

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY, APRIL 28

NO Service

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY

6:00PM – Матері в молитві

THURSDAY, MAY 1

9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY

18:00 – MOLEBEN' TO THE MOTHER OF GOD

FRIDAY, MAY 2

9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY

19:00 – Біблійні науки

SATURDAY, MAY 3

9:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY

6:00PM – Great Vespers

SUNDAY, MAY 4

9:30AM – UCWLC Monthly Prayer. Moleben' to the Theotokos

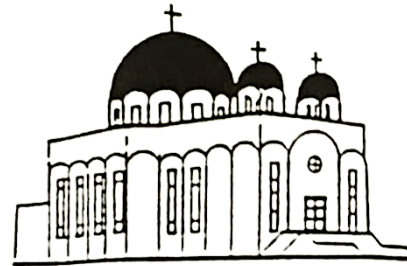
10:00AM – DIVINE LITURGY

REFLECTIONS

"Do you really believe that it was by chance that this chosen disciple was absent, then came and heard, heard and doubted, doubted and touched, touched and believed? It was not by chance, but in God's Providence. In a marvelous way, God's mercy arranged that the disbelieving disciple, in touching the wounds of his Master's body, should heal our wounds of disbelief. The disbelief of Thomas has done more for our faith than the faith of the other disciples. As he touches Christ and is won over to belief, every doubt is cast aside, and our faith is strengthened. So the disciple who doubted, then felt Christ's wounds, becomes a witness to the reality of the Resurrection." **St. Gregory the Theologian**

Christ never failed to distinguish between doubt and unbelief. Doubt is can't believe. Unbelief is won't believe. Doubt is honesty. Unbelief is obstinacy. Doubt is looking for light. Unbelief is content with darkness. **Henry Drummond**

There is a vast difference between a struggling faith (Mk. 9:24) ... and a stubborn unbelief (Mk. 3:3-6). **Jerry Bridges**



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

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Prince George BC, V2N 1T7
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(250)-563-7240 (Rectory)
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HOLY MYSTERIES

✠ CONFESSION / СПОВІДЬ ✠
every Saturday: 4:00-4:50pm
or by appointment

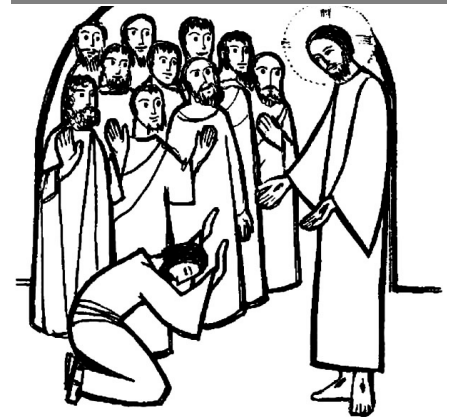
✠ HOLY COMMUNION / СВ. ПРИЧАСТЯ ✠
for the sick, by appointment,
any time

✠ 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

APRIL 27, 2025
THOMAS SUNDAY



On the 2nd Sunday of Easter is called the Antipascha, which means "in place of Pascha." It was only on this day in the early church that the newly baptized Christians removed their robes and entered once again into the life of this world.

In the Church services the stress is on the Apostle Thomas' vision of Christ and the significance of the day comes to us in the words of the Gospel: Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" (John 20:28-29).

Today's lesson for us is that we don't need to physically touch Jesus to have faith. But upon hearing of Christ, we can be spiritually moved by His presence to follow Him, and trust in His promise that all men will be raised on the day He appoints for judgment and know either the eternal joy of being reunited with God or the torment of being without Him.

St. Peter heard and understood, as he writes to his flock: "You did not see Him, yet you loved Him; and still without seeing Him you are filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls."

