

JULY, 2017						GREGORIAN
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
09 Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 Nn Peace Garden Mass 5 th Sunday After Pentecost	10 Vacation Venerable Anthony	11 Vacation	12 Vacation	13 Vacation	14  Vacation	15 Brandon: 5 pm Sean Jackson Birthday Offering: Barbara MacKalski Baptism of Clark Child to Follow St. Vladimir the Great
16 Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 Nn 6 th Sunday After Pentecost	17 Vacation	18 Vacation	19 Vacation	20 Vacation Prophet Elijah	21  Vacation	22 Brandon: 5 pm Sandy Johnson Birthday Offering: Barbara MacKalski

The Holy Bishop Martyr Pancratius

Sicily was home to many early Christian saints, and the arena of their martyrdom. One of the first saints of that ancient island is the Holy Martyr, Pancratius of Taormina.

St. Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina, was born when our Lord Jesus Christ still walked upon the earth. The parents of Pancratius were natives of Antioch. Legend has it that hearing the good news of Jesus Christ, Pancratius' father took his young son with him and went to Jerusalem in order to see the great Teacher. The miracles astonished Pancratius, and when he heard the divine teaching, he then believed in Christ as the Son of God. He became close with the disciples of the Lord, and during this time the young Pancratius got to know the holy Apostle Peter.

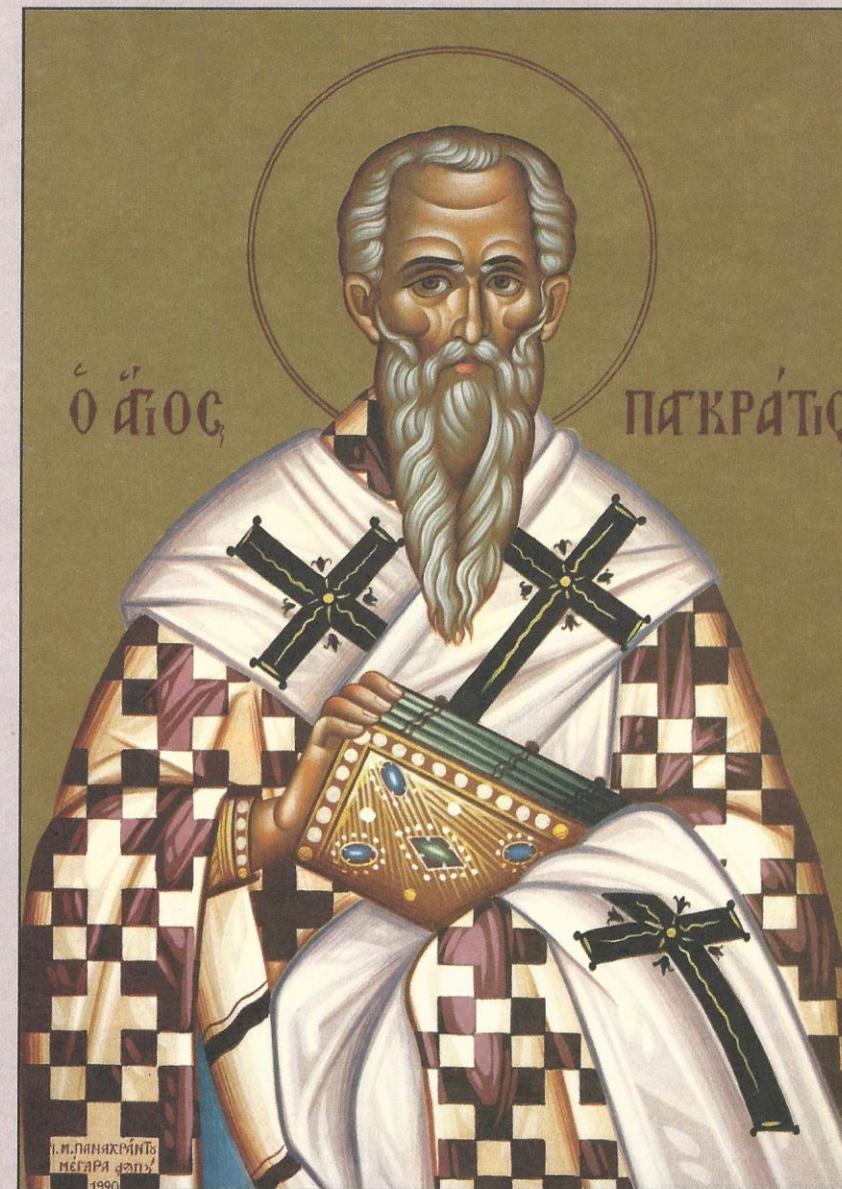
The legend continues that after the Ascension of Our Savior, one of the Apostles came to Antioch and baptized the parents of Pancratius together with their entire household. When the parents of

Pancratius died, he left behind his inherited possessions and went to Pontus and began to live in a cave, spending his days in prayer and deep spiritual contemplation. The holy Apostle Peter, while passing through those parts, visited Pancratius at Pontus. He took him along to Antioch, and then to Sicily, where the holy Apostle Paul then was. There the holy Apostles Peter and Paul made St Pancratius Bishop of Taormina in Sicily.

