

DECEMBER, 2018 / JANUARY, 2019						GREGORIAN
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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
30 Brandon: 10 am Portage: 1 pm Sunday After the Nativity	31 Venerable Melania New Years Eve	01 Brandon: 10 am New Year Circumcision of Our Lord	02 Brandon: 9 am	03 Brandon: 9 am + Ivan Boychuk Offering: Ivana Dyakiv	04 Brandon: 9 am + Robert MacKalski Offering: MacKalski Family	05  Brandon: 5 pm + Daren Tripp Offering: Dauk Brothers Eve of Theophany

The Story of the Origin of Jesus Christ, Son of David, and the Rest of the Names

Matthew's genealogy is extraordinarily comprehensive in his theology of the roots of Jesus' story in the Old Testament. But that is only one part of the story of Jesus Christ. The story has a sequence as well; and the continuing sequence is what makes the genealogy "good news" for Matthew's audience and for us. Human being have been empowered to preserve, proclaim, and convey the salvation brought by Jesus Christ throughout history. The God who wrote the beginnings with crooked lines also writes the sequence with crooked lines, and some of those lines are our own lives and witness.

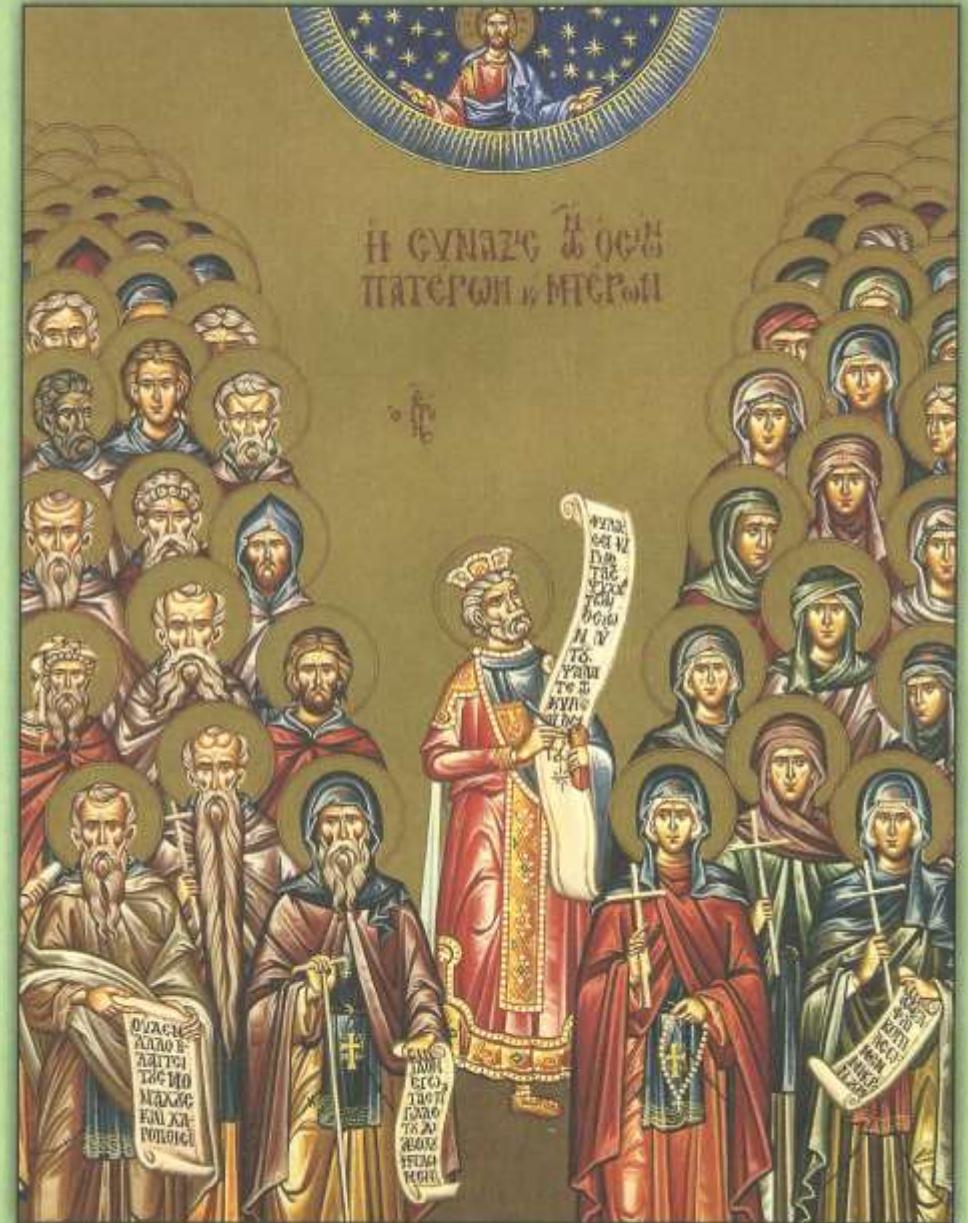
A God who did not hesitate to use the scheming as well as the noble, the impure as well as the pure, men to whom the world hearkened and women upon whom the world frowned – this God continues to work through the same mélange. If it was a challenge to recognize in the last part of