Antiphon 3

Usual antiphon with the following refrain:

Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Troparion, T.7: While the tomb was sealed, O Christ God, You dawned as life from the sepulchre, and while the doors were shut, You came to Your disciples, the Resurrection of all, renewing a right spirit in us through them, according to Your great mercy.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, T.8: With his searching hand, Thomas explored Your life-giving side, O Christ God. For when You entered while the doors were shut, he called out to You with the rest of the Apostles: You are my Lord and my God!

Prokeimenon, T.3 Great is our Lord and great is His strength;* and of His knowledge there is no end.

verse: Praise the Lord, for a psalm is good; may praise be sweet to our God.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 5:12-20: *In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people through the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people held them in high esteem. Yet more than ever believers were added to the Lord, great numbers of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on cots and mats, in order that Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he came by. A great number of people would also gather from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all cured. Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said, "Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole message about this life."*

Alleluia, T.8

verse: Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God our Saviour.

verse: For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Hymn to the Mother of God: The Angel cried out to the One full of Grace: O chaste Virgin, rejoice! And again I say, Rejoice! Your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day, and raised the dead. Let all people rejoice! Shine,

Антифон 3

Звичайний антифон із наступним приспівом:

Спаси нас, Сину Божий, що воскрес із мертвих, співаємо Тобі: Алілуя.

Тропар гл.7: Хоч запечатаний був гріб,* як життя із гробу возсіяв ти, Христе Боже,* і, хоч замкнені були двері,* ученикам представ єси, як воскресення всіх,* дух правий через них обновлюючи нам,* по великій твоїй милості.

Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові, і нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні. Амінь

Кондак гл.8: Допитливою десницею життєдайні* твої ребра Тома провірив, Христе Боже,* бо, хоч замкнені були двері, як ти увійшов,* він із іншими апостолами кликав до тебе:* Господь єси і Бог мій.

Прокімен гл.3: Великий Господь наш і велика сила його,* і розумові його немає міри.

Стих: Хваліте Господа, бо благий псалом, Богові нашому нехай солодке буде хваління.

Діянь Апостолів читання 5,12-20: Тими днями руками апостолів робилося багато знаків і чудес у народі. Усі вони перебували однодушно у притворі Соломона, і ніхто сторонній не насмілювався до них пристати; однак народ хвалив їх вельми. Віруючих дедалі більше й більше приставало до Господа, сила жінок і чоловіків; так, що й на вулиці виносили недужих і клали на постелях і на ліжках, щоб, як ітиме Петро, бодай тінь його на когонебудь з них упала. Сила людей збиралась навіть з довколишніх міст Єрусалиму, несучи хворих та тих, що їх мучили нечисті духи, і вони всі видужували. Устав тоді первосвященик і всі ті, що були з ним, – то була секта садукєїв, – і, повні заздрощів, наклали руки на апостолів і кинули їх до громадської в'язниці. Але вночі ангел Господень відчинив двері в'язниці й, вивівши їх, мовив: «Ідіть і, ставши в храмі, говоріть до народу всі слова життя цього.»

Алілуя гл.8:

Стих: Прийдіте, радісно заспіваймо Господеві, воскликнім Богу, Спасителеві нашому.

Стих: Бо Бог – великий Господь і цар великий по всій землі.

Євангеліє: Ів 20,19-31

Замість Достойно: Ангел сповіщав Благодатній: Чистая Діво, радуйся. І знову кажу: Радуйся. Твій Син воскрес тридневний із гробу, і мертвих воздвигнув він; люди, веселіться.

shine, O new Jerusalem! for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! Exult now and be glad, O Sion! And you, O chaste Mother of God, take delight in the resurrection of your Son.

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem.* Praise your God, O Sion.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

Instead of "Blessed is He...", "We have seen the true light...": Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life.

Instead of "Let our mouths...": Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life (3x).

Instead of "Blessed be the name of the Lord...": Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life (3x).

Then the Troparion "Christ is risen" is sung as in the beginning of the Liturgy, but with an additional ending: **And to us He has granted life eternal; we bow down before His resurrection on the third day.**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ **EASTER GRAVESIDE SERVICE** at the local cemetery will take place today, **Sunday, April 27th, at 2:00 pm** Fr. Andrii will meet you by the entrance and coordinate things from there.

