

Sunday, February 6, 2022

ST. ATHANASIUS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH **55 MCMURCHY AVENUE REGINA SK. S4R 3G3** 

E-mail: kevin@osac.ca

E-mail: daris.cherian@gmail.com

E-mail: vasyltymishak@gmail.com

Parish Priest: Fr. Vasyl Tymishak

Cell Phone: 306-519-9030

Parish Office: 306-543-8008 E-mail: stathanasius@sasktel.net

Website: www.st-athanasius.ca

Facebook: https://facebook.com/reginaukrainiancatholicnorth/live

Parish Council President – Kevin Korchinski Cell phone (call or text) @ 306-539-3935 UCWLC President - Josie Vantour Seniors' Club President – Angie Lawryk **UCBC President - Mark Woitas** Ultimate A&B Youth - Lesia Lazurko

Knights of Columbus – James Empey, Grand Knight

Parish Coordinator of Care (PCC) - Mary Lou Senko @ 306-525-6437

ROSARY: Sunday - 9:10 a.m. (livestreaming)

DIVINE LITURGY: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. for the faithful. (livestreaming)

Weekday Liturgies – as scheduled

Confessions before every Divine Liturgy & Week Day Liturgies - As per the schedule

MEMBERSHIP AT ST. ATHANASIUS PARISH is recognized by participating in the Sunday Divine Liturgy and by fulfilling your baptismal responsibility in contributing to our Church Community activities by using your time, talents and treasures. Regular financial donations by use of Sunday envelopes is necessary for our parish to grow and prosper.

Please contact Fr. Vasyl if you know of any parishioner who is sick and wants to be visited.

St. John Paul II Syro-Malabar Parish – Fr. Daris Cherian

Phone: 1-416-262-9670

Parish Council Trustee – Arun Abraham Phone: (1-306-891-4302) E-mail: abru.arun@gmail.com February 6, 2022 Vol. 50, No. 6



Effective Friday, September 17, The Government of Saskatchewan announced Mandatory Masking for all indoor Public Spaces.

Mask is mandatory in church
Self-Screen using the COVID-19 Health Screening Questionnaire

to entering facilities.

Practice good hand hygiene.

Stay home when sick and return when you are healthy.

OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, Saskatchewan government has implemented a proof of vaccination requirement in public places. Places of worship DO NOT require proof of vaccination.

### СЛАВА ІСУСУ ХРИСТУ! СЛАВА НАВІКИ! GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY BE FOREVER!

Due to the Omicron Variant on the rise, the parish has decided to postpone coffee after Sunday Divine Liturgy until further notice.

TO ALL PARISHIONERS: During our Livestream and Videotaping, the video may capture the



likeness of those parishioners sitting in the pews during our services. This video will be kept for a maximum of 45 days. Other than those who choose to view the livestream as it happens, the video will not be released to third parties. As our video will stream on Facebook, we will comply with that website's regulations.

If you are uncomfortable being on video, please advise the Greeters when you enter the church and they will place you in a pew where you will not be captured.

Please join our services by visiting our website and clicking on the Livestream icon: https://st-athanasius.ca/ or on Facebook:

https://facebook.com/reginaukrainiancatholicnorth/live

# 33 SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOS - Sunday of The Publican and The Pharisee Post-Feast Of The Encounter

TROPAR (Tone 4): When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection and cast off the ancestral condemnation, they proudly told the apostles: "Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen granting to the world great mercy."

FEASTDAY TROPAR (Tone 1): Hail, Mother of God, Virgin full of grace. From you has shown forth the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, shining upon those who are in darkness. Rejoice also, you just Elder Simeon, for you received in your arms the Redeemer of our souls who has given us Resurrection.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen!

KONDAK OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE (Tone 3): Let us bring the groans of the Publican to the Lord, and as sinners let us prostrate ourselves before Him, our Master, for he wants salvation for all men. He offers forgiveness to all who repent. He became flesh for our sake, God though he was, co-eternal with the Father.

PROKIMEN (Tone 4): How great are Your works, O Lord: You have made all things in wisdom. Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, You are exceedingly great.

