

MARCH, 2019						GREGORIAN
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10 DST Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 pm 1 st Sunday of Lent	11 	12	13  Brandon: 9 am Sorokousty	14 Brandon: 9 am + Mary Pryszny Offering: Dolores Brandon: 1 pm UCWLC Rosary & Meeting	15  Brandon: 1 pm + Frank Lushaw Funeral Brandon: 7 pm Stations of the Cross	16 Brandon: 5 pm
17 Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 pm 2 nd Sunday of Lent	18  Brandon: 9 am Sorokousty	19 Portage: 10 am Health of Jamie Slukynsky Offering: Fred & Charlene Slukynsky	20  Portage: 10 am	21 Portage: 10 am Brandon: 7 pm Parish Council Meeting	22  Portage: 10 am Brandon: 7 pm Stations of the Cross	23 Brandon: 5 pm

Icons Show the Human Face of God

In recent months my Sunday reflections have frequently focused on our Christian brothers and sisters of the East. Wishing as it were to embrace their rich tradition of faith in a single glance, today I would like to refer once again to the sense of mystery which is apparent in their icons. The East and the West vie with each other to put their art at the service of the faith.

But from the East, where icons had to be defended with bloodshed in the iconoclast crisis of the eighth and ninth centuries, comes a particular call jealously to preserve the religious nature of this art. It is based on the mystery of the Incarnation, in which God chose to assume a human face. In the last analysis, sacred art seeks to transmit something of the mystery of that face.

This is why the East firmly insists on the spiritual qualities which must characterize the artist, to whom Simeon of Thessalonica, the great defender of Tradition, addresses this important exhortation: "Teach with words, write with letters, paint with colors, in conformity with Tradition; the painting is true, as is the writing of books; and the grace of God is present in them, because what is represented there is holy."

By contemplating icons in the whole context of liturgical and ecclesial life, the Christian community is called to grow in its experience of God, and to become more and more a living icon of the communion of life between the Three Divine Persons.

Pope John Paul II

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY



Icon of the Holy Images

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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email: mtkachuk80@hotmail.com (Fr. Michael)
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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

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READER</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>SACRISTAN</u>	<u>GREETER</u>
Sun Mar 10	J. Solomon	D. Shwaluk / A. Todosichuk	I. Dyakiv	J. Solomon
Sun Mar 17	S. Shwaluk	R. Kuszak / B. McKay	L. Makwaychuk	B. Kachur
Sun Mar 24	P. Zalisky	S. Kachur / M. Sheeshka	N. Zemliak	F. Yuriy
Sun Mar 31	O. Stevenson	D. Kostiw / L. Halchyshak	I. Dyakiv	B. Kuszak

COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS:

Saturday, Mar 02 \$ 210.00
Sunday, Mar 03 \$ 560.00
Total \$ 770.00
Candles \$ 64.75

FINANCIAL STATEMENT -JANUARY, 2019

Total Credits: \$ 7,134.14
Total Debits: \$ 7,037.67

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2019

SOROKOUSTY

Sorokousty Services will be held every Wednesday at 9:00 AM during Lent (unless otherwise specified). If anyone wishes to have the names of their deceased family members read at the Service, please contact Fr. Michael prior to the Service.

UCWLC MEETING

The UCWLC rosary will be recited at 1:00 PM on Thursday, March 14th at the Church, with the meeting to follow in the club room at the Ukrainian Hall.

UCWLC EASTER BAKE SALE - APRIL 6TH, 2019

Help is needed from the parish family for the following:
March 20th at 9:00 AM - Perogy Bee (peel potatoes, etc.)
March 21st at 9:00 AM - Make Perogies, etc.
April 3rd at 9:00 AM - Cabbage Roll Bee
Your support is greatly needed and appreciated.
- Olga Stevenson, UCWLC Vice-President

BAKE SALE, PEROGY LUNCHEON & SILENT AUCTION

The UCWLC Easter bake sale and perogy luncheon will be held on Saturday, April 6th, 2019 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM at the Ukrainian Reading Hall. Cabbage rolls, perogies, Easter breads, borscht and sausage will be for sale. We will also have a silent auction at this time. Your donations and support are greatly appreciated. Contact Helen Creaser at (204) 727-1324.
- Olga Stevenson, UCWLC Vice-President

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THE GIFT OF TEMPTATION

Modern Christians, from the pew to the seminary classroom, love to debate whether the "devil" is real or just an ancient myth. We have seriously trivialized and may have almost obscured the reality with which Jesus battled in the desert. Surely you have felt it try to separate you from who you should be! You know how it attempts to keep you from being completely and only the person God created you to be. Well, that is exactly the nasty business it was up to with Jesus in the desert. We can almost hear it plotting: "Let's just see if we can't find a way, Jesus, to keep you from doing what God sent you here to do." That's what we call

temptation. It was with this Spirit of Separation, this evil that despises God and what is good, that Jesus contended in the desert. It seems strange to us that God would be leading Jesus into this temptation instead of out of it. But that word has two meanings: it means to tempt and to test. And here is a possible difference: to tempt is to entice someone to do what is wrong; to test is to give a person the opportunity to do what is right. To tempt is to hope for failure; to test is to hope for success. That is why this experience could be considered a gift. Because people are like steel. We don't know what we are made of until we are tested. Every temptation is a fork in the road ... it is as much a chance to rise as to fall, to go forward as to go back. God intends to test Jesus, but as always, there was another team on the field. So, the outcome is uncertain until the match is over. These were Jesus' tests, but they may not necessarily be ours. His were first physical hunger, then making God prove Himself through miracles, then giving in to the desire to have everything without following the path God set for him. While they might not be ours, we can relate to them, can't we? Here is how they might look in our lives today ... first, do we really trust God to provide for all our needs? Then, is our faith strong enough to survive even without proof? And finally, do we accept and celebrate the path God has given us in this life, or do we pretend to be someone because being the person God created us to be seems just too hard sometimes? These were Jesus' tests because they were the things most likely to separate Him from God and God's will for His life. It is up to you and me to discern the recurring situations in our lives that test us. The Separator said to Jesus, "You don't have to be the person God wants you to be. It's too hard and there is an easier way. But Jesus answered, "I will be who God asks me to be, and I will do what God asks me to do." What a wonderful way for us to begin this season of intense personal spiritual inventory ... by looking honestly, as Jesus did, at the recurring situations that test our commitment to live authentically and, again like Jesus, to recommit ourselves to being exactly and only the person we were created to be.