Matthew's genealogy that totally unknown people were part of the story of Jesus Christ, it may be a greater challenge to recognize that the unknown characters of today are an essential part of the sequence. The proclamation of that genealogy in the Advent liturgy is designed to give us hope about our destiny and our importance.

By stressing the all-powerful grace of God, the genealogy presents its greatest challenge to those who will accept only an idealized Jesus Christ whose story they would write only with straight lines and whose portrait they would paint only in pastel colors. If we look at the whole story and the total picture, the Gospels teach us that Jesus' ministry was not thus; the history of the church teaches us that the sequence as not thus. God's grace can work even with people like us.

Father Raymond E. Brown, S.S.

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD SUNDAY OF THE ANCESTORS



Icon of the Holy Ancestors

WELCOME TO

ST. MARY'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
933 ASSINIBOINE AVENUE
BRANDON, MANITOBA
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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

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READER</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>SACRISTAN</u>	<u>GREETER</u>
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	S. Sheeshka	Volunteers Required for Usher / Sacristan and Greeter		
Sun Dec 30	S. Shwaluk	S. Kachur / M. Sheeshka	N. Zemliak	B. McKay
Sun Jan 06	P. Zaliskyy	D. Kostiw / L. Halchyshak	I. Dyakiv	O. Stevenson

COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS:

Saturday, Dec 15 \$ 200.00
Sunday, Dec 16 \$ 506.00
Total \$ 706.00
Candles \$ 39.70

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - OCTOBER, 2018

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Let us pause before the Child of Bethlehem. Let us allow our hearts to be touched, let us allow ourselves to be warmed by the tenderness of God; we need His caress. God is full of love: to Him be praise and glory forever! God is peace: let us ask Him to help us to be peacemakers each day, in our life, in our families, in our cities and nations, in the whole world. Let us allow ourselves to be moved by God's goodness.

- Pope Francis



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.

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.

DROP-IN CENTRE

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

THANK-YOU

A thank-you is extended to the gentlemen who put up the "Keep Christ in Christmas" sign. A sincere thank-you is also extended to the ladies and gentlemen who assisted in decorating our church so beautifully for the Christmas season.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences are extended to the family and friends of the late Sister Maria "Therma" Egot Ajoc, MACE (Missionary Apostles of Christ in the Eucharist), who served at St. Augustine's, who entered into the presence of the Lord on December 16th, 2018. Our prayers are extended to her family at this time of loss. Eternal Memory.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

Christmas messages from the Canadian Bishops and from His Beatitude Sviatoslav are available on the Archeparchial Website at www.archeparchy.ca

2019 METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP LAWRENCE HUCULAK OSBM NEW YEAR LEVEE GALA

The levee will be held on Sunday, January 27th, 2019 at St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church. Please see bulletin board for additional information.

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WHEN THE TIME HAD FULLY COME

"But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons" (Gal. 4:4-5).

