

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY, JAN. 5 - THEOPHANY EVE // НАВЕЧІРЯ БОГОЯВЛЕННЯ

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

4:00 PM – **GREAT VESPERS and THE GREAT BLESSING OF WATER**  
**ВЕЛИКА ВЕЧІРНЯ з ВЕЛИКИМ БЛАГОСЛОВЕННЯМ ВОДИ**

### MONDAY, JANUARY 6 – FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

18:15 – Молитовне зібрання «Матері в молитві»

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

No Services

19:00 – Біблійні науки – Буття 41-42

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

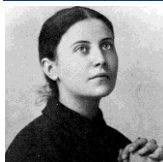
6:00 PM – Great Vespers

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

09:30 AM – Holy Rosary

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by the parish luncheon

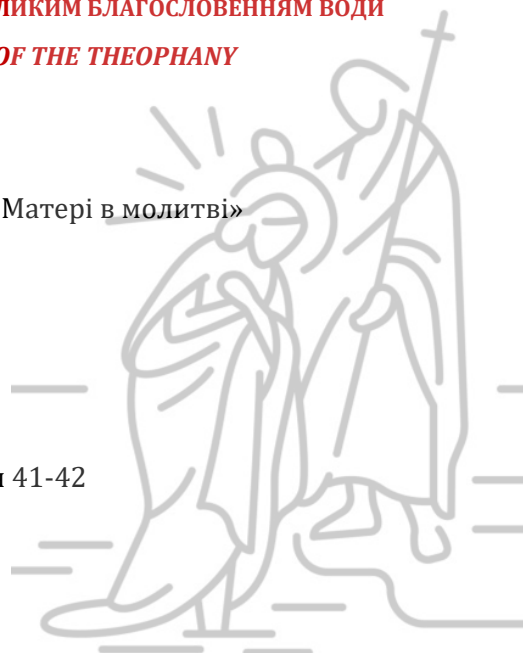
#### NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS OF ST. GEMMA



**On New Years eve, 1895-1896 Gemma wrote:** "So I resolved to change my life, because Jesus had given me clear lights to the effect that I should be a religious. I had a good occasion to do this, for we were about to begin the year of 1896. I wrote in a little notebook: "During this new year I

resolve to begin a new life. I do not know what will happen to me during this year. But I abandon myself entirely to you, my God. And my aspirations and all my affections will be for You. I feel so weak, dear Jesus, but with Your help I hope and resolve to live a different life, that is, a life closer to You."

**Writing to her spiritual director Gemma writes:** "Father, do you know the latest idea that has come into my head? It is to become a saint at all costs. I made this resolution yesterday evening. During my meditation I was thinking that one lives only once, and it is certain that one is going to die; then one will have to answer to God."



### SAINT GEORGE'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОГО ЮРІЯ

opens wide its doors  
to all who mourn or need comfort;  
to all who are weary and need rest;  
to all who seek friendship;  
to all who desire to grow  
in relationship with God;  
to all who yearn to pray;  
to all who need a Saviour,  
and in the name our Lord, says:

#### WELCOME!

#### CONTACT US

ADDRESS: 2414 Vanier Drive,  
Prince George BC, V2N 1T7  
PHONE: (250)-563-2015 (Church)  
(250)-563-7240 (Rectory)  
E-MAIL: pgparish@yahoo.com  
WEB: sgparish.ca

#### HOLY MYSTERIES

- ✠ CONFESSION / СПОВІДЬ ✠  
every Saturday: 5:00-5:50pm  
or by appointment
- ✠ HOLY COMMUNION / СВ. ПРИЧАСТЯ ✠  
for the sick, by appointment,  
any time
- ✠ BAPTISM / ХРЕЩЕННЯ ✠  
by appointment
- ✠ MARRIAGE / ВІНЧАННЯ ✠  
6 months notice should be given  
to the parish priest, and he should  
be contacted before any other  
arrangements are made
- ✠ FUNERAL / ПОХОРОН ✠  
by appointment

### JANUARY 5, 2025 SUNDAY BEFORE THE FEAST OF THE THEOPHANY



The Feast of Theophany is the culmination of the Christmas Season. The Feast commemorates the Baptism of Jesus and the divine revelation of the Trinity. At the baptism of Christ all three Persons were made manifest together: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Christ's baptism in the Jordan is called "theophany" a manifestation of God to the world, because it was the beginning of our Lord's public ministry.

