



# ST. ELIA'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

**СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ!  
СЛАВА НАВІКИ!**

**GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST!  
GLORY FOREVER!**

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS:**

9:30 am Confessions  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **St. Elia UWAC Easter Bake Sale**  
**Saturday, March 28, 2019**  
**10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Noon)**  
St. Elia Church, 11833 66 Street NW  
Held in the Church Basement

*\* Ladies please bring baked goods  
for the sale*

- **Club Trident Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday, March 22, 2020**  
after divine Liturgy  
*Light lunch will be provided. All welcome!*
- **Club Trident next Casino Schedule:**  
**July 27(Monday) and July 28(Tuesday)**  
**Volunteers are needed.**  
If you are able to work, please contact  
Ivan Sawchuk @ 780-988-5862

## **NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION**

\* If you know any Church members who can't attend a service but want to receive our monthly newsletter to their home, please let me know.  
*Barbara Panchuk (bpanchuk52@gmail.com)*

## **CONTACTS**

### • **UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ELIA**

11833 – 66 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5B 1J2  
Office: 780-471-2288 / Kitchen: 780-479-8824  
Kitchen Contact: Donna Marianych 587-784-7082

### • **WEBSITES**

St. Elia: [www.uocc-stelia.ca](http://www.uocc-stelia.ca)  
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada: [www.uocc.ca](http://www.uocc.ca)  
Western Eparchy: [www.uocc-we.ca](http://www.uocc-we.ca)

### • **CLERGY**

PRIEST: Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Fr. Georg Podtepa  
Home: 780-477-2583 / Cell: 780-984-6290

### • **COUNCIL**

President: Alex Werstiuk 780-462-6468  
1st Vice-President: Tammy Ewanec 780-660-6108  
2nd Vice-President: Betty Corlett 780-932-9727  
Secretary: Sub Dcn. Evan Panchuk 780-203-3439  
Assistant Secretary: Helen Hayduk 780-476-1115  
Treasurer: Walter Marcenuik 780-463-9646  
Assistant Treasurer: Mary Ann Tymchuk 780-479-7972  
Hospodar: Al Hayduk 780-235-4751  
Directors: Bill Ewanec 780-474-4867  
Orest Macyk 780-417-5294  
Dan Kobasiuk 780-473-4081  
Hilda Ewanec 780-474-4867  
Club Trident President: Ivan Sawchuk 780-988-5862  
UWAC President: Ann Horn 780-476-1969  
Mission Outreach: Myrna Kostash 780-433-0710

### • **Sunday Bulletin and Newsletter Contacts:**

Myrna Kostash 780-433-0710  
Barbara Panchuk 780-710-5052

## MARCH SAINTS AND FEASTS

### **MARCH 1: EUDOKIA OF HELIOPOLIS**



She began life as a pagan, a Samaritan woman who lived in Phoenicia (present-day Lebanon). Eudokia wasted her early years living a sinful life. With her blinding beauty she led many people into sin and amassed a great fortune.

She was introduced to the Christian faith by the monk Germanos, who was staying at a neighboring house while she was suffering a serious illness. Under his guidance she became a Christian. She was baptized by Bishop Theodotos after she had a heavenly vision. In her vision, she saw an Angel of the Lord leading her to heaven while many angels were rejoicing. She also saw a shadowy figure howling because he had been cheated because Eudokia became a Christian.

Eudokia discarded her previous life to become a nun. She built a monastery near the city of Baalbeck, also known as Heliopolis, and ministered to the many people who came to receive assistance. Because of her beauty, she also had many suitors. One suitor named Philostratos was persistent enough to seek her out in the hope of securing favor before her fortune had been dissipated. Eudokia refused to help him, and, when in his anger he seemed struck dead by the Lord, she prayed to God for his recovery. Brought back to his senses, he was easily converted to Christianity.

The conversion of so many to Christianity brought Saint Eudokia to the attention of the authorities who had her beheaded in 107 AD.

