



# ST. ELIA'S NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 2024

**ХРИСТОС РОЖДАЄТЬСЯ!  
СЛАВІМО ЙОГО!**

**CHRIST IS BORN!  
LET US GLORIFY HIM!**



### **SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS:**

9:30 am Confessions  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**\* ST. ELIA COUNCIL MEETING**  
***Sunday, January 21st, 2024***  
after Divine Liturgy

**\* HOUSE BLESSING**  
If anyone is interested in having their homes blessed this year please contact Fr. Vasyl. House blessing will happen between ***January 8th and 31st.***

\*Starting Jan. 7th everyone is invited to join us after our Divine Liturgies for a light snack and informal question and answer time with Fr. Vasyl. We look forward to seeing you all there.

### **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: Hilda Ewanec 780-474-4867

#### **• 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:

Rev. Fr. Vasyl Maskal Cell: 780-471-2288  
Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Fr. Georg Podtepa (*attached*)  
Cell: 780-984-6290  
Fr.Dcn. Evan Panchuk Cell: 825-474-5252

#### **• COUNCIL**

President: Tammy Ewanec 780-660-6108  
1st Vice-President: Betty Corlett 780-932-9727  
Secretary: Fr. Deacon Evan Panchuk 825-474-5252  
Assistant Secretary: Dobr. Sofiya Maskal 204-990-3097  
Treasurer: Tanya Popovych 780-690-0542  
Assistant Treasurer: Ivan Sawchuk 780-988-5862  
Hospodar: Al Hayduk 780-235-4751  
Directors: Bill Ewanec 780-474-4867  
Orest Macyk 780-417-5294  
Hilda Ewanec 780-474-4867  
Club Trident President: Ivan Sawchuk 780-988-5862  
UWAC President: Betty Corlett 780-932-9727  
Mission Outreach: Myrna Kostash 780-433-0710

#### **• Newsletter Contact:**

Dobr. Barbara Panchuk 780-710-5052

## **UPCOMING FEAST DAYS AND SAINTS**

### **The Feast of Theophany**

The Feast of Theophany commemorates the Baptism of our Lord in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. We know from the troparion of the day that “the Trinity was made manifest” to us. But there’s more to it than this. “When Jesus descends into the depths of the river, there occurs a profound upheaval. It is not the one baptized who is purified, for he is spotless; but it is the water that is transfigured and illumined. This water, which was believed to be transparent and purifying, is in fact polluted, inhabited by evil spirits, servants of the old gods. ... By purifying the elements, by sanctifying matter, Jesus frees the cosmos from the powers of evil.”

### **The Great Blessing of Water and the Home**

The Great Blessing of Water takes place at the end of that day’s Liturgy. Since our homes cannot be brought to the Church, the Church - through the priest and cantor - go to the homes. There the service of blessing, which began in the church, is finished with the sprinkling of water in the home. Traditionally, in most Orthodox parishes, the priest personally visits all his parishioners each year to pray with them in the place where they live, and to bless their surroundings with the newly sanctified water of Theophany (January 6). By sanctifying our living quarters, our private place, we extend the grace of God to our individual dwellings.

We also bring the blessed water to our homes to use throughout the year to bless our homes and to drink whether we are ill or as part of our daily prayer life. “There are many occasions in family life when a sip of holy water can help to remind us of the blessing that was given ‘to bestow sanctification’, ‘unto healing of soul and body’, ‘to be a fountain welling forth unto life eternal’, as the priest prayed in the litany of Epiphany day.”

### **Weaving Christ into Our Lives**

The blessing of homes by these holy waters maintains the spiritual association between the ‘family church’ and the parish, as well as again providing for the sharing of God’s spiritual gifts. ... This annual blessing is not as elaborate as the blessing of the new dwelling, but because of this it should not be overlooked, for it is in this way that the grace of God is extended to individual dwellings.”

If the priest comes to bless the home when the children are present, they have the opportunity to see the parish priest in a different and personal situation. If the priest permits, they can lead the way through the house, or hold a candle. They can show him their rooms or pets or favorite toys. They receive a blessing with water. For children, the house blessing shows the connection of the Church to the home.

## In Summary

What does it mean to ask God to bless something? All things in the world have been spoiled right along with us. God must bless His world again in order for it to be the way that He wants it to be. For this reason God sent His Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit to the world: to bless everyone and everything that He made, to make all things good again. When the priest comes to bless our homes, he asks God to have mercy on the house, to rid it of every evil and to fill it with every blessing. What a wonderful way to begin the New Year!