EPISTLE: A reading from the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy (3:10-15)

Timothy my son! You have followed closely my teaching and my conduct. You have observed my resolution, fidelity, patience, love and endurance, through persecution and sufferings in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. You know what persecutions I have had to bear, and you know how the Lord saved me from them all. Anyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus can expect to be persecuted. But all the while evil men and charlatans will go from bad to worse, deceiving others, themselves deceived. You, for your part, must remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, because you know who your teachers were. Likewise, from your infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, the source of the wisdom which through faith in Jesus Christ leads to salvation.

ALLELUIA VERSE: Poise yourself and advance in triumph and reign in the cause of truth, and meekness, and justice. You have loved justice and hated iniquity.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:10-14

The Lord told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The pharisee with head unbowed prayed in this fashion: 'I give you thanks, O God, that I am not like the rest of men -- grasping, crooked, adulterous -- or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I pay tithes on all I possess.' The other man, however, kept his distance, not even daring to raise his eyes to heaven. All he did was beat his breast and say, 'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.' Believe me, this man went home from the temple justified but the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled while he who humbles himself shall be exalted."

INSTEAD OF 'It is truly right...': O Virgin Mother of God. Hope of Christians, protect, watch, and save those who have placed their hope in you. We, the faithful, see the figure of Christ in the shadow and the letter of the law which says: Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord. Therefore, we extol the firstborn of the Eternal Father and the Virgin Mother.

COMMUNION HYMN: I will take the chalice of salvation; and I will call upon the name of the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### LITURGICAL SCHEDULE February 7 – February 13, 2022

**Monday, February 7** - Post-feast of the Encounter; Our Venerable Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus (312-37); Passing into Eternal Life (1957) of Blessed Petro Verhun, apostolic Visitator of Forced Labourers in Germany and Martyr of Siberia <u>2 Peter 1:20-2:9; Mark 13:9-13</u> 6:30 p.m. Catechism

Tuesday, February 8 - Post-feast of the Encounter; the Holy Great-Martyr Theodore the General (286-305); the Holy Prophet Zechariah (c. 520 BC) 2 Peter 2:9-22; Mark 13:14-23
No service scheduled - Clergy Meeting

Wednesday, February 9 - Leave-taking of the Feast of the Encounter of Our Lord; the Holy Martyr Nicephorus 2 Peter 3:1-18; Mark 13:24-31

No service scheduled - Clergy Conference

Thursday, February 10 - The Holy Martyr Charalampius (193-211) 1 John 1:8-2:6; Mark 13:31-14:2 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Friday, February 11 - The Holy Priest-Martyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebastia (313-24) 1 John 2:7-17; Mark 14:3-9

No service scheduled

Saturday, February 12 - Our Holy Father Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch (379-95) 2 Timothy 3:1-9; Luke 20:45-21:4

7:15p.m. – 9:15 p.m. Young adults gathering at St. Athanasius

Sunday, February 13 - Sunday of the Prodigal Son; Tone 5; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; Luke 15:11-32 9:10 a.m. Rosary livestreaming

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy for faithful livestreaming

1:30 p.m. Divine Liturgy in Moose Jaw

POPE's PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY: For religious sisters and consecrated women – We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

### FEBRUARY FOOD BANK ITEM - Pasta

Choir - With the continuing high case counts for the Covid-19 Omincron virus in the Regina area, we will continue to have a maximum of three singers for each service for the next while. A schedule will not be in the bulletin since we anticipate last minute changes as we go.

---- Phyllis Lukey



### FEBRUARY GREETERS

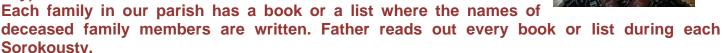
February 6	Terry & Rosanne Miller
February 13	Mark & Karen Woitas
February 20	Len Markewich & Kevin Korchinski
February 27	Bernice Bzdell & Maggie Stephen

### SOROKOUSTY SERVICES - ALL SOULS SATURDAYS

Sorokousty Services (All Souls Saturdays) will be celebrated this year on February 19<sup>th</sup>, March 12<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup> and June 4<sup>th</sup>.

The word "Sorokousty" literally means "forty mouths" (sorok = forty; ust = mouth). Originally, this was a prayer service offered by forty mouths or by forty priests especially in Lenten time.

Sorokousty or All Souls Saturdays services have been celebrated for the deceased by holding Liturgies, panakydas or parastas for them in five Saturdays (*This year only four Saturdays are scheduled because The Feast of The Archangel Gabriel replaces the fourth All Souls Saturday, but for pastoral reason a Panakhyda may be sung on that day*).