A noted theologian compares the coming of Jesus to the coming of a surgeon to perform life-giving surgery on a patient. God looks down on the world, he says, just as a doctor sits at the bed of a sick person delirious with fever who is not even aware of the doctor's presence. The doctor listens carefully to his breathing and takes his pulse. Then at a particular moment he calls the nurse and says, "Now is the time. Get him ready for surgery immediately." Like a doctor, God stood by the side of suffering humanity for centuries listening carefully to man's spiritual breaking and taking the pulse of his soul. Suddenly, "when the time had fully come," He decided that the time had come for surgery. It was to be such delicate surgery and the Master surgeon decided to come down from heaven to perform the surgery Himself.

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HUMOR

The three phrases that best sum up the Christmas season are:

Peace on Earth,
Goodwill to Men, and
Batteries Not Included.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS - 2018

On behalf of my wife Dolores and myself, I extend to all my parishioners a blessed and Holy Christmas. May the Spirit of Christmas be always with you, not only on Christmas Day, but all through the year. May our Heavenly Father bestow His rich blessings upon you and yours and may He fill and enrich your lives with gladness and love.



Рідвяні Привіти

Бажаю всім парафіянам цим Христовим Рожеством котрий в Вифліємі народився, аби той цар рождений наповнив ваші серця небесним благоволінням, миром, любов'ю, та радістю, щоб ви могли цими дарами ділитися з вашими найдорожчими, із родиною, сусідами, іншими парафіянами, та зовсім льюдьми доброї волі.



A Special Delivery

However motherhood comes to you, it's a miracle.

-Valerie Harper

I had just arrived in the labor-and-delivery suite to work the evening shift on Christmas Eve. With an anxious look on her face, the charge nurse Annie guided me toward the conference room. "Thank God, you're here," she said, "but you need to sit down." "Is there a problem?" I asked.

I could hear the wails of a labor patient in the background when she answered. "We admitted a patient in active labor nearly an hour ago. She told us Dr. Benson is her doctor, but when we called to advise him of her admission, he said she is not his patient." Annie shuffled her feet, twisted her hands, and continued. "It's her sixth baby, and she's progressing rapidly."

"But if he isn't her doctor, then who is?"

"All I know is that she gave us his name, and when his receptionist checked the files, she verified that Dr. Benson had treated Mrs. Lange during previous pregnancies, but he had not seen her during this one. You're the head nurse. What shall we do?"

"I'll talk with him," I replied.

Quickly, I stashed my cold-weather gear, reviewed the patient's record, and headed for the phone. When he answered my call, I could tell he was in no mood to repeat what he had said previously — she was not his patient, and he was not coming to the hospital.

"But she's in active labor, sir, and I don't know what else to do except deliver her myself."

"I have delivered her babies in the past, but I haven't seen her in more than a year," he retorted. "She has some nerve to give my name!"

"Doctor, please listen. There's not much time." A desperate thought prompted me to say, "You know, her name is Mary."

"So? I'll bet you're going to tell me her husband's name is Joseph." "You got it—and that's not all — he's a carpenter!"

There was silence on his end of the line. I thought he had hung up. Then I heard him grumble, "Oh, all right. I'll be there."

Within five minutes of his arrival, Dr. Benson delivered the baby—a boy. When I went with him to the waiting room to tell the father, Joseph said, "I'll pay you for your services as soon as I can get back to work."

"No need for that; this one's on me."

"But I want to pay, sir. I didn't know Mary was pregnant until she was four or five months along. By then, my busiest time of year with carpentry work was coming to an end, and she didn't want me to worry about the bills. That's why she didn't go to see you. We just didn't have the money"

Dr. Benson sat down beside Joseph and touched him on the shoulder. "Hear me out, son. I've done a lot of things in my life I'm not proud of, but when I thought about it, there was one thing for sure. I wasn't going to refuse to help a woman named Mary, in labor on Christmas Eve, with a husband named Joseph, who is a carpenter. I could never have lived with myself."

Joseph smiled and shook the doctor's hand. "Thank you. I'm grateful for your kindness." Mary and Joseph named their baby Emmanuel Benson Lange.

—Mildred L. Farnor —