This theme of "manifestation" or "revelation" is also expressed in the Scripture with the symbolism of light. In the hymn of the Feast we sing, "Christ has appeared and enlightened the world." Thus, the Feast of Theophany is also known as the Feast of Lights. On this day the Church celebrates illumination of the world by the light of Christ.

In mystic commemoration of this event, the Great Blessing of Water is performed on this day. The holy water is given to the faithful to consume and to use in the blessing of their homes.

**Troparion, T.8:** You came down from oh high, O Merciful One,\* and accepted three days of burial\* to free us from our sufferings.\* O Lord, our life and our resurrection,\* glory be to You.

**Troparion, T.4:** Make ready, O Zebulon,\* and prepare yourself, O Nephtali;\* O River Jordan, stop and receive with joy\* the Master coming to be baptized.\* O Adam, rejoice with the first mother, Eve,\* and do not hide yourselves as before in Paradise.\* For, having seen you unclothed,\* Christ has appeared to clothe you with the first robe,\* He has appeared to renew all creation.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**Kontakion, T.8:** When You rose from the tomb,\* You also raised the dead and resurrected Adam.\* Eve exults in Your resurrection,\* and the ends of the world celebrate Your rising from the dead,\* O most merciful One.

**Now and for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Kontakion, T.4:** Today the Lord stood in Jordan's current telling John:\* Do not be afraid to baptize Me,\* for I have come to save Adam, the first man.

**Prokeimenon, T.6:** Save Your people, O Lord,\* and bless Your inheritance.

*verse:* Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence.

**Reading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy 4:5-8:** Timothy my Son, as for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

**Alleluia, T.8**

*verse:* God, be merciful to us and bless us.

*verse:* Make the light of Your face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

**Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8

**Communion Hymn:** Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (Psalm 148:1)

**Тропар гл.8:** З висоти зійшов Ти, Милосердний,\* і триденне погребення прийняв Ти,\* щоб нас звільнити від страждань.\* Життя і воскресіння наше,\* Господи, слава Тобі.

**Тропар гл.4:** Готуйся, Завулоне, зодягнись у прикраси, Нефталіме,\* Йордане ріко, зупинися\* і радісно прийми Владику, що йде христитись.\* Веселися, Адаме, з праматір'ю,\* і не скривайтесь, як колись у раю,\* бачивши вас нагими, він появився,\* щоб зодягнути в первісну одіж.\* Христос з'явився, бажаючи оновити все творіння.

**Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові.**

**Кондак гл.8:** Коли Ти воскрес із гробу,\* то й померлих підняв,\* і Адама воскресив,\* радіє Єва воскресінням Твоїм\* і кінці світу прославляють\* Твоє з мертвих воскресіння,\* Багатомилостивий.

**І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь.**

**Кондак гл.4:** У струях днесь Йординових був Господь,\* каже Йоанові:\* Не бійся мене хрестити,\* я бо прийшов спасти Адама первозданного.

**Прокімен гл.6:** Спаси, Господи, людей твоїх і благослови насліддя твоє.

*Стих:* До Тебе, Господи, взиватиму, Боже мій, щоб не відвертався Ти мовчки від мене.

**До Тимотея другого послання Апостола Павла читання 4, 5-8:** Сину Тимотею, будь тверезим у всьому, знось напасті, виконуй працю євангелиста. Виконуй твою службу. Бо я вже готовий пролити мою кровну жертву, і час мого відходу настав. Я змагався добрим змагом, скінчив біг, віру зберіг. Тепер же приготований мені вінець справедливості, що дасть мені того дня Господь, справедливий Суддя; та не лише мені, але всім тим, що з любов'ю чекали його появи.

**Алилуя гл.8**

*Стих:* Боже, ущедри нас і благослови нас.