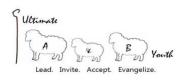


If you would like to have the names of your deceased relatives mentioned during the Sorokousty services this year, or if you wish to renew or add to last year's list, please call Maggie @ 306-543-8008, or see her in the parish office Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00p.m. The recommended scheduled of offerings for Sorokousty is \$10.00.

2022 SUNDAY DONATION ENVELOPES are available for pick up during scheduled Divine Liturgy services or during office hours, Tuesday – Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please phone 306-543-8008 during office hours to arrange for pick up of your donation envelopes. If there is an error or if you did not receive a set of envelopes, please contact the office. Also, we would appreciate if you could include your e-mail address and any changes to your current address on your first donation envelope.



NOTICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT EVENTS! G.A.N.G Young Adults – Movie Night on Saturday, February 12 at 7pm in the Upper level of the St. Basil's Parish Centre.



Ultimate A & B Youth – Movie Night on Friday, February 18 at 7:15pm at St. Athanasius Parish. More details to follow in your emails!

If you are not on our email list and would like to be added, please email ultimateaandb@hotmail.com.

January 2022 Parish Council Highlights

Hello everyone,

As a way to improve communication with all of you as St. Athanasius Parishioners we will be including a brief recap of the recent Parish Council meeting. If there is other information you would like to know about do not hesitate to contact Parish Council.

### Financial Update:

Inquiries regarding the balance of accounts is available by contacting the parish office.

### **Business Arising**

- A Ukrainian Catholic Foundation of Saskatchewan (UCFS) grant was applied for in November 2021 to assist with the purchase of a new laptop for Father's office to help with livestreaming as well as design and recording of future CD's. We are happy to announce that the grant was approved for the entire \$1800 requested. Along with a donation to the purchase from a parishioner, we were able to buy a new laptop at no cost to the Parish that will assist us for a number of years.
- We have contracted with a web developer to assist in the updating and refreshening of the St. Athanasius website.

### Other News and Business

- St. Basils and St. Athanasius will have a shared Lenten Mission from March 22 March 25 with March 24 and 25 being at our Parish. Bishop Peter Stasiuk, now living in Yorkton, will be leading this year's mission.
- We will be having the snow removed from the South side of the building in the coming days.

### **New Business**

- Father has been in contact with a designer to create photo icons for the top windows in the front foyer. The printing will be done at cost and installation done by a Parishioner who is in that business. A motion was made and passed to approve the spending of up to \$5000.00 on this project. We will also need the windows cleaned and checked for any required repairs. Parish Council is asking for organizations and individuals to consider donating for this specific cause.
- The Parish AGM will be held in person on March 27<sup>th</sup> immediately following Divine Liturgy. A full slate of Parish Council candidates will be published in coming weeks. All Groups and Organizations are asked to have their Annual Report, including financial statements, into the office by March 1 as a Word Document and a hard copy (signed).

Thanks for your continued support as we are still negotiating this pandemic. St. Athanasius Parish Council

UCBC NOTE: early membership fees of \$25.00 for the Saint Athanasius Branch of the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada are due each year on December 31. If you haven't already paid your dues please get your payment to Mark Woitas. Cash, cheque or EFT to <a href="mailto:mwoitas@sasktel.net">mwoitas@sasktel.net</a> are acceptable. If you are not a member and would like to join our organization, contact me in person, by email or by phone (306-775-0667)

Mark Woitas KSV

St. A's UCBC President

Attention UCWLC Members: Your 2022 membership is due by February 27th. \$20.00. New members welcome. Questions? Please contact Josie Vantour 306-347-0631, <a href="mailto:jmvantour@sasktel.net">jmvantour@sasktel.net</a>, or Marie Brigidear 306-949-7493, <a href="mailto:mailto

NOTICE: Although though there are no restrictions on numbers who can attend church services, some people are not comfortable in group settings, therefore we continue our livestreaming of services. Our parish expenses continue and it would be very much appreciated if you could continue to support the parish. There are a few options available to you: drop off your envelope at 54 McMurchy Avenue, mail in your cheque to 55 McMurchy Avenue, Regina, S4R 3G3, or you can also do an e-transfer to <a href="mailto:stathandeposit@sasktel.net">stathandeposit@sasktel.net</a>. PLEASE COMPLETE THE MESSAGE FIELD and DO NOT USE ALIAS NAMES WHEN SENDING AN E-TRANSFER DONATION.