◆ **KNEELING DURING THE EASTER SEASON** – a reminder that traditionally from Easter Sunday until Pentecost we do not kneel during the Divine Liturgy. As a sign of our redemption and final resurrection, we offer our prayers to God while standing.

◆ **2025 ANNUAL CLERGY RETREAT & Conference** - will take place in Kelowna, BC **from May 5-8, 2025**. Consequently, there will be no services on these days. In case of emergency, please contact local RC parishes.

◆ **ВЕЧІРНІЙ ПЕРЕГЛЯД ФІЛЬМУ У ХРАМІ.** Розпочинаємо щотижневий перегляд та обговорення 2-ого сезону серіалу «Обраний \ The Chosen» в українській мові: **2 серія – початок о 17:00**

◆ **WALK FOR LIFE:** The annual Walk for Life is now open for registration and will take place on **June 7, 2025**. Those wishing to register or donate can do so here: <https://walkforlife.ca/> All funds raised help Advocate continue their mission of creating educated communities where families thrive, and babies' lives are valued and welcomed.

◆ **CONGRATULATION** to **MARIIA POLOVINKINA** who celebrates his Birthdays. May the Almighty God bless him with good health and salvation. Mnohaya I Blahaya Lita!

Ірмос: Світися, світися, новий Єрусалиме, слава бо Господня на тобі возсіяла. Радій нині і веселися, Сіоне. А ти, Чистая, красуйся, Богородице, востанням рождення твого.

Причасний: Похвали, Єрусалиме, Господа, хвали Бога Твого, Сіоне. В пам'ять вічну буде праведник, злих слухів не убоїться. Алилуя (х3).

Замість Благословен, хто йде в ім'я Господнє: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Замість Ми бачили світло істинне: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував.

Замість Нехай сповняться: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (х3).

Замість Будь ім'я Господнє: Христос воскрес із мертвих, смертю смерть подолав, і тим, що в гробах, життя дарував (х3).

Тоді знову співається Тропар "Христос воскрес", як і на початку Літургії, але з додатковим закінченням. **І нам дарував життя вічне, поклоняємось його тридньовному воскресінню.**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ **DEEPEST WORDS OF GRATITUDE** to all who continue to support our parish financially. May the blessing of God always rest upon you & your family. **SUNDAY DONATIONS: March 18-20th** – \$1589.00, "Gift of love" collection - \$565.00, Rent- \$100.00, Calendar - \$23.00

◆ **PRAYER REQUEST: PLEASE REMEMBER** the sick and infirmed of our Parish in your prayers: **BERNICE KALTWASSER, ROSEMARIE & JOHN PROKOPCHUK, PAUL & SVITLANA ROZNER, STEFANIA & ZBIGNIEW STARZYK, FELY, NIGEL LAWRENCE, CHRISTOFER SCOTT, BOB TANASYCHUK** & all who have asked us to pray for them or their loved ones.

◆ **REMINDER – UCWLC MONTHLY PRAYER** – Monthly prayer (Moleben' to the Mother of God) will take place **next Sunday, May 4th at 9:30**. All members of the League are invited

◆ **MAKING SANDWICHES** for **ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY**. We invite children, youth, and people of good will to join us this Sunday, April 28 (after the Service) to make sandwiches for people in need. Be a part of the social ministry of our parish.

◆ **UPCOMING MAJOR FEAST DAYS** – The Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ will be celebrated **on Thursday, May 29th** & The Descent of the Holy Spirit – **Pentecost Sunday, June 8th**.

