Code Orange, and we are allowed to gather again in our parishes, we will switch to the Code Orange calendar. This will remove any guess work and a rush of communications when this happens.

TWO MORE CALENDARS!? Our parish calendars are being printed, and will be available shortly, or at the very least, in your parish when we return. The 2021 calendar will be taking on a new format featuring a full size layout and 12 full colour images! Another calendar that is available to order is from the Blessed Vasyl Velychkovsky Shrine. 2021 marks the 20th anniversary of Bl. Vasyl's beatification and to celebrate, calendars are available for \$20 through the Shrine office by emailing info@bvmartyrshrine.com or by calling 204.338.7321. You can also purchase through the [website](#).





COVID-19 UPDATE: Currently (at time of publishing) as per the Province of Manitoba's #RestartMB response system, the entire province is under the Code Red ranking system. What this means for parishes is that currently we are not allowed to gather for prayer in our parish buildings. We are allowed to still have the services, if they are being livestreamed. Funerals are allowed to have a maximum of 5 people in attendance. Until further notice, all churches in the Rossburn Pastoral District are closed to Sunday and Festal services. For further information on church restrictions, please contact Fr. Jay or visit the Archeparchy of Winnipeg website at: archeparchy.ca.

Pray with us online! Did you know that you can access all of our liturgical services that happen in Rossburn online? Every Sunday and weekday Divine Liturgy, as well as other services such as vespers that happen at Sacred Heart Parish in Rossburn are streamed live not only on our Facebook page, but as well on our YouTube channel, allowing those without a Facebook account to be able to still access the services. For Facebook, search @[Rossburn.UGCC](https://www.facebook.com/Rossburn.UGCC) and on YouTube search: [Rossburn Ukrainian Catholic Pastoral District](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...).



Thank You

I'd like to send out a very special thank-you to all my cantors from the parishes who have continue to cantor for all of our online services, even with the parishes being closed. Not only have they faced the challenge of learning to sing with a new priest and different styles, but they have also learned a few new things over the last few months. And now, they continue to bring beauty to our online services so that those at home can have the fullest liturgical experience possible allowing them to pray as if they were present in the church with us. Thank you!!

Fr. Jay

Rossburn Pastoral District Christmas Project

This year has been a very tough year, especially for the less fortunate who have had to face many difficulties especially as winter approached. Thankfully there are many places that remain open to offer assistance to those in need. One of those is our own Ukrainian Catholic mission in the inner-city of Winnipeg, The Welcome Home. Run by the Ukr. Catholic Redemptorists, The Welcome Home offers much to help those who are in need. This year, I invite all parishioners to donate to The Welcome Home. They are in need of the essentials: adult winter gloves/mitts/toques; blankets for families; children's snow pants and gloves/mitts/toques. Fr. Jay will be doing contactless collections at the following schedule in order to be able to deliver everything to The Welcome Home. Monetary donations accepted as well. Simply include your mailing address for tax purposes. Cheques may be made out to The Welcome Home.

St. Mary (Russell): Dec. 11th, 4-6PM; **St. Josaphat (Shoal Lake):** Dec. 12th, 10-11AM;

Holy Eucharist (Oakburn): Dec. 12th, 11:30AM-12:30PM; **Sacred Heart (Rossburn):** Dec. 12th, 2-4PM

Rosburn Pastoral District Member Survey

With the change of pastors in the district, it is a good time for all members of the district to check in and update all their information. This is simply a way to make sure that the office has all current contact information for everyone and their preferred ways of communication. Please find the survey online by visiting: <https://forms.gle/2FK5tY2duZo7FEcMA> or you can pick up a physical copy of the survey at the entrance of each parish. The paper copies can be dropped off in the collection plate on Sundays or mailed to the parish office. We thank you in advance for your full participation in the survey.

Christmas Prayer by St. Isaac the Syrian

**This Christmas night bestowed peace on the whole world;
So let no one threaten;**

This is the night of the Most Gentle One -Let no one be cruel;

This is the night of the Humble One - Let no one be proud.

Now is the day of joy -Let us not revenge;

Now is the day of Good Will - Let us not be mean.

In this Day of Peace - Let us not be conquered by anger.

Today the Bountiful impoverished Himself for our sake;

So, rich one, invite the poor to your table.

Today we receive a Gift for which we did not ask;

So let us give alms to those who implore and beg us.

This present Day cast open the

heavenly doors to our prayers;

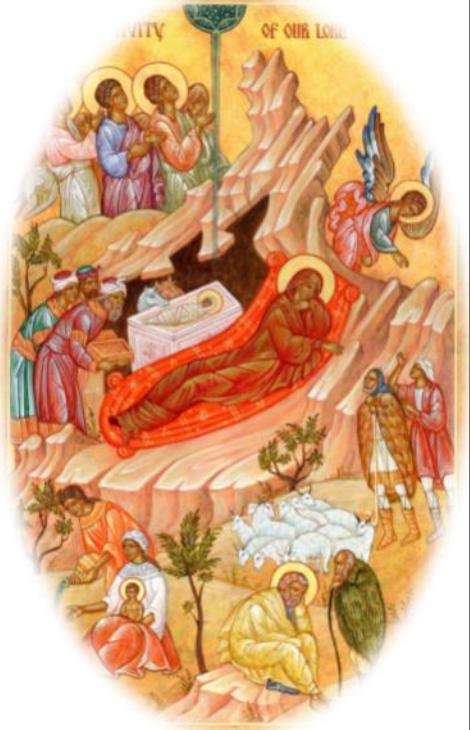
Let us open our door to those who ask for forgiveness.

Today the DIVINE BEING took upon Himself

the seal of our humanity,

In order for humanity to be decorated by

the Seal of DIVINITY.



Liturgical Schedule and Sacraments

Sundays: 9am, 11am & 2pm (please refer to calendar for locations)

Weekdays: 10am—Rosburn

Confessions: Prior to Divine Liturgies or by appointment (always available!)

Baptisms & Funerals: By appointment. Please contact Fr. Jay to arrange.

Weddings: By appointment with minimum 6 months notice.

Anointing of the Sick: By appointment. Please contact Fr. Jay on the parish cell phone for emergencies at 204.773.6594.