### **March 12: Righteous Aaron the High Priest, brother of Prophet Moses the God-seer (c. 1530 BC)**



God called him “the Levite” in Exodus 4:14, when He appointed Aaron to be the spokesman for Moses, who was “slow of speech,” before the people. Later, he would also speak on behalf of Moses before Pharaoh in Egypt (Ex. 4:30; 7:2). Moses was eighty years old and Aaron was eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh and asked that the Hebrews be released from their slavery. The Lord told Moses that Pharaoh would ask them for a miracle, and that Aaron should throw down his rod before him, and it would become a serpent (Ex. 7:9). When Pharaoh would not allow the Hebrews to leave Egypt, God told Moses to have Aaron stretch forth his rod over the Nile River, and it would turn to blood.

Following a succession of plagues, Pharaoh relented and let the people go, then Moses led them on their long journey to the Promised Land.

In chapter 17 of Numbers, the people murmured against Moses and Aaron, so God commanded that the leaders of the twelve tribes should have their names inscribed on their rods and placed in the tent of testimony. God would reveal His choice to make the people cease their grumbling against Moses and his brother. Aaron’s rod bloomed miraculously in the tent of the testimony, to show that he had been chosen for this purpose.

Aaron reposed atop Mount Hor when he was one hundred and twenty-three years old. One of his descendants was Saint Elizabeth, the mother of Saint John the Baptist (Luke 1:5).

### March 20: Righteous Abel, first martyr in the history of mankind



Abel was the second son of Adam and Eve (Genesis 4:2). The meaning of his name is uncertain; some believe that Abel means “breath” or “vanity,” and others believe it is a form of the word for “shepherd.” Abel was a righteous man who pleased God.

Abel was a shepherd and is known for bringing God a pleasing sacrifice—from the firstborn of his flock. Cain, Abel’s older brother, was a worker of the ground and did not bring God a pleasing sacrifice. Cain was angry at God’s displeasure and murdered Abel. In a striking picture of the need for justice, God said that Abel’s blood cried out to Him from the ground (Genesis 4:10). As part of God’s punishment on Cain, the ground would no longer yield its strength to him and he would be a wanderer and fugitive (verses 11–12).

When Adam and Eve had another son, they named him Seth—the name sounds like the Hebrew word for “appointed”—because Eve said that God had appointed her another offspring to replace Abel (Genesis 4:25). Seth’s offspring were considered to be the righteous lineage; it was through Seth’s line that Enoch and Noah and eventually all of humanity came.

Jesus identified Abel as the world’s first martyr (Matthew 23:35). Hebrews 11 commends Abel for his faith: “By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead” (verse 4). Abel “speaks” in that he demonstrated true worship of God and his actions remain an example of faith and righteousness.

### March 25: The Annunciation of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary



The Feast commemorates the announcement by the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Son of God, would become incarnate and enter into this world through her womb. It is on the Feast of the Annunciation, that Orthodox Christians commemorate both the divine initiative of God, whereby He took on flesh from the Virgin for our salvation, and the human response, whereby Mary freely accepted the vocation offered to her. He elected to become man, and He desired to do this with the willing agreement of her whom He chose as His mother. Mary could have refused, for she was not a passive instrument, but an active participant with a free and positive part to play in God’s plan for our salvation. Thus, when on this and other feasts the Orthodox Church honors the Theotokos, the Mother of God, it is not just because God chose her but also because she herself chose to follow His will.

## Icon of the Feast

The icon of the Annunciation is one that presents the joy of the announcement of the coming of Christ. It is an icon of bright colors, depicting the Archangel Gabriel, who has descended from heaven, and the Virgin Mary, who has been chosen to be the Mother of God. The Archangel is shown with his feet spread apart as if he is running to share the good news with Mary. In his left hand is a staff, the symbol of a messenger. His right hand is extended toward Mary as he delivers the message and announces the blessing bestowed upon her by God.