*Стих:* Просвіти лице твоє на нас і помилуй нас.

**Євангеліє:** Марка 1, 1-8.

**Причасний:** Хваліте Господа з небес,\* хваліте Його на висотах.\* Алилуя (х3).

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ **PARISH KUTIA & KOLIADA POTLUCK** – all parishioners and guests are cordially invited to our annual potluck called “KUTIA & KOLIADA” which will take place **ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025** following the Divine Liturgy. Sign-up sheet with the list of dishes you wish to bring is in the lobby of the church

**ПАРАФІЯЛЬНА КУТЯ І КОЛЯДА** Запрошуємо парафіян і гостей на щорічний обід-потлак “Кутя і Коляда”, який відбудеться у неділю **12 січня 2025 по Служби Божий**. Список із стравами, які Ви бажаєте принести до нашого Різдвяного столу знаходиться у фойє храму. the Holy Apostle Peter, who is called by Christ to be among the brothers a sign of Unity, because the Lord willed it so!

◆ **BIG THANK YOU.** Fr. Andrii & the Family would like to express deep gratitude to all the parishioners and friends of St. George’s parish, for the kind wishes, generous gifts & incredible love towards us! We are truly blessed to have you as our spiritual family. We pray that Our Lord reward you and your family richly, granting health, peace, joy, and hope.

◆ **DISCUSSION GROUP: CS LEWIS – MERE CHRISTIANITY** The next meeting will take place on Monday, **January 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am**

◆ **БІБЛІЙНІ НАУКИ – КНИГА БУТТЯ.** Запрошуємо усіх на чергову сесію наших Біблійних наук. **Наступний урок заплановано на 10 січня і ми будемо розважати над 41 главою книги Буття. Початок о 19:00.**

◆ **PRAYER REQUEST: PLEASE REMEMBER** the sick & infirmed of our Parish in your prayers: **BERNICE KALTWASSER, ROSEMARIE & JOHN PROKOPCHUK, PAUL ROZNER, STEFANIA STARZYK, VICTOR, CAROL SULLIVAN** & all who have asked us to pray for them or their loved ones.

◆ **СПІЛЬНОТА МАТЕРІВ В МОЛИТВІ** об’єднує жінок, які присвячують свій вільний час молитві за дітей— і не лише за своїх. Матері також моляться за рідних, знайомих, за мир і спокій в Україні, за воїнів, які захищають Батьківщину, за поранених, полонених і всіх, хто потребує молитви. Самі матері ведуть молитви, обирають уривки із Святого Письма; пропонують намірення на молитву. Під час зустрічей жінки діляться своїми проблемами, духовним досвідом, підтримують одна одну. **Запрошуємо на зустріч щосереди о 18:15.**

◆ **BOTTLE DRIVE FUNDRAISING PROGRAM.** We’d like to express our **THANK YOU** to all who’ve participated in our BOTTLE DRIVE FUNDRAISING PROGRAM. Please continue to support us through this initiative



◆ **JORDAN HOME BLESSING:** Our Church has a beautiful tradition of visiting people’s homes in the new year with blessed Jordan waters. Spiritually, it is meant to cleanse the home of any evil or strife that has built up over the past year, so that we can start the new year on a positive note.

If you would like Fr. Andrii to visit your family & bless your home with Jordan water, please fill out the Jordan Home Blessing sign-up sheet (at the back of the church) or contact him at [pgparish@yahoo.com](mailto:pgparish@yahoo.com) or at 778-387-7071

◆ **DEEPEST WORDS OF GRATITUDE** to all those who continue financially supporting our parish. May God bless and reward you abundantly with earthly and spiritual. **SUNDAY DONATIONS:** DEC. 24/25<sup>TH</sup> – \$ 909.40 and DEC. 29<sup>th</sup> – \$520.00, \$500.00 – Caroling donations, \$235.00 – Special Christmas collection.

◆ **UCWLC - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** will take place on Sunday **JANUARY 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025** following the Divine Liturgy.

