

## UPCOMING LITURGIES & EVENTS: March 29-April 5, 2020

Date	Time	Location	Event
Sun, 29 Mar 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent	9:30AM	Dormition-Church	Divine Liturgy: For Our Parishioners ( <b>closed to the public</b> )
Tues, 31 Mar	6:30PM	Online	Parish Council Zoom Meeting
Fri, 3 April	6:30PM	Dormition-Church (Livestreamed)	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy: Health – Kaylee Hyshka ( <b>closed to the public</b> )
Sat, 4 April Lazarus Saturday	9:00AM	Dormition-Church	Divine Liturgy: Health of our Parishioners ( <b>closed to the public</b> )
Sun, 5 April Palm Sunday	9:30AM	Dormition-Church (Livestreamed)	Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Willows ( <b>closed to the public</b> )

<b>Snow Shoveling</b>	Mar29-April 4 Steven Bomok	April 5-11 Kevin Ross	April 12-18 Brad Marceniuk
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### Start & End Your Day During Lent with The Prayer of St. Ephrem

O Lord and Master of my life,  
Keep from me the spirit of indifference and discouragement,  
Lust of power and idle chatter. (*Prostration*)

Instead, grant to me Your servant,  
The spirit of wholeness of being, humble mindedness,  
patience and love. (*Prostration*)

O Lord and King,  
Grant me the grace to be aware of my sins, and not to judge my neighbour,  
For you are Blessed, now and forever (*Prostration*)

### **PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS**

**1. PLEASE PRAY FOR EACH OTHER!** Remember especially those who are sick, suffering or house-bound: Alex Skakun, Hailey Woytowich, Steph Cooley, Jules Chrusch, Rose Chrusch, Tina Wesolowski, Nikolas Stefanyshyn, Albert/Genevieve Zaiachkowski, Delvine Zapanianuk, Olga Kondra, Shelley Perepeluk, Bill Muzyka.

**2. Theodore court case appeal decision** - On March 25, 2020, the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal ruled in favour of the appeal of the Theodore case in a unanimous decision. This decision overturns the 2017 ruling that sought to restrict public funding for students who choose to attend Catholic schools in Saskatchewan but lack a Catholic baptismal certificate. An update from Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' Board of Education Chair Diane Boyko can be found at <https://go.gscs.ca/theodore>. Background information on the Theodore case can be found at [www.opencatholiceducation.ca](http://www.opencatholiceducation.ca).

### **3. Share Lent: March 29 – Solidarity Sunday**

*This Lent, give from the heart For our Common Home*



This Lent, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada invites us to be in solidarity with the guardians of the Amazon rainforest and to care for our common home. On this **Solidarity Sunday**, we extend warm thanks for your generosity. Your donation will help our sisters and brothers across the world. Thank you for helping us build a world of peace and justice. Give to Share Lent at [devp.org/give](http://devp.org/give).

With COVID-19 impacting Liturgies, Masses, and collections, please consider donating to Development and Peace – Caritas Canada's Share Lent campaign online at <https://bit.ly/2Wul1Yy> or by phone at 1 888 664-3387. Each year, their Share Lent campaign raises funds to support millions of people in the Global South, whose needs will be even greater this year. Your support is vital! Thank you for your generosity!

**\* 2020 Holy Week & Easter Liturgies in our Pastoral District \***  
**TENTATIVE – SUBJECT TO COVID-19 CANCELLATION**

**April 5 - Palm Sunday**

9:30AM Sunday Divine Liturgy  
11:30AM @ Vonda Divine Liturgy  
5:00PM Sunday Divine Liturgy

**April 6 – Holy Monday**

6:30PM Presanctified Liturgy (Confessions @ 6PM)

**April 7 – Holy Tuesday**

6:30PM Presanctified Liturgy (Confessions @ 6PM)