On the right side of the icon the Virgin sits on an elevated seat, indicating that as the Mother of God she is “greater in honor than the cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim, who without corruption gave birth to God the Word.” In her left hand she holds a spindle of scarlet yarn, which depicts the task she was assigned of preparing the purple and scarlet material to be used in making the veil for the Temple in Jerusalem. Her right hand is raised in a gesture of acceptance in response to Gabriel’s message. Her posture expresses willing cooperation with God’s plan of salvation. The three stars on her garments represent that she was a Virgin before, during, and after the birth of Christ.

At the top of the icon the segment of a circle represents the divine realm, from which three rays emerge. This demonstrates the action of the Holy Spirit coming upon her. [www.goarch.org/annunciation](http://www.goarch.org/annunciation)

### **MESSAGE FROM PARISH PRESIDENT**

Glory be to Jesus Christ! His glory is forever!

As the president of St. Elias Church I hope that this upcoming time of Great Lent is a blessed time for everyone. Thank-you to all the members for their continued support and dedication. The hospodars and altar servers continue to help keep the Church clean and in good working order. The members of the ladies and mens organizations UWAC and TYC continue to support the Church and help with their time and efforts to keep our doors open. Preparations for our Easter bake sale are well underway. Our perogie making sessions are also continuing, alternating with the bake sale preparations. If you would like to lend a hand making babka’s/ paska’s and/or perogies, please feel free to contact me. We try to get a lot done in our kitchen, but this is also a great time for fellowship. We enjoy supporting one another and our church through these gatherings. Thank you to everyone on the Church board for your attention to detail and helpful involvement in our meetings. Welcome to all new members of St. Elias. We hope you feel at home with us.

**President,  
Alex Werstiuk**

## MESSAGE FROM MISSION OUTREACH COMMITTEE

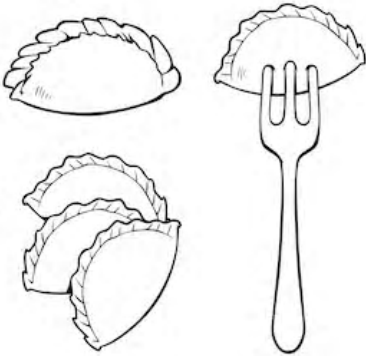
Email from Maureen Matthews Principal Highlands Junior High School: "We have a pysanka workshop scheduled for March 5th!"

We are grateful for the donations made to the Outreach Mission midmonth fellowships, and for the Alberta Council of the Ukrainian Arts (ACUA), that have made this workshop possible.

Looking ahead, Maureen adds: "We are offering an 'Advanced Foods' class during the third trimester of the school year and this might be a great class to work with (if we are aiming to try such a workshop this year). Our third trimester begins March 30 and runs until the end of June."

Our committee and the Pyrohy Pinchers with Alex Werstiuk will pursue this. Wouldn't it be great if we at St Elias could "train" a number of young people from Highlands who could join our volunteer pinchers?

### Letter from Highland school students



*Thank you!*

*Dear St. Elias parish. Thank you so much for your kind donation to our school. We appreciate all your hard work. We can't wait to enjoy your delicious perogies.*

*Thank you,  
Highland school.*

## SASKATCHEWAN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S RETREAT

THEME:

**"LIFE-CHANGING POWER OF THE DIVINE LITURGY"**

***Presenter: Dr. Fr. Timothy Chrapko***

***May 8,9, 10, 2020***

***Queen's House of Retreats, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan***

- Registration Available: Adele Trischuk Email: atrischuk@sasktel.net
- For Further Information: Brenda Bray (306) 653 0952 Email: bbrave@sasktel.net
- Registration: \$200.00 ***Deadline: April 1, 2020***

# Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada 2nd Annual Lenten Food Drive: FOR THE LOVE OF GOD



In the spirit of Christ's love, and blessed by  
His Eminence Metropolitan Yuriy,  
parishes in the UOCC can participate in a Food Drive

*MARCH 2, 2020 - APRIL 18, 2020*

*"for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,...welcomed me."*

*(Matthew 25:35)*

Through this gesture, the Ukrainian Orthodox community can create conditions for those requiring support to better their lives, and improve the communities in which we live.

