

MAY, 2017						GREGORIAN
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
14 Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 Nn Mother's Day Samaritan Woman	15	16	17 Brandon: 9 am + Boris Kukurudz Offering: Men's Club Brandon: 7 pm Parish Council Meeting	18 Brandon: 9 am Health of Byrnece Cortens & Family Offering: Issigonis Family	 19 Brandon: 9 am + Marcy Prysizny Offering: Dolores Family Brandon: 7 pm Molebyn to the Blessed Virgin Mary with Benediction	20 Brandon: 5 pm + Boris Kukurudz Offering: Issigonis Family
21 Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 Nn Parish Council Meeting Man Born Blind	22	23 Portage: 10 am + Danny Pollock Offering: Walter & Anna Pollock	24 Portage: 10 am Personal Intention Walter & Terry Kuzyk	25 Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 Nn UCWLC Meeting to Follow Ascension Thursday	 26 Portage: 10 am Brandon: 7 pm Molebyn to the Blessed Virgin Mary with Benediction	27 Brandon: 5 pm + Boris Kukurudz Offering: Helen Lazaruk

The Samaritan Woman

The Fourth Gospel, attributed to Saint John the Evangelist, is used exclusively from Easter until Pentecost for the Sunday readings. The first chapter of John's Gospel is the proclamation used for the Divine Liturgy on Easter itself. This week, we are reminded of the story of Christ's encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well of Jacob, and thereby Christ's fulfillment of the Old Testament. In one of the many unique stories of the Fourth Gospel not found in the Synoptics (Matthew, Mark or Luke), Jesus reveals himself as Messiah to this woman of Samaria and talks with her about the "water that I will give will become ... a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

In the early days of His ministry, Jesus travels back and forth between Galilee and Jerusalem, and must pass through Samaria. The Samaritans

were outcast Jews because they were not subject to the Babylonia exile of the Israelites from other provinces. Therefore, when Jesus talks with this Samaritan woman, His disciples are surprised and in shock that He would carry on a conversation with a woman at the well, let alone a Samaritan. But as the story is explained, the woman's testimony about Jesus spreads through the nearby town, and because of her many come to hear His teachings. After hearing His word, they come to believe in Him, and proclaim Him "the Savior of the world." (Jn 4:42)

With water as the focal point of this encounter, we are once again reminded of our Baptism, and that Christ's Baptism is that of "eternal life" through "living water."

Archbishop Vsevolod of Scopelos

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SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



Icon of the Samaritan Woman

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EMERGENCY

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DIVINE LITURGIES

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

DATE	READER	USHERS	SACRISTAN	GREETER
Sun May 14	S. Sheeshka	S. Kachur / M. Sheeshka	N. Baranyk	P. Shurb
Sun May 21	H. Lazaruk	D. Kostiw / L. Halchyshak	N. Zemliak	S. Baranyk
Sun May 28	S. Kostiw	D. Shwaluk / A. Todosichuk	I. Dyakiv	L. Olisnevych
Sun Jun 04	S. Shwaluk	B. McKay / S. Kachur	L. Makwaychuk	B. McKay

ROSARY AND CONFESSIONS

One-half hour before Saturday and Sunday Liturgies.

COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS:

Saturday, May 06 \$ 405.00
 Sunday, May 07 \$ 496.00
 Total \$ 901.00
 Candles \$ 54.50

QUOTE OF THE DAY

A mother's happiness is like a beacon, lighting up the future but reflected also on the past in the guise of fond memories.

- Honore de Balzac



SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2017

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

- Wednesday, May 17th - Knights Admissions Degree. Registration at 7:00 PM. This event has been rescheduled from April 29th.

ROSE SUNDAY

On Saturday, May 20th and Sunday, May 21st, the Knights of Columbus will be presenting embroidered rose decals to all ladies. This is a yearly event designated by the Knights to honour all wives and mothers.

OSVITA FOUNDATION

The 2017 Osvita Foundation Testimonial Dinner, honoring Dr. Myroslav Shkandrij will be held on Wednesday, June 7th at the Canad Inns Destination Centre Club Regent Casino Hotel. Further information and order form for tickets are on the bulletin board in the foyer.

50TH ANNIVERSARIES NEXT MONTH

A 50th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination of Fr. Bohdan Lukie, CSsR, will be celebrated at St. Joseph Ukrainian Catholic Church, 250 Jefferson Ave., Winnipeg, on Tuesday, June 6th, 2017. The event will be a liturgical service followed by a wine and cheese reception. Please call St. Joseph Parish (204-339-4512) for more information.

On Saturday, June 17th, an anniversary celebration is being planned for Fr. Leonard Ratushniak, CSsR. The event will begin with a Moleben at St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic Church, 160 Euclid Ave, followed by a reception and dinner in the parish hall of the neighboring church of the Immaculate Conception (181 Austin St. N.). See poster on bulletin board for more info.