**April 8 – Holy Wednesday**

6:30PM Presanctified Liturgy & Anointing of the Sick

**April 9 – Holy Thursday**

6:30PM Divine Liturgy & Washing of Feet

**April 10 - Good Friday**

11:00AM @Prud'homme Holy Shroud Service  
3:00PM Holy Shroud Service, followed by All-Night Vigil  
6:30PM Jerusalem Matins (featuring the Jerusalemen Chorus)

**April 11 – Holy Saturday**

10AM-Noon Confessions  
5:00PM Easter Vigil Liturgy followed by Basket Blessing  
8:30PM @ Prud'homme: Resurrection Matins, Easter Liturgy & Basket Blessing

**April 12 - EASTER SUNDAY**

8:00AM Resurrection Matins, Easter Liturgy & Basket Blessing

**Unity 2020 – Ukrainian Catholic Young Adult Conference**  
**Toronto – July 31 – August 3, 2020**



Unity is a national gathering of Ukrainian Catholic young adults (18 to 35 years old) to further understand, embrace and celebrate the Ukrainian Catholic faith through prayer, education and fellowship. Unity promotes and strengthens Christian religious life and social outreach through faith-based activities and workshops.

This meaningful weekend offers spiritual guidance, community service and opportunities to deepen one's faith through catechetical enrichment.

**The Unity 2020 Committee through the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada will be hosting Unity 2020 from Friday, July 31 to Monday, August 3, 2020 in Toronto, Ontario at Victoria University in the University of Toronto. The cost of Unity 2020 is \$400.00, and cost includes all Unity programming, accommodations, food and beverages, transportation during Unity, and a banquet.**

To register for Unity 2020, register at the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/unity-2020-stillness-in-chaos->

The Unity 2020 Committee can be contacted by email at <mailto:unitytoronto2020@gmail.com>

In addition, checkout our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/UnityToronto2020/>

## **Homily of Pope Francis on the occasion of the extraordinary "urbi et orbi" blessing March 27, 2020**

“When evening had come” (Mk 4:35). The Gospel passage we have just heard begins like this. For weeks now it has been evening. Thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, that stops everything as it passes by; we feel it in the air, we notice in people’s gestures, their glances give them away. We find ourselves afraid and lost. Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying “We are perishing” (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this.

It is easy to recognize ourselves in this story. What is harder to understand is Jesus’ attitude. While his disciples are quite naturally alarmed and desperate, he is in the stern, in the part of the boat that sinks first. And what does he do? In spite of the tempest, he sleeps on soundly, trusting in the Father; this is the only time in the Gospels we see Jesus sleeping. When he wakes up, after calming the wind and the waters, he turns to the disciples in a reproaching voice: “Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” (v. 40).

Let us try to understand. In what does the lack of the disciples’ faith consist, as contrasted with Jesus’ trust? They had not stopped believing in him; in fact, they called on him. But we see how they call on him: “Teacher, do you not care if we perish?” (v. 38). Do you not care: they think that Jesus is not interested in them, does not care about them. One of the things that hurts us and our families most when we hear it said is: “Do you not care about me?” It is a phrase that wounds and unleashes storms in our hearts. It would have shaken Jesus too. Because he, more than anyone, cares about us. Indeed, once they have called on him, he saves his disciples from their discouragement.

The storm exposes our vulnerability and uncovers those false and superfluous certainties around which we have constructed our daily schedules, our projects, our habits and priorities. It shows us how we have allowed to become dull and feeble the very things that nourish, sustain and strengthen our lives and our communities. The tempest lays bare all our prepackaged ideas and forgetfulness of what nourishes our people’s souls; all those attempts that anesthetize us with ways of thinking and acting that supposedly “save” us, but instead prove incapable of putting us in touch with our roots and keeping alive the memory of those who have gone before us. We deprive ourselves of the antibodies we need to confront adversity. In this storm, the façade of those stereotypes with which we camouflaged our egos, always worrying about our image, has fallen away, uncovering once more that (blessed) common belonging, of which we cannot be deprived: our belonging as brothers and sisters.