*TOTAL COLLECTED IN 2019: 1584 lbs of food and \$3585.00*

Monetary donations and food items were merged into one total, and parishes were not singled out. All contributions as we give what we are able. We know the total amount was much greater than noted here, so we are trusting each church can submit their donations from April 18 to April 30, 2020 to their eparchial representative or to [sonia.udod@umanitoba.ca](mailto:sonia.udod@umanitoba.ca)

\* Western Eparchy representative: [Donna Reed drdonnareed@gmail.com](mailto:DonnaReeddrdonnareed@gmail.com)

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\* From the guidelines:

- Please register as a parish of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada (Name of Your Parish). This is a way our Church's collective and active mercy in supporting local food banks can receive recognition in our communities.
- We encourage you to send/post pictures/comments of how the Food Drive in your parish is proceeding to Dobr Sonia or Lesia Skyba who can post on the UOCC Facebook Page, Twitter, and the UOCC website, or post on your own social media accounts. We hope this will be a way for us to make our Lenten journeys more meaningful by giving to others in need - please share what you are doing!

\* More information and full guidelines, please check

<https://uocc.ca/press-releases/2020/02/01/uocc-2nd-annual-great-lenten-food-drive/>

# Schedule of Services

## The Holy & Great Fast 2020

- **Sunday of Forgiveness - *Forgiveness Vespers celebrated by Bishop Ilarion***  
*March 1 at 6:00 PM* St. John's Cathedral, 10951 - 107 Street
  
- **Canon of St. Andrew of Crete - *All services begin at 6:00 PM***  
*Monday, March 2* - St. Andrew Sobor, 9831 - 75 Street  
*Tuesday, March 3* - St. Elia Church, 11833 - 66 Street  
*Wednesday, March 4* - St. Michael Church, 12104 - 129 Avenue  
*Thursday, March 5* - St. Anthony Church, 6103 - 172 Street
  
- **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts - *Friday, March 6 at 10:00 AM*** St. John's Cathedral
  
- **Pan-Orthodox Vespers - *Sunday, March 8 at 6:00 PM***, St. John's Cathedral
  - Celebration with all clergy & faithful of local Orthodox communities
  - Sung by combined choir of singers from local congregations
  - Procession of icons with participation of children & youth from local Orthodox communities
  - A light lunch and fellowship in the church hall will follow Vespers
  
- **PASSIA SERVICES - *All services begin at 6:00 PM***
  - ***March 15, St. Elia*** 2nd Sunday of Great Lent (St. Gregory Palamas)  
 Lecture: Priest Dr. Timothy Chrapko
  - ***March 22, St. Andrew Sobor*** 3rd Sunday of Great Lent (Holy Cross Veneration)  
 Lecture: TBA
  - ***March 29, St. Michael*** 4th Sunday of Great Lent (St. John Climacus)  
 Lecture: Archpriest Cornell Zubritsky
  - ***April 5, St. Anthony*** 5th Sunday of Great Lent (St. Mary of Egypt)  
 Lecture: Priest Yuriy Sucheivan

All faithful are invited to enjoy a light lunch & coffee after each Passia & are encouraged to participate in the lectures. We look forward to your questions & the discussion of vital aspects of our common inheritance—the Holy Orthodox Faith!

\* Passion Services (Passias), or the Sufferings of Christ, are conducted solemnly throughout Ukraine on the first four Fridays of the Great Fast, but where it is difficult to gather on that day, they are conducted on Sundays after the Divine Liturgy or after vespers.  
 A “Golgotha” (a tall icon of the crucified Christ) is placed in the center of the Church, and in front but to the sides are placed tall candle holders. A pulpit with the Holy Gospel placed on it is set behind the Golgotha. When a separate Golgotha is not available, then a larger cross, draped in black cloth, is set in its place.