JANUARY 30: 21 Sunday donation envelopes - \$1060; 2 Initial Offering envelopes - \$10; 1 Missions in Canada envelope - \$40;1 Building Fund envelope - \$20; 1 Visitor envelope - \$20; Loose Change - \$20.

E-Transfers – 8 Regular donations - \$1325.00.

THANK YOU to everyone who had set up, maintained, and helped take down the Christmas decorations.



ST. PETER'S CHURCH HALL will be having a Sing Along to celebrate Valentines Day, on Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. Located at 100 Argyle St., Regina SK.

Masks are MANDATORY. Room for social distancing. Freewill offering. 50/50 sold. Funds will be donated to CWL Charities. Everyone is welcome. For further information call Patricia at 306-530-3075.

## FRIENDS OF JESUS

Encounter our Lord in the most in need

The Eparchial Youth Ministry Office and the Youth Ministry Team at St. Philip Neri Parish are inviting young people, ages 14 - 22, to become a volunteer with reaching out to the homeless and poor people in our community with acts of kindness.



### Non Perishable Donations like:

- Dried goods, (e.g., sugar, flour);
  - (unopened) commercially packaged or canned goods.

are always welcomed and appreciated.

Warm the hearts and bodies of our brothers and sisters and you will contribute to the building of Heaven on Earth!

For more information pleace contact:

Viktoriia (306 914-0355) Veronica (306 222-6969) Sask Kof C Vocations Endowment Support: The Bishops of Saskatchewan, in partnership with the Sask Knights of Columbus, request your financial support for Seminarians in Saskatchewan. There are currently 13 Seminarians from the Dioceses and Eparchy in Saskatchewan preparing to become future leaders within our Church. The Sask K of C Vocation Endowment was established to help defray the annual cost of over \$30,000.00 per Seminarian. A fund raising campaign will take place in parishes throughout the province during the first two weeks of February. Please view our website at <a href="www.saskkofc.foundation">www.saskkofc.foundation</a> for further information on how you may make your contribution. The Bishops, Dioceses, K of C and Catholic faithful thank you in advance for your generous support of the education and development of Seminarians through Prayer and financial assistance.

ST. MICHAEL'S CAMP (Ukrainian Catholic Church Camp of Saskatchewan Inc.)
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022
VIRTUAL WEB MEETING AT 2:00pm

To get your name and email address on the invitation list for the meeting, please email stmichaelscamp@sasktel.net to register.

To be eligible to vote you need to have been a member in 2021 and have renewed your membership in 2022.

**Membership Form and AGM Meeting details are available at:** 

http://www.stmichaelscamp.com/board-of-directors/

MEMBERSHIP FORMS AND FEES MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE MEETING DATE.

Canada's Bishops Announce Indigenous Reconciliation Fund to Support Projects Across Canada

January 28, 2022 – Canada's Catholic Bishops have agreed to establish a new registered charity to support and advance healing and reconciliation initiatives. The charity is expected to manage the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, which will accept contributions from 73 dioceses across Canada in order to fulfill the \$30 million financial commitment made by Canada's Bishops in September.

"The Bishops of Canada are fully committed to addressing the historical and ongoing trauma caused by the residential school system," said Bishop Raymond Poisson, President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB). "In moving forward with our collective financial commitment, we will continue to be guided by the experience and wisdom of Indigenous peoples across the country".

The Indigenous Reconciliation Fund will be managed with financial measures in place to ensure transparency and good governance. Board directors and members of the corporation will collectively bring a strong financial acumen and deep commitment to the healing and reconciliation journey. The directors of the Board include:

 Chief Wilton Littlechild, Ph.D, a Cree chief, residential school survivor, and lawyer who served as a Commissioner for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. Chief Littlechild has been a Member of Parliament, Vice-President of the Indigenous Parliament of the Americas, North American Representative to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and a Chairperson for the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform.

