



| DECEMBER, 2018 | | | | | | GREGORIAN |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| 16 Brandon: 10 am Portage: 1 pm Sunday of the Holy Forefathers | 17 Portage: 10 am + Paul Strelac Offering: Helen Strelac | 18 Brandon: 11:45 am Serving Dinner at Helping Hands | 19 Portage: 10 am Confessions Divine Liturgy to Follow Health of Anna Pollock Offering: Mary Kohut | 20 Portage: 10 am + Emil + Anna Strutt Offering: Margaret Ethier Brandon: 7 pm Parish Council Meeting | 21  Portage: 10 am + Katherine Kuzyk Offering: Mary Kohut | 22 Brandon: 3-4 pm Confessions Brandon: 5 pm + Don + Jean Ostash Offering: Ellen Ostash |
| 23 Brandon: 10 am Portage: 1 pm Sunday Before Christmas | 24  Portage: 5 pm Brandon: 9 pm Eve of the Nativity of our Lord | 25 Brandon: 10 am Nativity of our Lord | 26 Synaxis of the Mother of God | 27 St. Stephen, Protomartyr | 28 Saturday After the Nativity | 29 Brandon: 5 pm + Bishop Morlino Offering: Barbara MacKalski |

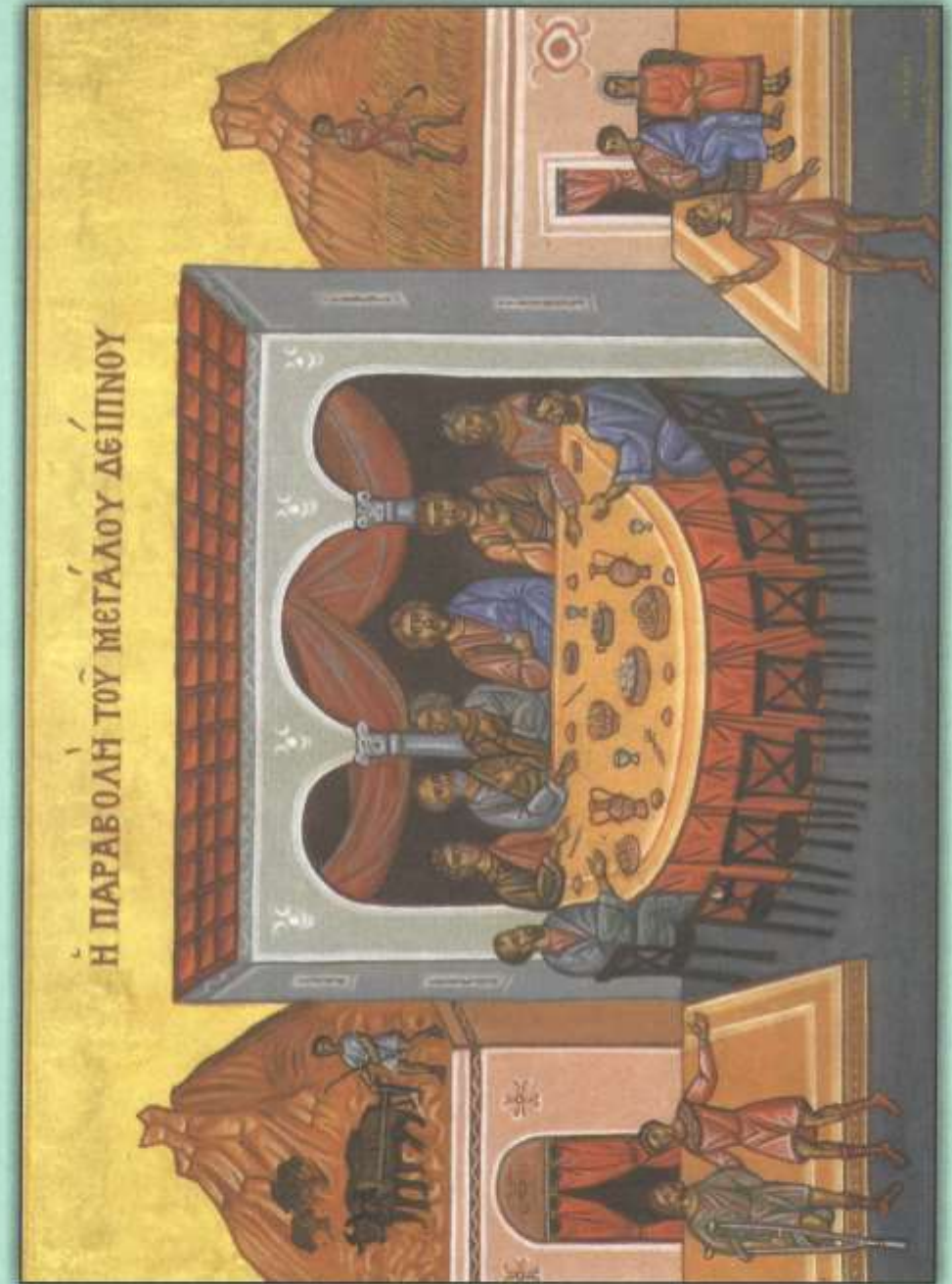
The Great Feast

This familiar parable is read in the Church each year just two Sundays before the feast of our Lord's Nativity. In it we are reminded of the great care with which God prepared the way of His incarnation. All of the Law and the Prophets look forward to this moment, the moment when the God-man Jesus Christ comes into the world. He is, in fact, the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets – the goal towards which they were all aiming. The whole world was prepared by them for this great event. As the parable tells us the King – that is God – has prepared a great feast for us and has invited us to come and enter into the joy that He has prepared for us.