## Upcoming news and events at our sister parishes and in the Ukrainian Community

**Friday, March 20, 2020 | 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm** Pyrohy Supper & Easter Bake Sale at St. John's

**Friday, March 20, 2020 | 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm** Pyrohy Dinner at St. Anthony's

**Saturday, April 4, 2020 | 10:00 am** Easter Bake Sale at St. Anthony's

We will have homemade paska & babka, chiffon cakes and cinnamon buns; freshly baked fruit pies; and a plethora of other home baking. In addition, we will be selling frozen pyrohy; cabbage rolls; and perennial favorites nalysnyky, & pyroshky. We will also have gluten-free sausage available for purchase, ground poppy seed, and more. Or just come and join us for coffee and a slice of pie!



**SATURDAY,  
APRIL 4, 2020**

**10AM TO 4PM**

9534 - 87 STREET, EDMONTON

**Get ready for Easter at ACUA!**  
Pysanka Supplies, Paska Toppers,  
Basket Covers, Beeswax Candles,  
Cards, Art, Music, Books, & Food!

### • **ACUA SIGNATURE ARTIST SERIES PRESENTS THE GIGANTIC (AND TINY) PYSANKA EXHIBITION**

Featuring contemporary Pysanka artists who have ventured "*beyond the chicken*", including: *Daena Diduck, Paul Gagné, Emma Plumb of Good Harvest Pysanka, Rosalyn Wyntjes, Larissa Poho, Janice Grabler ... and more!*

**OPENING RECEPTION: SUNDAY MARCH 15, 2020 | 2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM**

**ON VIEW: MARCH 15 - APRIL 25, 2020** (during regular gallery hours)

Regular Gallery Hours: *TUE-THU 10AM-4PM / FRIDAY 2PM-7PM / SATURDAY 11AM-3PM*

\* *To RSVP for the Opening Reception: Email [info@acuarts.ca](mailto:info@acuarts.ca) or call 780-488-8558.*

### • **KAVA CLUB: SHUMKA DANCE CLASS**

Join ACUA for a Ukrainian dance class for seniors at the Shumka Dance Centre. The tour includes a dance class, costume room tour, and light refreshments.

\* *Please note: Appropriate clothing and footwear are required for the dance class. Dance slippers or indoor running shoes should be worn.*

**FRIDAY MARCH 27, 2020 | 10:30 AM at Shumka Dance Centre - 10515 111 Street**

**FREE** for ACUA Members. \$10 for non-members.

Call 780-488-8558 or email [info@acuarts.ca](mailto:info@acuarts.ca) to book your spot for the class!



**UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST.ELIA.**

**ORDER OF SERVICES FOR MARCH 2020.**

- |                     |   |            |
|---------------------|---|------------|
| 1. - SUNDAY .....   | SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (CHEESE-FARE).....        | 10:00 A.M. |
|                     | FORGIVENESS VESPERS AT ST. JOHN CATHEDRAL ....  | 6:00 P.M.  |
| 2. - MONDAY.....    | CANON AT ST. ANDREW.....                        | 6:00 P.M.  |
| 3. - TUESDAY.....   | CANON AT ST. ELIA.....                          | 6:00 P.M.  |
| 4. - WEDNESDAY..... | CANON AT ST. MICHAEL.....                       | 6:00 P.M.  |
| 5. - THURSDAY.....  | CANON AT ST. ANTHONY.....                       | 6:00 P.M.  |
| 6. - FRIDAY.....    | PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY AT ST.JOHN'S.....         | 10:00 A.M. |
| 8. - SUNDAY .....   | SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY .....                       | 10:00 A.M. |
|                     | PAN-ORTHODOX VESPERS AT ST. JOHN CATHEDRAL .... | 6:00 P.M.  |
| 15. - SUNDAY .....  | 2nd.SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT .....                  | 10:00 A.M. |
|                     | PASSIA AT ST.ELIA.....                          | 6:00 P.M.  |
| 22. - SUNDAY .....  | 3rd.SUNDAY. HOLY CROSS VENERATION .....         | 10:00 A.M. |
|                     | PASSIA AT ST.ANDREW.....                        | 6:00 P.M.  |
| 29. - SUNDAY.....   | 4th.SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT .....                  | 10:00 A.M. |
|                     | PASSIA AT ST. MICHAEL .....                     | 6:00 P.M.  |



