

MAY / JUNE, 2017						GREGORIAN
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>21</b> Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 Nn Parish Council Meeting  <b>Man Born Blind</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Portage: 10 am + Danny Pollock Offering: Walter & Anna Pollock	<b>24</b> Portage: 10 am Personal Intention Walter & Terry Kuzyk	<b>25</b> Brandon: 9 am Portage: 12 Nn UCWLC Meeting to Follow  <b>Ascension Thursday</b>	<b>26</b>  Portage: 10 am  Brandon: 7 pm Molebyn to the Blessed Virgin Mary with Benediction	<b>27</b> Brandon: 5 pm + Boris Kukurudz Offering: Helen Lazaruk
<b>28</b> Brandon: 9 am UCWLC Tag Day Portage: 12 Nn UCWLC Tag Day  <b>Holy Fathers</b>	<b>29</b> Brandon: 7 pm Men's Club Mass & Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Brandon: 9 am + William Gnutel Offering: Fr. Michael	<b>01</b> Brandon: 9 am Intention of Scott, Alyssa and It Starts Right Now Group Offering: Issigonis Family	<b>02</b>  Brandon: 9 am Bishop Velychkovsky Prayer Group Service  Brandon: 7 pm Molebyn to the Sacred Heart of Jesus	<b>03</b> Brandon: 5 pm + Czeslowa Sieklicki Offering: Barbara MacKalski

### Faith Now Touches Christ

The Lord's resurrection brought us joy; so should His Ascension, as we recall the event that exalted our lowly nature beyond the angels and highest created powers to the Father's side. These divine actions provide a sure foundation; through them God's grace works marvelously to keep our faith firm, our hope confident, and love ardent, even though the visible events as such are now part of history.

Even the blessed Apostles, despite the signs they saw and the sermons they heard, were fearful when the Lord suffered, and did not accept His Resurrection unhesitatingly. So much did His Ascension influence them, however, that all fear was turned to joy. Their minds contemplated the divine Christ at the

Father's side; no earthly trial could distract them from the fact that Christ had not left the Father when He descended nor left the disciples when He returned.

Therefore, beloved, the Son of Man who is Son of God has in an ineffable way become more present to us in his Godhead now that He has departed from us in His humanity. Faith now reaches to the Son, who is equal to the Father, and no longer needs the bodily presence of Jesus, in which He is less than the Father. For though His incarnate nature continues to exist, faith is summoned to touch the only-begotten Son, not with bodily sense but with spiritual understanding.

*St. Leo the Great*

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## SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



*Icon of Saints Constantine and Helen -- May 21st*

WELCOME TO

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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 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
Sun Jun 11	P. Zaliskyy	M. Sheeshka / D. Kostiw	N. Baranyk	O. Stevenson

ROSARY AND CONFESSIONS

One-half hour before Saturday and Sunday Liturgies.

COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS:

Saturday, May 13 \$ 188.00  
Sunday, May 14 \$ 521.00  
Total \$ 709.00  
Candles \$ 34.00

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Said a woman in India to a friend, "One night as I walked home, a panther followed me. Because I carried a lantern and walked in the circle of light, I was safe. A panther won't attack you while you are in the light!" We, too, are safe when we walk with Jesus, "the light of the world."

- Walter B. Knight

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017

ROSE SUNDAY

On Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 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.

50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARIES NEXT MONTH

A 50<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 17<sup>th</sup>, 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.

MISSION GUIDE BOOK

From the Feast of the Ascension to Pentecost, let us pray that the Lord might renew our life in God by the grace and intercession of the Holy Spirit. You are invited to observe Mission Days in your own home, setting aside at least five minutes of family time in order to read the enclosed Guide Book together (Word of God, Meditation, Quotation-Witness, Prayer) and then to discuss among yourselves the Missionary Tasks provided for each day. Another possibility is to observe Mission Days in a prayerful gathering together with other families, with your neighbors, for example.

CEMETERY SERVICE

On Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM, there will be a Panahyda service for all the deceased members of our parish at the Brandon cemetery. Blessing of the graves will follow at Brandon, Rosewood and Rivers cemeteries. In the event of rain, the service will be held in church.

BATHROOM RENOVATION - MANSE

Due to the deplorable condition of the bathroom in the manse, it was necessary to renovate it recently. If anyone wishes to make a donation to help defray the cost of the washroom renovation expense, please mark your offering envelope with the word "Manse". Thank-you.

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MAKING HOLES IN THE DARKNESS

One evening at dusk, Robert Louis Stevenson stood as a boy at the window of his home and watched the darkness envelop the city. "Robert," his nurse said to him, "come and sit down. You can't see anything out there." But young Stevenson insisted, "I can see something wonderful. There is a man coming up the street making holes in the darkness." It was the lamplighter. In the truest sense, Jesus Christ is the Divine Lamplighter. He came into the world to make holes in the darkness of sin, ignorance and despair. "I am the light of the world," He said. "He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

- Gwynne W. Davidson, D.D.