- Giselle Marion, who holds a law degree from the University of British Columbia and was called to the Bar in the Northwest Territories in 2008. During her articles Ms. Marion worked for the Department of Justice. She is a Tłįcho Citizen and was born and raised in Behchoko, NT. She is the Director of Client Services with the Tłįcho Government out of the Behchoko office.
- Rosella Kinoshameg, an Odawa/Ojibway woman from the Wikwemikong Unceded First Nation Territory. She is a Registered Nurse with over 50 years of nursing experience, mostly working with First Nations communities doing community health, maternal child health, immunizations, home and community Care. She was one of the original members of the CCCB's Indigenous Council and continues to serve as a member of the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle.

### The members of the corporation include:

- Natale Gallo, a former Supreme Director of the Knights of Columbus, where he represented Canada on the International Board of Directors.
- Claude Bédard, National President of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Canada.
- Barbara Dowding, former National President of the Catholic Women's League of Canada.

The fund will publish annual reports and will be subject to an audit by an independent accounting firm each year. Any administrative costs will be on top of the \$30 million being raised and will not be deducted from this principal amount.

While specific disbursement guidelines will be informed by additional input from Indigenous partners, we intend the funds to contribute to the following priorities:

- Healing and reconciliation for communities and families;
- Culture and language revitalization;
- Education and community building; and
- Dialogues for promoting indigenous spirituality and culture.

Regional and/or Diocesan Granting Committees will be established to identify projects that further the fund's priorities, review applications and request funds to support such projects. These committees will include Indigenous and Catholic membership and it is our recommendation that they be chaired by local Indigenous partners

We recognize that there has been considerable disappointment with a previous Catholic fundraising campaign tied to the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement. While the CCCB was not party to the agreement, we have recognized the shortcomings of this campaign and learned critically important lessons to ensure that the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund is fully funded and well managed with appropriate oversight. Additional information on the "best efforts" campaign led by the Catholic Entities Party to the Indian Residential School Settlement can be found here https://www.cccb.ca/indigenous-peoples/indian-residential-schools-and-trc/. The establishment of this national framework builds on existing fundraising from local Catholic entities including the Archdioceses of Winnipeg and St. Boniface, the Bishops of Saskatchewan, and the Archdiocese of Vancouver. The CCCB will continue to provide regular public updates on this work as part of the ongoing journey towards healing and reconciliation.

**About the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops** 

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) is the national assembly of the Bishops of Canada. It was founded in 1943 and officially recognized by the Holy See in 1948. For further information, email communications@cccb.ca.

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE CHURCH: WALKING TOGETHER TOWARD HEALING AND RECONCILIATION

Rome Delegation - March/April 2022

Canadian Bishops, Assembly of First Nations, Métis National Council, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Announce Rescheduled Dates for Rome Delegation

February 1, 2022 – The Canadian Catholic Bishops, Assembly of First Nations, Métis National Council, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami are pleased to announce that the delegation to Rome to meet with Pope Francis, originally planned for December 2021, is now scheduled to take place at the end of March and early April of this year.

In light of the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, both in Canada and throughout the world, a prudent decision was made in December to postpone the delegation out of concern for the safety of all delegates, recognizing the uncertainty regarding travel and the fluid nature of the situation.

Working closely with the Vatican, new dates have been confirmed. The Holy Father is now scheduled to meet with individual Indigenous delegations the week of March 28, 2022. A final audience with all participants will take place on Friday, April 1, 2022.

The health and safety of all delegates remain our first priority. In the weeks ahead, we will monitor conditions leading up to the revised travel dates and continue our dialogue with delegates, public health officials as well as the relevant government and international authorities, traveling only when we feel it is safe to do so.

We remain committed to walking toward healing and reconciliation and very much look forward to the opportunity for Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers, residential school survivors, and youth to meet with Pope Francis.

### For further information:

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops - <a href="mailto:communications@cccb.ca">communications@cccb.ca</a> Assembly of First Nations - <a href="mailto:jamiem@afn.ca">jamiem@afn.ca</a>

Métis National Council - steves@metisnation.ca Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami - media@itk.ca

### MONASTERY SALVAGE ONLINE AUCTION – ST. MARY'S YORKTON



The Redemptorists of the Yorkton Region, Province of Canada are having a Monastery Salvage Auction online. The monastery is slated to come down in the spring of 2022 and items in the Monastery are for sale. Anyone interested in viewing items for sale may go to the Yorkton Auction Centre website or <a href="https://www.yacauctions.com/auctions">https://www.yacauctions.com/auctions</a> to view items up for auction. End date of sale is February 8, 2022.