St Pancratius toiled zealously for the Christian conversion of the people and the numbers of believers quickly grew with almost all the people of Taormina and the surrounding cities accepting the Christian Faith. St Pancratius governed his flock peacefully for many years. Non-believers, however, plotted against the saint, and seizing an appropriate moment, they stoned him. Thus, St Pancratius ended his life as a martyr.

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FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST FIFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



Icon of Saint Pancratios -- July 9th

WELCOME TO

ST. MARY'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
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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) - 9:00 AM

DATE	READER	USHERS	SACRISTAN	GREETER
Sun Jul 09	S. Sheeshka	D. Kostiw / L. Halchyshak	N. Baranyk	B. Kuszak
Sun Jul 16	H. Lazaruk	D. Shwaluk / A. Todosichuk	N. Zemliak	S. Baranyk
Sun Jul 23	S. Kostiw	B. McKay / S. Kachur	I. Dyakiv	L. Olisnevych
Sun Jul 30	S. Shwaluk	M. Sheeshka / D. Kostiw	L. Makwaychuk	B. McKay

COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS:

Saturday, Jul 01 \$ 190.00
Sunday, Jul 02 \$ 526.00
Total \$ 716.00
Candles \$ 39.05

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Satan is never more dangerous than when he walks in velvet slippers: "Satan ... is transformed into an angel of light" (II Cor. 11.14).

- J.K. Van Baalen

COOKS CREEK - AUGUST 18-20, 2017

The 63rd three-day Annual Pilgrimage is set to take place at the "Prairie Cathedral" of the Immaculate Conception and Grotto at Cooks Creek. For further information and schedule, please check their website at www.immaculate.ca

ANNUAL LEAVE

There will be no weekday services for the next three weeks due to vacation. I will, however, still have Saturday and Sunday services during those weeks. Please contact St. Augustine's for emergency anointing. In the event of a funeral, please contact Fr. Emil in Neepawa at 1-204-476-3857.

BRANDON DOORS OPEN HERITAGE TOURS - JULY 15TH AND 16TH, 2017

The Brandon Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) is pleased to be hosting the 16th Annual Doors Open Heritage Tours. Our church has been identified as a historically interesting location and believe the community would be excited to get a chance to see and learn more about it. Doors Open will take place July 15th and 16th, 2017 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. This event is intended to facilitate people's understanding and enjoyment of their local architectural environment while encouraging awareness of heritage and the important role it plays in maintaining the character and quality of life in Brandon.

SEVEN OAKS HOSPITAL ANNUAL BOOK SALE

Seven Oaks Hospital is seeking support for their upcoming book sale on August 15th, 16th and 17th, 2017. They are looking for any donations of gently used books and magazines, such as cookbooks, non-fiction, children's stories and novels. Donations are being accepted until August 9th, 2017. All proceeds from the book sale will go towards supporting the Summer Youth Volunteer program, which assists in the improvement of patient care, positive growth of youth and staff support.

K OF C EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Canon Luhovy Assembly Educational Foundation provides financial assistance to Ukrainian Catholic students, seminarians and religious sisters who attend post-secondary institutions, seminaries and private Catholic secondary schools. If anyone wishes to apply for a bursary, please see Fr. Michael for an application form. The closing date for receipt of applications is September 30th, 2017.

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WHEN WOUNDED BY SATAN

There is a small, weasel-like animal called the ichneumon. It can overcome and destroy a venomous snake of over a yard long. It is said that the ichneumon attacks a snake only when it is near a certain plant whose leaves contain an antidote for snake bite. When bitten, the little creature immediately retreats to the life-saving plant and nibbles its leaves. It is restored and ready to renew the attack. Each time it is bitten, it goes to the plant and then returns to fight the enemy. When attached and sorely wounded by our merciless enemy, Satan, there is One to whom we may go for healing and renewal of strength. Of this ever present Helper, we can experientially say: "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength" (Isa. 40:29).

- Walter B. Knight

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HUMOR

After ten years, the wife starts to think their kid looks kind of strange, so she decides to do a DNA test. She finds out that the kid is actually from completely different parents.

Wife: Honey, I have something very serious to tell you.

Husband: What's up?

Wife: According to the DNA test results, this is not our kid.

Husband: Well, you don't remember, do you? When we were leaving the hospital, we noticed that our baby had soiled their diaper. You said 'Please go change the baby and I'll wait here for you.' So, I went inside, left the child with the dirty diaper there and got one with a clean diaper.



means that it was the eternal Son of God who was born in the flesh from the Virgin Mary and became human. "From the God-bearing One, Jesus took flesh and became one in being with our human nature."¹⁵³ In a special way the Church expresses this unity in being with the Icon of Tenderness, in the embrace of Mother and Son.