MANITOBA'S AWARD WINNING PASSION PLAY

The Passion Play will take place at the Oak Valley Outdoor Theatre in LaRiviere, Manitoba on July 8th and 9th at 6:30 PM, and July 14th, 15th and 16th at 7:30 PM. Gates open two hours prior to the performance. Tickets may be purchased in Brandon at Janzen's Paint & Decorating or online at www.passionplay.ca

KAMIKAZE

"Kamikaze" was a word often heard during World War II. The word designated the pilot of an explosive-laden Japanese plane whose sole mission was a suicidal dive upon a target, especially a ship! Sakae Kobayashi was appointed to be a Japanese suicide pilot. He is now a minister of the Gospel. Through the reading of Christian literature, and the prayerful efforts of a Christian girl, Kobayashi became a Christian. One day, in 1945, he was sitting in the cockpit of his plane in Tokyo waiting to take off on a mission from which he knew he would not return. While the engines were warming up, a ground crewman ran to tell him that Japan had surrendered. "I went home despondent and bitter," said Kobayashi. "My home had been burned, and my mother and grandmother killed. There was no food and no work." Later, Kobayashi found work in an old refinery. There he met a Christian girl who showed him the New Testament she was reading. She persuaded him to go to church with her. Out of curiosity he went. The sermon he heard dealt with loving one's enemies. His interest was aroused. He went to the church again. He was blessedly saved! "I discovered newness of life which only Christ can bring," he glowingly testified. Kobayashi entered a theological seminary the following year. He married the girl whom God used to bring him to Christ.

- Walter B. Knight

* * * * *

HUMOR

What did the mother bullet say to the daddy bullet?
 We're going to have a bb!

* * *

A mother mouse and a baby mouse are walking along when suddenly a cat attacks them. The mother mouse shouts "BARK!" and the cat runs away. "See?" the mother mouse says to her baby. "Now do you see why it's important to learn a foreign language?"



* * * * *

Paradise. He gave them freedom and the commandment to actualize it, symbolized in the prohibition to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil: "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat" (Gn 2:16-17). Saint Gregory the Theologian interprets this commandment in the following way:

[God] gave him a Law as material for his free will to act upon. This Law was a commandment as to what plants he might partake of, and which one he might not touch. This latter was the tree of knowledge; not, however, because it was evil from the beginning when planted; nor was it forbidden because God grudged it to humankind ... But it would have been good if partaken of at the proper time; for the tree was, according to my theory, Contemplation, which it is only safe for those who have reached maturity of habit to enter upon; but which is not good for those who are still somewhat simple and greedy.¹¹⁶

136 The Creator, having fashioned humanity freely out of love, calls us to love—the highest creative expression of a person. For this God grants us freedom. Human love flows from God as from a wellspring, for "God is love" (1 Jn 4:8). Freedom belongs to God's image in humankind; therefore, his grace does not abolish our freedom.¹¹⁷

137 The most profound dimension of human freedom consists in being able to freely choose God and to be with him. This is the good. Yet with this same freedom, we can also reject our relationship with God—and this is evil. To be free is to possess the capacity for unfettered self-determination.¹¹⁸ Evil, in fact, does not belong to creation; it only appears when humanity renounces the choice for good, and thus abuses its freedom. As God's gift, freedom is strengthened through every free choice of the good. On the other hand, it is limited when humanity becomes dependent upon evil¹¹⁹ which is a consequence of its renouncing the good.

138 A human being is responsible for his or her free choice: "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die" (Gn 2:16-17). This commandment of God does not limit human freedom nor does it interfere in our choice. God gives the commandment as a gift to strengthen us in all that is good. By breaking the commandment, a human being rejects God and by this very means introduces sin

¹¹⁶ GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, Oration 45: On Holy Pascha, 8: PG 36, 632.

¹¹⁷ See JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, Homilies on the Gospel of Matthew, Homily 45, 1: PG 58, 471.

¹¹⁸ See GREGORY OF NYSSAN, On the Making of Man, 16; PG 44, 184.

¹¹⁹ See GREGORY OF NYSSAN, Great Catechism, 5: PG 45, 21.

into the world, and through sin death (see Rom 5:12). By eating of the fruit of the "tree of knowledge of good and evil," one forfeits access to the "tree of life" and loses ties to God: "Communion with God is life and light ... But separation from God is death."¹²⁰

- 139 When Adam and Eve transgressed the commandment, they severed their bond with God. Their choice became the cause of death, and the "tree of knowledge of good and evil" became its instrument. The cross was also such an instrument of death, prepared on Golgotha for the Son of God, Jesus Christ. However, by accepting death on the cross, he transformed the instrument of death, the cross, into a "tree of life:" "Truly, O Christ, the tree of life has blossomed. For the cross, planted in the earth, fed with blood and water from your pure side, has put forth life for us."¹²¹ It has become a life-giving cross.
- 140 The Church witnesses liturgically to this in the Feast of the Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross (September 14/27), when we contemplate the Life-Giving Cross in the light of Holy Pascha: "To your Cross, O Master, we bow in veneration; and we glorify your holy Resurrection." The Lord voluntarily took upon himself the sin of the world and transfigured the cross of death into a sign of the Resurrection, having trampled death by death, and granted us eternal life.

But when he disobeyed you, the true God, who created him,
and when he had been led astray by the deception of the serpent,
and been slain by his own transgressions,
you banished him from Paradise into this world by your just judgment, O God,
and returned him to the earth, from which he had been taken.
(1inaphora of the Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great)

b. The Fall

- 141 God created everything good (see Gn 1:31). According to the testimony of Holy Scripture, evil appears later—through the rejection of good. Evil does not appear as a new reality: "Evil does not exist by nature, nor is anyone naturally evil, for God made nothing that was not good."¹²² Evil is the limitation and corruption of that which already exists: "Evil

¹²⁰ IRENAEUS OF LYONS, *Against Heresies*, V, 27, 2: PG 7, 1196.

¹²¹ See Octoechos, Tone 6, Sunday Matins, Canon of the Resurrection, Ode 4; and Octoechos, Tone 2, Sunday Matins, Canon of the Resurrection, Ode 9.

¹²² DIADOCHOS OF PHOTIKI, *On Spiritual Knowledge and Discrimination*, 3: PG 65, 1168.