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HUMOR

Pay-cheques and weekends have a lot in common. They are short and don't last long enough.

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Why do seagulls fly over the sea?  
Because if they flew over the bay, they would be called bagels.

\* \* \*

Atheist: What's this fly doing in my soup?  
Waiter: Praying.  
Atheist: Very funny. I can't eat this. Take it back.  
Waiter: You see? The fly's prayers were answered.



has its existence in non-being."<sup>123</sup> Sin strips us of life—of God. Evil emerges as a result of personal sin, as we read: "From where did this [evil] come? Is it not the obvious consequence of your libertinism and your choice? It is certainly thus and no one can claim the opposite. Ask yourself."<sup>124</sup> As a consequence of the Fall, evil enters into the world; it is permitted by God for the sake of repentance and the conversion of humankind: "From this proceed illnesses in cities and countries, droughts, bad harvests, the destruction of cities, earthquakes, floods, the vanquishing of armies."<sup>125</sup>

### 1) *The Fall of the Angels*

- 142 Evil, as the rejection of God, also applies to the invisible angelic world: "God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of deepest darkness to be kept until the judgment" (2 Pt 2:4). The angels who opposed God are named *devils*, *demons*, *evil spirits*, or *fallen angels*. "The devil ... was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies" (Jn 8:44).
- 143 The fall of the angels was a consequence of pride—self-assertion in opposition to God and in the desire to become his equal. The angels faithful to God spoke out against those who fell: "Who can be equal to God?" "Who is like God?" (in Hebrew, *Michael*). In the liturgical tradition, the Archangel Michael who led the battle against the fallen spirits, is called *Archistrategos Theou*, "the chief commander of God's army." The Church commemorates the feast of the Archangel Michael and other bodiless powers on November 8/21, and also dedicates to them the Monday of every week.
- 144 Other names for Satan (from the Hebrew, the accuser), who is the antagonist of the Archangel Michael, are the Church Slavonic word *Dennytsia* (related to the word for daylight), and the Latin word *Lucifer* (meaning *light-bearer*). By his free decision, the former light within him was separated from its Divine Source and became darkness. Christ also warns humankind of this danger: "Therefore consider whether the light in you is not darkness" (Lk 11:35).

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<sup>123</sup> GREGORY OF NYSSA, On the Soul and Resurrection, Conversation with his Sister, Macrina: PG 46, 93.

<sup>124</sup> JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, Homilies on the Gospel of Matthew, Homily 59, 2: PG 58, 575.

<sup>125</sup> BASIL THE GREAT, Homily Explaining that God is not the Author of Evil, 5: PG 31, 337.

## 2) *The Fall of Humankind*

- 145 Holy Scripture recounts the story of the Fall of humankind in Paradise, utilizing the image of the serpent: "Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made" (Gn 3:1). The Holy Fathers perceived in the image of the serpent the enemy of God and humankind—Satan. The serpent proposed a false divinization<sup>126</sup> to humankind, suggesting the thought of becoming like God but without God, by means of one's own effort. The devil in Paradise "lured Adam with a vain hope for divinization,"<sup>127</sup> proposing that he consider the measure of goodness resides not in God but within himself.
- 146 the craftiness of the serpent consists in twisting the words of God's commandment: "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" (Gn 3:1, see Gn 2:16-17). The insidious question of the tempter draws Eve into a dialogue with him, which gives birth to doubt within her about the truthfulness of God. The Evil One takes advantage of this doubt within Eve in order to deceive: "You will not die ... you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Gn 3:4-5). The deceit of the Evil One is based on the premise that God is deceiving humankind with his commandment, thereby undercutting their freedom, and that by eating from the tree of good and evil, they will become like God.
- 147 The deception of the serpent becomes a temptation for Eve: "The woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise" (Gn 3:6). Eve submits to the temptation: "She took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate" (Gn 3:6). In this way, our first parents transgressed God's commandment, and through this, sin and evil entered into the world: "Sin came into the world through one man" (Rom 5:12). With the eating of the forbidden fruit the illusion of self-deification vanishes, and instead of the expected good, evil and emptiness emerge: "Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked" (Gn 3:7). The sin of our first parents resulted in severing humankind from God, the Source of life—humankind then became mortal. "As the body becomes a corpse when the soul leaves it destitute of its own vital energy, so also does the soul then become a corpse when the Holy Spirit leaves it destitute of spiritual energy."<sup>128</sup>

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<sup>126</sup> Octoechos, Tone 6, Sunday, Matins: Resurrection Canon, Ode 4.

<sup>127</sup> BASIL OF SELEUCIA, Third Oration: About Adam, 3: PG 85, 57.

<sup>128</sup> JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, Homilies on Ephesians, 18, 3: PG 62,124.