(information taken from: <http://ww1.antiochian.org/why-do-we-have-our-homes-blessed>)

### St. Paul of Thebes (341) [Jan.15]



#### **Tropar — Tone 3**

*Inspired by the Spirit, / you were the first to dwell in the desert in emulation of Elijah the zealot; / as one who imitated the angels, you were made known to the world by Saint Anthony the Great. / Righteous Paul, entreat Christ God to grant us His great mercy.*

#### **Kondak — Tone 3**

*Today we gather and praise you with hymns as an unwaning ray of the spiritual Sun; / for you shine on those in the darkness of ignorance, / leading all mankind to the heights, venerable Paul, / adornment of Thebes and firm foundation of the fathers and ascetics.*



### **Venerable and God-bearing Father Anthony the Great (356) [Jan. 17th]**

#### **Tropar (Fourth Tone)**

*O Father Anthony, you imitated the zealous Elijah.  
You followed the straight paths of the Baptist and became a desert dweller.  
By prayer you confirmed the universe.  
Wherefore, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.*

#### **Kondak (Second Tone)**

*Forsaking the uproars of life O venerable one,  
you completed your life in quiet, fully imitating the Baptist.  
Therefore, we honor you with him, O Anthony, Father of Fathers.*

## Three Holy Hierarchs [Jan. 30]



### *Tropar of the Three Great Hierarchs, Tone 1*

*Let all who love their words come together and honour with hymns the three luminaries of the light-creating Trinity: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and renowned John of golden speech, who have enlightened the world with the rays of their divine doctrines, and are mellifluous rivers of wisdom who have watered all creation with streams of divine knowledge; they ever intercede with the Trinity for us.*

### *Kondak of the Three Great Hierarchs, Tone 2*

*You have taken the sacred and divinely inspired heralds, the crown of Your teachers, O Lord, for the enjoyment of Your blessings and for repose. For You have accepted their sufferings and labours above every burnt offering, O You Who alone does glorify Your Saints.*

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## **News & Stories in St. Elia Parish Community**

### **Welcome to the Church Family!**

+ **Baptism + Хрещення +**

*Victoria Tokar - child to Sergii and Maryna Tokar.*

+ **Chrismation + Миропомазання +**

*Katherine*



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### **Baptism & Chrismation**

In Orthodox Christian teaching, our baptism is not merely cleansing but it is a change in our human nature. We receive the new sanctified and holy human nature given by Christ. Likewise, just as the Holy Spirit descended upon Christ, when a person is Chrismated миропомазання the Holy Spirit descends upon him/her too. The Holy Spirit bestows grace and power to live the new life in Jesus Christ. This divine grace is transmitted through the “myroma,” миро a specially mixed and blessed oil, and is administered by the priest immediately after baptism. Having received both of these Mysteries or Sacraments we become full members of the Body of Christ the Church and are able to participate in the other sacramental mysteries, especially the Eucharist Holy Communion.

<http://www.stgeorgegoc.org/pastors-corner/baptism-chrismation>

## Upcoming news/events in the Ukrainian Community

### \*ACUA(Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts) Events & Workshops

780-488-8558 / [info@acuarts.ca](mailto:info@acuarts.ca)

10554 110 St NW Unit 100 Edmonton, AB T5H 3C

**ACUA Regular Hours:**

Tue-Thu 10am-4pm / Friday 2pm-7pm / Saturday 11am-3pm

### RAG RUGS WORKSHOP

**JAN 20, 2024 TO JAN 20, 2024**

**11:00am – 2:00pm**

\* Registration Fee Members: \$40 / Non-Members: \$50 (Register by: January 12, 2024)

Learn how to turn your old t-shirts and fabric scraps into a rug! Bring with you any old sheets, pillowcases and anything cotton that's easy to tear into strips (no knit material). Choose a colour scheme, or make a multicoloured rug!

### HEMP ROPE MOTANKY DOLL

**JAN 21, 2024 TO JAN 21, 2024**

**12:30pm – 3:30pm**

\* Registration Fee Members: \$30 / Non-Members: \$40 (Register by: January 17, 2024)

In this workshop, participants will be making a Motanka doll using natural hemp. No needles are used in this process, and participants will instead learn a 4 strand braid with the help of Janice Grabler.

### SILK SCARF WATER MARBLING WORKSHOP

**JAN 28, 2024 TO JAN 28, 2024**

**12:30pm – 4:00pm**

\* Registration Fee Members: \$50 / Non-Members: \$60 (Register by: January 24, 2024)

This is an introduction to this amazing art form where you will learn basic water marbling techniques. Simple tools such as rakes, sticks, combs, and brushes are used to create unique, one-of-a-kind designs. You will be guided from start to finish as you explore the art form and create a beautiful silk scarf.



# UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST.ELIA

## ORDER OF SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2024.

- MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR  
(ST. BASIL THE GREAT)
- FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH**      ***VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY***  
***OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT @ 5:00 P.M.***  
EVE OF THEOPHANY. BLESSING WATER
- SATURDAY, JANUARY 6TH**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
HOLY THEOPHANY. BLESSING WATER
- SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
31ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
- SUNDAY, JANUARY 14TH**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
32ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
- SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
33RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
- SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
34TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## ORDER OF SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2024.

- THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST**      ***GREAT VESPERS @ 5:00 P.M.***  
FOREFEAST OF THE MEETING OF OUR LORD  
(BLESSING OF CANDLES)
- FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
THE MEETING OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOUR  
JESUS CHRIST (BLESSING OF CANDLES)
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
35TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
36TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
37TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH**      ***DIVINE LITURGY @ 10:00 A.M.***  
SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE