



ST. ELIA'S NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022

СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ!
СЛАВА НАВІКІ!

GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST!
GLORY FOREVER!

SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS:

9:30 am Confessions
10:00 am Divine Liturgy

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **St. Elia's Annual General Meeting**
Sunday, Dec 4th, 2022
after Divine Liturgy

A Rational soul that nourishes hate for a person cannot be at peace with God, who gives us the commandments. "For if," He says, "you will not forgive men their offenses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you your offenses." But if he does not want to be at peace, still keep yourself away from hate by praying sincerely for him and by not speaking ill of him to anyone.

St. Maximus the Confessor; The four hundred chapters on love.

Newsletter submissions ~ feel free!

* If you want to share an event, story, or photos with our Ukrainian Orthodox community, please send the information to bpanchuk52@gmail.com

CONTACTS

• UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ELIA

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Office: 780-471-2288 / Kitchen: 780-479-8824
Kitchen Contact: Hilda Ewanec 780-474-4867

• WEBSITES

St. Elia: www.uocc-stelia.ca
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada: www.uocc.ca
Western Eparchy: www.uocc-we.ca

• CLERGY

PRIEST: Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Fr. Georg Podtepa
Home: 780-477-2583 / Cell: 780-984-6290
Rev. Fr. Vasyl Maskal Cell: 306-229-7743

• COUNCIL

President: Alex Werstiuk 780-462-6468/780-222-8050
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2nd Vice-President: Betty Corlett 780-932-9727
Secretary: Fr. Deacon Evan Panchuk 780-203-3439
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Treasurer: Tanya Popovych 780-690-0542
Assistant Treasurer: Ivan Sawchuk 780-988-5862
Hospodar: Al Hayduk 780-476-1115
Directors: Bill Ewanec 780-474-4867
Orest Macyk 780-417-5294
Hilda Ewanec 780-474-4867
Igor Stebli 780-850-5656
Club Trident President: Ivan Sawchuk 780-988-5862
UWAC President: Betty Corlett 780-932-9727
Mission Outreach: Myrna Kostash 780-433-0710

• Sunday Bulletin and Newsletter Contacts:

Barbara Panchuk 780-710-5052

DECEMBER SAINTS & FEASTS

DECEMBER 4: ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS

Today is the prelude of God's pleasure and the proclamation of man's salvation.

The Virgin is clearly made manifest in the temple of God and foretells Christ to all.

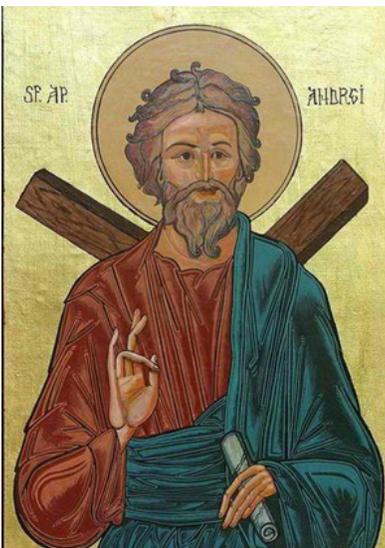
Let us also cry out to her with mighty voice, "Hail, fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation."

(Apolytikion of the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos to the Temple)



According to Tradition, the Theotokos was taken – presented – by her parents Joachim and Anna into the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem as a young girl, where she lived and served as a Temple virgin until her betrothal to St. Joseph. One of the earliest sources of this tradition is the non-canonical Protoevangelion of James, also called the Infancy Gospel of James. Mary was solemnly received by the temple community which was headed by the priest Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. She was led to the holy place to become herself the “holy of holies” of God, the living sanctuary and temple of the Divine child who was to be born in her. The Church also sees this feast as a feast which marks the end of the physical temple in Jerusalem as the dwelling place of God.

DECEMBER 13: APOSTLE ANDREW FIRST - CALLED



The holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle Andrew the First-Called was the first of the apostles of Jesus Christ and the brother of the Apostle Peter. Andrew was a fisherman by trade, born in Bethsaida. A disciple of John the Forerunner, he left St. John to follow Jesus Christ following his baptism and brought along his brother, the Apostle Peter. Both are numbered among the Twelve Great Apostles. After Pentecost, the lot fell to St. Andrew to preach in: Byzantium: Thrace, Peloponnese, Greece, and Epirus: he converted many to the Faith and ordained bishops and priests for them; Georgia: he built small church there and left miracle-working icon of Theotokos. Rus' lands: in Kyiv he planted a cross on one of the high hills of Kyiv, and he prophesied a city that would have many golden-domed churches, and a bright Christian future for the Rus' people.

St. Andrew was martyred in Peloponnese, in the city of Patras. The Proconsul Aegeates' family believed in the miracles and preaching of St. Andrew, and the enraged Proconsul tortured and crucified St. Andrew. The

new converts wanted to remove him from his cross, but the saint would not allow them. Instead, he comforted them from the cross and as he prayed an extraordinary light encompassed him for about a half hour. When it left, he gave up his soul. It was the year 62 AD.

DECEMBER 19: ST NICHOLAS



Some time ago I remember overhearing a child ask her mother: ‘Mummy, why does Father Christmas have a beard? And why does he wear such funny clothes?’ All Orthodox should know the answer to the child’s questions. Father Christmas, or Santa Claus, has a beard and wears such unusual clothes because he is the folklore version of an Orthodox bishop - St Nicholas.

Born at the end of the third century, in about 280, Nicholas was a very devout young man who, still quite young, became a Bishop and then the Archbishop of the then great city of Myra, which is in the province of Lycia in Asia Minor, which is now called Turkey. There he was renowned for his charitable deeds. There he set up orphanages, hospitals, hostels for the mentally ill, fed the starving in famine, and set up a drainage system so that his people would not die from the diseases incurred by poor hygiene.

There he freed captives unjustly imprisoned, saved sailors in stormy seas, redeemed young girls who were bound for child prostitution. In everything he did, he wanted to show that our destiny is not to live as animals, but as the children of God.

by Fr Andrew Phillips, St Felix and St Edmund Orthodox Church, Felixstowe, Suffolk, United Kingdom



DECEMBER 29: PROPHET HAGGAI

Haggai was a Hebrew prophet during the building of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, and one of the twelve minor prophets in the Hebrew Bible and the author of the Book of Haggai. He is known for his prophecy in 520 BCE, commanding the Jews to rebuild the Temple. The new Temple was bound to exceed the awesomeness of the previous Temple. He claimed if the Temple was not built there would be poverty, famine and drought affecting the Jewish nation.

He may have been one of the captives taken to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar. Some commenters suggest he may have been an old man, and seen the previous temple before its destruction due to what he says about the former glory of the Temple.

He is also commemorated, in common with the other righteous persons of the Old Testament, on the Sunday of the Holy Fathers (the second Sunday before the Nativity of the Lord).

HOLY FATHERS ON PRAYER

St. Seraphim [1754-1833]: *When at prayer in church, it is profitable to stand with closed eyes in internal mindfulness, and to open your eyes only when you become downcast, or when sleep should weigh you down and incline you to doze; then you should fix your eyes upon an icon and the candle burning before it.*

St. Ignatius of Antioch (69-107) *I hear from within me, as from a spring of living water, the murmur: Come to the Father.*

St. Augustine (354-430) *O Father light up the small duties of this day's life: May they shine with the beauty of Thy countenance. May we believe that glory can dwell in the most common task of every day.*

Tertullian (160-223) *In the Lord's prayer we have a summary of the entire Gospel.*

St. John Chrysostom (347-407) *Our spirit should be quick to reach out toward God, not only when it is engaged in meditation; at other times, also, when it is carrying out its duties, caring for the needy, performing works of charity, giving generously in the service of others, our spirit should long for God and call Him to mind, so that these works may be seasoned with the salt of God's love, and so make a palatable offering to the God of the universe. Throughout the whole of our lives, we may enjoy the benefit that comes from prayer if we devote a great deal of time to it.*

Message from UWAC Lesia Ukrainka Branch at St. Elia



Thank you to all who attended the UWAC AGM on November 27, 2022 and paid their \$20 membership fees for 2023. We are pleased to announce our financial support with the following donations for 2023:

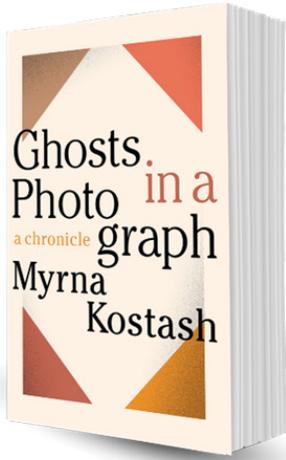
UOC – Western Eparchy (orphanage fund); Ukrainian Museum of Canada (both Saskatoon main branch and Alberta branch), Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council, Ukrainian Canadian Social Services, Ukrainian Bilingual Language Assn. Edmonton, Edmonton Food Bank, Edmonton Christmas Bureau, Hope Mission, Alberta Council of Women's Shelters, Mustard Seed Church, Project Liubov, Stars Air Ambulance, Camps Bar-V-Nok (Pigeon Lake) and Kiev's K Hi (Moose Lake), UWAC National, and of course, our beloved Ukrainian Orthodox Church of St. Elia.

While pyrohy making has been suspended for a bit, we expect to start up again in the new year. Volunteers (both old and new) for the workshops are appreciated! Please contact me with membership concerns or any questions you may have.

In Christ,
Betty Corlett, President
780-932-9727 bettycor@telus.net

News and Events at St. Elia Parish and the Ukrainian Community

Announcement - December 11, 2:00 pm

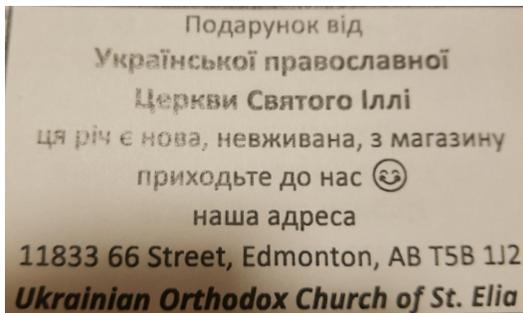


The Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada, St. John's Cathedral Branch is also pleased to present **Myrna Kostash** following the meeting. She will do a reading from her newest book, **Ghosts in a Photograph**, at 2:00 p.m. There will be books available for sale after her reading.

"In *Ghosts in a Photograph*, award-winning nonfiction writer Myrna Kostash delves into the lives of her grandparents, all of whom moved from Galicia, now present-day Ukraine, to Alberta at the turn of the twentieth century. Discovering a packet of family mementos, Kostash begins questioning what she knows about her extended families' pasts and whose narrative is allowed to prevail in Canada... Rich in detail and propelled by vital curiosity, *Ghosts in a Photograph* is a determined, compelling, and multifaceted family chronicle."

Myroslava Chomiak,

Member Communications Convenor, UWAC, St. John's Cathedral Branch



Mission Outreach Committee donated children's clothes (\$429.54) to the free store. Myrna Kostash and Tanya Popowich went shopping and delivered the clothes with a nice note from our church. Thank you for representing us in this meaningful way.



KATERYNA TARAN • PAMELA STEPPAN • LYDIA HODGSON

BEAUTY & GROWTH EXHIBITION DEC 09, 2022 TO DEC 24, 2022

Themes of growth and natural beauty connect these three artists: Kateryna Taran / Pamela Steppan / Lydia Hodgson

Exhibition on view during regular hours.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

OPENING RECEPTION

Friday December 9, 2022

7PM-9PM

ACUA - 10554 110 Street Edmonton

On view until
Dec. 24 at ACUA



*ACUA (Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts)
10554 110 Street Unit 100, Edmonton AB*

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST.ELIA.

ORDER OF SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2022.

- 4. - SUNDAY.....25-th.SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.....10:00 A.M.
- 11. - SUNDAY.....26-th.SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.....10:00 A.M.
- 18. - SUNDAY.....27-th.SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST10:00 A.M.
- 25. - SUNDAY.....28-th.SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST10:00 A.M.

ORDER OF SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2023.

- 1. - SUNDAY.....SUNDAY BEFORE NATIVITY OF CHRIST..... 10:00 A.M.
- 6. - FRIDAY.....EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST..... T.B.D
- 7. - SATURDAY.....THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD.....10:00 A.M.
- 8. - SUNDAY.....SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY.....10:00 A.M.
- 18 - WEDNESDAY..... EVE OF THEOPHANY. BLESSING WATER T.B.D
- 19 - THURSDAY.....HOLY THEOPHANY. BLESSING WATER10:00 A.M.
- 22 - SUNDAY..... ST. GREGORY OF NYSSA10:00 A.M.
- 29 - SUNDAY..... ST. ANTHONY THE GREAT10:00 A.M.