Today we begin in earnest to move toward the

feast of the birth of our Incarnate Savior Jesus Christ. Today we are called to see the great preparation that has gone into this event, to marvel at the great love and care of God for us that He would labor so long and with such great care for us. Today we look back at the whole of the history of the people of God and see that it is the history of God's preparation all leading to the moment when He would take flesh, become incarnate and enter the world as a child. We have been given an invitation to come and join the feast, to abandon the world and enter the Kingdom of God, to leave our own life and receive instead the Life of Christ. We have been invited, chosen by God – will we then accept the invitation and choose Him?

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS



Icon of the Parable of the Great Feast

WELCOME TO

ST. MARY'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
933 ASSINIBOINE AVENUE
BRANDON, MANITOBA
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Telephone: (204) 727-2233
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ROSARY AND CONFESSIONS

One-half hour before Saturday and Sunday Liturgies.

EMERGENCY

Phone Fr. Michael at: Res: (204) 729-8056
Cell: (204) 729-7819

DIVINE LITURGIES

Wednesday - Friday - 9:00 AM
Saturday (English) - 5:00 PM
Sunday (Bilingual) - 10:00 AM

| DATE | READER | USHERS | SACRISTAN | GREETER |
|------------|--|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Sun Dec 16 | H. Lazaruk | M. Sheeshka / D. Kostiw | N. Zemliak | B. Kuszak |
| Sun Dec 23 | S. Kostiw | L. Halchyshak / D. Shwaluk | I. Dyakiv | S. Baranyk |
| Mon Dec 24 | J. Solomon | A. Todosichuk / B. McKay | L. Makwaychuk | L. Olisnevych |
| Tue Dec 25 | Volunteers Required for Reader / Usher / Sacristan and Greeter | | | |
| Sun Dec 30 | S. Shwaluk | S. Kachur / M. Sheeshka | N. Zemliak | B. McKay |

COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS:

Saturday, Dec 08 \$ 369.00
Sunday, Dec 09 \$ 471.00
Total \$ 840.00
Candles \$ 51.80

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - OCTOBER, 2018

Total Credits: \$ 4,719.35
Total Debits: \$ 12,304.01

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018

DROP-IN CENTRE

The drop-in centre will have a Christmas party and finale for 2018 on Wednesday, December 19th at 1:00 PM. We will have a Christmas break and resume on Wednesday, January 9th, 2019 at 1:00 PM. Everybody welcome. See you all there.

GIFT OF LOVE

The Gift of Love is taken up at Christmas and Easter. It is a free-will offering by the faithful to the Archbishop and Parish Priest in a similar fashion as we might give someone a gift on the occasion of a birthday or anniversary. Envelopes are provided in the pews.

BRANDON WESTMAN CHRISTMAS CHEER

A Christmas Cheer donation box has been placed in the foyer. Donations can include gifts and knitting for children, as well as non-perishable food. The hamper will be delivered to Christmas Cheer on Monday, December 17th.

2018 CCCB AND SEMINARY COLLECTIONS

Note: Increase in assessment is the result of the sponsorship of three Seminarians.

CCCB Collection \$ 6.53
Seminary Collection \$ 69.46
Total \$ 75.99 per Household
Total assessment for St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Parish to be paid to Archeparchy of Winnipeg for 2018: \$3,267.57

2019 CALENDARS

The 2019 Gregorian calendars are displayed on the table in the vestibule. If you would like one, please help yourself – one per family, please. If you would prefer a Julian calendar, please see Fr. Michael.

MARY'S ANGELS

Angels will be available for Christmas in the vestibule. Cost: \$5.00

- Olga Stevenson
UCWLC Vice-President

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GOD WITH US

... and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. *Ephesians 4:32*

If we really believe "Emmanuel" – that God is with us – we must be willing to turn around and be Emmanuel for others. For a faith that allows us to hide from others and places us only in self-imposed solitude is not a faith at all – at least not one that reflects the unconditional love and availability of the Incarnate Christ. To be Emmanuel is to leave ourselves open to the homeless person next to us on the bus, it is to show up for the person in the hospital, it is to overcome our fear and nervousness and meet those in prison and hospice. To be Emmanuel is about feeding the hungry and slaking the thirst of the poor, all without stopping to count the cost. It's never enough to offer a prayer if we're not willing to help be the answer to that prayer, to be that person's experience of God in the world. Emmanuel, be near me and in me. Be seen through me.

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THE LEGEND OF THE ROOSTER

Legend states that the only time the rooster crowed at midnight was the night that Jesus was born. In Spanish and Latin American countries "Misa del Gallo", the Mass of the Rooster, is celebrated at midnight on Christmas Eve. The crowing of the rooster at the dawn of each morning symbolizes the daily triumph of light over darkness and the victory of good over evil.

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HUMOR

One Christmas, Joe and Peter built a skating rink in the middle of a field. A shepherd leading his flock decided to take a shortcut across the rink. The sheep, however, were afraid of the ice and wouldn't cross it. Desperate, the shepherd began tugging them to the other side. "Look at that," remarked Peter to Joe, "that guy is trying to pull the wool over our ice." ☺