- 188 The liturgical tradition of the Church magnifies the most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady and God-bearing One as being "more honourable than the cherubim and more glorious than the seraphim." The cherubim are the highest angelic order. The Church extols her "holy birth ... and her immaculate conception."¹⁵⁴ By her purity and her being immaculate the Theotokos surpasses all visible and invisible creation. Nonetheless, at the same time, she belongs to the human race spread forth from Adam and gathered in the Son of God.¹⁵⁵ By conception without seed within the womb of the most holy Mother of God, the Son of God "receives into his bosom the old creation"¹⁵⁶ and "manifests a new birth."¹⁵⁷ All of this is accomplished by the goodwill of God and the assent of the Virgin Mary.
- 189 In the reality of her being the Mother of God, the Church also contemplates the mystery of Mary's virginity, magnifying her as the "Ever-Virgin." In the year 649, the Lateran Council defined "ever-virginity" as virginity before, during, and after the birth of Christ. "[For you were a] Virgin before childbirth, and Virgin in childbirth, and still a Virgin after the childbirth."¹⁵⁸ With respect to the virginity of the Mother of God, the Church understands her integrity, the wholeness of a person filled with grace, in whom bodily and spiritual aspirations are harmoniously united in the fulfilment of a vocation from God. Her virginity is a virginity of "mind, soul, and body."¹⁵⁹ Church iconography symbolically portrays the virginity of Mary using stars, which are placed upon her forehead and shoulders. She retained virginity and incorruption even in death, which the Church refers to as her Dormition (Falling-Asleep). "Having fallen asleep in the flesh," Mary was "awakened" by her Son to

¹⁵³ JOHN or DAMASCUS, *Exact Exposition of the Orthodox Faith*, III, 12: PG 94, 1029.

¹⁵⁴ Menaion, *Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary* (September 8/21), Matins, Second Canon, Ode 6.

¹⁵⁵ See IRENAEIUS OF LYONS *Against Heresies*, III, 22, 3-4: PG 7, 958.

¹⁵⁶ "IRENÆUS OF LYONS, *Against Heresies*, III, 22, 4: PG 7, 958.

¹⁵⁷ IRENAEUS OF LYONS, *Against Heresies*, V, 1,3: PG 7,1122.

¹⁵⁸ *Octoechos*, Tone 7, Sunday, Resurrectional Theotokion.

¹⁵⁹ JOHN OF DAMASCUS, *Homily 1: On the Nativity of the Mother of God*, 9 & 5: PG 96, 676 & 668.

life in glory: "You passed into life, for you are the Mother of Life."¹⁶⁰ The Lord glorified the soul and body of Mary—the first to be divinized from among the human race.

b. The Nativity of Christ

190 The Church celebrates the coming of the Son of God into the world with the feast of the Nativity of Christ. The birth of Christ is announced to the shepherds by the angel of the Lord: "To you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Christ, the Lord" (Lk 2:11, KSV-CE). The Fathers of the Church extolled Christmas night as a day of joy and peace:

Today the Bountiful One became poor for our sake ... Today we receive a gift for which we did not ask ... This present day threw open the heavenly door to our prayers ... Now the Divine Being took upon himself the seal of humanity, in order for humanity to be decorated by the seal of Divinity.¹⁶¹

191 According to the liturgical texts, the birth of the Child "from a mother without a father"¹⁶² is the fulfilment of the prophecy of Daniel about the rock hewn from the mountain without human hands (see Dn 2:45). In the Incarnation, the Son of God "came from the bosom of the Father, and in his ineffable self-emptying he took on our lowly state."¹⁶³ Through the most holy Mother of God, he became what he had not been before—a human. The Church sings of the Mother of God thus: "The bright and spiritual cloud, filled with heavenly rain, today rises above the earth, in order to drop dew upon it and to water it."¹⁶⁴

192 At the birth of Jesus, "the spring of grace ... overcomes the winter of unbelief."¹⁶⁵ The Nativity is a harbinger of Pascha. The manger is understood to be a sign of the Lord's tomb, and the placing of the Child in the manger is a prefiguration of the placing of Christ in the tomb. The myrrh, brought by the magi, is already an anointing for the future burial.

193 As we sing in the divine services of the feast of the Nativity of Christ, God the Word, in the Incarnation, deigned to limit himself in time—"The beginningless Word mysteriously accepts a beginning"—and in space-

¹⁶⁰ Menaion, Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady, the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary (August 15/28), Troparion of the Feast.

¹⁶¹ ISAAC THE SYRIAN, Homily on the Nativity.

¹⁶² Trebnyk, Rite of the Great Blessing of Water for the Feast of Theophany, Second Prayer.

¹⁶³ Menaion, Sunday Before the Nativity of Christ, Holy Fathers, Matins, Second Sidalen.

¹⁶⁴ Menaion, Sunday Before the Nativity of Christ, Holy Fathers, Matins, Stichera at the Praises.

¹⁶⁵ Menaion, Sunday Before the Nativity of Christ, Holy Fathers, Matins, Stichera at the Praises.