### Government Of Saskatchewan Donates To Humanitarian Aid For Ukraine

### Released on January 31, 2022

Today, the Government of Saskatchewan announced a \$100,000 donation to support, coordinate and deliver humanitarian aid in Ukraine.

"Nearly 129,000 Ukrainians have chosen to call Saskatchewan home and have made our province a better place because of it," Legislative Secretary Responsible for Ukraine Relations Terry Dennis said. "Our government will always support Ukraine's right to defend its sovereignty against foreign aggression."

This donation is being provided to the Ukrainian Canadian Congress who, alongside the Canada-Ukrainian Foundation, established the Humanitarian Relief Committee in preparation of a humanitarian crisis ensuing from further Russian invasion of Ukraine. The Government of Saskatchewan continues to be in contact with local organizations who are playing a key role in humanitarian efforts. Donations can be made at <a href="https://www.cufoundation.ca/donate/">https://www.cufoundation.ca/donate/</a>.

For more information, contact:

Matthew Glover
Executive Council and Office of the Premier
Regina

Phone:306-787-2127

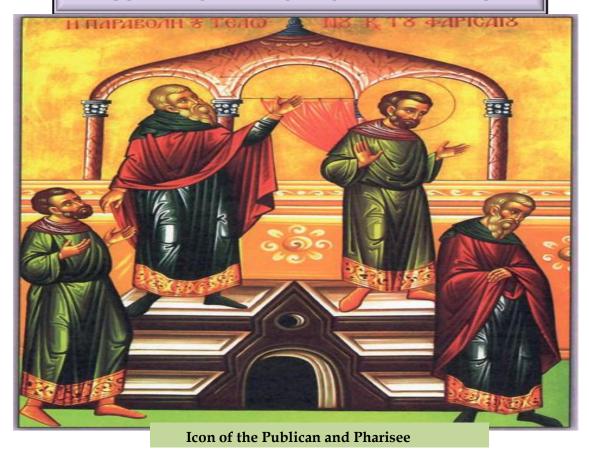
Email: matthew.glover@gov.sk.ca

This Sunday February 6, 2pm. UCC National is having a nation wide effort to show support for Ukraine. We want to turn Canada blue and yellow from coast to coast. Come dressed in blue and yellow and bring your Ukrainian flags to the Ukrainian Park at the Saskatchewan Science Centre. Let's show Canada how strong support for Ukraine is!

# STANDWITHUKRAINE BLUE AND YELLOW CANADA SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH



### SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE



### **Faults of the Pharisee**

Many are the faults of the Pharisee. First of all, he is boastful, and without sense, for he praises himself, even though the Sacred Scriptures cry aloud, "Let a neighbor praise you, and not your own mouth: a stranger and not your own lips" (Prov. 27:2) .... Our virtue, therefore, must not be contaminated with fault, but must be single-minded and blameless and free from all that can bring reproach. For what profit is there in fasting twice a week, if you so doing serve only as a pretext for ignorance and vanity, and if it makes you prideful, haughty and selfish? You tithe your possessions and make a boast of it; but in another way you provoke God's anger, by condemning men generally on this account and accusing others. And you yourself are puffed up, though not crowned by the divine decree for righteousness, but on the contrary, heap praises upon yourself For I am not, he says, as the rest of mankind. Moderate yourself, o Pharisee: "Set a guard, 0 Lord, over your mouth, keep watch over the door of your lips" (Ps. 140:3).

You speak to God Who knows all things. Await the decree of the Judge. None of those skilled in the practice of wrestling ever crowns himself; nor does any man receive the crown of himself, but awaits the summons of the arbiter. Lower your pride, for arrogance is both accursed and hated by God. Although, therefore, you fast with puffed up mind, your so doing will not avail you; your labor will be unrewarded; for you have mingled dung with your perfume. Even according to the law of Moses a sacrifice that had a blemish was not capable of being offered to God; for it was said unto him, "Of sheep, and ox, that is offered for sacrifice, there must be no blemish therein" (Lev.22:21). Since, therefore, your fasting is accompanied by pride, you must expect to hear God saying, this is not the fast that I have chosen (Cf Isa. 58:5) ... You offer tithes, but you wrong in another way Him Who is honored by you, in that you condemn men generally. This is an act foreign to the mind that fears God.