“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” Lord, your word this evening strikes us and concerns us all. In this world, which you love more than we do, we have gone ahead at breakneck speed, feeling powerful and able to do anything. Greedy for profit, we let ourselves get caught up in things, and lured away by haste. We did not stop at your reproach to us, we were not shaken awake by wars or injustice across the world, nor did we listen to the cry of the poor or of our ailing planet. We carried on regardless, thinking we would stay healthy in a world that was sick. Now that we are in a stormy sea, we implore you: “Wake up, Lord!”

“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” Lord, you are calling to us, calling us to faith. Which is not so much believing that you exist; but coming to you and trusting in you. This Lent your call reverberates urgently: “Be converted!”, “Return to me with all your heart” (Joel 2:12). You are calling on us to seize this time of trial as a time of choosing. It is not the time of your judgement, but of our judgement: a time to choose what matters and what passes away, a time to separate what is necessary from what is not. It is a time to get our lives back on track with regard to you, Lord, and to others. We can look to so many

exemplary companions for the journey, who, even though fearful, have reacted by giving their lives. This is the force of the Spirit poured out and fashioned in courageous and generous self-denial. It is the life in the Spirit that can redeem, value and demonstrate how our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people – often forgotten people – who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines nor on the grand catwalks of the latest show, but who without any doubt are in these very days writing the decisive events of our time: doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, providers of transport, the police, volunteers, priests, religious men and women and so very many others who have understood that no one reaches salvation by themselves. In the face of so much suffering, where the authentic development of our peoples is assessed, we experience the priestly prayer of Jesus: “That they may all be one” (Jn 17:21). How many people every day are exercising patience and offering hope, taking care to sow not panic but a shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers, grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday gestures, how to face up to and navigate a crisis by adjusting their routines, lifting their gaze and fostering prayer. How many are praying, offering and interceding for the good of all. Prayer and quiet service: these are our victorious weapons.

“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” Faith begins when we realise we are in need of salvation. We are not self-sufficient; by ourselves we flounder; we need the Lord, like ancient navigators needed the stars. Let us invite Jesus into the boats of our lives. Let us hand over our fears to him so that he can conquer them. Like the disciples, we will experience that, with him on board, there will be no shipwreck. Because this is God’s strength: turning to good everything that happens to us, even the bad things. He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies.

The Lord asks us and, in the midst of our tempest, invites us to reawaken and put into practice that solidarity and hope capable of giving strength, support and meaning to these hours when everything seems to be floundering. The Lord awakens so as to reawaken and revive our Easter faith. We have an anchor: by his cross we have been saved. We have a rudder: by his cross we have been redeemed. We have a hope: by his cross we have been healed and embraced so that nothing and no one can separate us from his redeeming love. In the midst of isolation, when we are suffering from a lack of tenderness and chances to meet up, and we experience the loss of so many things, let us once again listen to the proclamation that saves us: he is risen and is living by our side. The Lord asks us from his cross to rediscover the life that awaits us, to look towards those who look to us, to strengthen, recognize and foster the grace that lives within us. Let us not quench the wavering flame (cf. Is 42:3) that never falters and let us allow hope to be rekindled.

Embracing his cross means finding the courage to embrace all the hardships of the present time, abandoning for a moment our eagerness for power and possessions in order to make room for the creativity that only the Spirit is capable of inspiring. It means finding the courage to create spaces where everyone can recognize that they are called, and to allow new forms of hospitality, fraternity and solidarity. By his cross we have been saved in order to embrace hope and let it strengthen and sustain all measures and all possible avenues for helping us protect ourselves and others. Embracing the Lord in order to embrace hope: that is the strength of faith, which frees us from fear and gives us hope.

“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” Dear brothers and sisters, from this place that tells of Peter’s rock-solid faith, I would like this evening to entrust all of you to the Lord, through the intercession of Mary, Health of the People and Star of the stormy Sea. From this colonnade that embraces Rome and the whole world, may God’s blessing come down upon you as a consoling embrace. Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet our faith is weak and we are fearful. But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: “Do not be afraid” (Mt 28:5). And we, together with Peter, “cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care for us” (cf. 1 Pet 5:7).