◆ **BEQUESTS AND WILLS:** Leaving a bequest is a process of giving a donation through your will. It is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. In your kindness please remember St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in your bequests and wills. If anyone wishes to make such a bequest in their will, the following clause may be included or added to a will: *“I give, devise, and bequeath to St. George Ukrainian Catholic Parish –2414 Vanier Dr, Prince George, BC V2N 1T7 the sum of \$ (or % of my estate), to be used for the benefit of the parish and it's pastoral activities.”*

◆ **CONGRATULATION** to **WALTER MALNYK & JOHN DANILEC** who celebrate their Birthday. May the Almighty God bless them with good health and salvation in Many Happy & Blessed Years of Life. Mnohaya I Blahaya Lita!

◆ **GRIEF TO DEATH.** Through a five day program facilitated by mental health professionals and centered on Jesus Christ, Grief to Grace helps those who have endured neglect, physical, emotional, sexual, and/or spiritual abuse in their family of origin, their community, from spouses/partners, and/or coworkers or supervisors, find healing and journey to wholeness. The next program in Canada is **May 20- 25 in Kelowna.** For more information please email [griegtograncelowna@gmail.com](mailto:griegtograncelowna@gmail.com) or make a confidential call to **250-808-6403.**



## WHY DO WE BLESS HOME WITH THE HOLY WATER OF THEOPHANY?

The blessing of homes constitutes an *invocative blessing*, meaning that by his prayer and by the sprinkling of Holy Water the priest *invokes* God's blessings and protection upon the home and those living in it. We bless homes for many reasons:

- † to reveal the home as what God had created it to be, a way to Heaven
- † to rid the home of every evil
- † to show that the family is a small Church unit in Christ
- † to consecrate the home and all activity in it to God
- † to fill the home and all who live in it with the fullness of God

Traditionally, the priest personally visits all his parishioners each year to pray with them in the place where they live, and to bless their surroundings with the newly sanctified water of Theophany. By sanctifying our homes we extend the grace of God to our individual dwellings.

Just as our souls, so also our homes become tainted by the sins of those living in them and consequently lose God's protective power. We cleanse our souls of sins at least once a year and the church is blessed with the newly blessed water every year, so should our homes be sanctified with Holy Water to invoke God's blessings and protection on it and its inhabitants. As we renew the insurance on our home every year, so we should renew our insurance of God's protection and His blessing which is of greater importance and more effective.

**What should we do during a home blessing?** As we welcome a priest during the holy season of Theophany to bless our home, let us be mindful that he is bringing to us the "blessing of the Jordan," and that unless God protects and blesses our home, we "labour in vain." (Ps. 12 7:1)



Each family is considered a small church and the family table is the home altar. When the priest comes, have as many family members there as possible. If you do not have an icon corner, ensure that you set up a place for prayer either at the kitchen or dining table. On the table include an icon and a lit candle. You may also include anything that you may want to have blessed. Make sure that the lights are on in every room.

The priest will begin the blessing at the icon corner or table. If you have children, they may lead the priest, while holding a candle, to each room in the house. The Jordan home blessing is a wonderful time for you and your priest to get to know each other better. (Source: goarch.org)

## JUBILEE YEAR - 2025

**"Hope does not disappoint"** (Rom 5:5). In the spirit of hope, the Apostle Paul addressed these words of encouragement to the Christian community of Rome. Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee .... Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope...

**Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross:** "For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life" (Rom 5:19). That life becomes manifest in our own life of faith, which begins with Baptism, develops in openness to God's grace and is enlivened by a hope constantly renewed and confirmed by the working of the Holy Spirit.



By his perennial presence in the life of the pilgrim Church, **the Holy Spirit illumines all believers with the light of hope.** He keeps that light burning, like an ever-burning lamp, to sustain and invigorate our lives. Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love: "Who will separate us

from the love of Christ? Hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril or the sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:35.37-39). Here we see the reason why this hope perseveres in the midst of trials: founded on faith and nurtured by charity, it enables us to press forward in life. As Saint Augustine observes: **"Whatever our state of life, we cannot live without these three dispositions of the soul, namely, to believe, to hope and to love".**