◆ **БІБЛІЙНІ НАУКИ.** Запрошуємо на чергову сесію Біблійних наук. Час - **2 травня о 19:00.** Тема - **3-4 глави книги Виходу.**

◆ **PILGRIMAGE TO THE GRAVESIDE OF ROSE PRINCE.** The local branch of the UCWLC is excited to announce a special pilgrimage to the gravesite of Rose Prince in Fraser Lake as part of its retreat program. This meaningful event will take place on Saturday, May 24. If you would like to join us, please reach out to Fr. Andrii or Mrs. Zofia Kudryk. To assist with transportation planning, we kindly ask that you let us know in advance if you need carpooling. We look forward to this spiritual journey.

◆ **MOLEBEN'.** It is a custom in our Church to have throughout the Month of May - brief, daily 'May devotions' ("Mayivky") to the Mother of God. In most cases, this means the ever-popular Moleben' service. Please join and pray with us the Moleben every Thursday at 6:00pm

◆ **DISCUSSION GROUP: CS LEWIS – MERE CHRISTIANITY** The next meeting will take place on Monday, April 7th, at 9:00am.

◆ **THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS – ДЯКУЄМО** – Many thanks to everyone who have helped us with our preparations to Easter Concert. Especially, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to:

- **Anna Halka, Carol Sullivan, Debbie Bisson and Gail Antony** for preparing the food
 - **Walter Melnyk and Travis Smaalet** - for stage construction
 - **Peter Stevenson** for contacting the performers
 - **John Danilec** for directing the parking
 - **Gail Antony and Bohdan Lutsenko** for upgrading our washroom
 - **Halyna Stepanchak, Mariia Polovinkina and Zofiya Kudryk** for cleaning the church
 - **Andrii Stepanchak and Don Antoshko** for bringing the decorations
- Thank you for your time and talents you've shared with us.

How it works:

1. Put your containers in clear plastic bags, no sorting needed!
2. Go to an Express depot, at the kiosk use parish's phone number (250-563-2015) to log in and print your labels, one per bag.
3. Place a label on each of your bags & leave them in the bag drop area.
4. Your containers will be sorted and within 5 business days refund will be added to our Express account.

◆ **FUNDRAISING PROGRAM.** We would like to express our BIG THANK YOU to all who have participated in our BOTTLE DRIVE FUNDRAISING PROGRAM through RETURN-IT EXPRESS.

◆ **PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT** to Keep Charitable Tax Status for Religious Charities and Organizations. A petition to Finance Minister Leblanc to allow religious charities and organizations to remain eligible

for charitable tax status. Please consider signing the petition here: <https://www.citizengo.org/en-ca/fr/15041-save-our-charities-and-churches>

LITURGICAL CALENDAR



The Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas was born in the Galilean city of Pansada and was a fisherman. Hearing the good tidings of Jesus Christ, he left all and followed after Him. The Apostle Thomas is included in the number of the holy Twelve Apostles of the Savior. According to Holy Scripture, the holy Apostle Thomas did not believe the reports of the other disciples about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ: "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe" (John 20:25).

On the 8th day after the Resurrection, the Lord appeared to the Apostle Thomas and showed him His wounds. "My Lord and my God," the Apostle cried out (John 20:28). "Thomas, being once weaker in faith than the other apostles," says Saint John Chrysostom, "toiled through the grace of God more bravely, more zealously and tirelessly than them all, so that he went preaching over nearly all the earth, not fearing to proclaim the Word of God to savage nations."

Some icons depicting this event are inscribed "The Doubting Thomas." This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, "The Touching of Thomas." In Slavonic, it says, "The Belief of Thomas." When Saint Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts.

According to Church Tradition, the holy Apostle Thomas founded Christian churches in Palestine, Mesopotamia, Parthia, Ethiopia and India. Preaching the Gospel earned him a martyr's death. For having converted the wife and son of the prefect of the Indian city of Meliapur [Melipur], the holy apostle was locked up in prison, suffered torture, and finally, pierced with five spears, he departed to the Lord. Part of the relics of the holy Apostle Thomas are in India, in Hungary and on Mt. Athos. The name of the Apostle Thomas is associated with the Arabian (or Arapet) Icon of the Mother of God (September 6).

