



THE TROPHY-BEARER

The Bulletin of St. George Orthodox Cathedral

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GIVE A REASONED DEFENSE OF YOUR FAITH

So you are Orthodox!

What type of Orthodox are you? Are you Romanian, Ukrainian, Russian, Canadian, Greek, Eritrean, or Egyptian Orthodox? More importantly are you a Christian Orthodox? You might even have responded, "I am not Orthodox!"

Unfortunately when it comes to matters of faith and practice nationality and ethnicity appear to be more important than a person's relationship with the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. St. Paul emphatically states in Galatians 3:28, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

The Apostle John in his first letter says, "We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life

that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ." (1 John 1:1-3)

The Good News is that Jesus Christ, God's Son, is the great equalizer. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. However, we have been reconciled to God by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ God's only begotten son.

In an age and time when class, gender, social distinction was of the utmost importance the Apostle Peter spoke to the early believers and said, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed." (1 Peter 3:15, 16)

Peter teaches that first and foremost each of us needs to make a personal

commitment to our God. Secondly we must always be ready to defend our faith and belief to anyone who asks a reason for our belief and Christian world view.

Peter puts the responsibility on us. He does not say get your Bishop, or Priest, Deacon, Sub-Deacon or a Monk from the nearest Monastery to defend your faith. We need these individuals as resources and instructors in the faith. This is why it is important to make regular attendance at Liturgy a part of your life style. It is also imperative that we are regular readers of the Holy Scriptures. There are a multitude of books and a wealth of Godly Orthodox teachers that will help us understand our faith and be able to explain succinctly what we believe and why. Every month there is a list of internet sites in, our Bulletin, which would assist in developing a rational, reasoned defense of our commitment to Christ.

Our faith is not about a philosophy or mystical insight; it is about events...in history, that we all share. We believe that God became man, died on a cross, rose again, and opened a whole new way for humans to be reconciled with God and each other.

Peter also challenges us to live in a way that is totally different from those who have no faith. Early believers were accused of being atheists, guilty of all sorts of evil, immoral and nasty behaviors. Our challenge is live as those who are alive from the dead and waiting for our

Bridegroom to come and take us to the eternal Wedding Feast.

When asked to explain or defend your faith, be able to do so with grace, kindness, and gentleness that would draw people to your Lord. You may not have all the answers. Do not hesitate to admit you don't know why or what but make a commitment to find out and report back to the enquirer.

In the Love of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ,
Art Zaporozan

Sunday Readings

Sunday, February 3rd – 32nd Sunday after Pentecost (Zacchaeus)

8:30 Matins: Tone 3 Gospel 3

9:30 am – Holy Liturgy: Epistle : 1 Timothy 4:9-15, Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Sunday, February 10th- 17th Sunday after Pentecost (Canaanite Woman)

8:30 am – Matins: Tone 4, Gospel 4

9:30 am– Holy Liturgy – Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:16-18, 7:1; Gospel: Matthew 15:21-18 (Beginning of the Lord's ministry)

Sunday, February 17 –33rd Sunday after Pentecost (Publican and the Pharisee)

8:30 am – Matins: Tone 5 Gospel 5

9:30 am– Holy Liturgy – Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15, Gospel: Luke 18:10-14; (Trojan begins)

Sunday, February 34th–Sunday after Pentecost (Prodigal Son)

8:30 am – Matins Tone 6, Gospel 6

9:30 am – Holy Liturgy: Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 2 Saturday - Meeting of Our Lord in the Temple – 9:30 AM Holy Liturgy

February 10- Fundraising dinner (T. Pana)
Memorial service - Eberle

February 16 – CHMA dinner (Carole Sagin)

Congratulations to Iris Graphos and Jeff Stoneham who were married on January 19.

“May God Grant You Many Years”

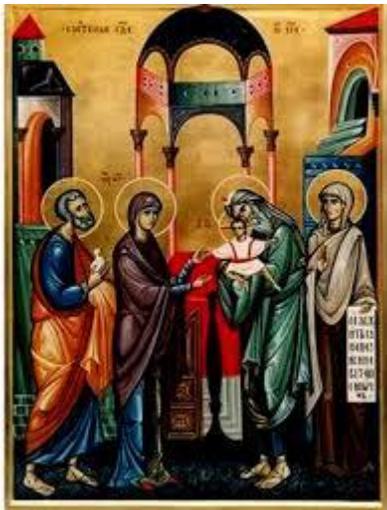


. Non-members are welcome to attend but cannot vote.

Epitroph (guardian) & Greeter If you wish to become a guardian of our Money (epitroph) or greeter please see Donna.

MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS

If you are worried about missing a Sunday or two and that you have not contributed financially do not worry. You can have your contributions automatically deposited to our church account. All you need is a void cheque and a generous heart. You can chose how much, specific dates, bi-weekly, weekly, monthly. If you are interested please see Donna.



**MEETING OF
OUR LORD
IN THE
TEMPLE**

February 2

**Annual General Assembly will be
Sunday, February 24, 2019
Lunch will be provided**

Thank you to all that have given me their reports for the meeting.

Member/Non-member information From a church perspective there is no such concept as members and non-members. All Baptized Orthodox Christians are members of the church and they should also be members of the local parish. **A voting member is one who is a regular communicant, belonged to the parish for at least six months, made financial contributions and participates in the life of the parish.**



**February
14**

upcoming

Month of February – sock collection for the Mental Health Association. Please bring a pair or two of socks (either men or women) to help keep their feet warm and cozy. They really do appreciate them and sometimes that is the only socks they have. There is a box at the back of the church to put them in.

**South Saskatchewan Clergy Association
Retreat – March 16 (St. George Orthodox
Cathedral)**

Ladies auxiliary bake sale – April 6

Canadian Mental Health / Thompson School Community Outreach Projects

For the past several years St George Parish has experienced a wonderful mutually beneficial association with Canadian Mental Health, and this year, the Christmas Gift Box project with Thompson School opened up another. Both of these neighbours in our community are a gift to us: they are our channels to "love thy neighbour". We have received a request from both, that would help them on a daily basis, to support, encourage and love their clients and students while at the same time help us with our spring cleaning and ongoing de-cluttering.

Canadian Mental Health needs adult appropriate items to create Birthday Gifts for their clients, often the only gift they receive and general items that clients can take as required. Please place these items in the white cabinet at the door and they will be delivered with the fruit.

For Women Birthday Gifts

jewellery, unused makeup, purses, cosmetic bags, shampoo, cream rinse, soap, feminine products, scarves, new hairbrushes and combs, hair clips,

For Men Birthday Gifts

wallets, change purses, flashlights, screwdrivers, socks, gloves, gym bags, fanny packs, soap, shampoo, shaving supplies, sun glasses, playing cards

General Items: sweaters, blouses, slacks, shirts, pants, towels, bedding, craft materials, writing supplies, small appliances, word search books, board games, household tools

Thompson School

They have an ongoing need for children's items from kindergarten to grade eight as recognition or rewards for marks and attendance such as: gently used toys, McDonalds toys, books, games, hair accessories, toiletries, jewellery, mini chocolate bars, school supplies, playing cards, socks, magic mitts (the stretchy ones from the Dollarstore) head bands, anything colorful to write with, stationary, notepads, balls,

If you have any questions see Carol Sagin or Dawne Peterson
Namaste